



Southern African Association for Institutional Research

A practical introduction to privacy
and security for institutional
researchers

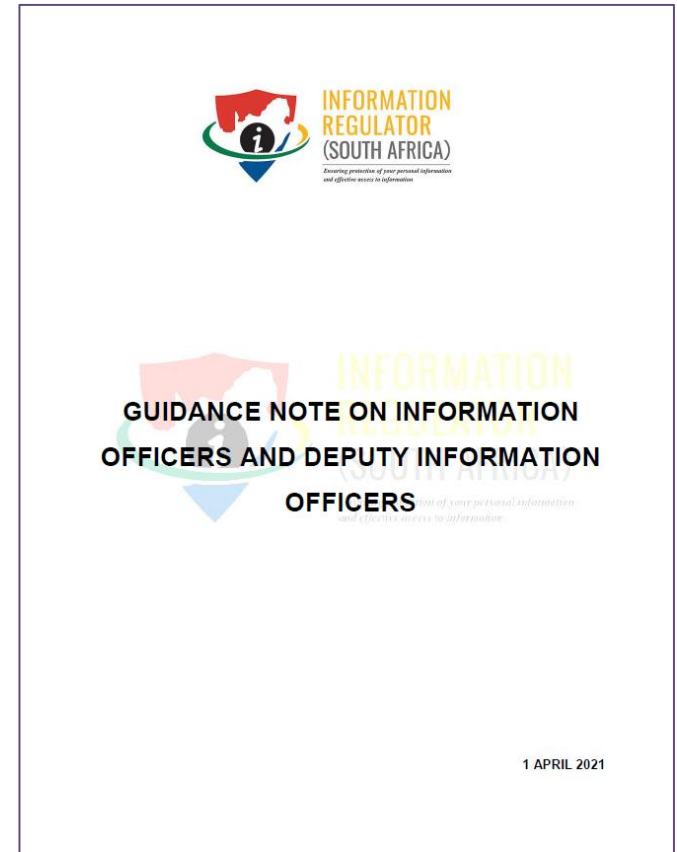
Part 1: information has value

Your facilitator

Hi, I'm Jerall

I'm Stellenbosch University's deputy information officer under POPIA and PAIA.

Before joining the University, I worked in technology risk advisory at a Big 4 Accounting Firm with a focus on controls integration, business resilience, and privacy. Before that I worked as an ERP consultant. I'm also a Certified Data Privacy Solutions Engineer. I'm not a lawyer.



More about this series

Who is this for; what's this about?

In this series, we'll focus on some key principles of privacy. We'll discuss them in a way that you, as an institutional researcher, can easily apply the principles in your day-to-day. Today, we will explore:

1. a different way of understanding the value (and risks) of information; and
2. how that understanding may change how you work with information.



UNIVERSITY *of the*
WESTERN CAPE

And, a big thank you to UWC for sponsoring this series!

saair

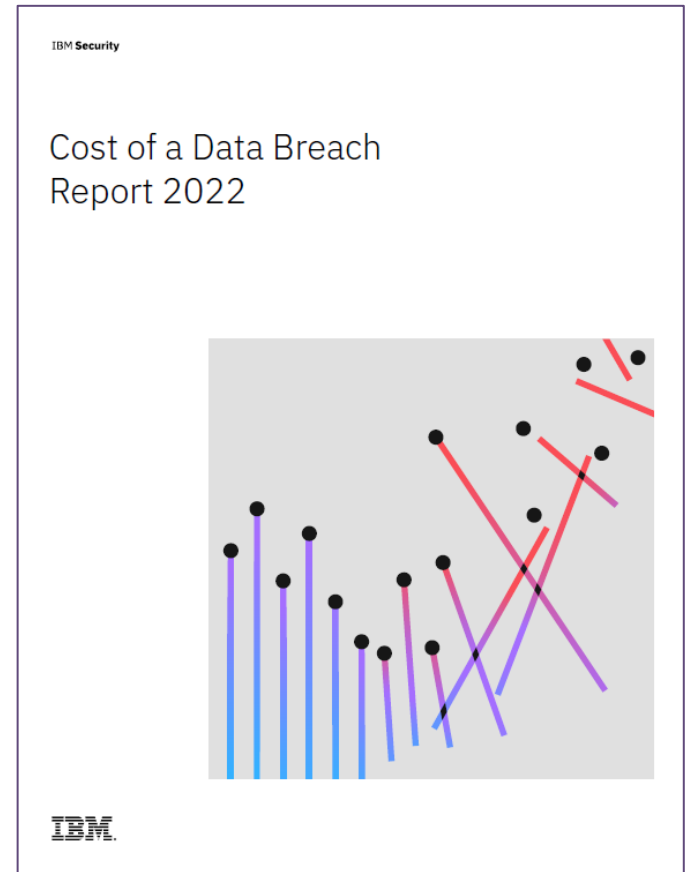
Southern African Association for Institutional Research

What's the real risk?

Do you re-use your passwords?

19% of breaches considered in the IBM 2022 Cost of a Data Breach study were attributed to stolen or compromised credentials.

Credential stuffing is a cyberattack in which an attacker collects stolen or compromised account credentials and then uses those credentials to access user accounts.



Think like a cyber-criminal 1/2

What can we do with an e-mail address?



Photo by [Michael Yero](#) on [Unsplash](#)

saair

Southern African Association for Institutional Research

Think like a cyber-criminal 2/2

One view of the value of information

Information has value. In some cases, information can be used to do harm.

- 1. The more harm you can do** with a piece of information, the more valuable the information;
- 2. The more easily you can do harm** with a piece of information, the more valuable the information.

POPIA and the value of information

Can we do better?

Now that we have a view of the value of information, can you see any good or poor practices in the below example of the demographic section of a form?

Surname												
Name												
South African ID #												
Date of birth												
Age												
Gender	Male						Female					
Race	Black			Coloured			Indian			White		

5 questions to help establish value 1/2

5 questions to help establish value

1. Are you working with personal information belonging to children?

2. Are you working with special personal information?

This includes information about: religious beliefs, philosophical beliefs, race, ethnicity, trade union membership, political persuasion, health, sex life, biometric indicators, and allegations of criminal behaviour or information that relates to criminal proceedings

5 questions to help establish value 2/2

5 questions to help establish value

3. Are you working with unique identifiers?

This includes: bank account numbers or any account number, policy number, identity number, employee number, student number, telephone or cell phone number, email address or reference number.

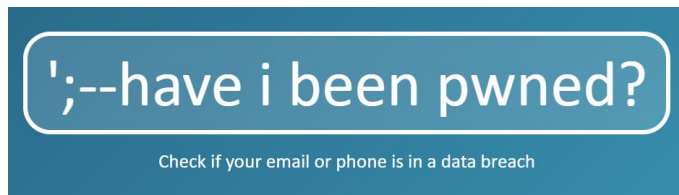
4. At the point when you plan to collect personal information, will it be anonymous?

5. Are there any other contextual considerations that may increase the value or risks involved of the personal information you plan to process?

What about **YOUR** information?

Hack yourself

There are several services that allow you to check if you've ever been compromised, including, to name a few:



That's it for today's formal presentation. The floor is open for questions. During the Q&A though, why not try one of these services. And if you're feeling brave, consider sharing where you've been compromised in the session chat.