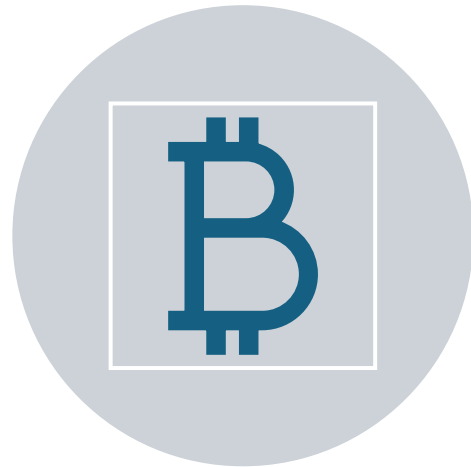


The State of Cyber Attacks in South Africa

A Global and Local Perspective on Cybersecurity Challenges

Dr Jaco du Toit

Cybercrime: A Global Epidemic



\$10.5 TRILLION – ANNUAL
CYBERCRIME COST BY 2025 [1]



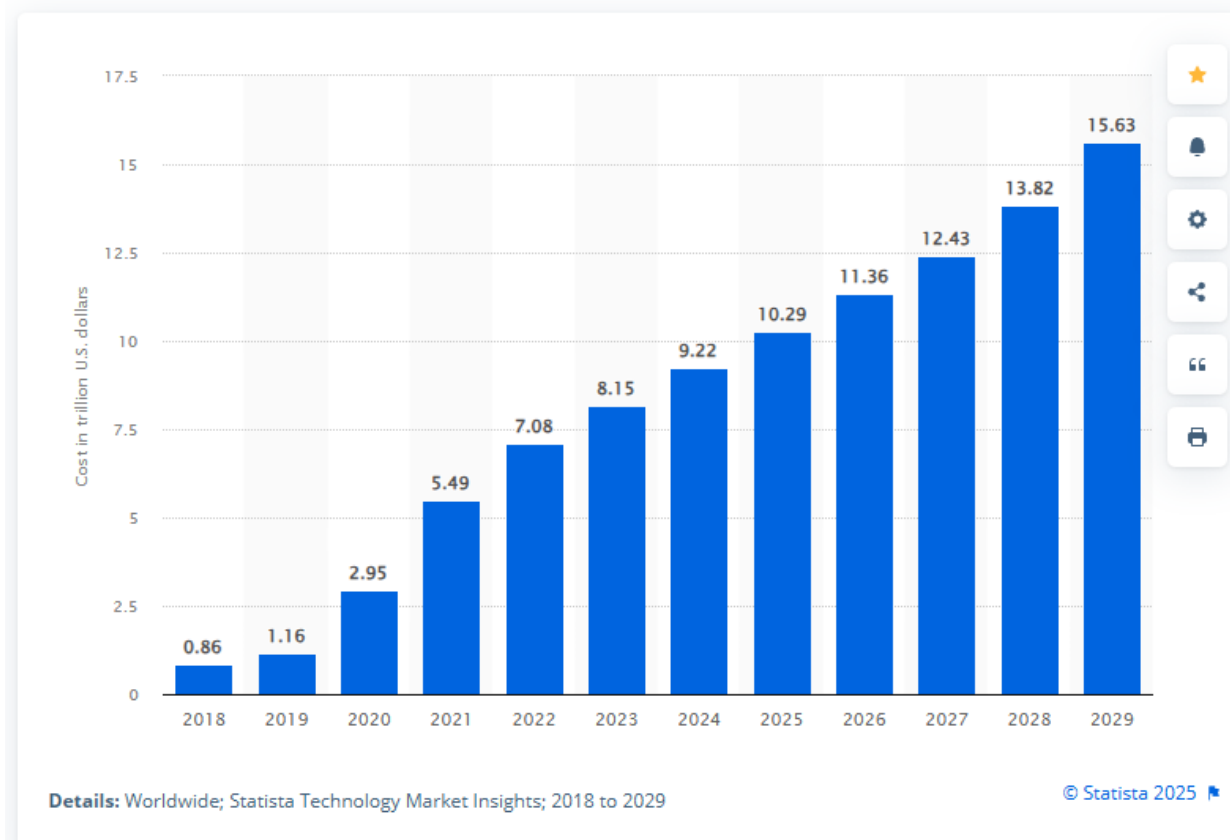
41.9M RECORDS BREACHED
IN ONE MONTH, 2023 [2]

1. Source: <https://cybersecurityventures.com/cybercrime-damage-costs-10-trillion-by-2025/>
2. Source: Statista. (June 12, 2024). Estimated cost of cybercrime worldwide 2018-2029 (in trillion U.S. dollars) [Graph]. In Statista. Retrieved May 08, 2025, from <https://www.statista.com/forecasts/1280009/cost-cybercrime-worldwide>

Cybercrime: A Global Epidemic

Estimated cost of cybercrime worldwide 2018-2029

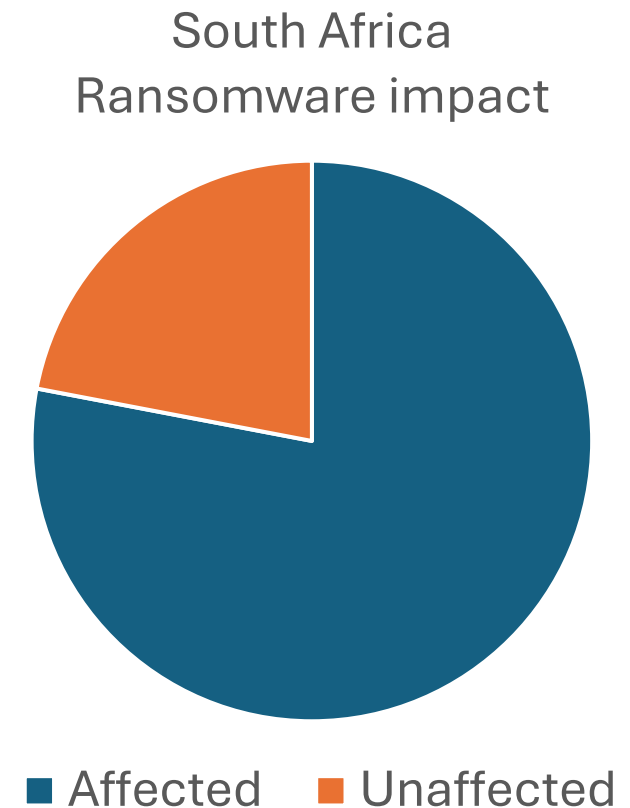
(in trillion U.S. dollars)



Source: Statista. (June 12, 2024). Estimated cost of cybercrime worldwide 2018-2029 (in trillion U.S. dollars) [Graph]. In Statista. Retrieved May 08, 2025, from <https://www.statista.com/forecasts/1280009/cost-cybercrime-worldwide>

Ransomware: The Superstar of Cybercrime

- WannaCry (2017): \$4B in damages, 19,000 NHS appointments cancelled
- 78% of SA organizations (that took part in the report) hit in 2023, up from 51% in 2022 [1]



South Africa: A Cybercrime Hotspot

3rd globally for cybercrime victims, R2.2B
lost annually [1]

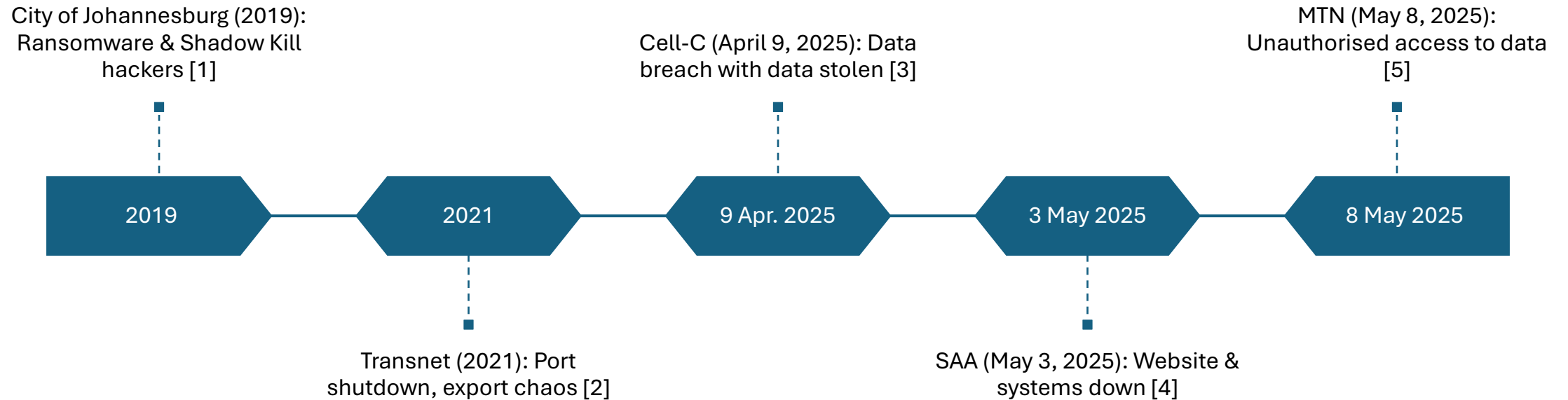
90% of African businesses lack basic
cybersecurity [2]



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1. Source: <https://www.accenture.com/za-en/insights/security/cyberthreat-south-africa> (2020)
2. <https://african.business/2023/02/technology-information/africas-cybersecurity-threat> (2023)

South Africa Under Attack

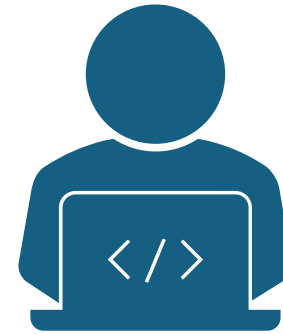


1. Source: <https://mybroadband.co.za/news/security/84929-city-of-joburg-exposes-private-information-again.html>
2. Source: <https://techcentral.co.za/transnet-finally-confirms-it-was-hit-by-a-cyberattack/170711/>
3. Source: <https://www.itweb.co.za/article/ransomhouse-hackers-disclose-data-stolen-from-cell-c/raYAyMorkxm7J38N>
4. Source: <https://www.itweb.co.za/article/saa-hit-by-cyber-attack/wbrpOMg2XzN7DLZn>
5. Source: <https://www.itweb.co.za/article/mtn-encounters-cyber-security-incident/Pero37Z38zDMQb6m>

Cybersecurity capacity: South Africa's Achilles' Heel



Many SA organisations lack comprehensive cybersecurity training



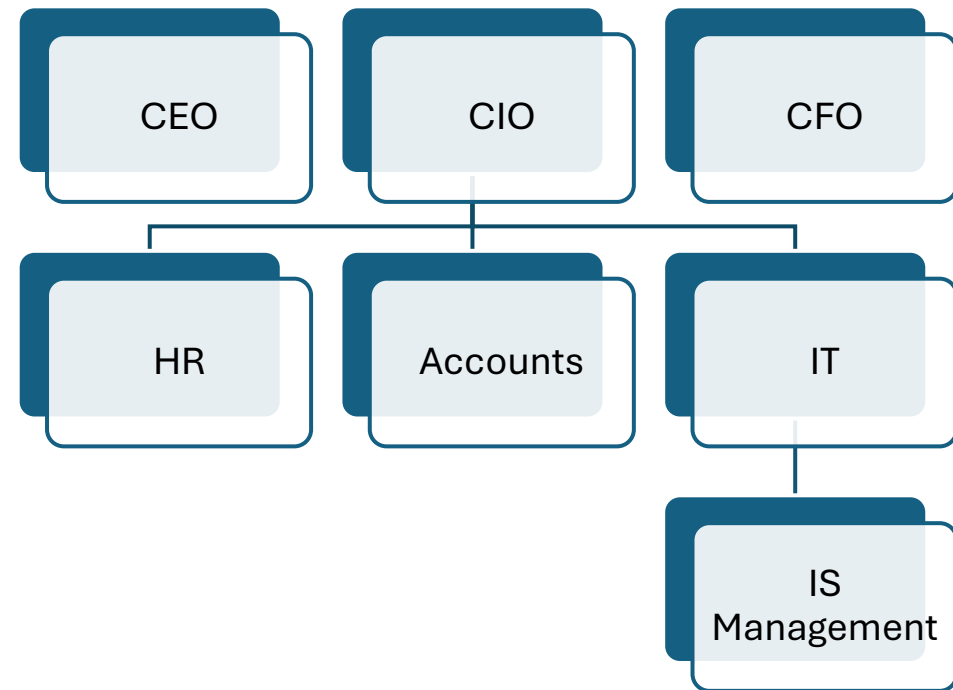
“Low literacy = VIP pass for hackers.”

The Hacker's Playbook: Top 10 Attack Types

1. Phishing
2. Ransomware
3. Malware
4. Social Engineering
5. DDoS Attacks
6. Business Email Compromise
7. Exploited Vulnerabilities
8. Man-in-the-Middle attacks
9. Botnets
10. Supply Chain Attacks

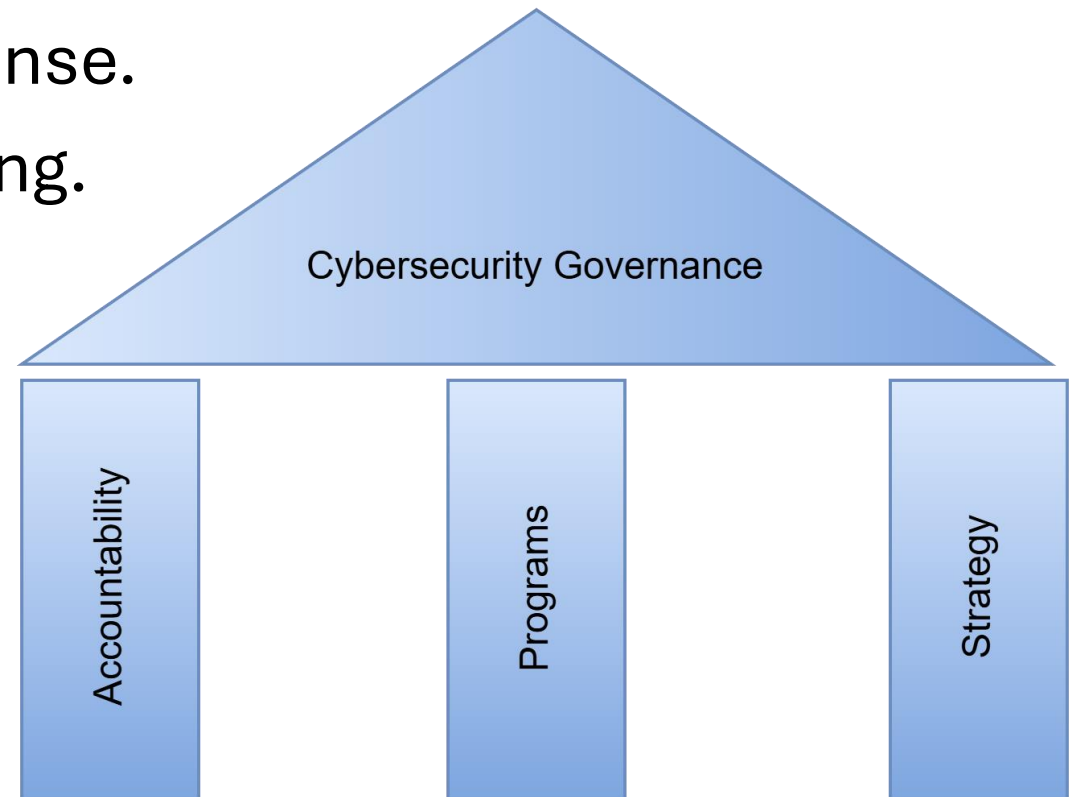
Cybersecurity: Not Just an IT Problem

- Governance = Accountability, Compliance, Strategy
- The South African legislative landscape



Cybersecurity Governance: The C-Suite Mission

- Accountability: Policies, PoPIA compliance.
- Programs: Training, incident response.
- Strategy: Budgets, threat monitoring.



Future South African Legislation

Draft
Cybersecurity
Bill, 2024

Financial Sector.
Joint Standard 2
of 2024

Thank you

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