



# KEY FINDINGS.

THE GLOBAL THREAT INTELLIGENCE REPORT  
JULY - DECEMBER 2024

While threat actor activity has increased across almost all metrics, some trends stand out.

mimecast

**RISK @ RADAR**

## 01 TRUSTED SERVICES ENABLE THREAT ACTORS

Attackers are increasingly leveraging trusted platforms like Microsoft, Google, and Evernote to host payloads and send phishing attacks.

## 02 AUTHENTICATION MAKES ATTACKS MORE DIFFICULT, BUT AI LOWERS THE BAR

SPF, DKIM, and DMARC help attacks appear to come from a trusted source. These make attacks more complicated, while the spread of AI chat bots allows cybercriminals to gain the skills necessary for hacking.

## 03 GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS FUEL CYBERATTACKS

Global political instability — such as the Russia-Ukraine war and European elections — is intensifying cyber risks, with geopolitical threats and cyber risks ranked as the top two concerns in recent surveys.

## 04 HUMAN ERROR REMAINS THE WEAKEST LINK

Insider actions accounted for 68% of breaches in 2023, while 34% of employees fear being the exploited vulnerability in future attacks.

## 05 MALICIOUS LINKS, MALICIOUS FILES AND IMPERSONATION DOMINATE THREATS PER USER

The Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, Legal Services, and Media & Publishing industries saw the most threats per user in H2 2024.

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