

The background of the slide features a laptop with a glowing blue screen. The screen displays financial data, including stock tickers like "stck01a5", "stck01a", "stck01a56", "stck01a25", and "stck01a", along with numerical values and green/red indicators. The background is filled with a digital aesthetic, including binary code (0s and 1s) and glowing blue and red particles.

# **Ransomware: What Firms Need to Know!**

## **RECORDING**

You will be provided with a recording of today's presentation

## **YOUR QUESTIONS**

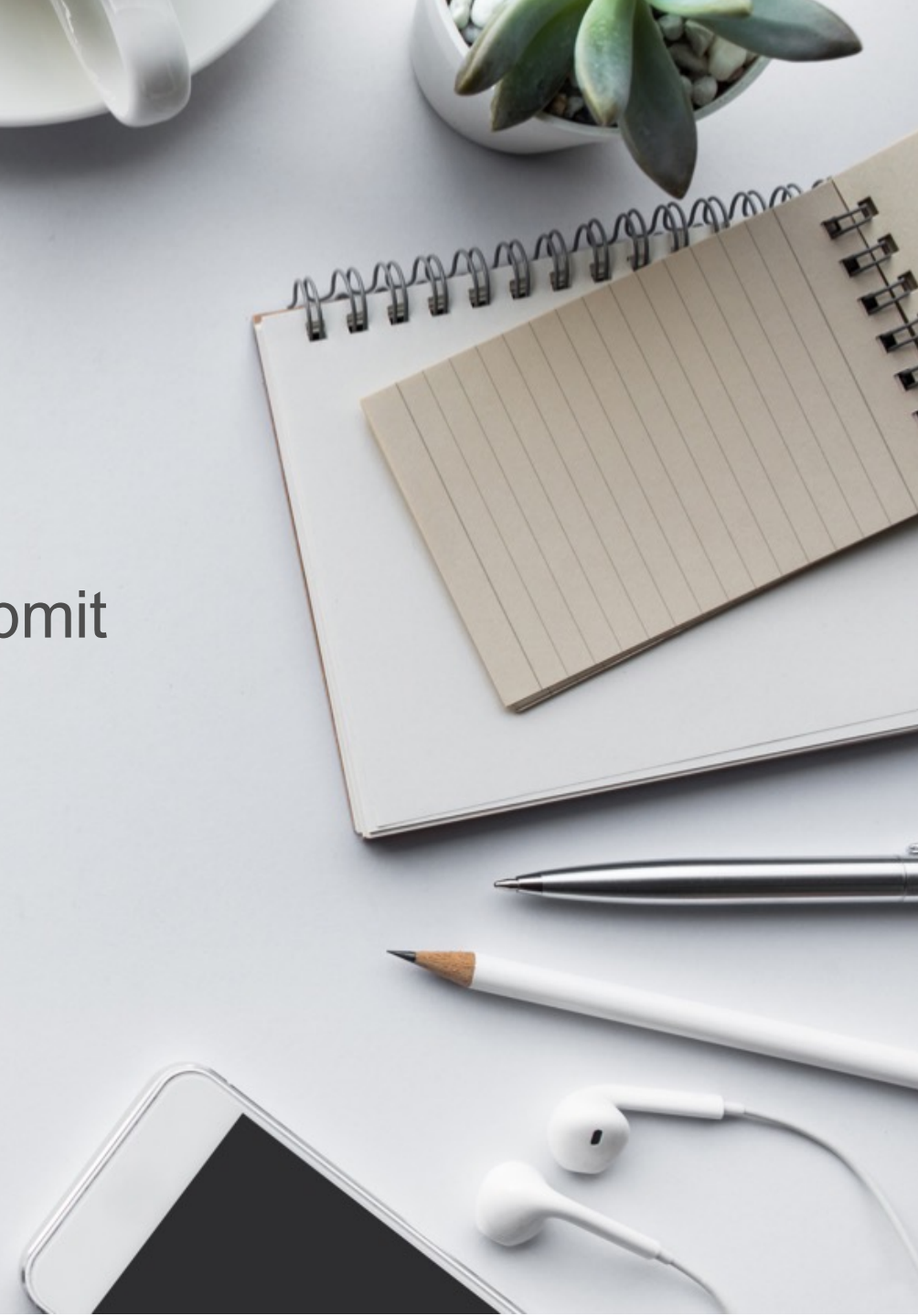
Use the "Ask a Question" function to submit

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Visit [legal.tr.com](http://legal.tr.com) for insights and tips

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# TODAY'S SPEAKERS



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# TODAY'S AGENDA

- Ransomware in Legal
- How it Happens
- Hybrid Work Environment
- Prevention / Mitigation
- Security Benefits with the Microsoft & Thomson Reuters Partnership
- Key Takeaways
- Q&A





# **POLL #1**

# **QUESTION**

What is

# Ransomware?

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A type of **malicious software** designed to **block access** to a computer system until a **sum of money is paid**

Who are these

# Ransomware People?

**Ransomware as  
a Service (RaaS)**

**Well organized  
group**

**Complex  
payments**

What if we just

# Pay the Ransom?

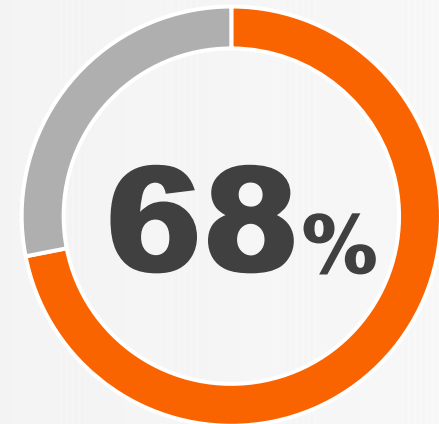
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**Mined your data**

**Sold your data**

**Released your data to the public**

**Re-extort you**



face a 2nd attack  
within a year

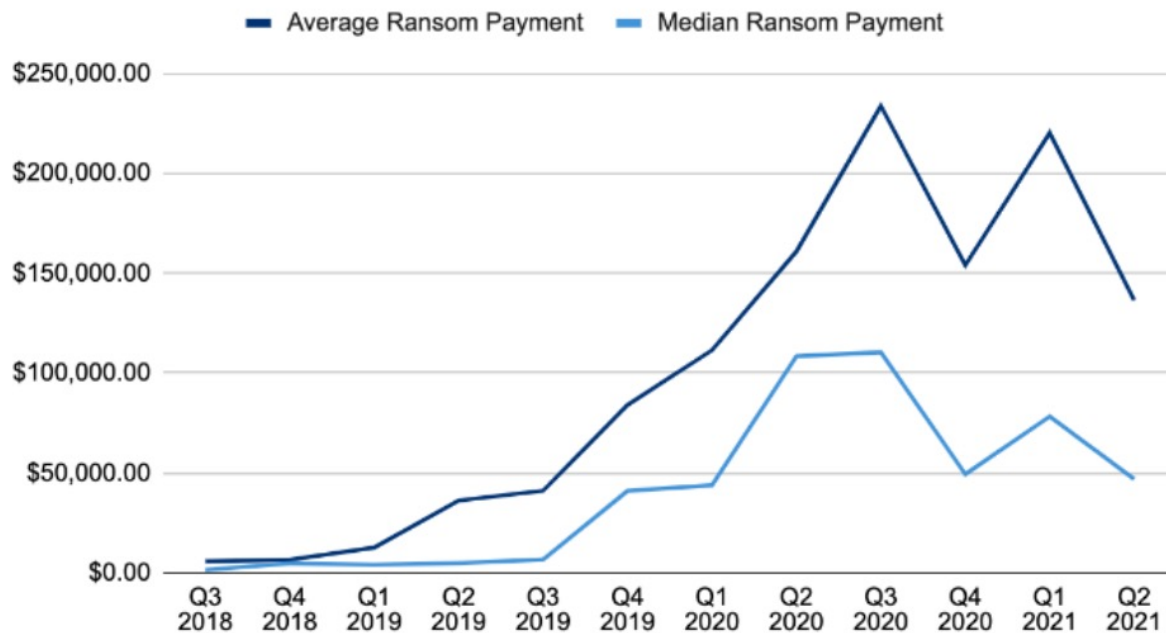
\*<https://www.darkreading.com/application-security/ransomware-makes-up-half-of-all-major-incidents/d/d-id/1339667>



# Ransomware Stats

## Q2 2021 Coveware Stats:

### Ransom Payments By Quarter



## Average Ransom Payment

**\$136,576**

## Average Days of Downtime

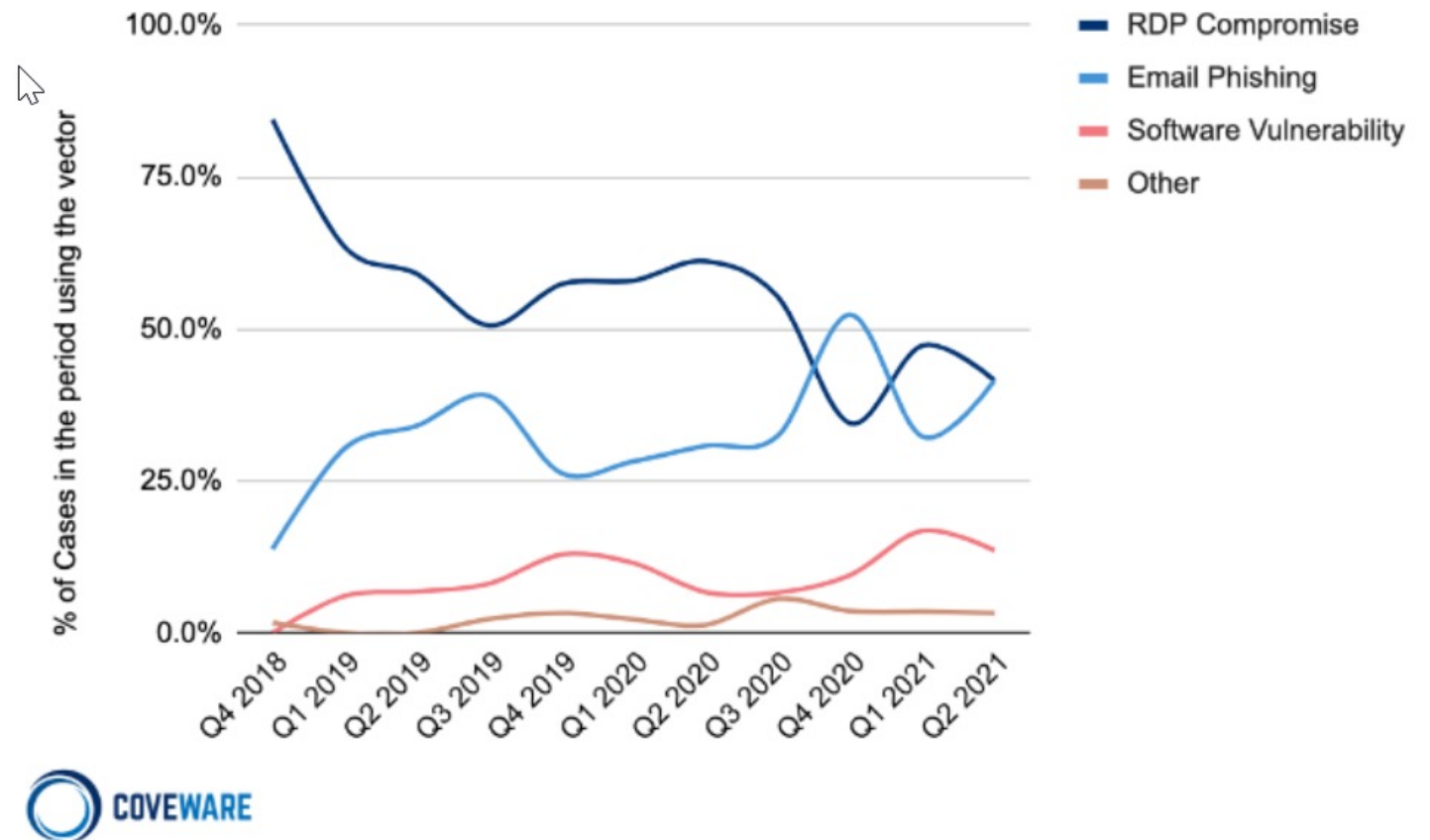
**23** Days

<https://www.coveware.com/blog/2021/7/23/q2-ransom-payment-amounts-decline-as-ransomware-becomes-a-national-security-priority>

# How cyber criminals get in

- **RDP (Remote Desktop Protocol)**  
weak/reused password
- **Email phishing**  
a scam by which an Internet user is duped
- **Social Engineering**  
when fraudsters pretend to be someone or something else to win a person's trust.

Ransomware Attack Vectors



# Ransomware attacks are a risk for firms large and small

## Ransomware Attacks by Size of Firm

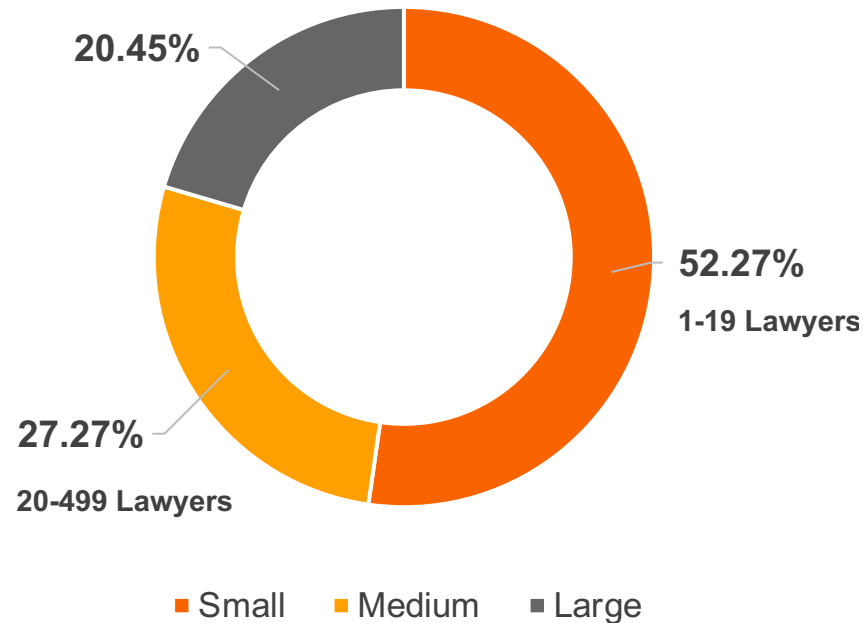


Figure 1: Ransomware Attacks by Law Firm Size  
Source Tari Schreider Ransomware Attack Database

## Law Firms top the list out of 42 legal profession organizations affected by ransomware

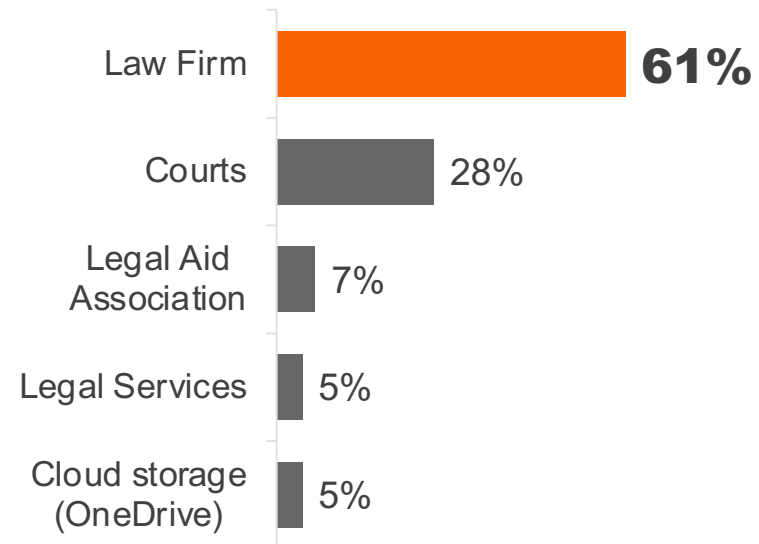
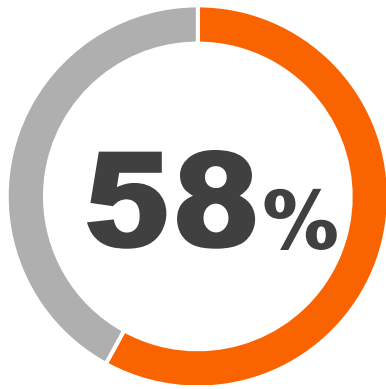
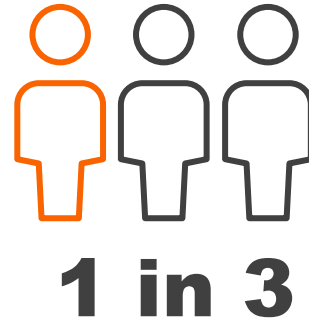


Figure 2: Ransomware Attacks by Legal Organization  
Source Tari Schreider Ransomware Attack Database

# Ransomware in Law Firms



Small and midsize law firms have experienced a ransomware incident



Have been attacked in the last 12 months

**69%**

Law firms pay the ransom



But only

**65%**

(2 in 3) firms regain access to their data

So

**35%**

of firms pay a ransom only to get nothing in return





How it happens

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**a demonstration**



# Why Are Law Firms Being Targeted?

## **Law firms – one-stop shop for holding voluminous sensitive client data!**

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- Financial Records
- Medical Records
- Passport #s
- Biometric Data
- Social Security #s
- Company Trade Secrets
- Client Tax Documents
- Health Insurance Info
- Credit Card Info
- M&A Activities
- Online Account Credentials



**POLL #2**  
**QUESTION**



# Impacts of a Hybrid Work Environment

## **Additional risks:**

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- Public spaces/networks
- Unsecured personal devices
- Distracted workforce susceptible to phishing

## **But enhanced security benefits:**

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- Pushed firms into the cloud for enhanced security
- Less outdated software
- Two-factor authentication
- Machine learning/anomaly detection



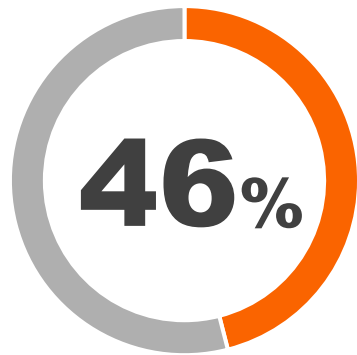
# Prevent and mitigate an attack

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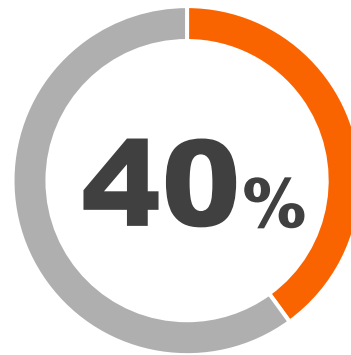


# Firms have a long way to go to prevent cyber security threats

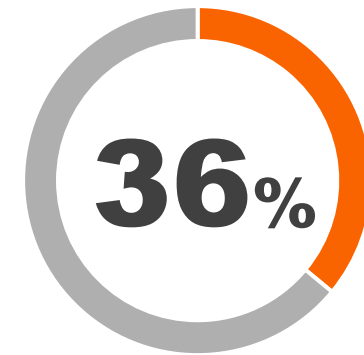
## Employees are their greatest risk



of law firms surveyed conduct cyber security training programs to prevent phishing attacks \*



of firms indicated they have a disaster recovery/business continuity plan \*



of U.S. law firms obtained cyber insurance policies in 2020 \*\*

\* The 2020 ABA Legal Technology Survey Report <https://www.law.com/legalnewswire/news.php?id=2832120>

\*\* [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law\\_practice/publications/techreport/2020/cybersecurity/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_practice/publications/techreport/2020/cybersecurity/)

# Create a Cybersecurity Culture



- Hold short topical monthly training sessions
- Deliver comprehensive cybersecurity training twice a year
- Run quarterly mock phishing cybersecurity attacks
- Conduct mock calls  
e.g., saying from bank, fiduciary for fake emergency
- Word plug-in for security
- Educate on Phishing, Smishing (SMS Phishing), Spoofing

Very few firms **(5%)**  
hold trainings at  
the recommended  
monthly cadence

# Prevent an Attack

## Audit/Assess

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- Cybersecurity Risk Assessment – professional audit
- Audit your 3rd party vendors for privacy/security
- Personal devices vs. firm provided devices

## Systems

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- Update systems, software, applications, auto-updates
- Block unknown applications
- Back up network

## Log-Ins

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- Strong passwords
- Multifactor authentication
- Biometric log-in
- Password manager
- Apply security patches
- Use anti-malware programs

## Policies

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- Have IRP- Incident Response Plan
- Purchase cyber insurance



# Mitigation Steps

**Demand proof  
that they have the  
data and aren't  
spoofing!**

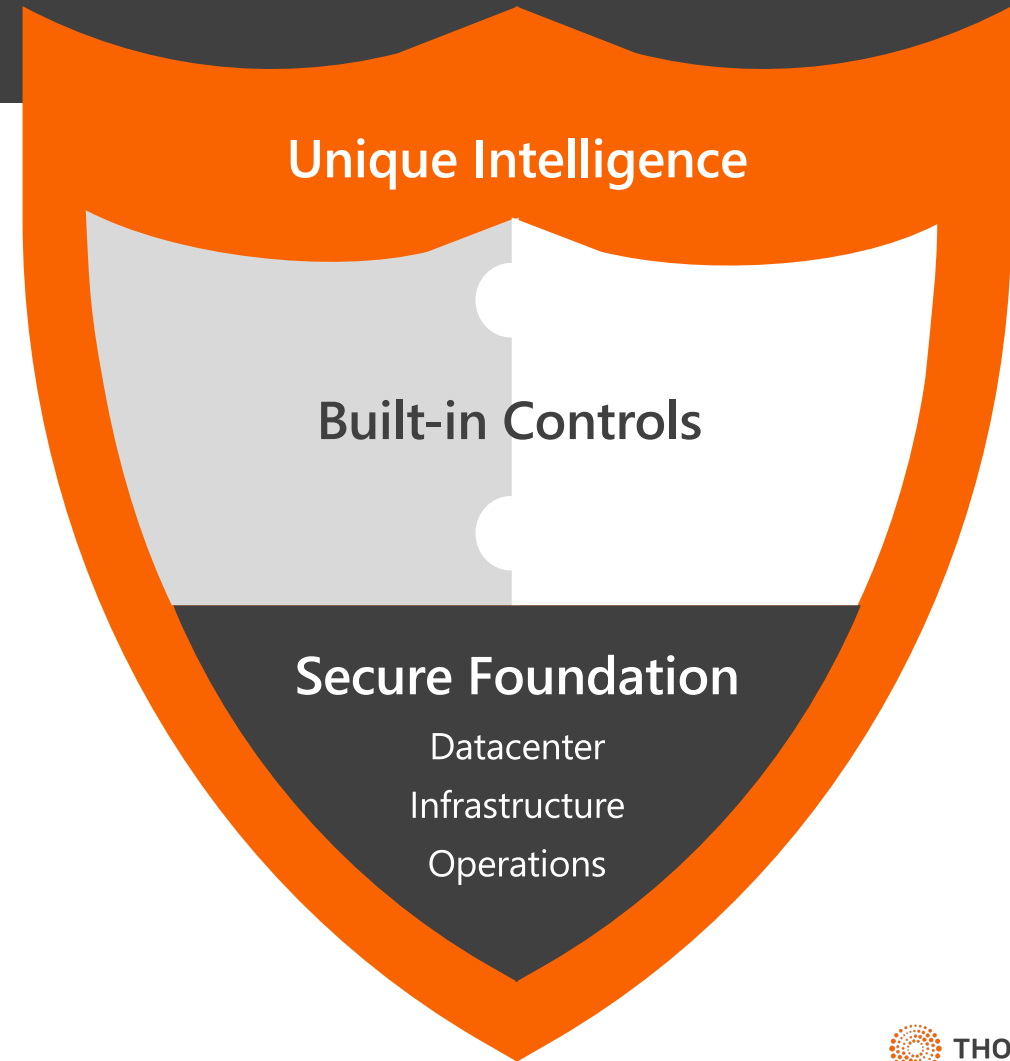
- 
- Hire data breach expert, digital forensics professional
  - Hire ransomware negotiator
  - Notify law enforcement
  - Notify cyber insurance company but...
  - Understand laws/regulations (GDPR, PIPEDA, CCPA, ABA 493)
  - Notify affected clients
  - To pay or not to pay
  - Public statement / PR / Protect Brand
  - Work on stopping second attack

# Gain unmatched security

## Microsoft Azure

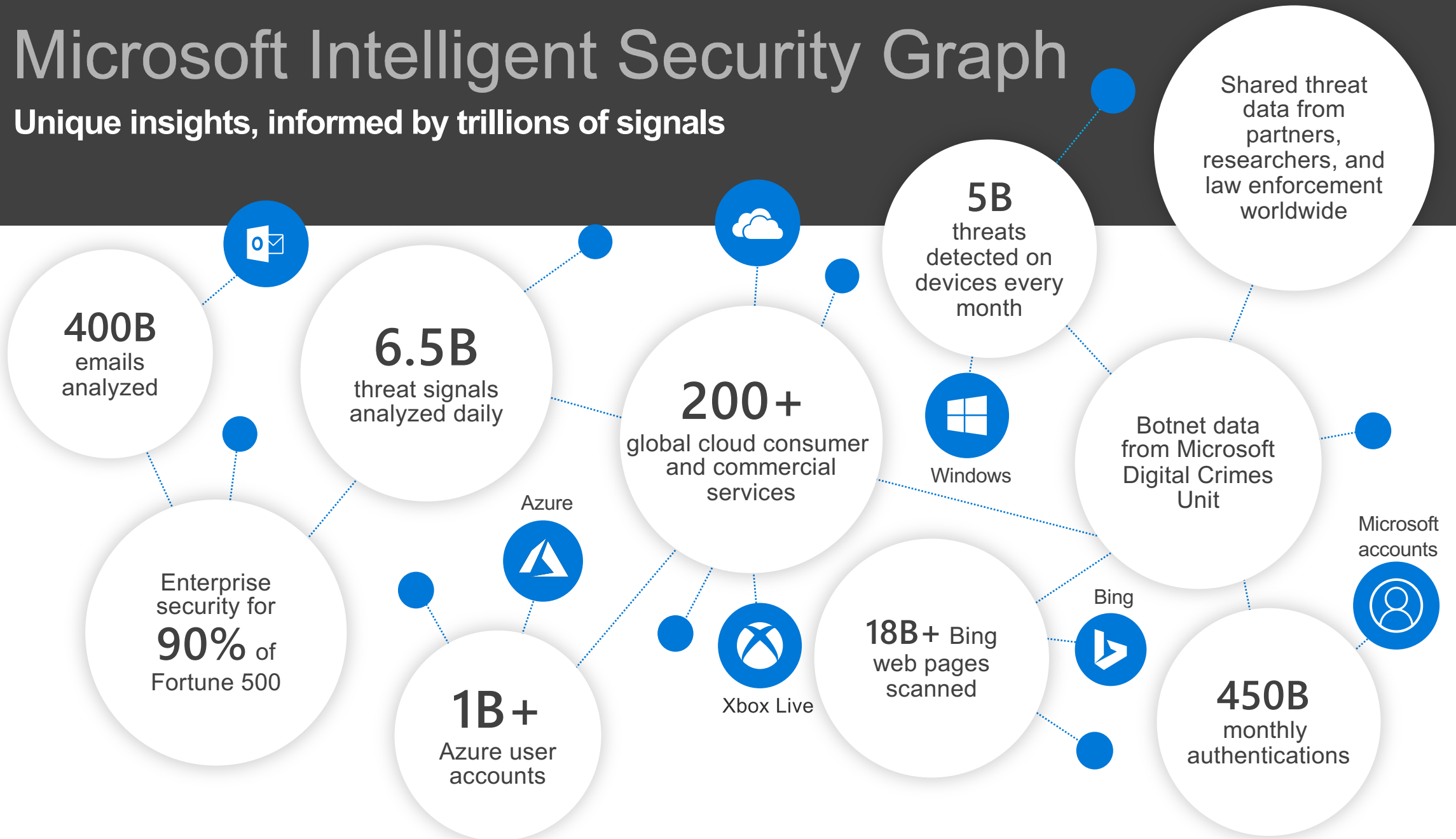
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**\$1B+ annual investments**  
**Over 3500 security experts**  
**Trillions of diverse signals**



# Microsoft Intelligent Security Graph

Unique insights, informed by trillions of signals



# A secure foundation at global scale

Each **physical datacenter** protected with world-class, multi-layered protection



Over **100** datacenters across the planet

Secured with cutting-edge **operational security**

- Restricted access
- 24x7 monitoring
- Global security experts



**Global cloud infrastructure** with custom hardware and network protection





# Thomson Reuters & Microsoft Partnership



## Thomson Reuters builds on what **Azure** provides

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- Security Center recommendations
- Vulnerability assessments
- Alerts and notifications

## Layer **additional** tools and practices

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- SOC and Incident Response
- Best practices and policy enforcement
- 3rd-party tools and scans



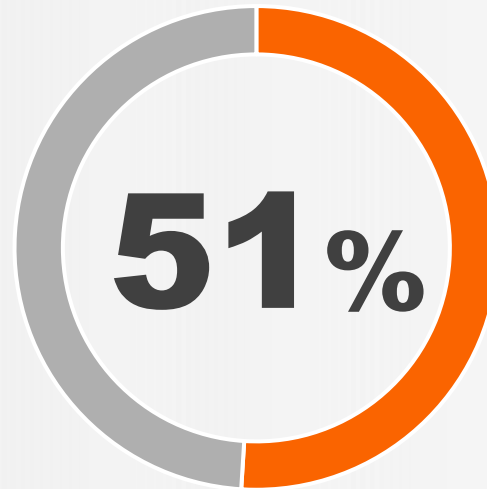
# **POLL #3**

## **QUESTION**

# Third-party vendors pose a risk

## What questions should you ask?

Are you **evaluating the privacy and security practices** of your vendor or just relying upon purported reputation?



of organizations have experienced a data breach **caused by a third-party\***

\* <https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/95143-of-organizations-have-experienced-a-data-breach-caused-by-a-third-party#:~:text=51%25%20of%20organizations%20have%20experienced,%2D05%2D06%20%7C%20Security%20Magazine>

# Key Take-aways

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- Understand what ransomware is, how it happens
- Be prepared for a ransomware attack BEFORE it happens; have a plan
- Build a cybersecurity culture at your firm
- Know your 3rd party vendors' cybersecurity certifications/audits
- Get help! Hire cybersecurity experts
- Leverage Security Benefits through the Thomson Reuters & Microsoft Partnership



# Q&A





What's next

# RESOURCES

## Explore the solution

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[Learn more about the advantages of 3E](#)

## Get a Consultation

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[Schedule a free demo of 3E Cloud](#)

## Learn More

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[Access on-demand webinars from Thomson Reuters and Microsoft](#)