

Automation in the public sector

Security is a top priority for most public sector organizations—from federal governments to academic institutions—because they have increasingly become a popular target for cyberattacks. However, [a recent report¹](#) found that despite the increase in cybercrime, time to detection and resolution have not improved at the same rate. In 2022, the average cyberattack can [cost an organization US\\$4.35 million²](#). Protecting public sector organizations is a fundamental expectation.

Security teams need to deploy, manage, maintain, and be agile enough to adapt as needed. But often security processes are handled manually or by automated piecemeal. The disparate and manual processes can be error prone and leave organizations vulnerable.

With the pressure to keep organizations protected, security teams are reevaluating their tools and looking for new end-to-end solutions that can alleviate some of the stress related to security and unburden employees to work on higher value tasks.

Security automation is rapidly becoming a strategic imperative, effectively scaling across a public sector organization to handle processes and deployments, while monitoring constantly for threats and breaches. For security leaders, finding the right tool and partner should be a priority.

Getting started with security automation in the public sector

Public sector organizations are notoriously known to be lagging behind in innovative technology, and adding an automation tool across an organization can be a daunting task. But with the right platform and partner, organizations will soon see the value that security automation can bring. Public sector leaders should consider the following recommendations as they move along their own automation journey

- ▶ **Ease of adoption.** Public sector organizations are composed of people with different levels of security expertise. Finding a platform that will augment their expertise that is simple to use is tantamount to adoption across the organization.
- ▶ **Platform interoperability.** An automation platform in a public sector organization must be able to work with several different vendors to ensure end-to-end security.
- ▶ **User-friendly scalability.** Platforms should be able to scale up, down, and across a security operation center.
- ▶ **Government certified.** Public sector organizations often have numerous compliance requirements that private sector organizations do not have to meet. It is critical to find a platform that has certifications and accreditations in the areas that matter most.
- ▶ **Find a partner, not a provider.** Working with a partner who can offer their own expertise and experience to augment existing security teams can improve the overall value of a platform.

¹ *"SolarWinds security public sector report."* November 2021.

² *"Cost of a data breach report 2022."* IBM. 2022.

Automation should be a key priority for any public sector leader looking to improve the protection of their organization. Red Hat® Ansible® Automation Platform delivers all the tools needed to connect and automate systems across a public sector organization, delivering the level of protection that is necessary to operate in our world today. If you would like to discover more about how automation can help your enterprise, watch the video series [Autom8 with Ansible](#).

Use cases for automation in the public sector

Enterprises in nearly every industry realize the value of security automation, and the public sector is no exception. [The Central Bank of Brazil](#),³ for example, created a new payment network that required a highly scalable IT infrastructure. With architecture built on Ansible Automation Platform and other Red Hat technologies, the financial institution is able to support thousands of transactions per second while maintaining service availability around the clock.

³ Red Hat customer case study. "Brazilian bank builds instant payment network with Red Hat," 20 Jan. 2021.



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