A Pulse on the State of Cybersecurity in Education

Educational institutions - from K-12 schools to universities - ranked among the most frequently targeted sectors for cyberattacks in 2024, including ransomware, data breaches, and system exploits. The appeal to cybercriminals lies in education's rich data repositories containing sensitive personal, financial, and health information. This combination of valuable data and sector vulnerabilities makes educational organizations particularly attractive targets.

Threats and Dangers in Education Today

Top 3
Education was among the top targeted industries, along with Healthcare and Government[1]

3,828
cyber-attacks hit education/research sector per week in Q3 2024 globally[2]

95%
of education organizations claim ransomware cybercriminals attempted to compromise backup data during their attacks[3]

71%
of attacks on educational institutions successfully compromised backup systems in 2024, making education the second most targeted sector[4]

Growth
From 2022 to 2024, cybersecurity risk levels for educational and nonprofit sectors escalated from "moderate" to "high" globally[5]

116
ransomware attacks hit educational institutions, impacting 1.8 million records, with an average $847,000 demanded per incident[6]

How Connection Can Help

Connection is your partner for modern infrastructure and cybersecurity solutions and services. From hardware and software to consulting and customized solutions, we're leading the way in infrastructure modernization.

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Learn more about how we support education:

K-12 Education   Higher Education

Contact an Expert
1.800.998.0067

Sources:
1. Check Point, The State of Cyber Security 2025
2. Check Point, A Close Look at Q3 2024
3. Sophos, The State of Ransomware in Education 2024
4. Sophos, The State of Ransomware 2024
5. Higher Ed Dive, Moody's rates education sector at 'high' cyber risk in 2024
6. Comparitech, Ransomware roundup: 2024 end-of-year report

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