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General computer controls audit highlights State government information security as a continued area of concern

The Auditor General today tabled in Parliament the [Information Systems Audit Report 2022 – State Government Entities](#) report.

Auditor General Ms Caroline Spencer said it was promising to see this year that more State entities consistently met our benchmark in all 6 general computer control categories.

‘However, it is disappointing that many entities continue to have poor controls over information security with only 50% of entities meeting our benchmark in this area.

‘This year’s audits also show many entities are still not addressing audit findings quickly, with nearly half of all our findings previously reported.

‘Global trends show more organisations are experiencing information security and cybersecurity attacks and government entities are not immune to these attacks as they deliver key services and hold valuable citizen data,’ Ms Spencer said.

As internal and external threats continue to evolve it is important that entities constantly improve the key controls that protect their information systems and IT environments from information security and cybersecurity risks.

Effective general computer controls support entities to achieve their objectives and defend against information systems’ compromise and data breaches.

‘I encourage entities to take note of the recommendations in this report as they work to improve their general computer controls, ensuring information security remains a heightened area of focus.

‘This is an area that without constant effort, entities will go backwards in their security environment, exposing their systems, their operations and citizen data to harm,’ Ms Spencer said.

Report resources

- [PDF version](#)