



**New Jersey State Legislature  
Office of Legislative Services  
Office of the State Auditor**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**STATEWIDE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTINGENCY PLANNING  
March 9, 2015 to June 10, 2016**

We found that, although the Office of Information Technology (OIT) and agencies' chief information officers have recognized the importance of contingency planning and have incorporated certain procedures to enable planning and recovery, the overall status of contingency planning for critical applications in the state needs improvement as a risk of failure to recover critical applications in a timely and effective manner exists. We also noted opportunities for improved guidance and monitoring of statewide efforts.

**AUDIT HIGHLIGHTS**

- The OIT Availability and Recovery Site does not have the infrastructure or network capacity to provide disaster recovery for all of the state's critical distributed computer applications. Therefore the state agencies surveyed have many different recovery solutions employed, both in-house and with outside vendors. Currently, there is no centralized coordination of the different solutions employed by the agencies which precludes opportunities for possible cost efficiencies and the comprehensive coordination of recovery capacity statewide.
- Many agencies maintain on-site server rooms. Those we visited had many security and operating deficiencies. The agencies should work with OIT to determine the most effective and efficient solutions.
- A review of twenty-four agencies' contingency and disaster recovery plans found that although all twenty-four agencies had a plan in place, five plans were not current or up-to-date and eighteen of the twenty-four have never tested their plans.

**AUDITEE RESPONSE**

The department generally concurs with our findings and recommendations.

For the complete audit report, click [here](#).