

Ransomware: What You Need To Know

Ransomware is a form of extortionware that encrypts files to prevent victims from accessing their systems and data. In most cases, victims cannot recover their files unless they purchase a decryption key. Increasingly, attackers are also blackmailing victims by threatening to expose them if their ransom demands are not met, and exfiltrating their data to sell on the dark web.

Today, virtually any would-be criminal can launch a ransomware attack by affiliating with one of the many ransomware-as-a-service threat groups. No technical knowledge or programming skills are needed.

Will yours be among the global public and private sector firms that pay these criminals tens of billions of dollars each year?¹ How well are you prepared to prevent and remediate a ransomware breach?



By The Numbers

11 seconds: The projected frequency of ransomware attacks on businesses by the end of 2021.²

62%: The percentage of global businesses victimized by ransomware (a 6% year-over-year increase).³

58%: The percentage of victimized businesses that paid the ransom (a 13% year-over-year increase).⁴

\$4.44 million: The average cost of a successful ransomware attack.⁵

\$21 billion: The projected 2021 global costs of successful ransomware attacks.⁶

39%: The percentage of global businesses unprepared for a ransomware attack.⁷



A Global Threat

In 2019, the five countries with the highest percentage of organizations affected by ransomware were:⁸

1. China (76%)
2. Mexico (72.7%)
3. Canada (72%)
4. Saudi Arabia (71.4%)
5. United States (69.5%)

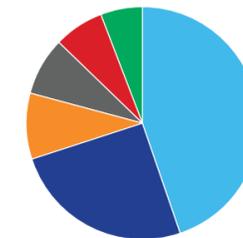
Among the 17 countries assessed in the survey, Brazil (48.5%) and Japan (36.7%) had the fewest.



Who Gets Targeted

Nearly half (46%) of SMBs have been victimized by ransomware. A quarter of those surveyed said they lack a plan to mitigate a ransomware attack.⁹

From January to September 2020, the following industries in the U.S. suffered ransomware attacks:¹⁰



- 39% Healthcare
- 22% Government
- 8% Public Education
- 7% Information Technology
- 6% Manufacturing
- 5% Higher Education

A successful ransomware attack can be devastating. Fortunately, BlackBerry can provide the artificial-intelligence-driven software and services solutions you need to protect yourself and transition from a reactive to a prevention-first security posture.

Ready to take action to protect yourself against the next big ransomware attack? Visit our [website](#) for more information on ransomware. If you need immediate assistance, talk to a BlackBerry expert today by filling out the [form](#) or calling +1-888-808-3119.

1. Global Ransomware Damage Costs Predicted To Reach \$20 Billion (USD) By 2021
 2. Global Ransomware Damage Costs Predicted To Reach \$20 Billion (USD) By 2021
 3. 2020 Cyberthreat Defense Report
 4. 2020 Cyberthreat Defense Report

5. IBM Security Cost of a Data Breach Report 2020
 6. Global Ransomware Damage Costs Predicted To Reach \$20 Billion (USD) By 2021
 7. 39% of Global businesses are not prepared for a ransomware attack
 8. 2020 Cyberthreat Defense Report

9. Infracore Survey Reveals Close to Half of SMBs Have Been Ransomware Attack Targets
 10. 5 charts to show the impact of ransomware attacks in 2020