The key findings for 2004 are:

Electronic attack, computer crime, computer access misuse and abuse trends

- More respondent organisations experienced electronic attacks that harmed the confidentiality, integrity or availability of network data or systems (49% in 2004 compared to 42% in 2003).

- Most of these attacks were again sourced externally (88%) compared to internally (only 36%), but fewer respondents experienced external attacks compared to 2003 (91%).

- Infections from viruses, worms or trojans were the most common form of electronic attack reported by respondents for the third consecutive year. They were the greatest cause of financial losses and accounted for 45% of total losses for 2004.

- The next most common causes of financial loss are laptop theft and abuse and misuse of computer network access or resources.

- Average annual losses for electronic attack, computer crime, or computer access misuse or abuse increased by 20% to $116,212 per organisation compared to 2003.

- As a percentage, more critical national information infrastructure (CNII) organisations reported experiencing harmful electronic attacks (50%) compared to non-CNII organisations (42%).

- On average, losses reported by CNII organisations ($98,685), were almost double average losses for non-CNII organisations ($56,531).