INTELLIGENCE BRIEFING
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NIST National Vulnerability Database (NVD) Expands to Include SSVC and "Affected" Information

GOVERNANCE | LOW

SCC Item ID	SCC-GOV-2026-0062
Type	Governance
Severity	LOW
Affected Products	National Vulnerability Database (NVD), all consumers of NVD data (~95% of existing CVE records impacted)
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Executive Summary

NIST will expand the National Vulnerability Database on June 17, 2026, adding CISA-sourced SSVC decision-tree prioritization data and structured 'affected' product information from CVE Numbering Authorities. Approximately 95% of existing NVD records will reflect updated data structures, requiring organizations that consume NVD data programmatically to verify API integrations and downstream tooling before the go-live date. No active threat is introduced; the risk is operational, automated vulnerability management workflows built on the current NVD schema may break or produce incorrect prioritization output if not updated in advance.

Technical Analysis

Effective June 17, 2026, the NVD API and data feeds will include two new data types. First, SSVC (Stakeholder-Specific Vulnerability Categorization) decision trees, sourced from CISA as an Authorized Data Publisher, will provide exploitation-status-aware, automatable-attack-aware, and mission-impact-aware prioritization outputs, supplementing but not replacing CVSS scores. Second, structured 'affected' product and version data, sourced from CNA-supplied CVE JSON 5.0 records, will replace or augment NVD's historically self-generated CPE data for a large portion of the catalog. The CVE JSON 5.0 'affected' schema is structurally different from CPE 2.3 dictionaries currently used by many downstream tools (SCA scanners, SIEM enrichment pipelines, vulnerability management platforms). Organizations consuming NVD data via the NVD REST API v2 should review the updated schema documentation at nvd.nist.gov, test parsing logic against sample records containing the new fields, and confirm that SSVC decision-tree output does not conflict with existing risk-scoring

workflows. No CVE ID, CWE, or CVSS vector applies to this item, it is a data model change, not a vulnerability disclosure.

Action Checklist

1. Step 1: Inventory, identify all internal systems, pipelines, and tools that consume NVD data programmatically (API polling, feed ingestion, SIEM enrichment, SCA scanner integrations) and document the schema fields each depends on.
2. Step 2: Schema Review, obtain the updated NVD API v2 schema documentation from nvd.nist.gov and compare new 'affected' and 'ssvc' field structures against current parsing logic; flag any hard-coded CPE or CVSS-only assumptions that will break (NIST SI-2, Flaw Remediation supports proactive identification of technical debt in operational tooling).
3. Step 3: Test in Non-Production, run updated schema samples through vulnerability management and SIEM enrichment pipelines in a staging environment before June 17, 2026; confirm that SSVC prioritization output is correctly ingested or gracefully ignored if not yet consumed (CIS 7.1, Establish and Maintain a Vulnerability Management Process).
4. Step 4: Update Tooling, apply vendor patches or configuration changes to affected tools once vendors release NVD schema compatibility updates; reconfirm API integrations post-change and confirm audit log coverage for enrichment pipeline activity (NIST AU-6, Audit Record Review, Analysis, And Reporting; CIS 8.2, Collect Audit Logs).
5. Step 5: Post-Change Review, after June 17, 2026 go-live, monitor vulnerability prioritization outputs for anomalies; update internal vulnerability management process documentation to incorporate SSVC as a supplemental prioritization input alongside CVSS (CIS 7.2, Establish and Maintain a Remediation Process; NIST SI-5, Security Alerts, Advisories, And Directives).

IR / Forensic Enrichment

Triage Priority	DEFERRED
Escalation Criteria	Escalate from deferred to urgent if internal testing in Step 3 reveals that NVD schema changes cause vulnerability enrichment pipelines to silently drop CVE records or return null severity data, resulting in undetected gaps in the organization's vulnerability prioritization queue prior to the June 17, 2026 go-live date.
Recovery Notes	Following the June 17, 2026 NVD schema go-live, monitor vulnerability management and SIEM enrichment pipeline outputs daily for the first two weeks to confirm SSVC and 'affected' fields are being ingested correctly and that CVE record counts in downstream tooling are not anomalously lower than the pre-change baseline. Verify that at least one CVE with a known CISA SSVC 'Immediate' decision (cross-reference against the CISA KEV catalog) appears correctly prioritized in your remediation queue, confirming end-to-end SSVC data flow. Retain pre- and post-change pipeline output logs for a minimum of 90 days to support any audit or vendor support inquiry related to the schema transition.

Forensic Artifacts	NVD API v2 polling logs showing HTTP response codes and payload sizes before and after June 17, 2026 — unexpected 400 errors or truncated payloads indicate schema parsing failures in client tooling | Vulnerability scanner or SCA tool enrichment logs showing CVE record counts and field population rates (specifically null rates for 'cvssMetricV31', 'affected', and 'ssvc' fields) across the schema transition window | SIEM field extraction error logs or dropped-event logs referencing NVD-sourced enrichment data — in Splunk, search index=_internal sourcetype=splunkd component=AgentMon for parsing errors; in Elastic, check the '.ds-logs-*' data stream for pipeline processor failures | Staging environment test fixture execution logs capturing pre- and post-patch field parse results for synthetic NVD v2 JSON samples containing 'ssvc' and 'affected' structures | Internal vulnerability management platform remediation queue exports (CSV or JSON) from the 72-hour window before and after June 17, 2026, enabling diff analysis to confirm no CVEs were silently dropped or incorrectly deprioritized due to schema incompatibility

Per-Action IR Details

Step 1: Inventory — identify all internal systems, pipelines, and tools that consume NVD data programmatically (API polling, feed ingestion, SIEM enrichment, SCA scanner integrations) and document the schema fields each depends on.

NIST Phase: Preparation

Reference: NIST 800-61r3 §2 — Preparation: establishing the organizational capability to handle operational disruptions before they occur, including tooling inventories and dependency mapping

Controls: CIS 1.1 (Establish and Maintain Detailed Enterprise Asset Inventory), CIS 2.1 (Establish and Maintain a Software Inventory), NIST IR-4 (Incident Handling)

Compensating: Export a list of scheduled tasks, cron jobs, and service configurations referencing NVD API endpoints using: `grep -r 'nvd.nist.gov\|services.nvd.nist.gov' /etc /opt /var --include='*.conf' --include='*.yml' --include='*.json' -l` on Linux, or `findstr /r /s 'nvd.nist.gov' C:\ProgramData C:\inetpub` on Windows. Supplement with a review of outbound firewall logs or proxy logs filtered on the destination domain 'services.nvd.nist.gov' to surface any undocumented polling activity a 2-person team may have missed.

Evidence: This step does not alter live state. No volatile capture is required prior to execution. Document findings in a dependency register noting: tool name, polling frequency, NVD API endpoint (v1 legacy vs. v2), and specific JSON fields consumed (e.g., 'cpe.matches', 'cvssMetricV31', 'configurations') — this register becomes the baseline for schema-break impact assessment in subsequent steps.

Step 2: Schema Review — obtain the updated NVD API v2 schema documentation from nvd.nist.gov and compare new 'affected' and 'ssvc' field structures against current parsing logic; flag any hard-coded CPE or CVSS-only assumptions that will break (NIST SI-2 — Flaw Remediation supports proactive identification of technical debt in operational tooling).

NIST Phase: Preparation

Reference: NIST 800-61r3 §2 — Preparation: identifying gaps in operational tooling before a known change event causes detection or enrichment pipeline failure

Controls: NIST SI-2 (Flaw Remediation), CIS 7.1 (Establish and Maintain a Vulnerability Management Process)

Compensating: Retrieve a current NVD API v2 sample response for a known CVE using: `curl -s 'https://services.nvd.nist.gov/rest/json/cves/2.0?cveId=CVE-2024-1234' | python3 -m json.tool` and diff the top-level keys against your parser's expected schema using a simple Python script with `json.loads()` and key enumeration. Specifically grep current parsing code for hardcoded references to 'configurations.nodes.cpe_match', 'impact.baseMetricV3', or 'cve.CVE_data_meta' (legacy NVD JSON 1.0 field names) which will be absent or restructured in v2 responses carrying the new 'affected' and 'ssvc' objects.

Evidence: This step does not alter live state. No volatile capture is required. Preserve the diff output and annotated schema comparison as a change-management artifact. Flag any parsing logic that raises an unhandled exception or

silently drops fields on null — these represent the failure modes that will surface as missed vulnerability enrichment after June 17, 2026.

Step 3: Test in Non-Production — run updated schema samples through vulnerability management and SIEM enrichment pipelines in a staging environment before June 17, 2026; validate that SSVC prioritization output is correctly ingested or gracefully ignored if not yet consumed (CIS 7.1 — Establish and Maintain a Vulnerability Management Process).

NIST Phase: Preparation

Reference: NIST 800-61r3 §2 — Preparation: validating detection and enrichment capability under changed conditions before operational impact occurs

Controls: CIS 7.1 (Establish and Maintain a Vulnerability Management Process), NIST SI-6 (Security And Privacy Function Verification)

Compensating: Construct synthetic NVD API v2 JSON test fixtures that include the new top-level 'ssvc' object (with 'decisionTreeURL' and 'decisions' arrays) and the new 'affected' array (with 'vendor', 'product', 'versions' sub-fields) and feed them directly into your pipeline using mock HTTP responses via a local Python SimpleHTTPServer or the `responses` library for unit tests. Verify that your SIEM enrichment field extraction (e.g., Elastic Logstash grok patterns, Splunk field extraction regexes) does not return null or error for CVEs that now carry SSVC data alongside — or instead of — legacy CVSS-only structures.

Evidence: This step does not alter live state in production. Capture staging pipeline logs showing field parse results — specifically log any records where 'ssvc' or 'affected' fields return null, raise a key error, or are silently skipped. These staging failure logs are your pre-production evidence baseline and should be retained to demonstrate due diligence if pipeline failures occur post-go-live.

Step 4: Update Tooling — apply vendor patches or configuration changes to affected tools once vendors release NVD schema compatibility updates; revalidate API integrations post-change and confirm audit log coverage for enrichment pipeline activity (NIST AU-6 — Audit Record Review, Analysis, And Reporting; CIS 8.2 — Collect Audit Logs).

NIST Phase: Recovery

Reference: NIST 800-61r3 §3.5 — Recovery: restoring systems to correct operational state following a known disruptive change, verifying integrity of restored capability

Controls: NIST SI-2 (Flaw Remediation), NIST AU-6 (Audit Record Review, Analysis, And Reporting), NIST AU-2 (Event Logging), CIS 8.2 (Collect Audit Logs), CIS 7.4 (Perform Automated Application Patch Management)

Compensating: After applying vendor or configuration updates, re-run the same synthetic NVD v2 test fixtures from Step 3 and diff the field extraction output before and after the patch to confirm the 'affected' and 'ssvc' fields now parse correctly. For audit log coverage of enrichment pipeline activity without a SIEM, enable application-level logging in your vulnerability scanner or ingestion script and write structured output to a syslog endpoint or local rotating log file; on Linux use `logger -t nvd-enrichment` in your polling script, on Windows use `Write-EventLog` to the Application log under a custom Source name so pipeline activity is independently auditable.

Evidence: Before applying vendor patches or configuration changes to production enrichment tooling, capture the current pipeline output for a sample set of 10–20 CVEs (including at least one CVE with known SSVC data from CISA, such as a recent KEV entry) as a pre-change baseline. This baseline documents the pre-patch enrichment state and enables a direct post-patch comparison to confirm the update resolved the schema incompatibility without silently dropping previously parsed CVSS or CPE data.

Step 5: Post-Change Review — after June 17, 2026 go-live, monitor vulnerability prioritization outputs for anomalies; update internal vulnerability management process documentation to incorporate SSVC as a supplemental prioritization input alongside CVSS (CIS 7.2 — Establish and Maintain a Remediation Process; NIST SI-5 — Security Alerts, Advisories, And Directives).

NIST Phase: Post Incident

Reference: NIST 800-61r3 §4 — Post-Incident Activity: lessons learned, process improvement, and updating operational procedures following a significant change event

Controls: NIST SI-5 (Security Alerts, Advisories, And Directives), CIS 7.2 (Establish and Maintain a Remediation Process), NIST IR-8 (Incident Response Plan)

Compensating: For the first two weeks post-June 17, run a daily comparison of SSVC 'Immediate' or 'Out-of-Cycle' decision outputs (where present in NVD records) against your existing CVSS-based prioritization queue to identify any CVEs where SSVC escalates priority above your current CVSS threshold — a simple Python script comparing 'ssvc.decisions[].decision' values against your remediation SLA tiers is sufficient. Document any discrepancy where SSVC indicates higher urgency than CVSS score alone, as these are the cases that justify updating your remediation SLA policy to formally incorporate SSVC as a co-equal input.

Evidence: This step does not alter live state. Retain the first 30 days of post-go-live enrichment pipeline output logs and SSVC-augmented vulnerability reports as evidence of the operational transition. These records demonstrate that the organization successfully adapted its vulnerability prioritization process to the new NVD data structure and serve as the baseline for any future audit of remediation decisions made using SSVC data.

Detection Guidance

No malicious indicators exist for this item, it is a planned data model change, not an exploitation event. Detection focus should be on pipeline health after June 17, 2026. Monitor API ingestion job logs for schema parsing errors, null field returns, or unexpected data type mismatches in NVD feed processing. If your SIEM or vulnerability management platform ingests NVD enrichment data, query for enrichment failures or records with missing severity fields after the go-live date as a signal that tooling has not been updated. Review application logs for any downstream tools that use CPE-based matching; failure to parse the new 'affected' format may silently drop vulnerability matches rather than raising an error. No IOCs, MITRE techniques, or behavioral indicators apply.

Framework Mappings

ISO-27001-2022

- **A.8.8** — Management of technical vulnerabilities

Sources

Source	URL	Tier
NVD - Home - National Institute of Standards and Technology	https://nvd.nist.gov/	T1
What is the National Vulnerability Database (NVD)? - Fortinet	https://www.fortinet.com/resources/cyberglossary/national-vulnerabi...	T3
What is the National Vulnerability Database (NVD)? - Checkmarx	https://checkmarx.com/learn/open-source-security/what-is-the-nation...	T3

Source	URL	Tier
NIST Updates NVD Operations to Address Record CVE Growth	https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2026/04/nist-updates-nvd-oper...	T1
National Vulnerability Database - CSRC	https://csrc.nist.rip/Projects/National-Vulnerability-Database	T3

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