

Web Application Security: Connecting the Dots

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Jeremiah Grossman



- Founder & CTO of WhiteHat Security
- 6-Continent Public Speaker
- TED Alumni
- An InfoWorld Top 25 CTO
- Co-founder of the Web Application Security Consortium
- Co-author: Cross-Site Scripting Attacks
- Former Yahoo! information security officer
- Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Black Belt

WhiteHat Security : Company Overview

- Headquartered in Santa Clara, CA
- WhiteHat Sentinel – SaaS end-to-end website risk management platform
- Employees: 170+
- Customers: 500+



We shop, bank, pay bills, file taxes, share photos, keep in touch with friends & family, watch movies, play games, and more.

Cyber-war

Cyber-crime

Hacktivism

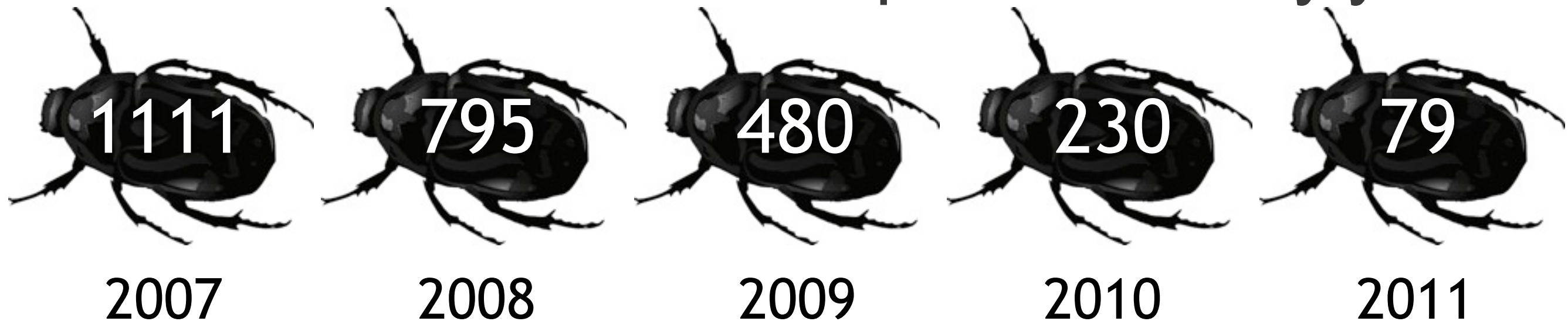
PwC Survey:

“Cybercrime is now the second biggest cause of economic crime experienced by the Financial Services sector.”

"When you can measure what you are speaking about, and express it in numbers, you know something about it, when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meager and unsatisfactory kind; it may be the beginning of knowledge, but you have scarcely, in your thoughts advanced to the stage of science." - Lord Kelvin

8 out of 10 websites have serious* vulnerabilities

Average annual amount of new serious* vulnerabilities introduced per website by year



* **Serious Vulnerability:** A security weakness that if exploited may lead to breach or data loss of a system, its data, or users. (PCI-DSS severity **HIGH**, **CRITICAL**, or **URGENT**)

Vulnerabilities are counted by unique Web application and vulnerability class. If three of the five parameters of a single Web application (/foo/webapp.cgi) are vulnerable to SQL Injection, this is counted as 3 individual vulnerabilities (e.g. attack vectors).

Websites

676,919,707

+32.6 million since March

(producing more code / websites than the market is assessing)

SSL Websites

1,200,000

1.2 million x 148 vulns per year =

177,600,000

Undiscovered serious* vulnerabilities
on just the SSL websites.

Verizon Data Breach Investigations Report:

2010 DBIR:

“The majority of breaches and almost all of the data stolen in 2009 (95%) were perpetrated by remote organized criminal groups hacking “servers and applications.”

2011 DBIR:

“The number of Web application breaches increased last year and made up nearly 40% of the overall attacks.”

2012 DATA BREACH INVESTIGATIONS REPORT

A study conducted by the Verizon RISK Team with cooperation from the Australian Federal Police, Dutch National High Tech Crime Unit, Irish Reporting & Information Security Service, Police Central e-Crime Unit, and United States Secret Service.

verizon

“Web applications abound in many larger companies, and remain a popular (54% of breaches) and successful (39% of records) attack vector.”

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855 incidents, 174 million compromised records

Figure 18. Threat action categories by percent of breaches and percent of records - LARGER ORGS

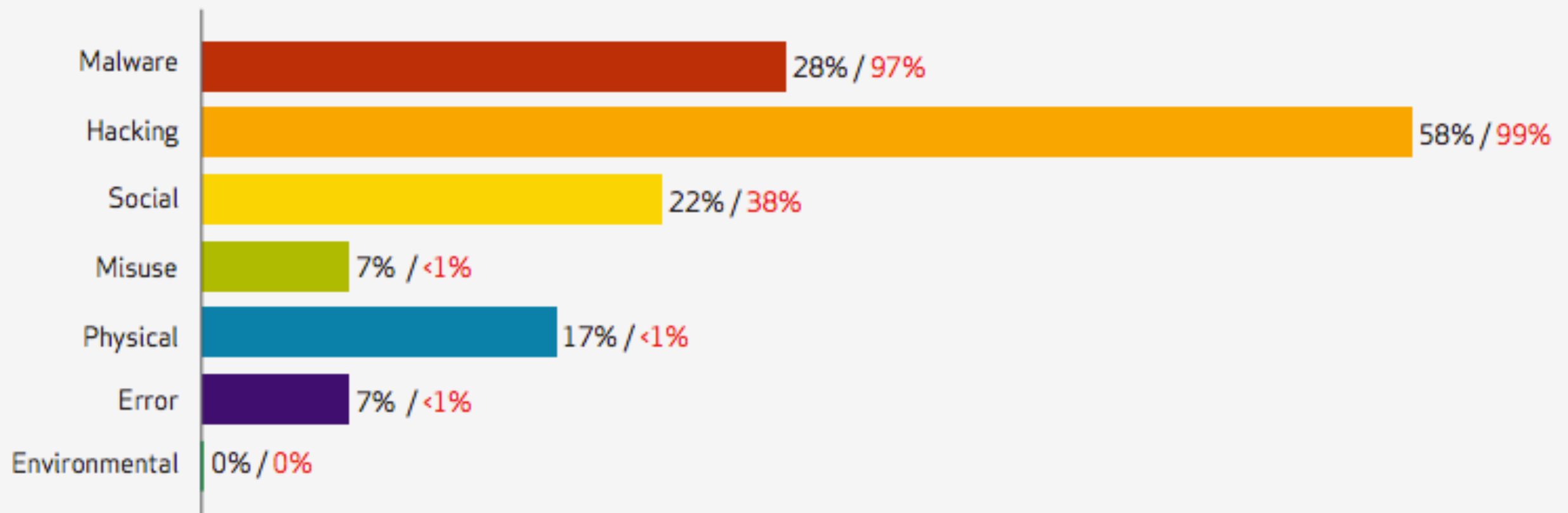


Figure 22. Hacking vectors by percent of breaches within Hacking

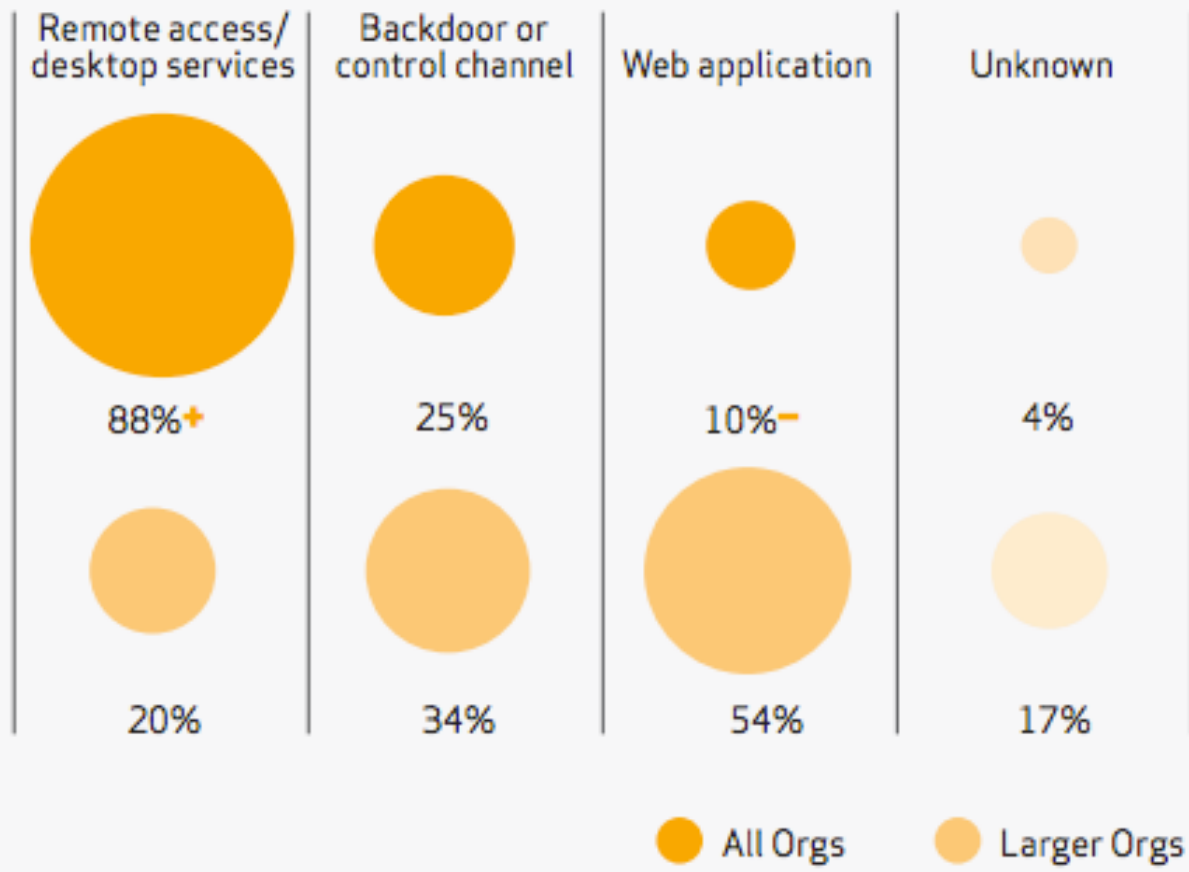
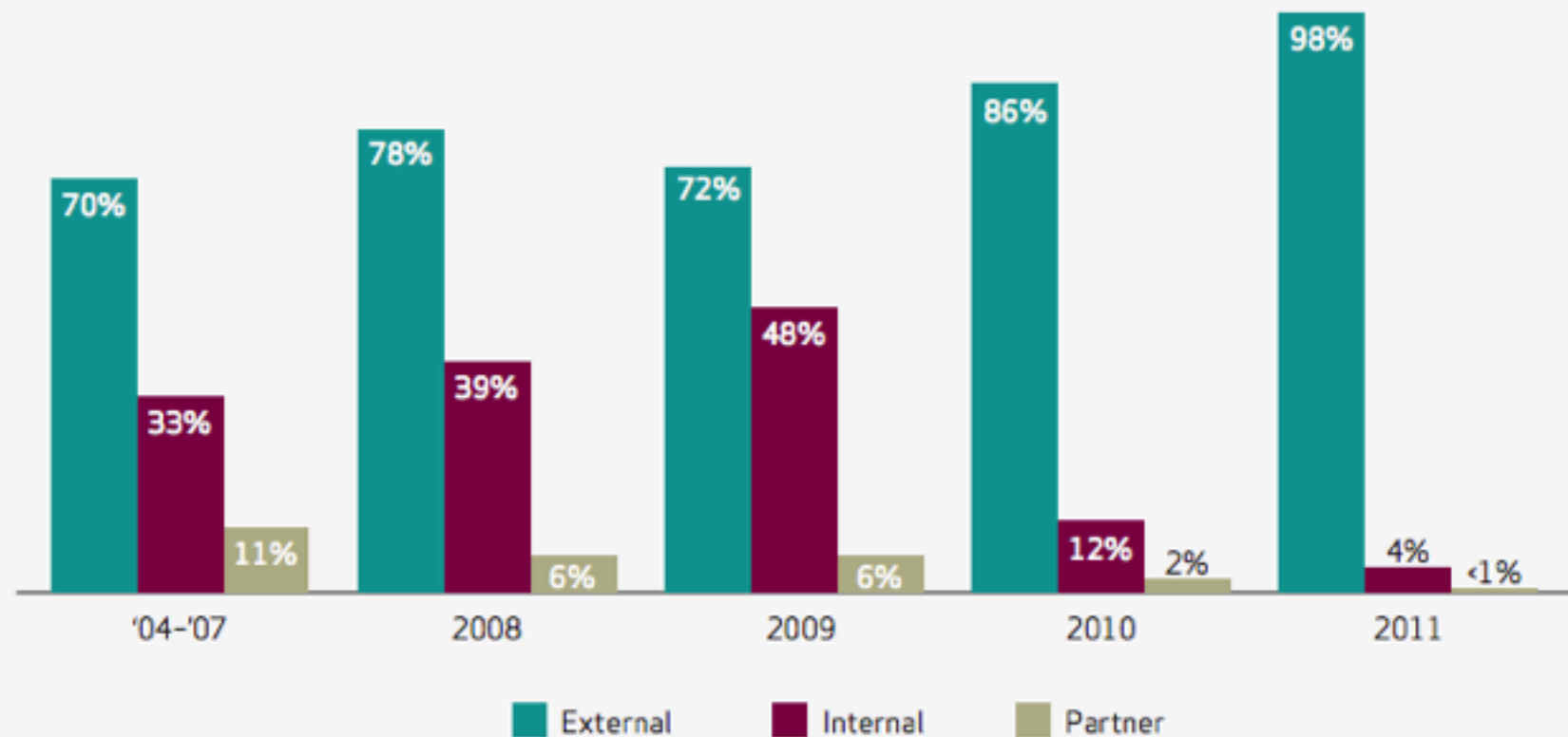


Table 10. Compromised assets by percent of breaches and percent of records*

Type	Category	All Orgs		Larger Orgs	
POS server (store controller)	Servers	50%	1%	2%	<1%
POS terminal	User devices	35%	<1%	2%	<1%
Desktop/Workstation	User devices	18%	34%	12%	36%
Automated Teller Machine (ATM)	User devices	8%	<1%	13%	<1%
Web/application server	Servers	6%	80%	33%	82%
Database server	Servers	6%	98%	53%	98%
Regular employee/end-user	People	3%	1%	5%	<1%
Mail server	Servers	3%	2%	10%	2%
Payment card (credit, debit, etc.)	Offline data	3%	<1%	0%	<1%
Cashier/Teller/Waiter	People	2%	<1%	2%	<1%
Pay at the Pump terminal	User devices	2%	<1%	0%	<1%
File server	Servers	1%	<1%	5%	<1%
Laptop/Netbook	User devices	1%	<1%	5%	<1%

Figure 10. Threat agents over time by percent of breaches



breaches are not shown

Attacker Profiles

Random Opportunistic

- Fully automated scripts
- Unauthenticated scans
- Targets chosen indiscriminately

Directed Opportunistic

- Commercial and Open Source Tools
- Authentication scans
- Multi-step processes (forms)

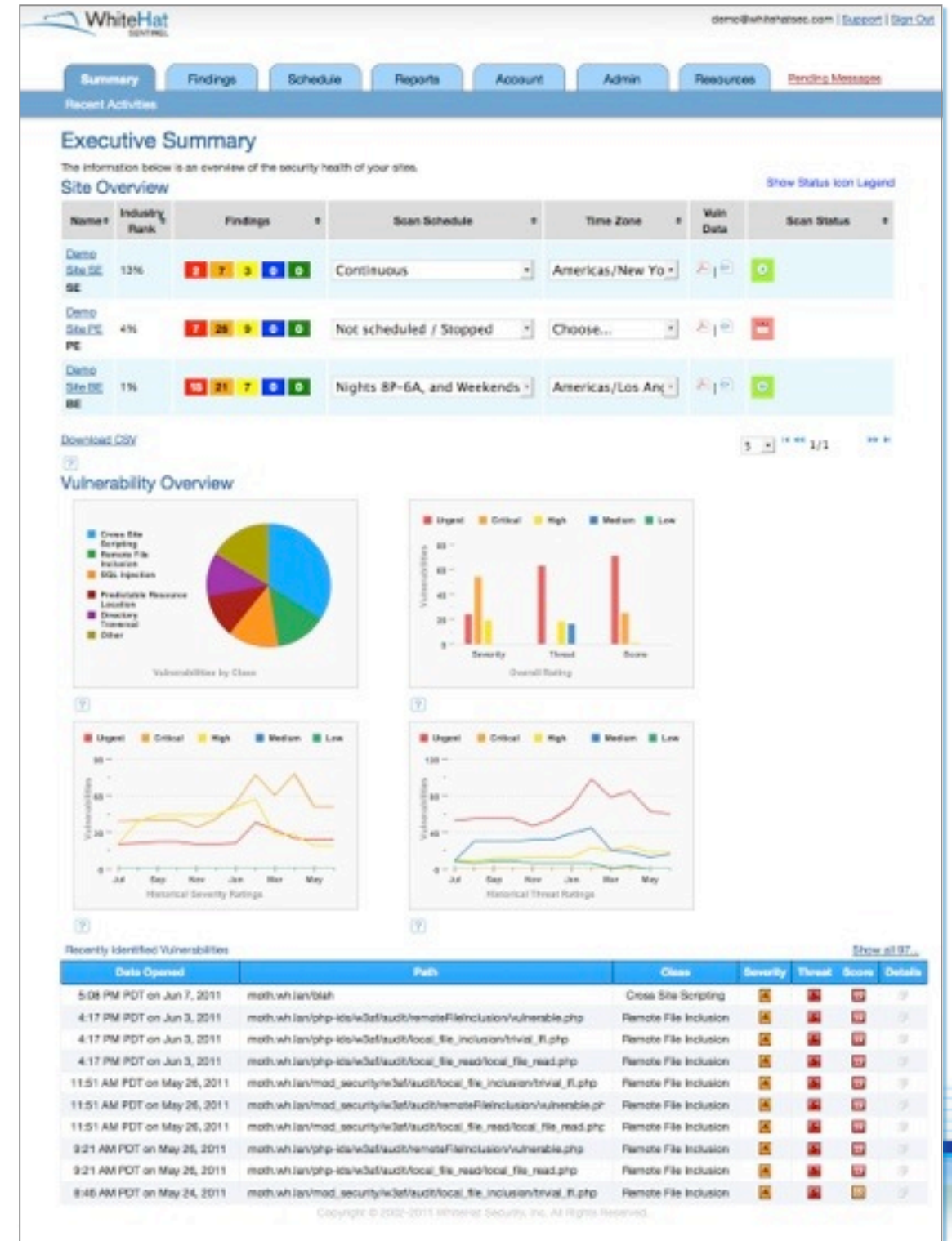
Fully Targeted

- Customize their own tools
- Focused on business logic
- Clever and profit driven (\$\$\$)



WhiteHat Sentinel – Assessment Platform

- **SaaS (Annual Subscription)**
 - Unlimited Assessments / Users
- **Unique Methodology**
 - Proprietary scanning technology
 - Expert website security analysis (TRC)
 - Satisfies PCI 6.6 requirements
- **Vulnerability Verification** and prioritization – virtually eliminating false positives
- **XML API** links other security solutions
- **Easy to get started –**
 - Need URL and Credentials
 - No Management of Hardware or Software
 - No Additional Training



WhiteHat Sentinel

500+

enterprises from start-ups to fortune 500

1,000,000

vulnerabilities processed per day

6 Terabytes

data stored per day

7,000+

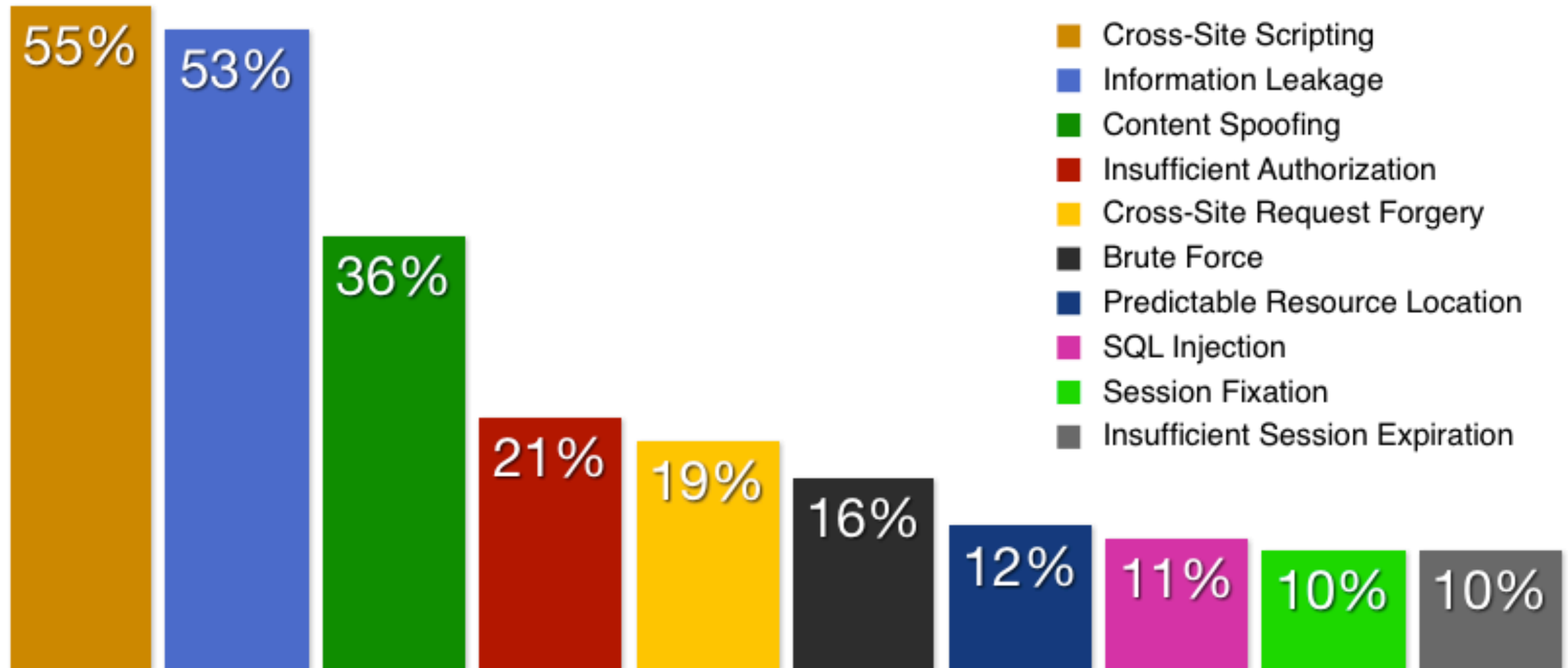
websites receiving ~weekly assessments

940,000,000

http(s) requests per month

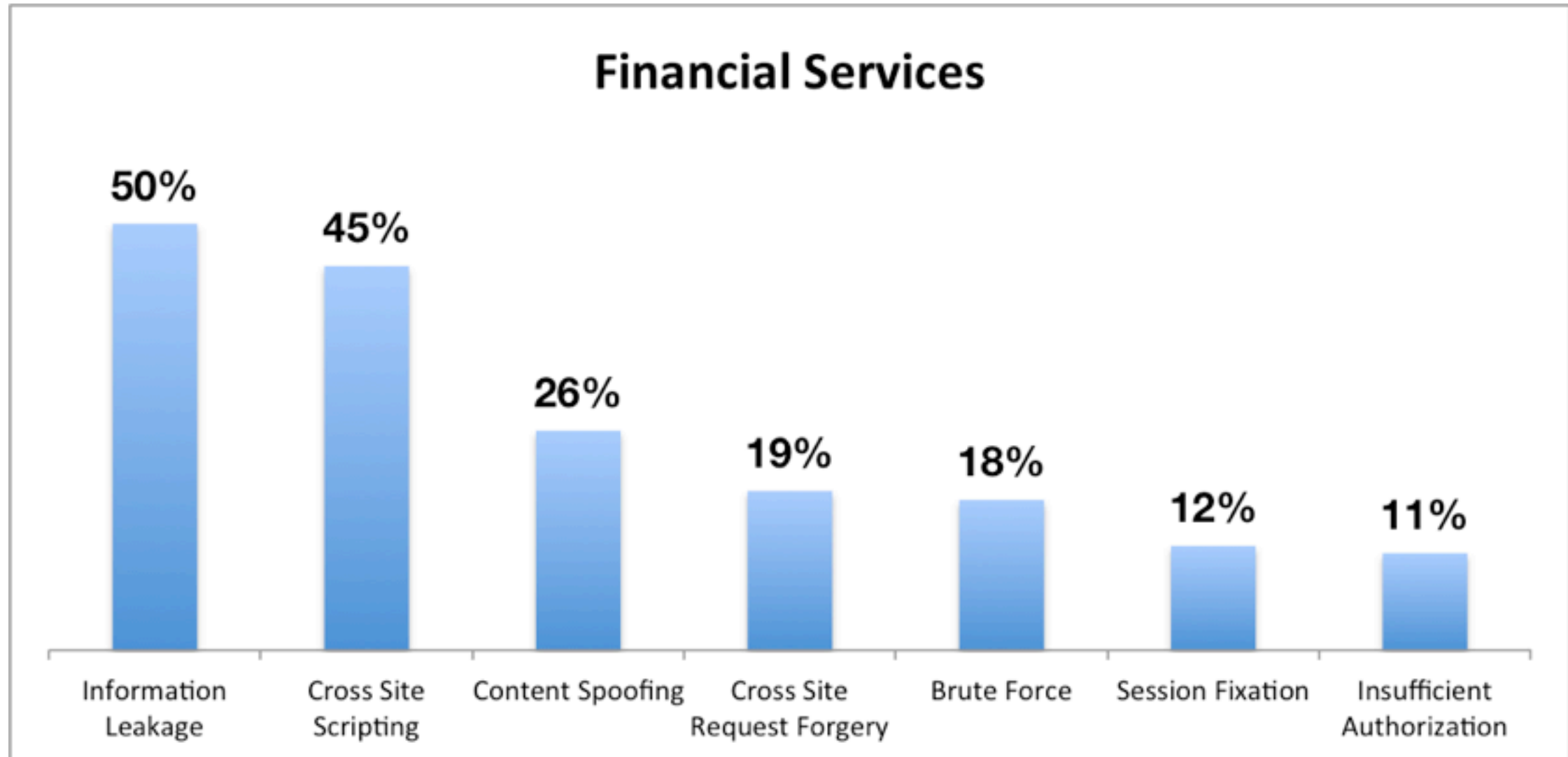


WhiteHat Security Top Ten (2011)



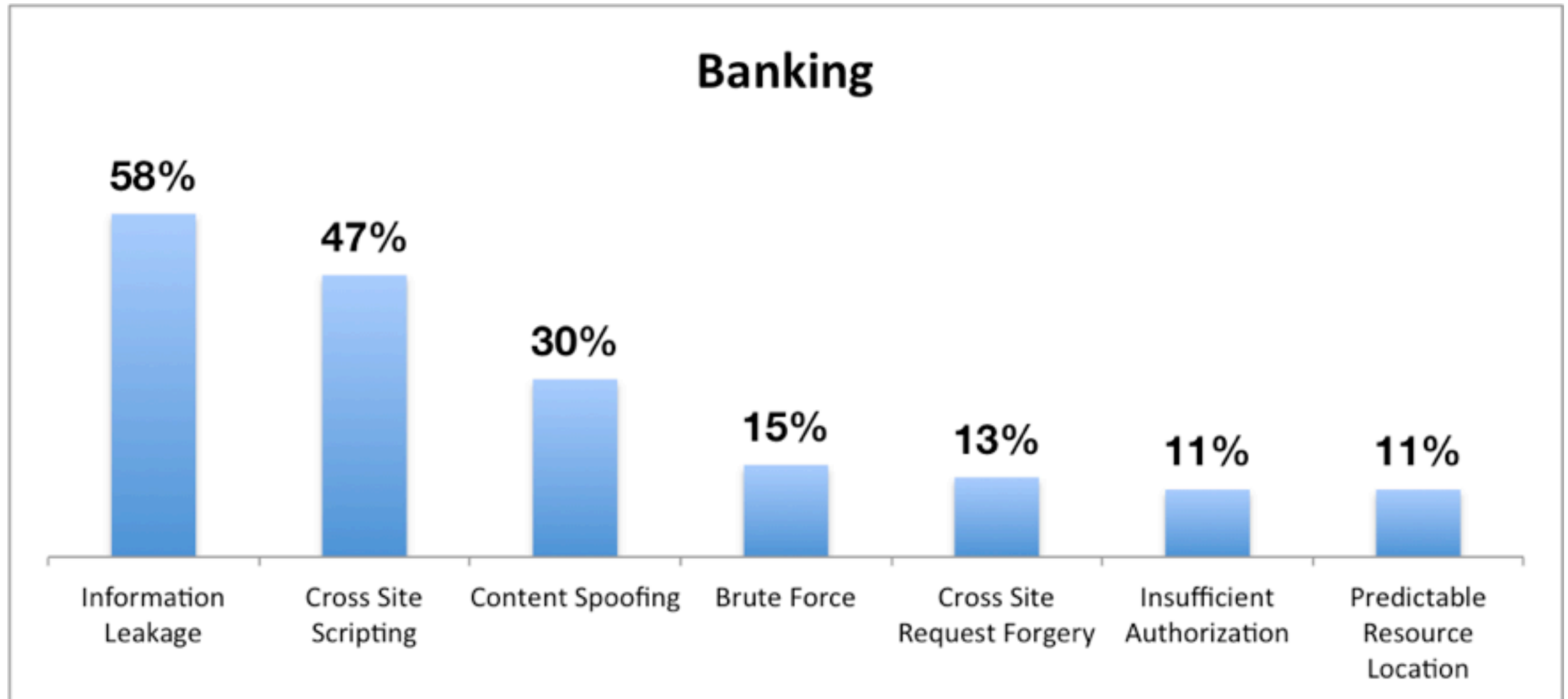
Percentage likelihood of a website having at least one vulnerability sorted by class

Top Seven by Industry (2011)



Percentage likelihood of a website having at least one vulnerability sorted by class

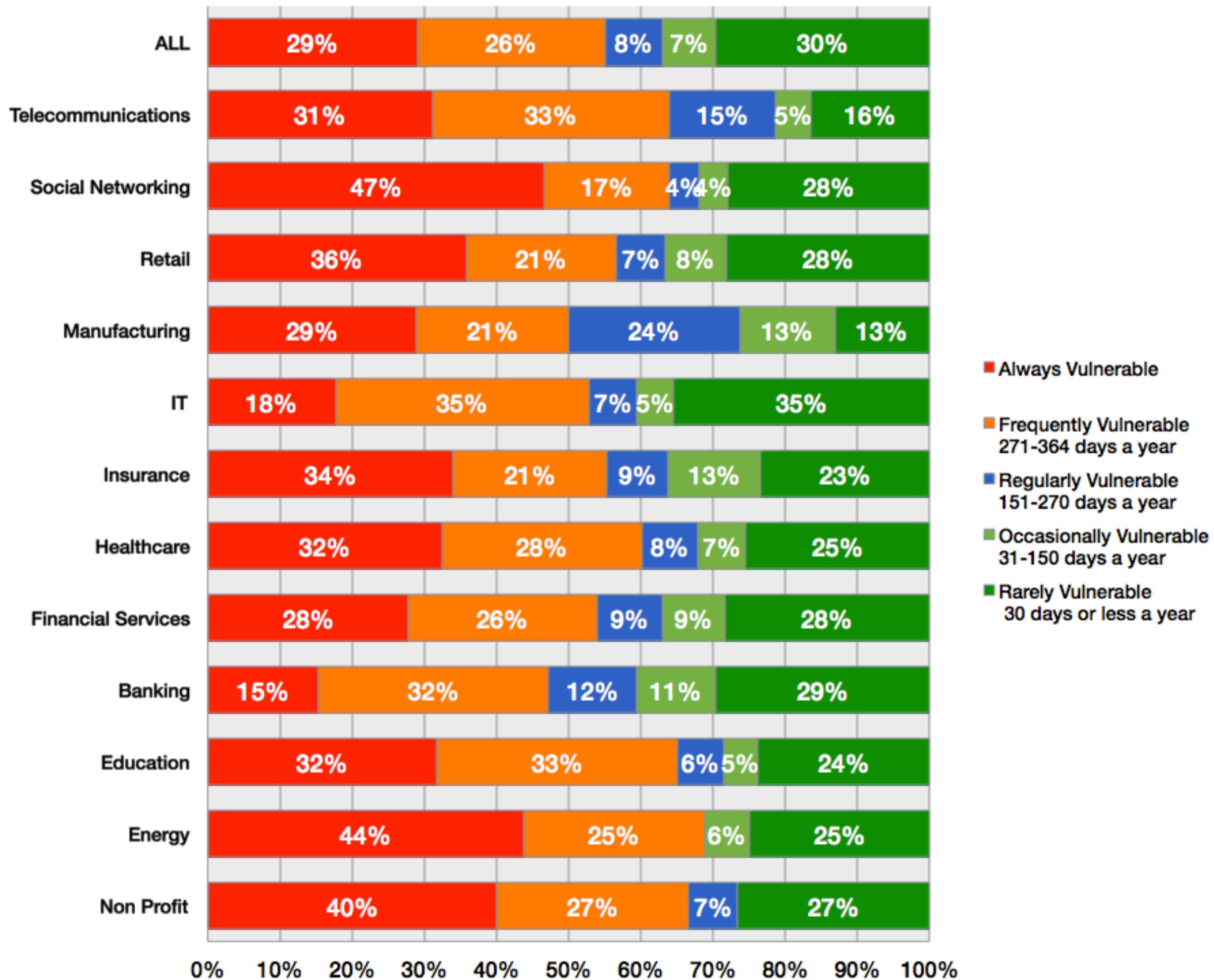
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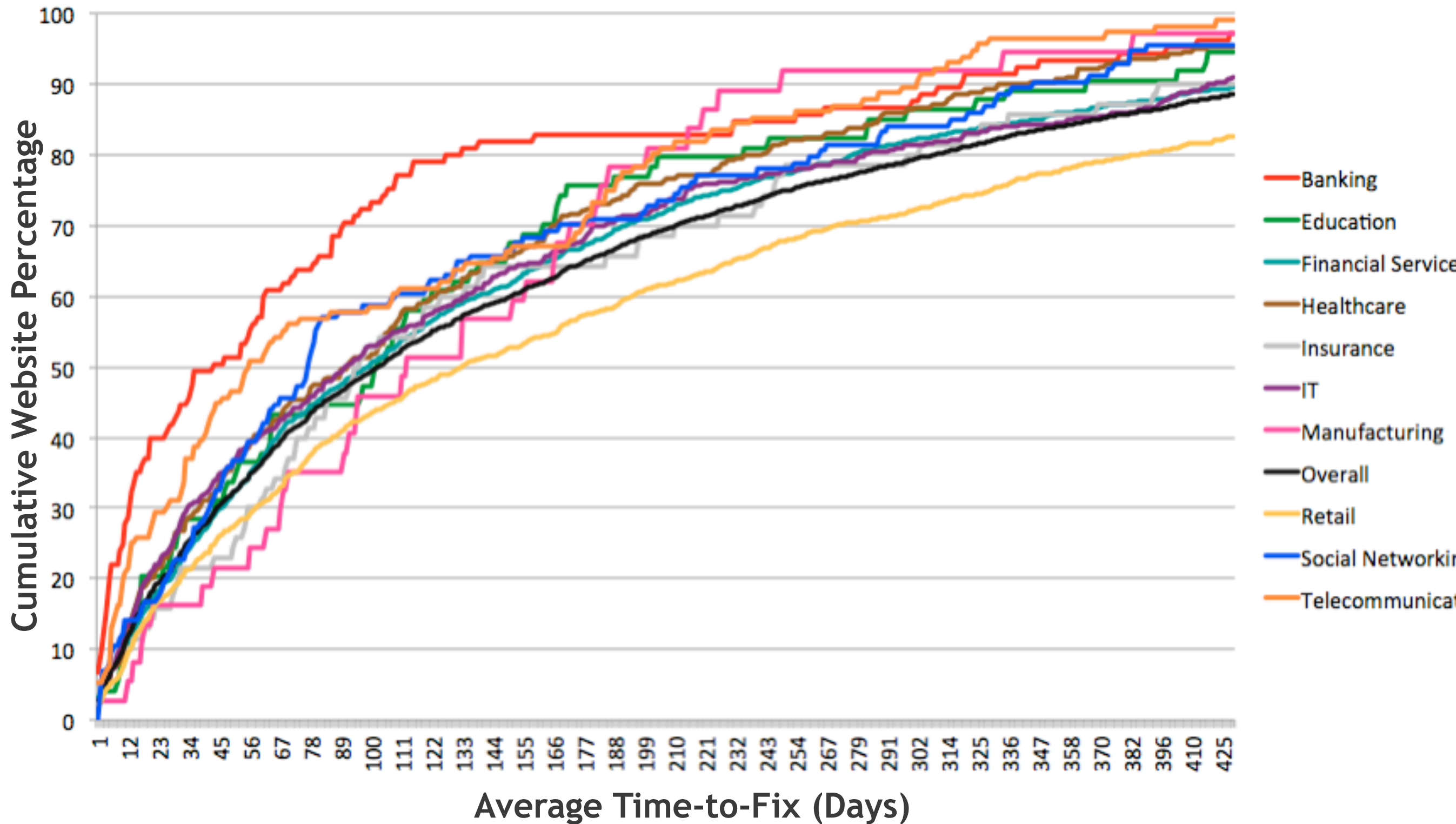
Percentage likelihood of a website having at least one vulnerability sorted by class

Window of Exposure (2011)

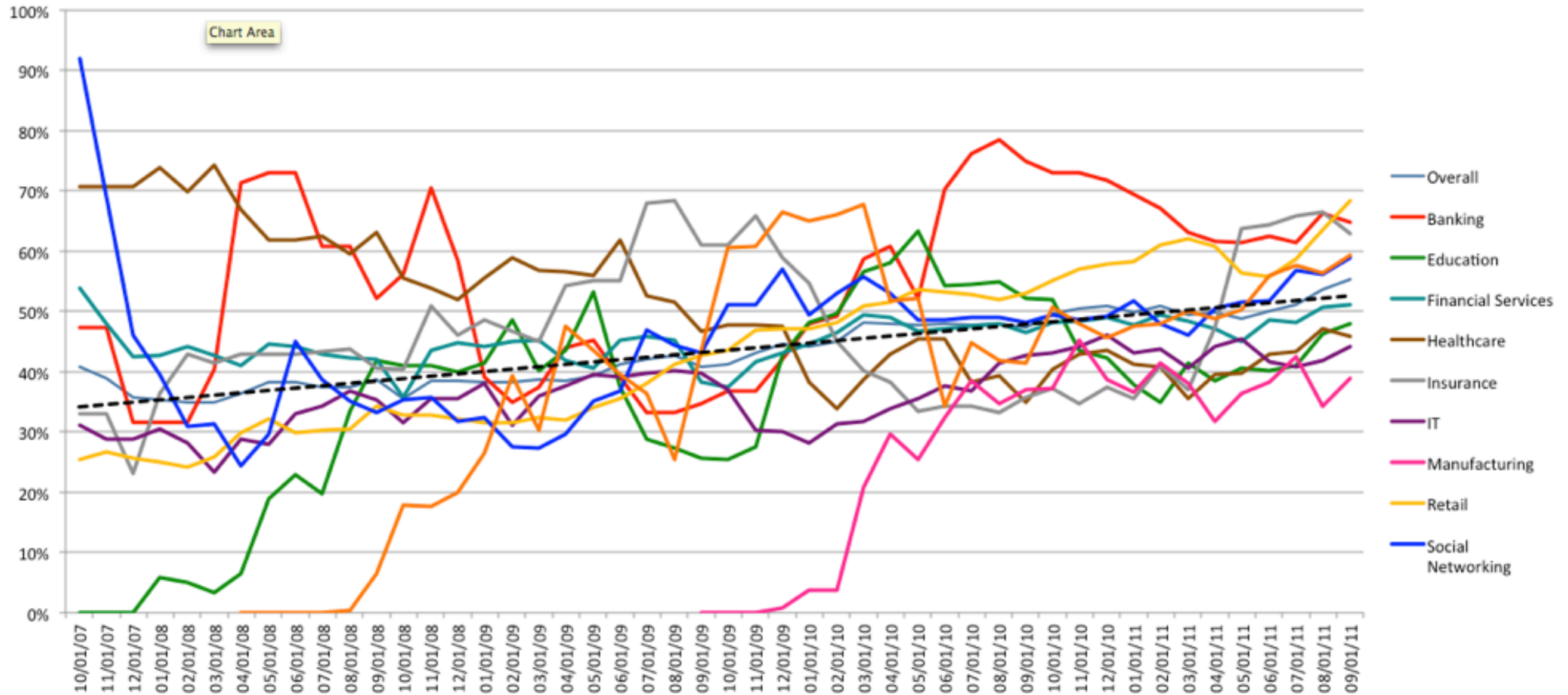
Number of days [in a year] a website is exposed to at least one serious* reported vulnerability.



Time-to-Fix in Days



Remediation Rates by Industry (Trend)



A steady improvement in the percentage of reported vulnerabilities that have been resolved during each of the last three years, which now resides at 53%. Progress!

Why do vulnerabilities go unfixed?

- No one at the organization understands or is responsible for maintaining the code.
- Development group does not understand or respect the vulnerability.
- Lack of budget to fix the issues.
- Affected code is owned by an unresponsive third-party vendor.
- Website will be decommissioned or replaced “soon.”
- Risk of exploitation is accepted.
- Solution conflicts with business use case.
- Compliance does not require fixing the issue.
- **Feature enhancements are prioritized ahead of security fixes.**

Testing Speed & Frequency Matters

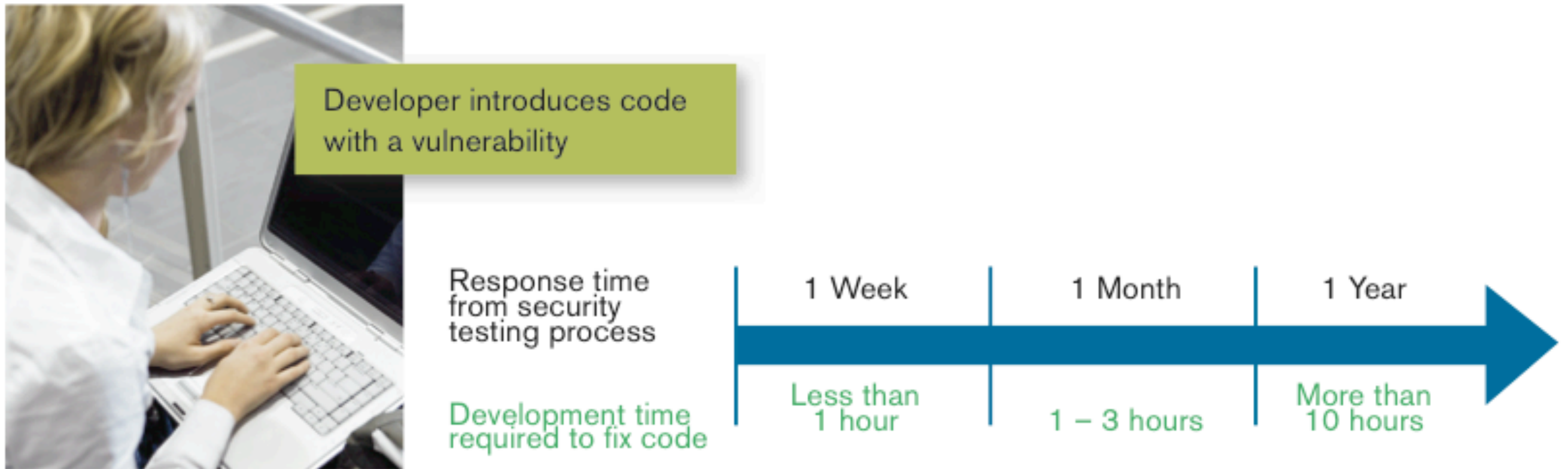
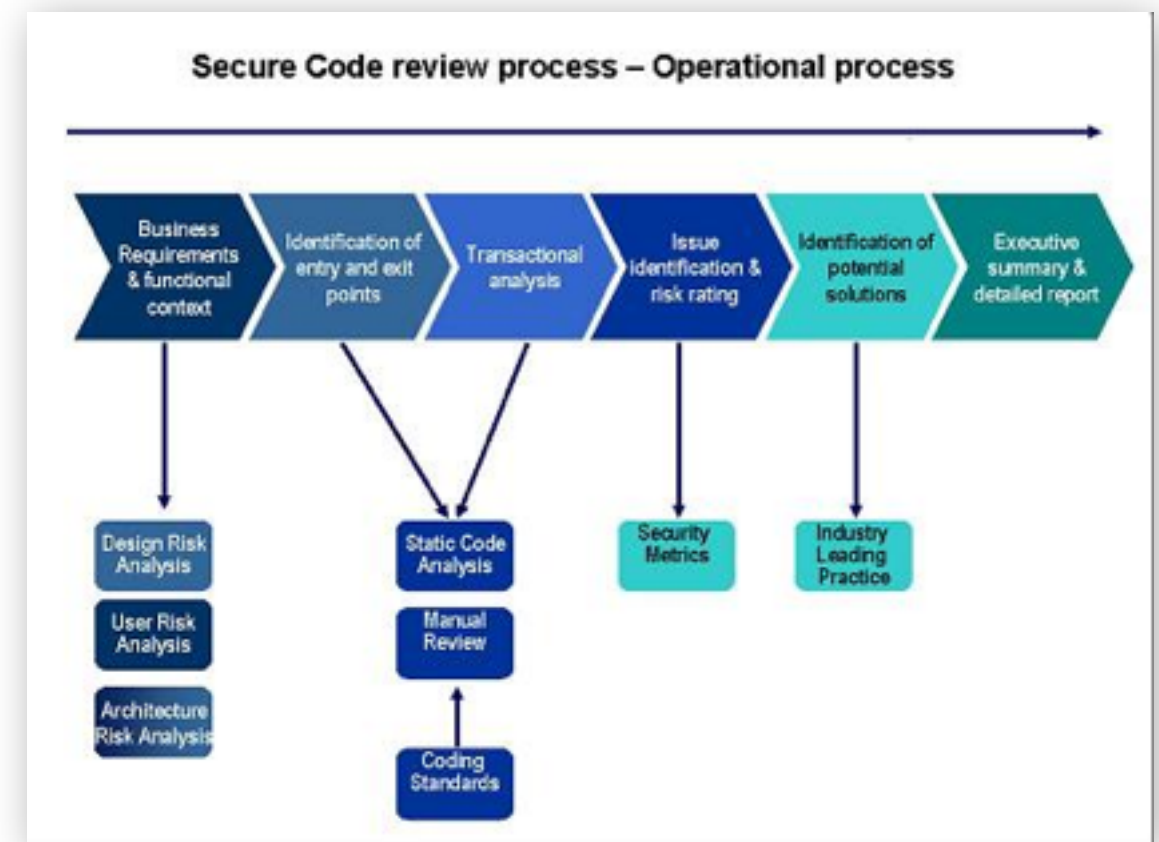


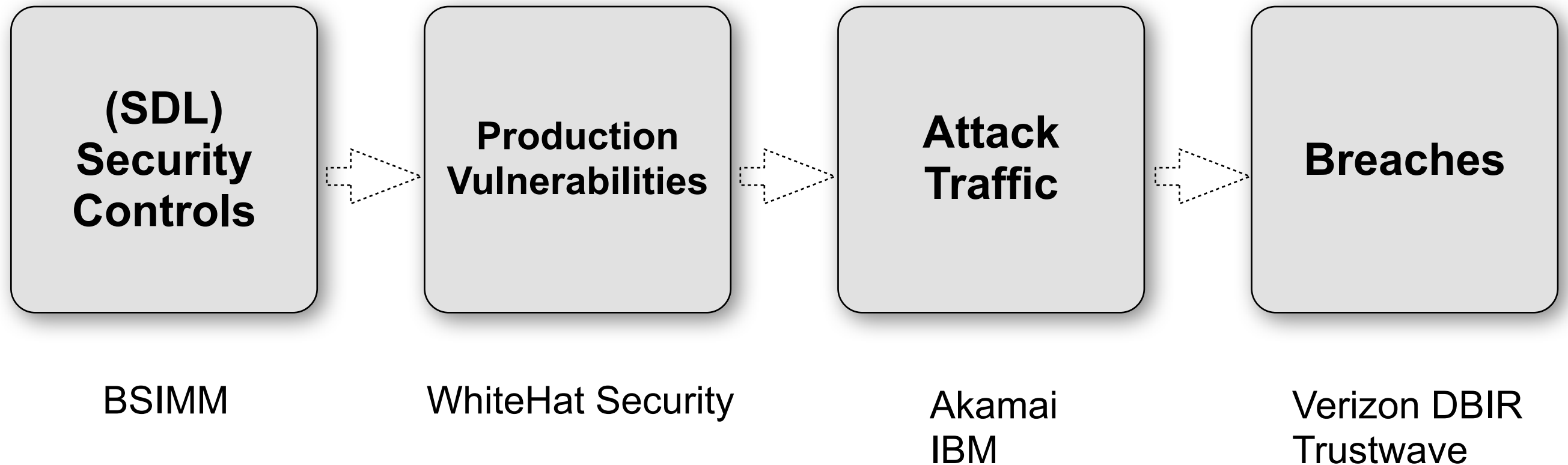
Figure 1. Relationship between the time that passes between testing for vulnerabilities and the time required to fix them:

How to develop secure-(enough) software?



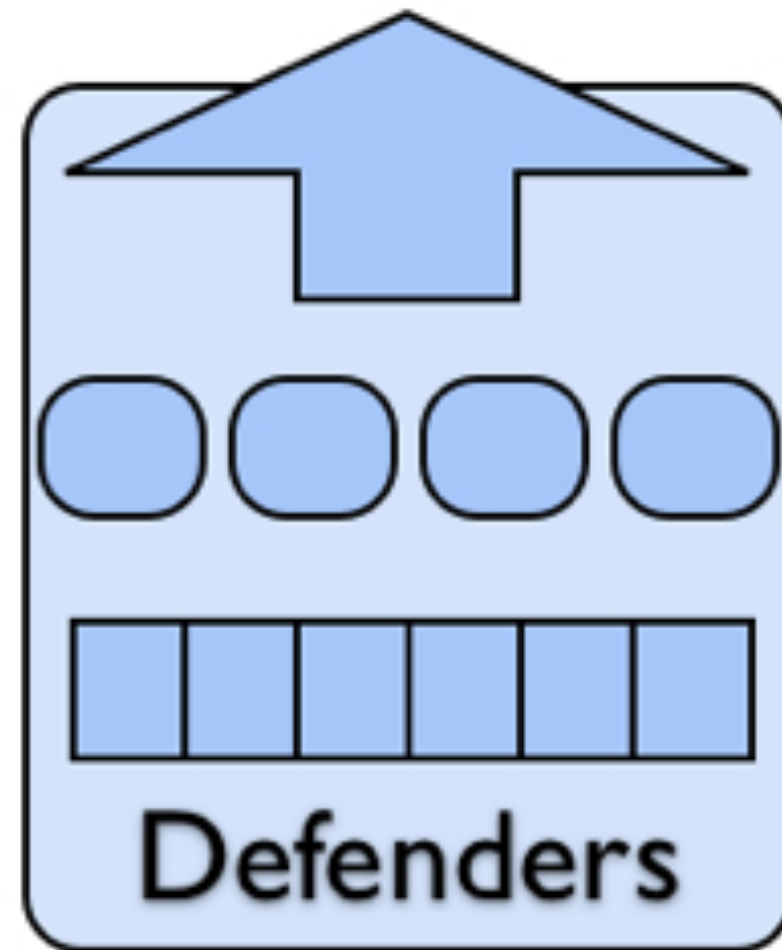
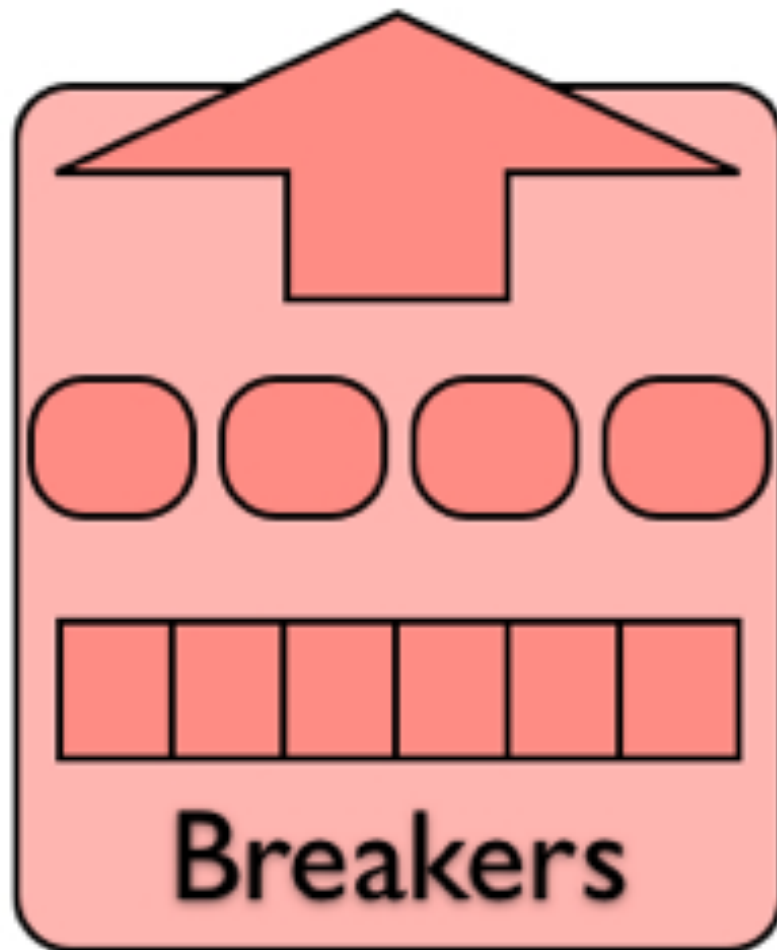
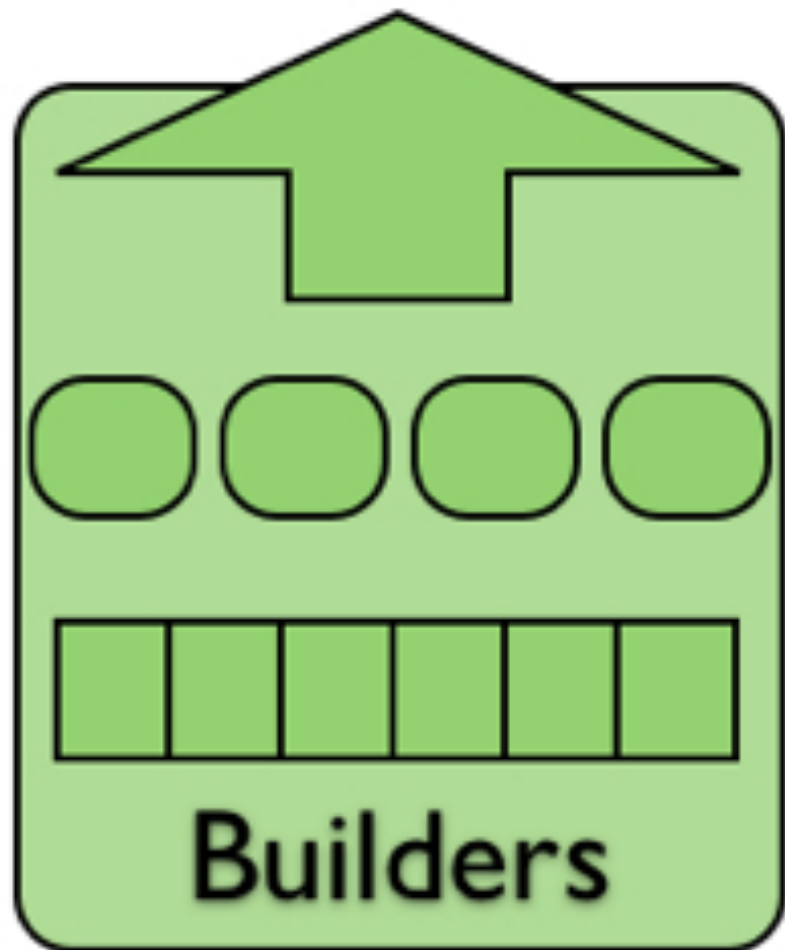
Little-to-No Supporting Data.

Connect the Dots...



Then we'll start getting some real answers about how to product secure-enough.

The biggest problem in application security today...
The need for qualified people.



Builders

Gary McGraw (CTO, Cigital) says roughly 2% of all programmers should be software security pros, or “Builders” in our case. Gary, through a project called BSIMM, arrived at 2% by surveying dozens of software security programs among large companies and measuring what they do.

Worldwide programmer population: 17 million

We'll need 340,000 “Builders”

Breakers

We'll use a ratio of 1 “breaker” per to 100 websites. This ratio comes from internal metrics at WhiteHat Security generated from assessment conducted over the last 8 years and encompassing more than 5,000 websites.

“Important” (SSL) website population: 1.2 million

Out of 550 million total websites that should be assessed continuously for vulnerabilities.

We'll need 12,000 “Breakers”

Defenders

No idea how to begin to estimate the Defender need, but it'll be in the tens of thousands at least. Considering the vast number of website assets that must be protected, the 1 billion online users who someone needs to ensure are playing nice, and monitoring the serious volume of Web traffic they generate.



Why Do Breaches
(and vulnerabilities)
Continue to Happen?

Typical IT Budget Allocation



Applications

Software, development, CRM, ERP, etc.



Host

Servers, desktops, laptops, etc.



Network

Routers, switches, network admins, etc.

Typical IT Security Budget



Applications

Software architecture, trainings, testing, etc.



Host

Vulnerability management, system config, patching, etc.

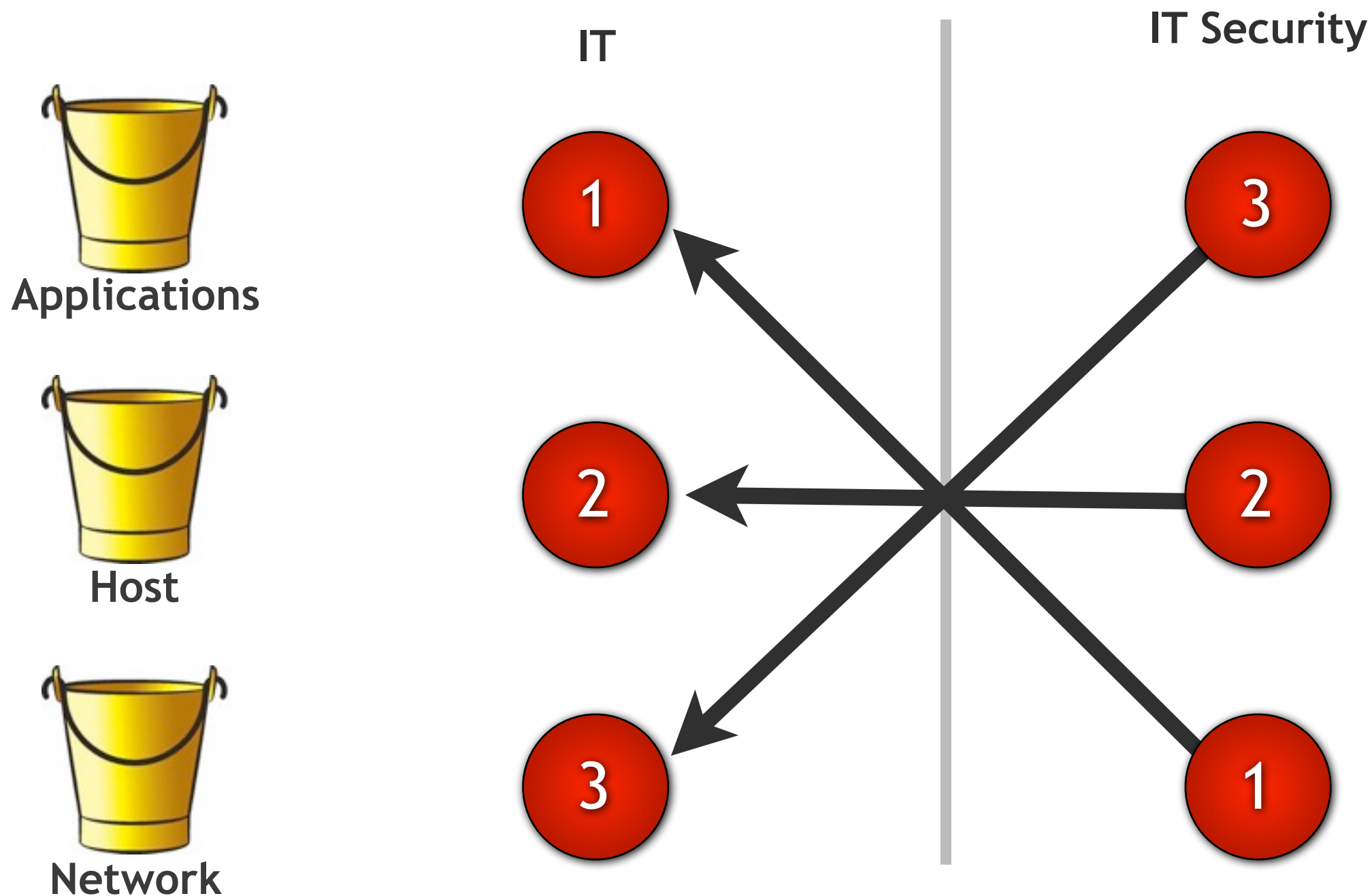


Network

Firewalls, Network IDS, SSL, monitoring, etc.

Budget Prioritization

The biggest line item in [non-security] spending **SHOULD** match the biggest line item in security.



Survey [2010] of IT pros and C-level executives from 450 Fortune 1000 companies (FishNet Security)...

“Nearly 70% [of those surveyed] say mobile computing is the biggest threat to security today, closely followed by social networks (68%), and cloud computing platforms (35%). Around 65% rank mobile computing the top threat in the next two years, and 62% say cloud computing will be the biggest threat, bumping social networks.”

The report goes on to say...

“45% say firewalls are their priority security purchase, followed by antivirus (39%), and authentication (31%) and anti-malware tools (31%).”

Big Picture

“Market-sizing estimates for network security range anywhere from \$5-8bn, whereas our calculation for the aggregate application security market is about \$444m. Despite the spending boost on application security mandated by the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI-DSS), it’s still not commensurate with the demonstrated level of risk.”

The Application Security Spectrum (The 451 Group)

“...we expect this revenue will grow at a CAGR of 23% to reach \$1bn by 2014.”

Thank You!

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I was not in your threat model.

1:53 PM Apr 28th via TweetDeck

Retweeted by 1 person



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