Chapter 4
Cybersecurity Strategies for Smart Cities

M. Sindhuja
Department of Computing Technologies, School of Computing, College of Engineering and Technology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, India

K. Alice
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9920-549X
Department of Computing Technologies, School of Computing, College of Engineering and Technology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, India

A. Maria Nancy
Department of Computing Technologies, School of Computing, College of Engineering and Technology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, India

N. A. S. Vinoth
Department of Computing Technologies, School of Computing, College of Engineering and Technology, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, India

ABSTRACT

In the era of rapid technological advancements, cities worldwide are rapidly evolving into "smart cities," leveraging technology to enhance the lives of their residents. However, this digital transformation brings forth significant challenges and risks, particularly in terms of cybersecurity. This chapter comprehensively examines the realm of smart city cybersecurity, focusing on vital elements and essential security aspects. It begins with an introduction highlighting technology's pivotal role in

DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3693-8104-5.ch004

modern urban development and identifying key components such as IoT devices and communication networks. The chapter delves into the spectrum of cyber threats that smart cities encounter, emphasizing risk mitigation to secure both infrastructure and data. It explores security challenges while elucidating the intricacies of technological integration. The chapter outlines proactive cybersecurity strategies tailored for smart cities and explores emerging trends, offering insights into the future landscape of cybersecurity within these cities.

1. INTRODUCTION

The term of a "smart city" refers to an urban development plan in which contemporary information and communication technologies (ICT) coexist with established city infrastructure. A seamless and effective urban environment that maximizes resources, improves quality of life, and encourages sustainable growth is what this fusion strives to produce [1]. This comprehensive amalgamation strengthens the city's collective intelligence by integrating its social, business, informational, and physical infrastructures [2]. The process of this transformative urbanization, meanwhile, is complex and fraught with difficulties that cut across the social, political, economic, and technical spheres [3]. These difficulties include barriers to economic growth and investment, fluctuating personal needs, stakeholder collaboration, user-friendly integration, and safety and security worries [4]. Smart cities show potential for change in six key areas: smart people, smart government, smart economy, smart transit, and smart living [5]. By effectively addressing multiple sectors like environment, transportation, health, tourism, energy management, and home safety, the emergence of smart cities serves to meet the diverse needs of enterprises, individuals, and institutions [6]. Despite the advantages that residents and organizations have gained from the creation of smart cities, they continue to be vulnerable to a wide range of cybersecurity risks [7]. The need of cybersecurity precautions is highlighted by the fact that the vulnerability of one person or organization in a smart city might potentially endanger the entire city [8]. Protecting data and vital infrastructure from a variety of cyberattacks is necessary to secure a smart city [9]. Unfortunately, cybersecurity assessments of the software and hardware used in smart cities are frequently insufficient, leaving their systems open to possible hacks [10]. In addition to cybersecurity, managing citizen-government interactions and protecting privacy are critical factors in the development of smart cities [11]. A secure smart city can only be successfully designed and developed by addressing cyber-security issues and threats. Deep learning, a kind of artificial intelligence, is very crucial in today's data analysis and monitoring landscape, especially in smart cities. Its use is widespread and helps with ongoing data collection and system adaptation to shifting