

2017 TOP DATA SECURITY RISKS AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT THEM

Results from the SANS 2017 Data Protection Survey

KEY TAKEAWAY

Organizations need a better understanding of their sensitive data and how technology can help reinforce policy and procedures to protect that data.

ATTACKS ARE PERVASIVE



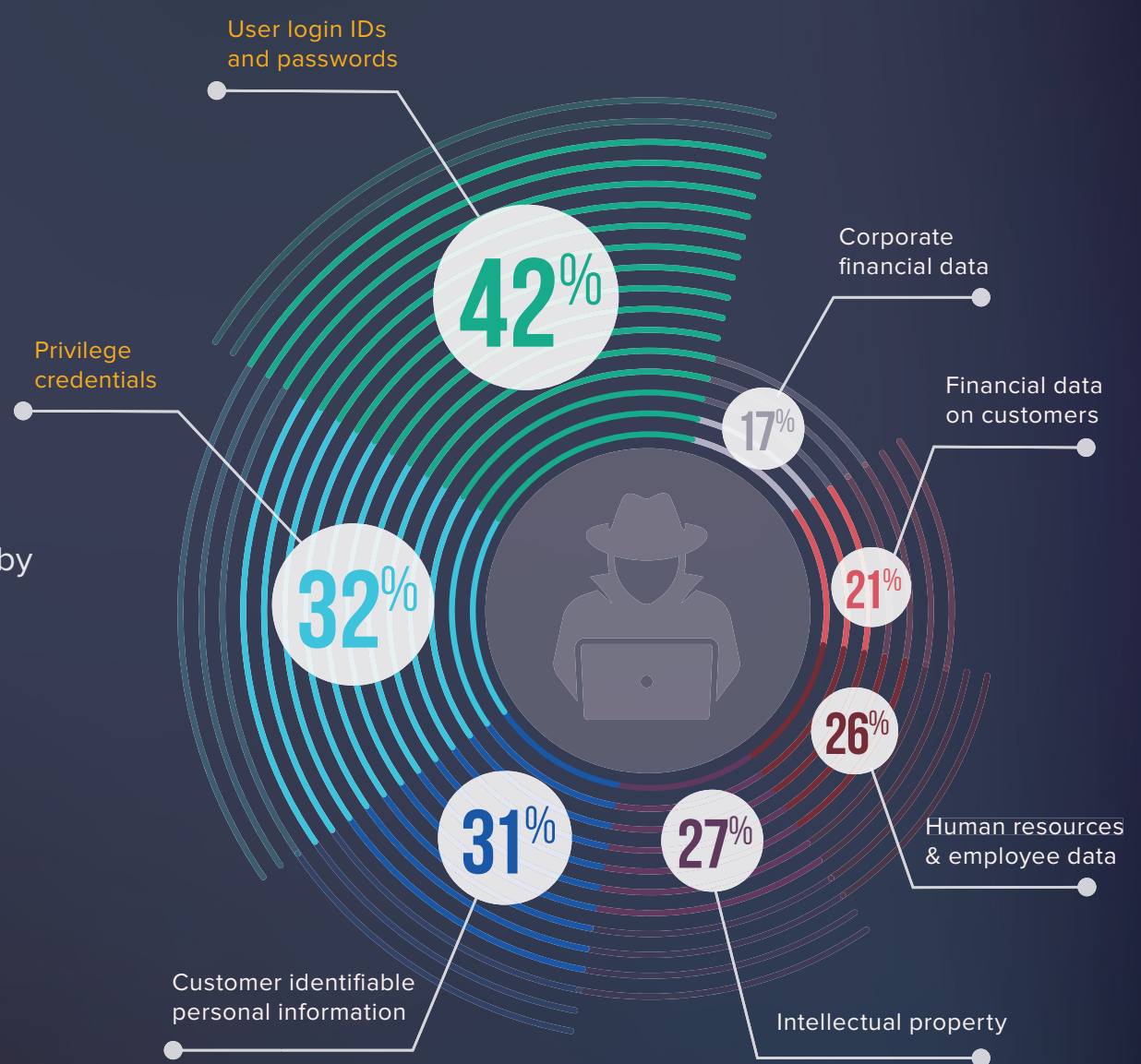
TOP THREATS

Front-line professionals consider ransomware as the top threat to data availability, followed by insider threats and Denial of Service attacks.

- 1 RANSOMWARE
- 2 INSIDER THREATS
- 3 DENIAL OF SERVICE

WHAT ATTACKERS WANT MOST

Attackers want control over your network, not just access to sensitive data.



FACTORS THAT COMPROMISE DATA

The SANS survey reveals common business practices increase data risk.

MANUAL PROCESSES

60%

use manual processes to locate their sensitive data.

RISKS

Manual processes are inefficient, error prone, and expensive in the face of today's massively automated cyber attacks.

CLOUDY STORAGE

88%

rely on databases and servers for data storage.

RISKS

Increased virtualization and cloud storage can complicate policy compliance and other organizational needs.

ENDANGERED DNS

58%

either don't protect DNS pathways or don't know if they do.

RISKS

DNS is the leading attack vector for malware, the majority of which is ransomware.¹

SOLUTION SILOS

78%

use between 2 and 10 separate solutions to protect sensitive data.

RISKS

Poor visibility and lack of integration can create security gaps and delay response times when breaches occur.

5 ACTIONS TO TAKE TO PROTECT YOUR DATA



KNOW YOUR DATA

Understand what your sensitive data consists of, where it lives, and your network topology.



WATCH YOUR DNS

Monitor DNS-based threats in real time with tools designed for the task.



SECURE YOUR ACCESS

Apply network security best practices to safeguard account access information.



AUTOMATE YOUR PROCESSES

Use automation to establish and reinforce policies, procedures, and incident response.



UNDERSTAND YOUR CONTEXT

Use endpoint and network controls that provide information about data locations, user behavior, devices, and threats in context so you can take effective action faster.

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The SANS 2017 Data Protection Survey (September 2017) explores sensitive data types and how organizations are protecting their sensitive data in today's progressively connected and mobile world.

WHO PARTICIPATED

257 IT and security personnel from small, medium and large organizations, most of which are headquartered and operating in the U.S.

Sources: ¹ Cisco 2016 Annual Security Report and Malwarebytes research

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