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Security trends and insights in education

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Education is seen as an easy target for attackers.

4.8 million education devices encountered malware in the last 30 days.¹

61% of nearly 7.7 million enterprise malware encounters reported in the past month came from those in the education sector, making it the most affected industry.²

889 cybersecurity-related incidents reported about U.S. K-12 public schools and districts from 2016 to the present.³



IT administrators must work for a higher grade when it comes to cybersecurity.

54% of education IT administrators know employees are using unknown or unapproved cloud apps.⁴

69% of school districts say they are proactive or very proactive at maintaining network security.⁵

#1 priority for education IT leaders is cybersecurity.⁶



Lessons on digital defense are crucial for teachers and students.

38% of teachers in training and early-career teachers felt that their training prepared them to use technology effectively in the classroom.⁷

90% of cyberattacks start with phishing.⁸

82% of educational organizations don't track data sharing at all, or they do it manually.⁹

(1) <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/wdsi/threats> (2) <https://edtechmagazine.com/k12/article/2020/06/cyberattacks-increasingly-threaten-schools-heres-what-know-perfcon> (3) <https://k12cybersecure.com/map/> (4) <https://www.cshub.com/attacks/articles/incident-of-the-week-educational-infrastructure-at-risk-of-invasive-breaches> (5) <https://www.cosn.org/focus-areas/leadership-vision/it-leadership-survey> (6) <https://edtechmagazine.com/k12/article/2020/06/cyberattacks-increasingly-threaten-schools-heres-what-know-perfcon> (7) <https://info.microsoft.com/ww-landing-Staff-Of-2030-Future-ReadyTeaching.html?cid=EN-US> (8) <https://edtechmagazine.com/k12/article/2020/06/cyberattacks-increasingly-threaten-schools-heres-what-know-perfcon> (9) <https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/92366-educational-organizations-at-risk-of-data-security-incidents-during-covid-19-pandemic>

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