

# 800-61 and potential updates for AI cybersecurity incidents

Alex J. Nelson, Ph.D.  
Computer Scientist  
NIST / ITL / CSD

2026-05-14

# Incident Response document history



1991:  
800-3

2012:  
800-61r2

2025:  
800-61r3

2004:  
800-61

2014:  
CSF

800-61: assists with building a new function within organizations.

800-61r3: builds on CSF having incident response as integral to cybersecurity strategy.

Document is “CSF Community Profile,” for community: *all incident response teams.*

- “Community” is every org’s incident response teams; guidance is for cybersecurity incidents.
- Incidents can happen with AI in various event-specific roles
  - *Victim or target* (fulfilling working definition shared with CISA playbook)
  - *Deceiver*, serving attacker (stronger phisher) or defender (honeypot) (*outside* working definition shared with CISA playbook)
  - *Force-multiplier*, serving attacker (autonomous campaign executor) or defender (intrusion detection)
- What example incidents motivate new 800-61 guidance?
- Some incidents could have AI only used on attacker side. What is the guidance appropriate for current community of 800-61?
  - 800-61r3 does not presume adoption of AI on defender side.
  - Mind: **Community** of AI CSF Profile (NIST IR 8596) and its “Thwart” focus.