

Supply Chain Business Networks at a Glance

Today's supply chains are more complex than ever

Driven by rising competition and shifting patterns of consumer behavior and expectations, companies everywhere are looking to their supply chain processes and capabilities to provide a competitive edge. However, as the global business environment has become more complex, so, too, have supply chains.

Increased complexity underscores the need for effective digital solutions:

This complexity is driven by increases in:

- Volume of data
- Global trade and competition
- Number of trading partners

75% of businesses had disruptions to their supply chain in the past year

50%+ have yet to digitally transform their supply chain¹

85% of supply-chain executives struggle with "inefficient digital technologies"²

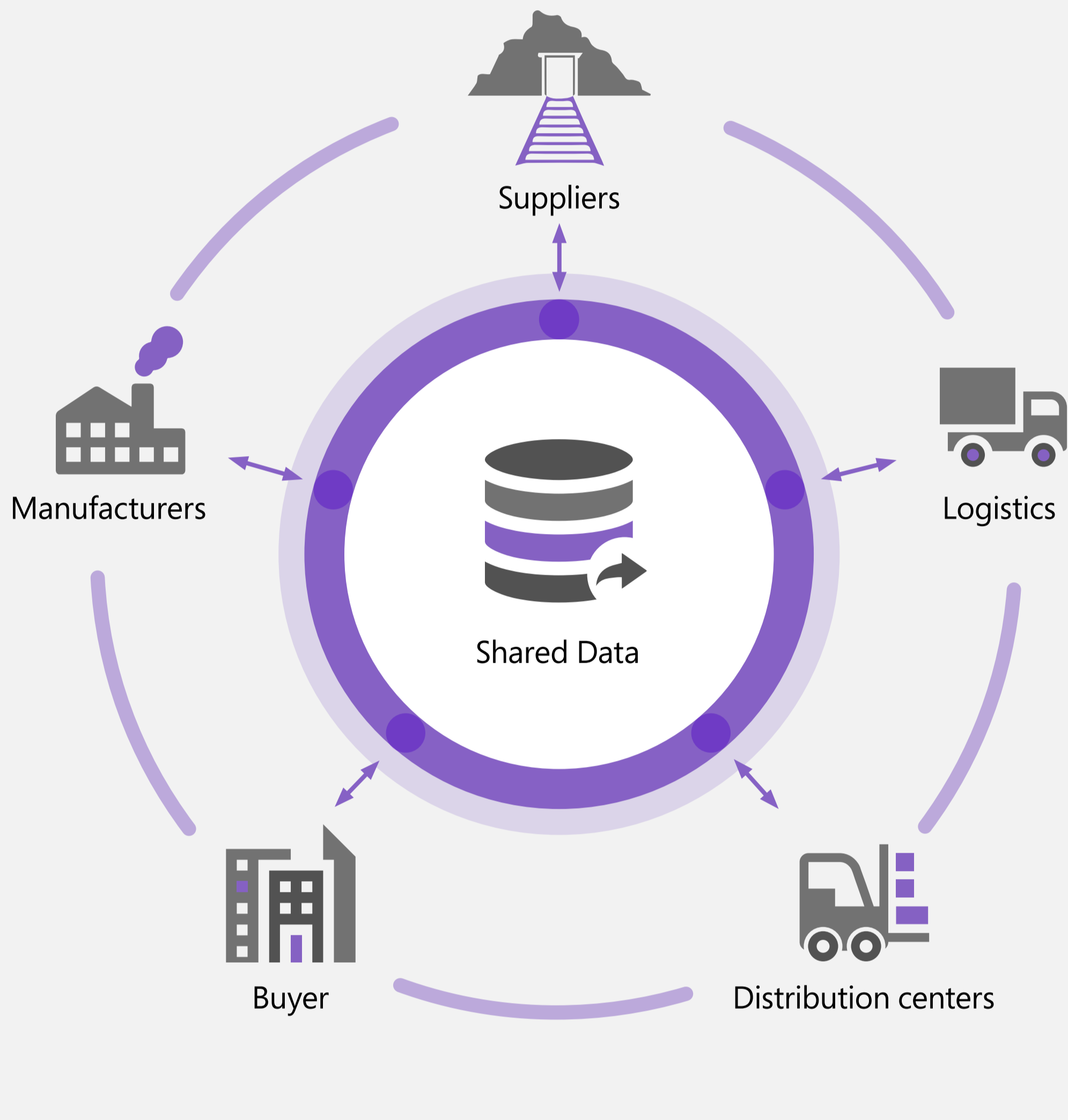
What is a supply chain business network?

A **supply chain business network** is a multi-party network for trading partners, which is a single-platform, single-instance of supply chain applications, data, and services shared among members.³

Given the number of partners and third parties involved, many parts of supply chain operations are beyond companies' immediate control, with no single organization responsible for the entire workflow. That's why networks are critical.

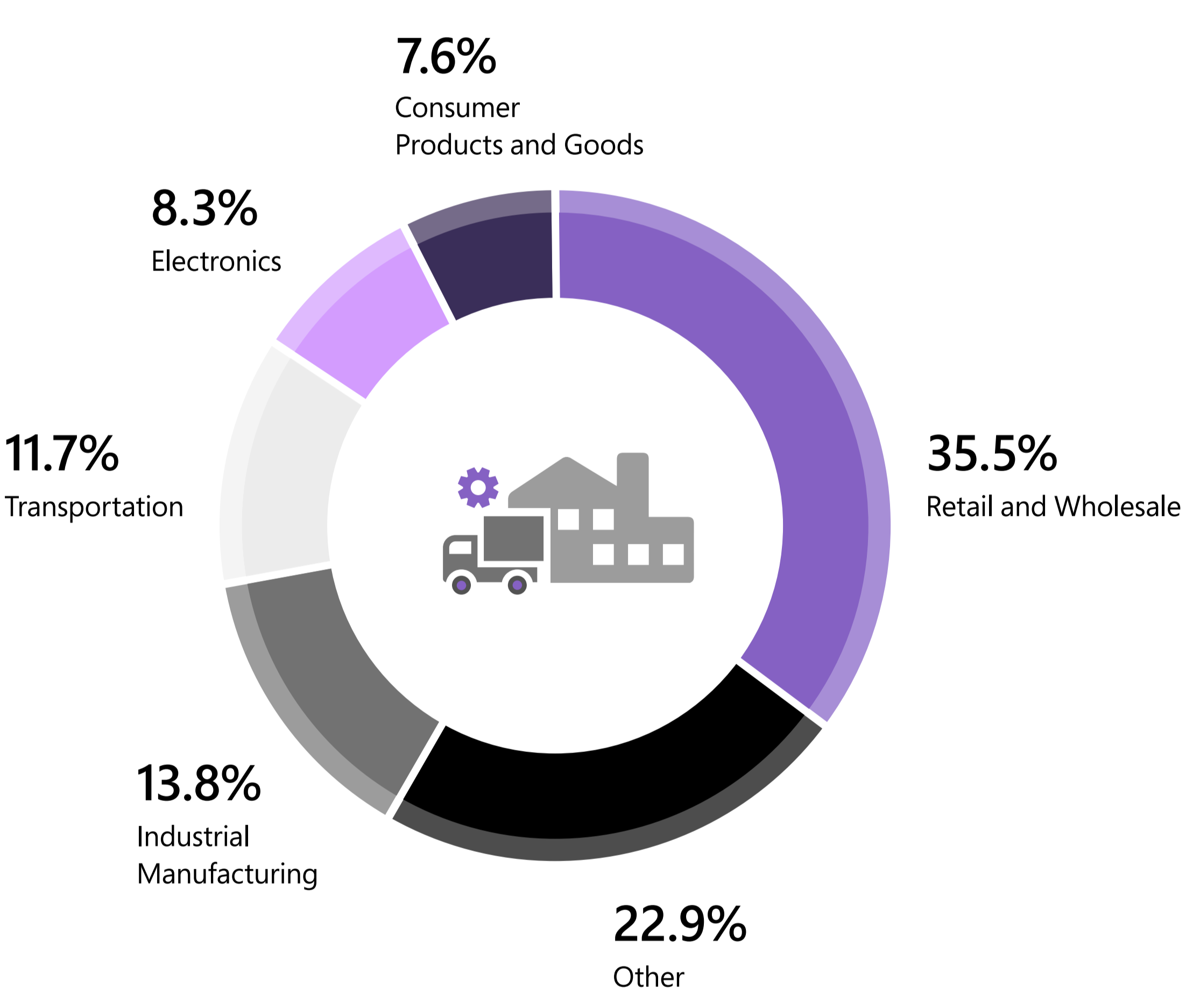
An effective supply chain business network provides an accurate and timely picture of the supply chain—a real-time single version of the truth—and the ability to act upon it. Visibility enables agility, allowing organizations to be more strategic in addressing critical needs and deploying resources.

Information flow across today's supply chain business networks:



Retail, industrial manufacturing, and transportation lead in supply chain network adoption

Adoption per Industry Segment

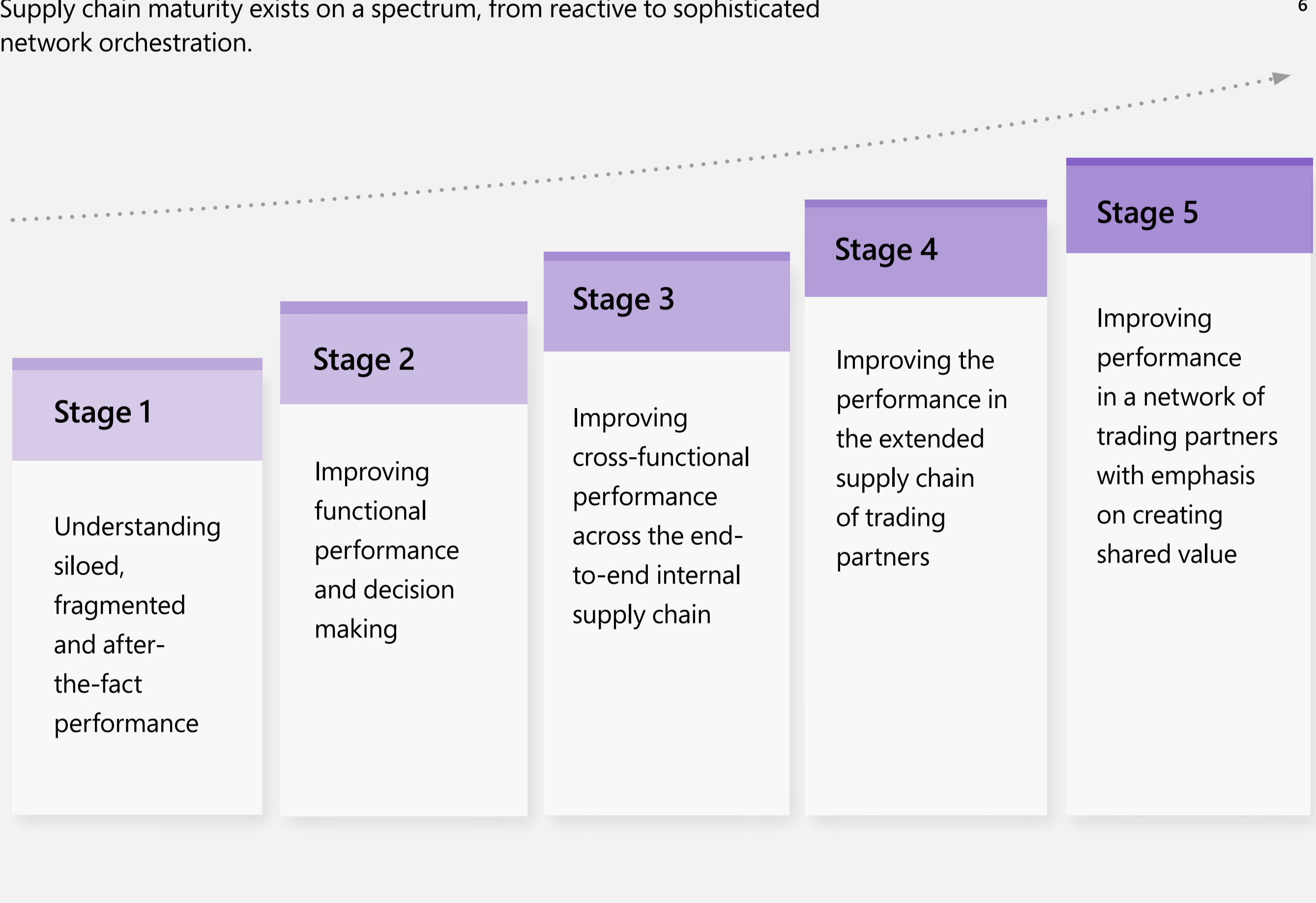


Sample size = 10,705, number of customers paying a software subscription to a business network vendor.

Source: Gartner

Companies are increasingly adopting supply chain business networks to achieve key business goals

Supply chain maturity exists on a spectrum, from reactive to sophisticated network orchestration.



In the past two years, competitive pressures to improve overall supply chain performance and the growing complexities of synchronization across partners and data have led more companies to invest in network technologies that allow them to progress from Stage 3 into Stages 4 and 5.

This level of maturity places greater importance on networks and collaboration within the ecosystem of partners to deliver a number of benefits.

Benefits of supply chain networks

- Enhanced visibility
- Better understanding of customer needs
- Reduced redundancy in supplier function
- Agility and flexibility
- Higher ROI
- Less risk and improved compliance
- Optimization of resources

Ready for a supply chain network?

With Microsoft Dynamics 365 Supply Chain Management, businesses can:

- Improve end-to-end visibility across supply chain partners.
- Gain planning agility.
- Respond effectively to disruptions.

With real-time visibility and intelligence needed to move from reactive to proactive operations, Dynamics 365 Supply Chain Management helps businesses digitize their supply chains and better respond to what's next.

[Request a live demo](#)

¹Real-Time Supply Chain Visibility: Challenges, Opportunities and Benefits. Entrepreneur, 2020.

²Building a digital bridge across the supply chain with nerve centers. McKinsey, 2021.

³Supply Chain Networks Revealed. ChainLink Research, 2019.

⁴Creating an integrated plug-and-play supply chain with serverless computing. Microsoft, 2017.

⁵Macro Trends Affecting the Multienterprise Supply Chain Business Network Market. Gartner, 2020.

⁶Use Gartner's Five-Stage Maturity Model to Reach Supply Chain Analytics Excellence. Gartner, 2017.