

2023

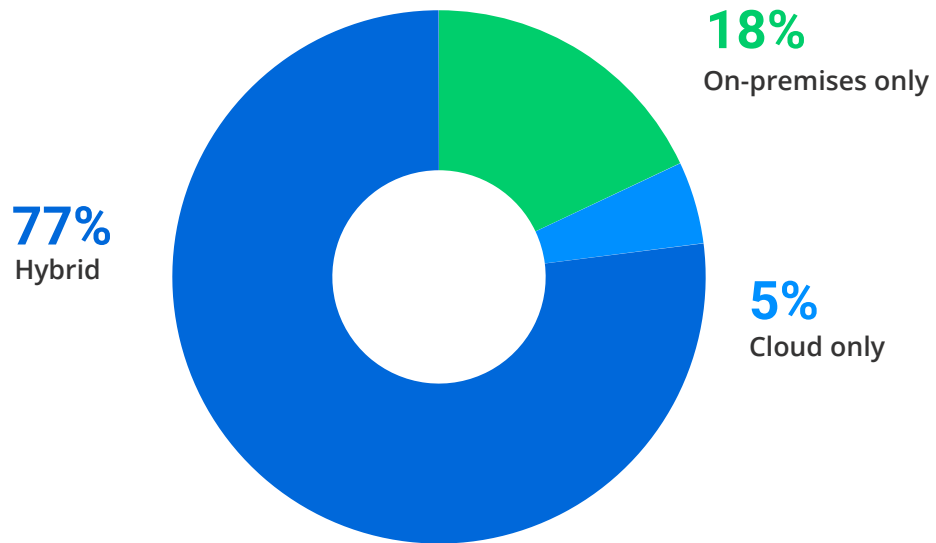
Hybrid Security Trends Report

Additional Findings for the Education Sector

IT ARCHITECTURE

77% of educational institutions have a hybrid IT architecture while only 5% are cloud-only. Of the remaining 18% that are strictly on premises, 68% plan to adopt cloud technologies moving forward.

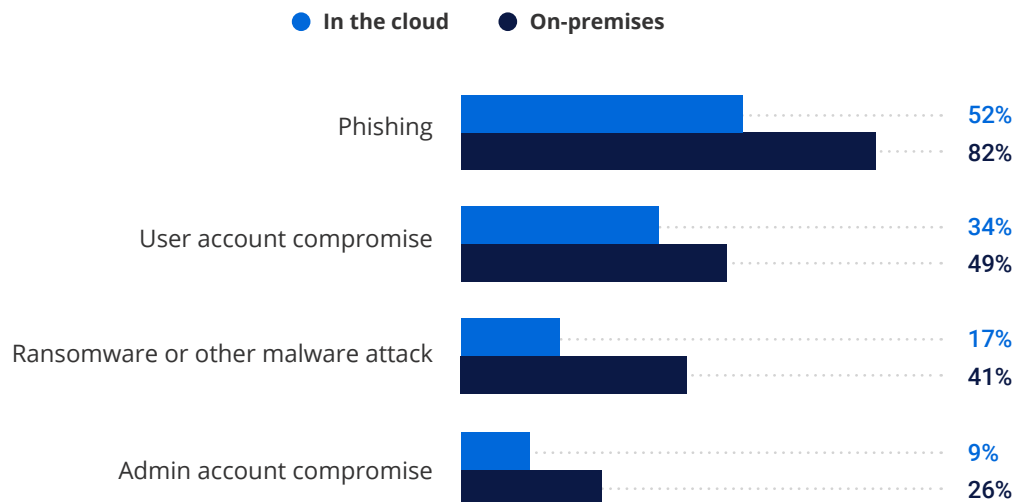
IT Architecture of Educational Institutions



SECURITY INCIDENTS

69% of organizations in the education sector experienced a security incident within the last 12 months. We asked those who suffered one or more cyberattacks to provide details on what happened. The survey revealed that 3 out of 4 attacks (75%) in the education sector are associated with the compromise of an on-premises user or admin account, compared to 48% among other verticals.

Most Common Security Incidents in the Education Sector



“

Organizations in the education sector handle a variety of accounts — staff, contractors, educators, students, alumni — with a high turnover rate. Even if identity management is automated, it is a challenge to keep users trained on security best practices because there is a continual supply of newcomers.

In addition, students may lack experience in spotting phishing emails or fake websites asking for their credentials. To address these challenges, it is essential to mandate security training within the first few weeks and repeat it on a regular basis.



Dmitry Sotnikov

VP of Product Management

at Netwrix

“

To enable research and collaboration, educational institutions often provide a variety of shared devices and systems exposed to the internet — creating a massive attack surface.

To mitigate risk, it is crucial to enforce strong password policies that prevent the use of weak and compromised passwords, implement multifactor authentication (MFA), and adhere to the least privilege principle. In addition, automated detection and response solutions can help IT deal with account compromise and abuse in a controlled and efficient manner.



Dirk Schrader

VP of Security Research

at Netwrix

IT PRIORITIES

The survey also reveals that the primary IT priorities of educational institutions are the same as for organizations overall: data security, network security and cybersecurity awareness among employees.

However, there were some differences in what measures the respondents said they would take to enhance the security posture of their organization if they had a chance to decide on their own. Improved privileged access management topped the list for all verticals, but demand for password management was higher in the education sector: 43% of those respondents said they would like to manage passwords better, compared to 36% of respondents from other industries.

Meanwhile, identity governance turns out to be in lower demand in the education sector: Only 32% of those respondents would choose to improve this area, compared to 41% among organizations overall.

Security Improvements that IT and Security Pros in the Education Sector Would Implement



ABOUT THE REPORT

The report is brought to you by Netwrix Research Lab, which conducts industry surveys among IT pros worldwide to discover important changes and trends. For more reports, please visit www.netwrix.com/research

ABOUT NETWRIX

Netwrix makes data security easy. Since 2006, Netwrix solutions have been simplifying the lives of security professionals by enabling them to identify and protect sensitive data to reduce the risk of a breach, and to detect, respond to and recover from attacks, limiting their impact. More than 13,000 organizations worldwide rely on Netwrix solutions to strengthen their security and compliance posture across all three primary attack vectors: data, identity, and infrastructure.

For more information, visit www.netwrix.com

Corporate Headquarters:

6160 Warren Parkway, Suite 100, Frisco, TX, US 75034

Phone: 1-949-407-5125 **Toll-free:** 888-638-9749 **EMEA:** +44 (0) 203-588-3023



www.netwrix.com/social

Copyright © Netwrix Corporation. All rights reserved. Netwrix is trademark of Netwrix Corporation and/or one or more of its subsidiaries and may be registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in other countries. All other trademarks and registered trademarks are the property of their respective owners.