

2018 Threats Predictions

McAfee Labs

Machine learning

The development of machine learning to protect organizations will fuel an arms race between defenders and attackers.



Cybercriminals

Cybercriminals will also employ machine learning to support their attacks



Detects and corrects

Machine learning detects and corrects vulnerabilities, suspicious behavior, and zero-day attacks



Speeds decisions

Human-machine teaming augments our judgment and speeds decisions

Ransomware

Profitability of traditional ransomware attacks decline as defenses improve, and attacker focus shifts to high net-worth individuals, sabotage, and business disruption.

Total ransomware grew 56% in the past four quarters



Fewer types

Fewer types of ransomware as attackers buy off-the-shelf dark market products



Helps stop payments

NoMoreRansom.org aids in stopping payments



More attacks

More attacks by unscrupulous competitors or criminals trying to build protection rackets



Helps stop cybercriminals

Cyber Threat Alliance helps law enforcement stop cybercriminals

Serverless apps

Serverless apps can save time and reduce costs, but they can also increase the attack surface.



Data in transit

Vulnerable to data in transit across a network



Greater granularity

Enable greater granularity, such as faster billing



Privilege escalation and application dependencies

Vulnerable to privilege escalation and application dependencies

Surrendering privacy

Manufacturers looking to make more money will gather our personal data—with or without our agreement.



Corporations

Corporations could break the law, pay a fine, and continue the practice



Agreements

Customers rarely read agreements; corporations often change them afterward



Networked devices

Networked devices transmit too much information

Protecting our children

Our children face an amazing future of gadgets, services, and experiences, but they also face tremendous risks to their privacy.



Online history

Online history—videos, pictures in bars—can become digital baggage

Employers

Employers make hiring decisions influenced by search results

Change default passwords

Turn off unneeded features; change default passwords

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Visit www.mcafee.com/2018Predictions for the full report.