Malwarebytes

2020 State of Malware Report highlights

Analysis of the latest cybercrime data is in and the numbers are clear; cybercriminals had a busy 2019, and it's only getting worse.

Here's what you need to know.

Top cybersecurity threat takeaways

1. Business threat detections surged 13%

8.5M (2018) ➤ **9.6M** (2019)

2. Trojans and adware led the pack to become the top two business threats

Trojans: TrickBot up 52%, Emotet up 6%

Adware: More aggressive attacks across platforms and regions

3. Hacking, evasion, and stealth techniques advanced, becoming more sophisticated and diverse

- **Exploit kits**
- **Credential-stealing tools**
- **Multi-stage attacks**
- **HackTools attacks** (42% spike for consumers)

Windows & Mac threats

For the first time ever, Mac outpaced Windows PCs in the number of threats per endpoint—but the Windows threat landscape still didn't look pretty

Windows

Average threat per endpoint: **5.8**

TrickBot ▲ 52%
Emotet ▲ 73%
Ryuk ▲ 543%
Sodinokibi ▲ 820% since May 2019

Adware detections: **24M**

Mac

Average threat per endpoint: **11**

▲ **400%** rise in overall threats since 2018

Adware detections: **30M**

Android threats

Stealthier, more aggressive malware was detected on Android devices in 2019

1. Pre-installed malware: **321K detections**
2. HiddenAds Trojans: **283K detections**
3. Stalkerware: **100+ new variants**

Industry threats: top 3 sectors impacted

Cybercriminals turned up the heat on certain industries

1. Services*: **162K detections**

*Composite of professional practices (such as accounting and web hosting) and consumer services (such as gardening and repairs)

2. Education: **159K detections**
3. Retail: **114K detections**

Malware detections around the globe

North America and Europe accounted for 74% of threats

North America

- **24.4M** threats detected
- **10%** increase from 2018
- Top threat for business and consumer: **adware**

Europe, the Middle East, and Africa

- **13.2M** threats detected
- **2%** drop from 2018
- Top consumer threat: **adware**

Asia Pacific

(not including Singapore, Australia, or New Zealand)

- **4.8M** threats
- **11%** drop from 2018
- Top business threat: **adware**
- Top consumer threat: **riskware**

Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand

- **1.1M** threats
- **13%** drop from 2018
- Top business threats: **adware** (Australia and New Zealand) and **Trojans** (Singapore)
- Top consumer threat: **adware**

Latin America

- **7.2M** threats
- **26%** increase from 2018
- Top business threat: **Trojans**
- Top consumer threat: **adware**

Cybersecurity predictions for 2020

1. Ransomware attacks will continue at a more rapid pace
2. Hybrid attacks with multi-stage payloads will escalate
3. Exploit kit activity will be at its highest since the post-Angler era

Read the rest of our predictions and take a closer look at 2019's top threats in the **2020 State of Malware Report.**

DOWNLOAD REPORT

Malwarebytes