

Australia's Cyber Security Sector Competitiveness Plan 2023

Supporting the development of a vibrant and globally competitive Australian cyber security sector

2023 highlights

Growth



Australia's cyber security sector contributed an estimated **AU\$6.9 billion** to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)¹.



The Gross Value Added (GVA) of the cyber security sector to the Australian economy increased by approximately **60 percent** from AU\$2.44 billion in 2022 to approximately AU\$3.99 billion¹.



There are over **315** cyber security companies in Australia², an increase of **8.25 percent** from 2022, with the average age being 5.5 years.



50 percent of cyber security companies are exporting globally.

Workforce

A total of **125,791 people** were employed in the Australian cyber security workforce in 2022³.

51,309 were identified as Dedicated Roles (41%), an estimated increase of 9.5 percent since the previous year⁴.

Of the Dedicated Roles, **24,254** were identified as Core Roles, requiring technical expertise (19%)⁴.

74,482 were identified as Related Roles (59%) requiring cyber skills knowledge⁵.

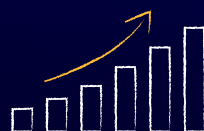


17 percent of the workforce identify as female in cyber security⁶ compared to **0.66 percent** identifying as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander heritage and **7 percent** identifying as neurodivergent in the technology sector⁷.



The salaries of Australian advertised cyber security positions in the private sector averaged **AU\$124,331**. The equivalent in the public sector was **AU\$119,694**¹.

Since 2019, enrolments in security science degrees⁸ have increased by **30 percent per annum**⁹.



The global cyber security workforce reached a historic high of **5.5 million professionals**, marking an increase of 440,000 positions compared to 2022, representing an 8.7 percent surge¹⁰.

2023 highlights

Cybercrime



Australia experienced an estimated **94,000** cybercrime reports (on average 1 report every 6 minutes) in 2022–2023, an increase from 1 report every 7 minutes compared to the previous financial year¹¹.



The cost of cybercrime to businesses increased by **14 percent** during the 2022–23 financial year. Small businesses experienced an average financial loss of **\$46,000**, medium businesses an average of **\$97,200** and large businesses an average of **\$71,600**¹¹.

Outlook for 2030



The Australian cyber security sector GVA can potentially contribute an additional **32 percent** to the Australian economy by 2030¹.

Based upon the current pace of growth, the GVA of the Australian cyber security sector is forecast to be AU\$5.2 billion by 2030¹.

The Australian cyber security sector could be home to an estimated 500 sovereign companies by 2030¹.



The Australian cyber security sector will require an additional **4,813 Dedicated Roles** each year to meet the demand for 2030.

The Australian cyber security sector will potentially need 85,000 Dedicated Roles by 2030, an increase of 66 percent from 2023¹.



To remain **globally competitive**, Australia must improve its support for:

- cyber security startups and the commercialisation of their sovereign technology;
- domestic procurement of Australian cyber security products and services;
- public-private partnerships to attract and upskill cyber security talent; and
- attracting investment into a rapidly maturing industry.

Access Australia's Cyber Security Sector Competitiveness Plan 2023 by visiting
www.austcyber.com

1 Oxford Economics Australia analysis
2 AUCyberscape
3 AUCyberExplorer, dated February 2023
4 Oxford Economics Australia analysis, ABS Census Data 2021
5 Oxford Economics analysis, ABS Census Data 2021
6 Gender dimensions of the Australian cyber security sector report. RMIT, AWSN 2023
7 ACS Australia's Digital Pulse 2022
8 Security Science degrees explained, Insider Guides, 2022
9 Based on the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) code 029901. This code is focused only on security science related to information technology. Given its relatively limited scope, it is not likely to capture all the enrolments in the sector, so this growth number should be considered as a lower bound estimate.
10 ISC2 Cyber Security Workforce Study 2023
11 ASD Cyber Threat Report 2022–2023