

# Why Resilience Matters and How CFOs Are Future-Proofing Finance



**RILLET**

The Next-Gen ERP



**DIGITAL FINANCE HQ**

Flexible CFO and Finance Talent Solutions

**Digital Finance HQ and Rillet have partnered to help businesses and CFOs future-proof finance for sustainable growth.** In this blog, we explore how finance leaders are shifting priorities, investing in technology, and tackling talent shortages to build a resilient finance function.

**Ready to strengthen your finance function? Explore these insights to see how Digital Finance HQ and Rillet can help you take action today!**

 **Key themes discussed:**

**1 Shifting Focus Beyond the Short-Term: From Cash Flow to Long-Term Value**

CFOs are expanding priorities from cash and budgets to long-term value drivers like strategic planning and resource allocation.

**2 Building Resilience with Talent and Technology**

CFOs are focusing on capability-building, automation, and real-time reporting to strengthen resilience against future disruptions.

**3 Investing in Digital Transformation to Reduce Manual Work**

CFOs overwhelmingly agree that AI and automation will cut down manual analysis and increase productivity.

**4 Tackling Talent Shortages Head-On**

CFOs are addressing critical talent gaps caused by burnout and fewer new finance professionals entering the field.

**5 Free-Up Teams from Manual Processes with Technology Investments**

CFOs are bringing in dedicated teams to implement digital upgrades and reduce reliance on outdated, labor-intensive systems.

 **Today's finance functions are caught in a cycle:**

- **Overworked Teams + Outdated Systems:** Manual tasks on outdated systems limit time for strategic work.
- **Shifted Priorities + Manual Work:** As business needs evolve, finance must focus on support and long-term planning, yet outdated systems increase manual work, leaving no time for improvements.
- **Missed Opportunities for Automation + Burnout:** Deadlines take precedence over system upgrades, leading to burnout and missed strategic goals.

✅ **Solution:** To overcome these challenges, companies and CFOs are introducing specialized teams to focus on system upgrades, automation projects, and operational improvements. These dedicated resources reduce staff workloads, free core finance staff for strategic initiatives, and set the organization on a path for building a **foundation for sustainable growth**.

👉 **Take Action & Break the Cycle:** **Digital Finance HQ and Rillet** can help you navigate the complexity and optimize your path to a Future Ready Finance.

🏊 **Let's Dive In!**

## Building a Future Ready Finance Team: Insights from Today's Leading CFOs

### 1. Finance Leaders' Shift to Long-Term Opportunities according to a recent [McKinsey survey](#).

- **Top Priority:** *Operational Value Drivers and Management of KPIs* now rank highest, with **63% of CFOs** prioritizing this area, up from 30% in 2022.
- **Increased Focus on Strategic Planning:** **60% of CFOs** prioritize *Strategic Planning*, while **55%** focus on *Long-term Resource Allocation*.
- **Continued Focus on Cash Management:** Although still important, *Cash Management and Capital Structure* decreased slightly and now a priority for **only 40% of CFOs**.
- **Decline in Short-Term Initiatives:** Interest in *Budgeting*, *Risk Management*, and *Scenario Planning* have both dropped by 20% as a top priority of finance functions priorities according to the CFOs surveyed.

💡 **Takeaway:** While profit, cash, and annual budgets remain essential priorities, CFOs are now expanding their top areas of finance focus beyond short-term initiatives, more so than in previous years.

## 2. Building Resilience Through Capability and Technology

👉 To strengthen resilience amid volatility, CFOs are focusing on **capability building** and **advanced technology**. According to a recent McKinsey survey:

- **44% of CFOs** prioritize **improved capabilities** within their teams.
- **44%** focus on **advanced technologies** such as **automation** and **real-time reporting**.

👉 CFOs who excelled at strengthening resilience last year were:

- **6.5 times more likely** to invest time in **talent management**.
- **4.3 times more likely** to focus on **digital capabilities** and **advanced analytics**.

💡 **Takeaway:** Talent, technology, and finance skills development are essential for overcoming current challenges and setting the stage for future growth.

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## 3. The Case for Technology to create value for Finance Function

👉 Most CFOs agree that investing in advanced technology like AI will create value. According to [McKinsey survey](#):

- **85%** believe technology will provide insights that reduce manual work.
- **83%** see it as a means to boost productivity.

❓ **Key Question:** If CFOs overwhelmingly agree on technology's value, how far along are they in digitizing finance?

👉 **Answer:** Although 98% have started the journey, most haven't progressed far.

- 41% have automated less than 25% of processes.
- 24% have digitized between 26% and 50%.
- A third have automated 51% to 75%.

💡 **Takeaway:** Despite high expectations, digital adoption is still low. Organizational barriers, not technical issues, are slowing progress.

## 4. Key Barriers to Creating Value from Data and Technology

👉 According to CFOs in this [McKinsey survey](#), Finance Teams' Biggest Barriers to Creating Value from Data and Technology investments are:

- **70% - Already Demanding workloads** leave little time for digital initiatives.
- **67% - Lack of relevant capabilities within finance teams** limits tech adoption.
- **62% Insufficient resources** constrained investments in finance technology tools.

### 💡 Takeaway:

*"Part of the reason for low digitization rates may be the breadth of the tech-related challenges—many of which are organizational—that finance functions face."*

*When asked about the roadblocks to creating value from data and technology, CFOs report that their finance functions face already-demanding workloads, a lack of relevant capabilities, and insufficient resources. All three of these challenges are more prevalent than the tech infrastructure or data-related issues we asked about."*

## 5. CFOs Continue to Face Significant Talent Shortages and Burnout according to [recent CFO.com survey](#).

👉 The talent shortage remains a pressing issue as seen in the number of CFOs who stated:

- **84% of CFOs "Continue to Face Significant Talent Shortages."**
- **47%** agreed that **"Burnout Is Diminishing The Talent Pool."**
- **54%** believe the talent pool is further being diminished by a **"Lack of Interest by Students"** as fewer students are entering the finance profession.

💡 With declining interest of young professional entering the field and high burnout a pervasive issue with those currently in finance, leaders will need innovative strategies to address these gaps.


# What to Do Going Forward?

## Position Your Finance Team for Long Term Success

- The insights shared by leading CFOs reveal a clear path forward, **resilience, technology, and talent are essential to building a finance function that's prepared for the future.**
- With the volume of demands on finance teams growing and talent shortages persisting, **the time to invest in strategic upgrades is now.** By prioritizing digital transformation, addressing capability gaps, and streamlining processes, CFOs can create lasting value and position their teams to lead confidently in an evolving landscape.

## Take the Next Step with Digital Finance HQ and Rillet

- Digital Finance HQ and Rillet are here to help you turn these insights into action. With expertise in designing state of the art ERP software, finance transformation, technology upgrades, and talent strategy, we're equipped to support your organization on the journey to a future-proof finance function.

 **Reach Out To US** to learn how we can help you overcome these challenges, drive resilience, and prepare your team for sustainable growth in 2025 and beyond.

Digital Finance HQ  
Peter OBrien

<https://digitalfinancehq.com/>  
[peter@digitalfinancehq.com](mailto:peter@digitalfinancehq.com)

Rillet  
Stephen Hedlund

<https://www.rillet.com/>  
[stephen@rillet.com](mailto:stephen@rillet.com)

 **Let's Build a Resilient Finance Future Together**

Drive success, unlock growth, and win over stakeholders with strategic insights from seasoned CFOs.

At Digital Finance HQ, we empower businesses with expert financial consulting and tailored fractional CFO services.



Contact: Peter O'Brien  
CFO Operating Advisor  
Digital Finance LLC  
[peter@digitalfinancehq.com](mailto:peter@digitalfinancehq.com)  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/obrienpeter>  
<https://digitalfinancehq.com/>

# FUTURE READY FINANCE

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