



SOFTWARE ENGINEERING SECURITY EFFECTIVENESS

SEAN SCOTT & JOHN BENNINGHOFF

**ENTERPRISE
ENGINEERING**



**SECURITY
ENGINEERING**

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING SECURITY



Patterns &
Practices

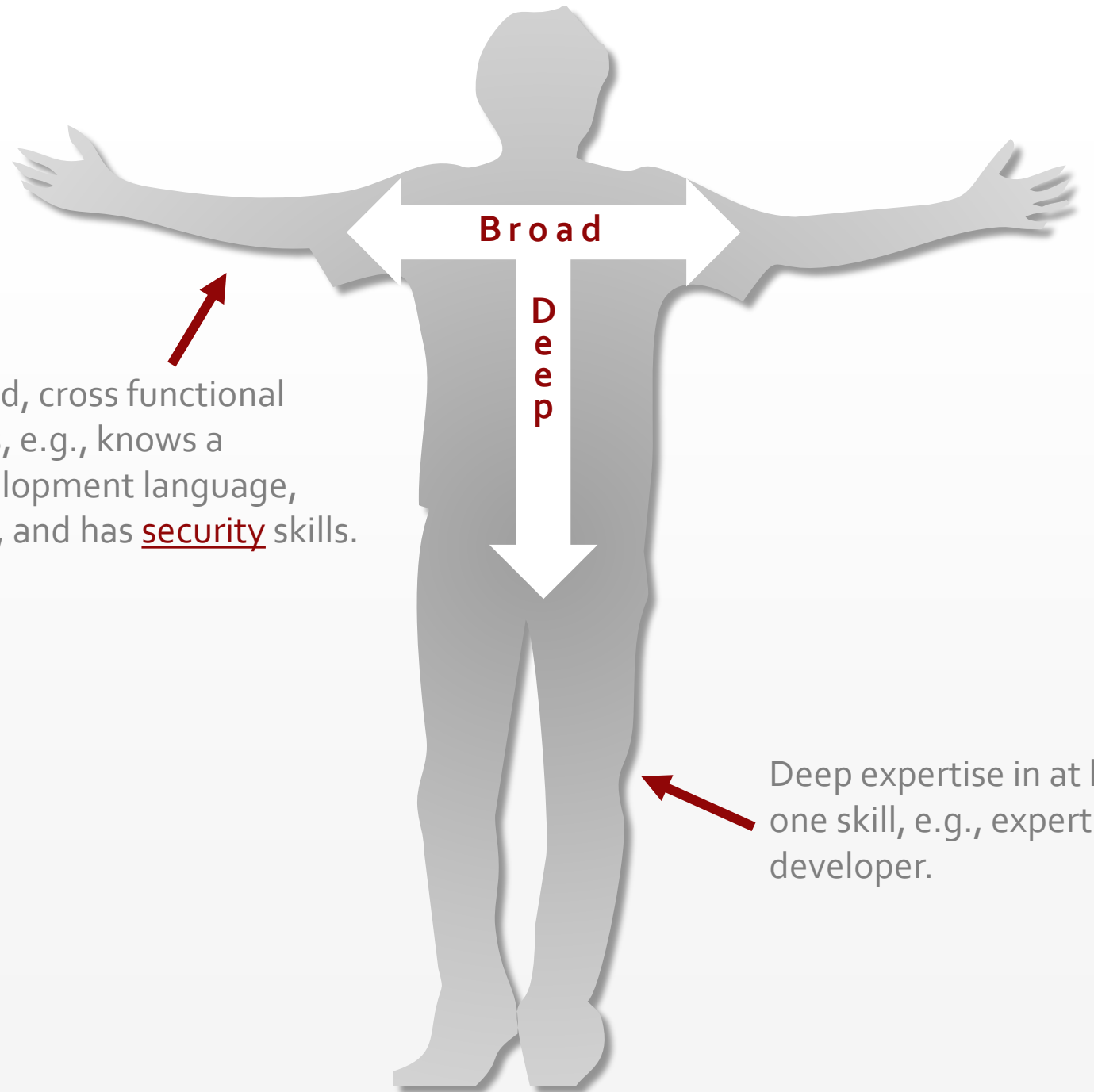
Secure
Testing



Security
Engineering

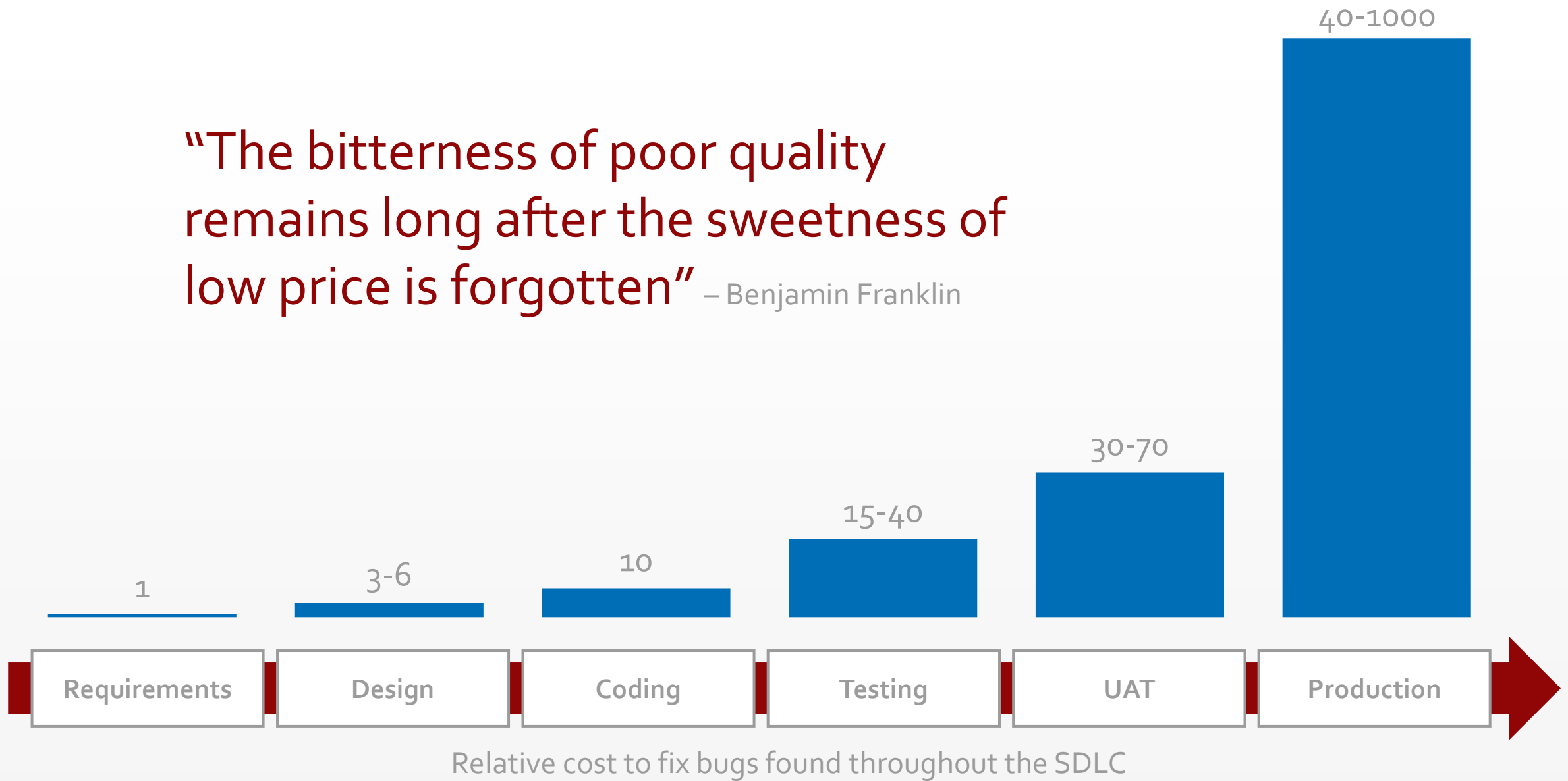
"T"-TYPE TEAM MEMBERS

Broad, cross functional skills, e.g., knows a development language, SQL, and has security skills.

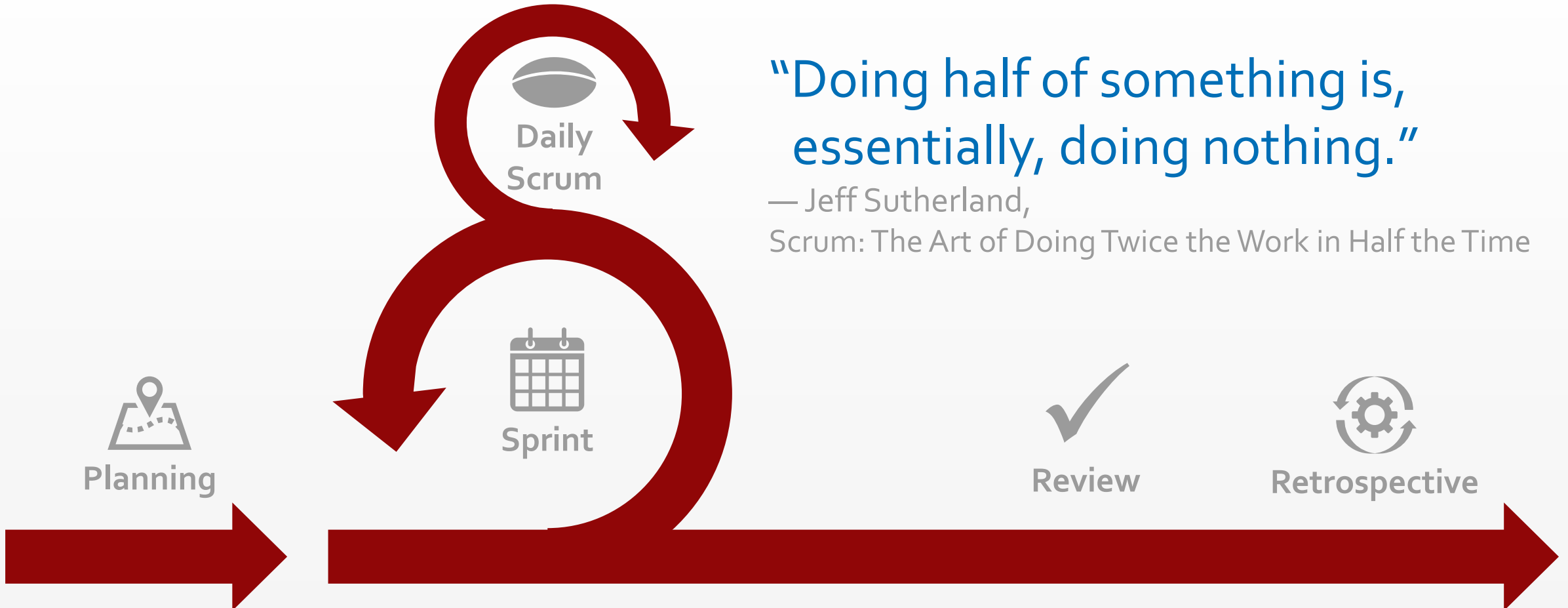


Deep expertise in at least one skill, e.g., expert level developer.

“The bitterness of poor quality remains long after the sweetness of low price is forgotten” – Benjamin Franklin



SCRUM EVENTS



“Doing half of something is,
essentially, doing nothing.”

— Jeff Sutherland,
Scrum: The Art of Doing Twice the Work in Half the Time

There is no wrong time to ask,
“How will that affect security?”

—Sean Scott

A hand holding a blue pen points towards a document on a wooden desk. The document features several charts: a bar chart with three bars of varying heights, each composed of yellow, pink, and teal segments; a line graph with a green line showing an upward trend and a red line showing a downward trend; and a small pie chart. The text 'HOW WELL ARE WE DOING?' is overlaid in large, bold, red capital letters.

HOW WELL ARE WE DOING?

NULL HYPOTHESIS

The exposure to the **training, coaching, and consulting** services offered by the Software Engineering Security (SES) group **DOES NOT** influence the **quality of code** installed into a production environment, as measured by application security **penetration testing**.

STUDY DETAILS



retrospective
comparison

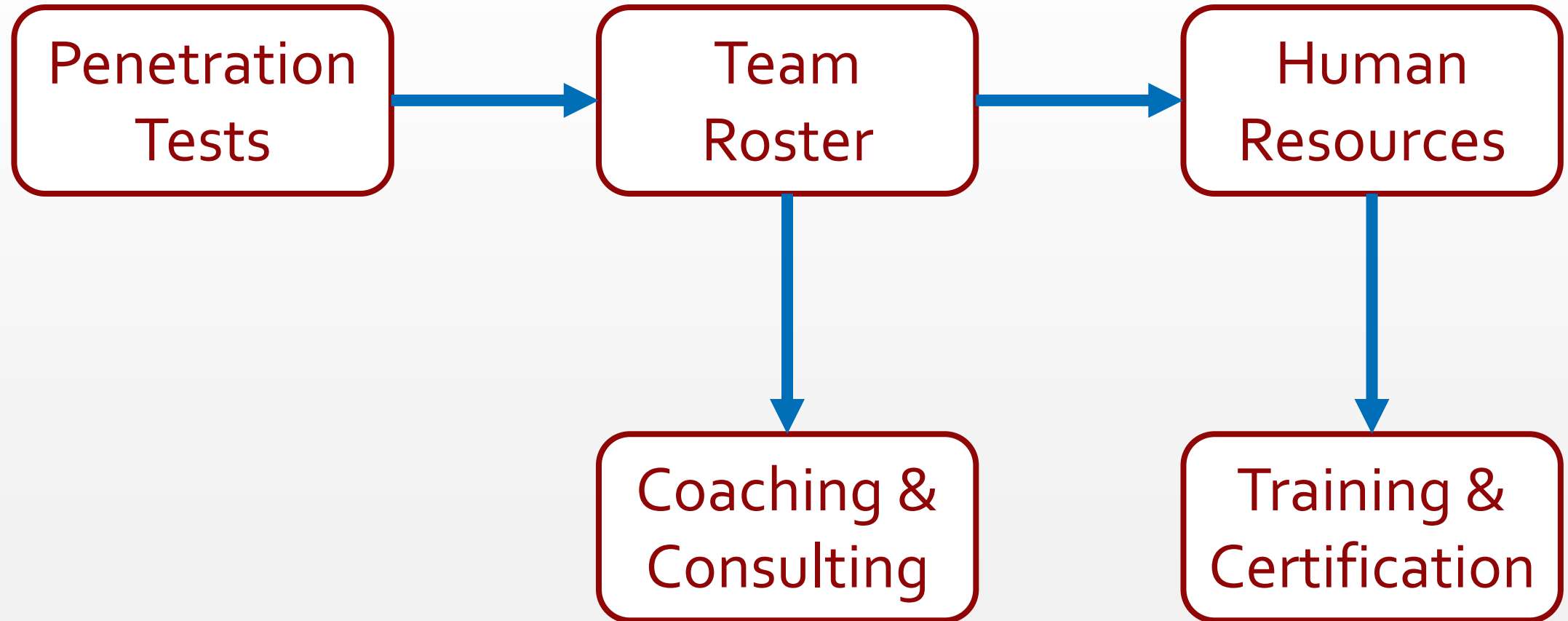


460 Teams

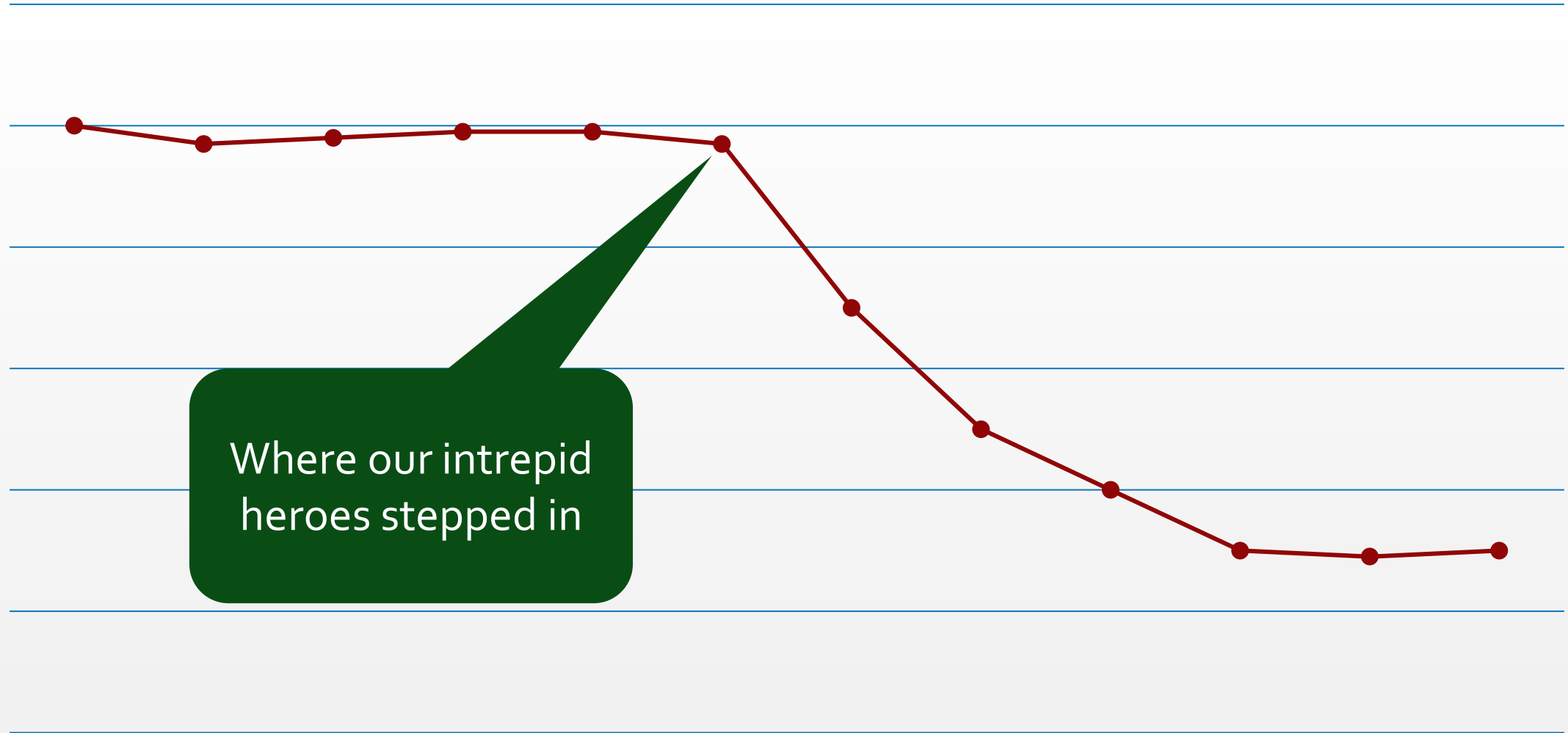


32 months

EXPECTED DATA ORGANIZATION

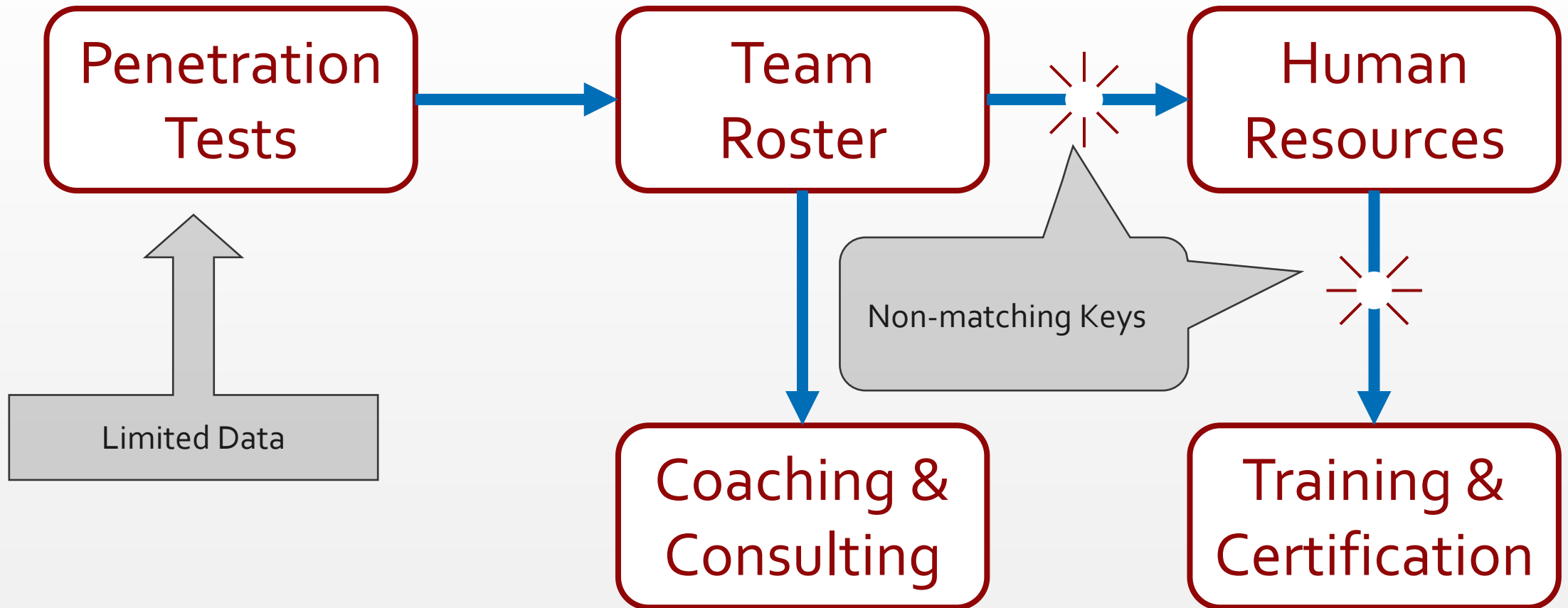


WHAT WE HOPED TO FIND



Where our intrepid heroes stepped in

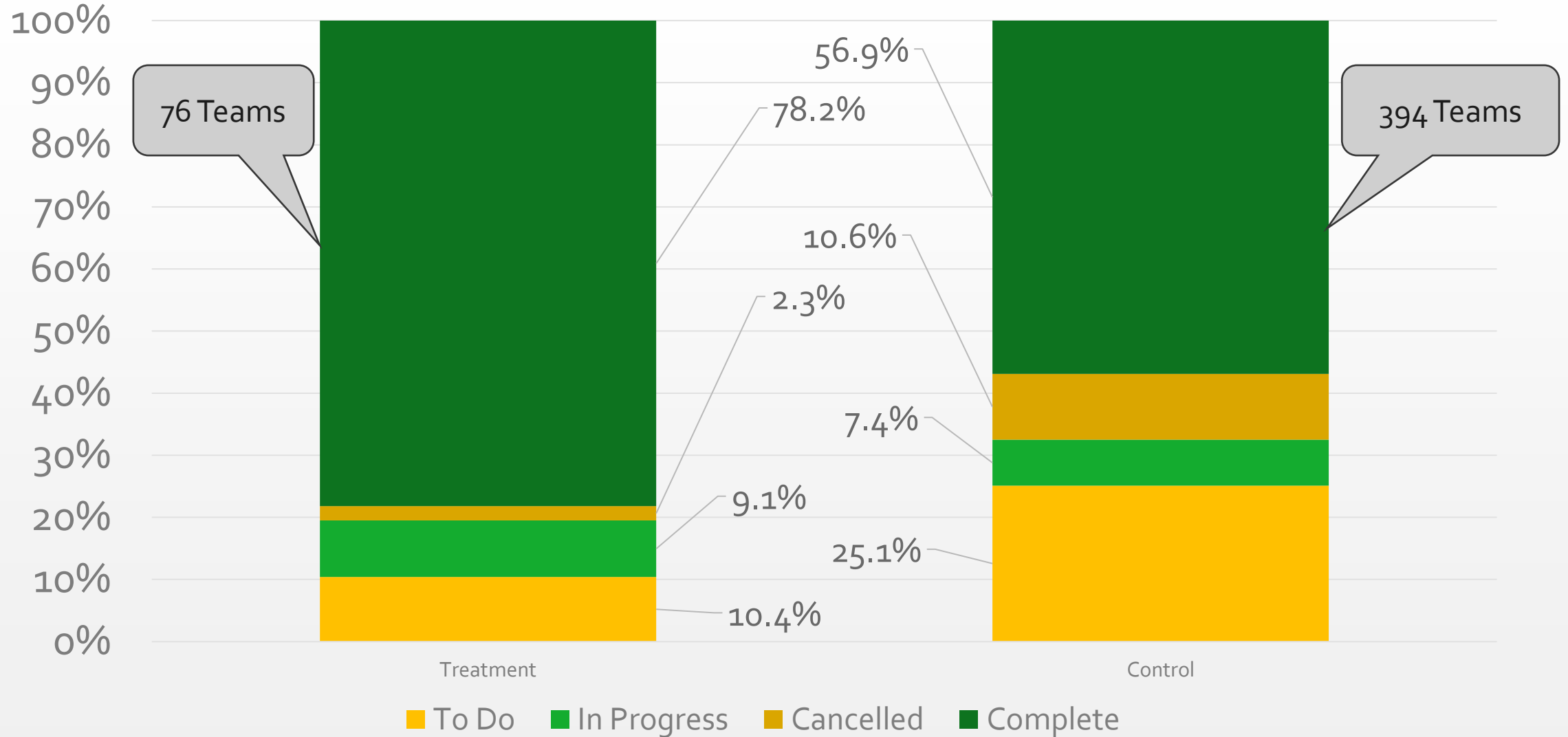
ACTUAL DATA ORGANIZATION



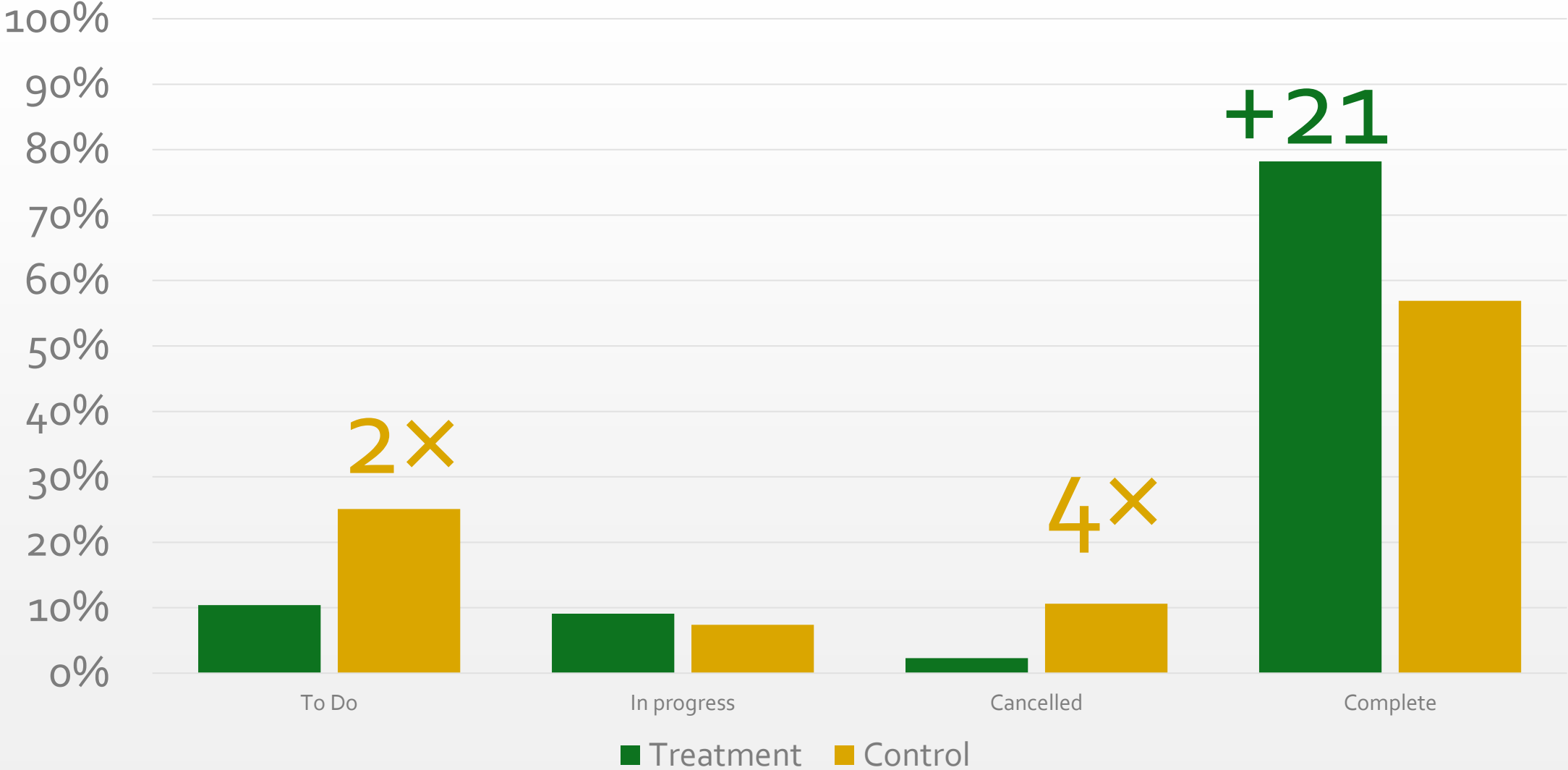
What can the
data we have
tell us?



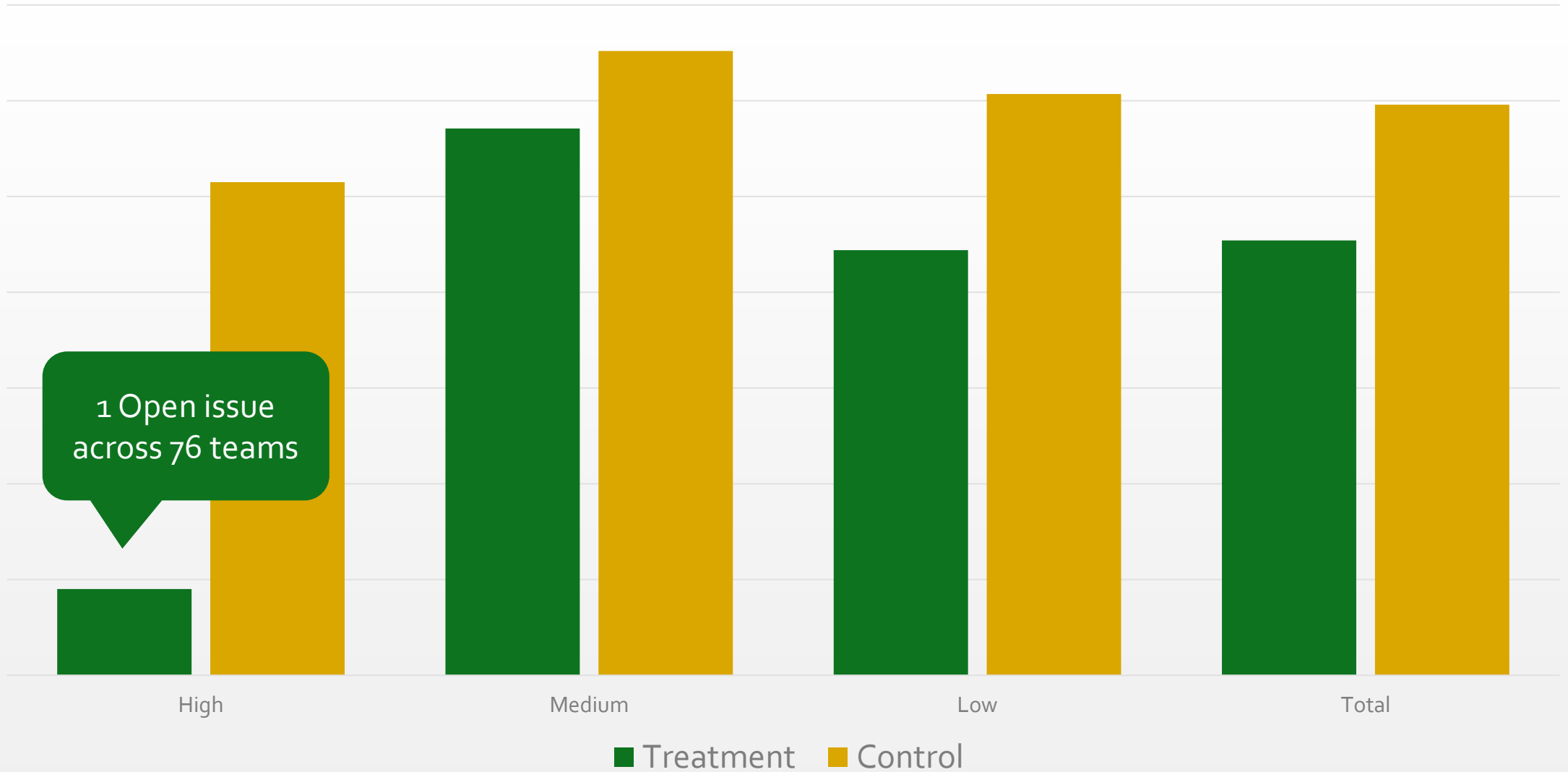
ISSUES BY GROUP



ISSUES BY GROUP—FLIPPED



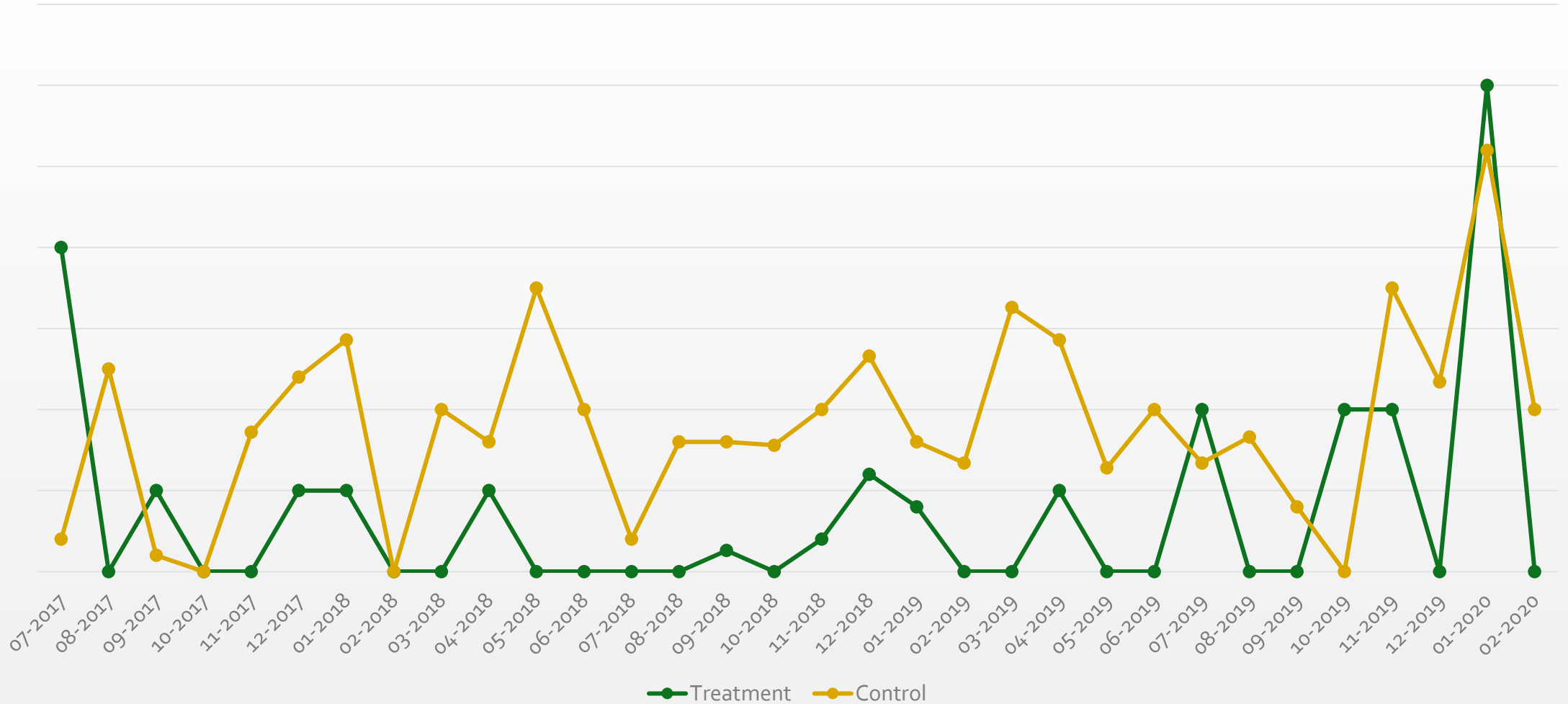
AGING BY SEVERITY IN DAYS



1 Open issue
across 76 teams

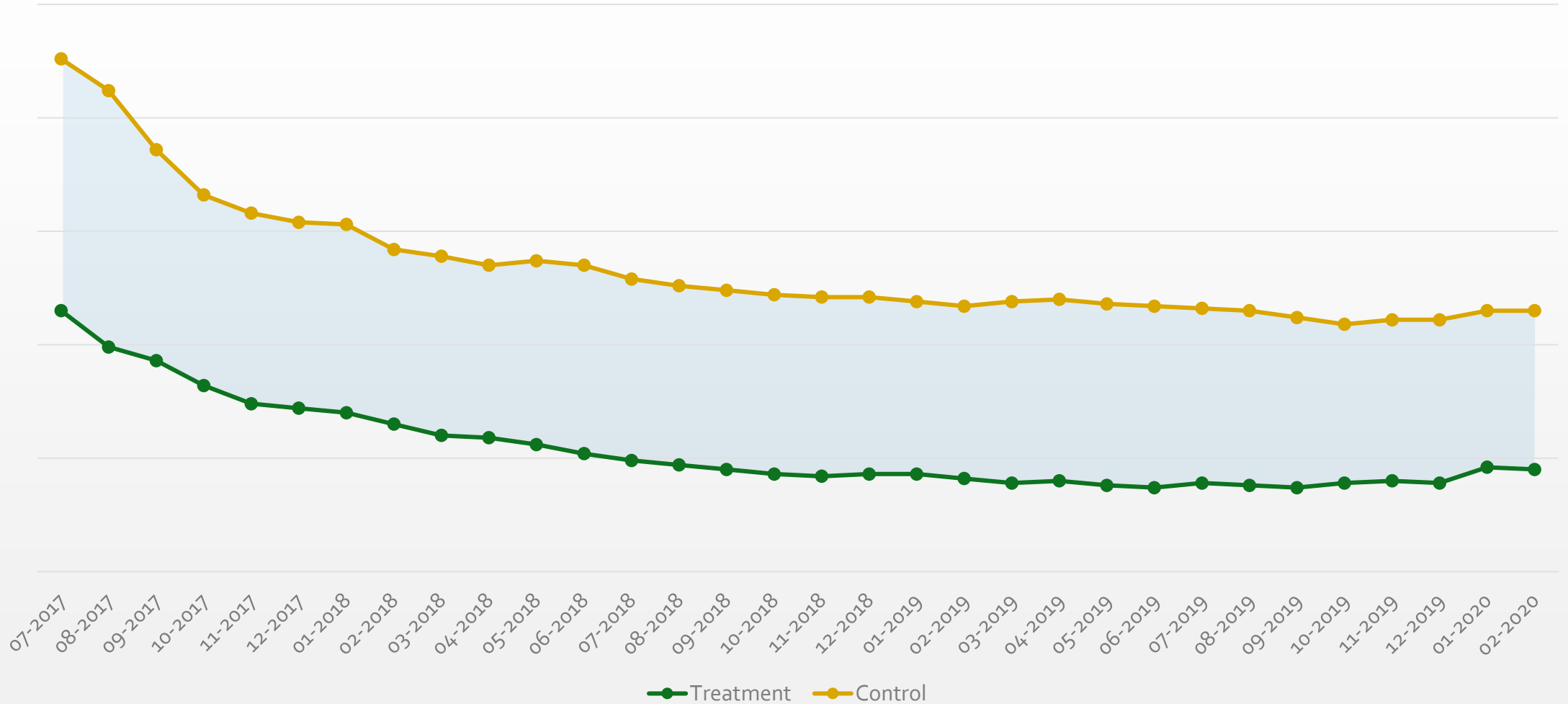
HIGH-RISK ISSUES OVER TIME

Issues found per penetration test



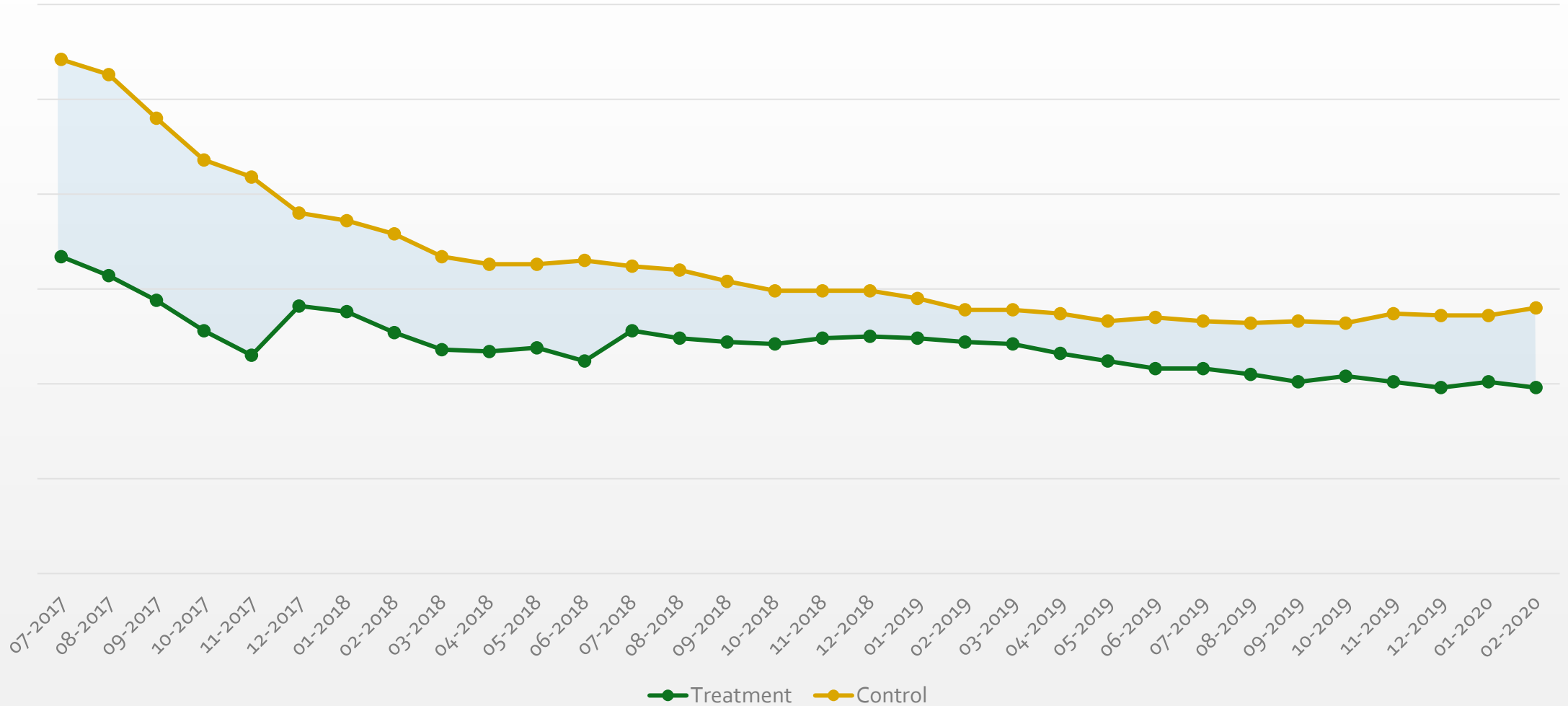
HIGH-RISK ISSUES OVER TIME

Issues per Pen Test Running Average



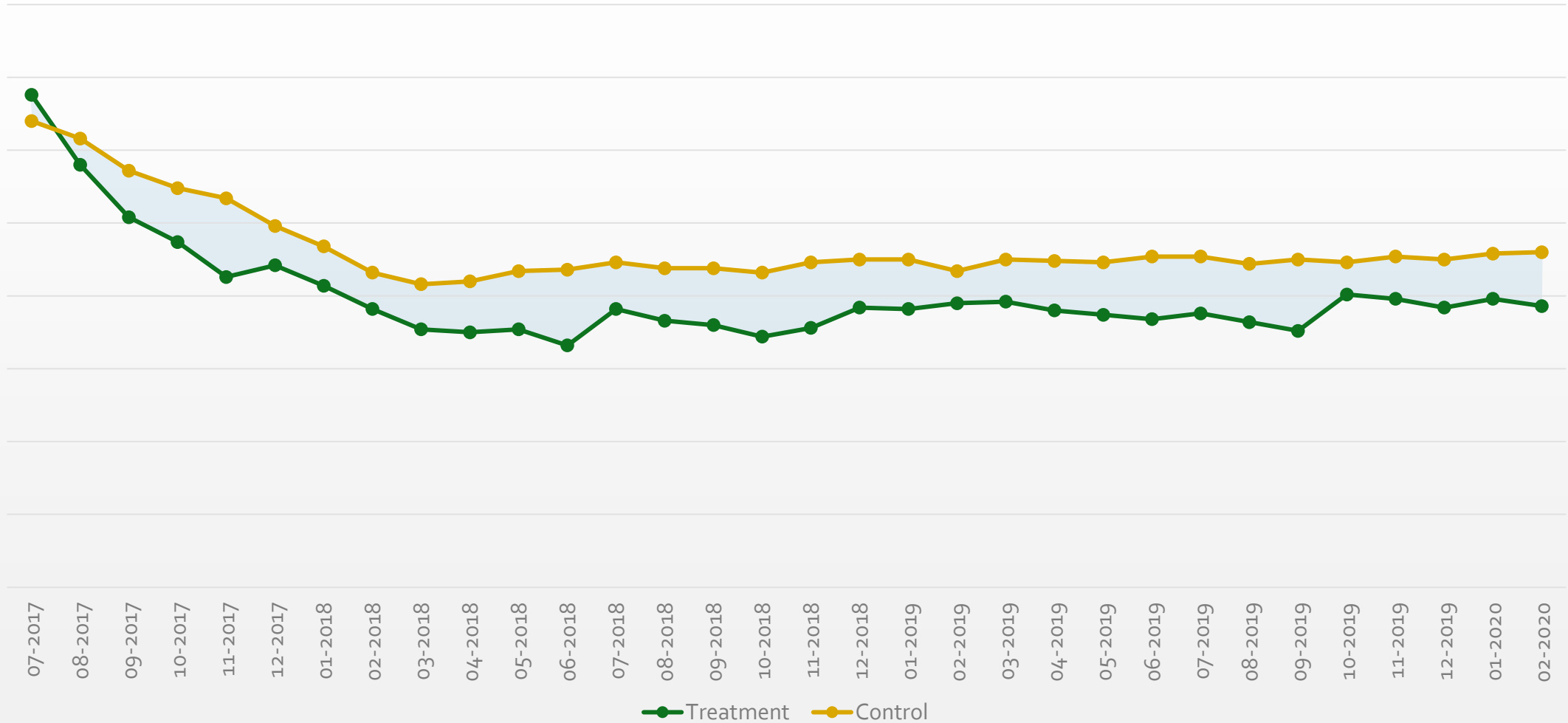
MEDIUM-RISK ISSUES OVER TIME

Issues per Pen Test Running Average



LOW-RISK ISSUES OVER TIME

Issues per Pen Test Running Average



TREATMENTS

Requirements

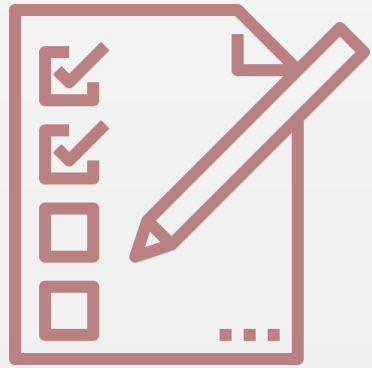
Risk Analysis

Static Scanning

Code Review

Dynamic Scanning

Training and coaching on OWASP Proactive Controls and Risks



TREATMENTS

Requirements

Risk Analysis

Static Scanning

Code Review

Dynamic Scanning

Understanding potential problems prior to coding



TREATMENTS

Requirements

Risk Analysis

Static Scanning

Code Review

Dynamic Scanning

Breaking builds on high was the key to reducing Pen Test findings



TREATMENTS

Requirements

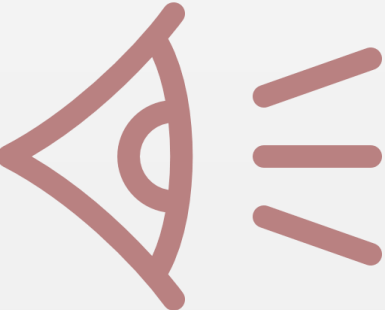
Risk Analysis

Static Scanning

Code Review

Dynamic Scanning

Extra layer of defense and an effective training opportunity



TREATMENTS

Requirements

Risk Analysis

Static Scanning

Code Review

Dynamic Scanning

Final testing prior to promoting code to the production environment

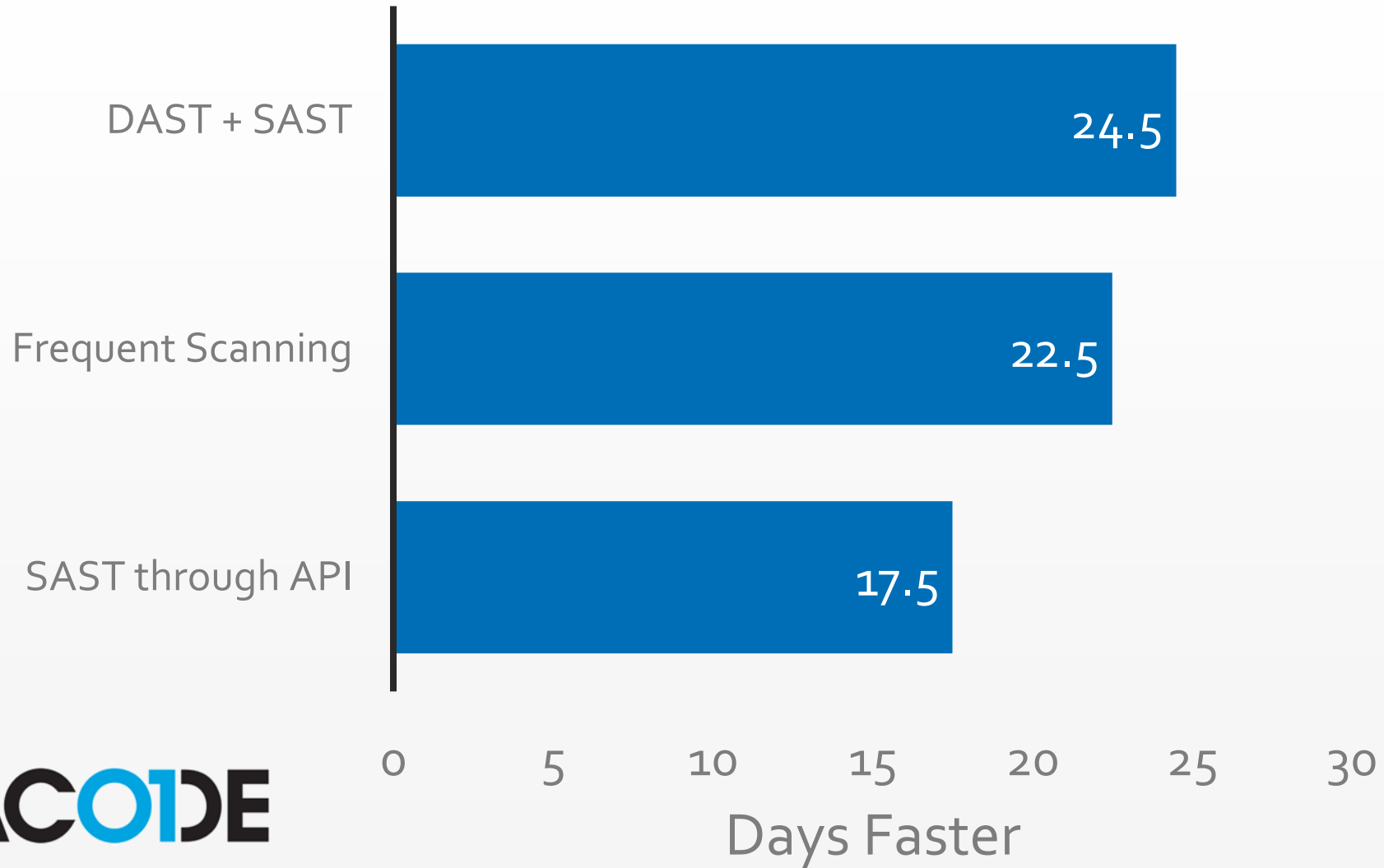




VERACODE

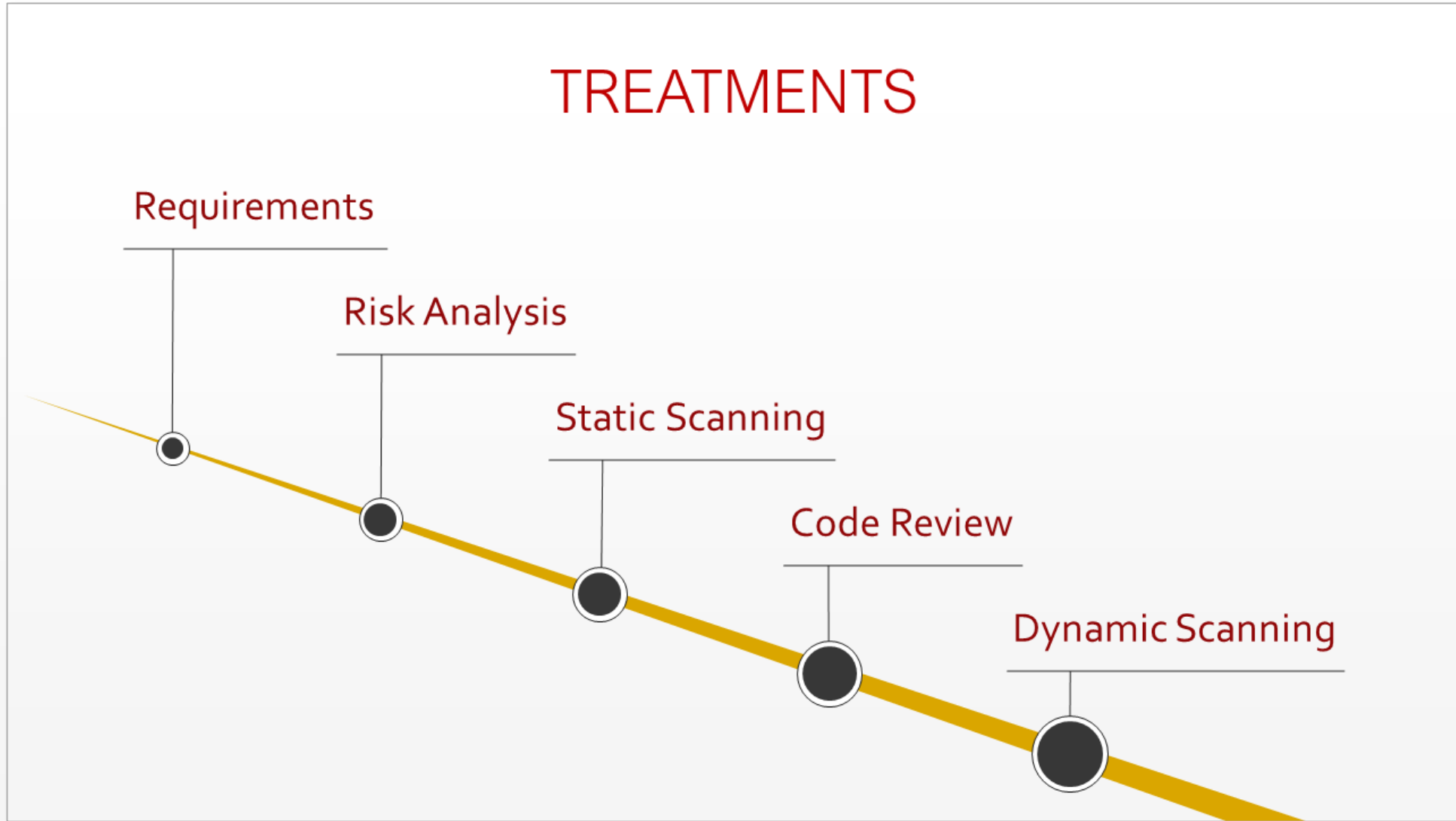
State of Software Security v11

STATE OF SECURITY REPORT



SUMMARY

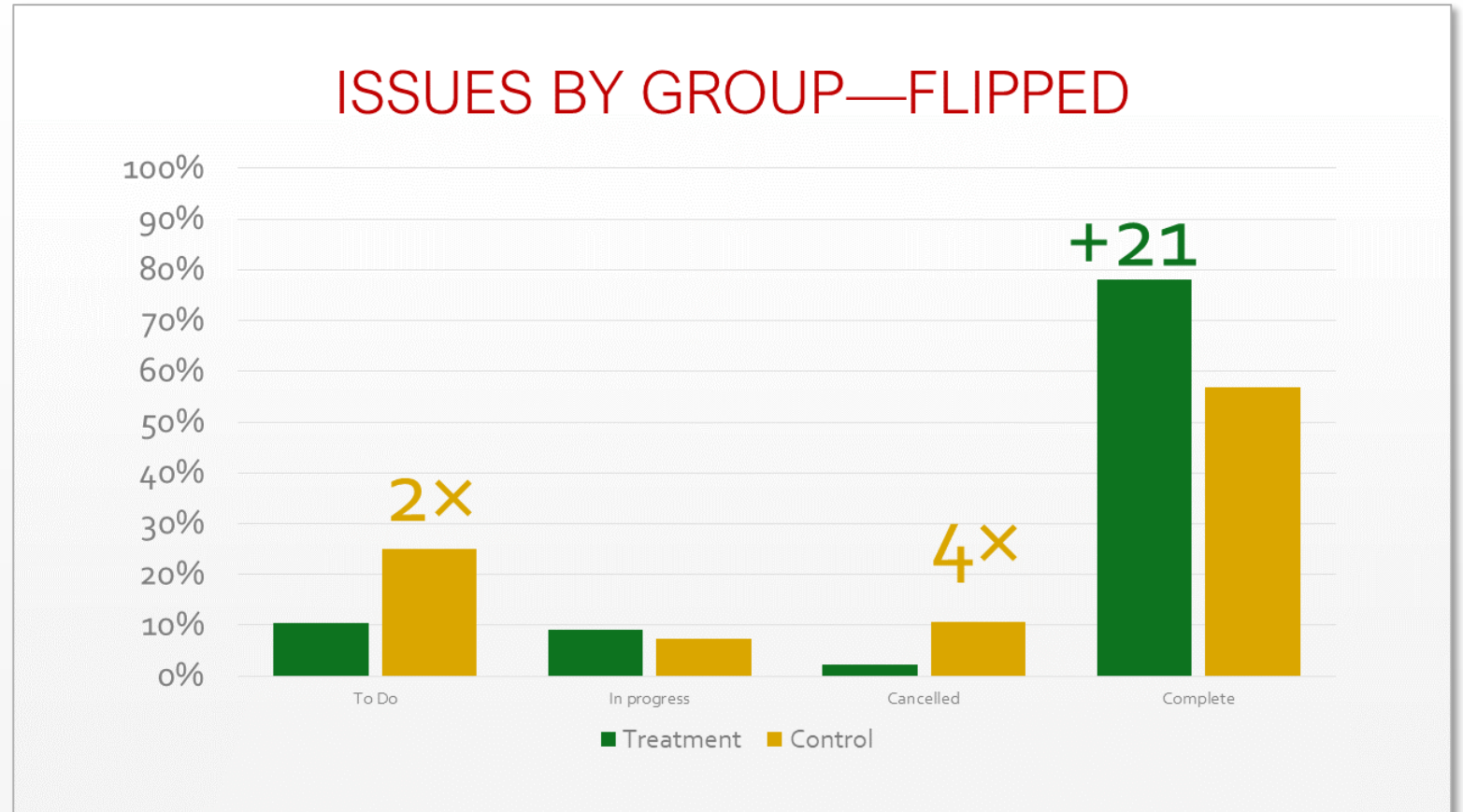
TREATMENTS



SUMMARY

Teams which receive coaching and training on application security topics...

Are twice as likely to be working on a security ticket and cancel tickets 1/4 as often,

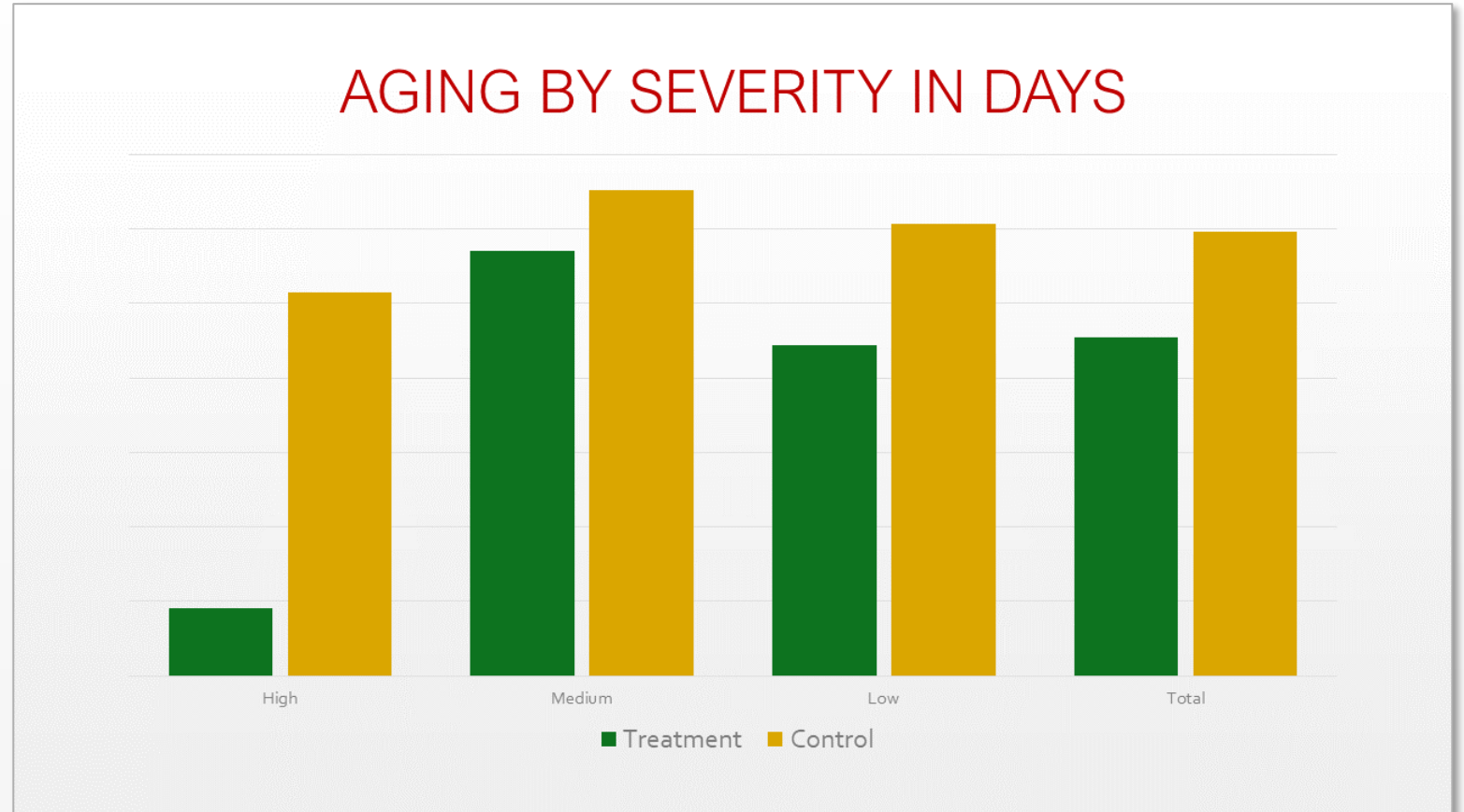


SUMMARY

Teams which receive coaching and training on application security topics...

Are twice as likely to be working on a security ticket and cancel tickets $\frac{1}{4}$ as often,

Fix security tickets much more quickly, and,



SUMMARY

Teams which receive coaching and training on application security topics...

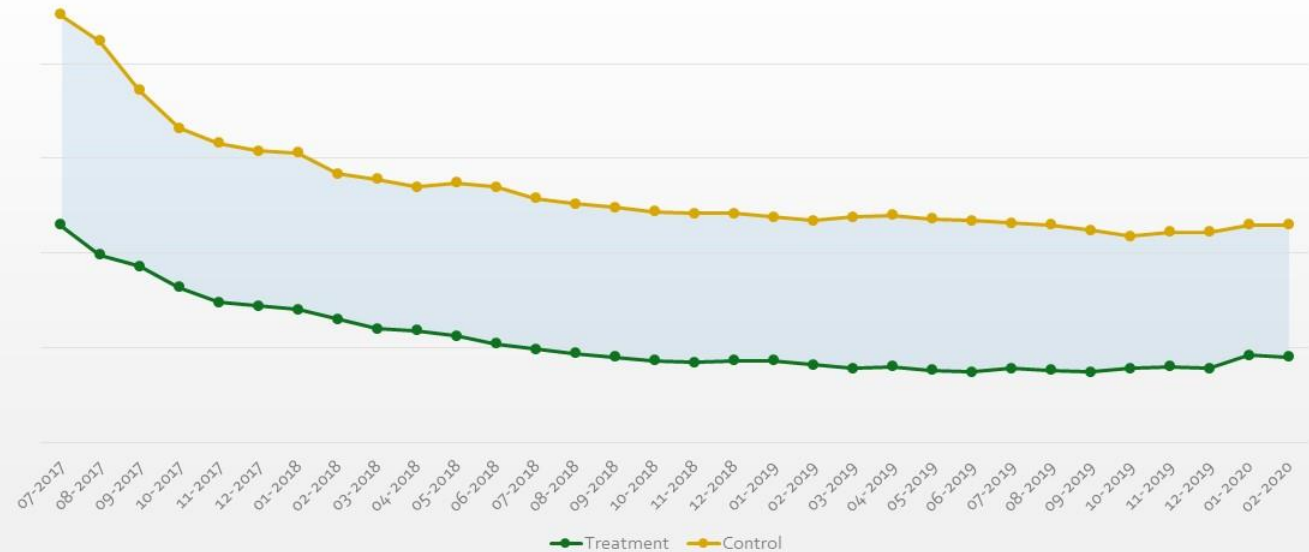
Are twice as likely to be working on a security ticket and cancel tickets $\frac{1}{4}$ as often,

Fix security tickets much more quickly, and,

Have fewer security bugs found during pen testing.

HIGH-RISK ISSUES OVER TIME

Issues per Pen Test Running Average



STATISTICS

High-impact vs. Control

T-test significance level: **0.000212**,

Control group (M=.91, SD=.57)

Treatment group (M=.37, SD=.65, $t(31)=3.174$, $p<.05$).

High- + Medium-impact vs. Control

T-test significance level: **0.010504**

Control group (M=2.06, SD=1.07)

Treatment group (M=1.23, SD=1.39, $t(31)=5.01$, $p<.05$).

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS



OWASP



Champions



Opt-in



Break builds

A close-up photograph of a heavy metal chain that has broken. The chain is dark and metallic, with several links visible. One link is broken, and a small piece of metal is flying through the air, surrounded by a spray of dark, irregularly shaped particles or shavings. The background is a solid, muted reddish-pink color. The text 'BREAKING BUILDS' is overlaid in the center in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

BREAKING BUILDS

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ROBOT PEDANTRY, HUMAN EMPATHY

“Seek on your project to **automate** and **codify** as much as you possibly can while remembering that the **human touch** is still necessary”

—Mike McQuaid

<https://mikemcquaid.com/2018/06/05/robot-pedantry-human-empathy/>

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Running head: SECURE CODING IN LARGE ENTERPRISES

Secure Coding in Large Enterprises: Does Application Security Coaching, Training, and Consulting Increase a Development Team's Ability to Deliver Secure Code.

Sean Scott

University of Missouri—St. Louis

FS20-INFYS5899-006

ACADEMIC PAPER

To be submitted for
peer review and
publishing in fourth
quarter of 2021

seantscott.com

WHAT SAFETY SCIENCE TAUGHT ME ABOUT INFORMATION RISK

JOHN BENNINGHOFF

ASSUMPTIONS BACKED BY ACCEPTED THEORY

- 1 ORGANIZATIONS ARE SOCIO-TECHNICAL SYSTEM
- 2 ALL FAILURES ARE SYSTEMS FAILURE



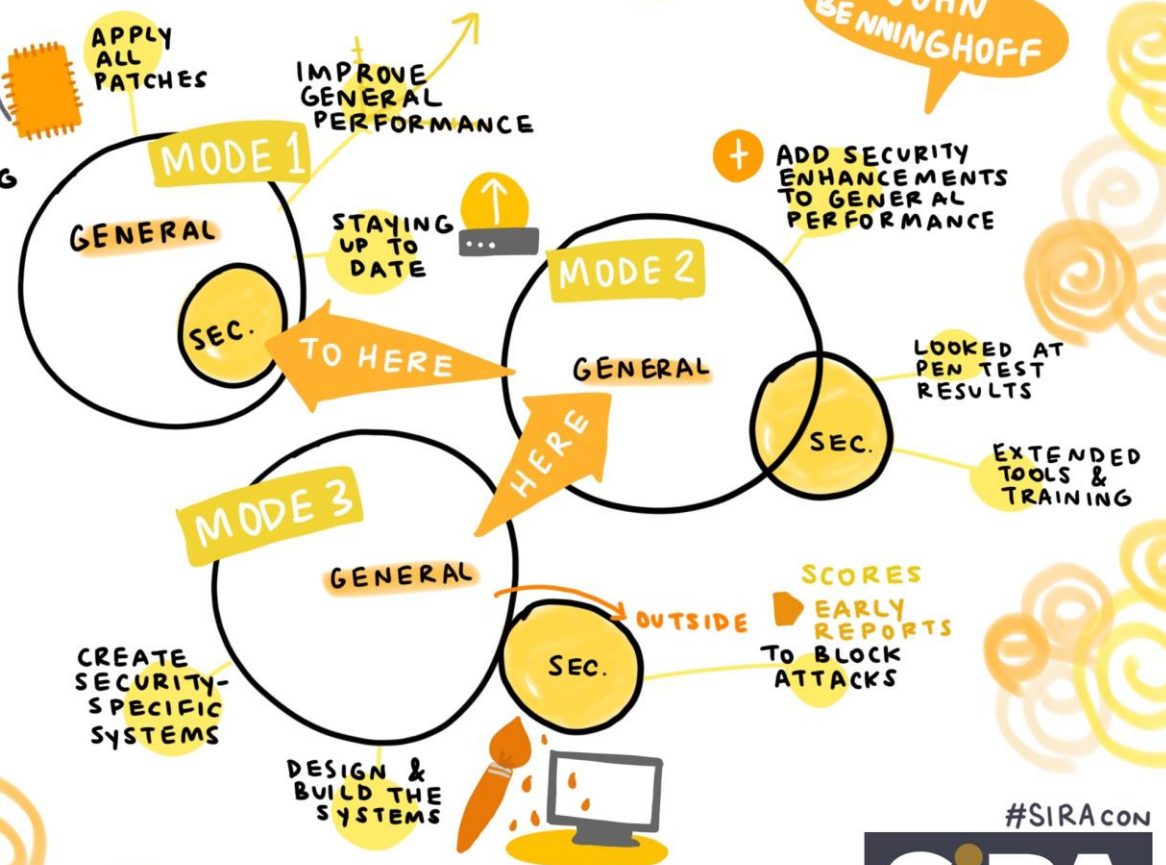
FROM SAFETY TO WORKING SAFELY

1 RESILIENCE IMPROVES THROUGH PERFORMANCE

2 SECURITY PERFORMANCE IS CORRELATED WITH GENERAL PERFORMANCE

ARGUMENTS FOR A NEW MODEL

3 THERE ARE 3 MODES OF SECURITY PERFORMANCE



GENERAL PERFORMANCE

SECURITY PERFORMANCE

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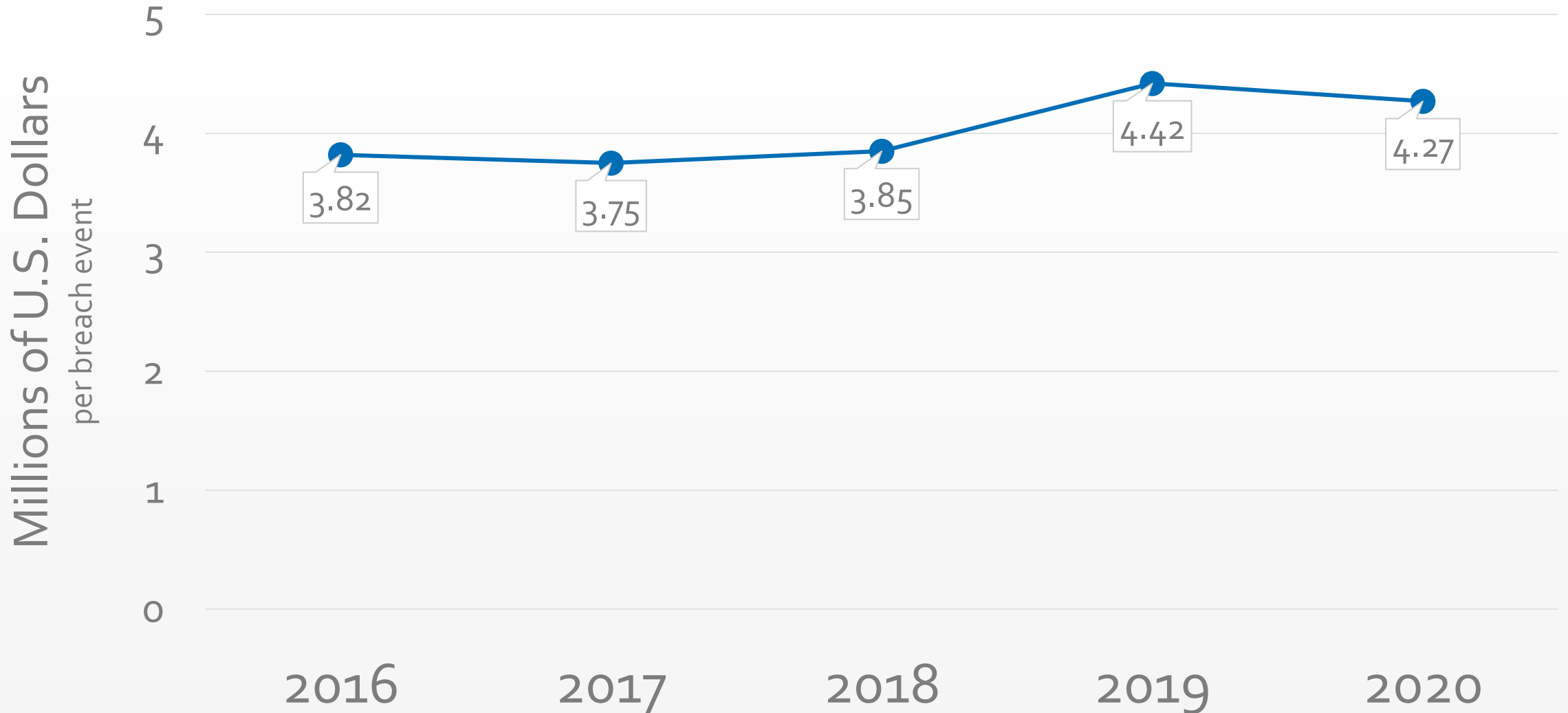


APPENDIX

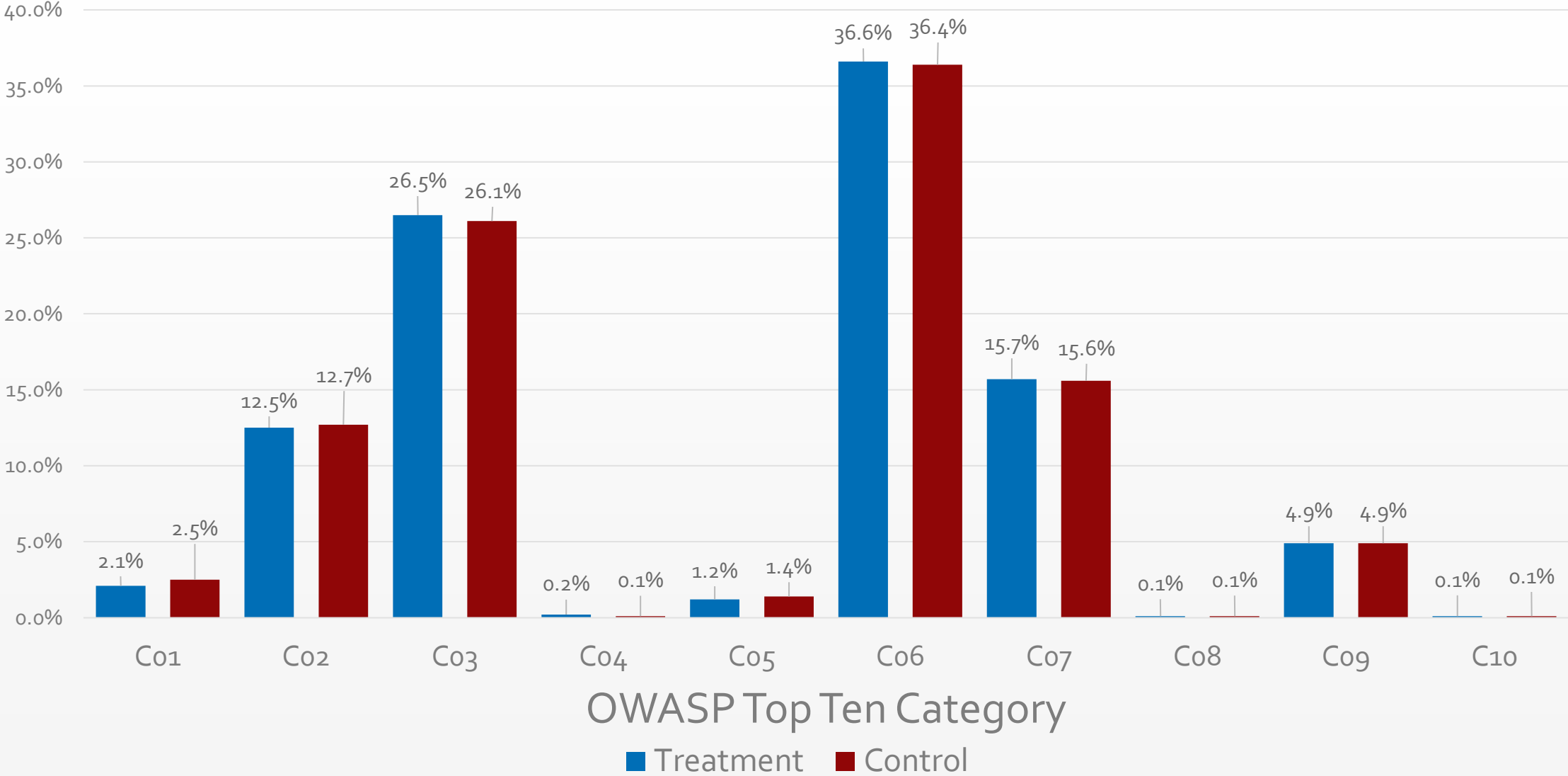


More information
for the curious...

COST OF DATA BREACHES BY MALICIOUS ATTACK

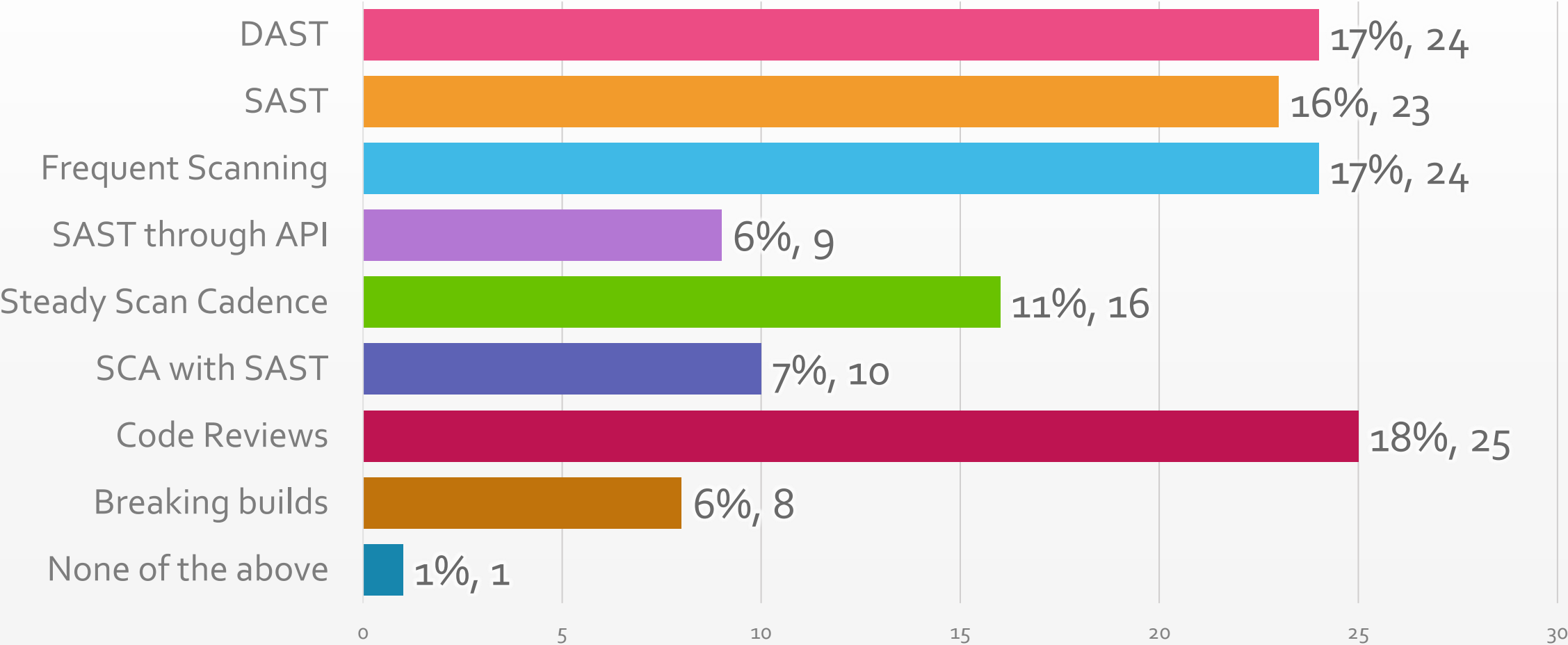


OWASP CATEGORIZATION BY GROUP



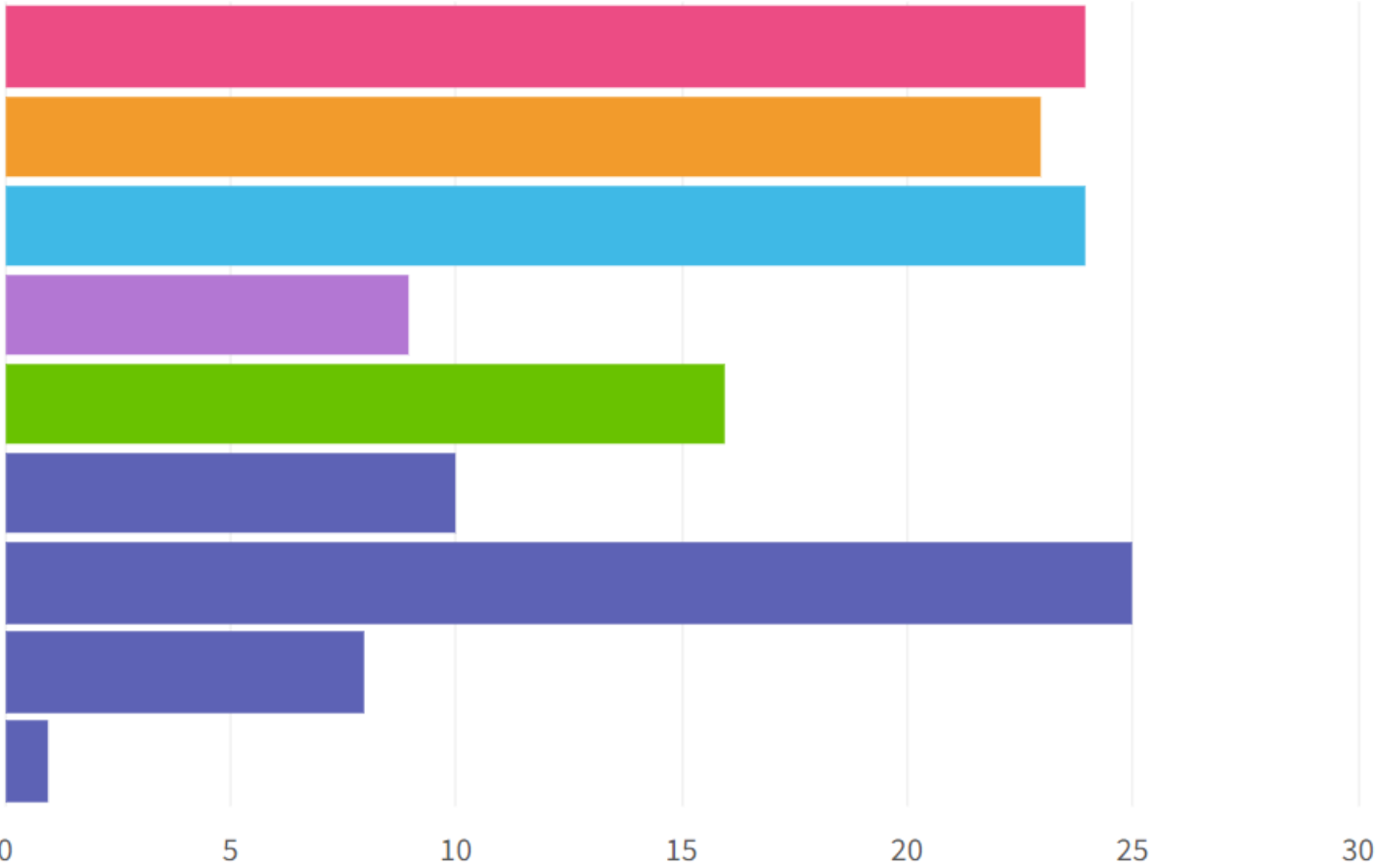
Secure360 5/11/2021

Which of the following activities are included in your Application Security program? (Select all that apply)



Which of the following activities are included in your Application Security program? (Select all that apply)

(Data from the Secure360 Conference on 5/11/2021)



- 24 DAST
- 23 SAST
- 24 Frequent Scanning
- 9 SAST through API
- 16 Steady Scan Cadence
- 10 SCA with SAST
- 25 Code Reviews
- 8 Break Builds
- 1 None of the above