

# PREPARING FOR THE 2026 SURVEY

CENTER FOR  
**DIGITAL**  
GOVERNMENT

**THIS SHEET PROVIDES A HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY** of the information and data points states needed to complete your 2026 Digital States, Counties or Cities Survey. Use it as a planning tool to identify sources, coordinate with agencies, and streamline survey completion. Begin collecting this data early by engaging budget officers, IT directors, HR teams, and agency leaders. Sharing a working draft across departments will help ensure accuracy, reduce duplication, and speed survey completion.

The survey includes a mix of question types. Respondents should expect narrative questions (up to 300 words) to describe strategies, accomplishments, or future priorities; multiple-choice and ranking questions to capture statewide practices, priorities, and challenges; and matrix/grid questions to assess the status of policies, technologies, or programs across agencies. In some cases, respondents will also be asked to provide URLs, usage statistics, or file uploads to support their answers.

## CATEGORY 1: Leadership & Governance

- Names and roles of IT leadership and governance bodies
- Strategic IT mission, vision, and executive priorities
- Key policy documents and recent IT policy changes
- Examples of collaboration with state agencies/departments

## CATEGORY 2: Constituent Digital Experience

- URLs and usage statistics for constituent-facing digital channels (websites, portals, apps, social media, etc.)
- Monthly average users by channel (ranges provided)
- Accomplishments in digital engagement (projects, launches, measurable outcomes)
- Feedback methods, KPIs, and third-party tools used

## CATEGORY 3: Artificial Intelligence

- Strategies for AI strategy and project development
- Status of pilots, proofs of concept, or implemented solutions
- Significant accomplishments
- Key use cases and KPIs
- AI priorities over the next 12–18 months

## CATEGORY 4: Continuous Innovation

- Status of pilots, proofs of concept, or implemented solutions
- Significant accomplishments
- Innovation priorities over the next 12–18 months

## CATEGORY 5: Cyber Risk and Resiliency Management

- Current cybersecurity programs, policies, and risk strategies
- Status of governance, identity management, data protection, monitoring, continuity and recovery planning and training and testing tools
- Examples of significant cyber accomplishments
- Future cyber risk management priorities

## CATEGORY 6: Data Management & Use

- Data governance programs, standards, and infrastructure
- APIs and public data-sharing initiatives
- Accomplishments in data analytics, transparency, and digital privacy
- Planned data use priorities over the next 12–18 months

## CATEGORY 7: Workforce Planning

- Strategies for IT recruitment, retention, and training
- Staffing needs by discipline (i.e., cybersecurity, data analytics, AI)
- Status of workforce flexibility initiatives (remote, shared staffing)
- Recent workforce planning accomplishments over the next 12–18 months

## CATEGORY 8: IT Investment & Budgeting

- IT budget allocations across categories (hardware, software, services, personnel, etc.)
- Percentage of IT budget devoted to cybersecurity
- Funding priorities for the next 12–18 months
- Procurement authorities, models, and cooperative agreements
- Notable IT investment/procurement improvements

## CATEGORY 9: Enterprise Computing & Broadband

- Strategies for enterprise IT infrastructure and broadband expansion
- Percent of systems migrated/planned for cloud adoption
- Status of internal networks and broadband initiatives
- Accomplishments in infrastructure and broadband programs
- Planned priorities in computing, networks, and broadband

## CATEGORY 10: Business Process Alignment

- Status of major cross-agency business systems (finance, HR, procurement, safety, health, transportation, etc.)
- Significant accomplishments in business process modernization
- Planned priorities for the next 12–18 months
- Contextual Demographics
- Population size
- Annual overall and enterprise IT budget ranges
- IT workforce size (FTEs)
- Degree of IT centralization and scope of CIO authority