SmartSuite

Framework / Cybersecurity / CIS Controls

CIS Controls v8.1 – IG2

CIS Controls v8.1 IG2 is the 130-Safeguard tier of the CIS Controls (IG1's 56 plus 74) for enterprises with several departments and differing risk profiles.



What it is

CIS Controls v8.1 Implementation Group 2 (IG2) is the second prioritization tier of the CIS Critical Security Controls: the 56 Safeguards of IG1 plus 74 more, 130 of the 153 Safeguards in the 18 Controls. The Center for Internet Security (CIS) published version 8.1 on June 24, 2024 as an iterative update to version 8 and left the Implementation Groups unchanged.

CIS describes an IG2 enterprise as one with staff responsible for managing and protecting IT infrastructure, several departments with differing risk profiles, and often sensitive client or enterprise information. CIS, a nonprofit, publishes the Implementation Groups as recommended guidance for prioritizing implementation, not as a law, and tells every enterprise to start with IG1 as essential cyber hygiene.

At a glance

PUBLISHER Center for Internet Security (CIS)	TYPE Control Framework	VERSION CIS Controls v8.1 (June 24, 2024); IG2 = 130 of 153 Safeguards
EFFECTIVE June 24, 2024	DOMAIN Cybersecurity	FAMILY CIS Controls
REGION United States	ADOPTION MODEL Security Baseline	IMPLEMENTATION COMPLEXITY Moderate

Source: cisecurity.org/controls/implementation-groups/ig2

Why it matters

- **A countable target** IG2 is 130 of the 153 Safeguards (56 from IG1 plus 74 added), so progress can be reported as a share of a fixed list.
- **Prioritized by risk and resources** CIS sets the Implementation Groups by risk profile and available resources, so an enterprise adopts the tier it can sustain before moving to the 23 further Safeguards of IG3.
- **Coverage beyond hygiene** IG2 adds detection and response practices such as centralized security event alerting (13.1), incident response exercises (17.7) and post-incident reviews (17.8).
- **Vendors and applications included** IG2 adds service provider policy, classification and contract Safeguards (15.2 to 15.4) and eleven application security Safeguards (16.1 to 16.11).

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How SmartSuite supports CIS Controls v8.1 IG2

IG2 Safeguard Library

Record each of the 130 IG2 Safeguards with its Control number, Implementation Group, owner, status and review date.

Asset, Software and Account Inventories

Hold the enterprise asset, software, account and service account inventories that evidence Controls 1, 2 and 5 and link them to the Safeguards.

Vulnerability Scan and Log Review Cadence

Schedule automated scans and audit log reviews, and attach reports, findings and remediation tasks (7.5 to 7.7, 8.11).

Service Provider Management

Keep the service provider inventory, classification and contract security requirements for each provider (15.1 to 15.4).

Incident Response and Testing Records

Track data recovery tests, response exercises, post-incident reviews and penetration test findings with owners (11.5, 17.7, 17.8, 18.1 to 18.3).

IG2 Coverage Reporting

Build dashboards that show Safeguards implemented by Control and Implementation Group for security leadership.

Common framework mappings

FedRAMP Rev. 5 | ISO 27001:2022 | MITRE ATT&CK | NIST CSF 2.0 | NIST 800-53 Rev.5 | PCI DSS 4.0.1 | SOC 2

Official resources

CIS Critical Security Controls Version 8.1

CIS's page for version 8.1: what changed from version 8 and the download of the Controls, workbook, change log and Implementation Groups.

cisecurity.org/controls/v8-1

CIS Controls Implementation Group 2 (IG2)

CIS's description of IG2: the 74 Safeguards added to IG1's 56 and the kind of enterprise IG2 is meant for.

cisecurity.org/controls/implementation-groups/ig2

CIS Controls Navigator v8.1

CIS's interactive tool for exploring the Controls and Safeguards by Implementation Group and their mappings to other standards.

cisecurity.org/controls/cis-controls-navigator

Frequently asked questions

What is CIS Controls v8.1 Implementation Group 2 (IG2)?

IG2 is the second of three Implementation Groups in the CIS Critical Security Controls v8.1, published by the Center for Internet Security on June 24, 2024. It contains the 56 Safeguards of IG1 plus 74 additional Safeguards, 130 in total, for enterprises that manage IT infrastructure across several departments with differing risk profiles.

Which Safeguards does IG2 add to IG1?

IG2 adds 74 Safeguards across the 18 Controls, for example active discovery of assets (1.3), a data classification scheme (3.7), automated internal and external vulnerability scans (7.5 and 7.6), centralized audit logs (8.9), DMARC (9.5), testing of data recovery (11.5), incident response exercises (17.7) and a penetration testing program (18.1). IG3 adds the last 23 Safeguards, such as application layer filtering (13.10).

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Should an enterprise choose IG1, IG2 or IG3?

CIS bases the groups on risk profile and available resources and says every enterprise should start with IG1. IG2 suits enterprises with staff responsible for managing and protecting IT infrastructure, several departments with different risk profiles and sensitive client or enterprise information. IG3 suits enterprises with IT security experts that must defend sensitive and confidential data against sophisticated attacks.

Are the CIS Controls mandatory, and what license applies?

CIS describes the Implementation Groups as recommended guidance to prioritize implementation, and IG2 is not a law or regulation. CIS's terms of use for non-member products place the CIS Controls under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 license, so commercial use or derivative works need CIS's permission.

What changed for IG2 in version 8.1?

CIS states that no Implementation Group was modified in version 8.1, so the IG2 count of 130 Safeguards carries over from version 8. Version 8.1 added a Governance security function aligned to NIST CSF 2.0, revised the asset classes and Safeguard descriptions, added glossary definitions and realigned the CSF mappings. CIS has not released a version 9 as of October 2026.

License included / downloadable: No CIS publishes the CIS Controls for download from its website, and its terms of use for non-member products place the Controls under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 license, so the text is not included with the platform.

Full framework page and mappings: smartsuite.com/frameworks/cis-critical-security-controls-v81-implementation-group-2-ig2

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