Active Adversary Behaviors 2023

Información sobre los últimos comportamientos de los atacantes basados en ataques solucionados por Sophos Incident Responders

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Who Is the Sophos X-Ops Incident Response Team?

Who

Core Team

50 Digital Forensic Specialists
35 Deployment Engineers

Backed by:

150+ MDR SOC Analysts
400 Malware Analysts in SophosLabs

What

Immediate Response

Quickly triage, contain, and neutralize active threats

Threat Removal

Eject adversaries from your estate to prevent further damage

Analysis of 232 Incident Response Cases

2022 – 1H 2023

2022

152 incident response cases

81% from sub-1000 organizations

22 sectors represented

35 nations represented

1H 2023

80 incident response cases

88% from sub-1000 organizations

25 sectors represented

34 nations represented

Who Are Active Adversaries?

Quién

Los adversarios activos son ciberdelincuentes altamente capacitados, a menudo equipados con software sofisticado y habilidades de creación de redes.

Cómo

Obtienen entrada, evaden la detección y adaptan continuamente sus técnicas, utilizando teclados prácticos y métodos asistidos por IA para eludir los controles de seguridad preventivos y ejecutar su ataque.

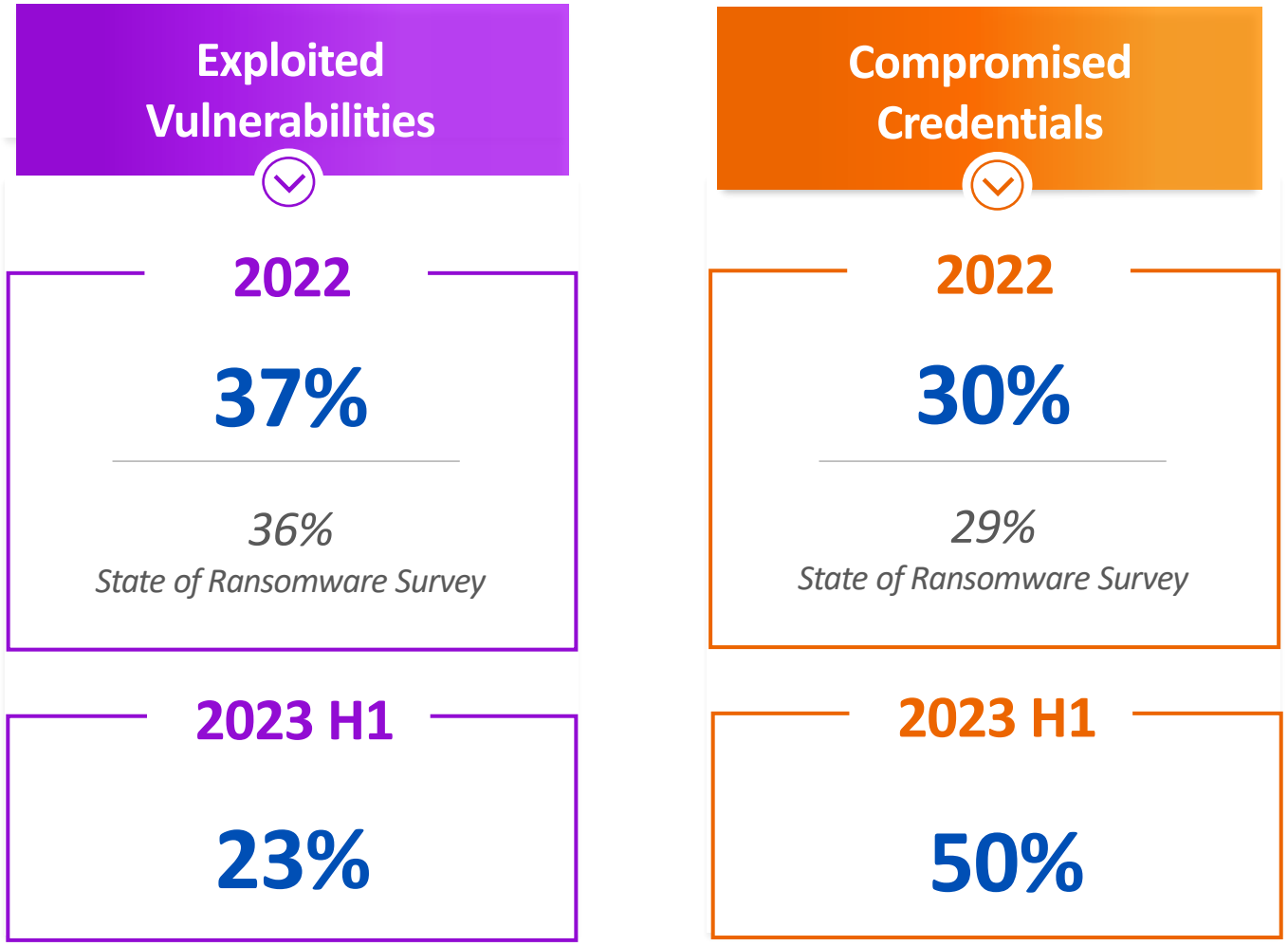
Predominan

El 23% de las organizaciones ha experimentado un ataque que involucra a un adversario activo en el último año.

Source: The State of Cybersecurity 2023, Sophos. Survey of 3,000 IT leaders across 14 countries

Cómo entran

Evolving Attack Vectors



Source: The State of Ransomware 2023, Sophos (n=1,974 organizations hit by ransomware in the last year); Active Adversary Report for Business Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=152); Active Adversary Report for Tech Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=80)

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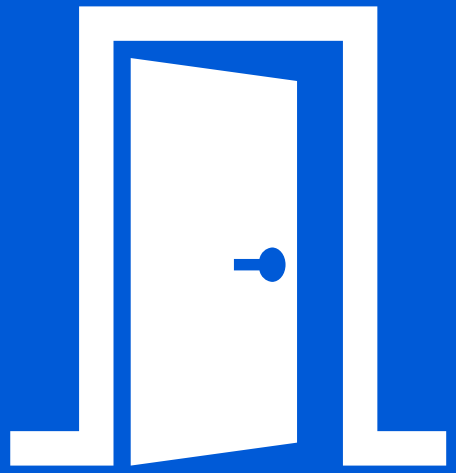
La falta de MFA deja la puerta abierta a los adversarios.



39%

De los incidentes que remediamos en la primera mitad de 2023 no tenían configurada la autenticación multifactor (MFA).

Source: Active Adversary Report for Tech Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=80)

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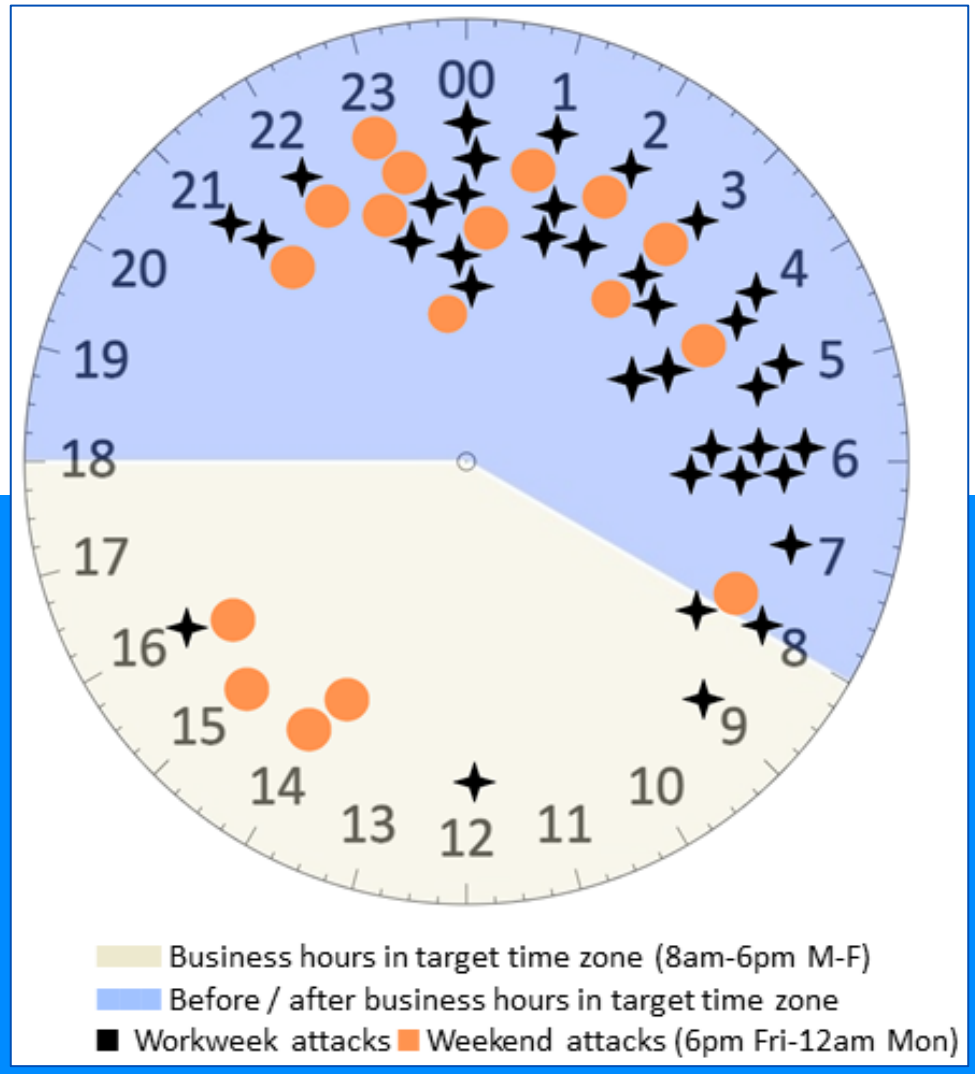
Attackers Target Off-Hours

91% de los ataques ransomware comienzan fuera del horario laboral

9 ide cada 10 ataques ocurren fuera de entre las 8am to 6pm entre semana.



Source: Active Adversary Report for Tech Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=52)

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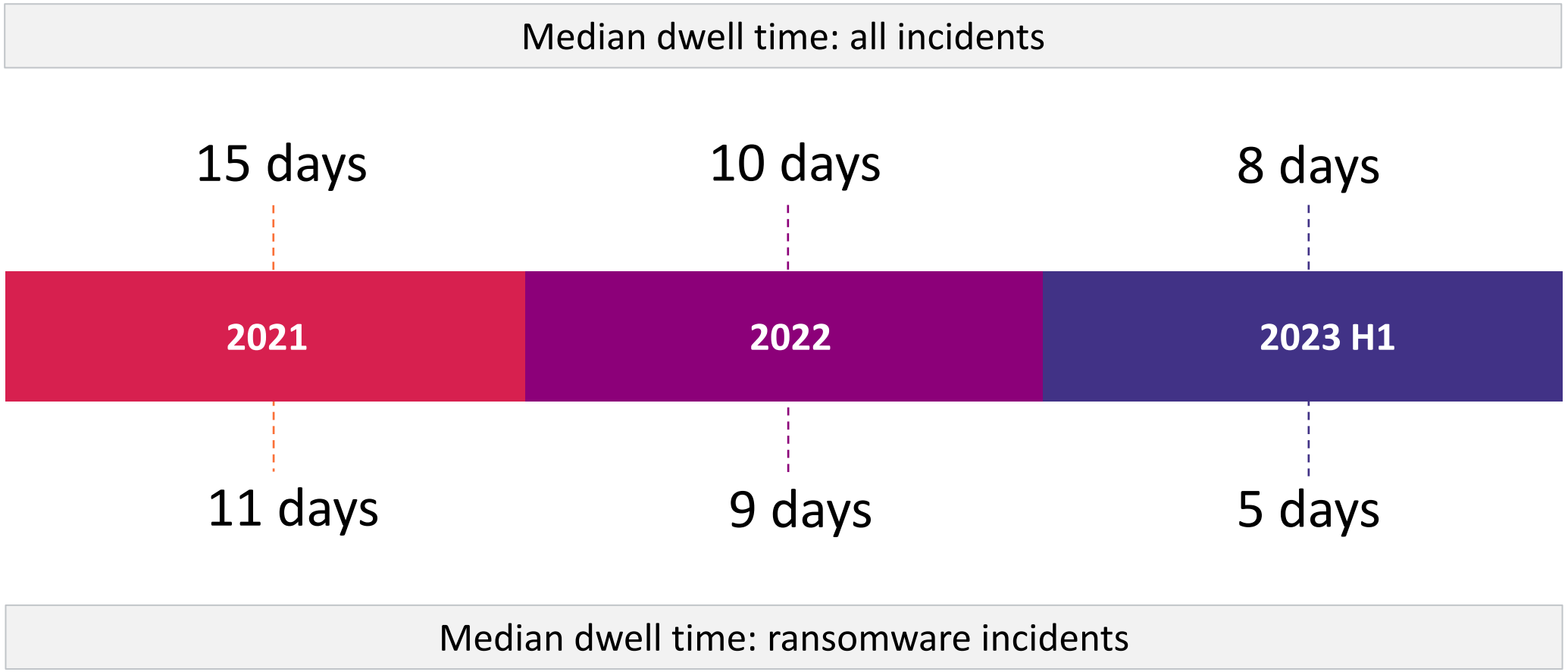
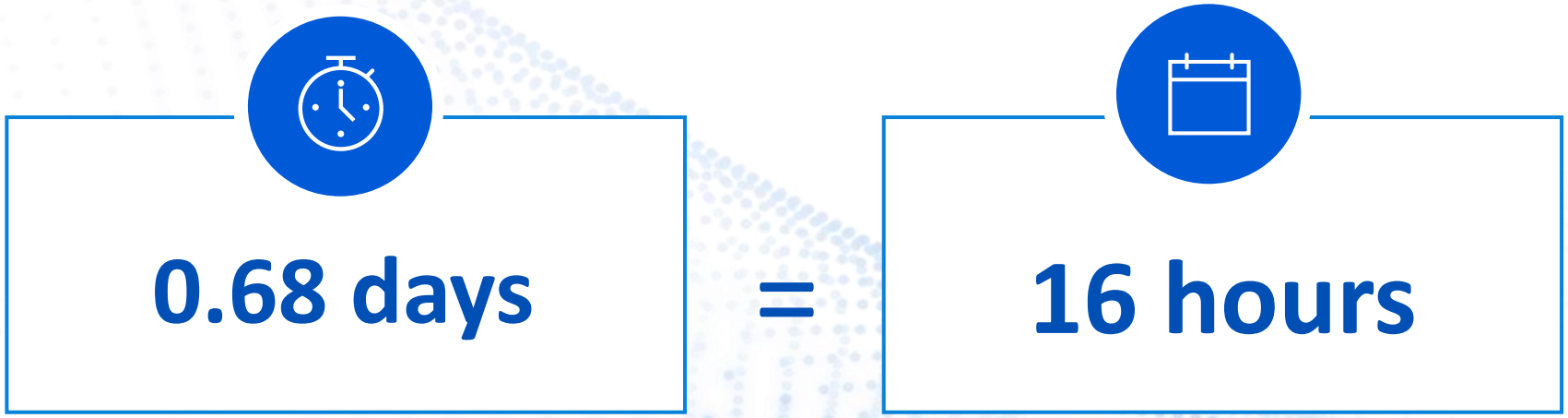
Una vez dentro…

Adversaries Are Speeding Up



Source: Active Adversary Playbook 2022, Sophos (n=144); Active Adversary Report for Business Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=152); Active Adversary Report for Tech Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=80)

The Race to Active Directory

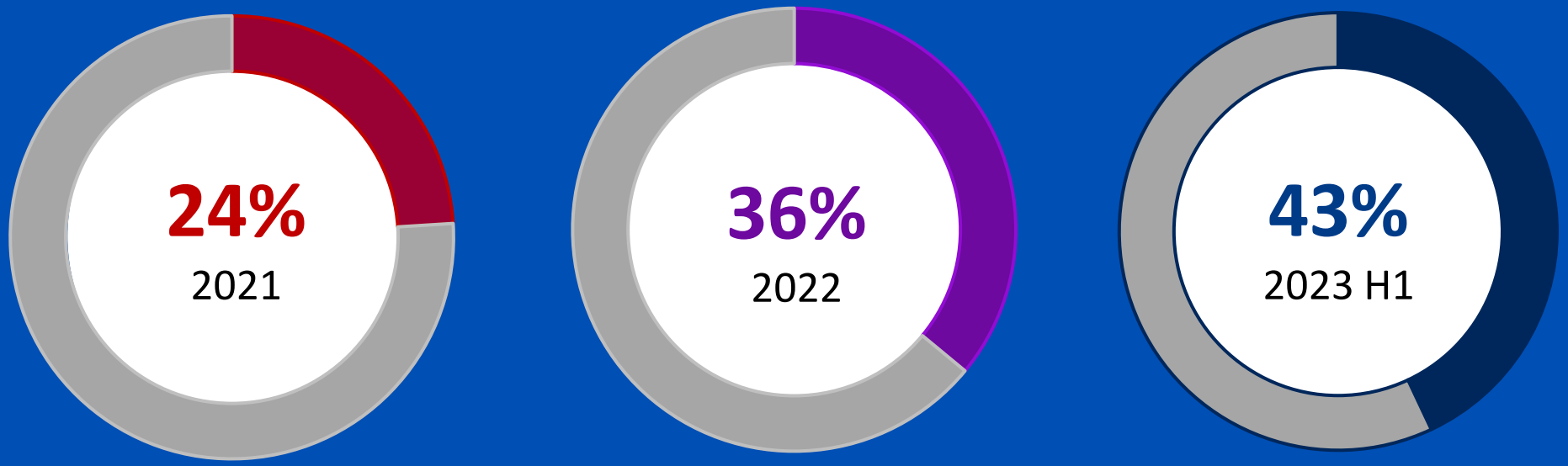


Median Time-to-Active-Directory for attacks in 2023 H1

Source: Active Adversary Report for Tech Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=80)

Disabling Protection Is Now Commonplace

Percentage of Active Directory compromises where adversaries disable protection



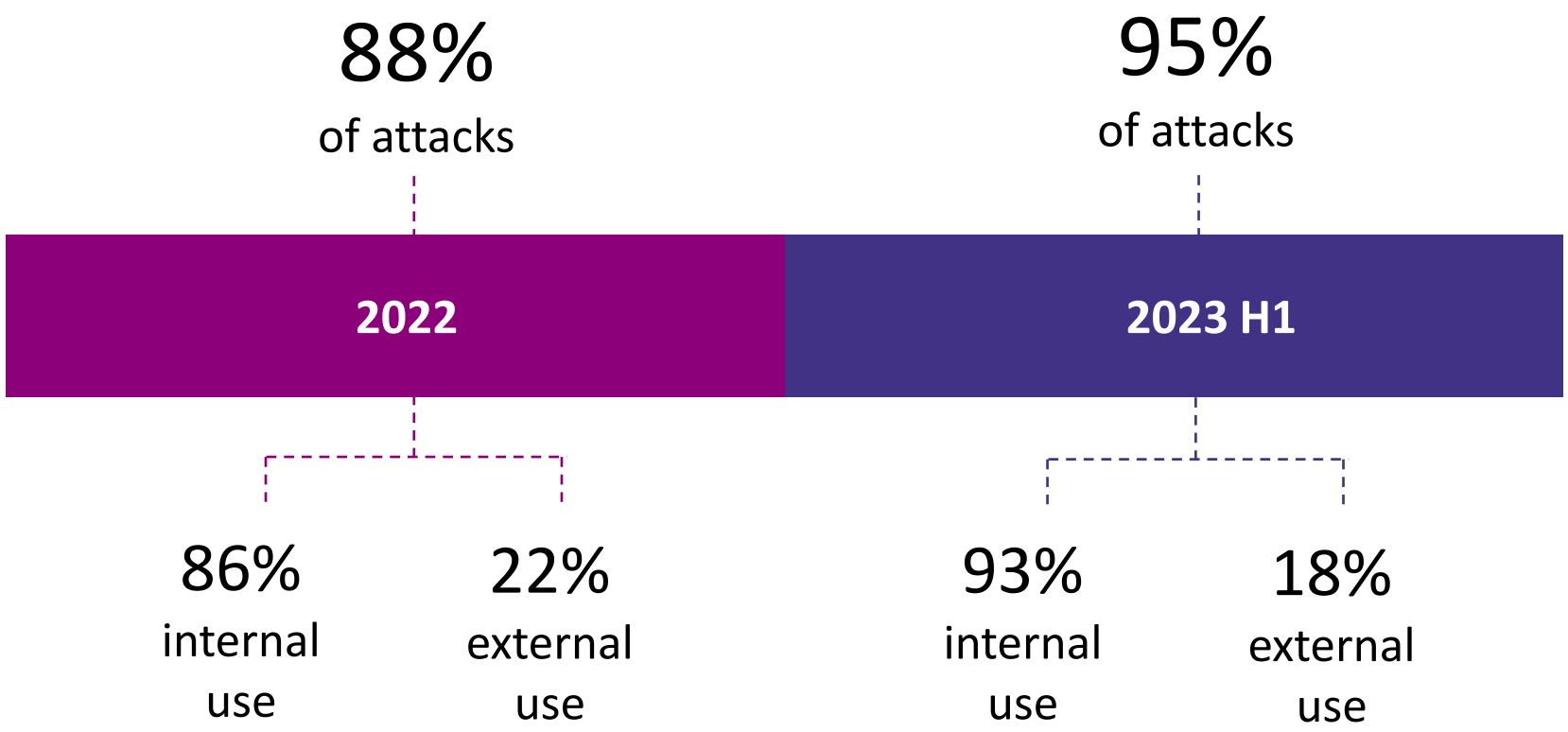
Source: Active Adversary Playbook 2022, Sophos (n=144); Active Adversary Report for Business Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=152); Active Adversary Report for Tech Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=80)

Living off the Land (i.e., exploiting legitimate IT tools)

Top 10 Living off the Land Binaries (LOLBins) observed in the dataset

Rank	5 Days or Less	Greater than 5 Days	Rank
1	RDP	RDP	1
2	PowerShell	PowerShell	2
3	PsExec	cmd.exe	3
4	cmd.exe	PsExec	4
5	Task Scheduler	Net.exe	5
6	net.exe	Task Scheduler	6
7	rundll32.exe	rundll32.exe	7
8	ping.exe	WMI	8
9	reg.exe	Ping.exe	9
10	vssadmin.exe	whoami.exe	10

Ubiquity of RDP in Attacks



Source: Active Adversary Report for Business Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=152); Active Adversary Report for Tech Leaders, 2023, Sophos (n=80)

Why isn’t cybersecurity working?

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Peter Firstbrook | Gartner

Distinguished VP Analyst

> **Nadie tiene suficiente gente para ocuparse de la ciberseguridad... hay que ofrecerla como un servicio. No basta con vender software porque la mayoría de los compradores no cuentan con las personas que puedan explotarlo. Vemos un enorme interés en los servicios de seguridad gestionados, porque todo este mercado de la seguridad se está volviendo demasiado complicado para la mayoría de las organizaciones.**

How Sophos Delivers Cybersecurity as a Service

MANAGED SECURITY SERVICES

- MDR — Sophos MDR Complete
- MDR — Sophos MDR Essentials
- MDR — Sophos MDR for Microsoft Defender
- IR — Sophos IR Services
- NDR — Sophos NDR

A COMPREHENSIVE AND EXTENSIBLE PLATFORM

Sophos Adaptive Cybersecurity Ecosystem

Sophos Central

SECURITY SOLUTIONS AND CONTROL POINTS

- XDR — Sophos XDR
- Fw — Sophos Firewall
- Em — Sophos Email
- Ep — Sophos Endpoint
- Cld — Sophos Cloud
- Fac — Sophos Factory

Sophos MDR: Industry-Leading Openness and Flexibility

Sophos MDR

Compatible with your environment
We can use our tools, another vendor's tools or any combination of the two

Compatible with your needs
Whether you need full-scale incident response or assistance making more accurate decisions

Compatible with your business
Our team has deep experience hunting threats targeting organizations in every industry

Sophos

- Sophos XDR
- Sophos Firewall
- Sophos Cloud
- Sophos NDR
- Sophos Email
- Sophos Endpoint

Endpoint

Microsoft, CROWDSTRIKE, SentinelOne, TREND MICRO, Symantec, Trellix, Malwarebytes, BlackBerry CYLANCE

Firewall

paloalto NETWORKS, FORTINET, CHECK POINT, CISCO, SONICWALL

Cloud SaaS

aws, Azure, Google Cloud, orca security

Email

Microsoft 365, mimecast, proofpoint

Identity

Microsoft [Azure IDP, ATA], okta, DUO, ManageEngine

Network

DARKTRACE, THINKST CANARY, Skyhigh Security

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- XDR Sophos XDR
- Ep Sophos Endpoint
- Fw Sophos Firewall
- Cld Sophos Cloud
- NDR Sophos NDR
- Em Sophos Email

Endpoint

Microsoft
CROWDSTRIKE
SentinelOne
TREND MICRO
Symantec. A Division of Broadcom
BlackBerry. CYLANCE.

Firewall

paloalto NETWORKS
FORTINET
CHECK POINT
CISCO
SONICWALL
WatchGuard

Identity

Microsoft
okta
DUO
ManageEngine

Email

Microsoft
proofpoint.
mimecast

Productivity

Microsoft
Google Workspace

Network

DARKTRACE
VECTRA
THINKST CANARY

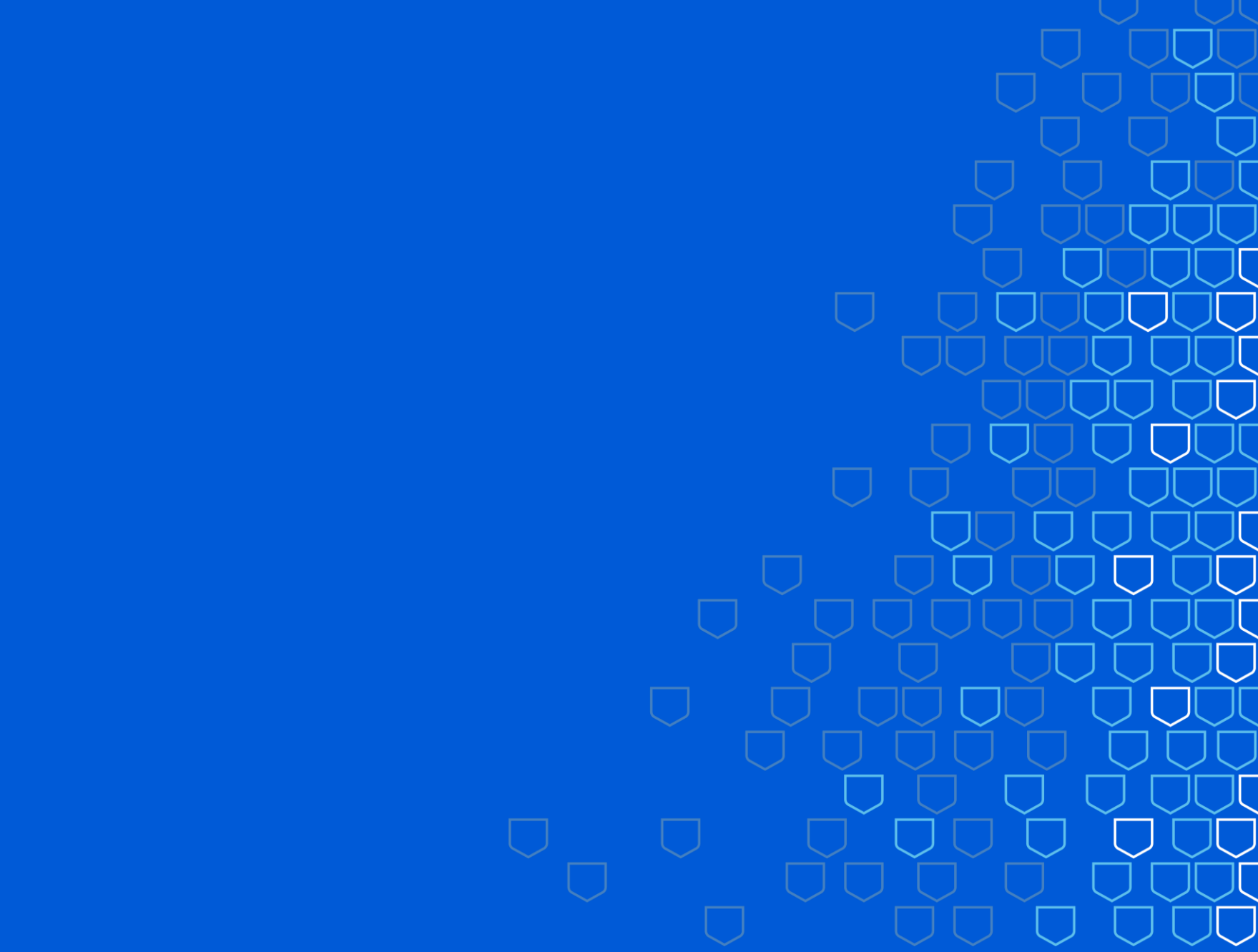
Cloud

Microsoft
aws
Google Cloud
orca security

Backup / Data Security

VEEAM

Takeaways



Acciones Clave

- **Aumente la fricción siempre que sea posible**
  - Defensas robustas y en capas
  - MFA
  - Gestión de vulnerabilidades
  - Bloquee RDP y supervise activamente los abusos
  - Limitar las herramientas que pueden estar presentes en los sistemas y su alcance.
- **Proteja todo**
  - Los adversarios encontrarán el equipo no administrado o mal protegido.
- **Monitorización**
  - Los atacantes se centran deliberadamente en actuar fuera del horario laboral estandar.
- **Hay que estar preparado para investigar y responder**
  - La planificación es buena, pero hay que estar preparado para actuar de inmediato.

Learn More

Ideas y consejos para ayudar a los defensores a proteger sus organizaciones

- news.sophos.com/threat-research
- @SophosXOps
- https://infosec.exchange/@SophosXOps

Articles, reports, videos and more

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Servicios y productos para detectar y detener Adversarios Activos

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- Adaptive endpoint protection
- Incident Response support

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