

Network Access Control as a Compliance Tool

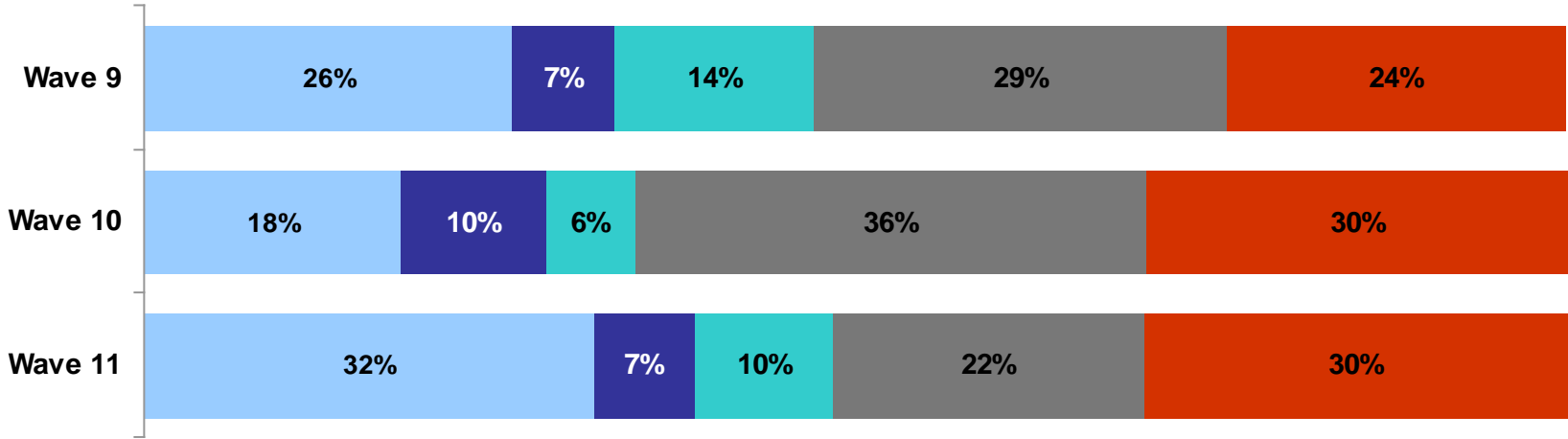
In our Networking study, we have been tracking implementations of network access control, or NAC, for a long time. At the same time, we have been asking the security pros some of the same questions about NAC as we have been for the networking professionals. It is often interesting to see the responses side by side to determine whether there are differences in perceptions in the marketplace for solutions. We uncovered one such instance in examining data from our latest security study. From our Wave 11 Security Study, we noted:

- Among respondents who had participated in the past two waves of interviews, the *in use* rate for NAC increased from 16% to 23% among Fortune 1000 organizations.
- The *in plan* citations stand at 49% of those responding, a very significant number for future implementations.
- During the same period, we have seen the citations for meeting regulatory or legal compliance concerns rise from 2% of respondents to 10%, increasing fivefold, albeit based on a small starting point.

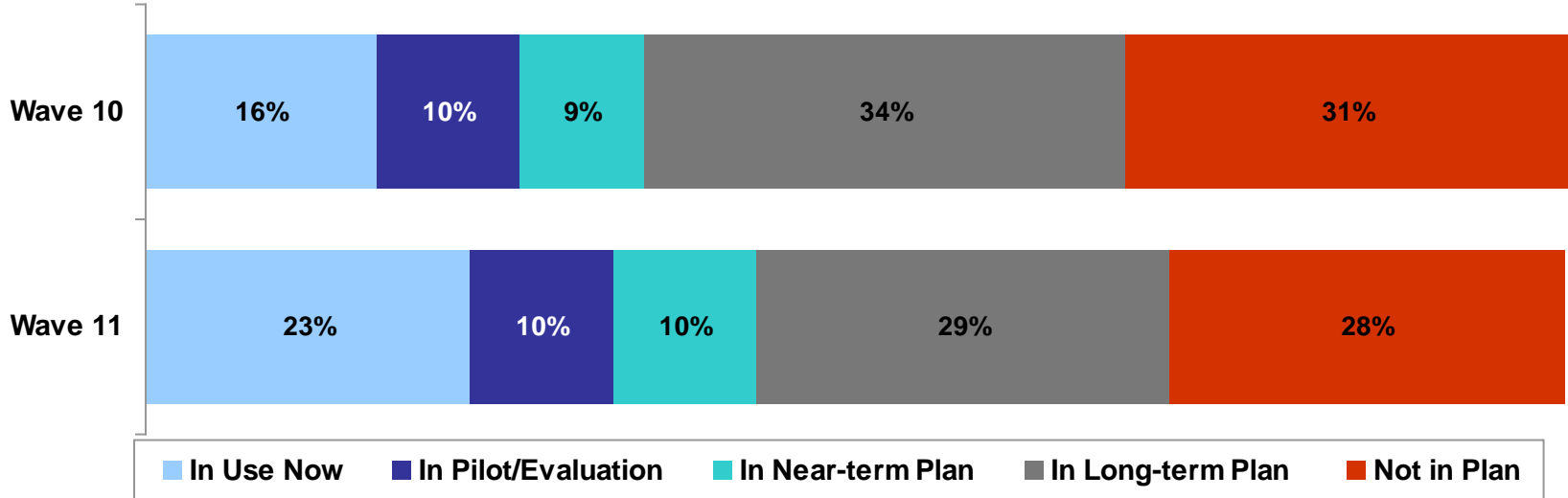
Using responses from security professionals, we can conclude that there are many justifications for implementing NAC, with compliance just now coming into view but increasing rapidly. It is perhaps a stretch to conclude that meeting compliance requirements will continue to increase as a justification for NAC, but it will be interesting to watch. It does appear that NAC implementations are finally converting from *in plan* to *in use*, something we knew was coming, but it took a long time to get here.

Chart 1: NAC – Implementation

Fortune 1000



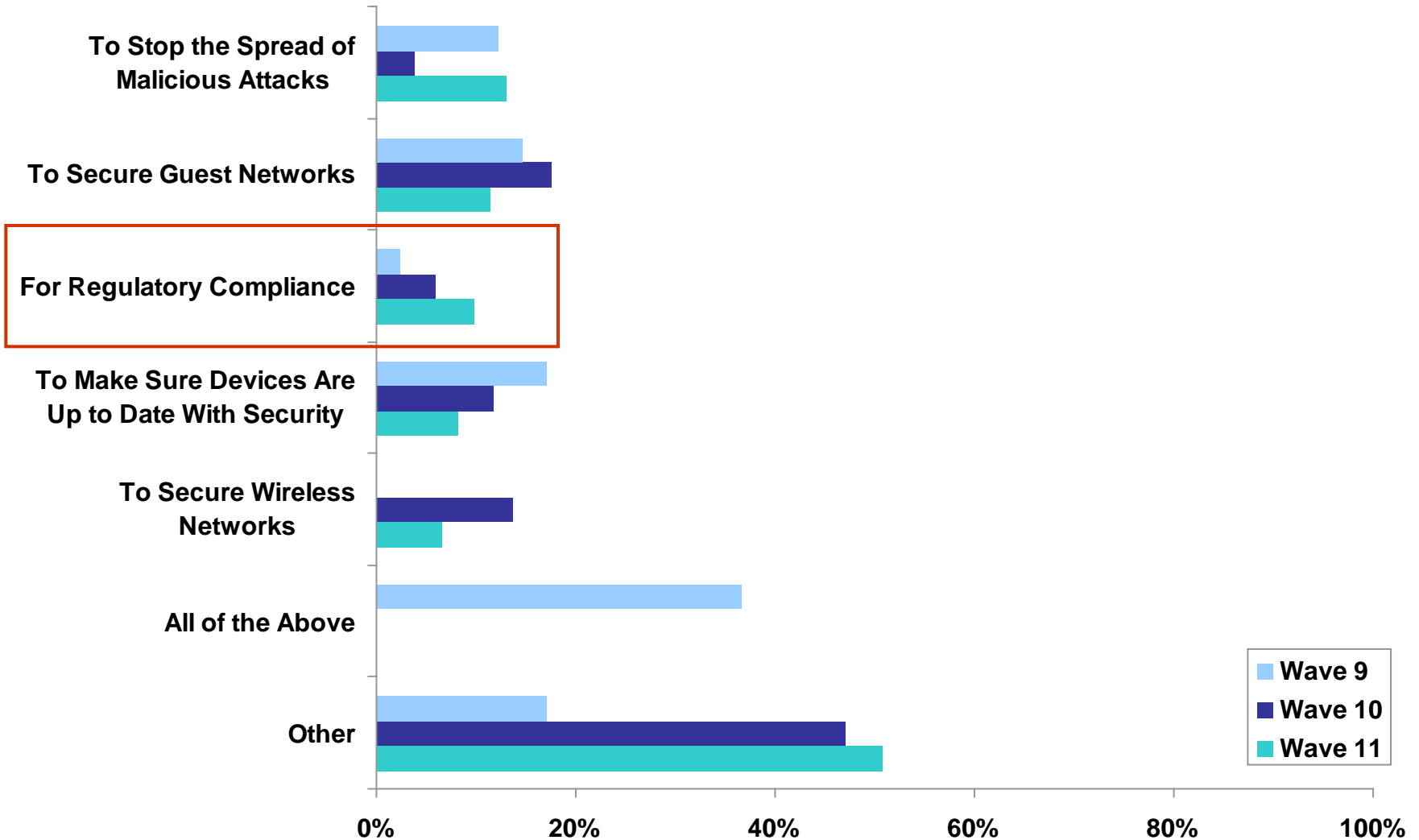
Same Sample: Wave 10 vs. Wave 11



■ In Use Now
 ■ In Pilot/Evaluation
 ■ In Near-term Plan
 ■ In Long-term Plan
 ■ Not in Plan

Chart 2: NAC Adoption Motivator

What is the prime motivator behind your adoption or procurement of a NAC solution?



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