

# UNDERSTANDING THE COVID BOUNCE

From the Malwarebytes 2022 Threat Review

## Business is bouncing back from COVID-19, but so is cybercrime

Cybercrime dropped significantly in 2020.  
As pandemic restrictions were lifted in 2021,  
it came roaring back.



### Increased detections across operating systems

Windows, Mac, email, and  
stalkerware detections all increased.

## Windows

From  
2020 to 2021

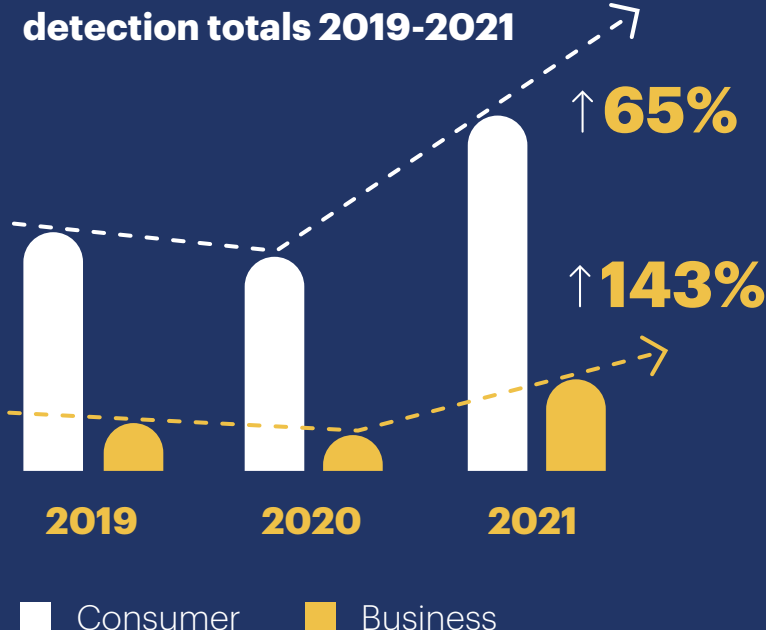
**77%** ↑

Malicious software

**200%** ↑

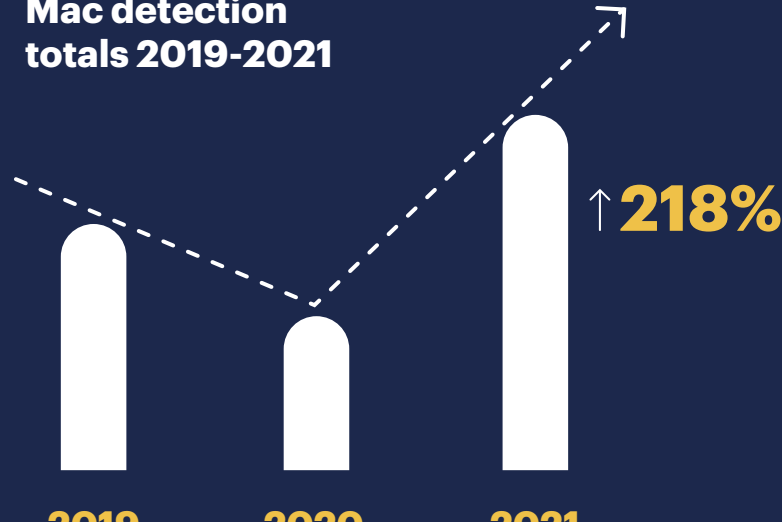
Adware, spyware,  
and worms

Windows malware  
detection totals 2019-2021



## Mac

Mac detection  
totals 2019-2021



From  
2020 to 2021

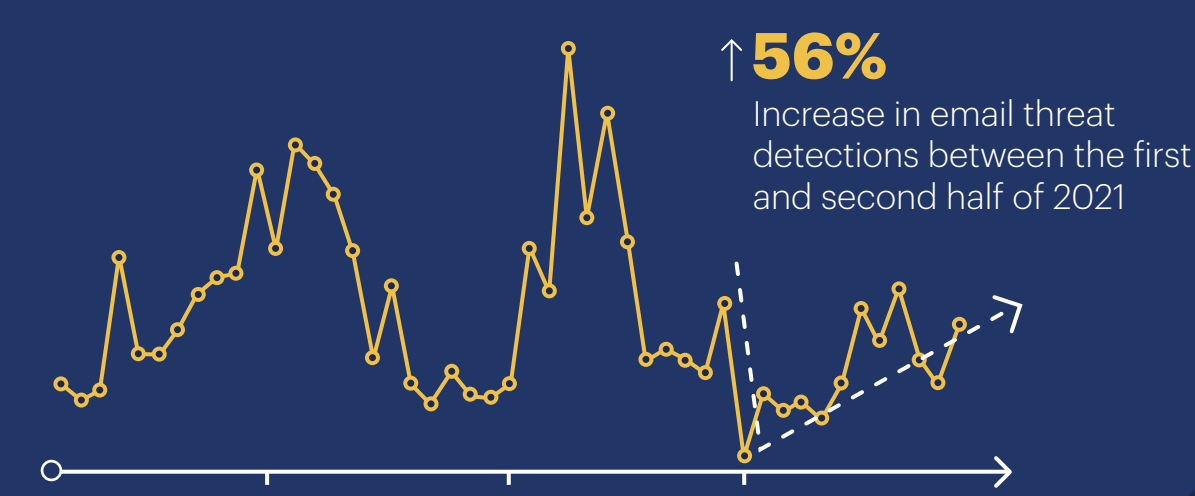


Big surge in potentially  
unwanted programs  
(PUPs) and adware



## Email threats

Email threat detections experienced a "Covid bounce"  
in 2021, but have declined significantly over the last  
four years, as attacks have become more targeted.



## Stalkerware

### 2021 was the worst year ever for stalkerware

From 2020 to 2021

**4.2%** ↑

increase in monitor  
detections

**7.2%** ↑

increase in spyware  
detections



**Cyberprotection starts with understanding the latest  
attacks, cybercrimes, and privacy breaches.**

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