

Data Governance

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/fabric/governance/governance-compliance-overview>

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What is Governance in Fabric?

Governance in Microsoft Fabric refers to the set of capabilities that enable organizations to catalog, secure, classify, monitor, and enforce policies consistently across all data assets (lakehouses, pipelines, datasets, reports, notebooks, etc.) within the platform.

Key Governance Components

1. OneLake Catalog → Govern Tab

- Acts as a centralized catalog of all Fabric items tied to your tenant. The **Govern tab** surfaces high-level governance insights—such as items missing descriptions, sensitivity labels, or endorsements—and offers recommended actions to help improve metadata quality and compliance posture.
- Covers metrics like item freshness, domain and workspace spread, label coverage, metadata completeness, and access/activity frequency.

2. Microsoft Purview Hub Integration

- Extends governance across broader enterprise data estates. Use Purview to apply and enforce sensitivity labels, Data Loss Prevention (DLP) policies, retention policies, and generate audit reports across Fabric artifacts.

3. Access Control & Security

- Enforces Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) via Microsoft Entra ID, workspace roles, capacity roles, and OneLake-level row/column security (RLS/CLS).
- Integrates with sensitivity labels for automated protection and classification.

4. Lineage, Endorsement & Metadata Scanning

- **Lineage** tracks item-level data flows across pipelines, reports, and models, helping answer “where did this data come from?” and “what depends on this item?”
- **Endorsements** (Certified, Promoted, Master) provide trust signals for vetted data assets.
- **Metadata scanning** via Admin REST APIs extracts asset metadata (names, labels, endorsements) and lineage for auditing or custom reporting.

5. Monitoring & Admin Insights

- The **Monitoring Hub** and **Admin Monitoring workspace** offer dashboards for platform usage, activity logs, capacity metrics, idle artifacts, and compliance monitoring — enabling centralized oversight.

Why Fabric Governance Matters

- **Unified Governance Backbone:** OneLake + Purview ensure consistent governance across all workloads and assets.
- **Enhanced Trust & Discovery:** Endorsement and metadata improve asset discoverability, trust, and reuse.
- **Robust Security & Compliance:** Sensitivity labels, RLS/CLS, DLP, and audit logging fortify data access control and compliance.

Governance Feature Summary

Area	Fabric Capability
Catalog & Metadata	OneLake Govern tab, endorsements, domain/workspace awareness

Sensitivity & Policy	Purview-integrated labels and DLP, tenant-wide policy enforcement
Access Control	RBAC via Entra ID, workspace roles; RLS/CLS enforcement
Lineage & Impact	Item-level lineage via lineage visuals and impact tracing
Monitoring & Auditing	Monitoring reports, activity logs, capacity tracking, admin dashboards

Getting Started Tips

- Open the OneLake Catalog → Govern tab to review current governance posture and identify gaps.
- Use Purview Hub to label assets, enforce DLP and run audits.
- Apply endorsements (Certified/Promoted) to highlight trusted data.
- Regularly use the Monitoring Hub to keep track of usage, compliance, and capacity.
- Stay informed about upcoming capabilities like unified access enforcement (OneSecurity) for improved governance efficiency.