

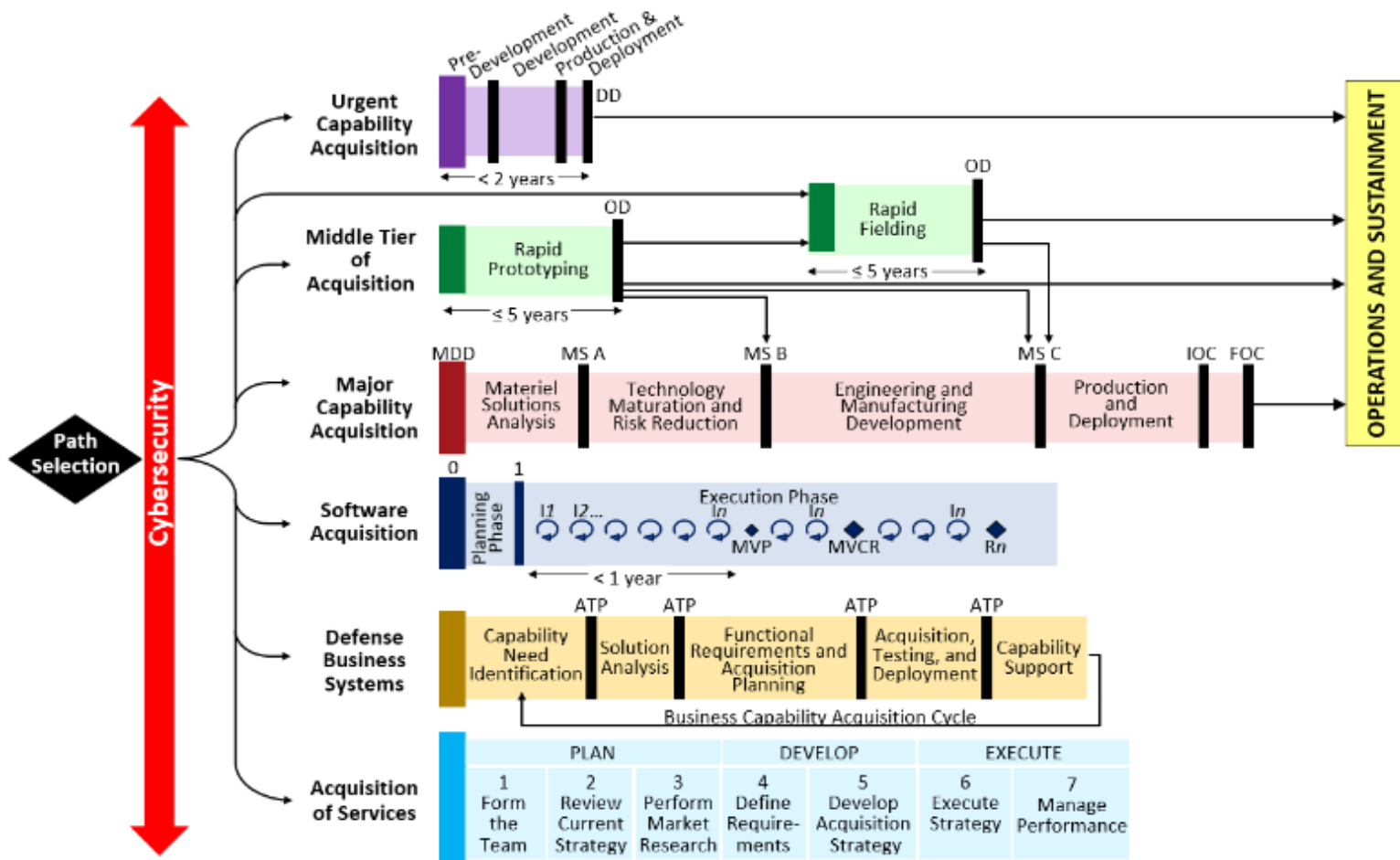
Early Observations on Use of the AAF to Accelerate Capability Delivery



Source: Defense Visual Information Distribution Service. | GAO-21-222

**Anne McDonough, Assistant Director
Contracting and National Security
Acquisitions**

The AAF—More than Just New Pathways



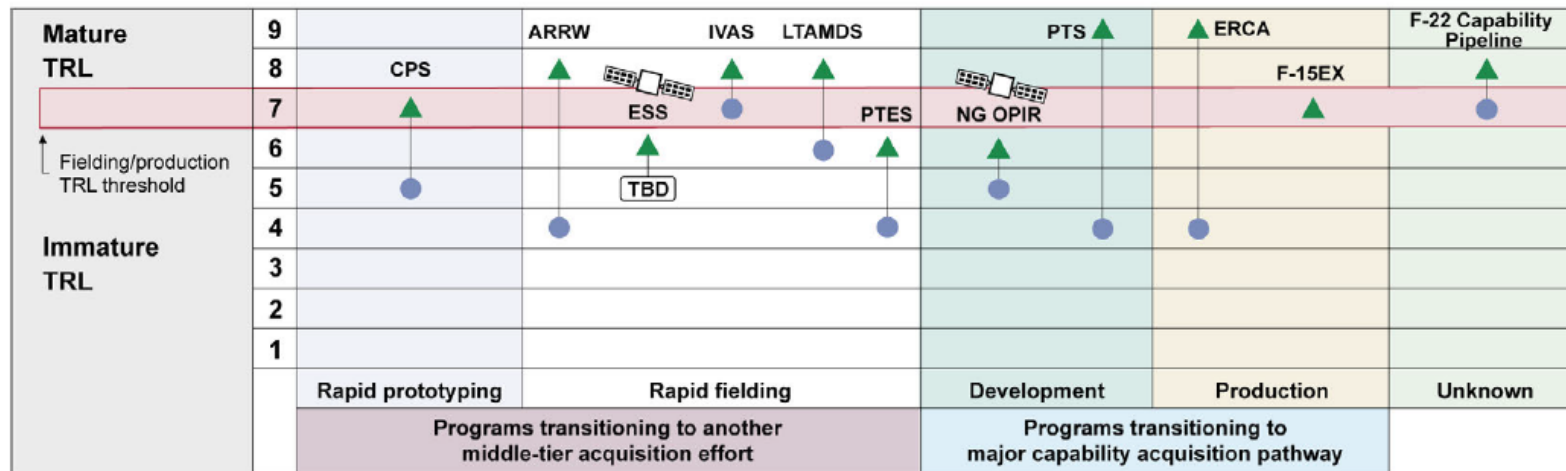


MDAPs Continue to Struggle With Schedule

PLACEHOLDER – TO BE UPDATED WHEN DOD
PROVIDES COMMENTS ON 2022 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

Too Soon to Assess MTA Programs' Speed

Figure 21: Current and Planned Technology Readiness Levels for Middle-Tier Acquisition Programs That Identified Critical Technologies



▲ Planned TRL at completion of the current middle-tier acquisition effort

● Current TRL

Satellite technologies that have achieved TRL 6 are assessed as fully mature

TRL = Technology Readiness Level

CPS = Conventional Prompt Strike

ARRW = Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon

ESS = Evolved Strategic SATCOM

IVAS = Integrated Visual Augmentation System

LTAMDS = Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Sensor

PTES = Protected Tactical Enterprise Service

ERCA = Extended Range Cannon Artillery

F-15EX

Next Gen OPIR = Next Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared

PTS = Protected Tactical SATCOM

F-22 Capability Pipeline

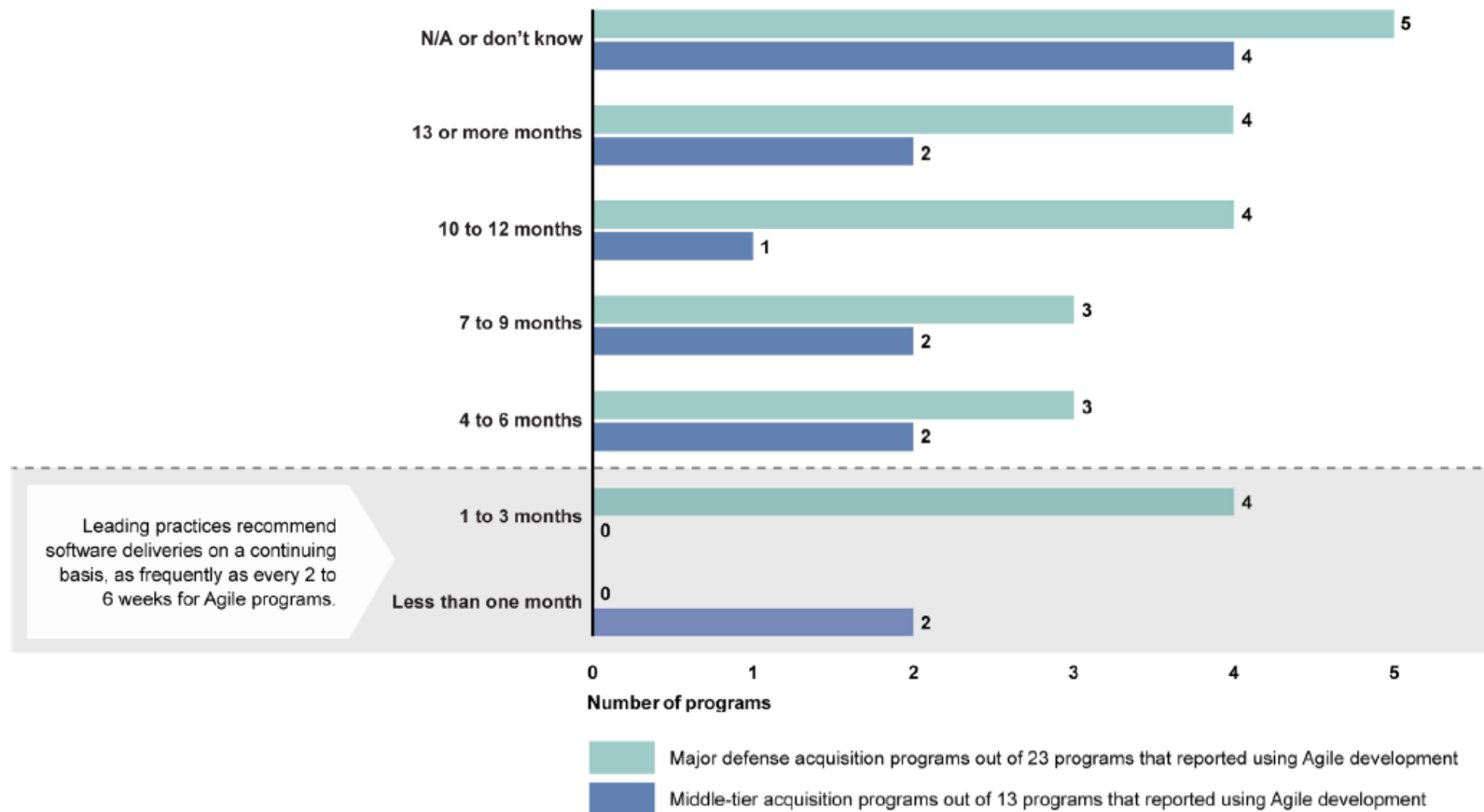
TBD = To be determined

Source: GAO analysis of programs' questionnaire responses. | GAO-21-222

Note: For programs with multiple critical technologies, the figure represents the lowest current TRL and the lowest planned TRL at program completion.

















Room to Improve Software Delivery Tempo




Figure 4: Reported Software Delivery Times for Programs That Indicated Use of Agile Development, as of January 2021



Source: GAO analysis of programs' questionnaire responses. | GAO-21-105298

AAF Policies Partially Implement Key Product Development Principles

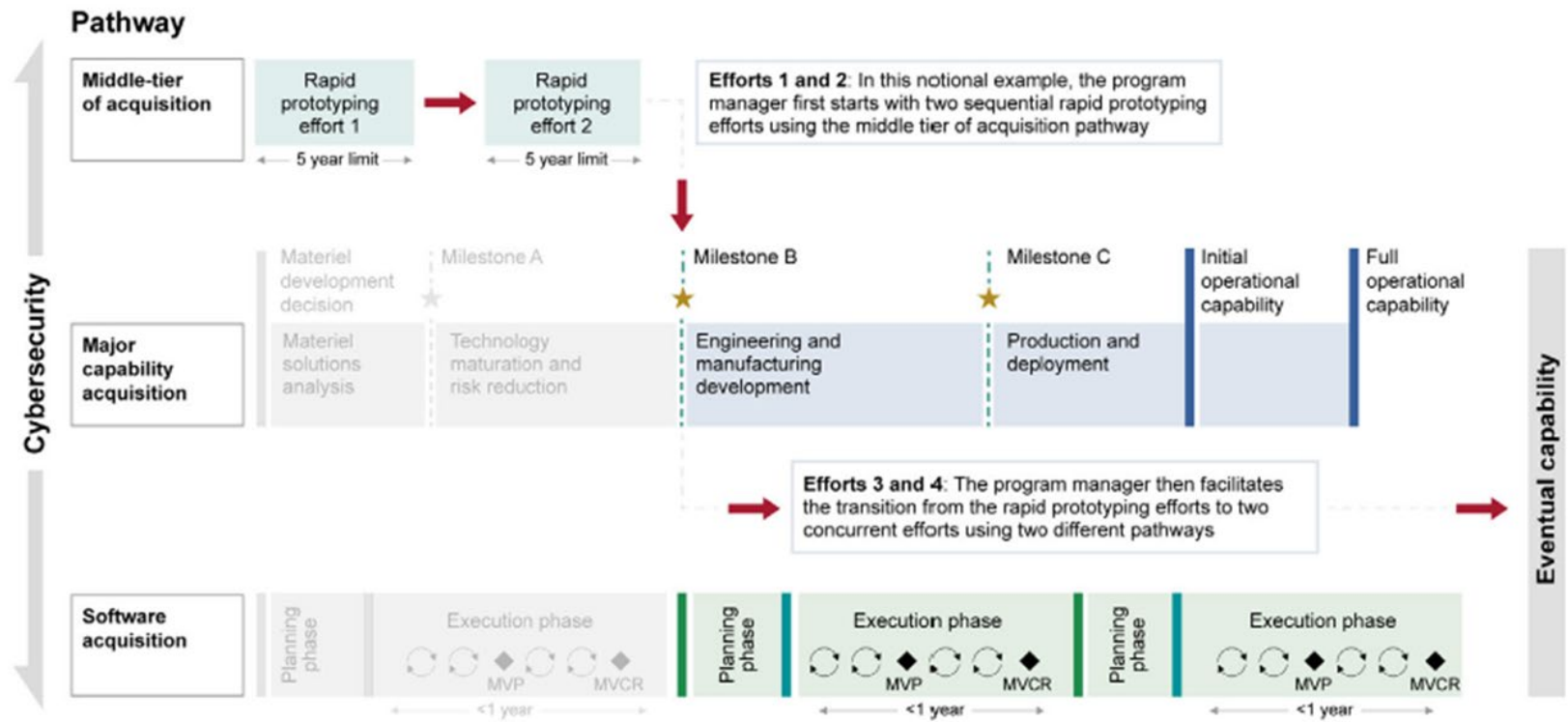
Key principle	Department of Defense (DOD)	Department of Homeland Security (DHS)	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 Attain a sound business case			
 Use an iterative design			
 Prioritize schedule			
 Collect customer feedback			

-  Agency policies **do not** implement the majority of the sub-principles in the key principle
-  Agency policies **partially** implement the majority of the sub-principles in the key principle
-  Agency policies **fully** implement all of the sub-principles in the key principle

Source: GAO analysis of DOD, DHS, and NASA primary acquisition policies and interviews with agency officials. | GAO-22-104513

AAF Requires New Oversight Considerations

Figure 28: Notional Example of Use of Multiple Efforts and Multiple Pathways to Develop a Capability



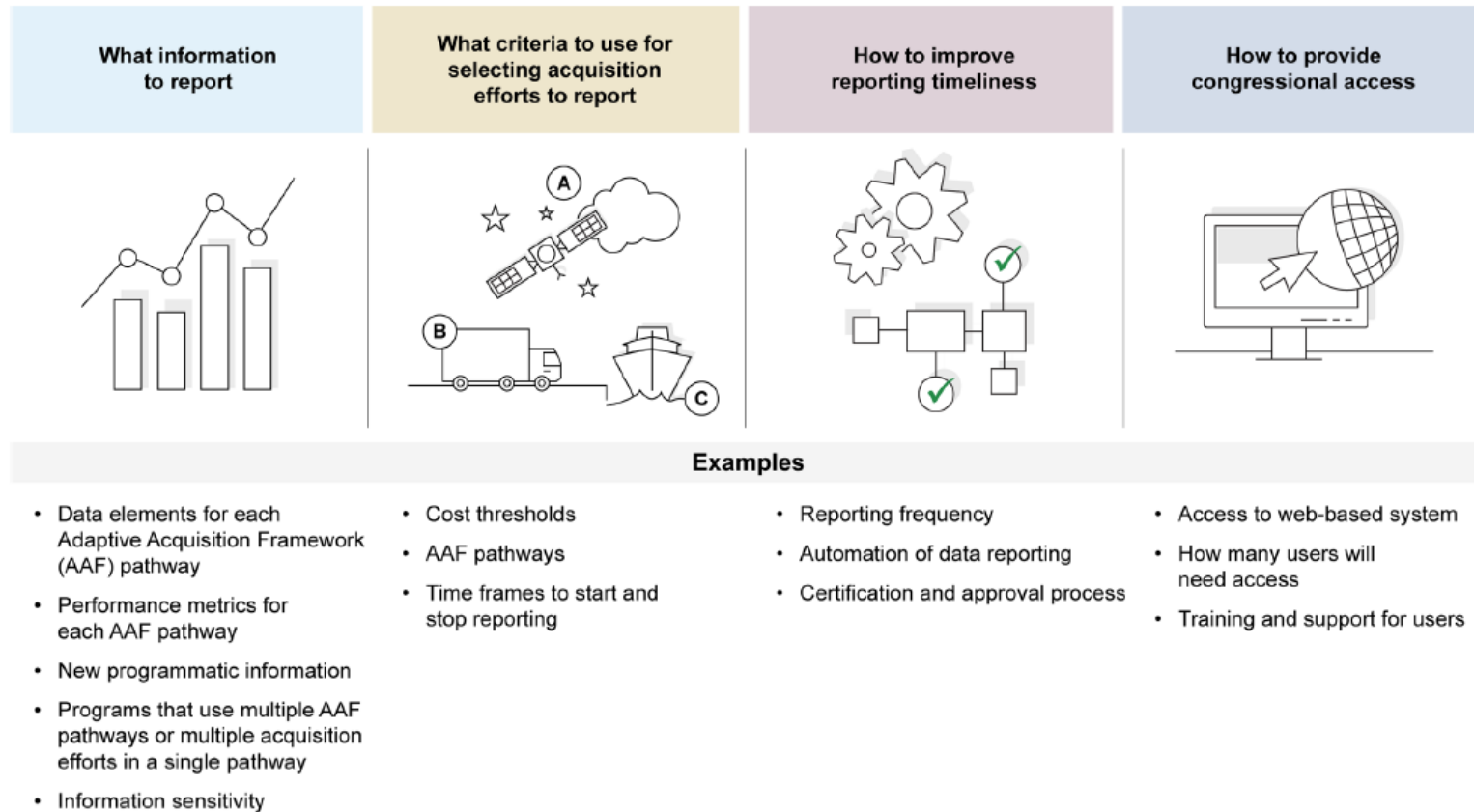
MVCR = Minimum viable capability release
MVP = Minimum viable product

Source: GAO analysis of Department of Defense data. | GAO-21-222

Note: An effort refers specifically to the activities undertaken using a single Adaptive Acquisition Framework pathway or any of the paths provided by an Adaptive Acquisition Framework pathway (for example, the rapid prototyping path of the middle-tier acquisition pathway).

Many Open Questions Remain on Reporting

Figure 5: DOD Has Yet to Address Open Questions Related to Its Proposed Reporting Approach



Source: GAO analysis of Department of Defense (DOD) documentation and interviews with DOD officials. | GAO-22-104687