

Middle East, Turkey and Africa face up to 1.5 million attacks daily

Kaspersky Lab experts work around the clock to identify, analyse, block and predict cyber threats around the world, this ever-changing threat landscape not only keeps these experts busy but inspires them to create next-generation cybersecurity solutions that stay ahead of cybercriminals. 2018 unprecedented attacks and the malware count reached an all-time high.

Kaspersky Lab solutions repelled almost 2 billion attacks launched from online resources and detected more than 21 million unique malicious objects from around the world in 2018. Statistics show that, globally, 30% of user computers encountered an online malware attack at least once over the past year.



Source: pixabay.com

As for the Middle East, Turkey and Africa (META) region, Kaspersky Lab registered an 11% increase in malware infections, reaching an average of 1.5 million attacks per day, and 575 million in one year. Experts witnessed an increase of 78% in phishing attacks targeting the region, totalling to 20 million attacks in 2018. Ransomware attacks were also quite common the region, reaching 1.2 million attacks – a 128% increase from the previous year.

“Cities around the META region are becoming smarter are being pioneers in adopting the latest technologies for the betterment of their citizens. Companies are also digitally transforming to offer more serves online. This transformation undoubtedly brings convenience to us, however, with more and more devices being connected to the internet we become more likely to face a cyberthreat online. We urge consumers to pay more attention to cybersecurity because sometimes they can be the weakest link,” said Fabio Assolini, senior security researcher at Kaspersky Lab.

Kaspersky Lab: The Big Numbers of 2018

Online threats

Information for : 2018 | 2017

Almost **2 billion** malicious online attacks: 1.9 billion ↑ | 1 billion

 **21,643,946** unique malicious objects (scripts, exploits, executable files, etc.) detected by Kaspersky Lab's web antivirus in 2018

 **30%** of computers attacked at least once by online malware

 **92.1%** of attacks originated in 10 countries



Ransomware

 More than **39,842** modifications of crypto-ransomware detected

 **11** new families discovered

 **765,538** unique KSN users attacked by encryptors, including

 **> 220 thousand** corporate users

More details data are included in the Kaspersky Security Bulletin Statistics report

Banking malware

 **830,135** devices saw attempted attacks to launch malware capable of stealing money via online banking

Applications most targeted by exploits

 **MS Office:** 55% ↑ | 17.6%

Adobe Flash: 2% ↓ | 4.5%

All the statistics were obtained using Kaspersky Security Network (KSN)

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Overall globally, Kaspersky Lab's detection technologies handled 346,000 new malicious files every day in the first ten months of the year. The number and range of new malicious files detected on a daily basis is a good indicator of the interests of cybercriminals involved in the creation and distribution of malware. In 2011, our technologies detected 70,000 new files a day, and by 2017, the number had risen five-fold to 360,000.

In order to stay protected, Kaspersky Lab recommends the following:

- Pay close attention to, and don't open any suspicious files or attachments received from unknown sources.
- Do not download and install applications from untrusted sources.
- Do not click on any links received from unknown sources and suspicious online advertisements.
- Create strong passwords and don't forget to change them regularly.
- Always install updates. Some of them may contain critical security issues fixes.
- Ignore messages asking to disable security systems for Office software or antivirus software.
- Use a robust security solution appropriate to your system type and devices.

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