

Information Sheet



vmia

Victorian Government Cyber Maturity Benchmark

In partnership with the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Victoria

What is the Victorian Government Cyber Maturity Benchmark?

The Benchmark is an annual self-assessment of baseline cyber security controls across the Victorian Government. It is based on the Essential Eight Maturity Model, created by the Australian Cyber Security Centre.

Completing the Benchmark self-assessment helps agencies to:

- review and understand the maturity of their baseline cyber controls
- produce reporting that can be used to make decisions about investment in cyber security improvements
- support Victorian Protective Data Security Standards (VPDSS) attestation for Standard 11: ICT Security by providing information about technical controls
- compare their cyber maturity against a whole-of-government benchmark or against selected sectors.

The Benchmark also assists the Victorian Government Cyber Security Unit and VMIA to understand cyber maturity across Government and make informed decisions on improving cyber security and recovery at a State-wide level.

Why is it important to get involved?

Cyber-attacks on Victorian public sector organisations are increasingly threatening business operations and service delivery. At the same time, the Government is making large investments in information and communications technology (ICT) to support service delivery to the community. Cyber risk has also been amplified during the pandemic as the Victorian Public Sector (VPS) has rapidly shifted to remote work and service delivery.

The Cyber Maturity Benchmark brings risk, ICT and cyber professionals together to assess baseline cyber controls and plan improvements that will protect government services and data.

Who is participating in the Benchmark?

All departments and agencies are encouraged to participate. Selected non-government organisations may be asked to participate due to their connection to government systems.

VMIA is the Victorian Government's insurer and risk adviser

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Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we do business and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We acknowledge the important contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples make in creating a thriving Victoria.



Premier and Cabinet

Who manages the Benchmark?

VMIA manages the Benchmark in partnership with Department of Premier and Cabinet's Cyber Security Unit.

How does the Benchmark align to other security frameworks?

The Essential Eight contains technical strategies which contribute to the requirements of the Victorian Protective Data Security Standards (VPDSS), Standard 11 – ICT Security.

It also provides a practical way to assess the high-level steps listed within the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cyber Security Framework (from steps 3-7).

What does my organisation need to do?

1. Attend an information session about the Benchmark and the self-assessment
2. Assess your organisation's maturity against the control strategies within the Essential Eight
3. Complete the Benchmark self-assessment
4. Generate reporting on your organisation's maturity and view benchmarking data from across the VPS
5. The reporting and benchmarking can be used to identify cyber security improvement priorities.

How will the Benchmark data be used?

The Cyber Maturity Benchmark data will help you review and benchmark your current cyber security controls and plan improvements. The Cyber Security Unit (Department of Premier and Cabinet) will use data from the Benchmark to:

- understand and report on cyber security maturity across the Victorian Public Sector
- make informed decisions about where to invest in improving cyber security across the Victorian Government
- develop targeted capability and peer sharing programs to assist agencies to improve cyber security in priority areas.

If the Cyber Security Unit wishes to share your identifiable data with third parties, they will request your permission.

VMIA will use the data from the Benchmark to:

- assist VMIA clients to make informed decisions about cyber risk management
- report de-identified benchmarking results to participating entities
- develop programs, products and services to meet the needs of VMIA clients
- develop insights to inform risk-based policy and continuous improvement in the Victorian Government
- monitor the effectiveness of the Victorian Government Cyber Maturity Benchmark service and other VMIA products and services
- obtain cyber insurance for its clients in the reinsurance market at a competitive price
- fulfil VMIA's obligations under section 23 of the VMIA Act 1996

VMIA will not use the Benchmark data to calculate individual insurance premiums.

If VMIA wishes to share your identifiable data with third parties, they will request your permission.

Content is securely stored and the VMIA is bound by Victorian legislation and information management frameworks.

How do I get more information?

Visit our website www.vmia.vic.gov.au/cyber-maturity-benchmark or contact us by email contact@vmia.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 9270 6900.