

An International Look at (Unnecessary) SSD Destruction in the Public Sector

Amid national and international calls for greater environmental care, government and public sector organizations are destroying millions of solid-state drives (SSDs) each year despite secure, sustainable alternatives.¹



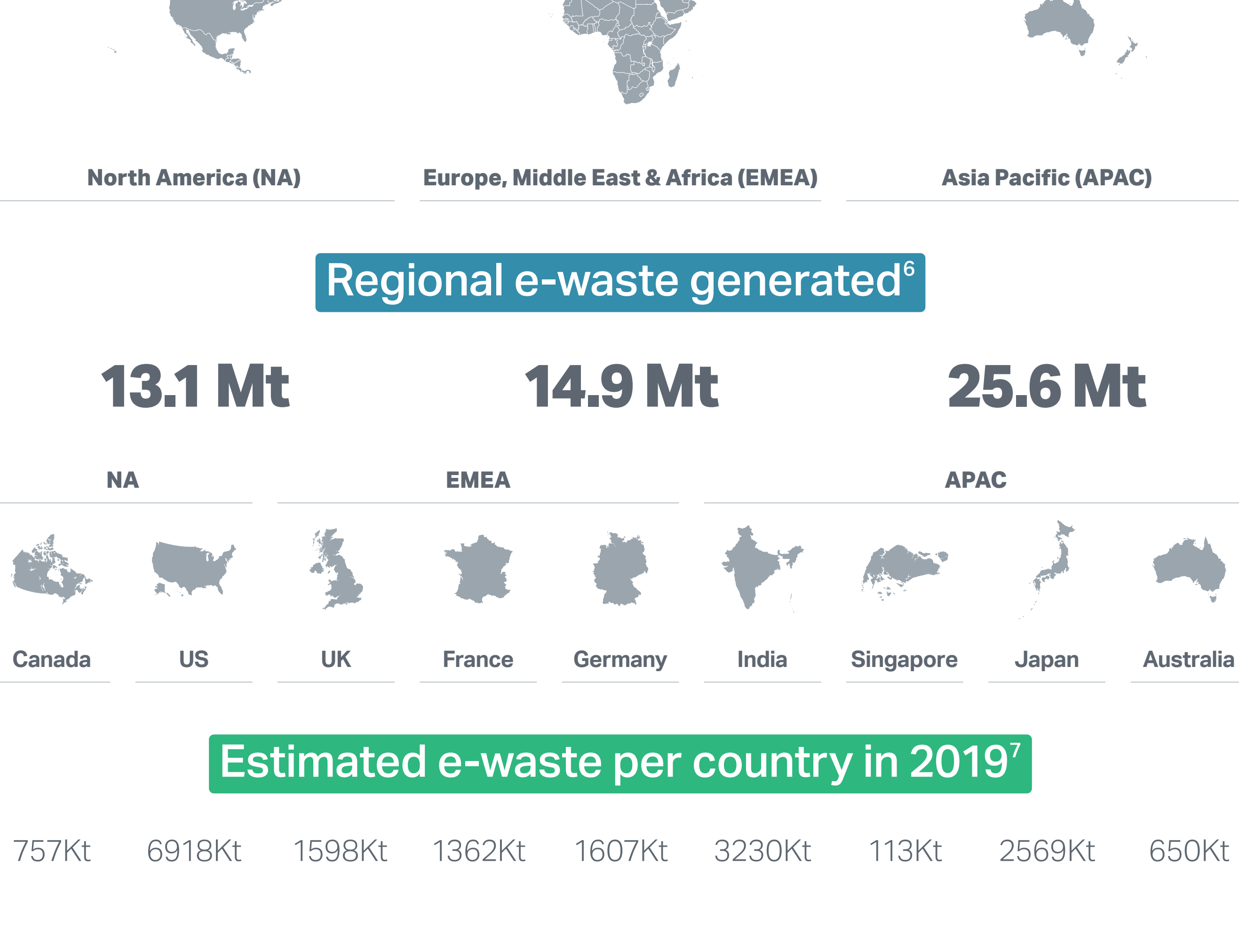
SSD destruction, done correctly, prevents stored data from being recovered—but it's often used on **perfectly functional** drives. This needlessly adds to a **growing e-waste problem** and strains natural resources to build new devices. It also incurs **unnecessary costs** for destruction and replacement.



The most recent *Global E-Waste Monitor* reports an unprecedented amount of e-waste—with recycling activities unable to keep pace with its growth.⁴

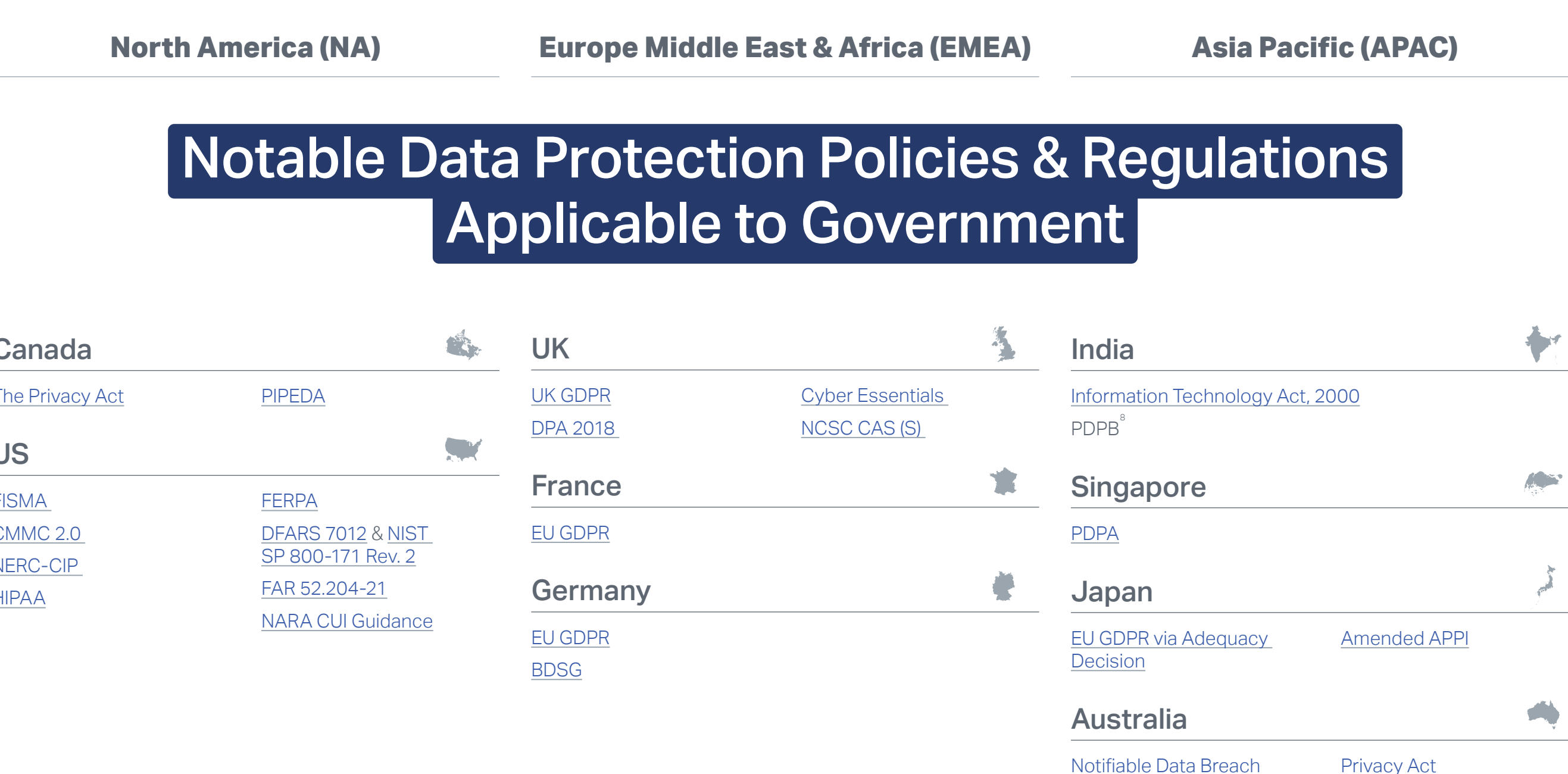


*Mt = million metric tonnes



Security is paramount—drive destruction is not

Millions of real-world instances, as well as rigorous forensic testing, verify that software-based data sanitization renders data **completely and permanently unrecoverable**. This ensures data protection, even for **sensitive government data**—all while reducing e-waste and enabling device reuse.

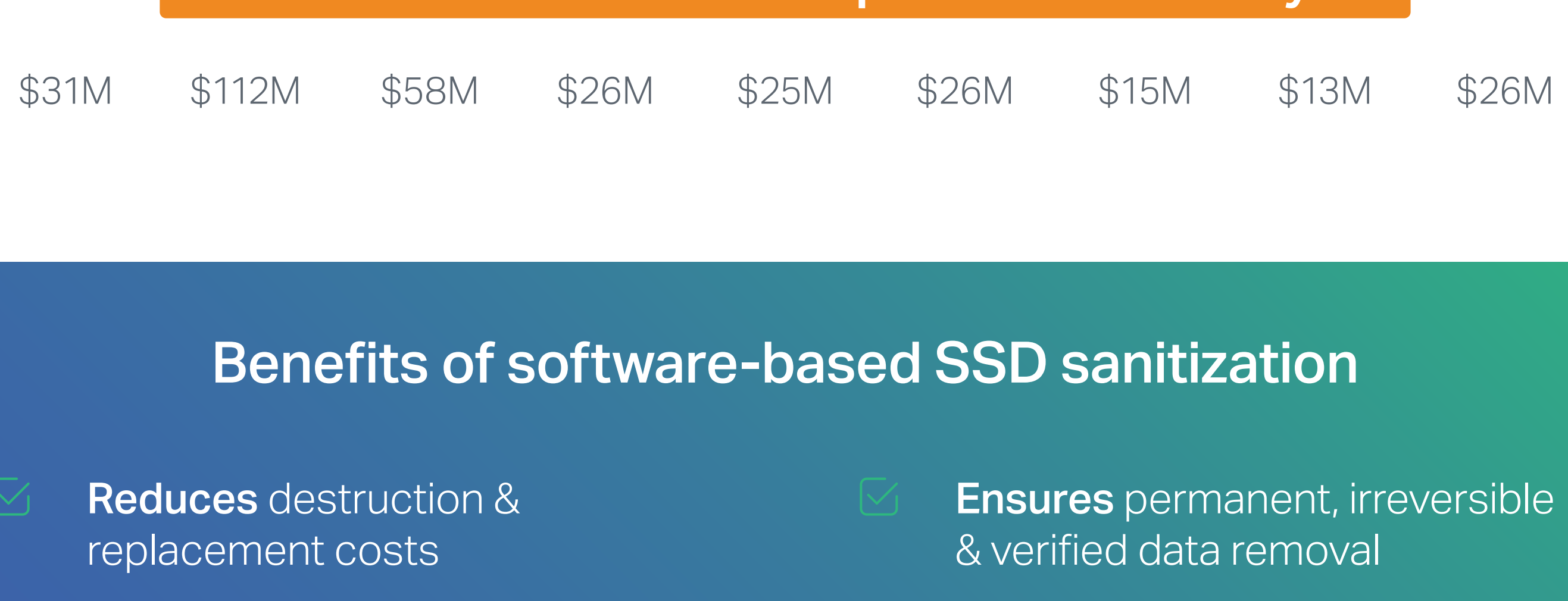


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|---|--|---|
| Canada The Privacy Act PIPEDA | UK UK GDPR DPA 2018 | India Information Technology Act, 2008 PODP ⁸ |
| US FISMA CMMC 2.0 NERC-CIP HIPAA | France EU GDPR GDPR BDSG | Singapore PDPA Amended APPI |
| Japan EU GDPR via Adequacy Decision | Australia Notifiable Data Breach (NDB) Scheme Privacy Act | |

Primary Data Sanitization Standards

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Canada ITSP 400-006 v2 IT Media Sanitization | UK NCSC Sanitization Guidance NCSC Device Security Guidance CPNI's Secure Destruction of Sensitive Items | Singapore Whole of Government (WoG) bulk tender specifies the NIST SP 800-88 Rev. 1 as standard to be used for on-site ensure |
| US NERC-CIP NSA/CSS Policy Manual NIST 800-53 r5 | France ISO/IEC 27001 NIST SP 800-88 Rev. 1 ISO/IEC 27001 | Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications specifies NIST SP 800-88 Rev. 1 as requirement |
| Germany ISO/IEC 27001 NIST SP 800-88 Rev. 1 | Australia Information Security Manual | |

Weighed against the financial and environmental costs, it's time to rethink media sanitization practices⁹



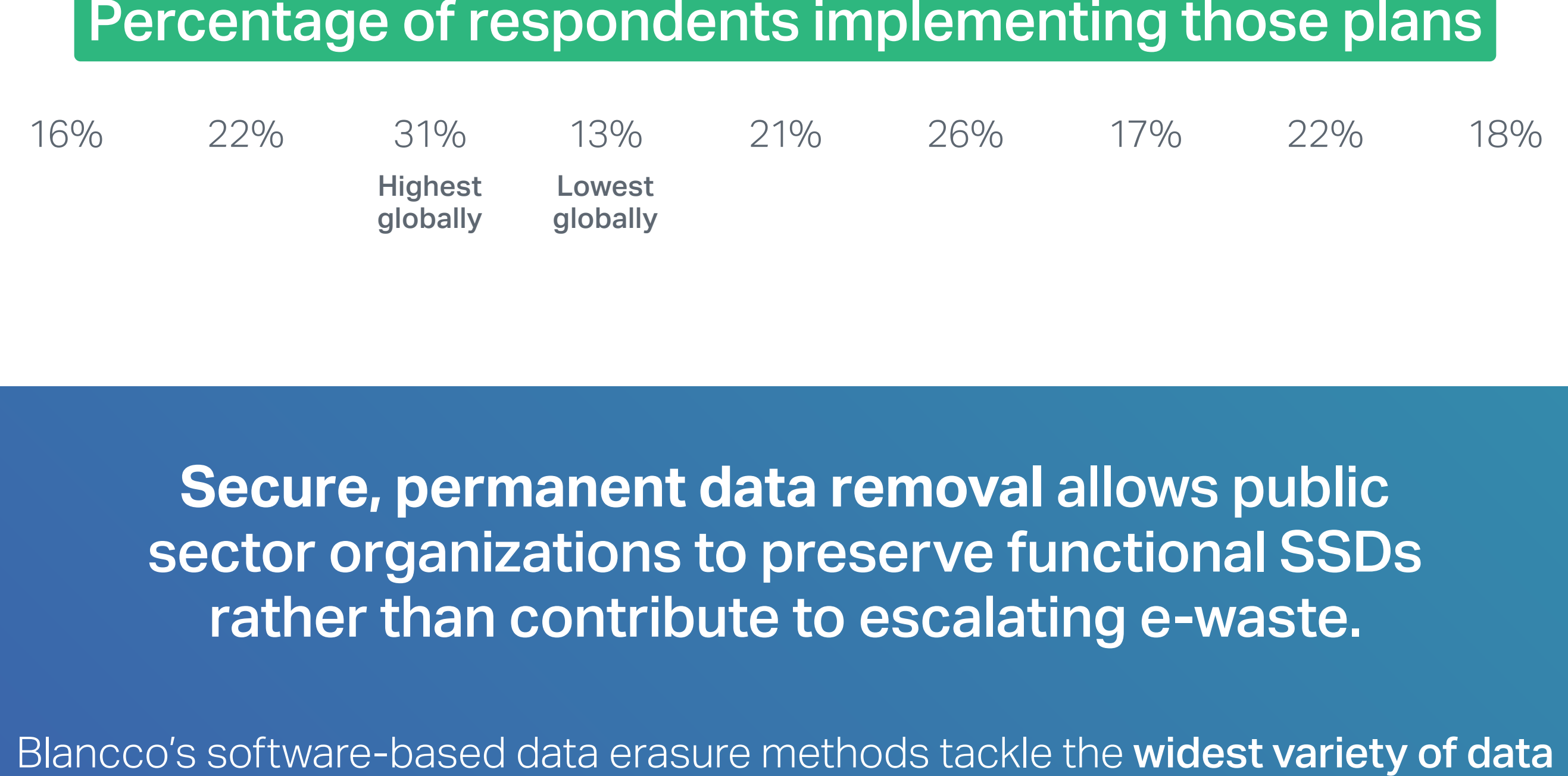
Benefits of software-based SSD sanitization

- Reduces destruction & replacement costs
- Provides greater value from government investments in technology
- Ensures permanent, irreversible & verified data removal
- Advances national and international public sector sustainability goals

Primary Government Sustainability Initiatives

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Canada Greening Government Initiative (GGI) Canadian Net-zero Emissions Accountability Act | UK Greening Government Initiative (GGI) Ten-Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener | India Mission 2070: A Green New Deal for a Net Zero India |
| US Greening Government Initiative (GGI) EO 14176 Catalyzing America's Clean Energy Industries & Jobs Through Federal Sustainability | France Greening Government Initiative (GGI) Climate & Resilience Law | Singapore Greening Government Initiative (GGI) GreenGov.SG |
| Germany Greening Government Initiative (GGI) Sustainable Development Strategy 2021 | Japan Greening Government Initiative (GGI) Green Growth Strategy | Australia Sustainability Procurement Guide |

Amid calls for greater environmental stewardship, just **21%** of all public sector organizations surveyed are actively implementing plans to reduce the harmful environmental impact of destroying IT assets.¹⁰



Secure, permanent data removal allows public sector organizations to preserve functional SSDs rather than contribute to escalating e-waste.

Blancco's software-based data erasure methods tackle the **widest variety of data storage technologies on the market**, including NVMe drives and internal Mac M1 and T2 SSDs, removing system BIOS freeze locks, and enabling access to key internal security features to **ensure thorough data sanitization**.

Sustainability

Blancco data erasure software has sanitized data from more than 250+ million devices, facilitating secure redeployment, resale, and recycling for both public and private sector organizations.

Efficiency

Intelligent automation, IT asset management tool integration, and remote erasure capabilities streamline processes, reduce human touch time, and offer unparalleled efficiency.

Compliance

Digitally signed, tamper-proof, and centrally stored reports document sanitization against 25 erasure standards, streamlining audits, proving compliance, and confirming suitability for secure reuse.

Certifications

Rigorous third-party benchmark testing and validation of Blancco data erasure software confirm complete and permanent capabilities.

Software-based data sanitization enables compliance with the strictest data protection standards, rendering data 100% unrecoverable.

With Blancco government and public sector organizations can:

- enforce lock-tight data security
- extract greater asset value
- reduce environmental impact

Request your **Free Enterprise Trial** today.

References

- The Price of Destruction: Exploring the Financial & Environmental Costs of Public Sector Device Sanitization. Report is also available in French, German and Japanese.
- Each of the 596 respondents with Blancco's report, "The Price of Destruction," worked for a public sector or government agency with at least 1,000 employees. On average, each organization physically destroyed more than 14,500 solid-state drives per year. Across all nine surveyed countries, there are more than 3,700 similarly sized agencies. Calculating averages within each country, then adding these totals, leads to more than 5.2M drives destroyed by large agencies within these countries alone. This is a conservative estimate, as smaller agencies were not included in this total. This also does not account for magnetic hard disk drives, which are also often physically destroyed.
- See, "Weighed against the financial and environmental costs, it's time to rethink media sanitization practices" within this infographic for more information. | All costs in this document are given in USD.
- The Global E-waste Monitor 2020, Global E-waste Statistics Partnership
- The Global E-waste Monitor 2020
- The Global E-waste Monitor 2020
- The Global E-waste Monitor 2020
- India's Personal Data Protection Bill is in draft and under consideration of the Indian Parliament as of publication. Final legislation may also expand to cover non-personal data (NPD).
- Figures below based on Coleman Parkes survey for The Price of Destruction research study available on the Blancco website.
- The Price of Destruction, Blancco