

MICROSOFT SECURITY INTELLIGENCE REPORT:

NEW ZEALAND CYBER THREAT LANDSCAPE

As cyberattacks continue to increase in frequency and sophistication, understanding prevalent cyberthreats and how to mitigate their impact has become an imperative for every individual and organization in New Zealand.

To help individuals and companies keep pace with today's ever evolving cyberthreat landscape, Microsoft analyzed 6.5 trillion threat signals that go through its cloud every day, and leveraged the research and real-world experiences from thousands of security researchers and responders globally to create the 24th edition of the **Security Intelligence Report (SIR)**, which covers January to December 2018.

TOP FOUR CYBERTHREATS IN NEW ZEALAND

MALWARE

Malware poses risks in the form of impaired usability, data loss, intellectual property theft, monetary loss and even emotional distress.

▼ **60%**

Lower than the **Global** average



▼ **71%**

Lower than the **Asia Pacific** average

CRYPTOCURRENCY MINING

Attackers seeking illicit profits have increasingly turned to malware that lets them use victim's computer to help them mine cryptocurrency coins.

▼ **58%**

Lower than the **Global** average



▼ **64%**

Lower than the **Asia Pacific** average

RANSOMWARE

While individuals and organizations are becoming more intelligent in dealing with ransomware, it continues to be a significant threat in New Zealand.

▼ **60%**

Lower than the **Global** average



▼ **71%**

Lower than the **Asia Pacific** average

DRIVE-BY DOWNLOAD

Attackers are exploiting vulnerabilities in webpages to direct users to compromised sites that can secretly infect users even when they do not attempt to download anything.

▼ **100%**

Lower than the **Global** average



▼ **100%**

Lower than the **Asia Pacific** average

CYBERSECURITY BEST PRACTICES

FOR ORGANIZATIONS

1. Prevention: Preventive controls increase the cost of attacks for cybercriminals and prevent cheap, effective cyberattack techniques.



- **Cloud Backup:** Use cloud storage services to automatically backup important data.
- **Access Control:** Implement network segmentation and exert caution when granting application permissions.
- **Cybersecurity Education:** Educate employees on safe cyber practices and maintain robust IT policies.

2. Detection & Response: Leverage cloud technology to limit attackers' access to data and help security operations better respond to attacks.



FOR INDIVIDUALS

1. Cyber Hygiene: Use anti-virus solution and keep software and operating systems updated.



2. Genuine Software: Avoid using pirated software and only use software from trusted sources.

3. Password Management: Use a strong password for each account and change them regularly.



4. Backup Personal Files: Backup photos and other important personal data on a trusted cloud storage platform.

5 Stay Vigilant: Activities where personal information will be transmitted should only be done on the users' own devices, on a trusted network.

