

CNN

Business

WatchListenLive TV

→

Hot Stocks →

39,065.261.53% ▼AMD

Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.

160.43

- 5.09

3.08% ▼

5,267.840.74% ▼NVDA

NVIDIA Corporation

,037.99

+ 88.49

9.32% ▲

16,736.030.39% ▼NIO

NIO Inc. Sponsored ADR Class A

4.80

- 0.44

8.40% ▼

Fear & Greed Index

51

Late: Main exch. New: and unive head clash respo to ca artis

Dow more 600 j notcl wors the y

Elon says take jobs

FBI warns consumers not to use public phone charging stations

By [Jennifer Korn](#)
⌚ 2 minute read · Updated 12:55 PM EDT, Wed April 12, 2023

f

X

✉

🔗

[Video Ad Feedback](#)

Here's how to keep your passwords safe, according to a hacker

02:14 - Source: [CNN](#)

[See More Videos](#)

New York (CNN) — The FBI is warning consumers against using public phone charging stations in order to avoid exposing their devices to malicious software.

Public USB stations like the kind found at malls and airports are being used by bad actors to spread malware and monitoring software, according to a [tweet](#) last week from the FBI's Denver branch. The agency did not provide any specific examples.

“Carry your own charger and USB cord and use an electrical outlet instead,” the agency advised in the tweet.

While public charging stations are attractive to many when devices are running critically low on battery, security experts have for years raised concerns about the risk. In 2011, researchers coined the term “juice jacking” to describe the problem.

“Just by plugging your phone into a [compromised] power strip or charger, your device is now infected, and that compromises all your data,” Drew Paik, formerly of security firm Authentic8, explained to CNN in 2017.

The cord you use to charge your phone is also used to send data from your phone to other devices. For instance, when you plug your iPhone into your Mac with the charging cord, you can download photos from your phone to your computer.

If a port is compromised, there’s no limit to what information a hacker could take, Paik previously explained to CNN. That includes your email, text messages, photos and contacts.

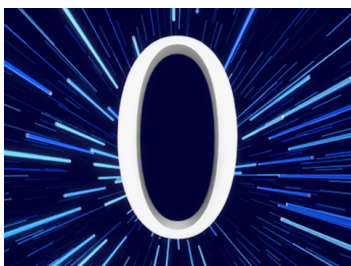
“The FBI regularly provides reminders and public service announcements in conjunction with our partners,” Vikki Migoya, public affairs officer at the FBI’s Denver branch, told CNN. “This was a general reminder for the American public to stay safe and diligent, especially while traveling.”

The Federal Communications Commission also updated a blog post on Tuesday warning that a corrupted charging port can allow a malicious actor to lock a device or extract personal data and passwords.

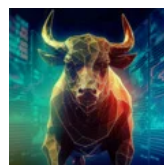
“In some cases, criminals may have intentionally left cables plugged in at charging stations,” according to the FCC blog post. “There have even been reports of infected cables being given away as promotional gifts.”

PAID PARTNER CONTENT

Dianomi



Learn more about CFS's
managed account
solution with ZERO
Admin Fees



Bond Bull Market Rides On

Sponsored by PGIM Fixed Income



Learn the skills you need to win on
innovation. Explore our programs.