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# Predicting Future Security Events to Better Manage High-Risk Situations

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# The Business Problem

**Security Assurance** – confidence in national security

**Anecdotal evidence of risk factors** related to security incidents

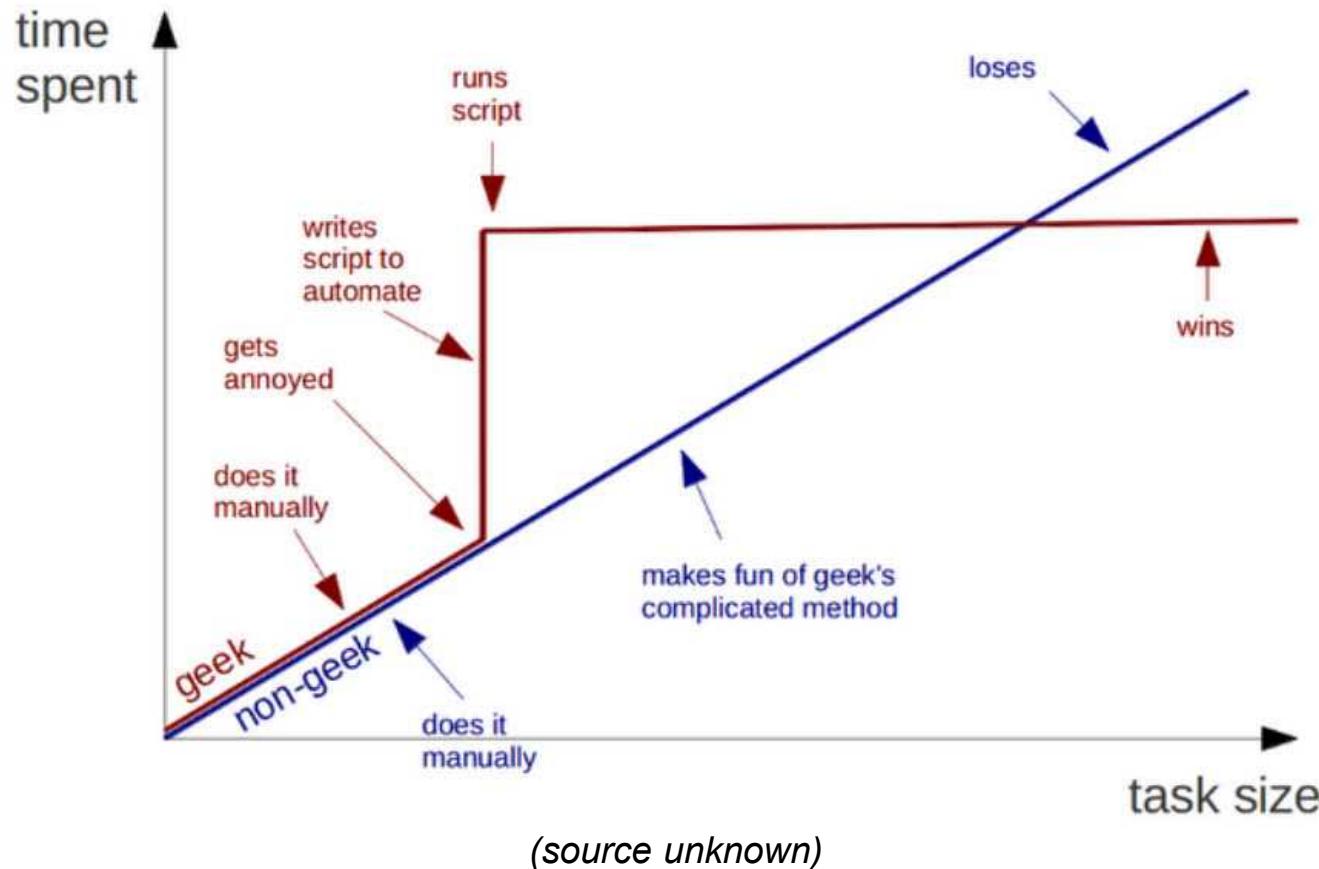
But these risk factors are “**lagging indicators**”

**Lack of information** useful for risk reduction

**Facilitate communication** between security and line operations

# The Solution? It's Complicated...

## Geeks and repetitive tasks



# The Solution

**A behavioral predictive model was proposed and accepted in late FY2013**

- To identify risk factors (predictive indicators)
- As a tool for having conversations with management

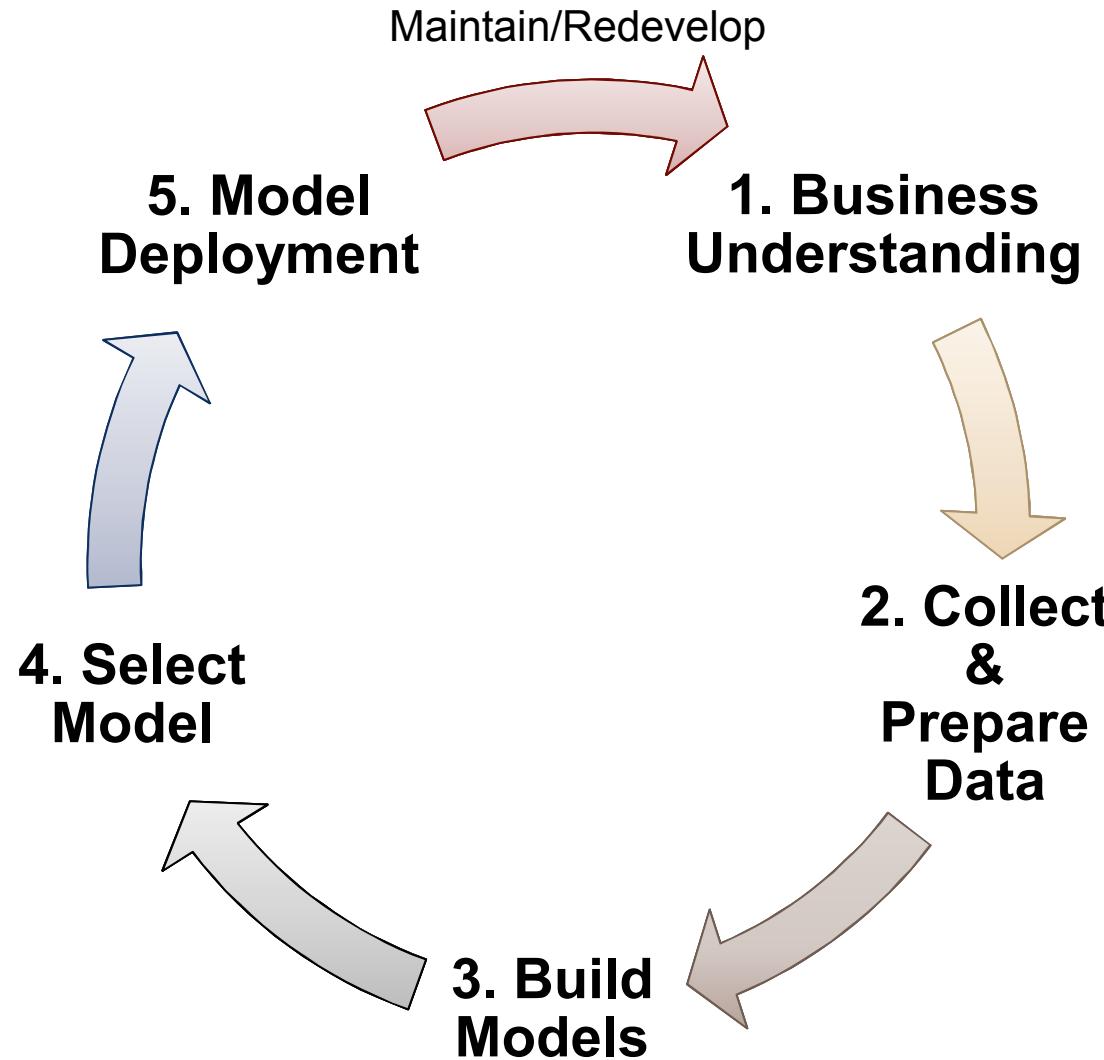
**What is a predictive model?**

- Statistical data-mining technique that analyzes historical and current data to generate a model that predicts future behavior
- Used successfully in the financial, insurance and retail industries

**How can it be used?**

- Indicates probability, does not indicate causality
- Identifies behaviors or conditions related to increased risk

# Simplified Modeling Process



# Step 1 - Business Understanding

**Question: What is the risk that a Sandia organization will have a Security Issue in the Next 6 Months?**

## Brainstorming Indicators

- Use a diverse team
- Prioritize the list – can't afford to get everything

## How will the predictive indicators be used?

- Avoid privacy and legal issues
- Imagine discussions with mgt. on practices/changes to make

## How can the model be used?

- Indicates probability, does not indicate causality
- Identifies behaviors or conditions related to increased risk
- Never totally accurate – behaviors affected by personal factors

# Predictive Model Indicators

**Fake Example – predicting risk using  
buying patterns to indicate mindfulness**



Buying lots of vegetables &  
fruit decreases risk

# Predictive Model Indicators

## Fake Example – predicting risk using buying patterns to indicate mindfulness



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### KEY POINT

Not buying vegetables & fruit does not cause security issues!

# Step 2 – Collect and Prepare Data

## Data was gathered (slowly) from multiple data sources

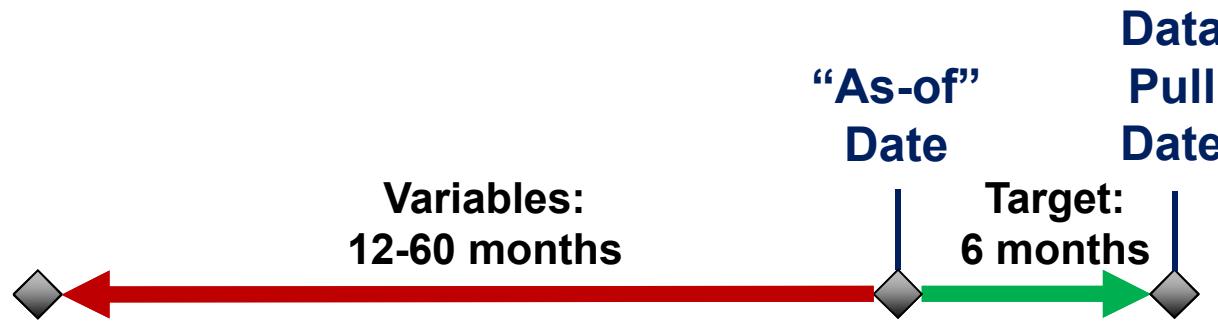
- Human Resources systems
- IT systems management records
- Safety & Health records
- Training records
- And more...

## Data Governance Needed

- Commonly heard: *That's MY data! What are you going to do with it?*
- Had to brief 4 Directors, 1 VP, and 3 Lawyers
- As a result, Sandia is implementing a corporate data governance process to enable faster/safer data collection

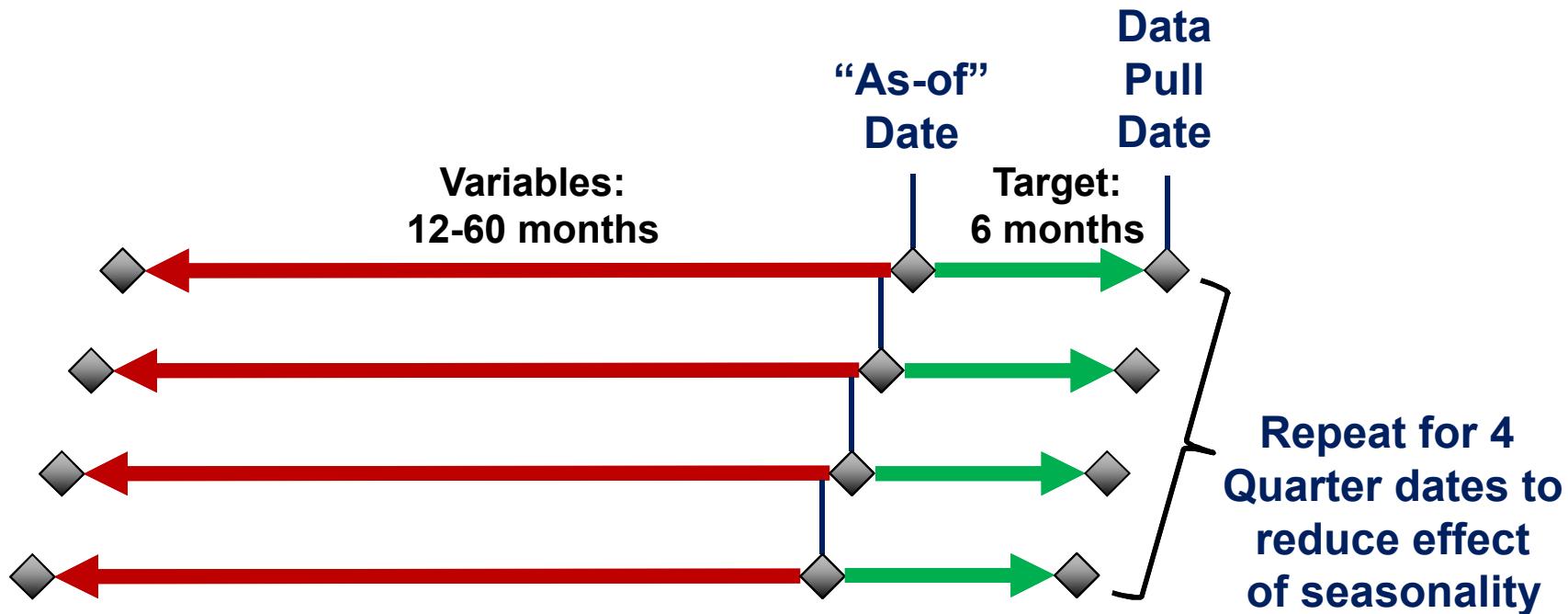
# Step 2 – Collect and Prepare Data

**Data was integrated and summarized over multiple time periods**



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# Step 3 – Build Models

## Tools Used

- Data Exploration & Visualization - IBM SPSS, SAS JMP
- Model Development - SAS Enterprise Miner (Desktop)

## Modeling

- Customer desire to know the predictors limited model choices
- Explored data with bi-variate and cluster analysis
- Model algorithms used included Decision Trees (CART, CHAID, C5.0), Linear Regression, Logistic Regression, and Neural Network

## Model Training and Testing

- With a very low number of security issues as a percentage of the population, we used 10-fold cross-validation to compensate

# Step 4 – Select Model

## How effectively do the models separate two populations?

- Organizations more likely to have security issue in next 6 months
- Organizations less likely to have security issue in next 6 months

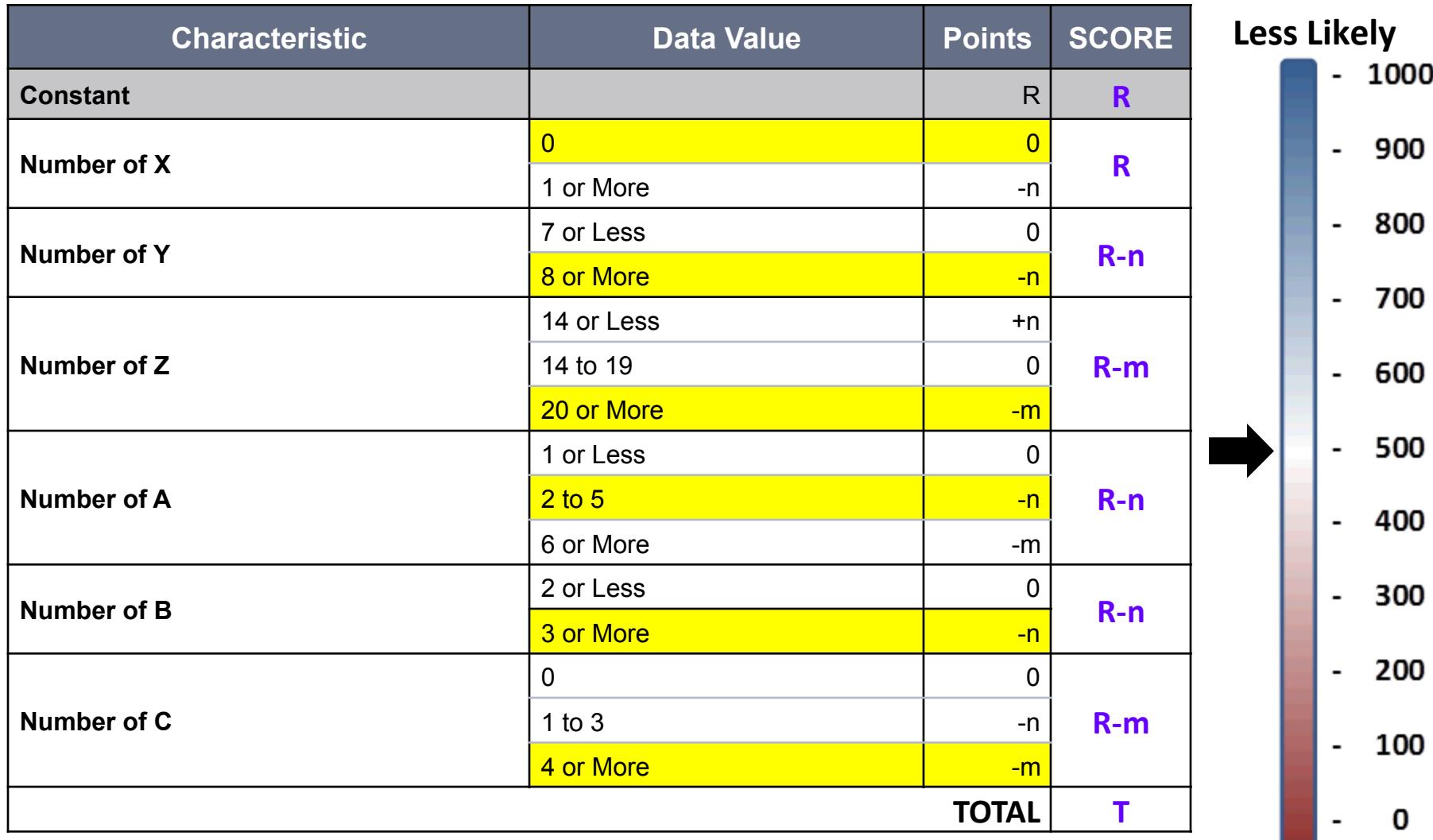
## Kolmogorov Smirnov (K-S) Score

- Measures the degree of separation between positive and negative distributions
- A common standard used for Credit Scoring in the financial industry
- Logistic Regression algorithm scored best in our case

## Bivariate Analysis Revisited

- Analysis found strong data relationships that the model did not select
- Chose a set of these to include in customer results

# Example Model Scorecard



Points are factors in the equation produced by the modeling algorithm, converted for purposes of communication.

More Likely

# Step 5 – Model Deployment

## Implementation constraints

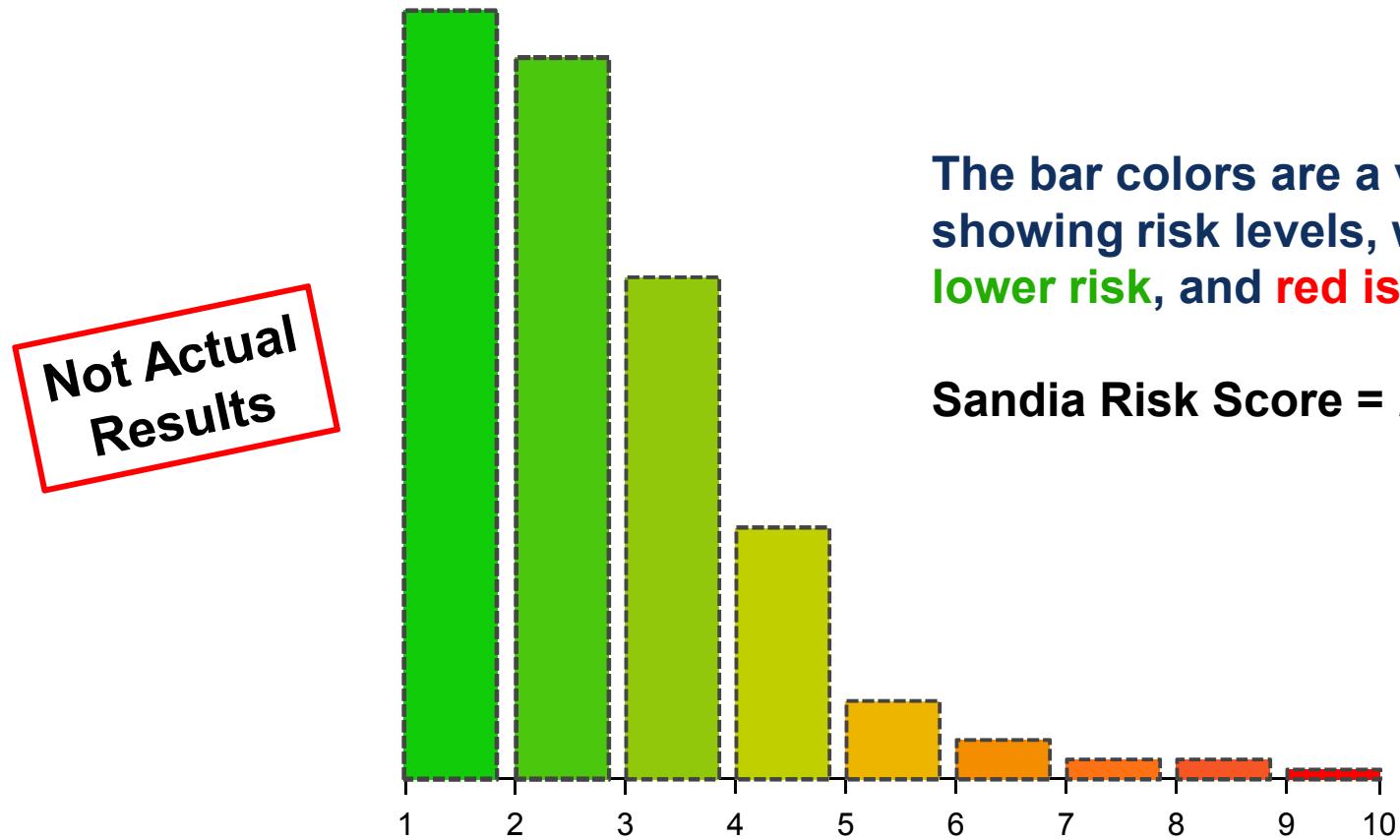
- Ensure privacy of employees
- “Roll up” the results to higher organization levels
- Only show organizations if they include at least 20 employees
- Provide a “number”

## Our visualization solution

- Represent proportion of the distribution of employees
- No “Y” axis – showing values could break privacy rule
- Security Risk Level Chart
- Predictive Indicator Charts
- Side-by-side Dashboard

# Overall Risk Level

**On a 1 to 10 scale, show the proportion of all Sandia organizations who fall into each risk level**

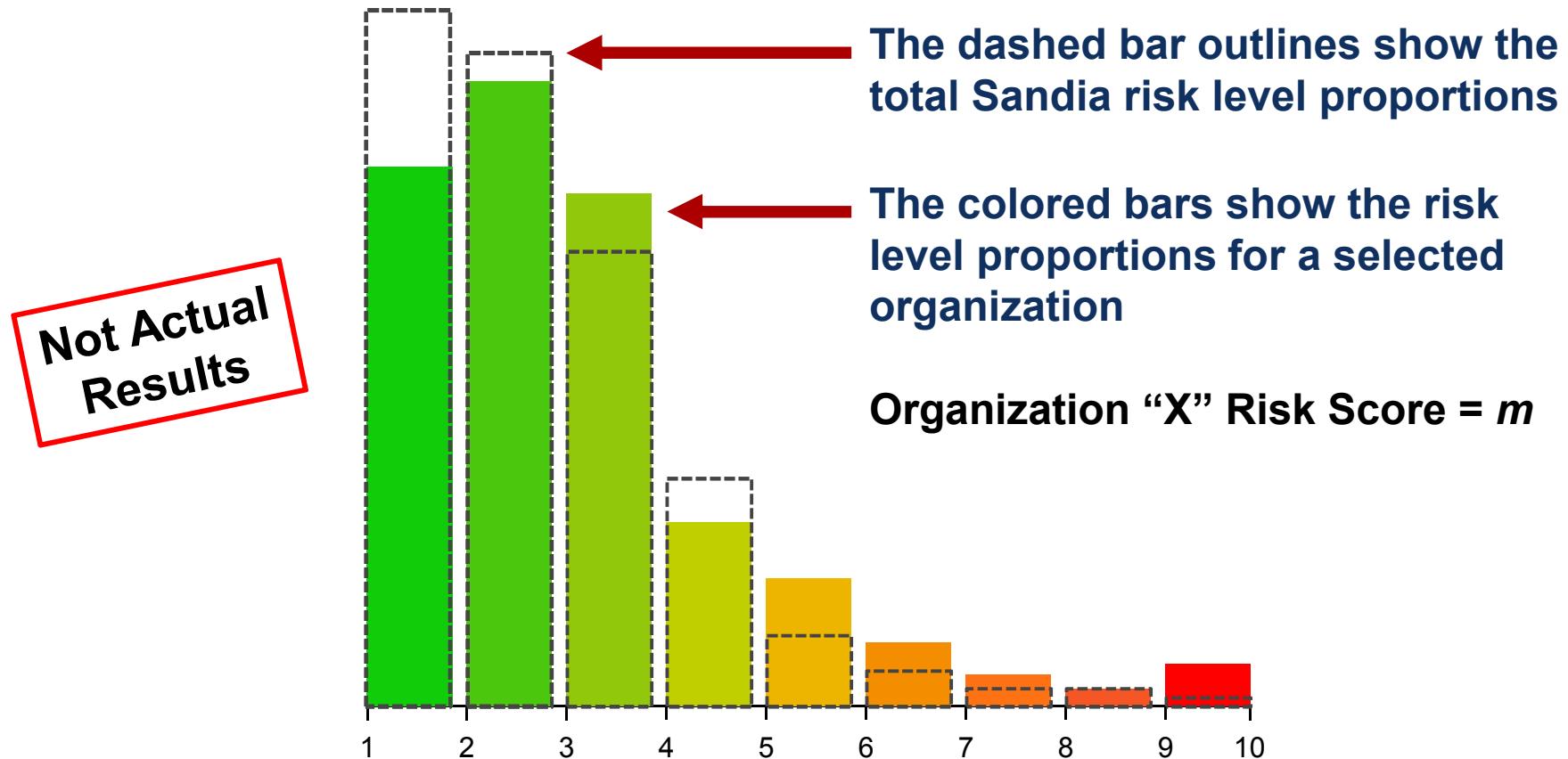


**The bar colors are a visual way of showing risk levels, where green is lower risk, and red is higher risk**

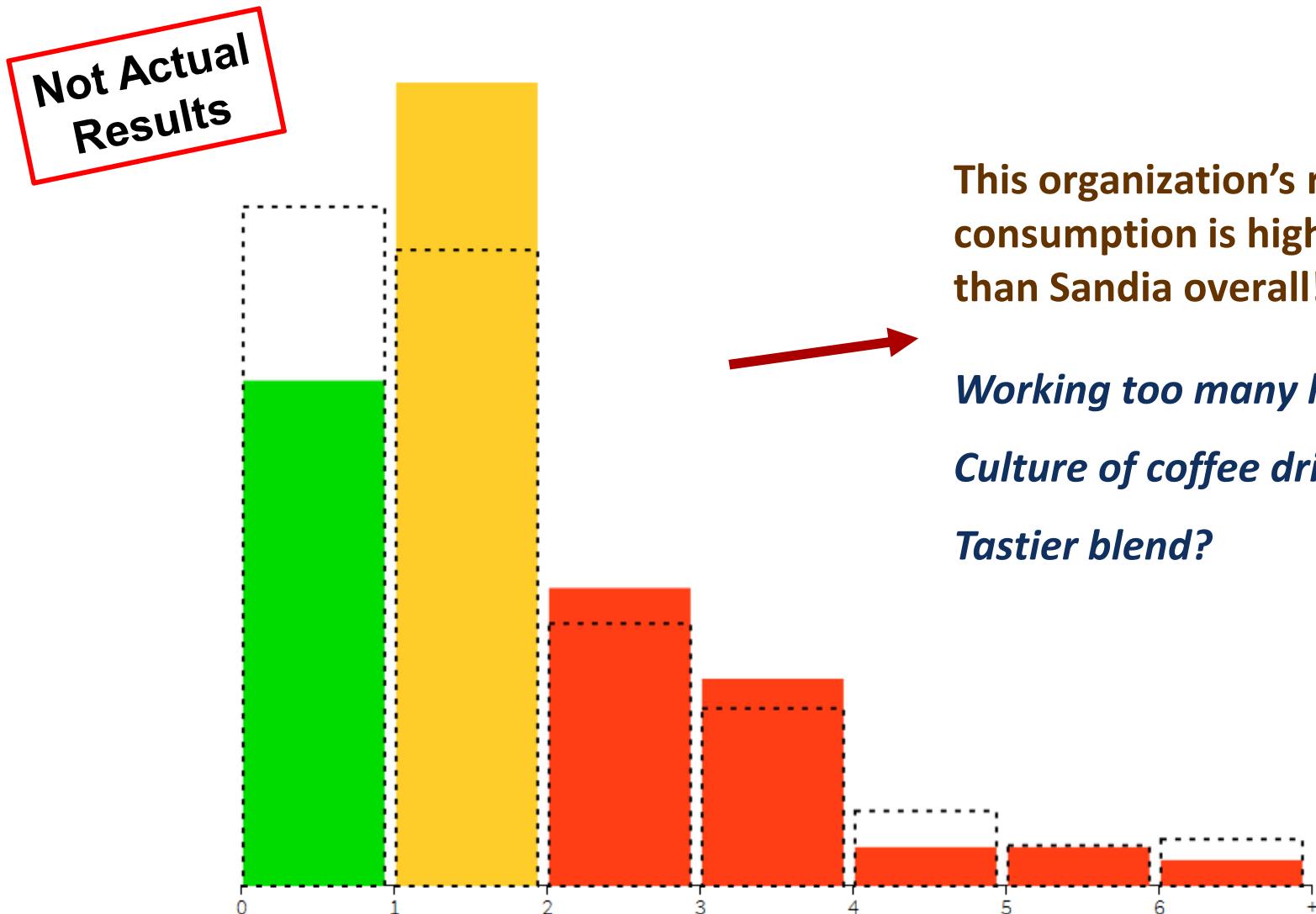
**Sandia Risk Score =  $n$**

# Organization “X” Risk Level

On a 1 to 10 scale, show how Organization “X” compares with all Sandia organizations for each risk level



# # Cups of Coffee/day, Past 12 Months



This organization's rate of consumption is higher than Sandia overall!

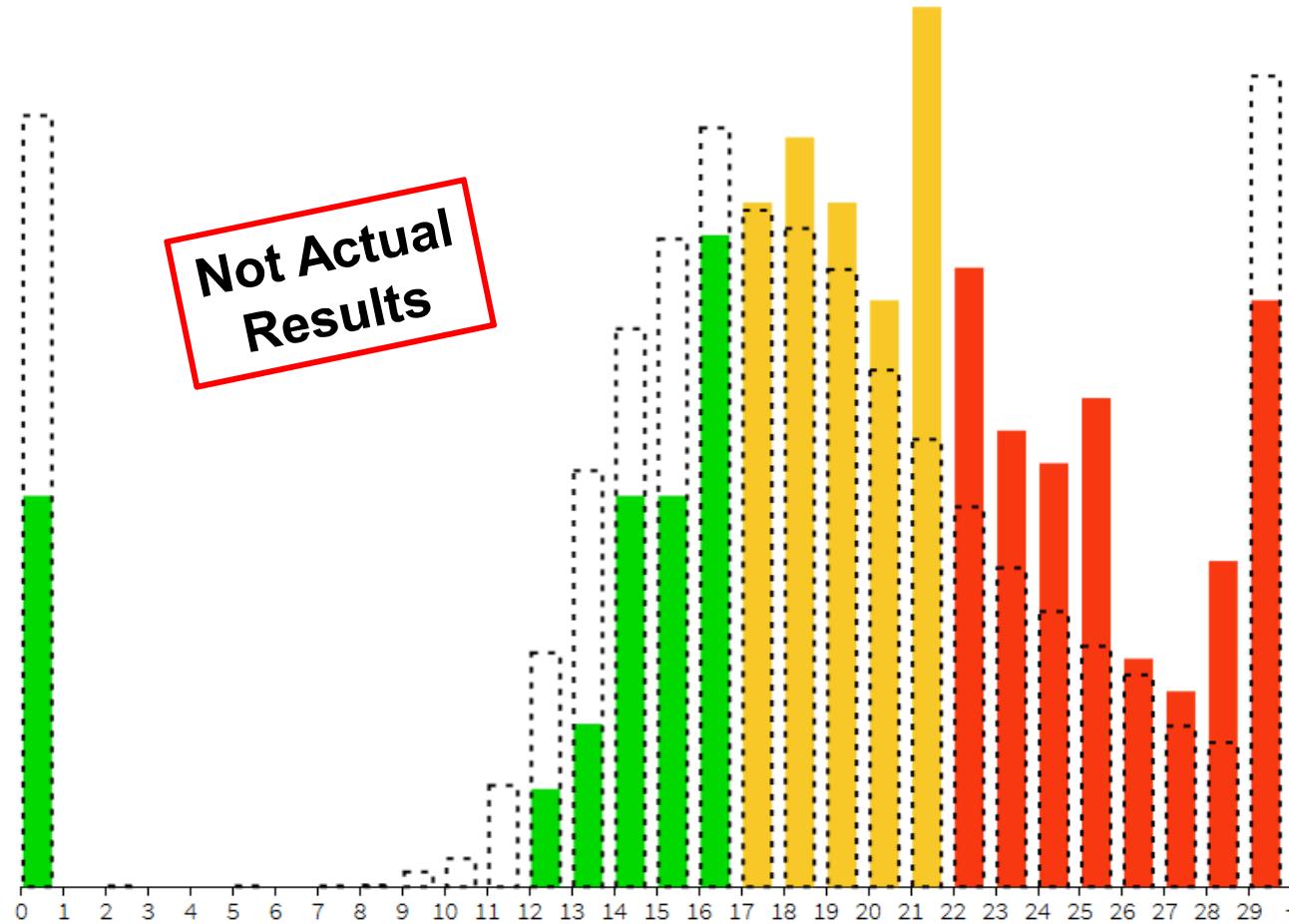
*Working too many hours?*

*Culture of coffee drinking?*

*Tastier blend?*

# # Times Car Keys Lost, Past 36 Months

People in this organization lose their car keys more than Sandia overall. *Lack of process? Management doesn't stress enough the importance of keeping track of car keys?*



# # Hours of Paperwork, Past 3 Months



This organization tracks fairly closely with most Sandia organizations.

*However, there are still people in the “red zone”, so it’s worth investigating if all that paperwork is truly necessary...*

# Step 5 – Model Deployment

## Document and automate the probability calculation

- This is the secret sauce – we keep it under wraps

## Collect new data periodically, automate model updates

## User Experience is important

- Evaluate how each user type will interact with the software
- If the user doesn't understand the visualization/results, you failed!

## Monitor usage and results

- How well are users adopting it into their process?
- Evaluate the model for “drift”

# Risk Dashboard

Showing two independent graphs side-by-side can support comparison and trending...

- Across organizations
- Across dates
- Across indicators

