

Must-know terms for data governance

Key concepts to improve data transparency and reduce compliance risk

PEOPLE



Chief Data Officer

An executive decision-maker responsible for enterprise-wide data governance and how information is used as an asset.



Council

A governing body of stakeholders across the organization that provides a strategy for **data governance** programs, raises awareness of its importance, approves enterprise data policies and standards, prioritizes related projects and enables ongoing support.



Data custodian

A user who collects and holds information on behalf of a data provider or requester. Custodians are responsible for managing the use, disclosure and protection of data.



Data owner

A user responsible for an information asset's accuracy, integrity and timeliness. Owners also establish the controls for its generation, collection, processing, access, dissemination and disposal.



Data steward

Those who own the data – and ensure it is accurate, trustworthy and accessible.



Data user

Anyone who is an end-user of the data within the organization.

PROCESS



Data governance framework

Establishes a basis for collaboration by providing a **shared language** among stakeholders.



Operating model

Outlines how an organization defines roles, responsibilities, business terms, asset types, relations, domain types and more.



Policy management

A systematic method of creating, reviewing and updating data policies so that they are adopted and applied throughout your organization.



Regulatory compliance

Ensures adherence to relevant laws and regulations including data protection laws, external mandates and industry-specific regulations like HIPAA, BCBS 239 and GDPR.



Workflows

A way to automate and streamline processes and ensure collaboration among key stakeholders in your organization.



Data Stewardship

Involves collaboration on data assets across departments with role-based dashboards and interactive views.

TECHNOLOGY



Business glossary

A complete set of data-related terms explained in simple language to ensure everyone in an organization can understand and communicate effectively.



Data catalog

A centralized **inventory of data assets** that helps organizations find and leverage data for efforts including analytics and AI initiatives.



Data dictionary

A collection of data assets that document your **metadata** and its use, origin, format and relationship to other data.



Data helpdesk

A mechanism for raising, managing and resolving data issues to the right stakeholders to improve trust in data quality.



Data lineage

Data lineage makes data meaningful, providing a visual representation of where your data is, where it came from and where it's going.



Reference data management

Data used **to define and classify** other data and reconcile data across operational systems for accurate reporting and analyses.



Data governance

Involves defining policies, processes and roles for data handling, enhancing decision making and ensuring regulatory compliance by managing data assets and enforcing data access.