



Office of Inspector General

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Executive Summary, 2018-IT-B-006R, March 7, 2018

Security Control Review of the RADAR Data Warehouse

Findings

Overall, we found that the information security controls that we tested for the Risk Assessment, Data Analysis, and Research (RADAR) Data Warehouse and associated query tools were operating effectively. For example, continuous monitoring processes have been implemented to monitor security configuration baselines, use of the Data Warehouse and associated analytical tools, and user satisfaction. However, we identified opportunities to strengthen controls in the areas of contingency planning, configuration management, and security assessment and authorization.

Recommendations

Our report includes three recommendations to strengthen the security of the RADAR Data Warehouse as well as three matters for management's consideration. In his response to our draft report, the Director of Supervision and Regulation concurs with our recommendations and outlines corrective actions to address the issues we identified. We will follow up on the implementation of each recommendation in this report as part of our future audit activities. Given the sensitivity of information security review work, our reports in this area are generally restricted. Such is the case for this audit report.

Purpose

Our audit objective was to evaluate the effectiveness of select security controls for the RADAR Data Warehouse and associated query tools. We performed this review to meet the requirements of the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014, which requires the Office of Inspector General to evaluate the effectiveness of the information security controls and techniques for a subset of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System's (Board) information systems, including those provided or managed by another agency, a contractor, or another organization.

Background

The RADAR Data Warehouse provides Federal Reserve System and Board staff with access to a variety of mortgage and consumer data for supervision and research purposes. Most datasets housed in the Data Warehouse have associated analytical tools that allow users to select data fields, download custom datasets, aggregate large datasets for visual analysis, or transform data into dynamic charts.

The RADAR Data Warehouse and associated analytical tools are operated by the Center for the Advancement of Data and Research in Economics, which is located at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. It is a system that processes, stores, and manages Board information and has been classified as a moderate-risk system.