









### States at Risk: Cybersecurity Priorities and Trends

Vermont General Assembly
House Committee on Energy and Technology
April 6, 2022

Doug Robinson, Executive Director

@NASCIO

















State IT organization transition continues: CIO as broker business model, evolution from owner-operator to more managed services, outsourcing and multi-supplier initiatives

Elevated cyber threats during pandemic, nation state and criminal attacks, more focus on enterprise cybersecurity models, whole-of-state collaboration, ransomware mitigation, zero trust framework

5R challenges of state IT workforce: recruitment, retention, reskilling, retirements, resignations; **crisis with cybersecurity positions** 

Focus on digital government services: user centric design, improved customer experience, **security**, automation, citizen identity management

















### **State Governments at Risk!**

States are attractive targets – constant attack

More aggressive threats, more intensity, ransomware

Nation state threats, organized crime

Critical infrastructure impact: disruption

Human factor – employees, contractors

Election security - disinformation





### **STATE CIO TOP 10 PRIORITIES**

2022 Strategies, Policy Issues and Management Processes

	1 Cybersecurity and Risk Management	#1 for nine consecutive years. On the top ten list since 2006
(4.6)	2 Digital Government/Digital Services	Steadily moving up the list. Pandemic impact
	3 Broadband/Wireless Connectivity	#4 in 2021 - on/off list for a decade. Pandemic impact
S. S	4 Cloud Services	Major force of change. In top three since 2013
	5 Legacy modernization	Pandemic impact! On the list since 2011
	6 Identity and Access Management	New to the list in 2021. Enables digital services
	7 Workforce	→ A continuing priority. Back on the list
	8 Enterprise Architecture: governance	New to the list in 2022
	9 Data and Information Management	On the list since 2016
	10 Consolidation/Optimization	CIO priority each year. Frequently #1 since 2007













#### STATE CIO TOP 10 ENTERPRISE RISKS

2022 Priority State Enterprise Risks















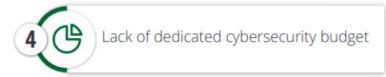
### **Challenges**

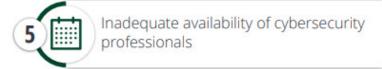
### Top barriers to overcome cybersecurity challenges



























# @ Grant Thornton CompTIA

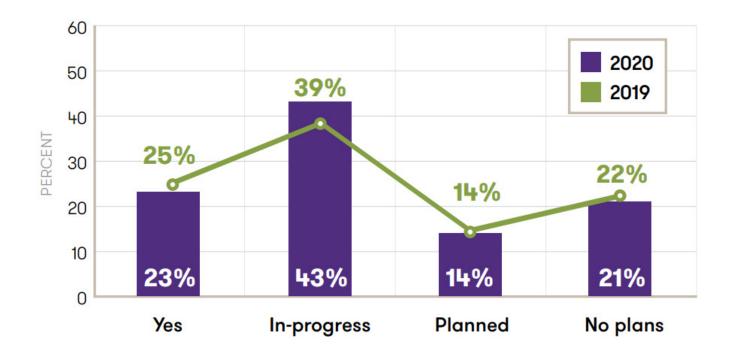
### Characterize the current status of the cybersecurity program and environment in state government.

Developed security awareness training for workers and contractors	96%
Acquired and implemented continuous vulnerability monitoring capabilities	89%
Established trusted partnerships for information sharing and response	89%
Adopted a cybersecurity framework, based on national standards and guidelines (based on NIST)	80%
Created a culture of information security in your state government	77%
Developed a cybersecurity disruption response plan	66%
Adopted a cybersecurity strategic plan	66%
Obtained cyber insurance	55%
Documented the effectiveness of your cybersecurity program with metrics and testing	52%
Used analytical tools, Al, machine learning, etc. to manage cyber security program	41%

## Assessing Cybersecurity Maturity



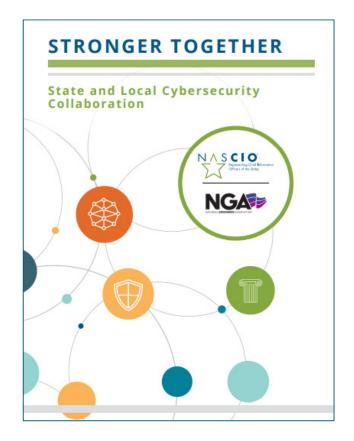
Has your state adopted a whole-of-state approach to cybersecurity with collaboration among state agencies, local governments, utilities, private companies, universities, healthcare and others?



( Grant Thornton

CompTIA

### **Action is Needed Now**



- 1) At the very minimum states should be building relationships with local governments.
  - Work through state municipal leagues and county associations, with emphasis on local information technology associations.
- 2) States should raise awareness of existing services being offered to local governments.
  - Hold cyber summits
  - Educate stakeholders
- 3) States should be exploring cost savings that can be achieved through including local governments in service contracts.
  - Consult local governments during the contract planning process solicitation
  - Provide a conduit for discussions about pooling resources among shared risk pools at the local level













### **States Supporting Local Governments**

Local representation on governance bodies

Access to state contracts and services

Cybersecurity awareness training

Partners in table-top exercises

Vulnerability assessments

Cyber crisis response teams







### **Centralized Operating Model Reduces Risk**

A centralized structure helps CISOs position cyber in a way that improves agility, effectiveness, and efficiencies



### Advantages of a centralized structure

A centralized model should help to increase adoption of essential enterprise security services.

States have an opportunity to leverage federal funding for implementing and delivering cybersecurity services in a shared model to benefit all agencies.

The ability to manage a centralized cybersecurity budget is likely to help evaluate the overall cyber posture

Cross-training and upskilling can also be simplified and more easily scaled, providing more career growth opportunities for cyber staff.















### What Do We Know? Patterns of Success







Cybersecurity Culture: A Team Sport



**Know the Risks, Assess the Risks and Measure Progress** 





**Invest: Operations and Security Technologies** 













### Based on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, what cybersecurity initiatives will receive more attention in the next 2-3 years? (select all that apply)



Adoption/expansion of enterprise identity and access management solutions



Continuous enterprise cybersecurity assessment



**Endpoint detection** 



Introducing or expanding a zero trust framework



Increased due diligence with vendors and third-party providers

MASCIO

CompTIA

@ Grant Thornton



Improved anti-fraud capabilities and services



Cybersecurity awareness training



Increased use of behavioral analytics

### **State Cyber Issues to Watch**

Talent crisis: recruitment, retention, compensation

More centralized operating model for cybersecurity

Increasing threats with expanded digital services

Whole-of-state cybersecurity resilience

Supply chain compromises; considering SBOM

Support and partnerships with local governments











