

Privacy in Focus: Privacy Commissioner update

Presentation to HCCC Stakeholder Spotlight Series

14 October 2025

Sonia Minutillo
Privacy Commissioner



information and
privacy commission
new south wales

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW



information
and privacy
commission
new south wales

The IPC is an independent integrity agency that supports the Information Commissioner and the Privacy Commissioner to oversight the NSW public sector in relation to privacy and information access laws.

Our functions:

- ✓ promotes and protects privacy and information access rights in NSW
- ✓ provides information, advice, assistance and training for agencies and individuals on privacy and access matters
- ✓ investigates and conciliates complaints relating to public sector agencies, health service providers (both public and private) and some large organisations that deal with health information
- ✓ provides feedback about the legislation and relevant developments in the law and technology.
- ✓ Receives and reports on eligible data breach notifications.

The Information and Privacy Commission NSW

Our jurisdiction and who we regulate



**NSW
government
departments
and agencies**



**Local
councils**



Universities



**State-Owned
Corporations**



Ministers

In addition, other **NSW public authorities** and **private health service providers** that collect, hold or use health information are also subject to the NSW privacy legislation.

Formal referrals to the IPC

Five Questions...



Data breaches



- Where a referral relates to a data breach – consider who the entity is that has experienced the breach
- The **Mandatory Notification of Data Breach Scheme** applies to NSW public sector agencies
- Data breaches involved private sector organisation should be referred to the **Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC)** as they fall within the jurisdiction of the *Privacy Act 1988*

Bail for man accused of accessing sensitive files, AVOs

'Court hacker' faces justice

EXCLUSIVE

Flood victims' personal details in major ChatGPT data breach – but victims kept in dark for six months

Data breach warning to DV victims

LOCAL NEWS

WSU under attack again

"Persistent and targeted": University contacts students after fresh security issues

Healthcare sector hardest hit by cyberattacks

CYBERSECURITY
David Swan

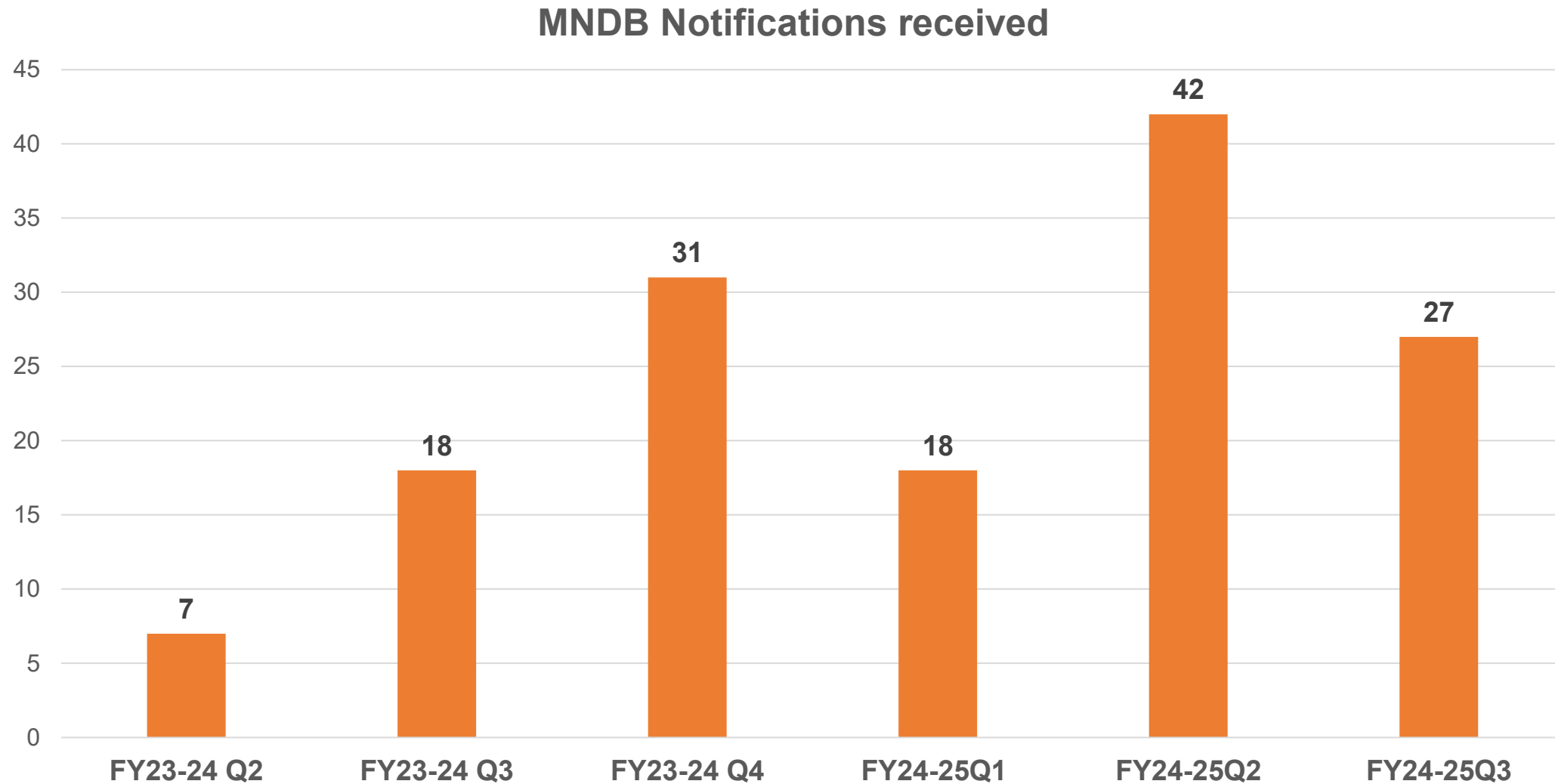
Council staff apologise for data breach

Fighting back against cyber attacks

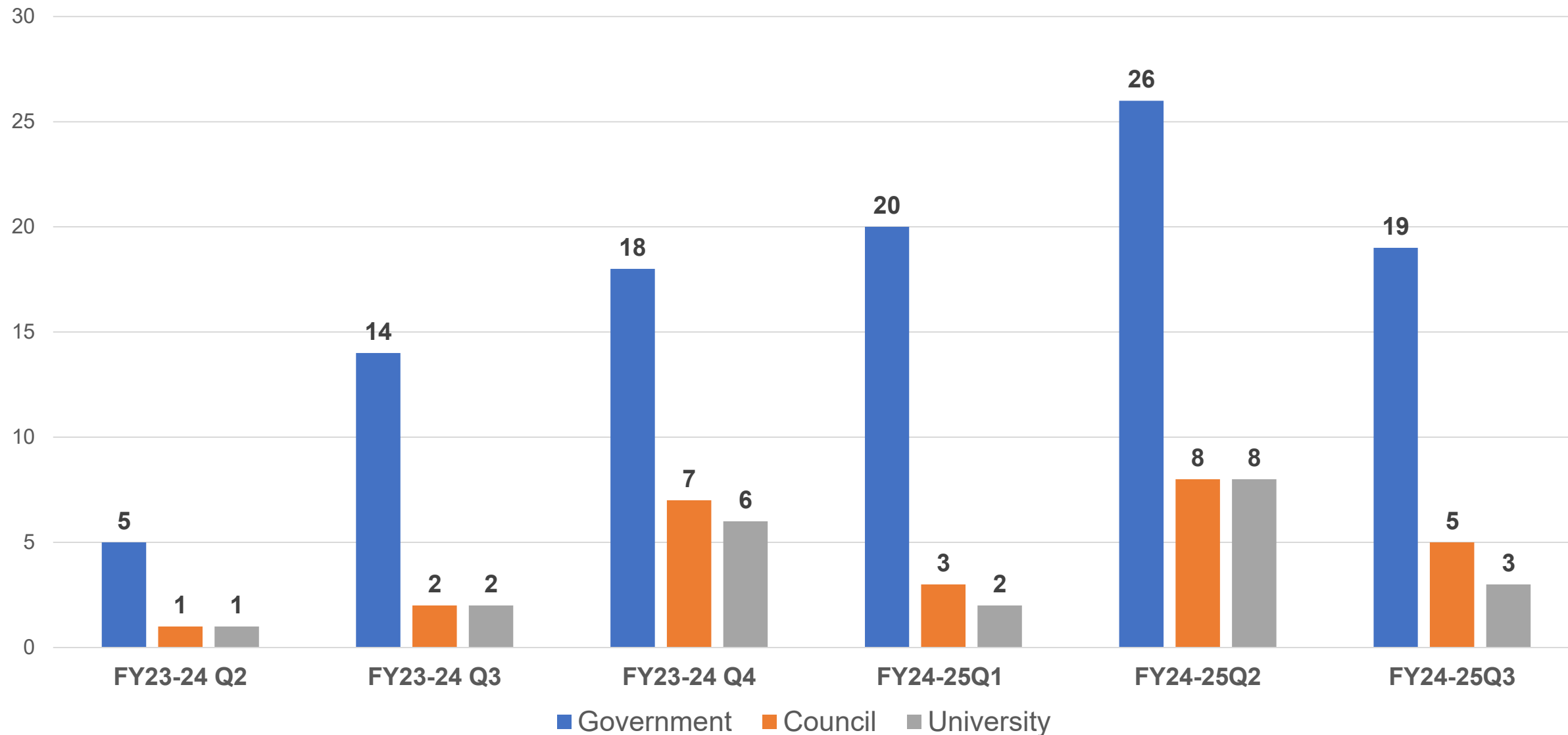
Woman arrested over attacks on Western Sydney Uni

Accused elite hacker hiding in a dirty unit

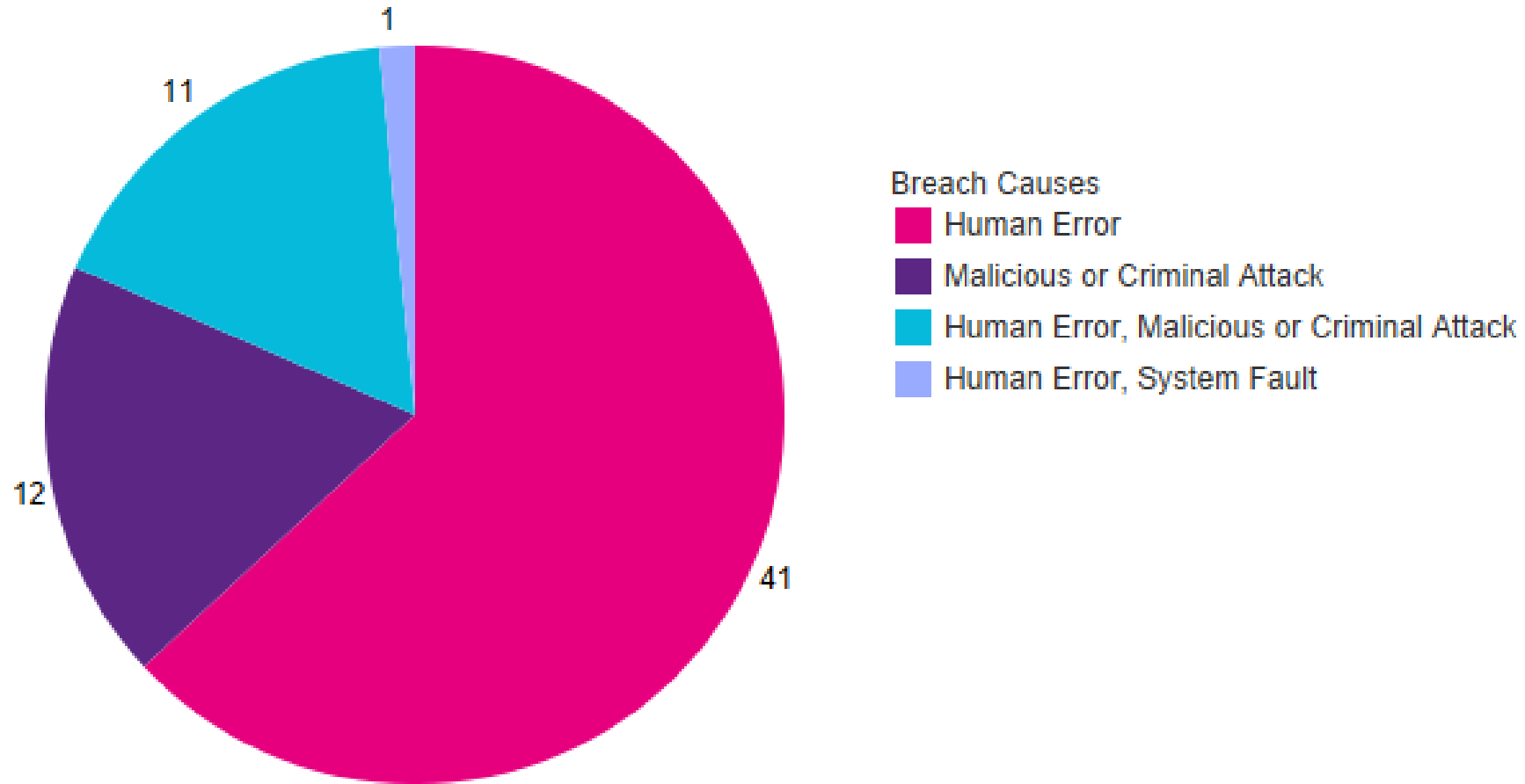
How many?*



Where were they?



What were they?



July – December 2024

Tips to preventing breaches

For you:

- ✓ Ensure you are not sending personal information via email, use secure transfer methods
- ✓ Do not upload any PI to third party sites or platforms such as ChatGPT or Co-pilot
- ✓ Disable auto-populate function in your email
- ✓ Double check email recipients before sending
- ✓ Set email delays
- ✓ Being mindful when sending group emails and use BCC where relevant

For your agency:

- ✓ Implement privacy training programs for all staff and specialist training for key staff
- ✓ Foster a culture of privacy and security awareness
- ✓ Enable use of Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)
- ✓ Conduct regular phishing and cyber exercises
- ✓ Ensure appropriate privileged access is in place for accessing PI

Final thoughts...



Connect with us



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