University Breaches Executive Summary

Universities and colleges are being breached at higher frequencies than other industries in the United States. The chart below breaks down four industry sectors and at what percentage each one got externally breached between January 2009 and August 2011.

From the industries that were examined educational services were hit with the highest percentage of external breaches compared to the other categories. More specifically colleges and universities reported 14.6% of the total external breaches in the educational services sector. The reason this statistic is important is because colleges and universities only make up about .04% of U.S. firms. The other industries make up a much bigger chunk of US firms but they take up a smaller percentage of external attacks. Colleges and universities are falling victim to attacks more frequently than other industries and these institutions need to do more to protect themselves. Hackers usually try to breach easy targets and for some reason universities and colleges are being considered the easy targets.


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