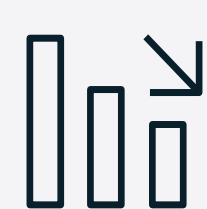


Why unifying security capabilities pays off

A commissioned Forrester Consulting study reveals the ROI and business value enabled by Microsoft Defender, a unified security operations solution.



Fragmented security can increase labor and operating costs, slow productivity, and expose organizations to breaches.

A modern, unified security operations platform may help mitigate these risks, as demonstrated by a commissioned Total Economic Impact™ (TEI) study¹ conducted by Forrester Consulting on behalf of Microsoft.

Microsoft Defender unifies prevention, detection, and response in a single AI-powered security operations platform with **Microsoft Sentinel's** data lake, graph, and security information and event management (SIEM) capabilities.

Microsoft Defender delivers real ROI

Over a three-year, risk-adjusted period, the platform enabled:



Three business value drivers

- ### 1 Consolidation cuts costs

Unifying security tools and decommissioning legacy systems reduced licensing, software, hardware, and overhead expenses, driving savings.

 - 60% reduction** from vendor consolidation
 - \$12 million saved** on legacy security costs
 - 3,300 labor hours saved** over three years
- ### 2 Efficiency boosts productivity

With fewer false positives, more actionable alerts, and automated workflows, security teams spent less time on triage and investigation.

 - 80% reduction** in incident response effort
 - \$2.4 million** in productivity improvements
- ### 3 Visibility reduces data breaches

Enhanced automation and proactive threat hunting decreased breach risk and associated costs.

 - 75% reduced risk** of exposure to breach costs from external attacks
 - \$2.8 million savings** in breach-related costs

From fragmented to focused

Security leaders shared that consolidating security efforts led to improved visibility, accountability, and transparency.

“We’ve seen real data supporting that the time it takes to detect, investigate, and resolve incidents has reduced quite significantly with Microsoft Defender.”

— CISO, financial services

Read the study and watch the TEI webinar featuring Forrester to learn more about the benefits of Microsoft Defender with Microsoft Sentinel.

[Read the study →](#)

[TEI webinar featuring Forrester →](#)

Using a fictional composite organization⁵ constructed from customer interviews, the study found that Microsoft Defender, building on the capabilities of the Microsoft Sentinel platform, offered significant value by reducing overhead, increasing efficiencies, and strengthening threat response.

1. The Total Economic Impact™ Of Microsoft Defender: Cost Savings And Business Benefits Enabled By Defender, Including Microsoft Sentinel SIEM Capabilities, June 2025.

2. A project's expected return in percentage terms. ROI is calculated by dividing net benefits (benefits less costs) by costs.

3. The total value of benefits minus the total costs.

4. Net present or current value of (discounted) future net cash flows given an interest rate (the discount rate). A positive project NPV normally indicates that the investment should be made, unless other projects have higher NPVs.

5. A retail organization with 10,000 full-time employees and an annual revenue of \$5 billion.