

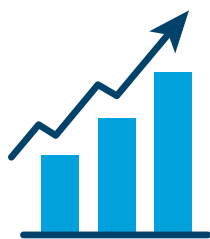
# Cybersecurity and Higher Education in Ontario:

## Protecting the public, economic, provincial and national security interests

In 2019, Ontario's Cybersecurity Higher Education Consortium (ON-CHEC) developed a cybersecurity self-assessment questionnaire for its 29 college and university members, creating the largest benchmarking dataset of its kind. The data highlights where the gaps are largest, revealing the areas that are in most immediate need of attention.

Due to the collaborative nature of cybersecurity across institutions, the vulnerability of one institution affects the whole sector.

**In this report, ORION outlines the trends and recommendations to achieve equity in cybersecurity capabilities for all institutions.**



### Trends:

- Canadian academic institutions are facing massive risk
- Size affects preparedness
- Geography is an indicator of readiness
- Urgent trumps important
- Security roadmaps are incomplete

In 2017,

# 46%

*of Canada's universities and colleges reported a cybersecurity incident – the second highest rate of any sector in the country - Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics*



### Recommendations:

- Establish a common cybersecurity strategy and framework
- Create a targeted investment fund
- Align to and support a national cybersecurity approach