Cybersecurity

Project 3 Review Questions

Make a copy of this document before you begin. Place your answers below each question.

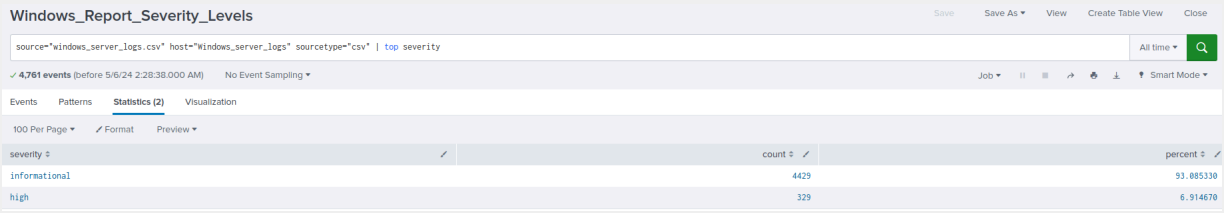
Windows Server Log Questions

Report Analysis for Severity

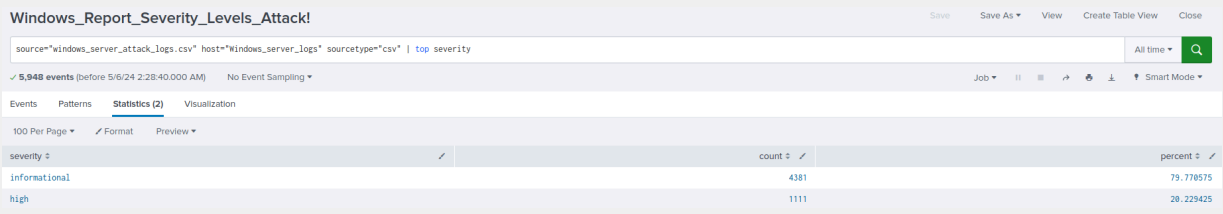
- Did you detect any suspicious changes in severity?

Severity Levels shoot up from count of 329 and in our simulation we see it jump to 1111.

Regular Report:



Attack Report:

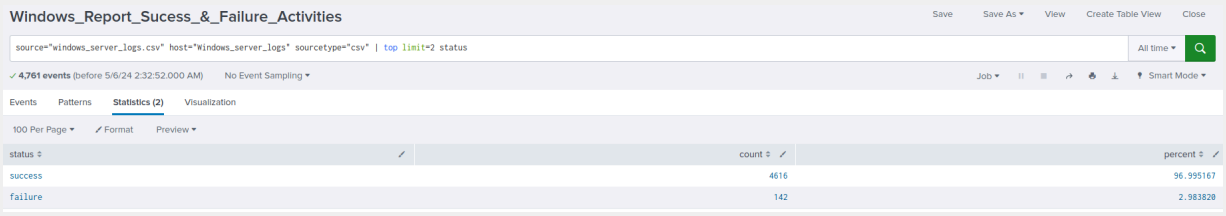


Report Analysis for Failed Activities

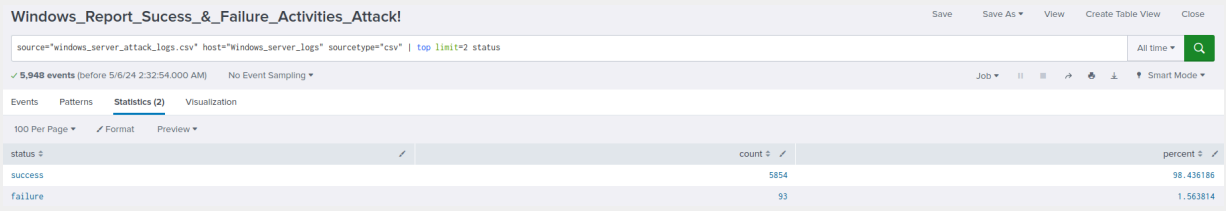
- Did you detect any suspicious changes in failed activities?

Failed Activities only have a 1% difference, no suspicious activity shown.

Regular Report:



Attack Report:

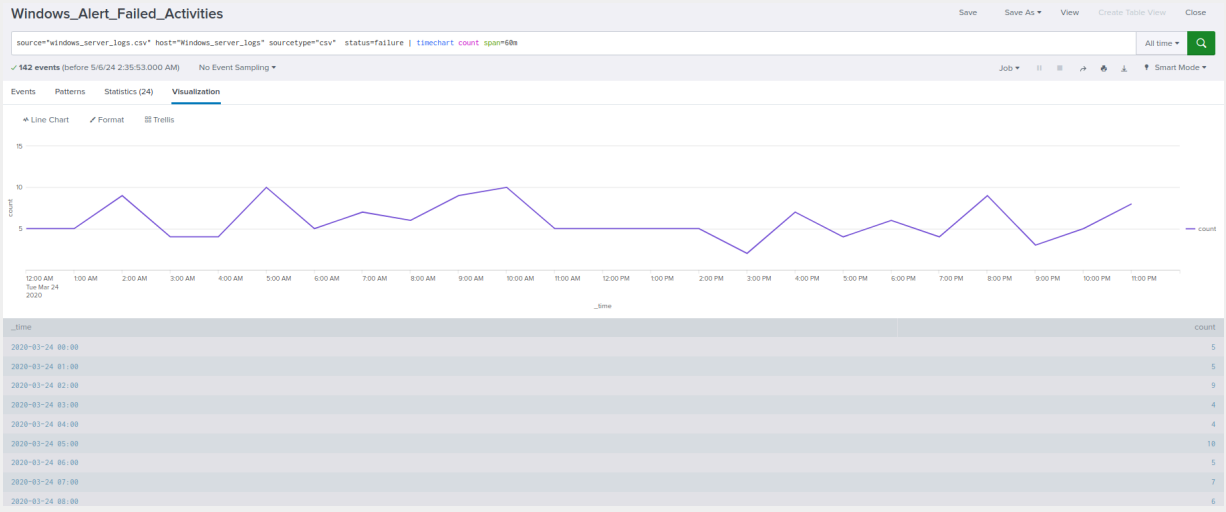


Alert Analysis for Failed Windows Activity

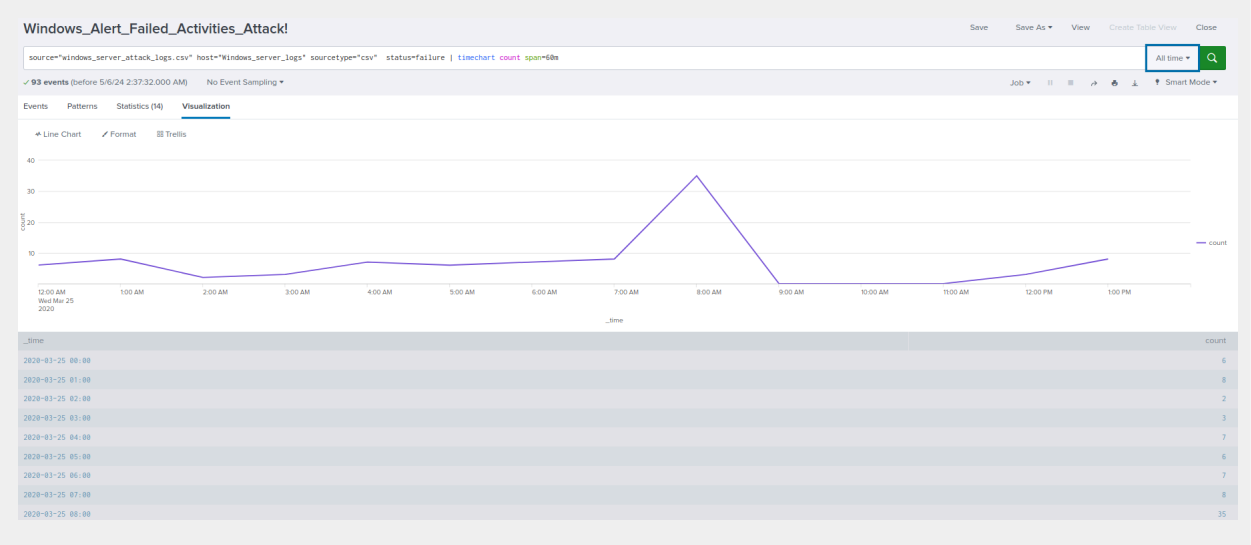
- Did you detect a suspicious volume of failed activity?

We see in our Attack Alert a sudden peek.

Regular Alert:



Attack Alert:



- If so, what was the count of events in the hour(s) it occurred?

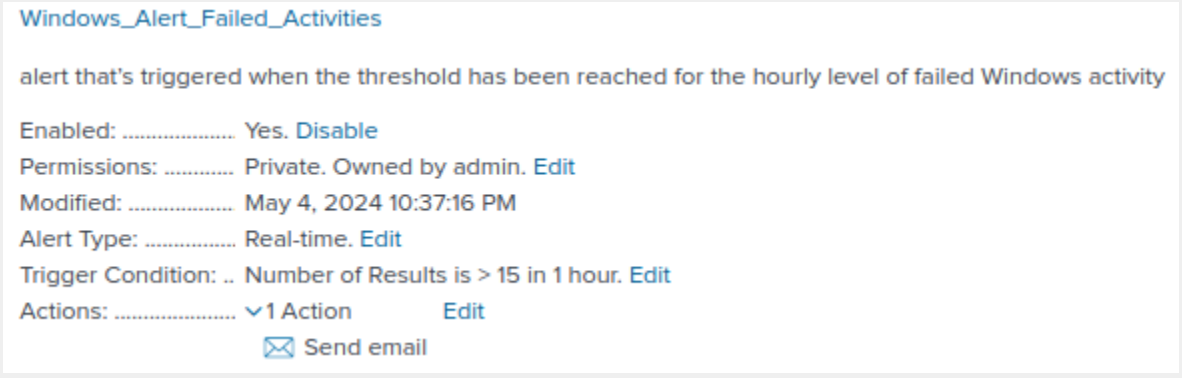
```
The Count of events indicates 35 at 8:00AM
```

- When did it occur?

```
The Date of the spike occurred on March 20, 2020
```

- Would your alert be triggered for this activity?

```
The current threshold is > 15 in 1 hour therefore the alert would activate
when the threshold has been reached.
```



- After reviewing, would you change your threshold from what you previously selected?

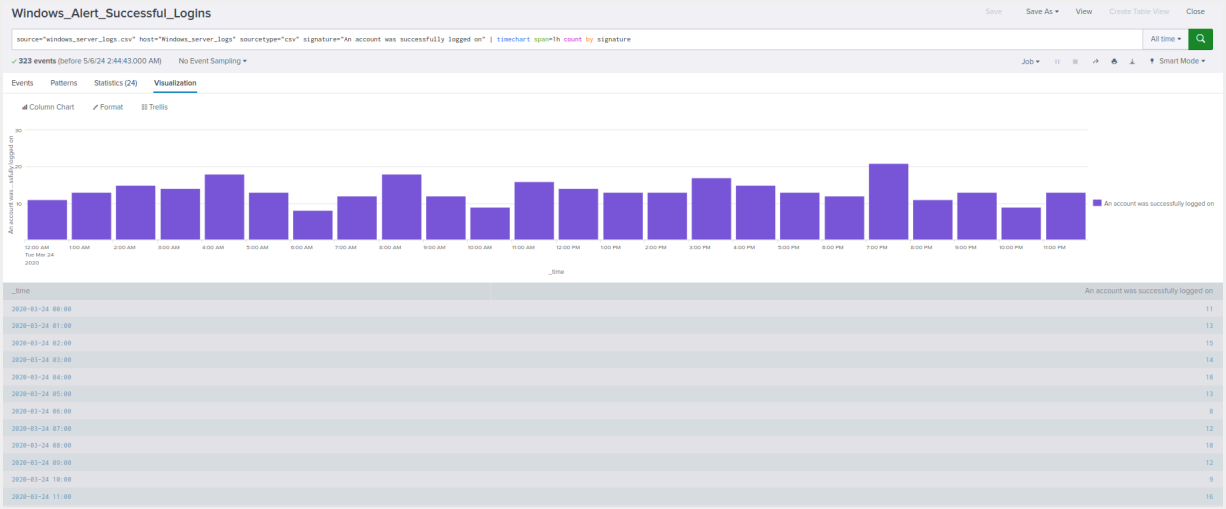
After reviewing the events I would not make any changes.

Alert Analysis for Successful Logins

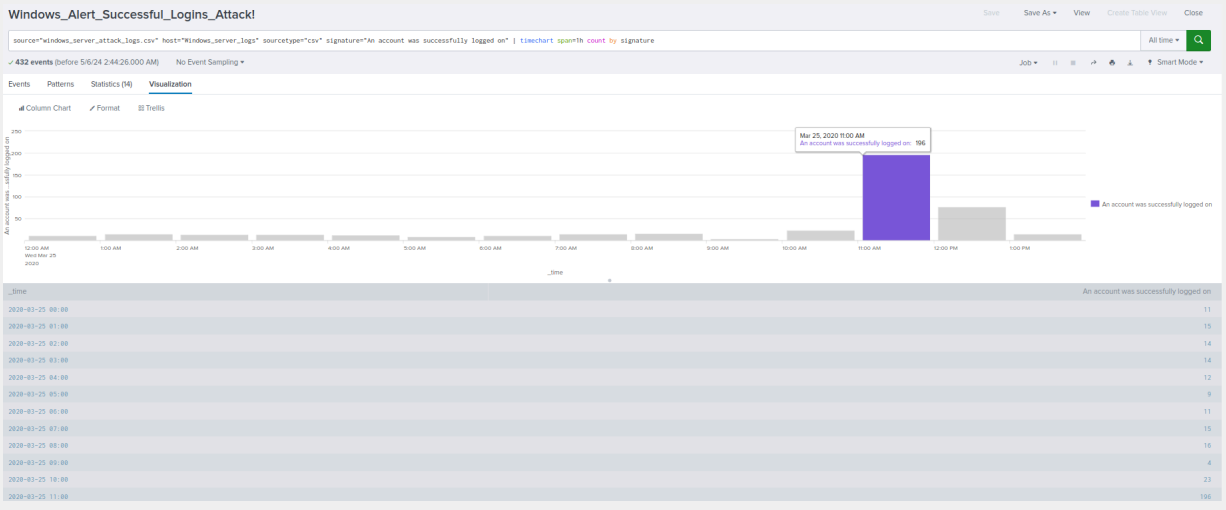
- Did you detect a suspicious volume of successful logins?

Our current charts indicate that during the attack many users were not successful and we see a volume decrease.

Regular Report:



Attack Report:

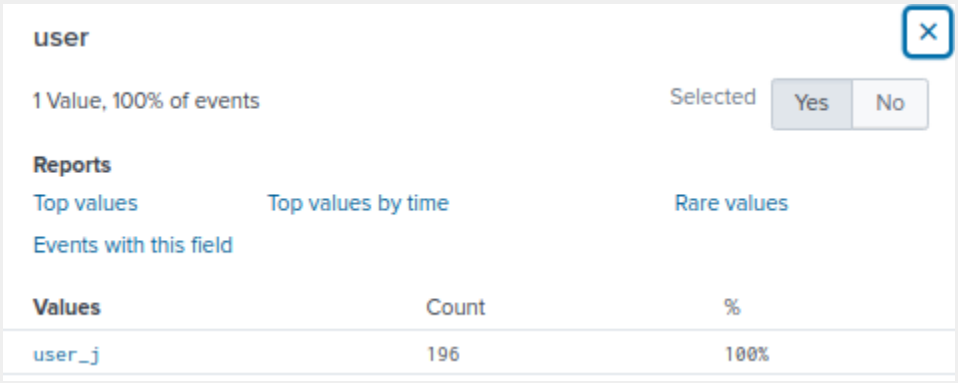


- If so, what was the count of events in the hour(s) it occurred?

```
The count of events are shown to be 196 at 11:00AM
```

- Who is the primary user logging in?

```
Searching for the user through our alert we can confirm that the primary login user is: user_j
```

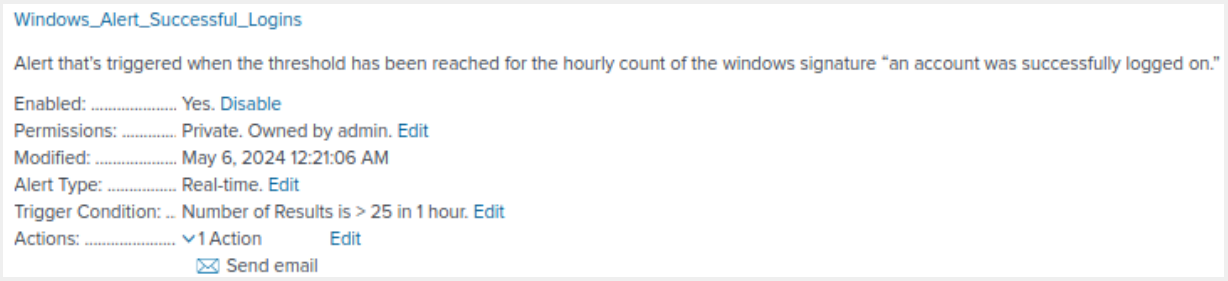


- When did it occur?

```
The event occurred on March 25, 2020
```

- Would your alert be triggered for this activity?

```
The current threshold is > 25 in 1 hour, in conclusion the alert would have been triggered.
```



- After reviewing, would you change your threshold from what you previously selected?

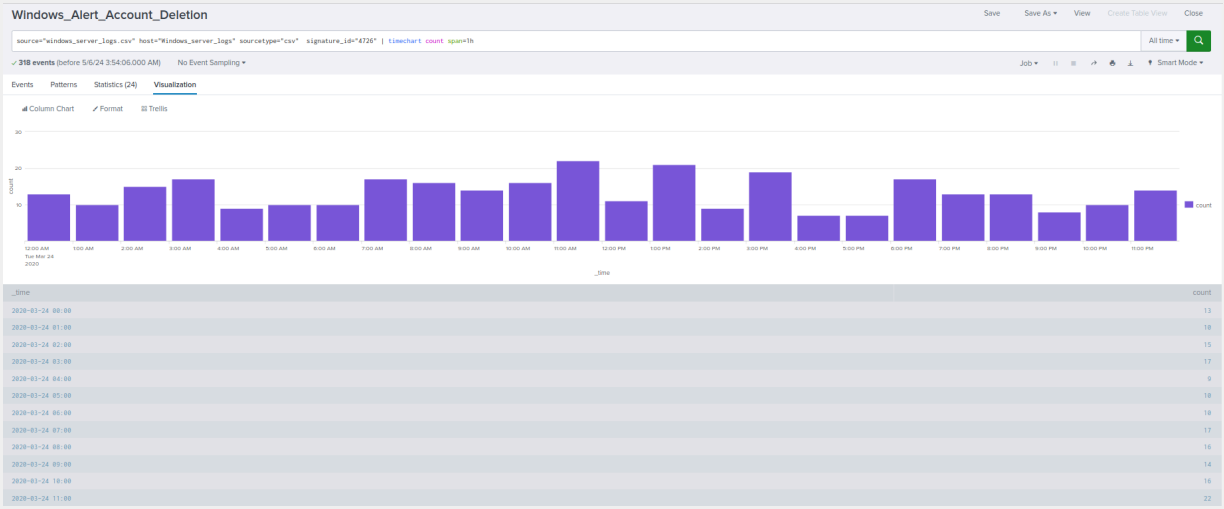
```
The results of the alert were successful therefore no changes are necessary.
```

Alert Analysis for Deleted Accounts

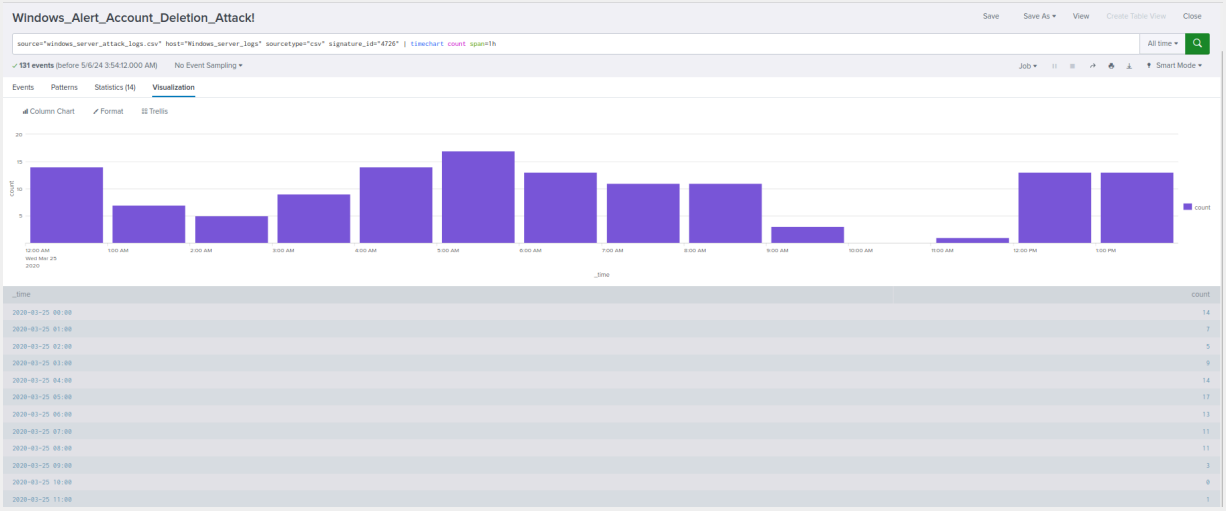
- Did you detect a suspicious volume of deleted accounts?

Our alerts indicate there has been no activity on March 25, 2020 between the times of 10:00AM - 11:00AM at the moment no suspicious activity.

Regular Alert:



Attack Alert:



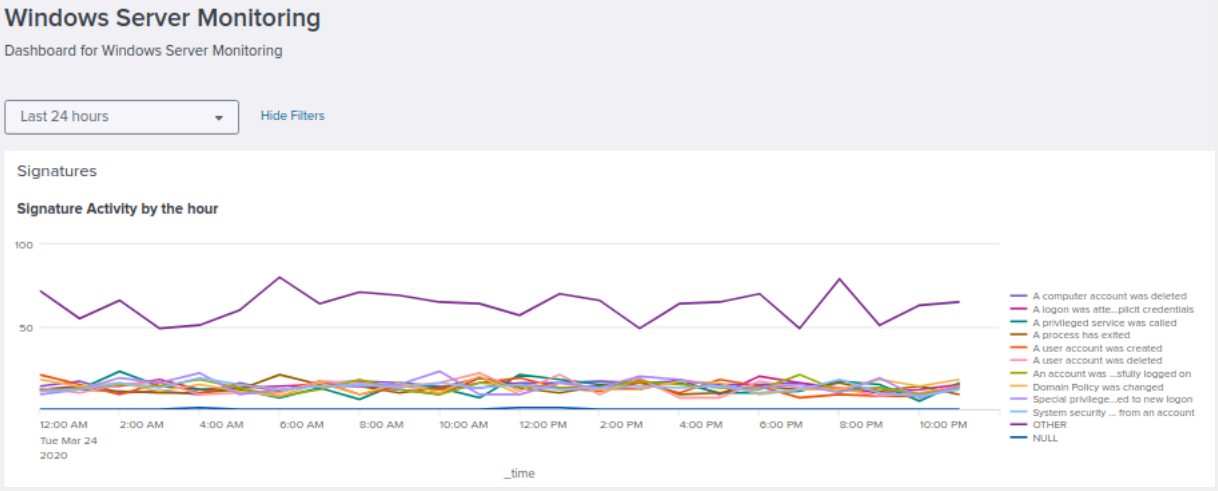
Dashboard Analysis for Time Chart of Signatures

- Does anything stand out as suspicious?

Our Dashboards indicate a spike difference between 2 signatures.

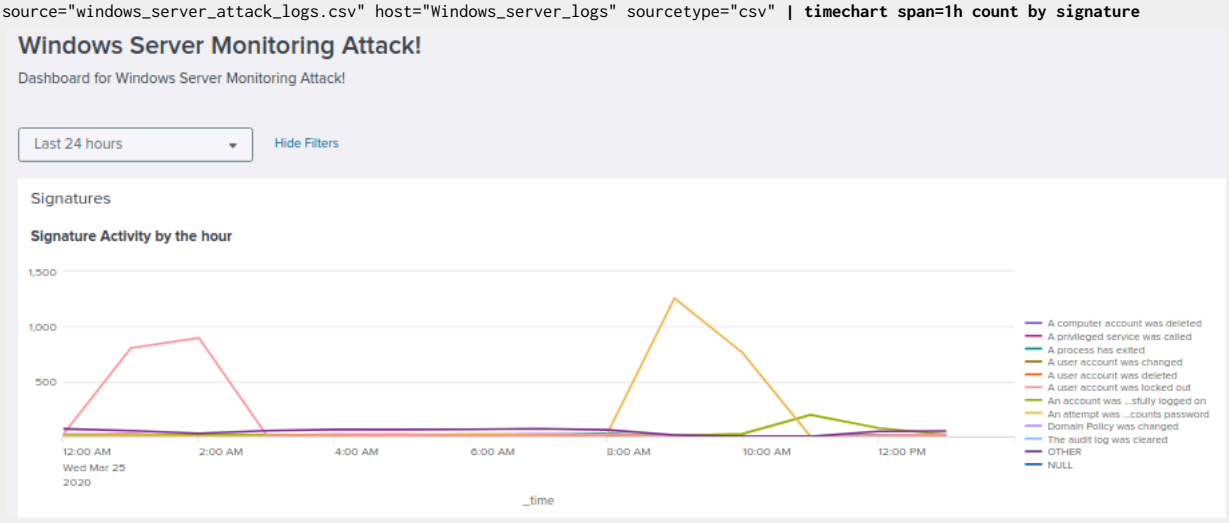
Regular Dashboard:

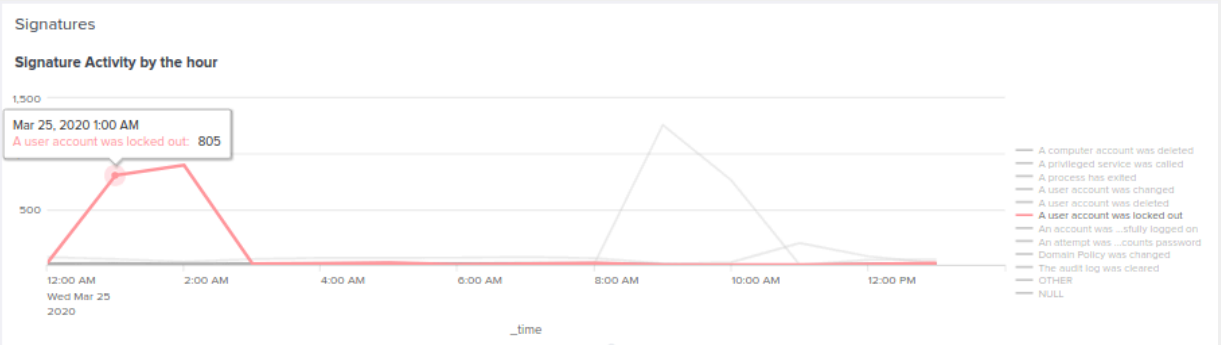
```
source="windows_server_logs.csv" host="Windows_server_logs" sourcetype="csv" | timechart span=1h count by signature
```

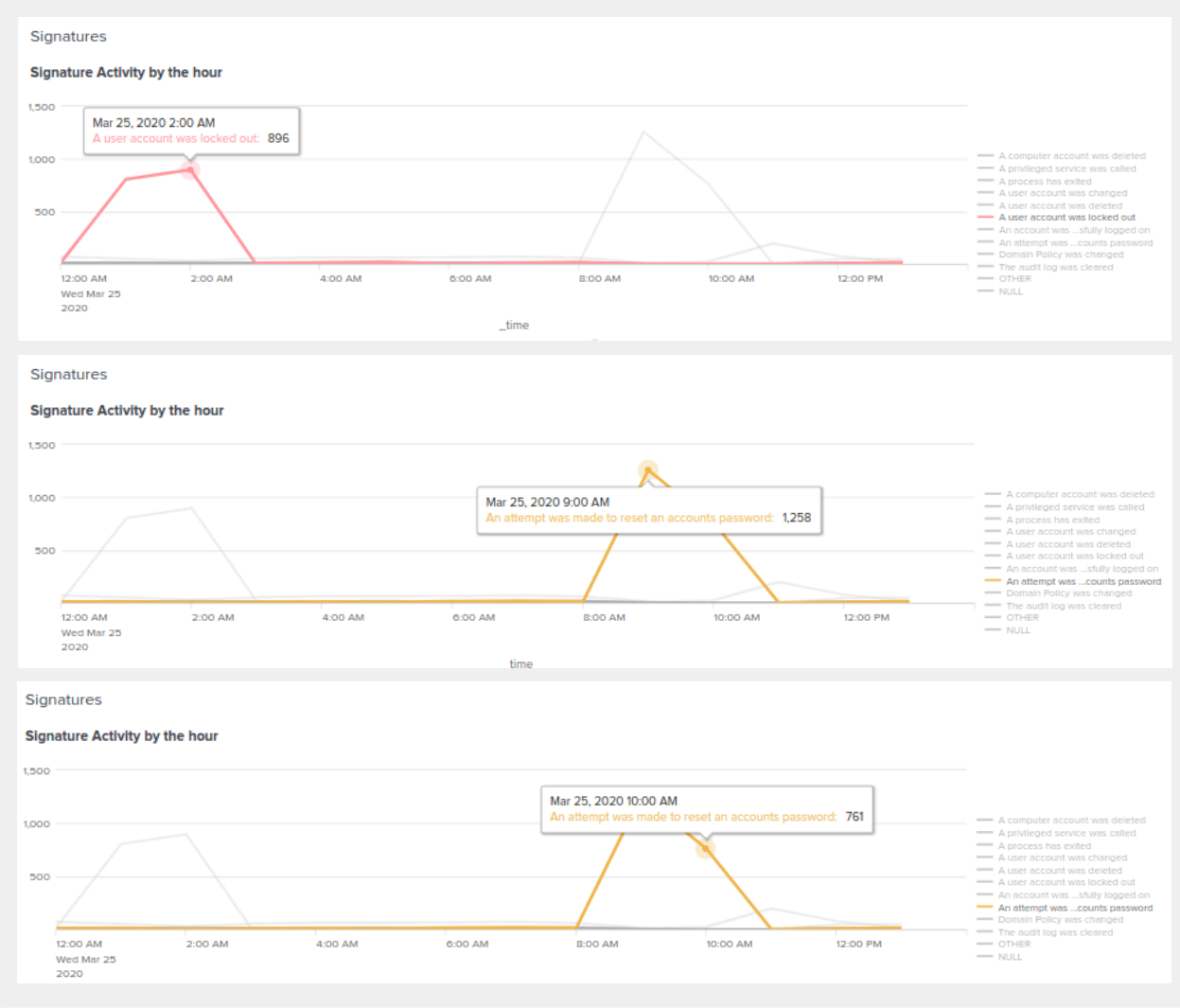


Attack Dashboard:

```
source="windows_server_attack_logs.csv" host="Windows_server_logs" sourcetype="csv" | timechart span=1h count by signature
```







- What signatures stand out?

```
The signatures that currently stand out are:
1. A user account was locked out
2. An attempt was made to reset an account password
```

- What time did it begin and stop for each signature?

```
The time it began and stopped were the following:
1) 1:00AM - 2:00AM    &    2) 9:00AM - 10:00AM
```

- What is the peak count of the different signatures?

The peak count of the different signatures were the following:
1) 896 & 2) 1258

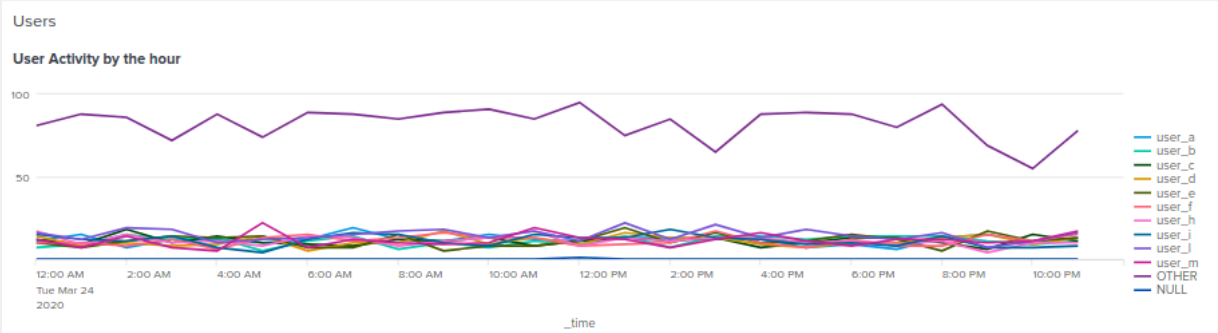
Dashboard Analysis for Users

- Does anything stand out as suspicious?

Our Dashboards indicate an activity irregularity between 2 users.

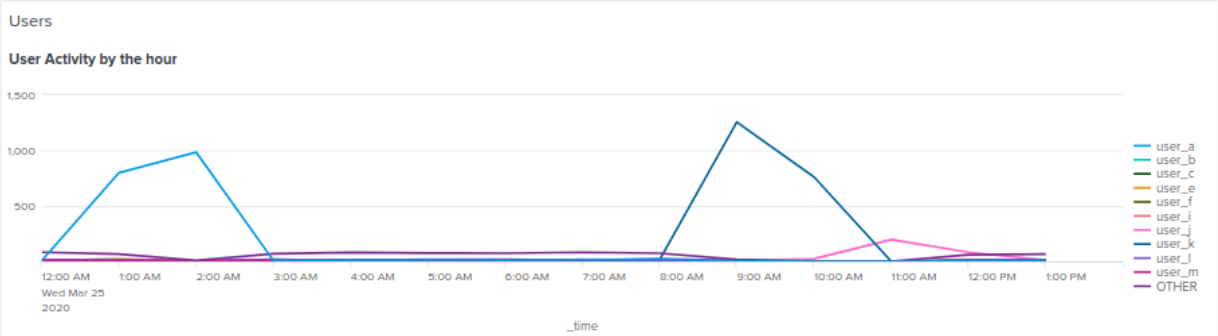
Regular Dashboard:

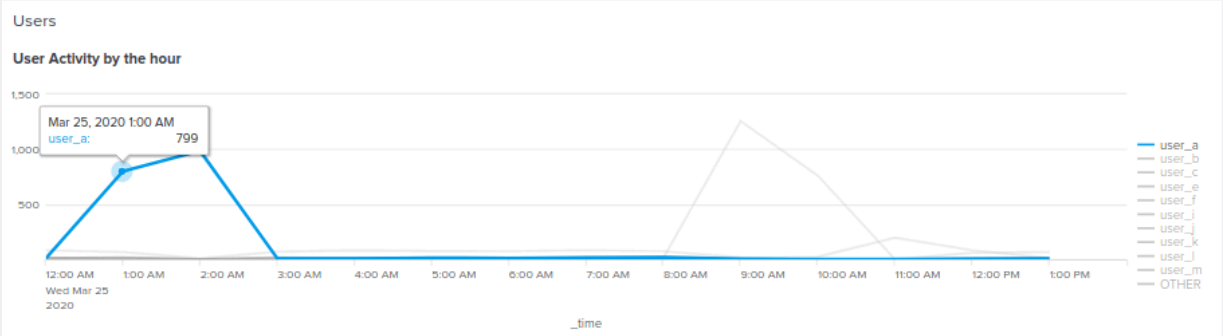
source="windows_server_logs.csv" host="Windows_server_logs" sourcetype="csv" **| timechart span=1h count by user**

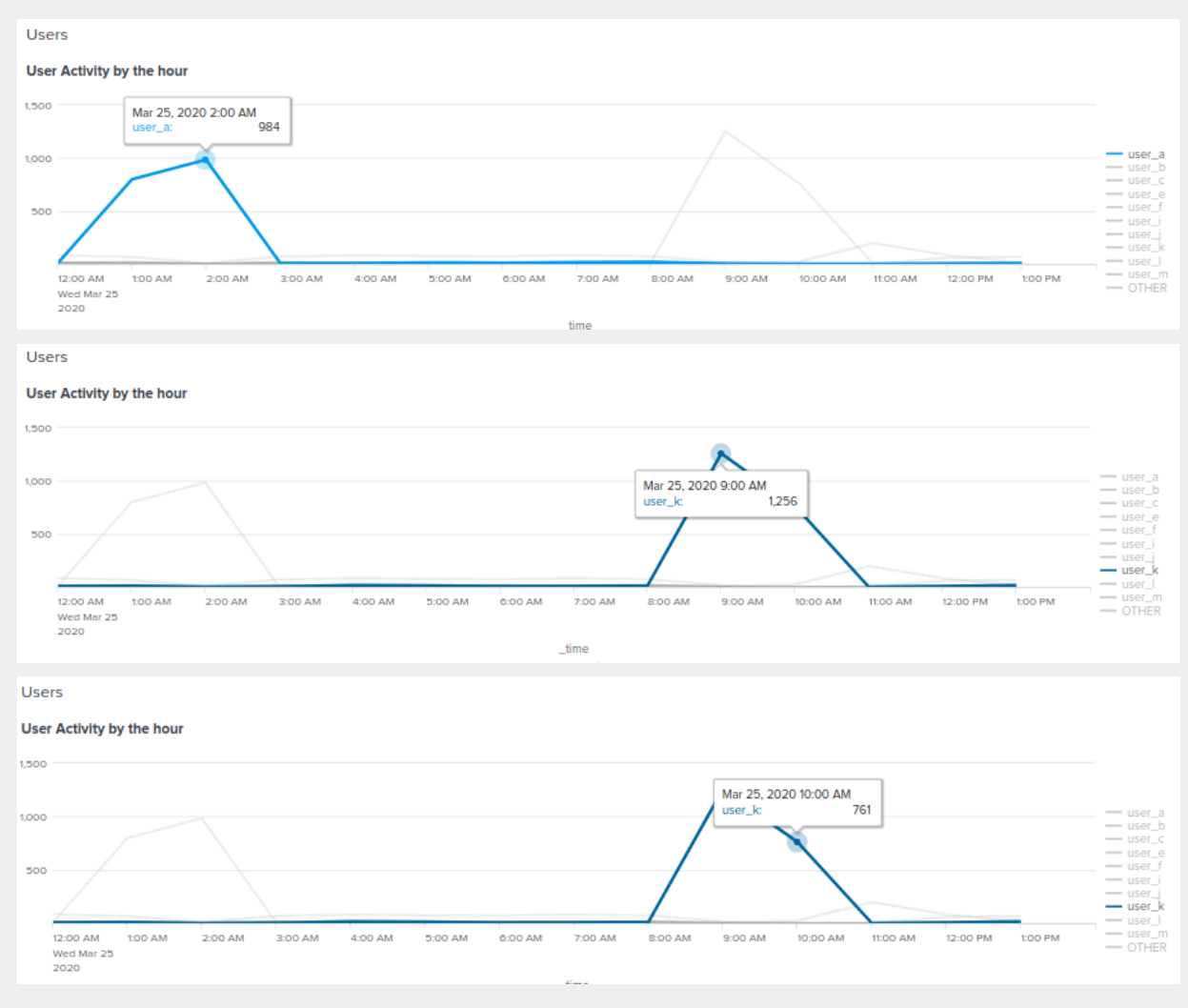


Attack Dashboard:

source="windows_server_attack_logs.csv" host="Windows_server_logs" sourcetype="csv" **| timechart span=1h count by user**







- Which users stand out?

```
The users that stand out were:
1) user_a
2) user_k
```

- What time did it begin and stop for each user?

```
The time it begins and stops for each user were:
1) 1:00AM - 2:00AM
2) 9:00AM - 10:00AM
```

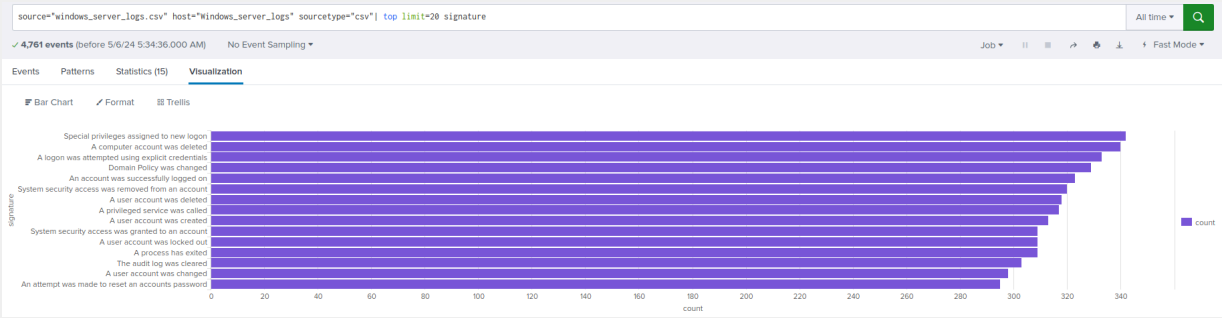
- What is the peak count of the different users?

```
The peak count shows:
1) 984
2) 1256
```

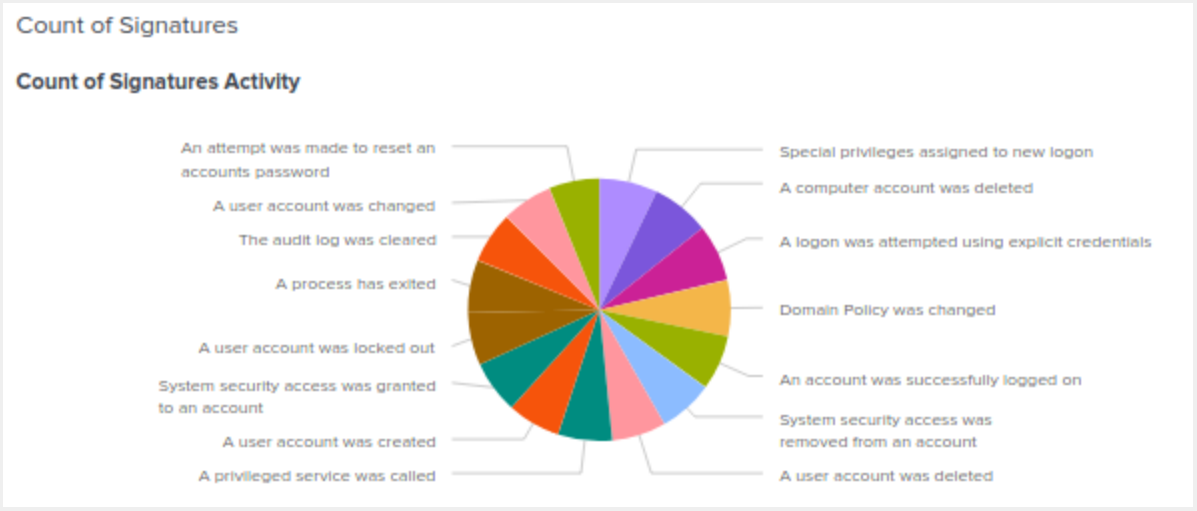
Dashboard Analysis for Signatures with Bar, Graph, and Pie Charts

- Does anything stand out as suspicious?

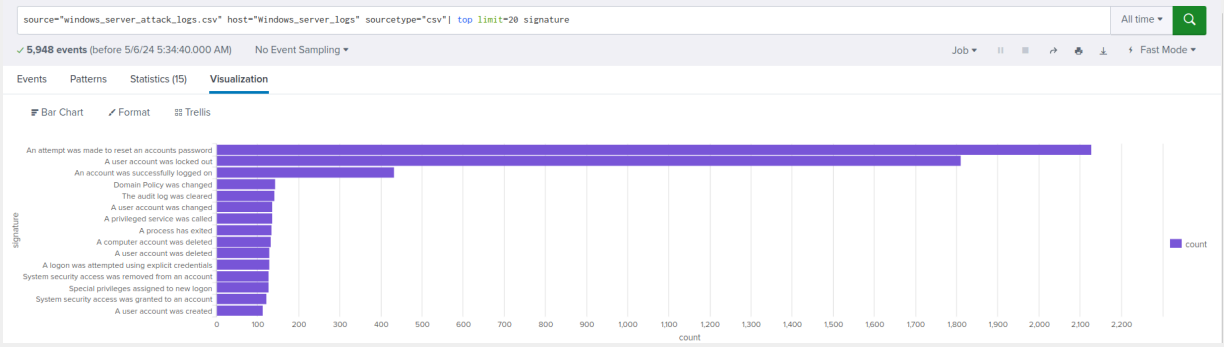
```
Our dashboard indicates we have a high volume for 2 signatures.

Regular Dashboard:
```



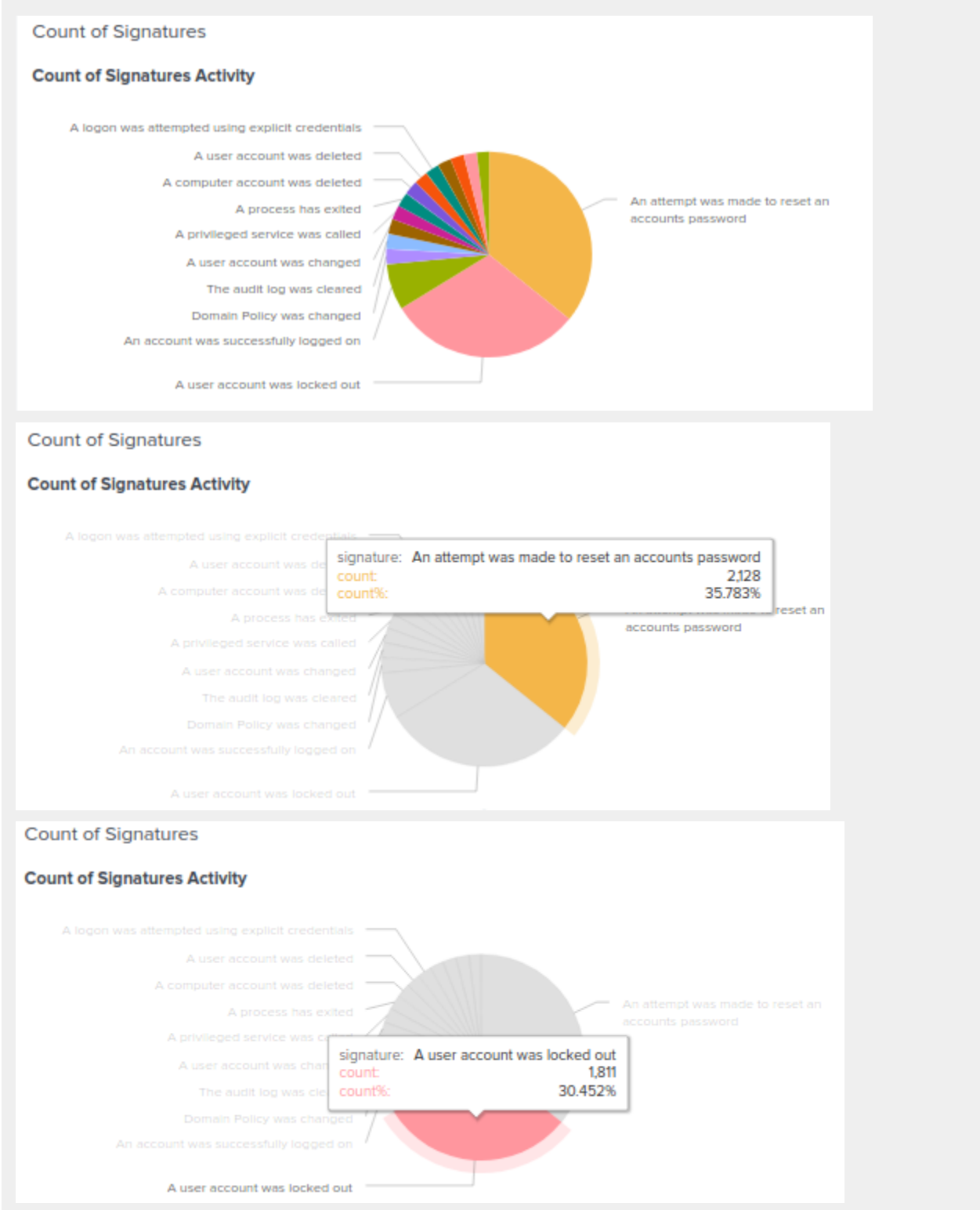
signature	count	percent
Special privileges assigned to new logon	342	7.187894
A computer account was deleted	340	7.145860
A logon was attempted using explicit credentials	333	6.998739
Domain Policy was changed	329	6.914670
An account was successfully logged on	323	6.788567
System security access was removed from an account	320	6.725515
A user account was deleted	318	6.683480
A privileged service was called	317	6.662463
A user account was created	313	6.578394
System security access was granted to an account	309	6.494325
A user account was locked out	309	6.494325
A process has exited	309	6.494325
The audit log was cleared	303	6.368222
A user account was changed	298	6.263136
An attempt was made to reset an accounts password	295	6.200084



Attack Dashboard:



signature	count	percent
An attempt was made to reset an accounts password	2128	35.782748
A user account was locked out	1811	30.452329
An account was successfully logged on	432	7.264167
Domain Policy was changed	143	2.404574
The audit log was cleared	142	2.387759
A user account was changed	137	2.303683
A privileged service was called	136	2.286867
A process has exited	134	2.253237
A computer account was deleted	133	2.236422
A user account was deleted	130	2.185976
A logon was attempted using explicit credentials	129	2.169161
System security access was removed from an account	128	2.152346
Special privileges assigned to new logon	127	2.135531
System security access was granted to an account	123	2.068270
A user account was created	114	1.916933



- Do the results match your findings in your time chart for signatures?

The Results match our findings for signatures.

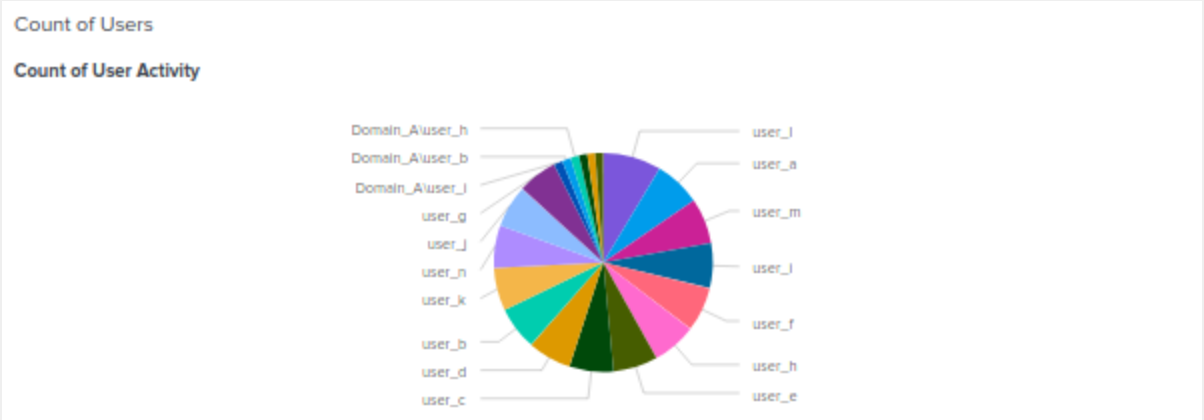
Dashboard Analysis for Users with Bar, Graph, and Pie Charts

- Does anything stand out as suspicious?

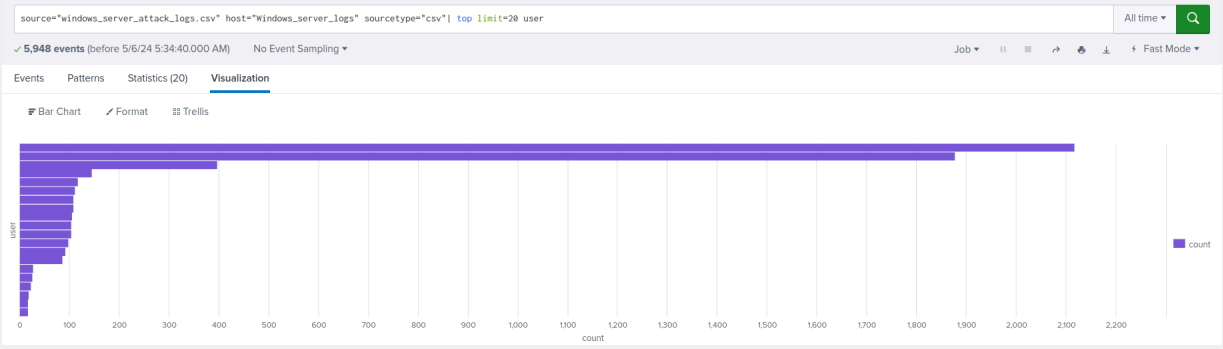
Our Dashboard indicates an Increase in activity for 2 users.

Regular Dashboard:

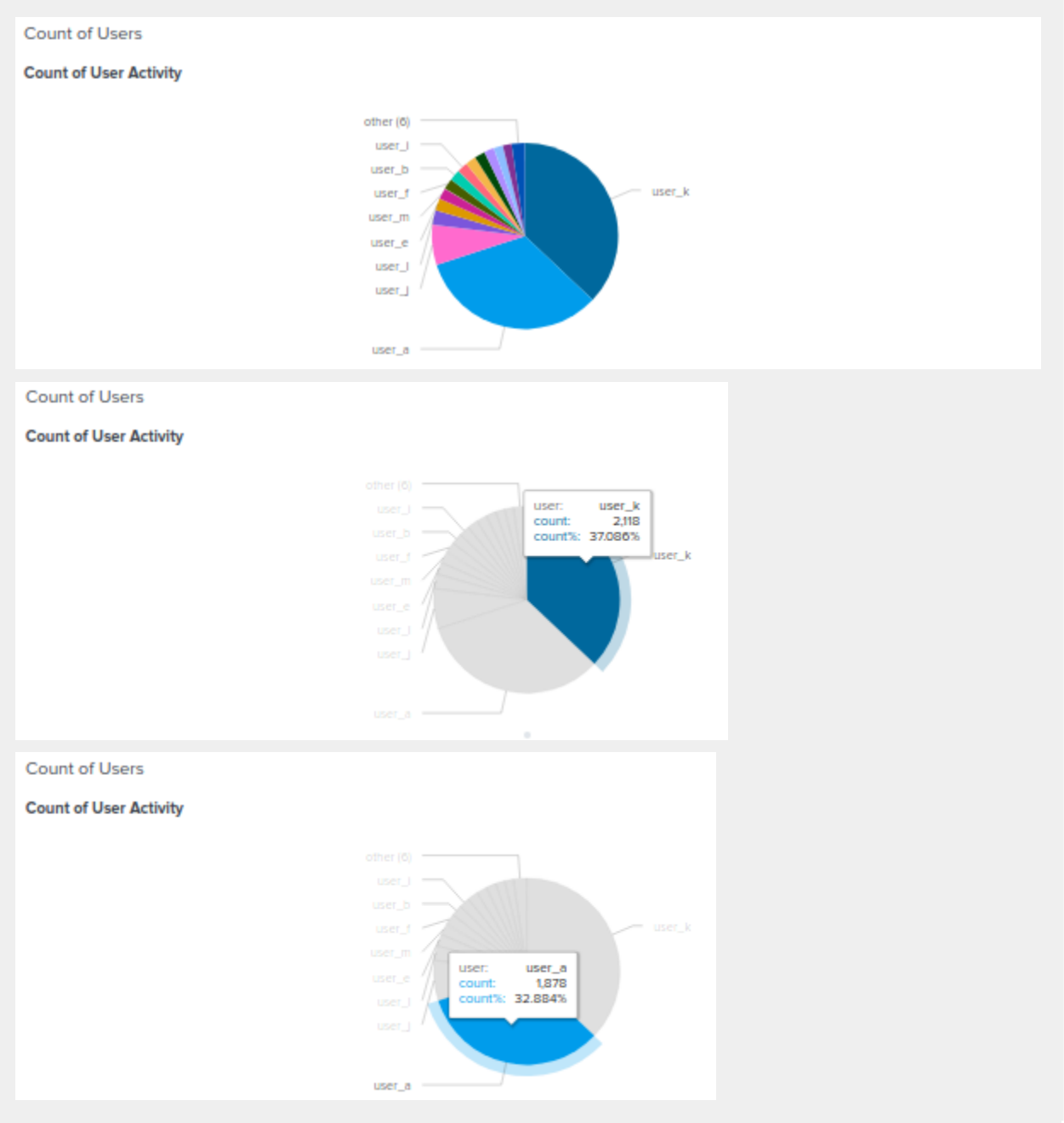
user	count	percent
user_l	353	7.415966
user_a	282	5.924370
user_m	275	5.777311
user_i	271	5.693277
user_f	270	5.672269
user_h	269	5.651261
user_e	269	5.651261
user_c	267	5.609244
user_d	264	5.546218
user_b	263	5.525210
user_k	260	5.462185
user_n	258	5.420168
user_j	256	5.378151
user_g	239	5.021008
Domain_A\user_i	54	1.134454
Domain_A\user_b	53	1.113445
Domain_A\user_h	52	1.092437
Domain_A\user_k	50	1.050420
Domain_A\user_j	48	1.008403
Domain_A\user_c	48	1.008403



Attack Dashboard:



user	count	percent
user_k	2118	35.608608
user_a	1878	31.573638
user_j	398	6.691325
user_l	145	2.437794
user_e	117	1.967048
user_m	112	1.882986
user_f	109	1.832549
user_b	109	1.832549
user_i	106	1.782112
user_n	105	1.765299
user_c	105	1.765299
user_g	98	1.647613
user_d	92	1.546738
user_h	87	1.462677
Domain_A\user_d	28	0.470746
Domain_A\user_g	27	0.453934
Domain_A\user_e	23	0.386685
Domain_A\user_m	19	0.319435
Domain_A\user_n	18	0.302623
Domain_A\user_f	17	0.285810



- Do the results match your findings in your time chart for users?

```
The results match our findings for users.
```

Dashboard Analysis for Users with Statistical Charts

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of using this report, compared to the other user panels that you created?

One of the benefits of utilizing statistical time charts for signatures and users is the ability to swiftly ascertain the count of each event or user on an hourly basis. However, a potential drawback of these charts, when compared to bar graphs and pie charts, is the lack of immediate clarity regarding shifts in activity.

Visualizations such as bar graphs and pie charts provide a quick overview of where there are surges or decreases in an event and at what time. Specifically, pie charts offer a rapid understanding of which event or user has seen an increase in activity, along with the corresponding count. These graphical representations can be instrumental in identifying patterns and trends in the data.

Apache Web Server Log Questions

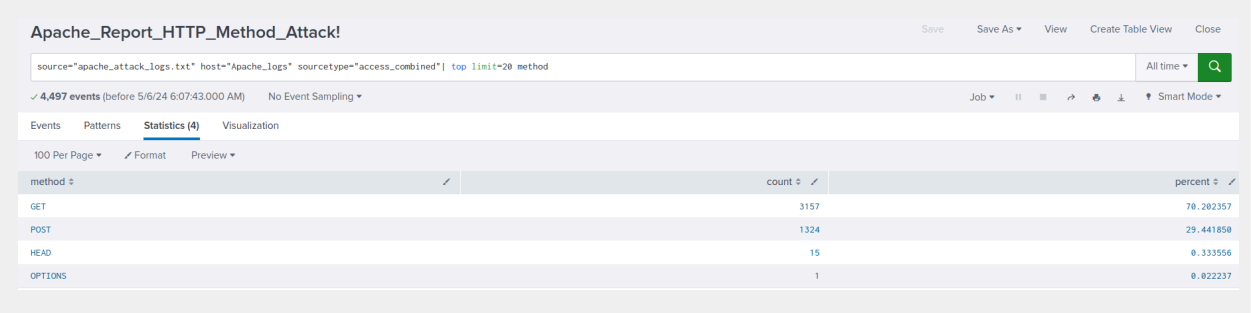
Report Analysis for Methods

- Did you detect any suspicious changes in HTTP methods? If so, which one?

We have identified suspicious changes associated with HTTP methods, particularly in relation to POST requests.

Regular Report:

Attack Report:



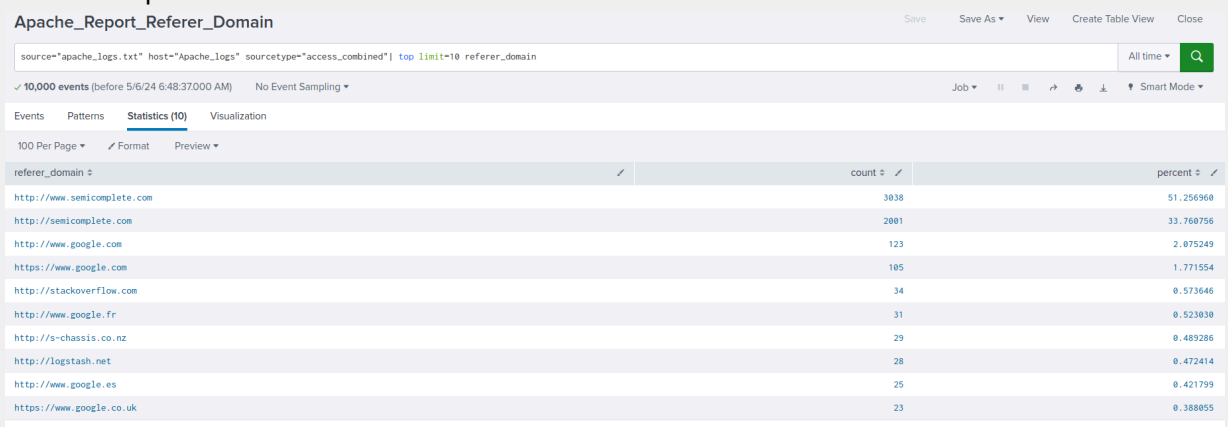
- What is that method used for?

```
The POST method is used to send data to a server to create/update a
resource.
```

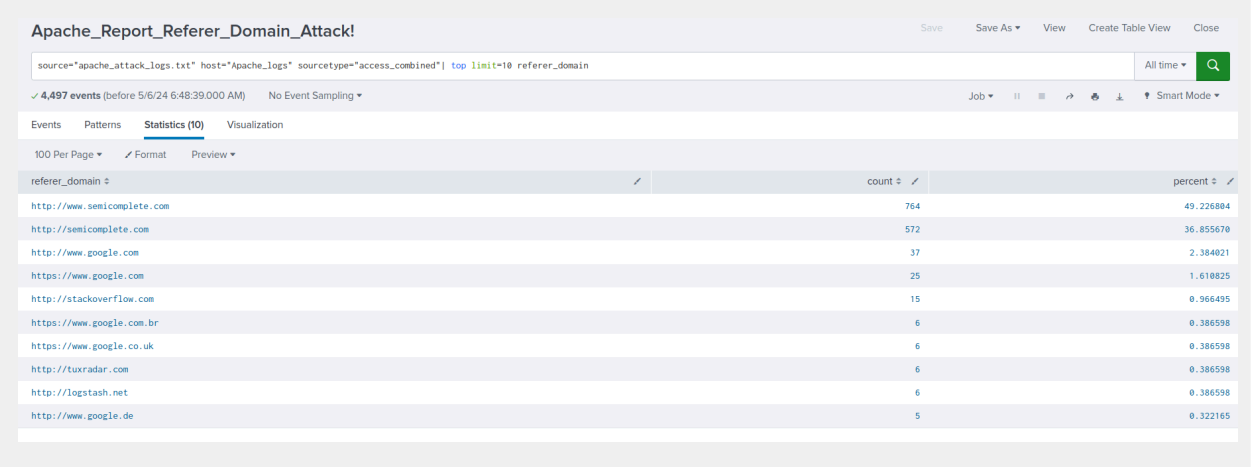
Report Analysis for Referrer Domains

- Did you detect any suspicious changes in referrer domains?

```
Our Report indicates there is a decrease in Referrer Domain count.

Normal Report:
```




```
Attack Report:
```

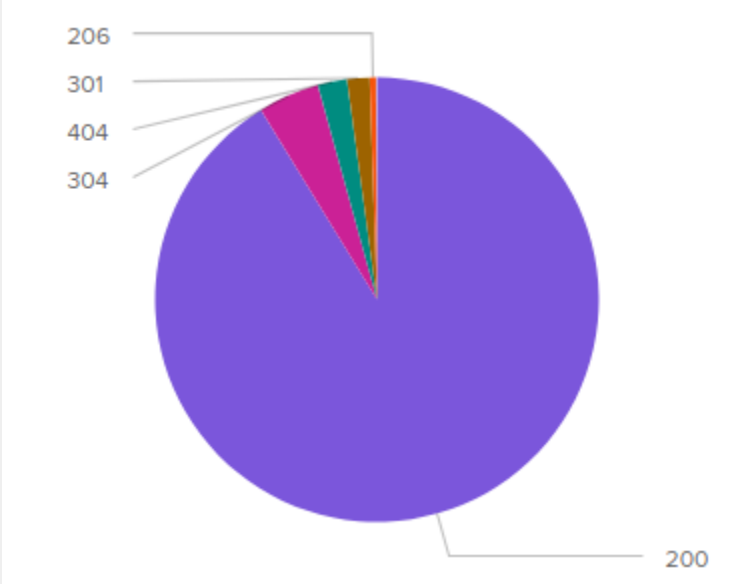


Report Analysis for HTTP Response Codes

- Did you detect any suspicious changes in HTTP response codes?

HTTP Response for 200 has around 8% decrease in events
As for the HTTP Response for 404 has an increase around 13% in events

Regular Report:



Apache_Report_HTTP_Response

Save | Save As | View | Create Table View | Close

```
source="apache_logs.txt" host="Apache_logs" sourcetype="access_combined"| top limit=20 status
```

All time

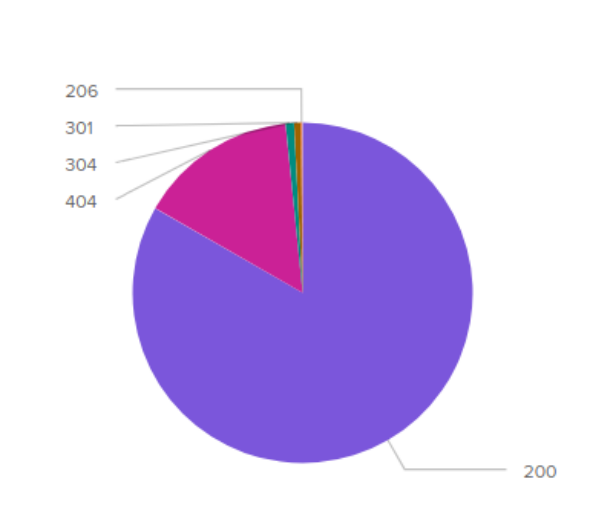
✓ 10,000 events (before 5/6/24 3:16:37.000 PM) No Event Sampling | Job | Smart Mode

Events | Patterns | Statistics (8) | Visualization

100 Per Page | Format | Preview

status	count	percent
200	9126	91.260000
304	445	4.450000
404	213	2.130000
301	164	1.640000
206	45	0.450000
500	3	0.030000
416	2	0.020000
403	2	0.020000

Attack Report:



Apache_Report_HTTP_Response_Attack!

Save | Save As | View | Create Table View | Close

```
source="apache_attack_logs.txt" host="Apache_logs" sourcetype="access_combined"| top limit=20 status
```

All time

✓ 4,497 events (before 5/6/24 3:16:39.000 PM) No Event Sampling | Job | Smart Mode

Events | Patterns | Statistics (7) | Visualization

100 Per Page | Format | Preview

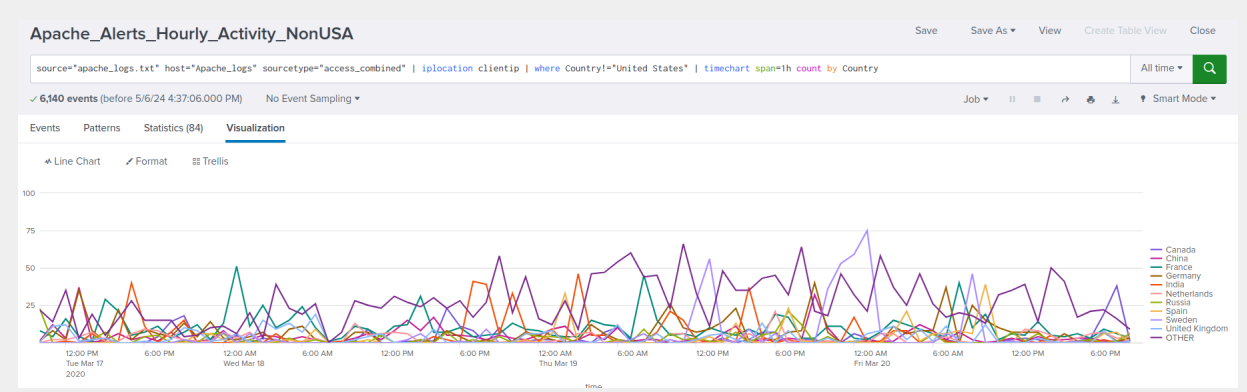
status	count	percent
200	3746	83.299978
404	679	15.098955
304	36	0.800534
301	29	0.644874
206	5	0.111185
500	1	0.022237
403	1	0.022237

Alert Analysis for International Activity

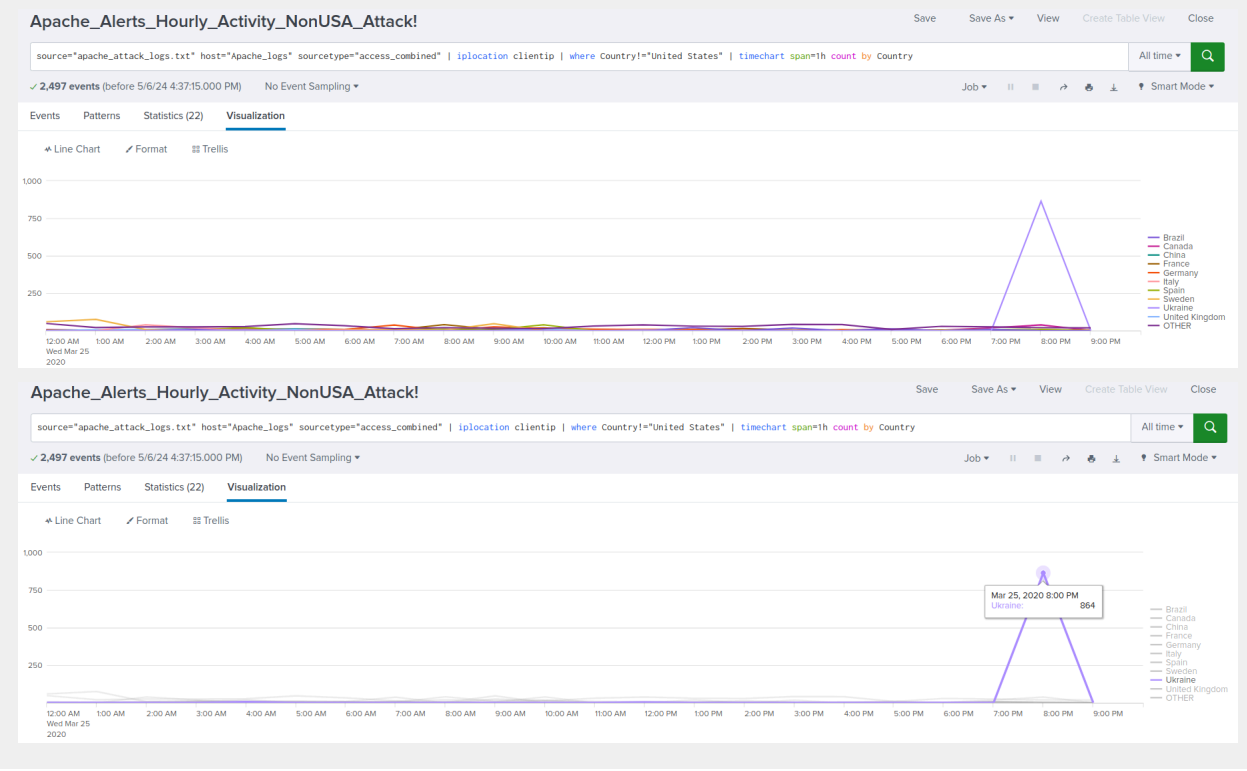
- Did you detect a suspicious volume of international activity?

Our Alert demonstrates an increased spike of events from Ukraine.

Regular Alert:



Attack Alert:

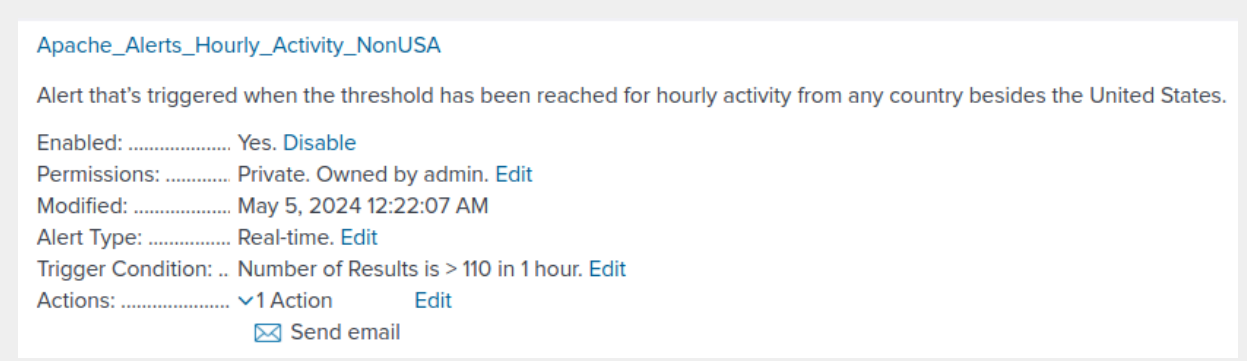


- If so, what was the count of the hour(s) it occurred in?

The count shows as 864 at 8:00PM

- Would your alert be triggered for this activity?

Our Alert has a current threshold of >110 in 1 hour, In conclusion the alert would have triggered.



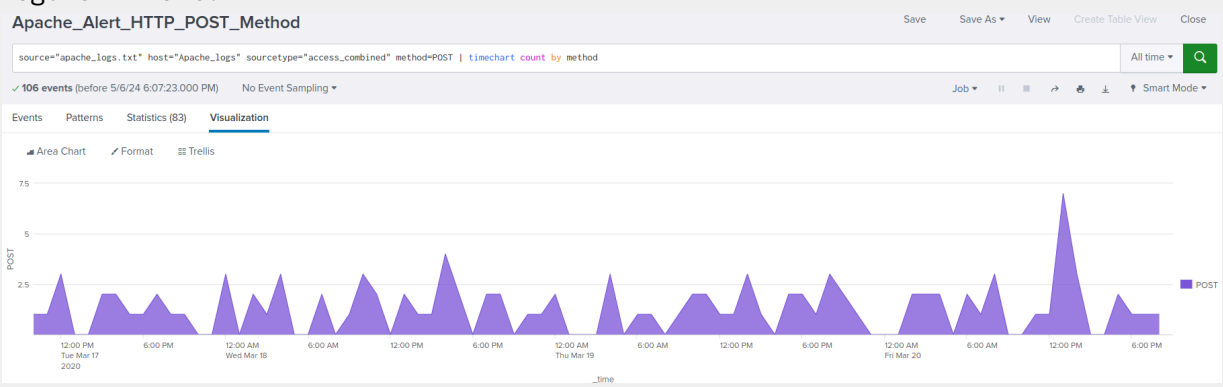
- After reviewing, would you change the threshold that you previously selected?

```
After reviewing our current Alert, we intend to uphold the existing
threshold. However we will continuously inspect the Apache events with the
prospect of augmenting the threshold value in the forthcoming period.
```

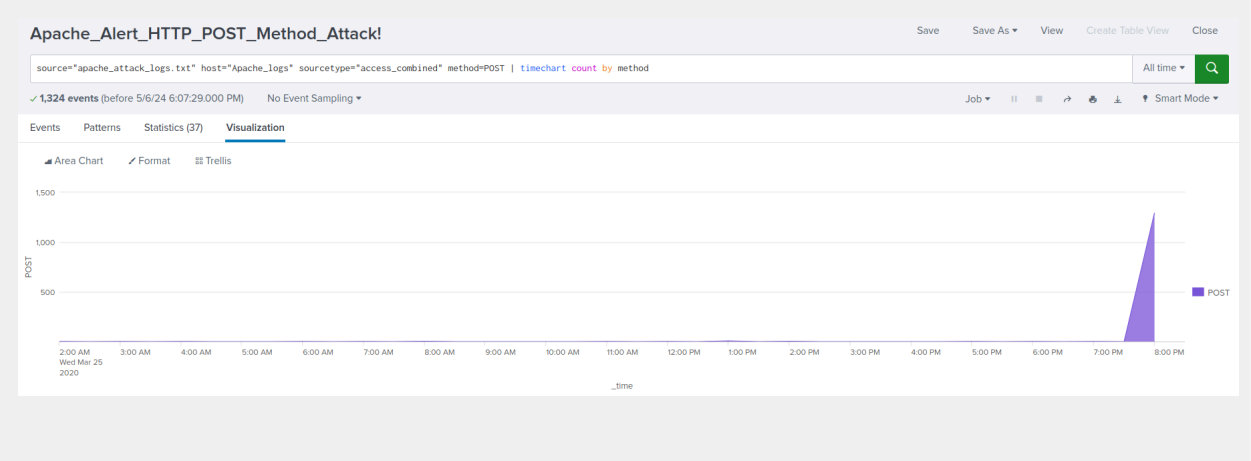
Alert Analysis for HTTP POST Activity

- Did you detect any suspicious volume of HTTP POST activity?

```
Our Alert shows a decreased number of events for HTTP POST for several hours
& A spike occurrence later on.

Regular Alert:
```




```
Attack Alert:
```



- If so, what was the count of the hour(s) it occurred in?

```
The count transpired to be at 1296 and occurred at 8:00PM
```

- When did it occur?

```
The event transpired on March 25, 2020
```

- After reviewing, would you change the threshold that you previously selected?

```
Our current threshold is >15 in 1 hour. After reviewing we would refrain
from altering the threshold. However, we will undertake an in-depth
examination of the daily occurrences to ascertain whether a future increase
is warranted.
```

Apache_Alert_HTTP_POST_Method

Alert that's triggered when the threshold has been reached for the hourly count of the HTTP POST method.

Enabled: ..... Yes. Disable
Permissions: ..... Private. Owned by admin. Edit
Modified: ..... May 6, 2024 7:07:49 PM
Alert Type: ..... Real-time. Edit
Trigger Condition: .. Number of Results is > 15 in 1 hour. Edit
Actions: ..... ✓1 Action Edit
Send email

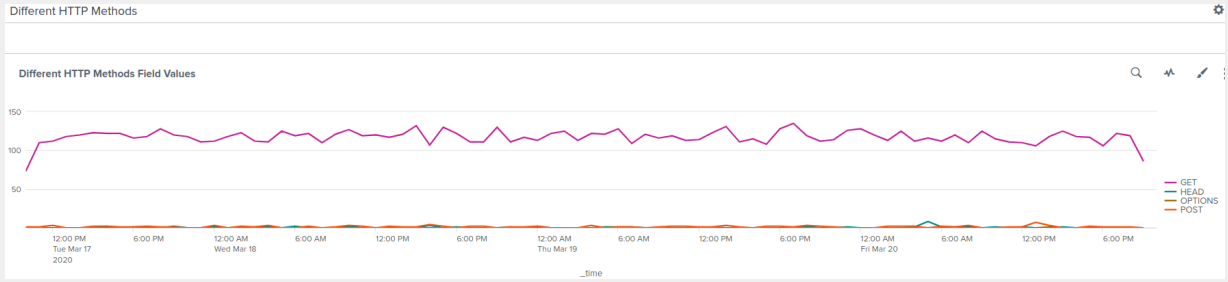
Dashboard Analysis for Time Chart of HTTP Methods

- Does anything stand out as suspicious?

The timechart displays a significant difference for HTTP Methods.

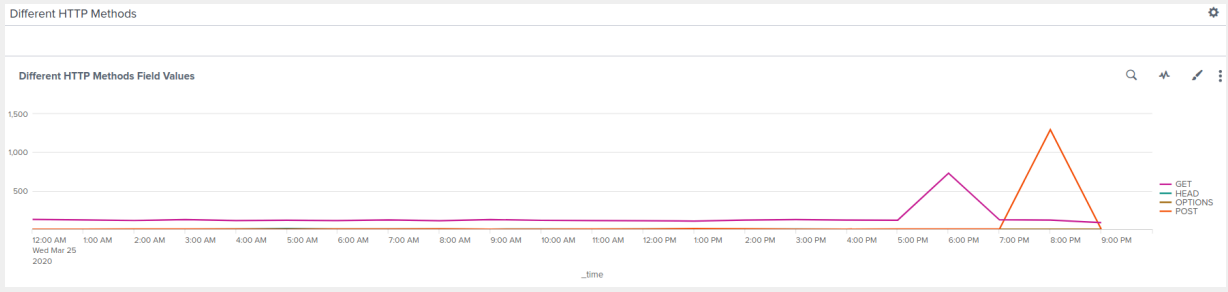
Regular Dashboard:

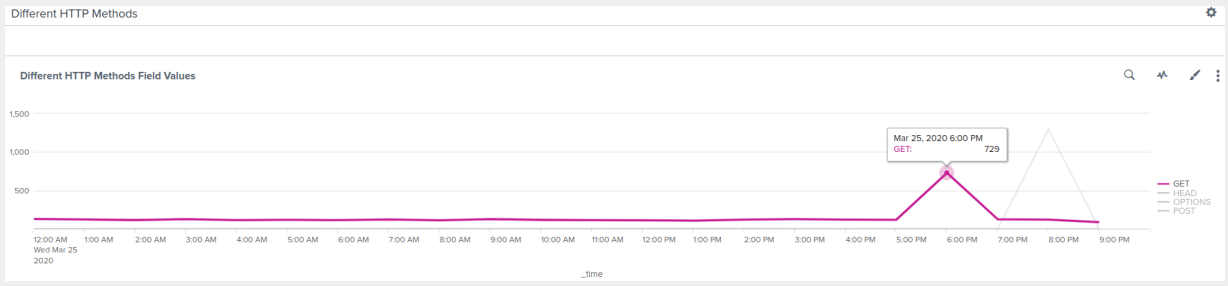
source="apache_logs.txt" host="Apache_logs" sourcetype="access_combined" **| timechart span=1h count by method**

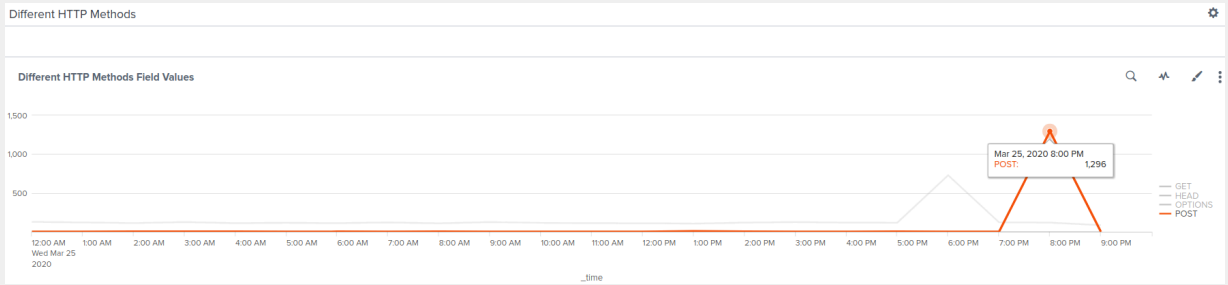


Attack Dashboard:

source="apache_attack_logs.txt" host="Apache_logs" sourcetype="access_combined" **| timechart span=1h count by method**







- Which method seems to be used in the attack?

The Method used in the current attack demonstrates GET & POST

- At what times did the attack start and stop?

```
The time of the attack as displayed on our dashboard indicate the following:
GET 5:00PM - 7:00PM
POST 7:00PM - 9:00PM
```

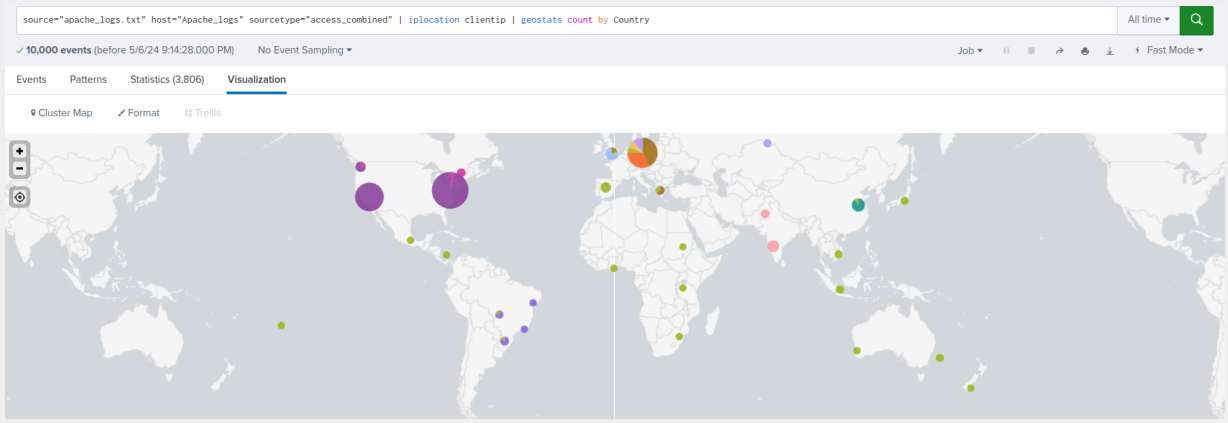
- What is the peak count of the top method during the attack?

```
The top Method Count during the attack would be for POST at 1,296 following
GET at 729 count.
```

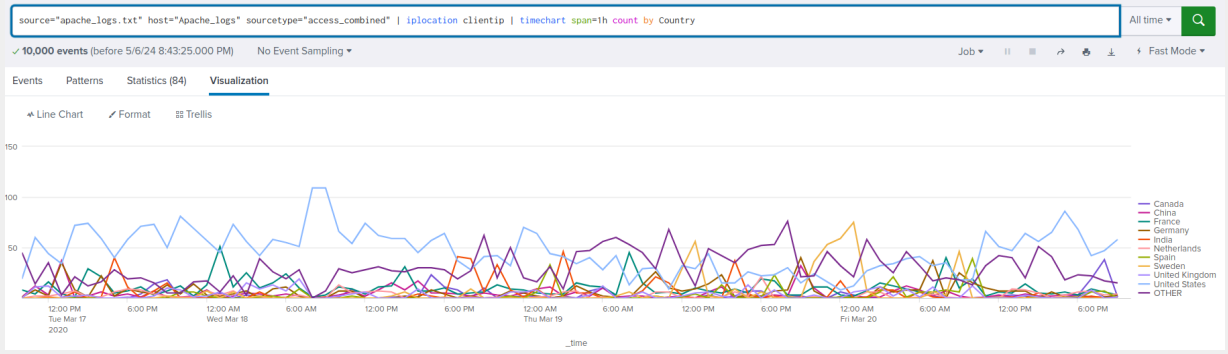
Dashboard Analysis for Cluster Map

- Does anything stand out as suspicious?

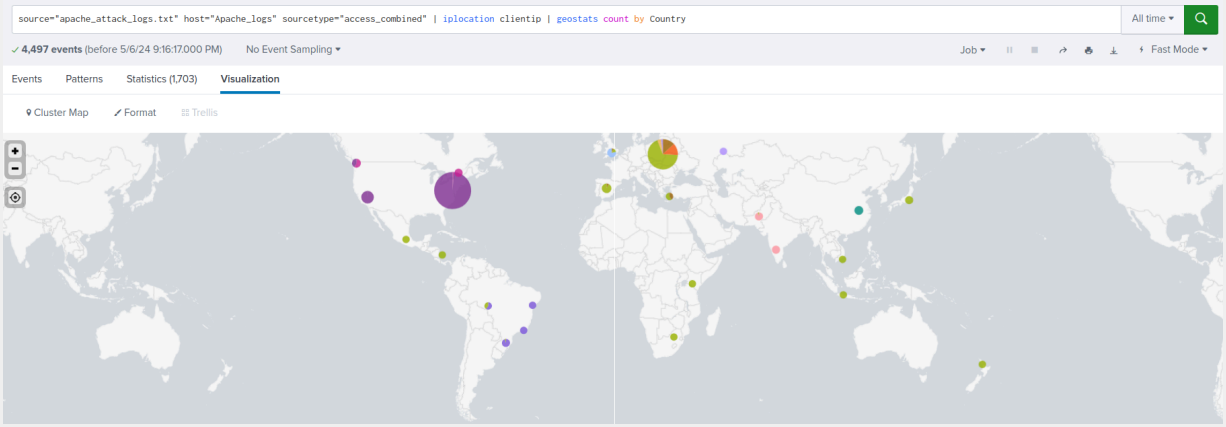
Regular Dashboard:



Regular Dashboard: Line Chart Comparison

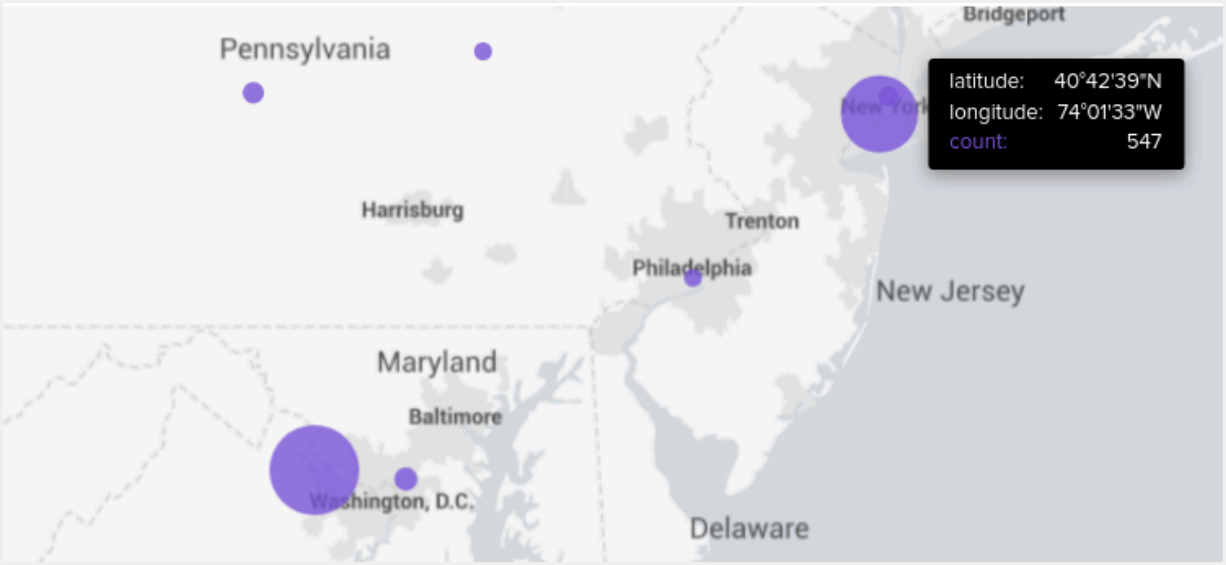


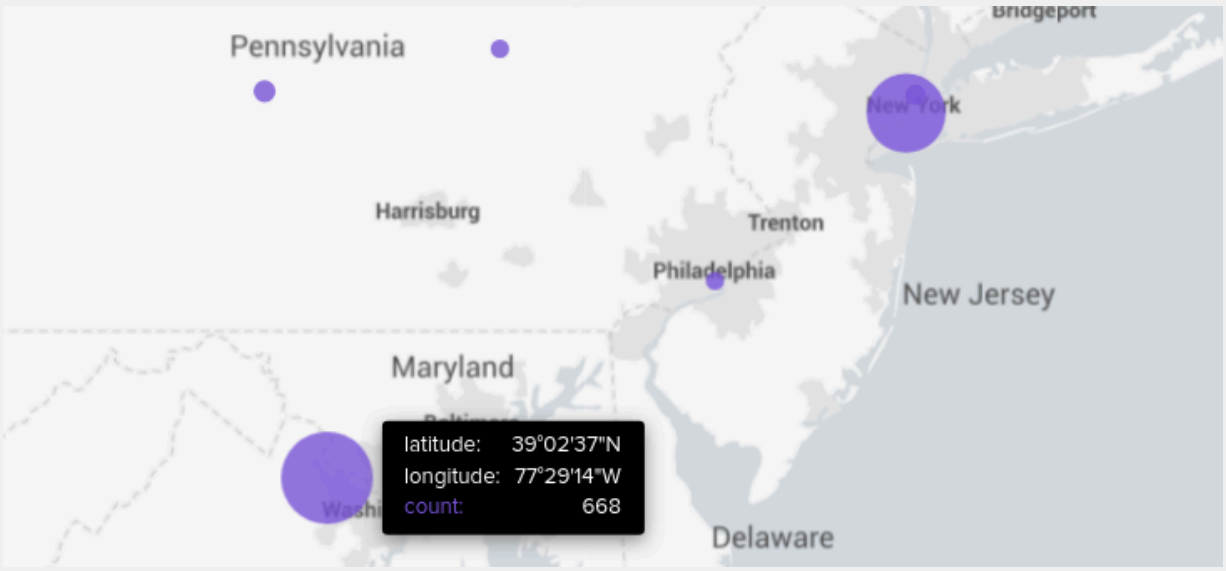
Attack Dashboard:



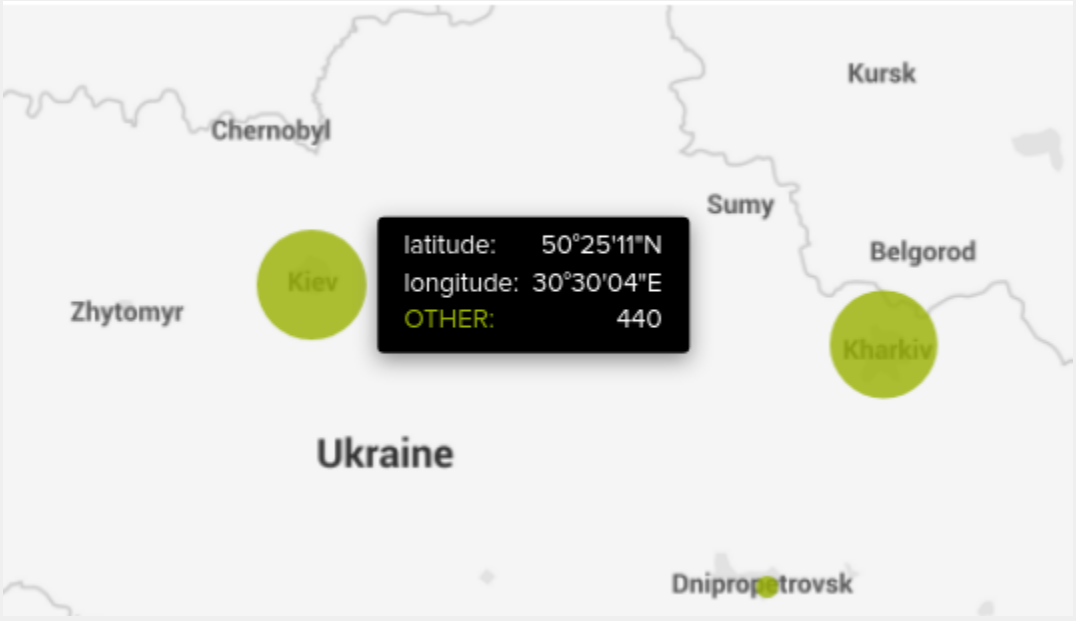
Results:

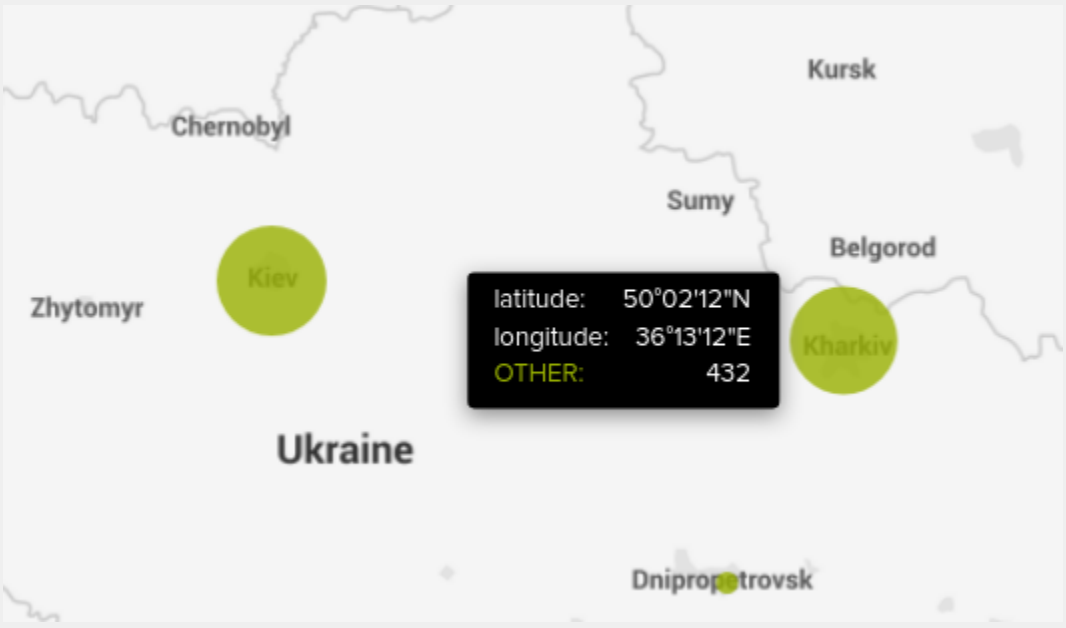
1) United States:





2) Ukraine:





- Which new location (city, country) on the map has a high volume of activity? (**Hint**: Zoom in on the map.)

```
The current high Country volume of activity are:
1) United States: New York, Washington DC
2) Ukraine: Kiev, Kharkiv
```

- What is the count of that city?

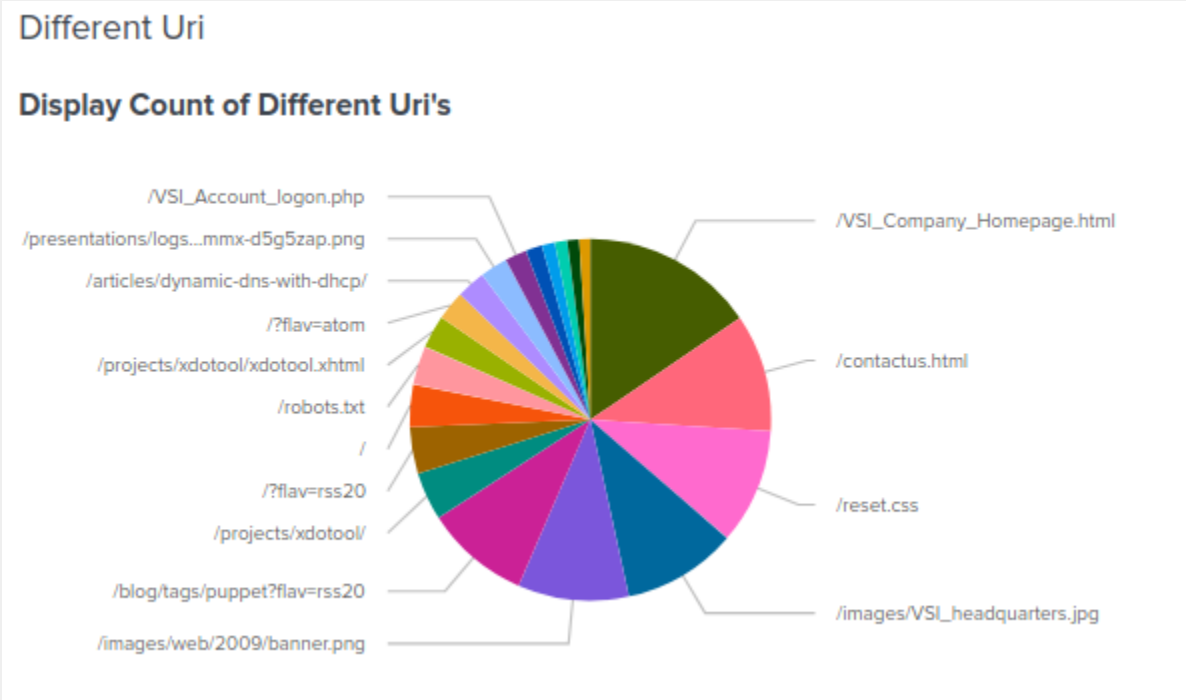
The Count of activities are demonstrated as follows:
1) United States:
   - **New York** 547
   - **Washington DC** 668
2) Ukraine:
   - **Kiev** 440
   - **Kharkiv** 432

Dashboard Analysis for URI Data

- Does anything stand out as suspicious?

There are suspicious anomalies occurring on our URI Data.

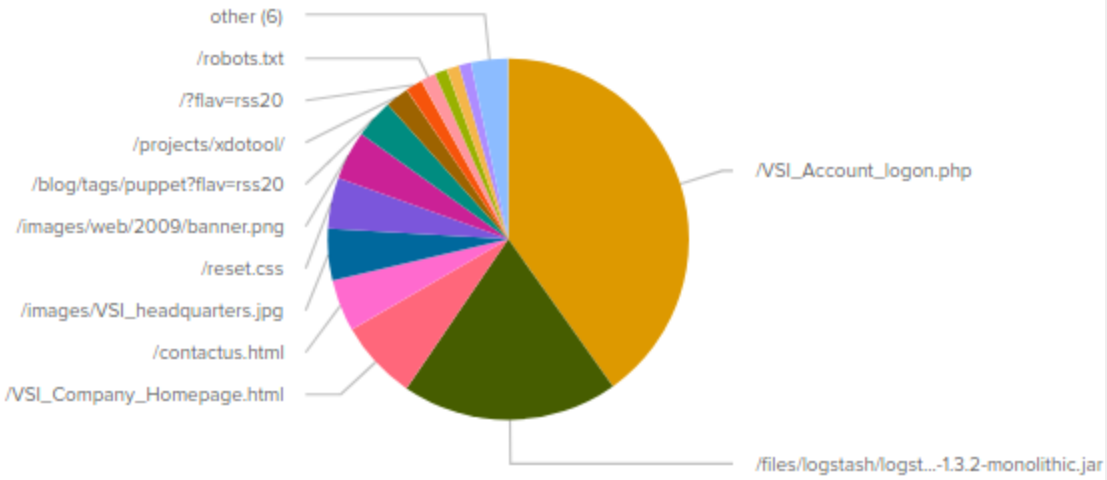
Regular Dashboard:

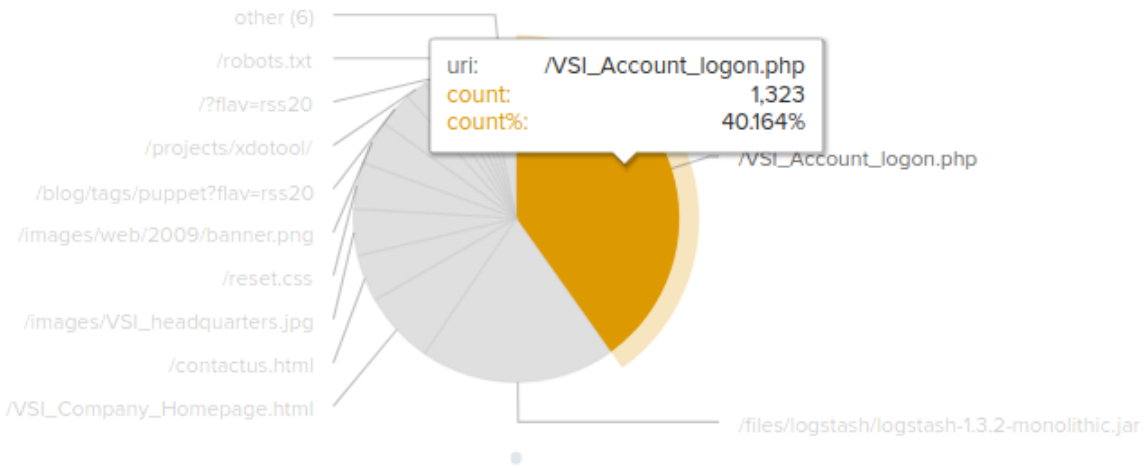


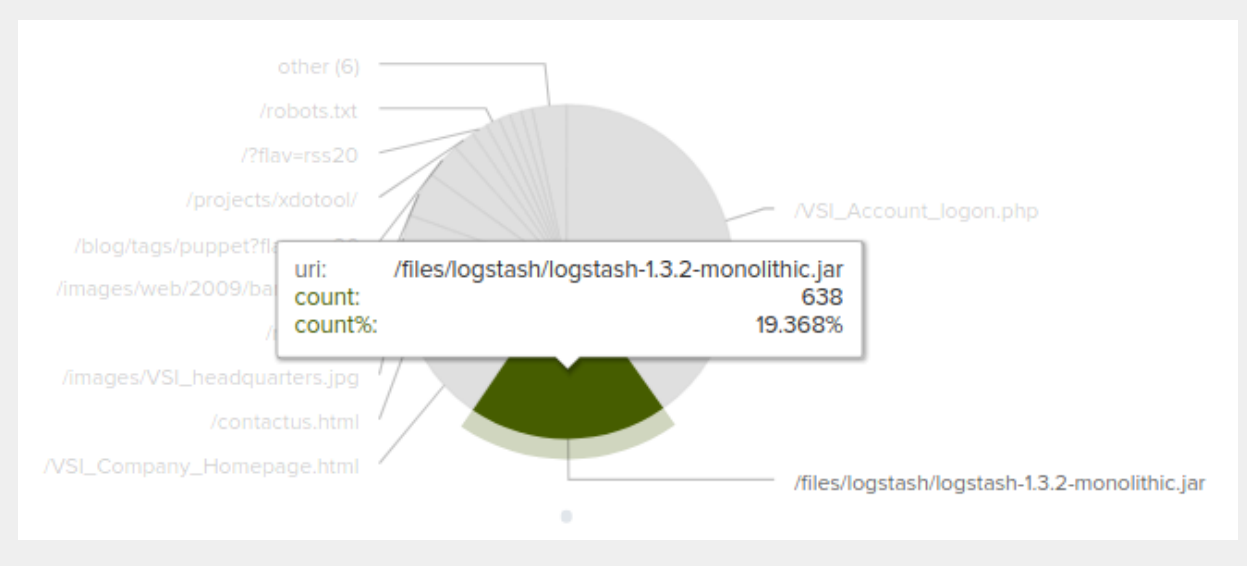
Attack Dashboard:

Different Uri

Display Count of Different Uri's







- What URI is hit the most?

The Current Uris affected the most are the following:

1) **/VSI/_Account_logon.php** at 1323
2) **/files/logstash-1.3.2-monolithic.jar** at 638

- Based on the URI being accessed, what could the attacker potentially be doing?

Based on the URI being accessed, the High traffic on ***/VSI/_Account_logon.php*** and ***/files/logstash-1.3.2-monolithic.jar*** the attacker could potentially be doing the following:

Brute Force Attack: Multiple attempts to log in by guessing username and password combinations on the /VSI/_Account_logon.php page.

Denial of Service (DoS) Attack: Overwhelming server traffic on any page, possibly causing server unavailability.

SQL Injection: Inserting malicious SQL statements into entry fields, if the login code isn't properly secured.