



PHISHING

One of the oldest tricks in the book, phishing is becoming increasingly sophisticated. It remains the single most common delivery vehicle for malware (and ransomware in particular) – with almost 1% of all emails sent in 2016 containing malware.

According to Verizon, **60% of malware infections** are the result of Phishing attempts.

As well as the traditional ‘wide net’ approach of random emails to random individuals, attackers now favour so-called ‘spear phishing.’

These attacks target specific companies. And with such specific and convincing fronts that many don’t ever realise they’ve been conned. (26% of phishing attempts use spoofed invoices to lure their targets, which may be paid without a second thought and logged as legitimate. Others still use ‘W-2’ tactics, impersonating a high-level member of the company to inspire trust.)

All in all, 76% of companies have reported a phishing attack in the last year. Since many such attacks (like all other cyber breaches) can go undiscovered for months, the true number of victims is likely much higher – it may even be as high as 100%.