

South Africa Cybersecurity - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2026 - 2031)

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Report description:

South Africa Cybersecurity Market Analysis

The South Africa cybersecurity market is expected to grow from USD 0.29 billion in 2025 to USD 0.33 billion in 2026 and is forecast to reach USD 0.59 billion by 2031 at 12.71% CAGR over 2026-2031. Heightened regulatory enforcement under the Cybercrimes Act, rapid cloud adoption, and a surge in mobile-money transactions are steering spending toward advanced threat protection, zero-trust architecture, and managed detection and response. Load-shedding, while a constraint, reinforces the pivot to cloud-delivered security that remains resilient during power disruptions. Growing hyperscale data-center investments in Johannesburg and Cape Town are localizing cloud workloads, reducing latency, and accelerating uptake of cloud-native controls. At the same time, the shortage of senior cyber professionals is directing enterprises toward outsourced services and automation platforms.

South Africa Cybersecurity Market Trends and Insights

Escalating Cyber-Threat Landscape Targeting SA Financial Institutions and SOEs

Sophisticated phishing, vishing, and social-engineering campaigns contributed to a 24% rise in digital-banking fraud incidents in 2024, with gross losses climbing 68% to ZAR 740.8 million (USD 41.6 million). Major banks now direct spending toward real-time analytics, behavioural biometrics, and fusion-centre intelligence to combat coordinated gangs. State-owned enterprises remain high-value targets; South African Airways' May 2025 breach disrupted web bookings and internal communications, illustrating the

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operational fallout of advanced persistent threats. High-profile attacks on telecom providers underscore the breadth of vulnerable infrastructure and keep the South Africa cybersecurity market on a steep investment curve.

Enforcement of Cybercrimes Act 2021 Driving Compliance Investment

The Act introduced 20 new offences, 72-hour breach-reporting rules, and extraterritorial reach that forces multinational subsidiaries to harmonise global policies with local law. Financial entities must now run quarterly cyber-resilience drills under a South African Reserve Bank joint standard effective June 2025. Capital outlays span forensic readiness, security-operations-centre upgrades, and board-level training, sustaining double-digit growth in the South Africa cybersecurity market.

Shortage of Advanced Cybersecurity Skills in South Africa

With 80% of firms reporting attacks in 2024, demand for certified incident responders, cloud-security architects, and OT-security engineers far exceeds supply. Entry-level analysts now command salaries starting at ZAR 324,000, while senior architects can earn more than ZAR 1 million monthly. Talent outflows to Australia, the Netherlands, and the United States widen the gap, compelling organisations to outsource to managed security service providers and driving up service fees.

Other drivers and restraints analyzed in the detailed report include:

Rapid Growth of Mobile Money and Township E-commerce Boosting Demand for Security
Hybrid Work and Cloud Migration Accelerating Zero-Trust Adoption
Load-Shedding Impact on On-Premise Security-Appliance Uptime

For complete list of drivers and restraints, kindly check the Table Of Contents.

Segment Analysis

Solutions held 71.80% of South Africa cybersecurity market share in 2025, reflecting organisational preference for unified suites that streamline administration amid talent shortages. Application security, endpoint protection, and identity governance comprise the bulk of spending, while risk-management dashboards help boards track regulatory KPIs. Services, however, are on track for a 17.15% CAGR through 2031 as firms seek round-the-clock monitoring, threat hunting, and breach-response retainers. Managed detection and response subscriptions resonate with SMEs that lack internal SOC capacity, sustaining double-digit expansion in the South Africa cybersecurity market.

Local hyperscale build-outs amplify demand for professional services tied to cloud migration, zero-trust blueprints, and compliance validation. Service vendors bundle training and tabletop exercises to meet the Cybercrimes Act's readiness clauses, ensuring that operational playbooks and forensic chains of custody satisfy regulatory scrutiny.

On-premises environments still made up 57.25% of South Africa cybersecurity market size in 2025 because banks, insurers, and critical-infrastructure operators face strict data-sovereignty clauses. Hardware-based firewalls and IDS appliances remain embedded in core data centres, yet power-instability costs and patching delays reveal their limitations. Cloud deployments are advancing at an 18.05% CAGR as hyperscale regions deliver sub-10-millisecond latency and localised compliance controls. Native cloud-security posture-management and serverless-workload protection rank high in new purchase cycles, confirming the structural pivot of the South Africa cybersecurity market toward software-as-a-service models.

Hybrid stacks bridge compliance and agility, with sensitive datasets stored on-premises while analytics, backup, and sandboxing processes run in the cloud. This blended pattern ensures POPIA alignment without sacrificing real-time threat visibility or disaster-recovery objectives.

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The South Africa Cybersecurity Market Report Segments the Industry Into by Offering (Solutions, and Services), Deployment Mode (Cloud, and On-Premise), End-User Vertical (BFSI, Healthcare, IT and Telecom, Industrial and Defense, Manufacturing, Retail and E-Commerce, Energy and Utilities, and Others), and End-User Enterprise Size (Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), and Large Enterprises).

List of Companies Covered in this Report:

IBM South Africa Cisco Systems South Africa Palo Alto Networks Inc. Check Point Software Technologies Ltd. Fortinet Inc. Trend Micro Incorporated Kaspersky Labs Sophos Ltd. CyberArk Software Ltd. Micro Focus International plc Dell Technologies Secureworks Dimension Data (NTT Ltd.) BCX Cybersecurity Vodacom Business Security MTN Business Security Datacentrix Security Solutions Performanta Group SensePost (Orange Cyberdefense) Securicom (Pty) Ltd. Deloitte South Africa Cyber Risk Services PwC South Africa Cybersecurity & Privacy

Additional Benefits:

The market estimate (ME) sheet in Excel format
3 months of analyst support

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