![Akamai]

Ransomware attacks continue to rise, as does their impact

The number of ransomware attacks (successful and unsuccessful) has doubled over the past two years, from 43 on average in 2021 to 86 in 2023. An even greater rise was measured between Q1 2022 and Q1 2023 by data collected from the leak sites of approximately 90 different ransomware groups. Released in August 2023, Ransomware on the Move: Evolving Exploitation Techniques and the Active Pursuit of Zero-Days cites that the use of zero-day and one-day vulnerabilities has led to a 143% increase in total ransomware victims globally.

Not surprisingly, US companies still face the greatest number of ransomware threats (Figure 1): IT security teams and decision-makers there report an average of 115 ransomware attacks over the past 12 months — the most of any individual country measured.

Average number of ransomware attacks over the past 12 months by country
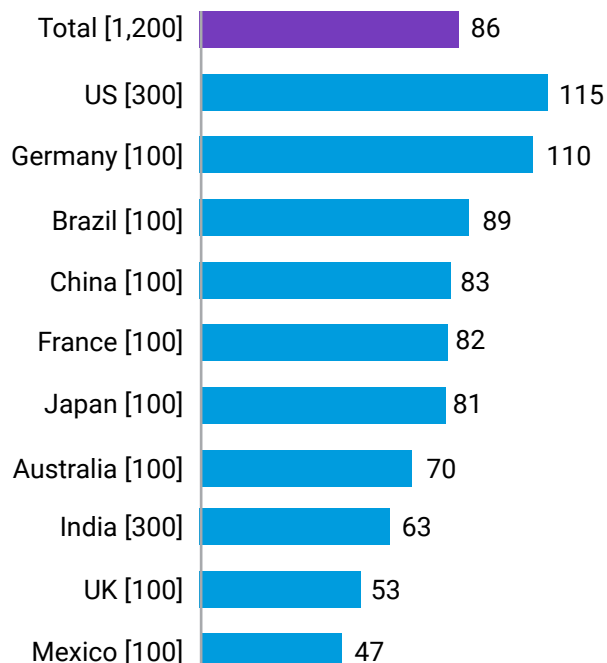
Fig.1: How many ransomware attacks has your organization been targeted with in the last 12 months (regardless of whether they were successful or not)? [1,200], only showing the average number of attacks over the past 12 months, split by country.