

KEY METRICS FROM THE 1H 2021 NETSCOUT THREAT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

# UNITED KINGDOM

The massive shift to online life triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic prompted record-breaking levels of innovation by threat actors, and NETSCOUT's ATLAS Security Engineering and Response Team (ASERT) expects this long tail of attacker innovation to last well into 2021.

Bad actors launched approximately 5.4 million DDoS attacks in 1H 2021—yet another record-breaking number. In particular, attackers launched unprecedented numbers of DDoS attacks in the first quarter, boosting attack frequency by 20 percent over the same time period in 2020. Meanwhile, adversaries discovered or weaponized seven UDP reflection/amplification DDoS attack vectors and developed adaptive multivector attacks specifically tailored to exploit vulnerabilities of their targets. Vital components of the connectivity supply chain came under increased attack, while ransomware gangs added triple-extortion DDoS tactics to their repertoire and the Fancy Lazarus threat actor launched a new DDoS extortion campaign.

### Max Multivector Attack

Max number of vectors seen in a single attack

# 23

### ATTACK VECTORS USED

1. BitTorrent amplification
2. Chargen amplification
3. CLDAP amplification
4. DNS
5. DNS amplification
6. ICMP
7. L2TP amplification
8. MDNS amplification
9. Memcached amplification
10. MSSQLRS amplification
11. NetBIOS amplification
12. NTP amplification
13. OpenVPN amplification
14. RIPv1 amplification
15. rpcbnd amplification
16. SNMP amplification
17. SSDP amplification
18. STUN amplification
19. TCP ACK
20. TCP NULL
21. TCP RST
22. TCP SYN
23. TCP SYN/ACK amplification

### Top 5 Attack Vectors

<b>Dn</b> DNS amp NUMBER OF ATTACKS 138,113	<b>Im</b> ICMP NUMBER OF ATTACKS 64,872	<b>Tr</b> TCP RST NUMBER OF ATTACKS 63,675	<b>Ts</b> TCP SYN NUMBER OF ATTACKS 60,166	<b>Ta</b> TCP ACK NUMBER OF ATTACKS 54,664
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### DDoS Statistics

Attack Frequency	+11%
Max Throughput	+58%
Average Duration	+2%
Max Attack Size	-8%

### Largest Attack

Size	448.18 Gbps
Speed	38.18 Mpps
Duration	4,140 Seconds

### Max Peak Throughput

Date	03/01/2021
Max Throughput	117 Mpps


### Max Peak Bandwidth

Date	02/01/2021
Max Bandwidth	714 Gbps



## Top Ten Vertical Industries Under Attack

The following chart shows a sampling of the most targeted sectors in 1H 2021 by number of attacks.

RANK	VERTICAL	FREQUENCY	MAX ATTACK	MAX IMPACT	AVERAGE DURATION
1	 <b>Data Processing, Hosting + Related Services</b>	12,300	114.42 Gbps	25.67 Mpps	53.9 Minutes
2	 <b>Wired Telecommunications Carriers</b>	11,046	114.42 Gbps	25.67 Mpps	47.6 Minutes
3	 <b>Electronic Computer Manufacturing</b>	5,694	98.76 Gbps	20.82 Mpps	108.2 Minutes
4	 <b>Wireless Telecommunications Carriers (except Satellite)</b>	4,623	114.42 Gbps	25.67 Mpps	41.8 Minutes
5	 <b>Electronic Shopping + Mail-Order Houses</b>	2,597	98.76 Gbps	20.82 Mpps	79.2 Minutes
6	 <b>All Other Telecommunications</b>	2,198	112.28 Gbps	22.58 Mpps	92.9 Minutes
7	 <b>Industrial Machinery and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers</b>	936	95.65 Gbps	20.35 Mpps	33.6 Minutes
8	 <b>Internet Publishing, Broadcasting + Web Search Portals</b>	713	98.76 Gbps	20.27 Mpps	74.9 Minutes
9	 <b>All Other Support Services</b>	408	93.79 Gbps	19.81 Mpps	110.5 Minutes
10	 <b>Computer Storage Device Manufacturing</b>	301	7.72 Gbps	1.11 Mpps	65.6 Minutes

## The Big Picture

Explore the full 1H 2021 NETSCOUT Threat Intelligence Report to find the latest research into trends and activities across the global DDoS threat landscape.

[VIEW THE INTERACTIVE REPORT](#)

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SECR\_023\_EN-2102 09/2021