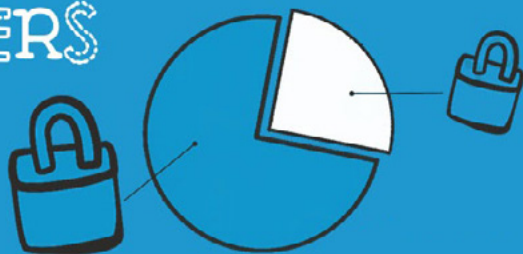


RANSOMWARE

BY THE NUMBERS



A CLOSER LOOK: RANSOMWARE STATISTICS 2016 – 2017

RANSOMWARE EMAILS SPIKED 6,000%

A study by IBM Security found that the number of ransomware-infected emails increased 6,000 percent compared to 2015. Attackers are trying harder to infect users' computers right through their inboxes. These emails generally have attachments disguised as invoices, statements, spreadsheets, faxes or personal notes.
Source: IBM via CNBC

40% OF ALL SPAM EMAIL HAD RANSOMWARE

The same IBM study found that almost 40 percent of all spam messages in 2016 contained ransomware. That's nearly one out

of every two spam emails infected with a ransomware virus that, if executed, could encrypt all data on the computer in a matter of seconds – as well as data on any shared drives or other computers on the network.

Source: IBM via CNBC

INFECTIONS HIT 56,000 IN A SINGLE MONTH

In 2015, the rate of ransomware infections fluctuated between 23,000 and 35,000 per month. These numbers ballooned to 56,000 in March 2016. Cybersecurity leader Symantec attributed the spike to the arrival of **Locky** – a specific form of ransomware virus

that is now the most common type of infection. Locky is typically hidden in Microsoft Word files and executed through the use of macros.

Source: Symantec via Barkly

ATTACKS EXPECTED TO DOUBLE IN 2017

The risk assessment experts at Beazley looked at nearly 2,000 separate data breaches across a wide range of companies. Their study concluded that, despite the staggering increase in attacks from 2015 to 2016, infections are projected to continue rising.

Source: Beazley via SC Magazine

2017

RANSOMWARE MAC RISK: ARE YOU PROTECTED AGAINST THE NEWEST THREATS?

Just when Mac users thought they were safe. New reports show that ransomware mac threats are on the rise. What was once considered a Windows-only problem is now causing headaches for macOS users too.

It was only a matter of time.

Ransomware is exploding. In 2016, there were as many as 56,000 total infections in a single

month. IBM found that 40% of all spam email now contains ransomware. Roughly 20 percent of businesses who paid the ransom shelled out more than \$40,000. Attackers are getting more aggressive and targeting a wider range of users to maximize their earning potential.

A CLOSER LOOK AT OSX/FILECODER.E

The ransomware is called OSX/Filecoder.E, as coined by the malware researchers who discovered it. It's hidden in a program known as Patcher, which purports to be a "crack" that enables users to pirate software without a license key. In this case, it claims to be a crack for Mac versions of Adobe Premiere Pro, Microsoft

Office and possibly other product suites.

Researchers say the ransomware is not very well designed. PC World writes, "It is written in Apple's Swift programming language by what appears to be an inexperienced developer, judging from the many mistakes made in its implementation." *read more...*

PREVENTION & RESPONSE

- ▶ BACKUP YOUR DATA
- ▶ VERIFY EMAIL ADDRESSES TELEPHONICALLY
- ▶ IF UNSURE, DELETE!!

RANSOMWARE: ISN'T GOING AWAY ANY TIME SOON!

Source: <http://invenioit.com/security/ransomware-statistics-2016/>