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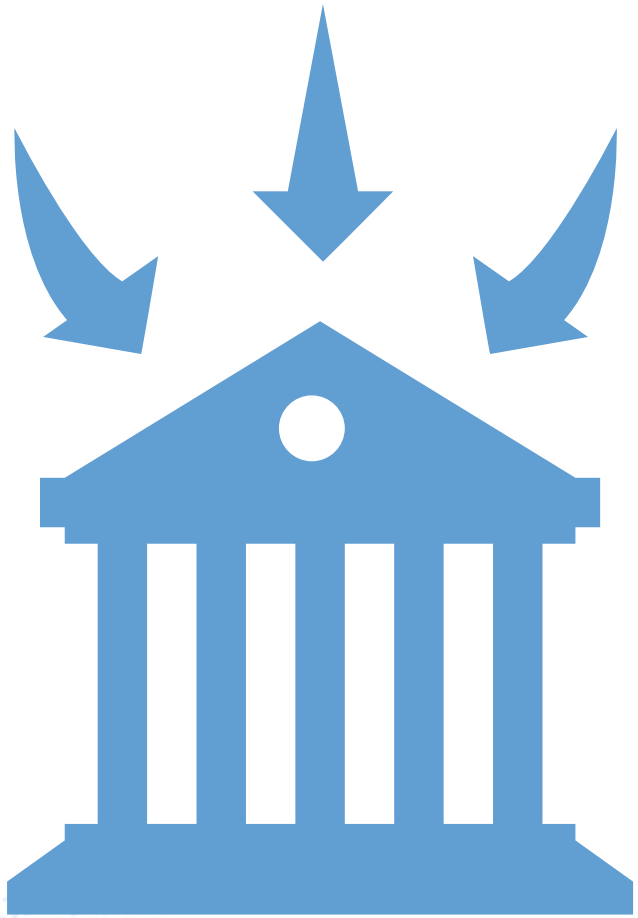
IBI SUMMIT

Howard Dresner
August 25, 2026

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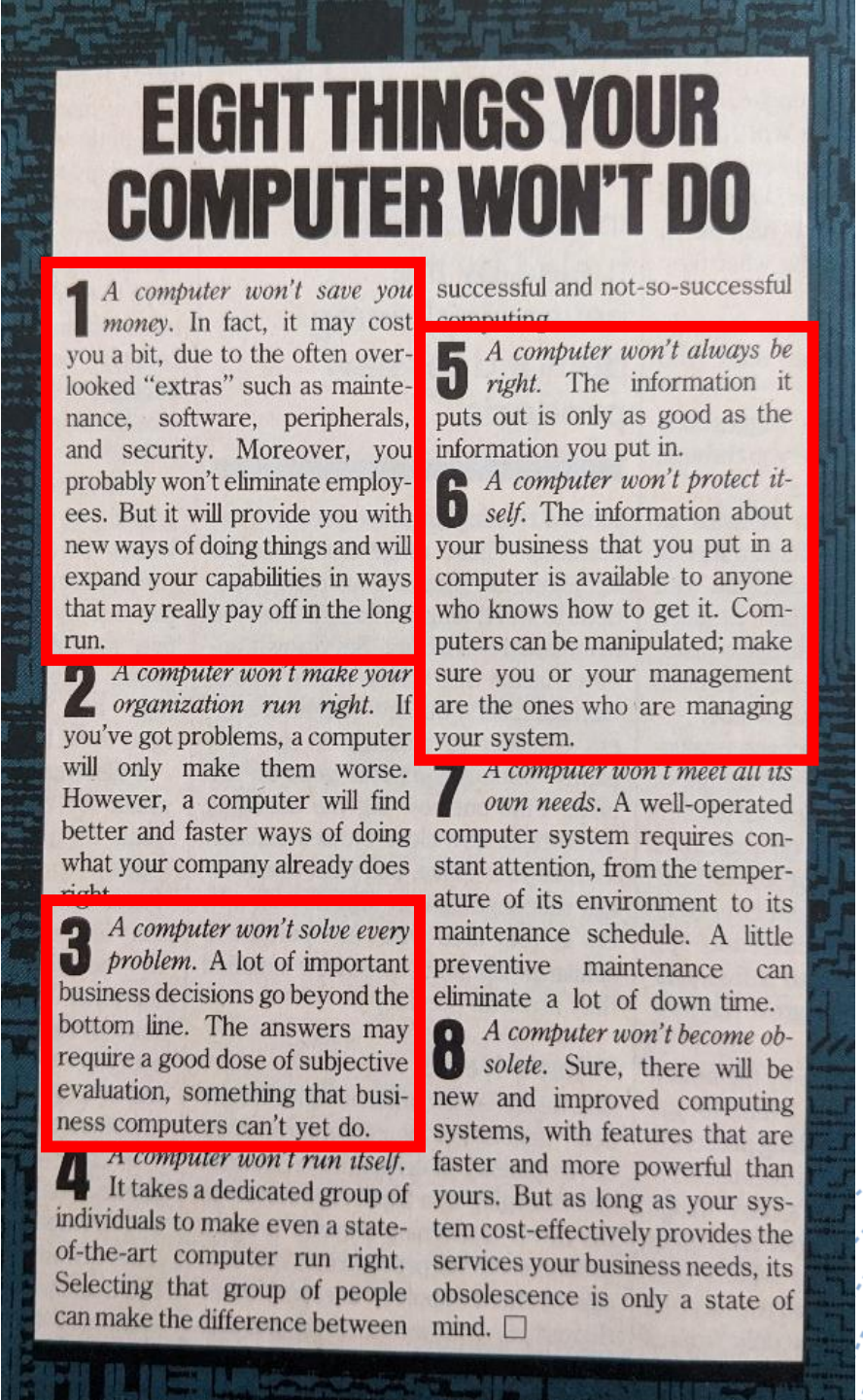
Supporting an AI Analytical Strategy

1. What's Driving AI? Why now?
2. Data Engineering
3. Semantic Layer
4. Agentic AI Assists – The Future



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EIGHT THINGS YOUR COMPUTER WON'T DO

1 *A computer won't save you money.* In fact, it may cost you a bit, due to the often overlooked "extras" such as maintenance, software, peripherals, and security. Moreover, you probably won't eliminate employees. But it will provide you with new ways of doing things and will expand your capabilities in ways that may really pay off in the long run.

2 *A computer won't make your organization run right.* If you've got problems, a computer will only make them worse. However, a computer will find better and faster ways of doing what your company already does right.

3 *A computer won't solve every problem.* A lot of important business decisions go beyond the bottom line. The answers may require a good dose of subjective evaluation, something that business computers can't yet do.

4 *A computer won't run itself.* It takes a dedicated group of individuals to make even a state-of-the-art computer run right. Selecting that group of people can make the difference between successful and not-so-successful computing.

5 *A computer won't always be right.* The information it puts out is only as good as the information you put in.

6 *A computer won't protect itself.* The information about your business that you put in a computer is available to anyone who knows how to get it. Computers can be manipulated; make sure you or your management are the ones who are managing your system.

7 *A computer won't meet all its own needs.* A well-operated computer system requires constant attention, from the temperature of its environment to its maintenance schedule. A little preventive maintenance can eliminate a lot of down time.

8 *A computer won't become obsolete.* Sure, there will be new and improved computing systems, with features that are faster and more powerful than yours. But as long as your system cost-effectively provides the services your business needs, its obsolescence is only a state of mind. □

Byte Magazine – Circa 1982

Many of these points remain true today – especially in the age of AI

We must remain circumspect with a strong sense of history to succeed in the longer term.

1. FinOps
3. Use cases
5. Hallucinations / Data Quality
6. Data Security and Privacy

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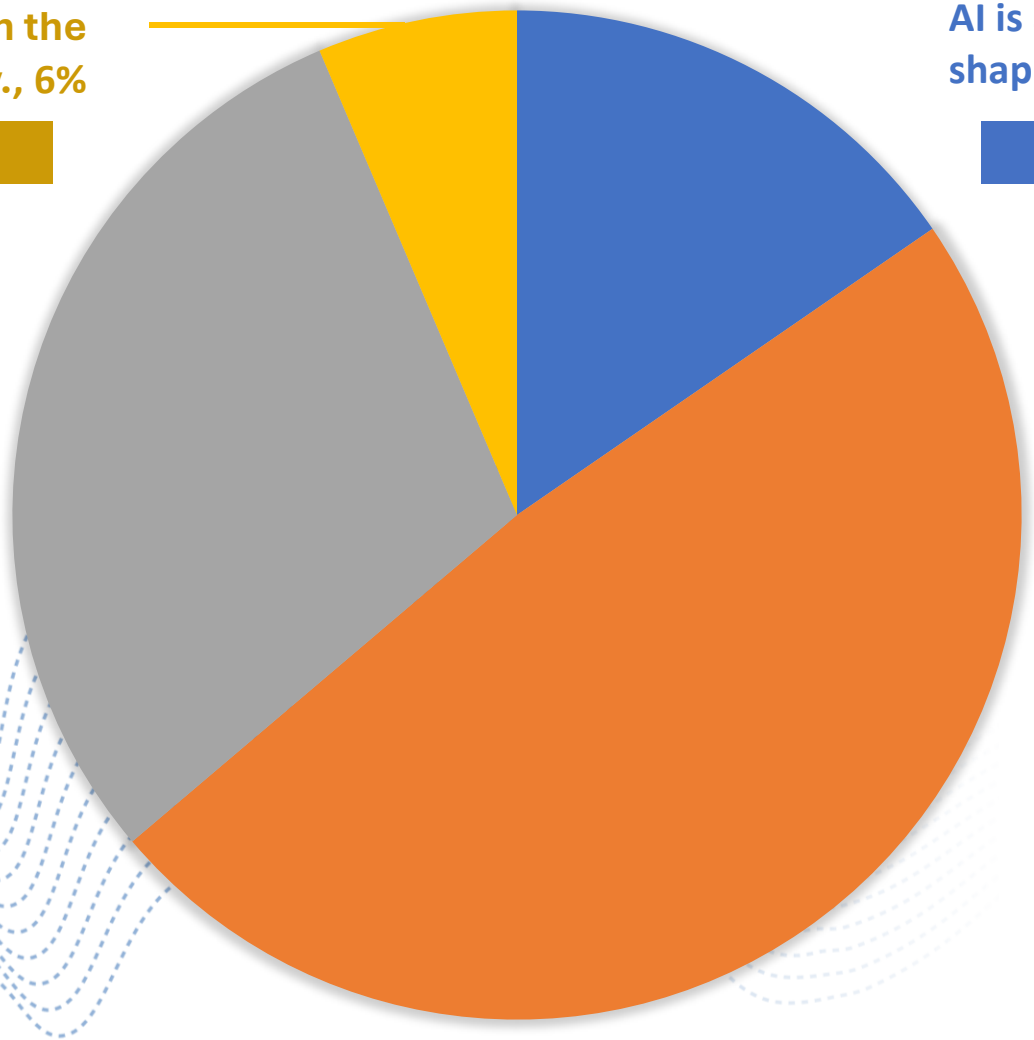
AI Importance

AI has a minimal role or is not currently included in the business strategy., 6%

8% in Spring

AI is a cornerstone, directly driving and shaping the business strategy., 15%

13% in Spring



AI is in an exploratory phase and has not yet become central to the business strategy., 30%

AI plays an important role, primarily supporting broader strategic initiatives., 48%

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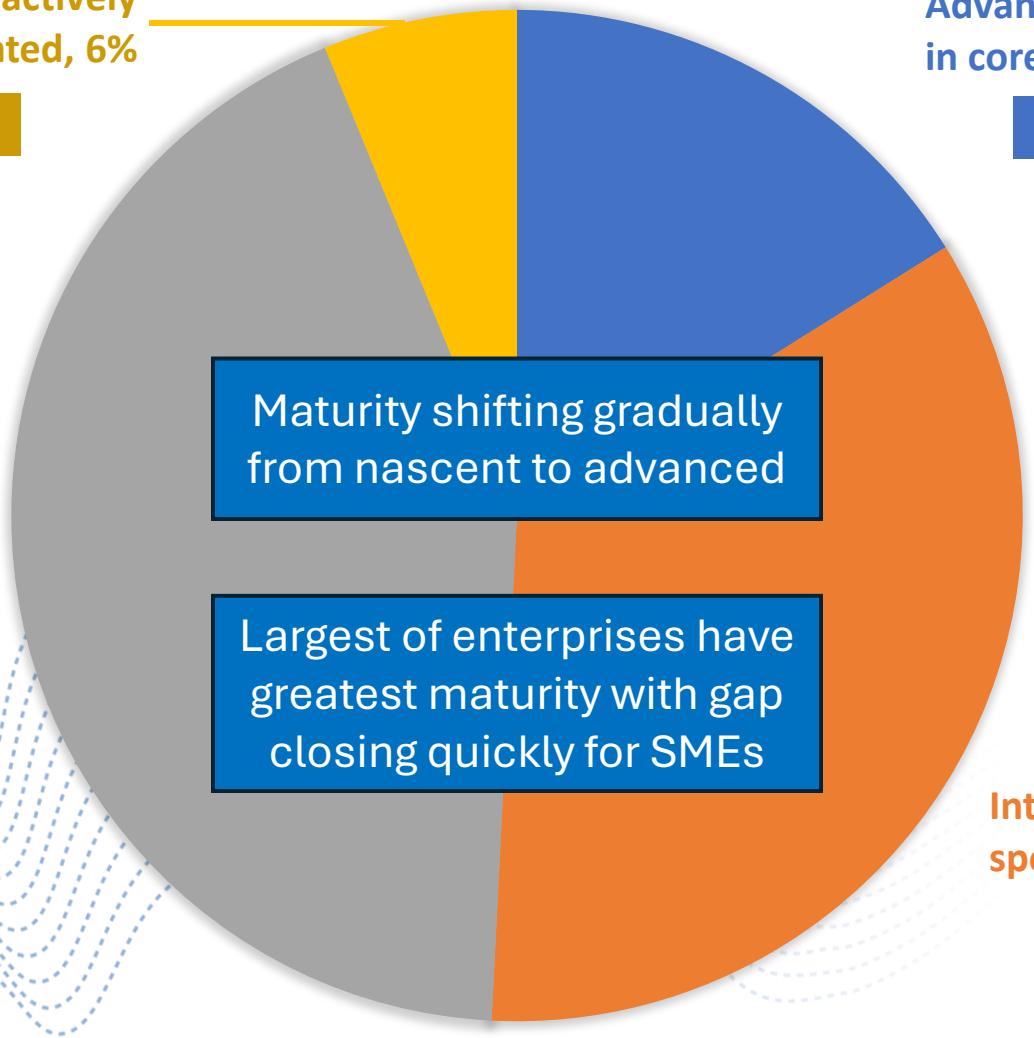
AI Maturity Late Q2 2026

Nascent: AI is not actively pursued or implemented, 6%

9% in Q1

Advanced: AI is deeply embedded in core business processes, 16%

15% in Q1



Emerging: AI is primarily in pilot or experimental phases, 43%

40% in Q1

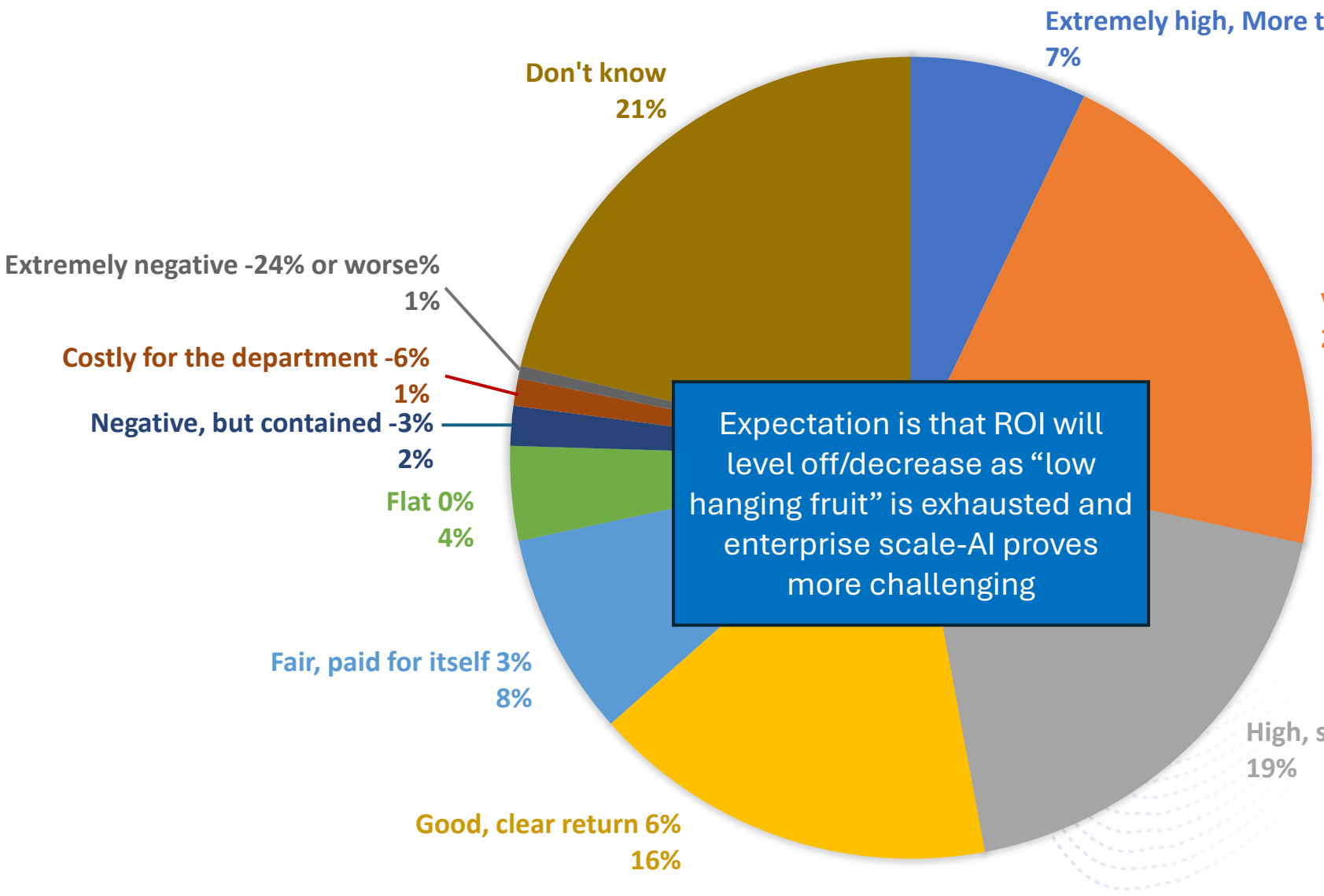
Intermediate: AI is used in specific, impactful areas, 35%

36% in Q1

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AI ROI



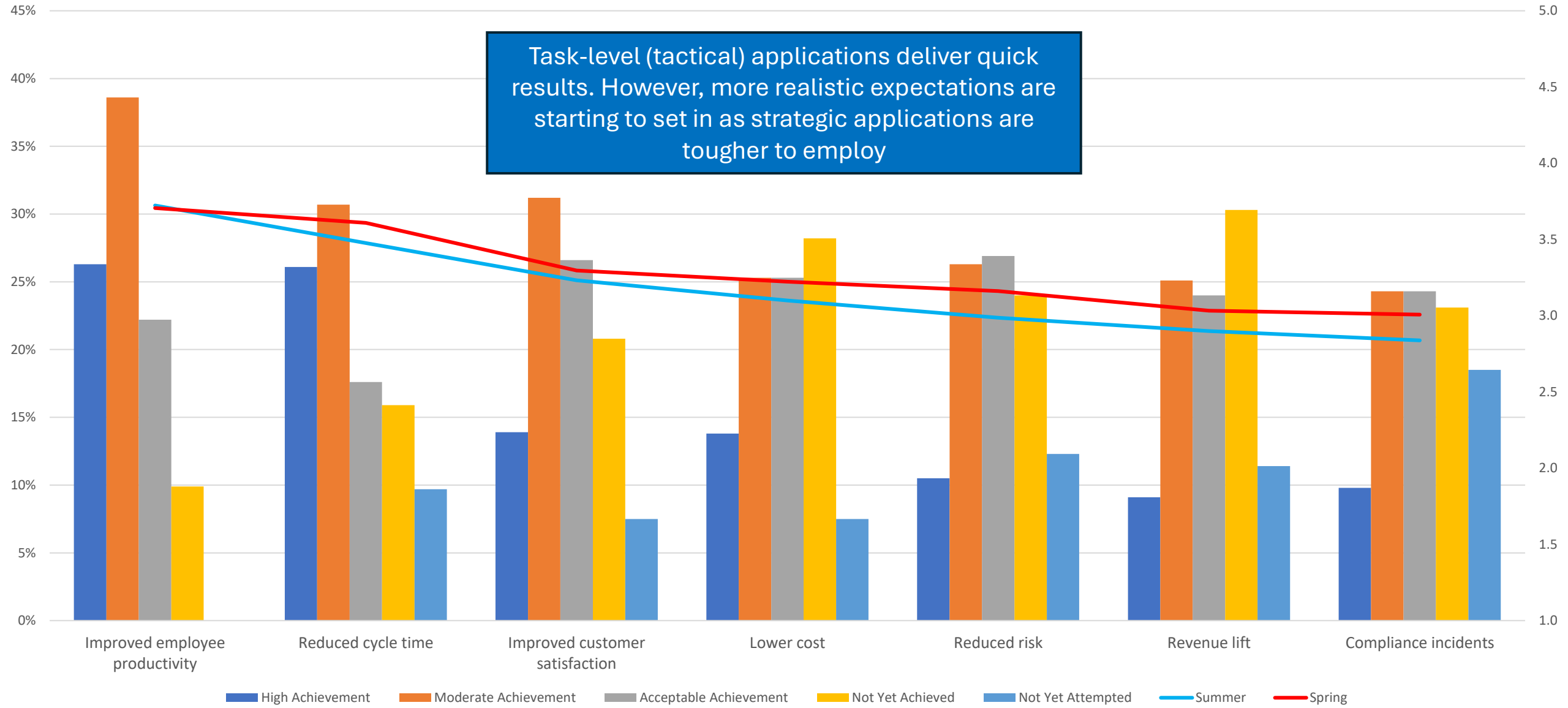
Expectation is that ROI will level off/decrease as "low hanging fruit" is exhausted and enterprise scale-AI proves more challenging

Caution! ROI measured at task level may ignore overall enterprise value. Plans to leverage excess capacity often absent.

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AI Realized Outcomes



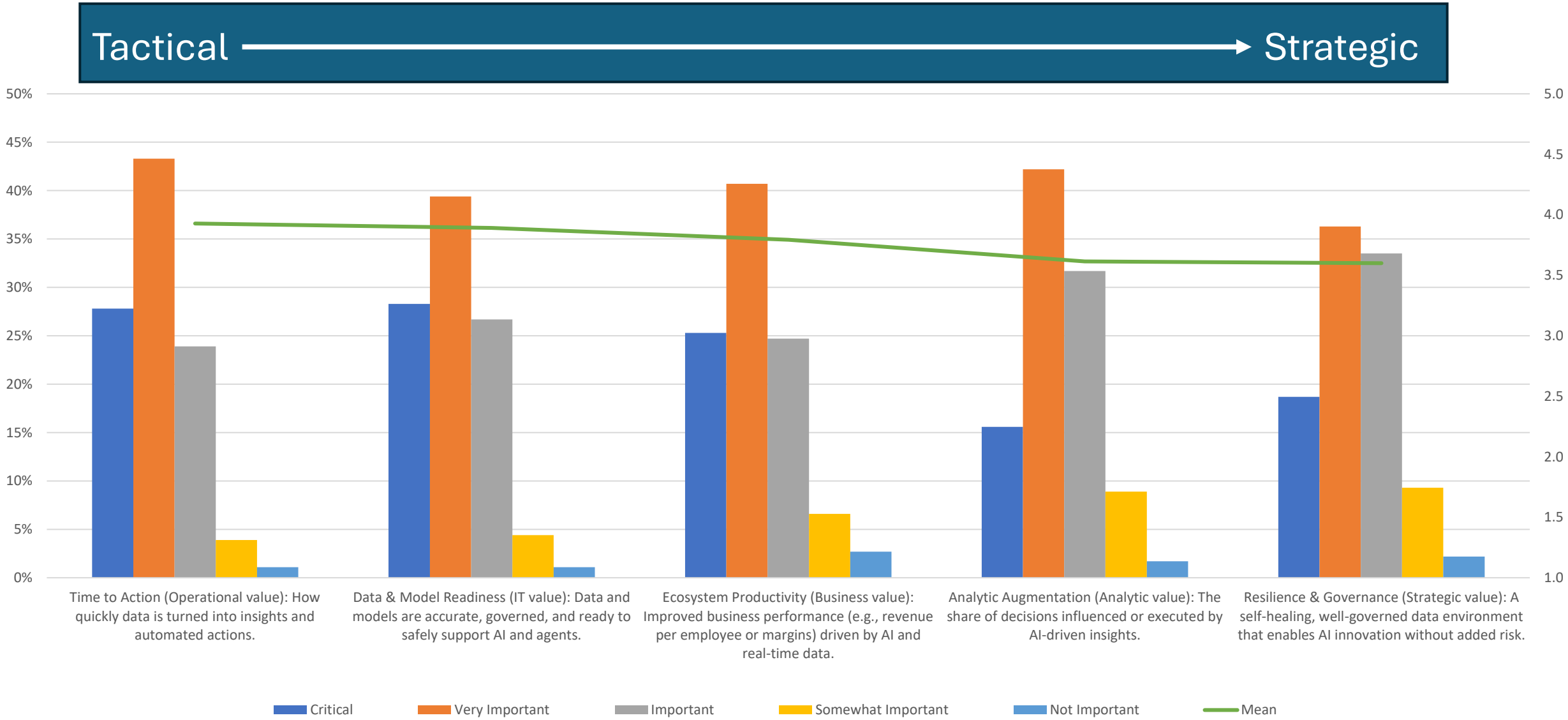
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AI Adoption Issues



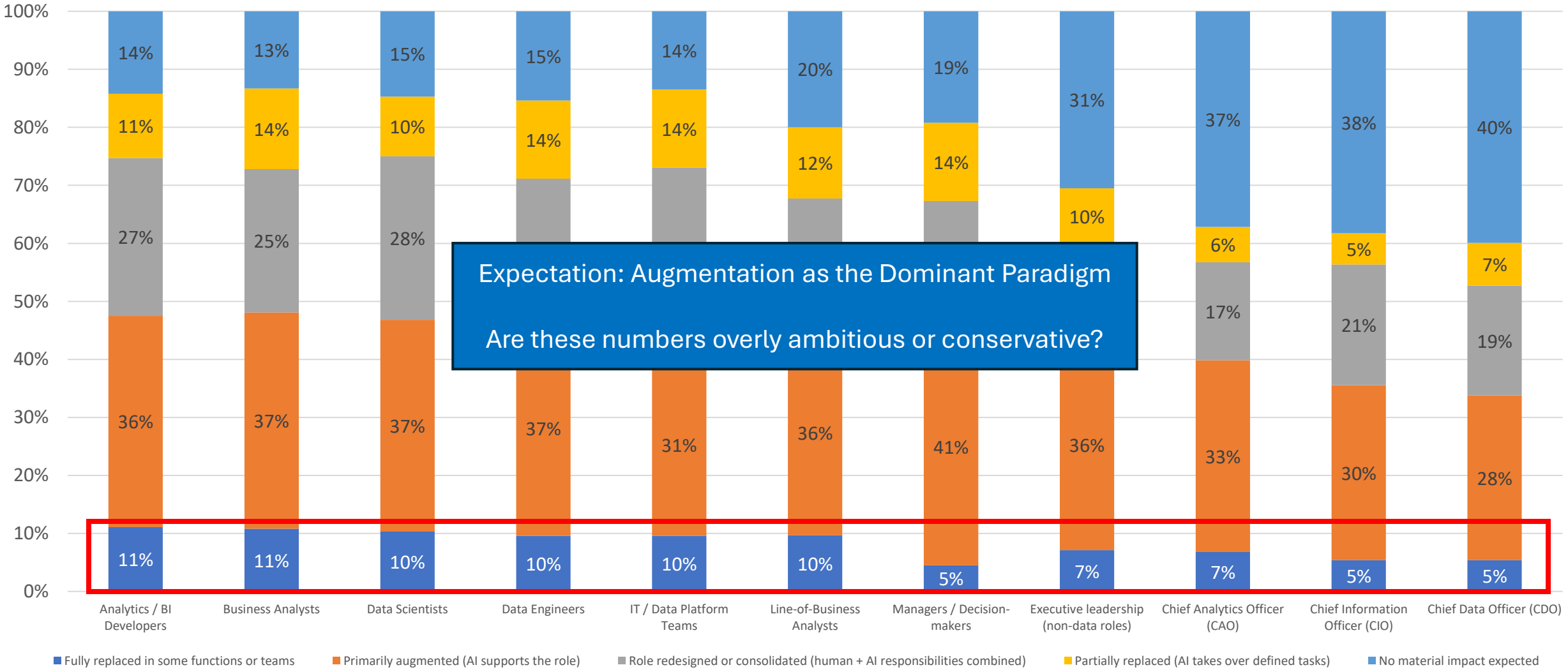
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AI Performance Indicators (KPIs)



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Expected Impact on Human Roles – 24 Months



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Getting The Information Right



Automaker **Ford** is reportedly reemploying hundreds of experienced human engineers to work on quality issues automated systems couldn't address. "Artificial intelligence is a fantastic tool, **but it's only as good as the information you use to train it**," Charles Poon, Ford's vice president of vehicle hardware engineering, told the media.

Source: CNBC July 2026

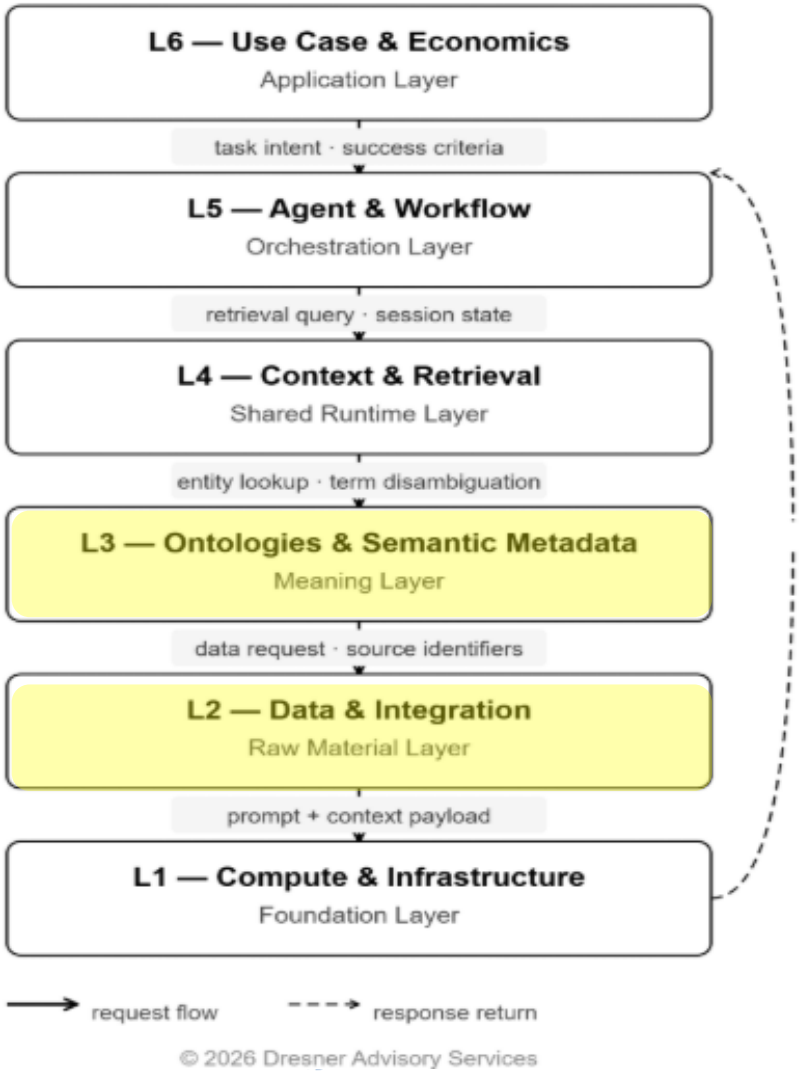
AI is not a strategy IMO.
What's the business strategy and how can that be supported by AI?

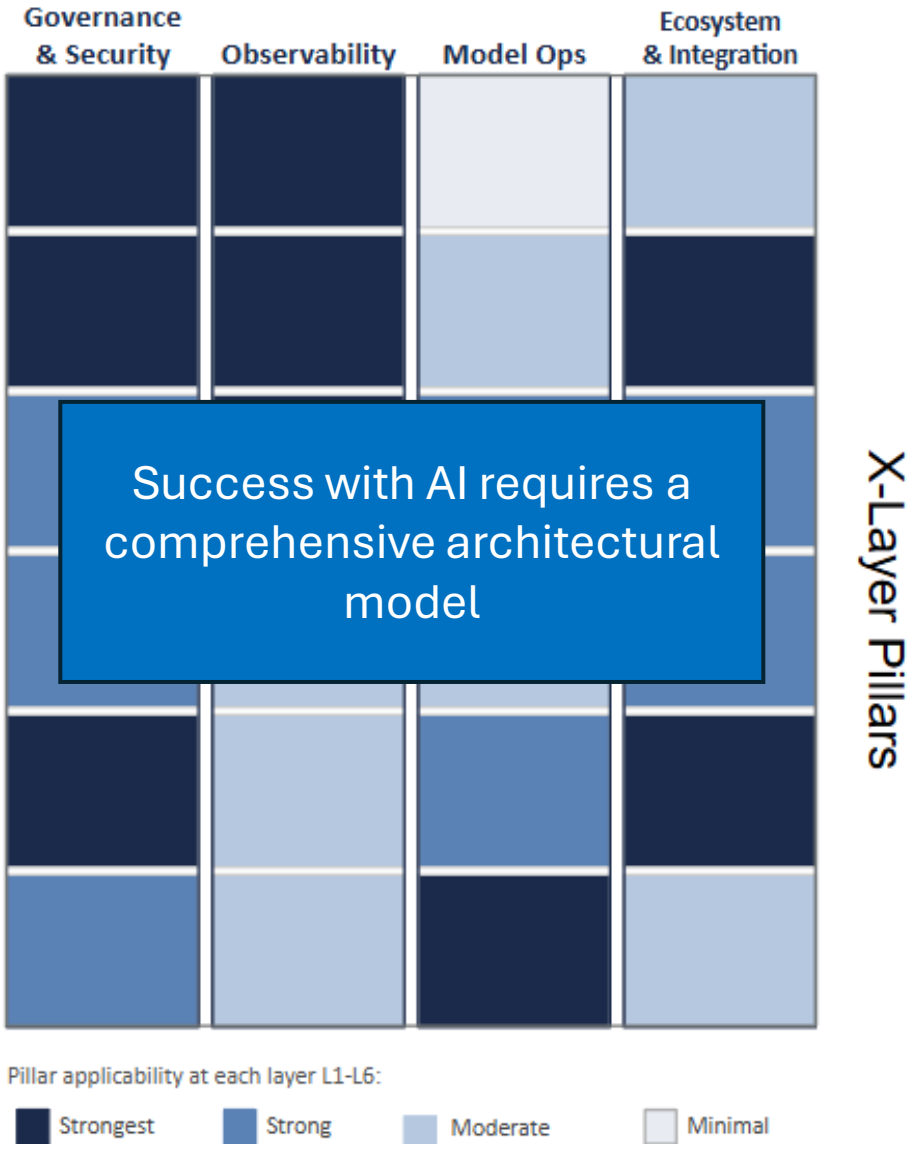
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Dresner AIP Model

Capability Layers

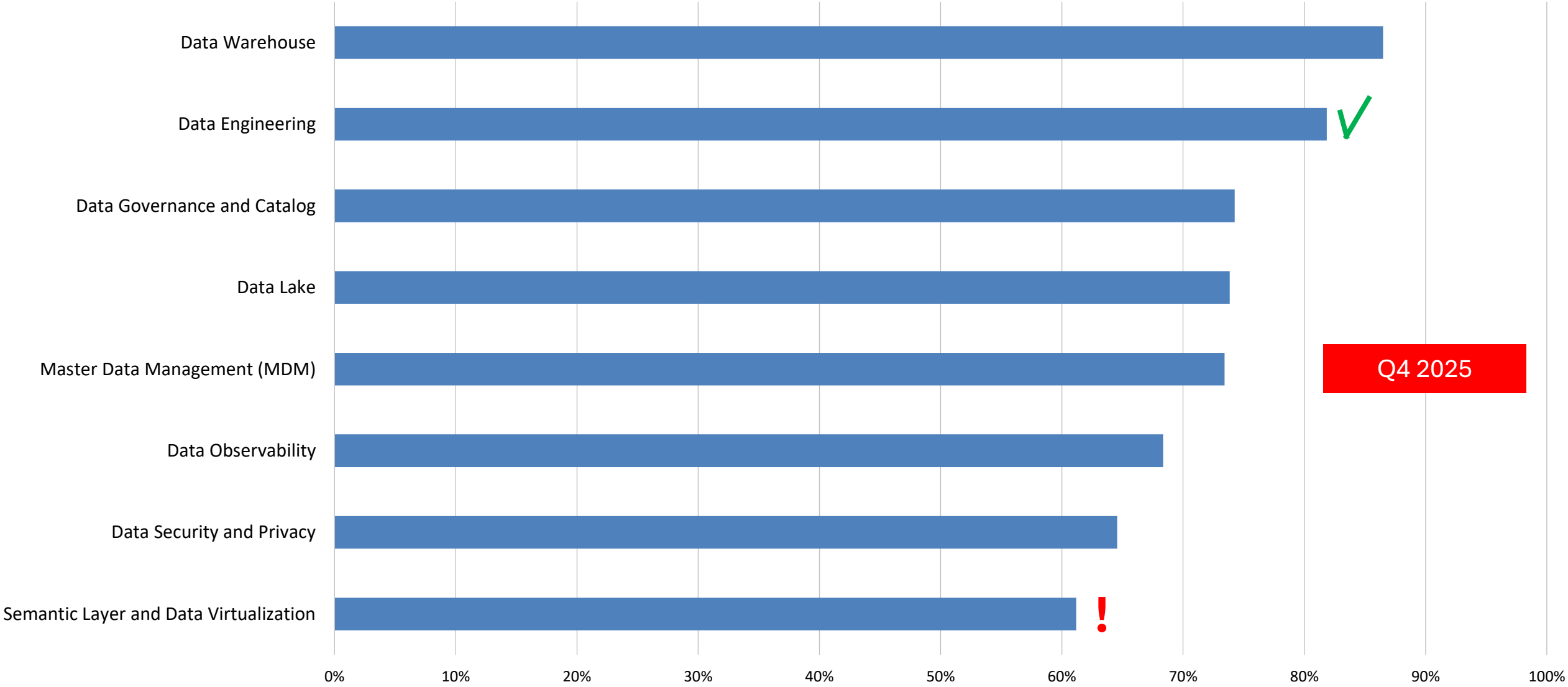




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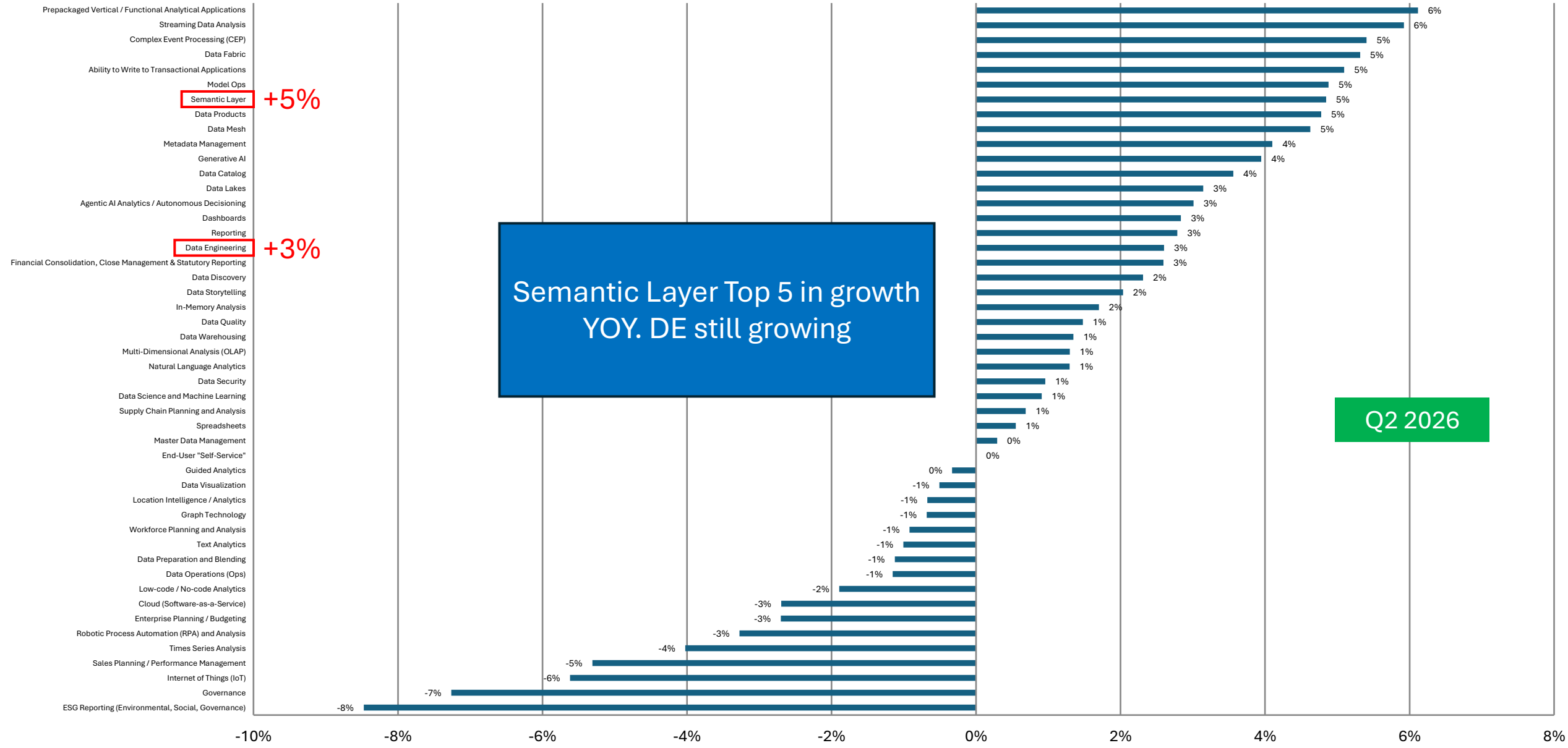
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Importance of ADI Components



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Change in Technology Priorities 2025-2026



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Data Engineering

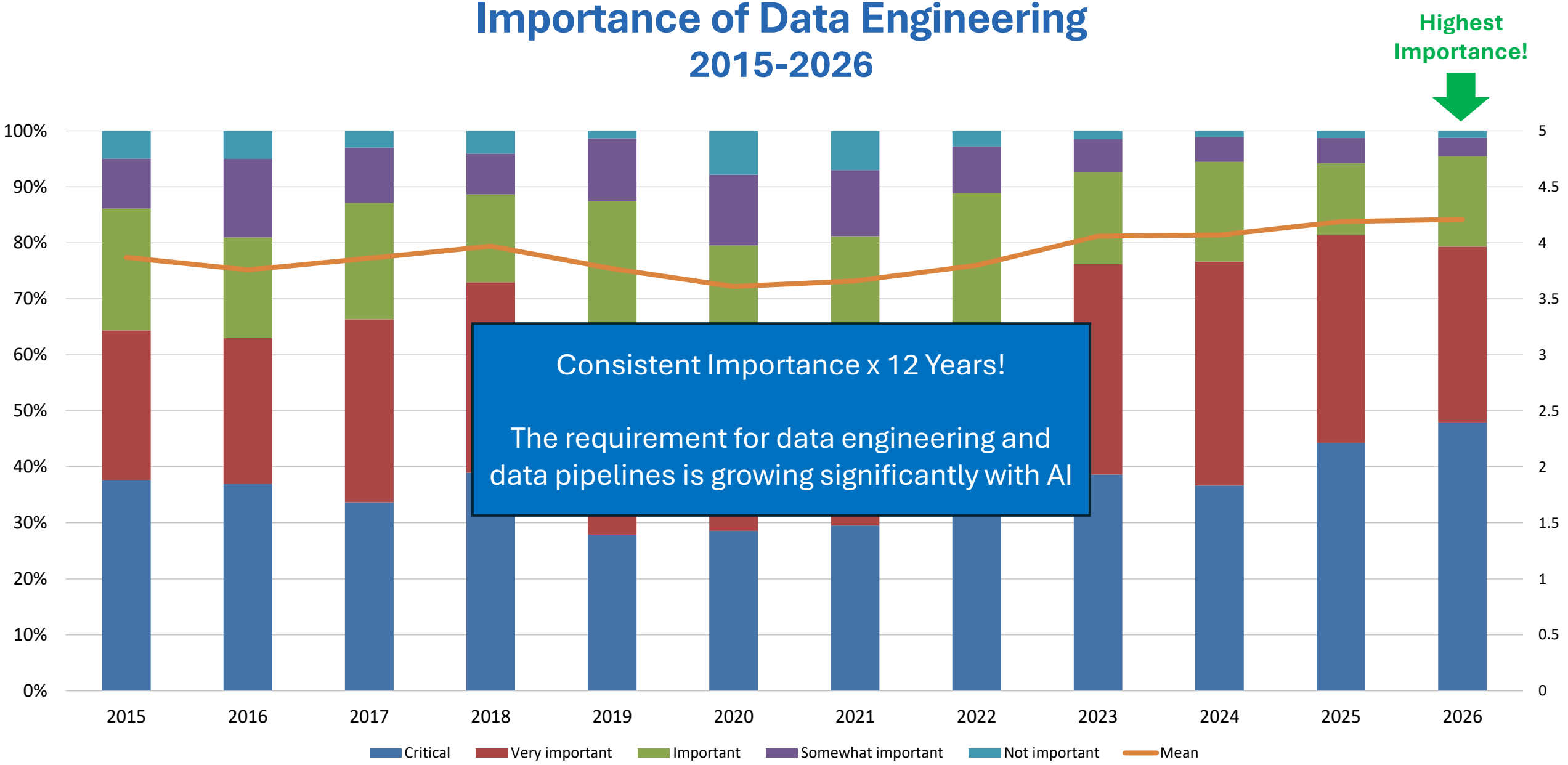
- Best practices and technology capabilities to develop engi[illegible] oper[illegible]ures.
- Data[illegible]ies for d[illegible]s including advanced analytics in the data engineering pipeline workflow.

- Moves and integrates data from source systems to where it is needed
- Transforms, cleans, and prepares data for analytics, applications, and AI
- Builds and manages reliable data pipelines and workflows

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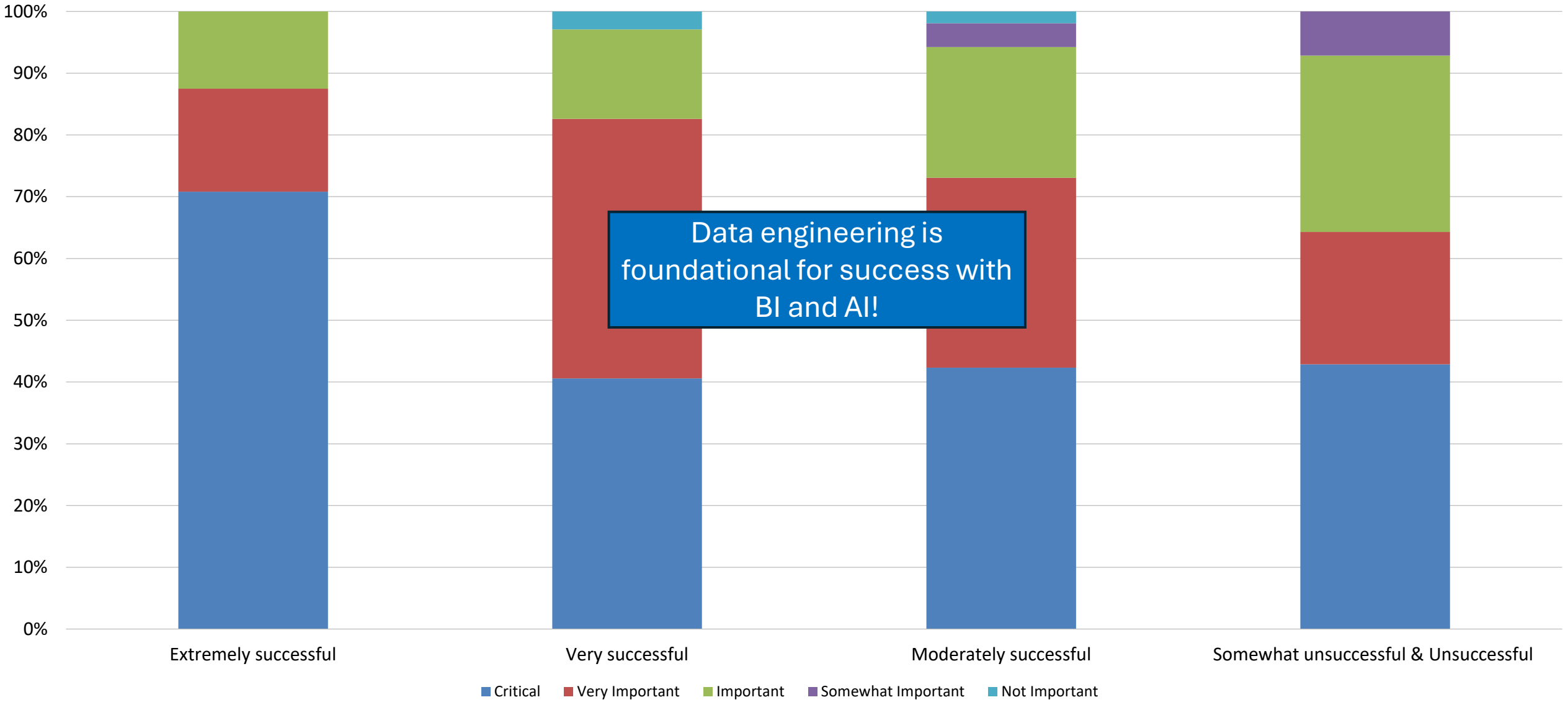
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Importance of Data Engineering
2015-2026



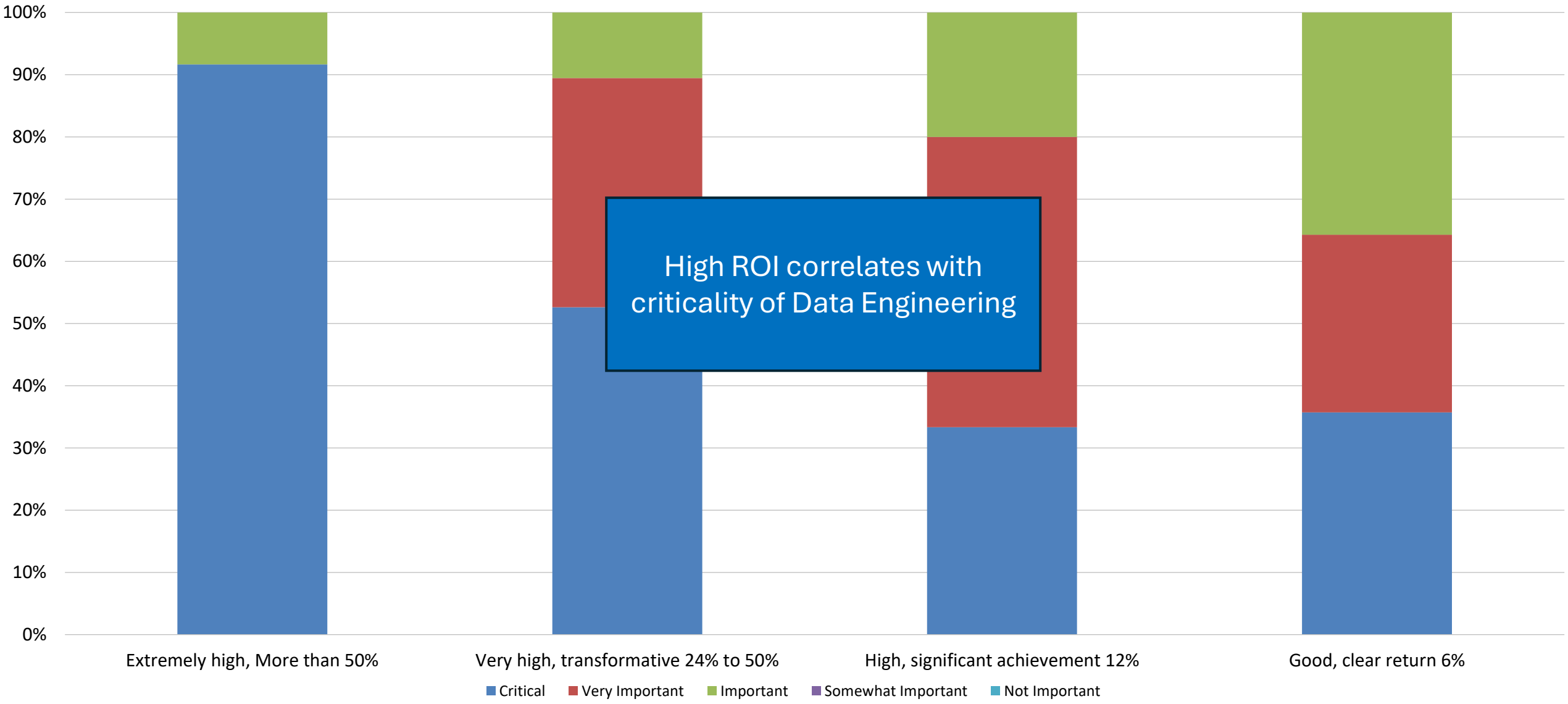
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Importance of Data Engineering by BI Success



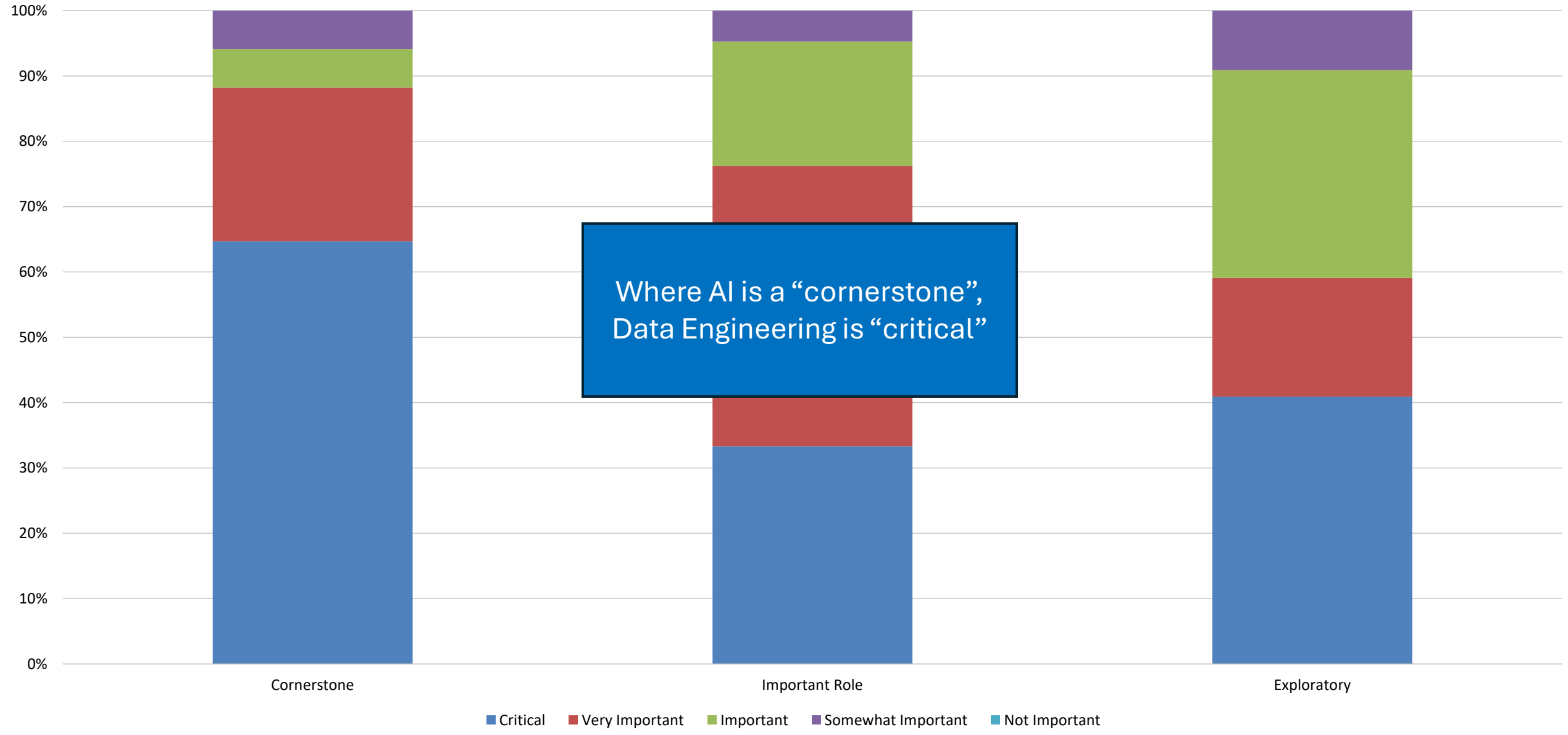
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Importance of Data Engineering by BI ROI



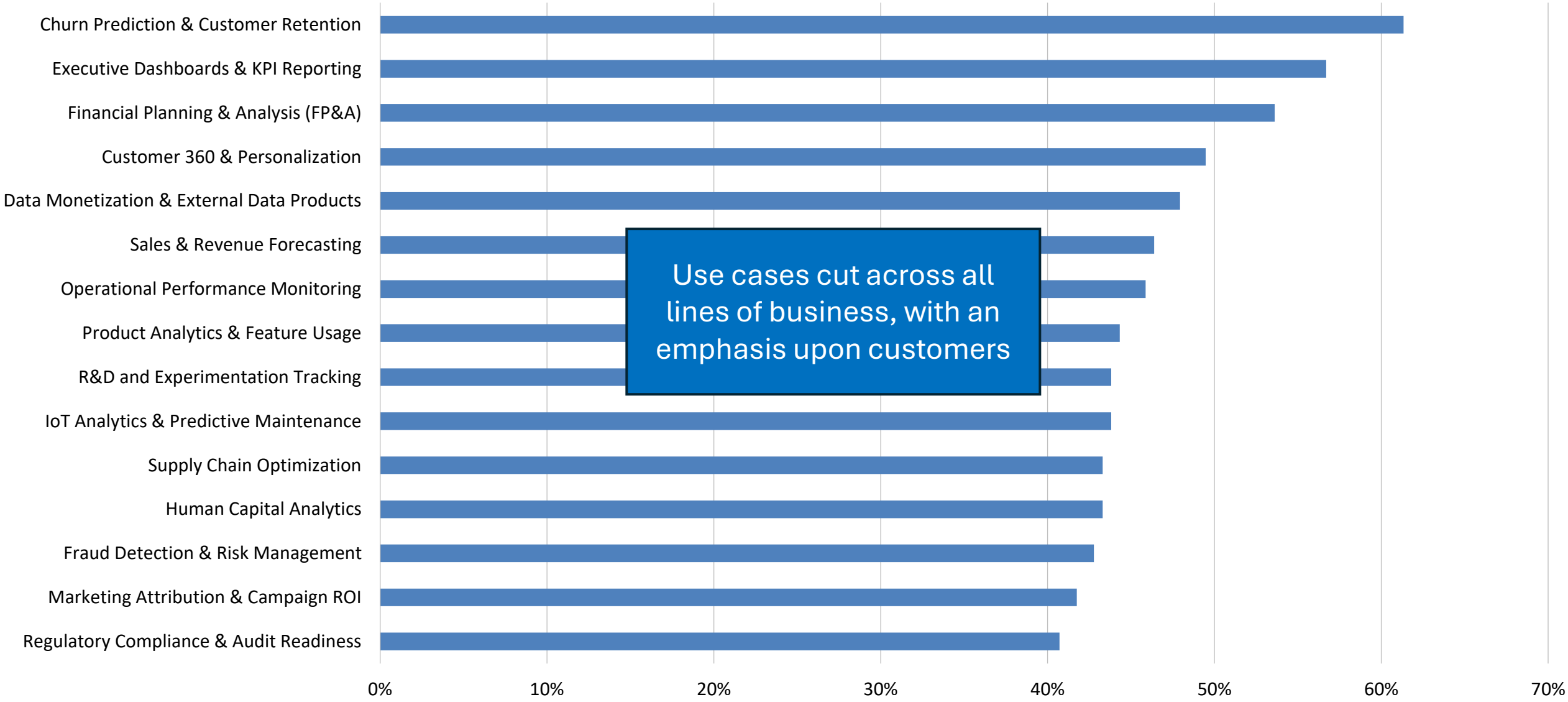
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Importance of Data Engineering by AI Strategic Role



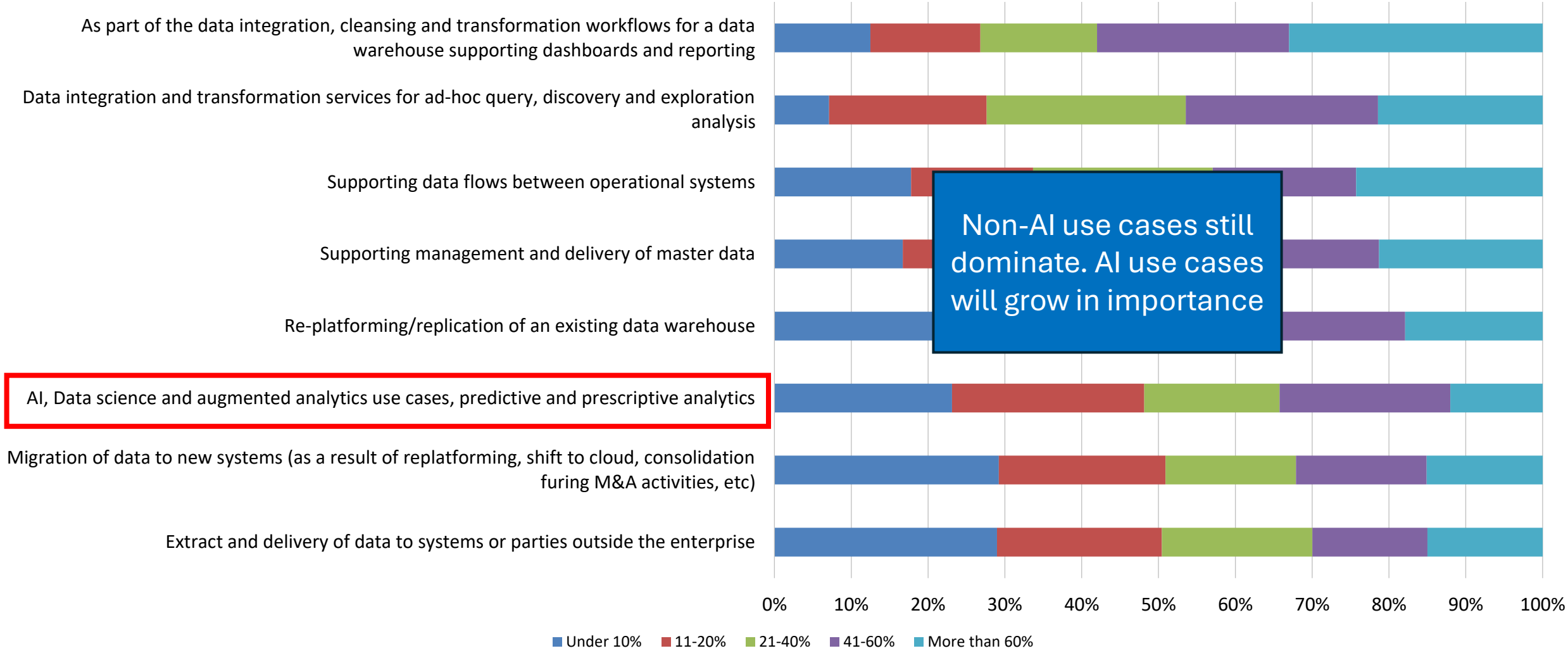
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Data Engineering Business Use Cases



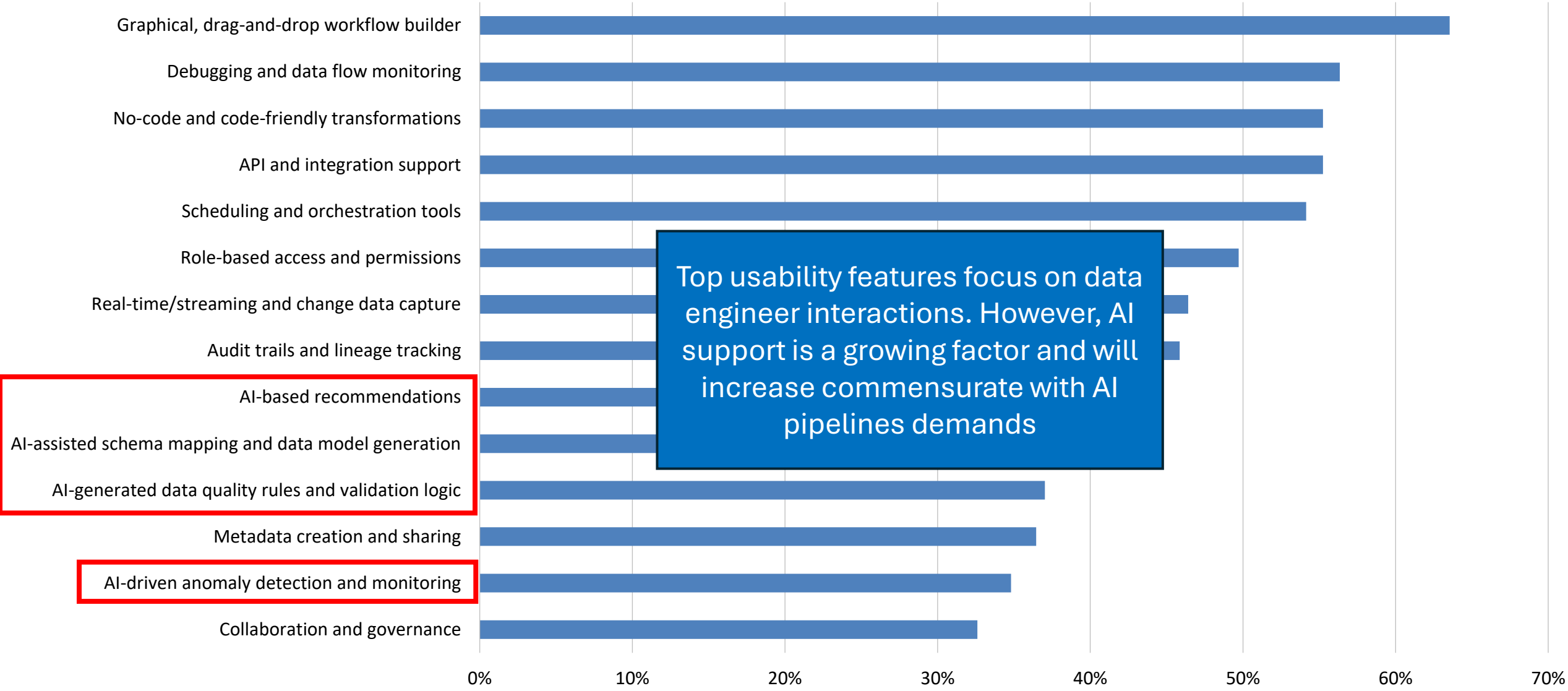
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Data Engineering Technical Use Cases



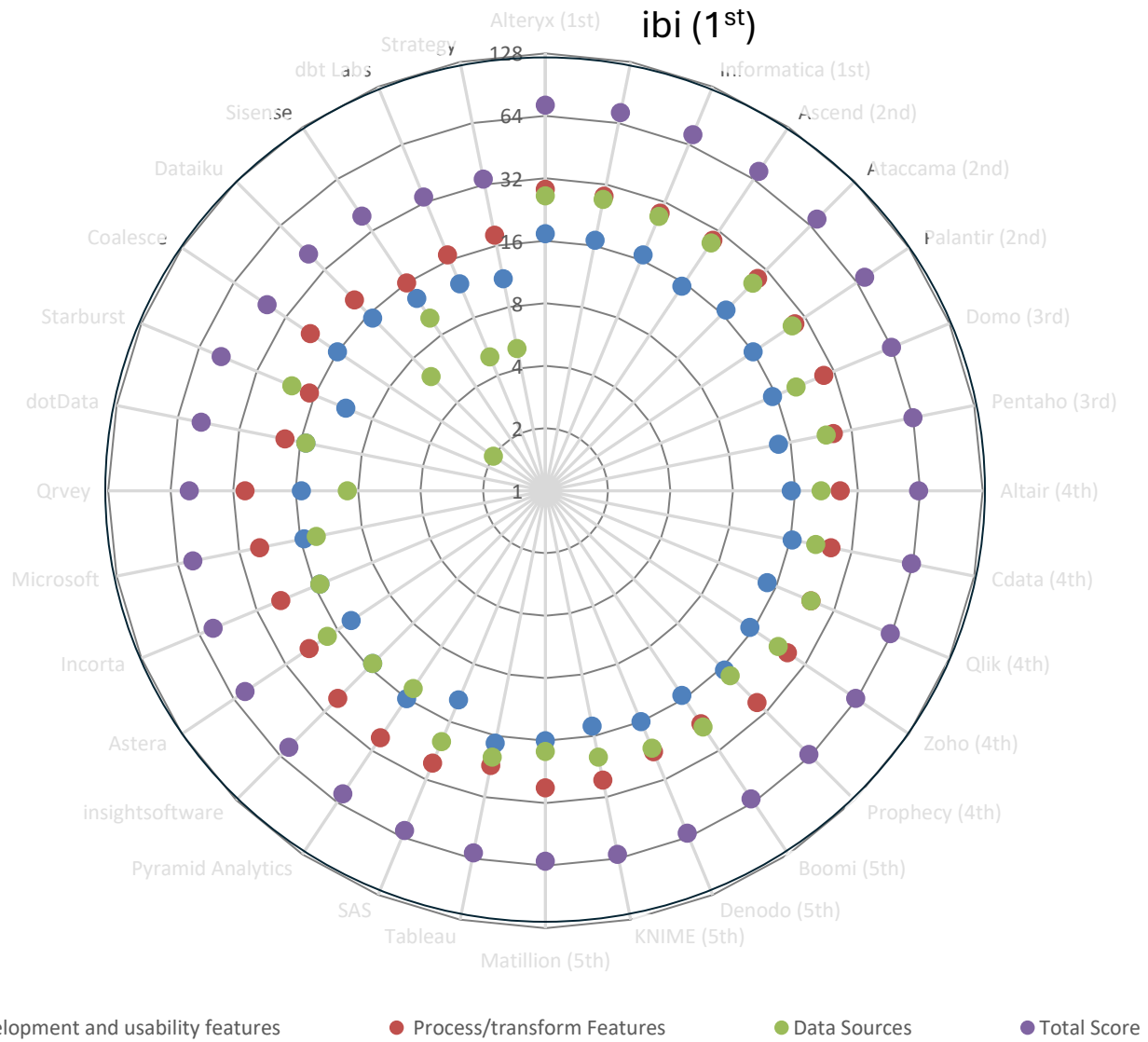
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Data Engineering Usability



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Data Engineering Vendor Ratings



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Semantic Layer

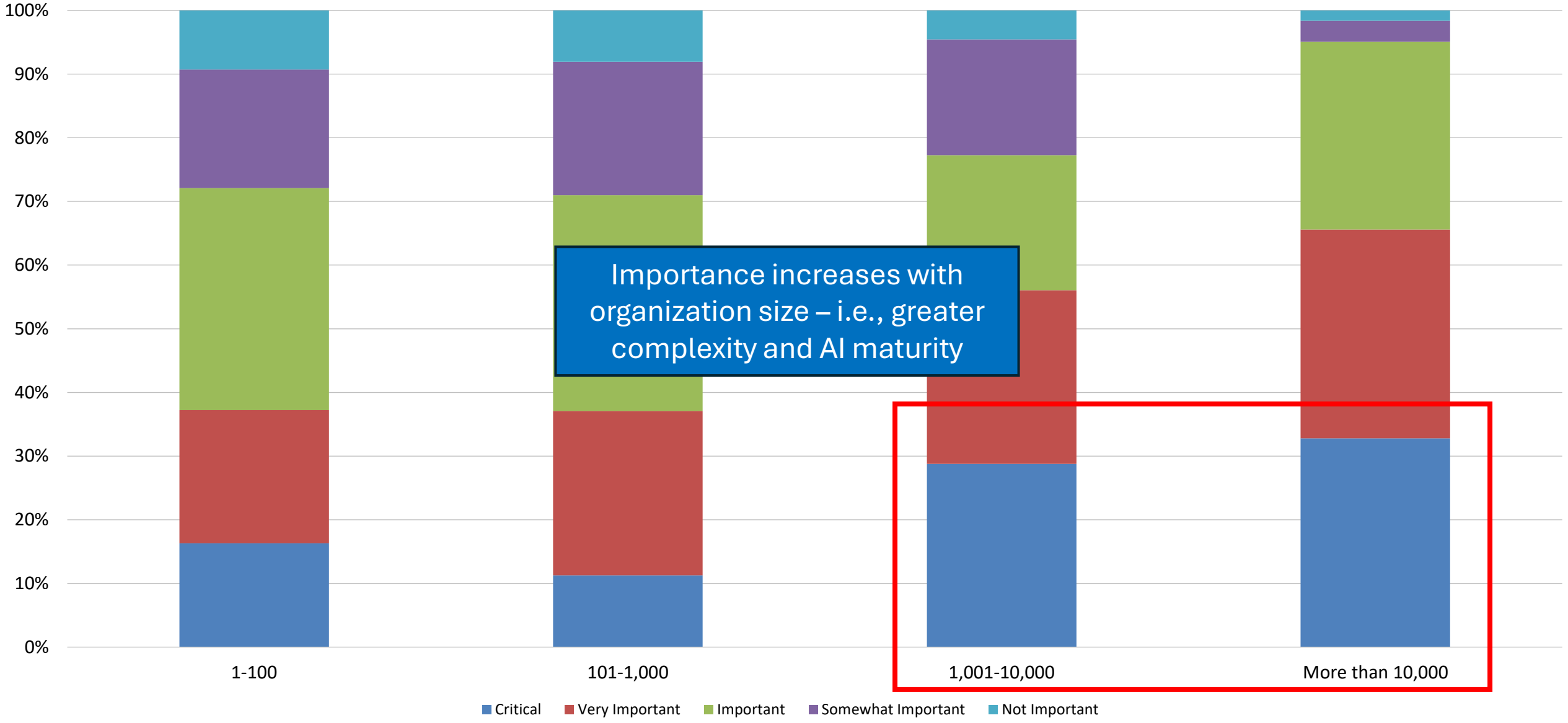
- Application-independent view of data objects that are critical to the operation of the business. These views are readily accessible from a variety of applications and to ional and an
- The da ns that differe structu consistent, understandable, and agreed-on format and meaning for optimal value at the point of consumption.

- Consistent business definitions for data and metrics
- Shields users from complexity of underlying data sources and structures
- Ensures use of data with the same meaning and context

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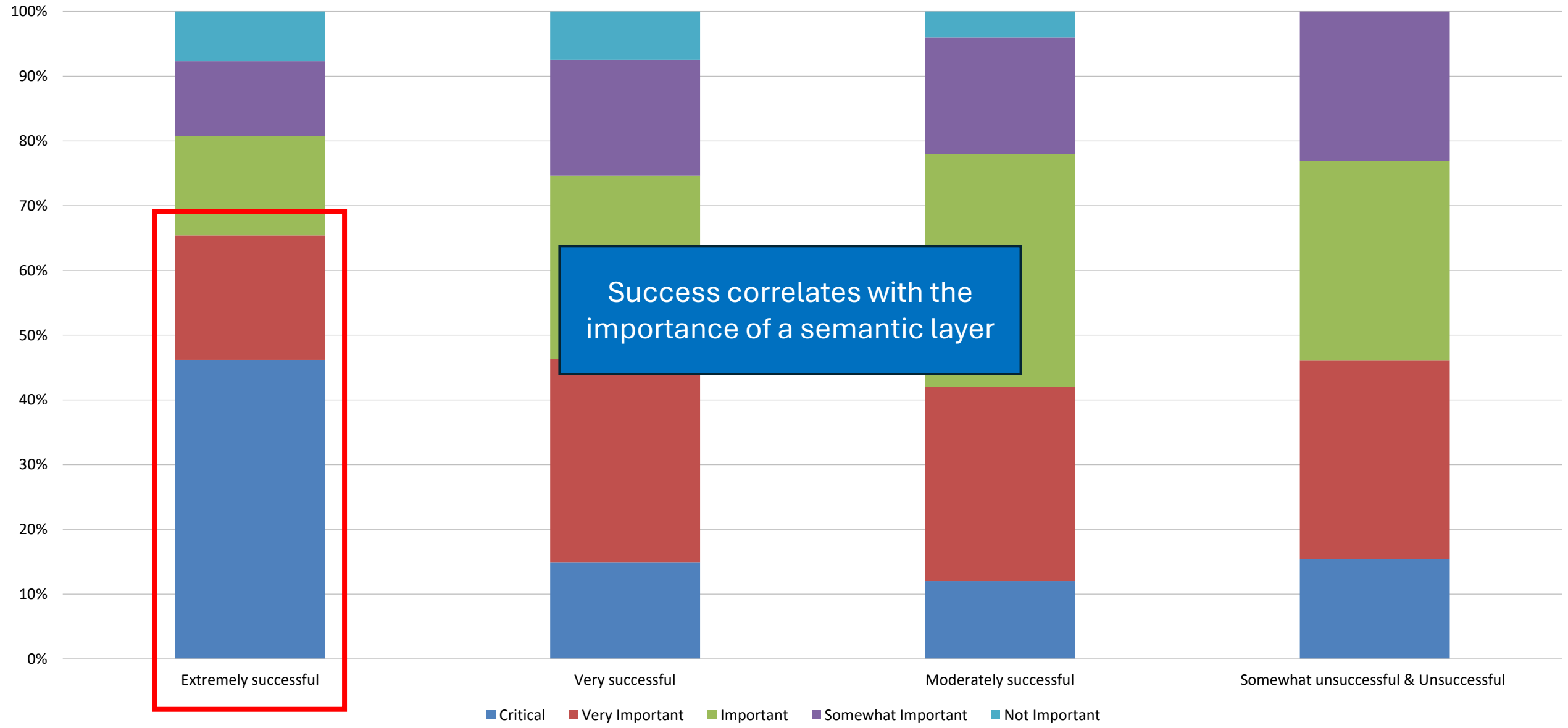
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Importance of Semantic Layer and Data Virtualization by Organization Size



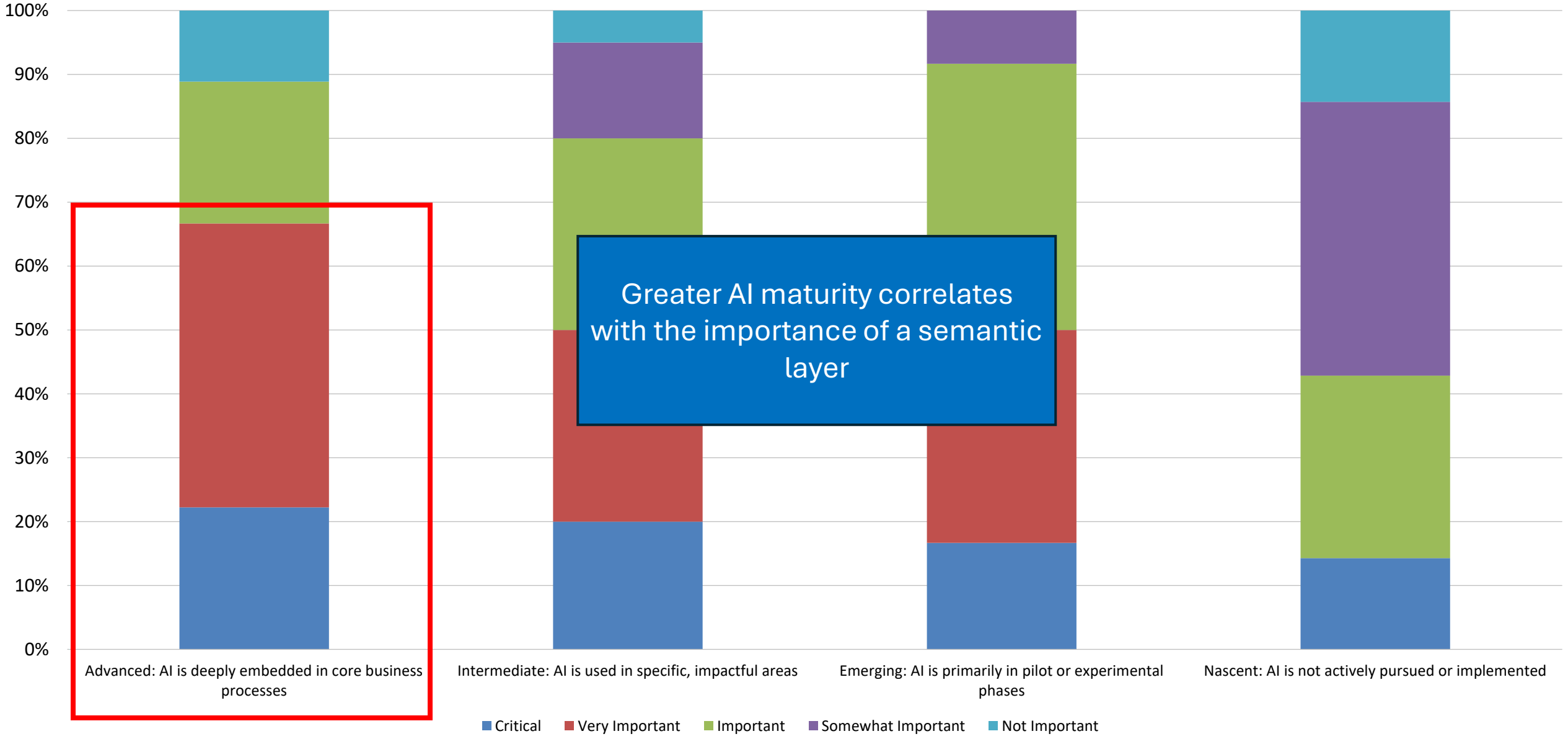
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Importance of Semantic Layer and Data Virtualization by BI Success



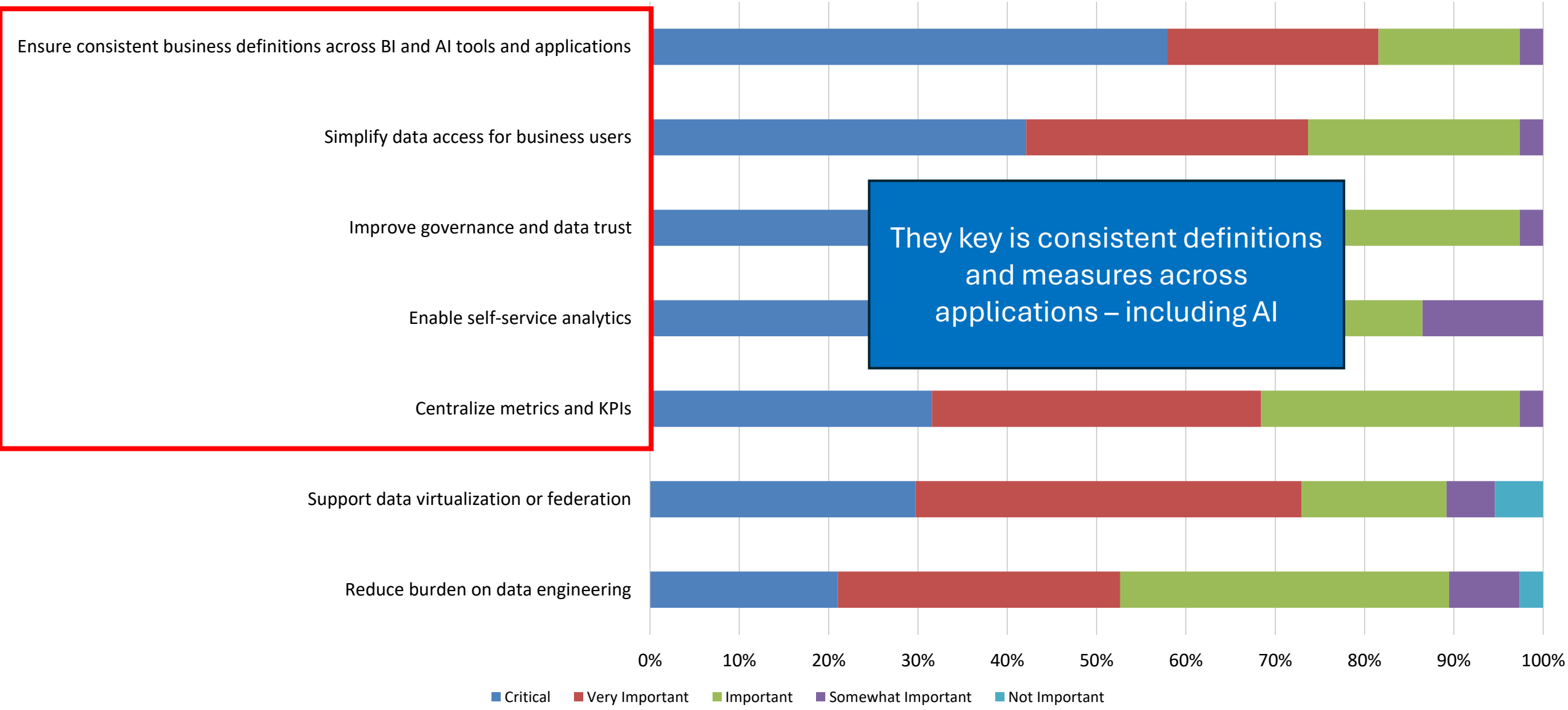
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Importance of Semantic Layer and Data Virtualization by AI Maturity



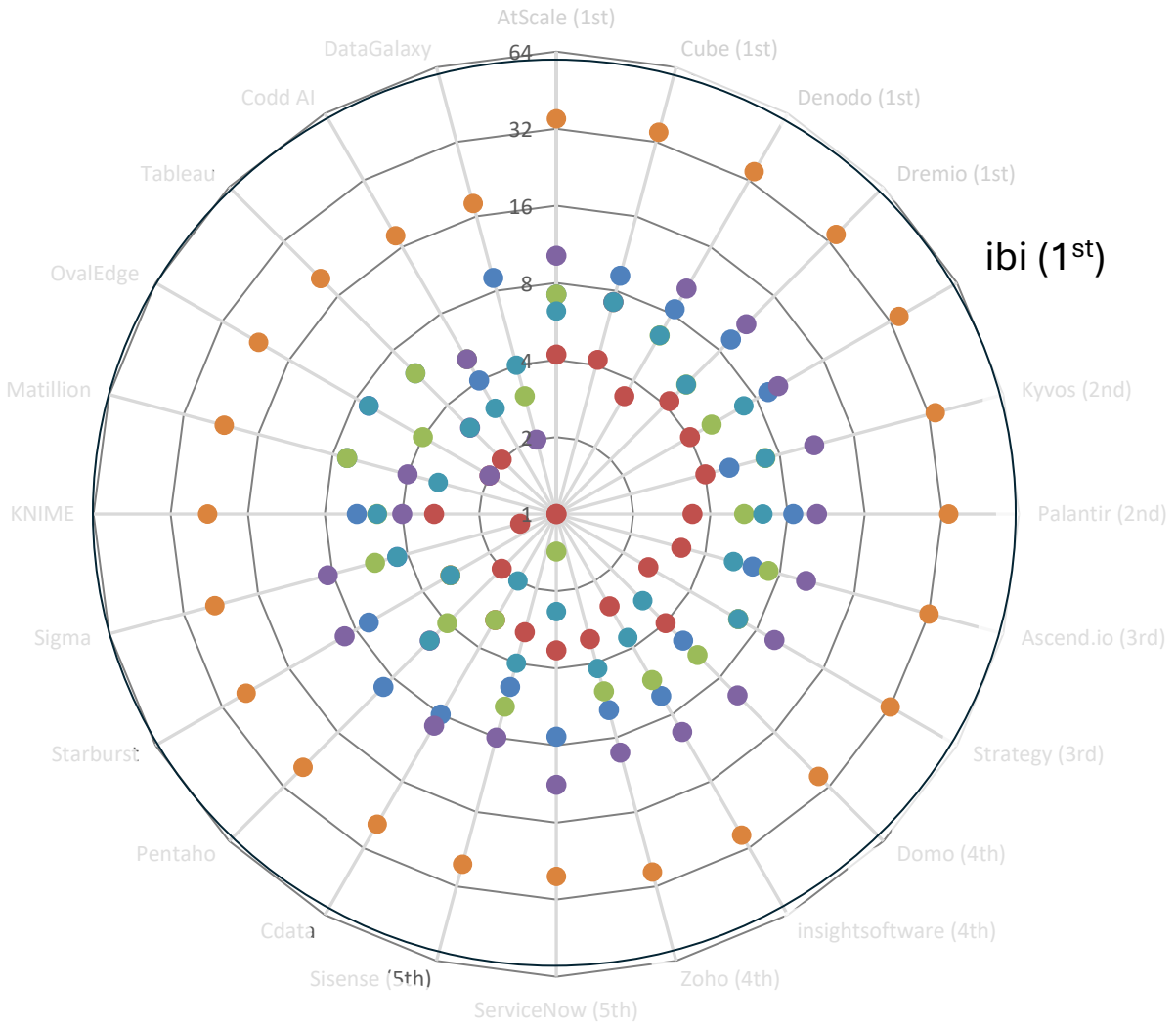
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Semantic Layer and Data Virtualization Objectives



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Semantic Layer and Data Virtualization Vendor Ratings



Styles of Data Integration and Access Management
Scalability and Performance Capabilities
Modeling and Transformation Features
Performance Optimization and Lifecycle Support Features
Governance and Administration Capabilities
Total

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Agentic AI

- Take action by executing workflows on behalf of humans or auto ents.
- Combines analytical AI, generative AI, orchestration workflows, and MCP to deliver outcomes.

- Uses AI agents to assist users in exploring, analyzing, and interpreting data

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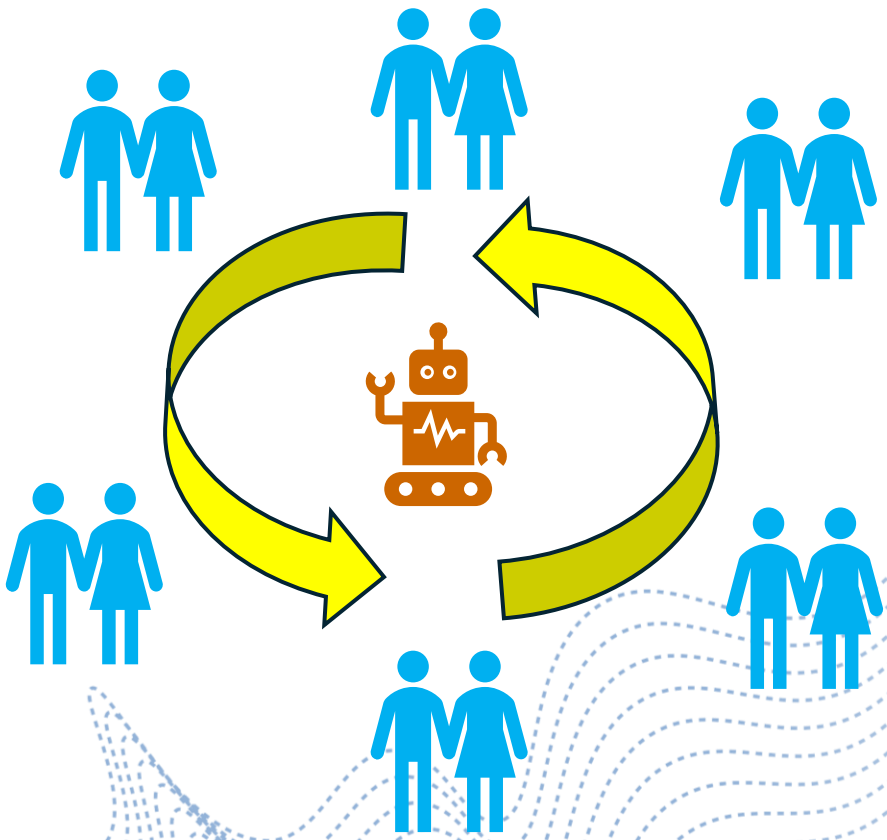
Apple Knowledge Navigator - 1987



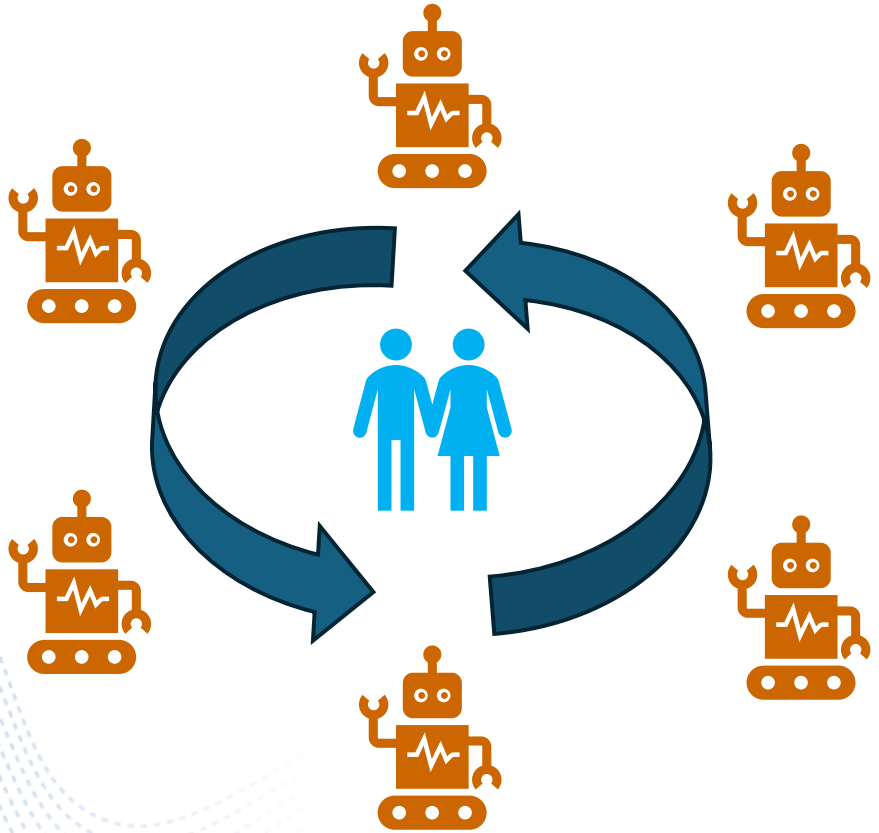
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“AI in the Loop” vs. “Human in the Loop”



VS.



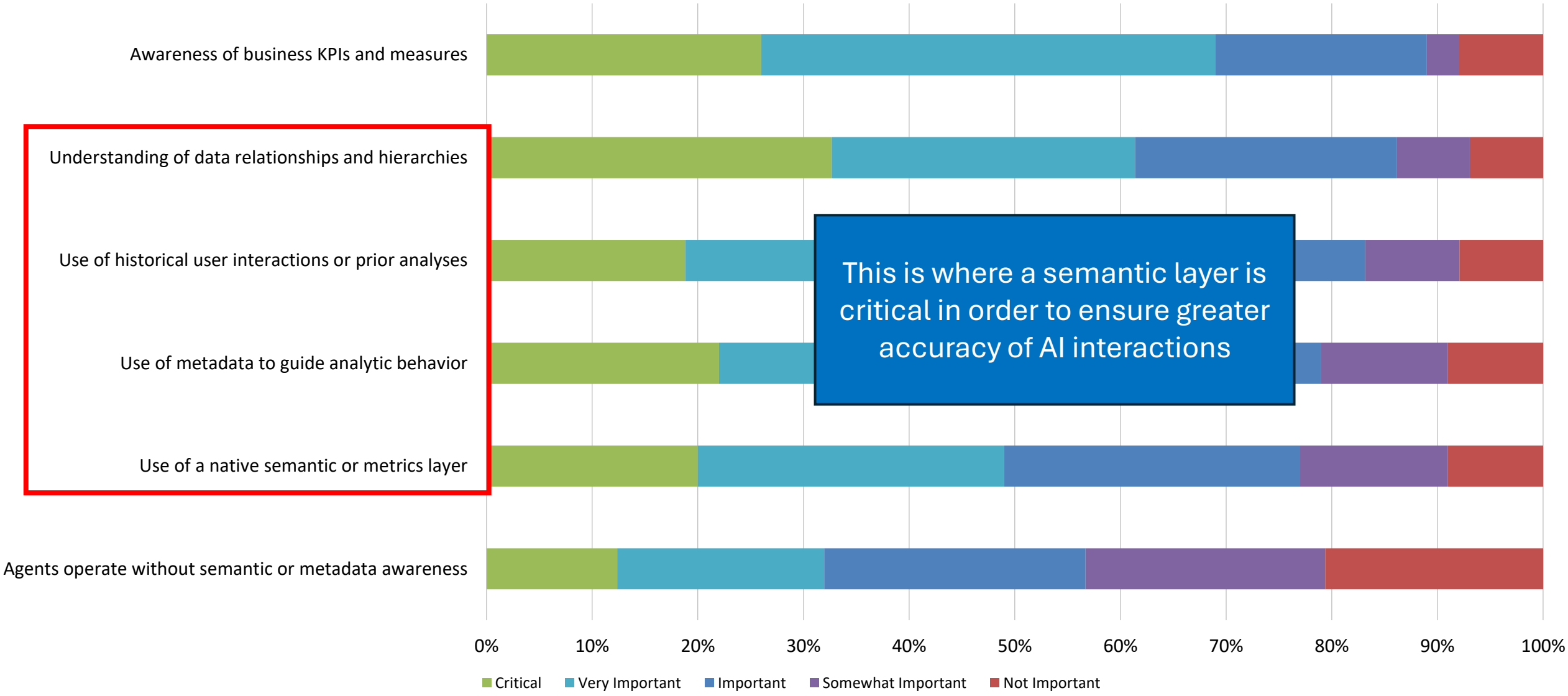
Analytical/Informational

Operational/Process

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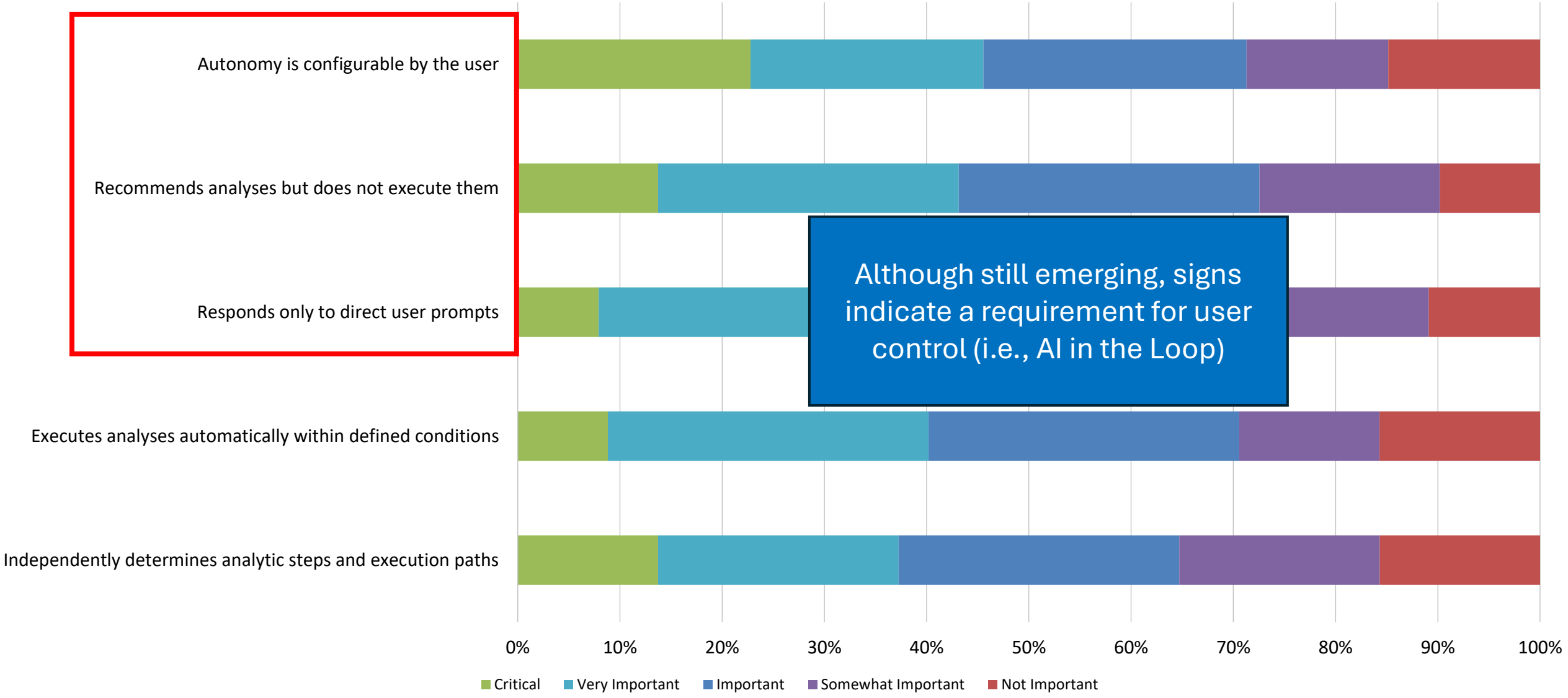
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AI Agent Analytic Interpretation



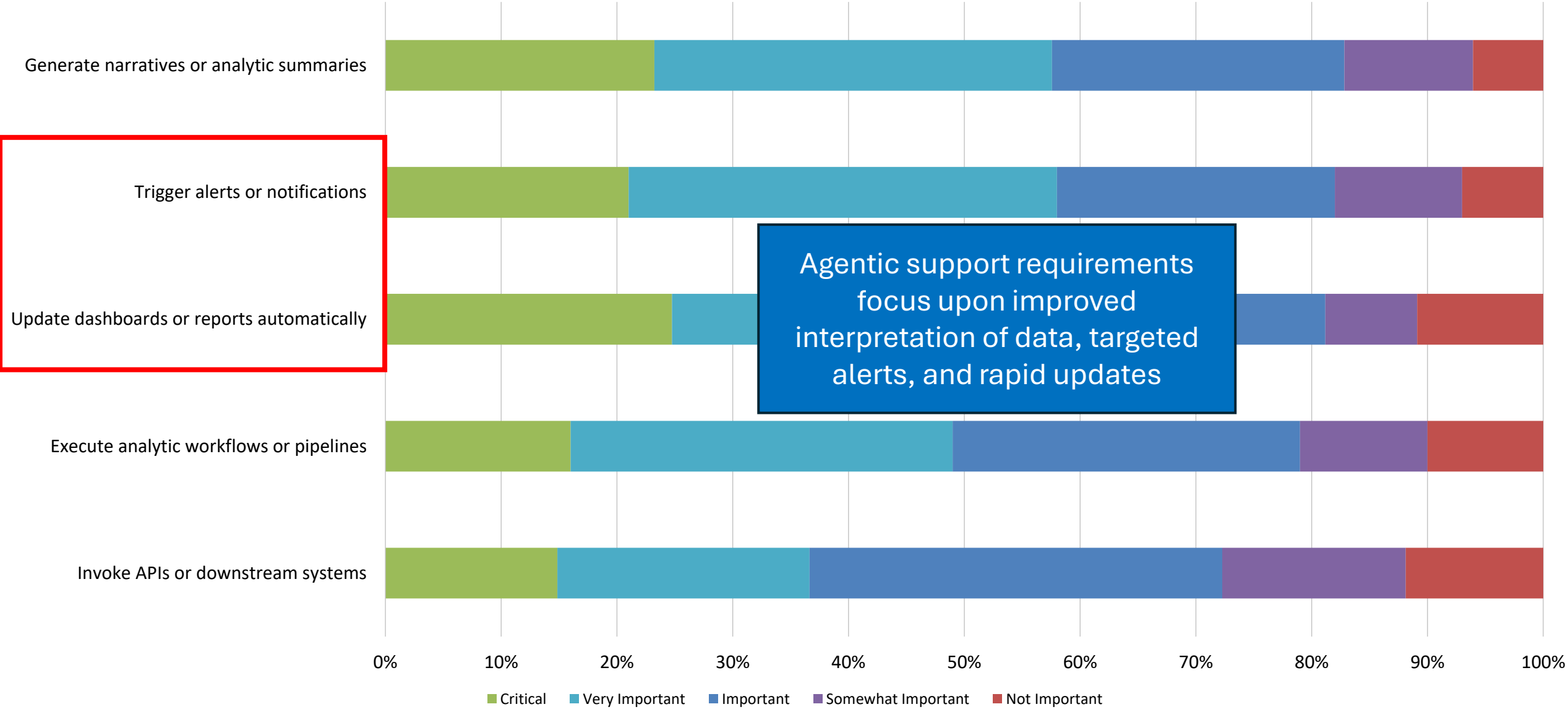
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Autonomous Analytics Behaviors



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AI Agent Analytic Actions



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Conclusions

- Demand and adoption of AI – including agents continues to grow, with many of the underlaying concerns and issues moderating but still present
- Circumspection and an architectural / strategic approach are necessary for longer term success
- Key elements of the architecture: data engineering and semantic layer are critical components of any data-driven solution
- AI agents in support of user data analytics are emerging with an “AI in the Loop” focus in support of user effectiveness

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Thank You

We look forward to supporting your strategy and helping your team make clearer, faster, more confident decisions.



Contact

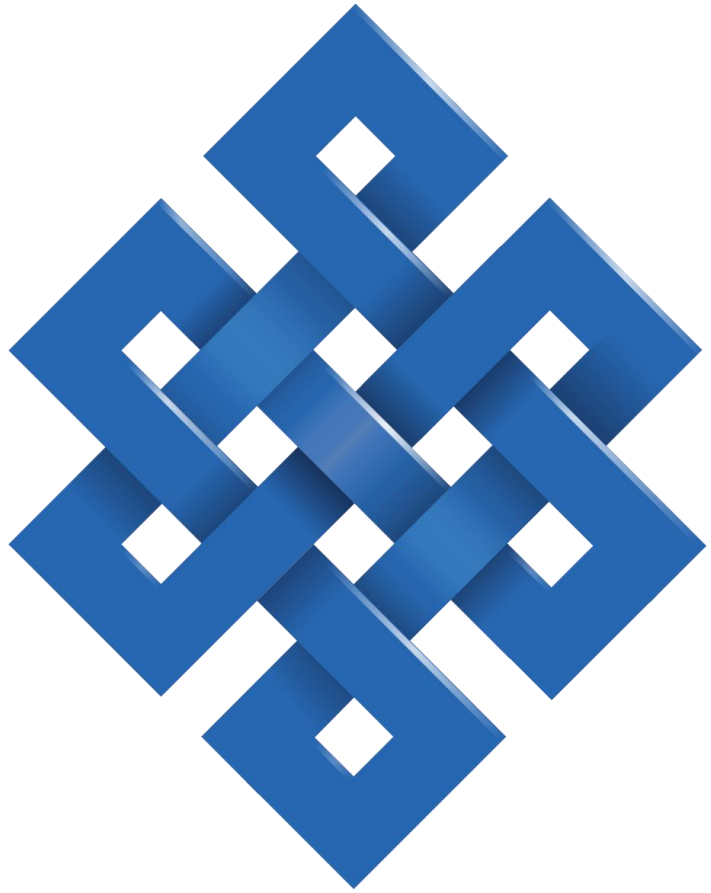
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