mimecast

THE STATE OF HUMAN RISK 2025
Security Leaders Evolve

Human risk has surpassed technology gaps as the biggest cybersecurity challenge for organizations around the globe. In fact, insider threats, credential misuse, and human missteps now account for most security incidents.

95%
of all data breaches are caused by human error

Solving the challenge of human risk requires a dedicated approach to identifying, assessing, and mitigating these risks tailored to each user.

79%
agree the use of collaboration tools poses new threats...

and **95%** expect to see email security challenges in 2025, demonstrating the continued need for strong email and collaboration tool security.

81%
are concerned about GenAI leading to sensitive data leaks...

and **55%** are NOT fully prepared with specific strategies for AI-driven threats, demonstrating the continued need for organizations to implement their own AI-based platforms.

Security Budgets

Surveyed organizations say additional budget is required for cybersecurity staffing (**57%**), third-party services (**57%**), and collaboration tool security (**52%**). Also, **47%** say additional budget is still needed for email security.

Email and Collaboration

96% say formal security strategy has improved their cybersecurity risk level, but **61%** say that it is inevitable or likely that their organization will suffer a negative business impact from an attack linked to a collaboration tool in 2025.

Data Loss and Insider Risk

An insider-driven data exposure, loss, leak, and theft event would cost respondents' organizations an average of **$13.9 million**, and **66%** are concerned that data loss from insiders will increase at their organization in 2025.

Artificial Intelligence

95% are using AI to help defend against cybersecurity attacks and/or insider threats, including threat detection and real-time monitoring (**46%**), endpoint protection (**46%**), and behavioral or sentiment insider threat analysis (**43%**).

Security Awareness

Security awareness training has helped employees spot cyberattacks at most organizations (**87%**), but **66%** are still concerned that data loss from insiders will increase in 2025, and **33%** still fear human error in handling of email threats.

Human Risk Management

Just **8%** of employees account for **80%** of incidents. Human Risk Management solutions aim to balance innovation and productivity with better prevention strategies, rather than relying solely on post-incident remediation.

Organizations must simultaneously address increasing external threats like those being assisted by generative AI and insider risks such as human error.

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