

Mission Recovery:

Cybersecurity Resilience in State and Local Government

MeriTalk surveyed 100 state and local government (SLG) IT decision-makers to understand how organizations can gain traction in the fight to reduce risk, improve cyber hygiene, and outmaneuver adversaries.



Failing Cyber State

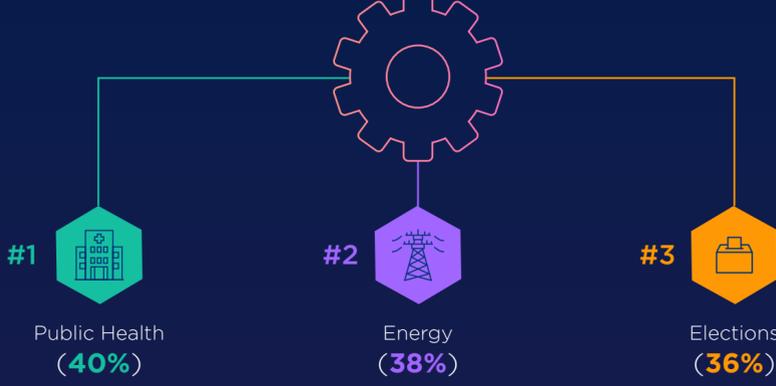
75%

of SLG IT decision-makers say their organization experienced a **cybersecurity breach** or **potential compromise** in the past year

76%

report the fear of being the next headline-grabbing breach keeps them up at night - understandable as **less than half** rate their cybersecurity as very effective (**state 42%, local 43%**)

Critical infrastructures most at risk?



Recovery Gaps

While

85%

say they have a **clear continuity plan** of what to do in the event of a breach or compromise.



Just

33%

grade their ability to quickly and completely **recover from a breach** an "A"

Few recovery plans include:

Diversified storage types

(30%)

Cyber insurance to mitigate costs

(38%)

Defined list of personnel involved in cyber incident recovery

(39%)

Steps Toward Improvement

What cybersecurity improvements has your organization focused on in the past 12 months?



Improving data restore and recovery
(45%)



Enforcing multi-factor authentication for data at rest and in transit
(44%)



Modernizing legacy systems
(44%)

Those who **grade their breach recovery as an "A"** are significantly more likely to have prioritized cloud migration (**52% to 21%**)

Where will you focus in next 18 months?



Improving **information sharing** between state and local organizations (44%)



Improving the application of basic **cyber hygiene** (41%)



Improving the application of **zero trust principles** (40%)

Fortifying the Future

88%

believe state and local governments should **collaborate for a "whole-of-state" approach** to cyber resilience

84%

agree SLG organizations will achieve better cyber protection by **modernizing their underlying technology infrastructure**



Most important technology for improving SLG cyber resilience over the next five years?



93%
Application security



86%
Multi-cloud infrastructure



80%
Zero trust principles



80%
StateRAMP

Learn more about how state and local governments can fill strategic gaps and advance cyber initiatives:

<https://www.meritalkslg.com/study/mission-recovery/>