## Verizon 2024 Mobile Security Index

Key Insights into Mobile Security Trends and Threats

600 mobile and security professionals have spoken: Mobile device risks are escalating.

Whether it's remote work complexities, safeguarding critical infrastructure, expanding cybersecurity protections to cover Internet of Things (IoT) devices or preparing for artificial intelligence (AI)-powered threats – respondents had plenty to say about their mobile device security concerns.

Here are several key takeaways from the Verizon 2024 Mobile Security Index.

#### **Connectivity is essential.**



agree mobile devices are critical to the smooth running of their organizations



say risks from mobile device threats have increased in the past year.



## Yet mobile device threats are rising.

Pervasive mobile device use and a growing awareness of potential risks is driving the need for stronger mobile security measures.

#### Critical infrastructure faces high stakes.

Vulnerabilities from remote operations and expansive IoT use are driving the need for stronger defenses, as cyberattacks against critical infrastructure can disrupt essential services, such as power and water.

# 53%

of critical infrastructure respondents experienced significant mobile or IoT device-related security incidents leading to data loss or system downtime.

53% experienced significant impacts

#### Public and energy sectors report more attacks.

70%

#### of public sector respondents

reported that their organizations experienced a security incident involving a mobile or IoT device, vs. 53% of all other sector respondents.

## 90%

#### of energy sector respondents

agree that managing the nation's critical infrastructure makes them a prime target for cybercriminals.

#### Widespread IoT use generates risks.



using at least some IoT devices.



While IoT devices give real-time visibility into processes, from how machines perform in factories to where vehicle fleets are traveling – a lack of security standards raises risks. So does having IoT devices in remote locations that are vulnerable to tampering.

#### Meanwhile, only

39% have defined IoT standards, and

37% centrally coordinate IoT projects.

#### Mobile security spending is up.

84%

of organizations increased mobile security spending in the past year.

84%



#### But higher spending may not be enough.

### 51%

47%

are very confident in their ability to quickly recover from a mobilerelated compromise, and yet reported major impacts on their organizations from mobile devicerelated breach incidents. Despite their confidence in current mobile security and incident response measures, nearly half of all respondents reported serious impacts from recent breaches. This disconnect between perceived and actual security capabilities produces higher risks.

#### Risks are hiding in the shadows.

An abundance of shadow IT, little centralized oversight of IoT deployments, and the use of home and public Wi-Fi connectivity by many employees regardless of corporate policies presents daunting risk assessment challenges for mobile device security stakeholders.

### 87%

## 41%

lack organization-wide security policies.

are somewhat to very worried about shadow IT.

#### Phishing is a persistent menace.



of respondents' organizations experienced mobile phishing attempts targeting their employees.





Comprehensive employee training and advanced phishing detection solutions can help combat the all-too-human risks.

#### Al challenges are on the horizon.



of respondents believe Al-assisted attacks involving deepfakes and SMS phishing are likely to succeed.

The anticipated rise of sophisticated, highspeed AI-assisted cyberattacks heightens the need for proactive security strategies that will help defend against such emerging threats.



#### Fortify mobile security defenses now.

The results are clear. As mobile security threats rise, the need for robust security measures has never been higher. Pervasive mobile connectivity and increasing threats demand strong, proactive mobile security measures.

Help your organization be prepared to lower risks by deploying comprehensive security protections, continuous employee education and advanced threat detection capabilities.

Call us at 844-981-2600 or reach out here to speak with a Verizon representative.

## Read our Verizon 2024 Mobile Security Index at <u>verizon.com/mobilesecurityindex</u>

