



THE RANSOMWARE LANDSCAPE

WHAT IS RANSOMWARE?

A form of malware that targets your critical data or systems for the purpose of extortion.¹

PHISHING EMAILS MAY LOOK LEGITIMATE, BUT THEY ARE THE MOST POPULAR VEHICLE USED TO SPREAD RANSOMWARE.



PROOF THAT ATTACKS ARE ON THE RISE

4,000
RANSOMWARE
ATTACKS A DAY



SINCE EARLY 2016.²

300%
INCREASE



OVER 2015.³

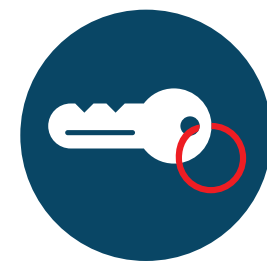
SOME RECENT RANSOMWARE INNOVATIONS INCLUDE:⁴



TIME LIMITS AFTER WHICH FILES WOULD BE DELETED.



RANSOMS THAT INCREASE OVER TIME.



FREE FILE DECRYPTION FOR VICTIMS WHO AGREE TO INFECT TWO OR MORE OTHER PEOPLE.



RANSOMS CALCULATED BASED ON THE SENSITIVITY OF THE FILE NAMES.



TARGETING VULNERABLE ORGANIZATIONS (INSTEAD OF INDIVIDUALS).

WHICH INDUSTRIES ARE MOST AT RISK?⁵

1. SERVICES
2. MANUFACTURING
3. FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE
4. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



HOW CAN COMPANIES PLAN FOR AN ATTACK?

1. ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATA BACKUP STRATEGY.
2. KNOW WHERE DATA IS STORED AND HOW TO PROTECT IT.
3. HAVE A WELL-TESTED BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN FOR IT ASSETS.
4. EDUCATE EMPLOYEES ON PRIVACY CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

¹www.justice.gov/criminal-ccips/file/872771/download

²https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ccips/file/872771/download

³ibid.

⁴Verizon 2017 Data Breach Investigations Report – 10th Edition

⁵Symantec™ Internet Security Threat Report, Special Report: Ransomware and Businesses 2016



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