PROTECTED HARBOR

2021 HEALTHCARE DATA BREACH TREND REPORT

OVERVIEW

There were 686 healthcare data breaches impacting over **44 MILLION INDIVIDUALS IN 2021,** reported to HHS U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

$9.23M
the average cost of a healthcare data breach in 2021.

That is a 29.5% increase from 2020

$24.1B
is expected to be spent on cybersecurity for healthcare organizations by 2026.

39%
of healthcare organizations became aware of a breach month after it happened.

WHO IS BEING ATTACKED

30% all large data breaches in the United States are hospitals.

Attacks against health plans jumped nearly 35% from 2020 to 2021.

Attacks against third-party vendors increased nearly 18% from 2020 to

California had the most healthcare data breaches (10% of all breaches), followed by **Texas** (8%), **New York** (6%), **Illinois** (6%), and **Florida** (5%)

HOW THE BREACHES ARE HAPPENING

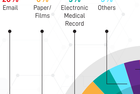
of all breach types are Hacking/IT incidents, which increased 10% year over year and continue to be the most common cause of data breach.

of breaches can be attributed to unauthorized access such as granting too much privileged access to third parties.

increase in hacking and IT incidents targeting outpatient and specialty clinics in comparison to 2020, putting them ahead of hospitals in that breach category.

WHAT IS BEING ATTACKED

Network server attacks accounted for 53% of all incidents, compared with email attacks at 27% of the total.



TOP 10 ATTACKS OF 2021

Covered Organization	No. of Individual Affected	Breach Cause
Florida Healthy Kids Corporation	3,500,000	Hosting Patch Failure
20/20 Eye Care Network, Inc	3,253,822	Insider Wrongdoing
Forefront Dermatology, S.C.	2,413,553	IT Network Hacked
CaptureRx	1,656,569	Ransomware
Eskenazi Health	1,515,918	IP Spoofing
The Kroger Co.	1,474,284	3rd Party File Transfer Failure
St. Joseph's / Candler Hospital	1,400,000	Ransomware
University Medical Center Southern Nevada	1,300,000	REvil Ransomware
American Anesthesiology, Inc.	1,269,874	3rd Party Phishing Incident
PracticeFirst	1,210,688	Ransomware

TOP 5 HEALTHCARE DATA THREATS IN 2022

- IoT Connected Medical Devices
- mHealth & Telehealth Technologies
- Cures Act & Patient Access
- Understaffed & Underfunded IT Departments
- Lack of Employee Security Training

TOP 5 DATA PROTECTION TRENDS FOR 2022

- Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resource Standards
- Multi-Factor Authentication
- Mobile Device Security Strategy
- Isolated & Validated Backups
- Integration of Managed Service Teams

SOURCES

- **IBM Security 2021 Cost of a Data Breach Report**
  https://www.ibm.com/security/data-breach/ibm-security-x-force?cm_mc_uid=55795816_0__0=1.2367854.1530232477.1&mkt&3853=4399138&7_1&mkt&3853=
- **IBM 2021 Data Breach Investigations Report**
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- **Healthcare Cybersecurity Market Global Outlook by Reporter**
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