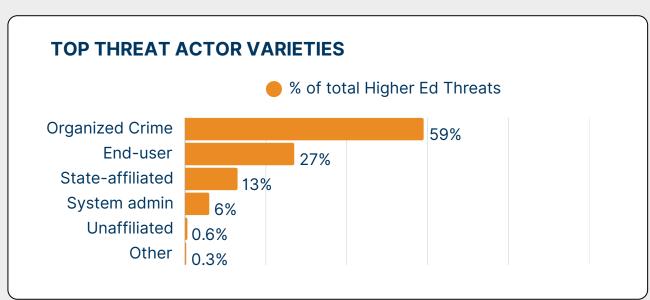


RANSOMWARE

Still the top threat in Higher Education in 2025



TOP THREAT ACTOR

The top thread actors in Higher Education remains Organized Crime, using Ransomware, Extortion, and Stolen Data for financial aid.



SUCCESSFUL DECRYPTION

Organizations successfully decrypting data after making a ransom payment was only







RANSOM PAYMENTS



\$550K

Average ransom payments



30%

Decline in victims paying ransom demands

AVERAGE DOWNTIME

The typical higher education system will experience 12 days of downtime due to a ransomware event.



SOURCES



- The organizational structure of ransomware threat actor groups is evolving before our eyes
- Cyberedge Group 2025 Cyberthreat Defense Report
- On average, US schools & colleges lose \$500K per day to downtime from ransomware attacks
- Mapping the global geography of cybercrime
- Sophos State of Ransomware in Education 2024
- Verizon Business 2025 Data Breach Investigations Report

