

Expertise you can trust

By the Numbers: Third Quarter 2022

A small reduction in the number of events this quarter (175, compared to 197 in Q2) is offset by a sharp increase in the number of individuals impacted: **over 14 million, a 3-year high.**

As people rush to use up their flex benefits by year's end, criminals see opportunities to exploit. The **threat of cybercriminal activity remains very high.**

Hacking and Phishing Trends

Hacking has been the largest category of events every quarter so far this year, accounting for **82%** of all individuals whose data was accessed.

Together, hacking and unauthorized access held steady at **88%** of all reported events, but now represent fully **99% of all people** impacted this past quarter.

Business Associates Targeted

Business Associates reported 61 breaches this quarter, representing **35% of the total.** While a decrease from last quarter, over 10 million individuals were impacted, a 2% rise.

Network Servers are a Rich Target

Network Servers continue as the number one source of data breaches this quarter. The **102** events this quarter is a sharp rise from 82 last quarter, and the number of individuals whose data was compromised rose to over 11 million—2 million more than last quarter.

Who Still Uses Email? Hackers!

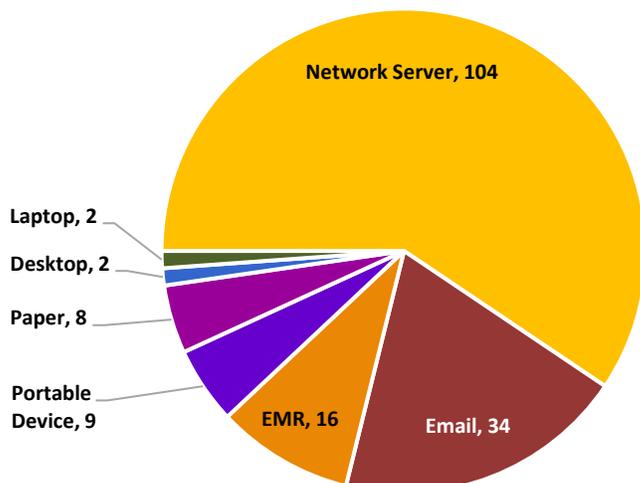
Email continues to be a major contributor to tallies in large breaches, once again representing the second-largest source for data breaches in this quarter.

Unauthorized access through email "phishing" attacks is sometimes reported as hacking.

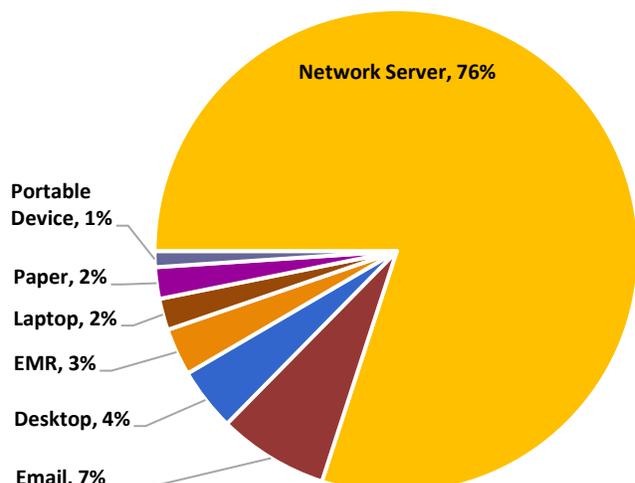
Bottom Line:

- The sharp rise in patients impacted is a stark reminder to **confirm business associates' security practices** before signing agreements.
- **Train your workforce, and remind them REPEATEDLY** to recognize and report suspicious emails. It only takes **one ill-advised click** to cause a major disruption to your organization.

Q3 '22 Breaches - Data Location



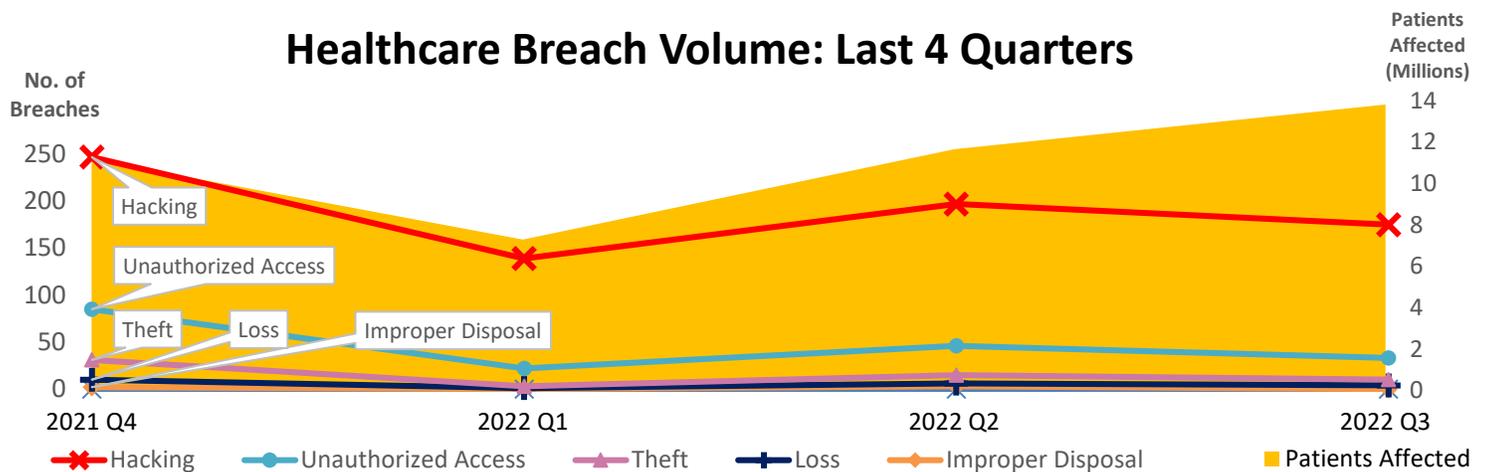
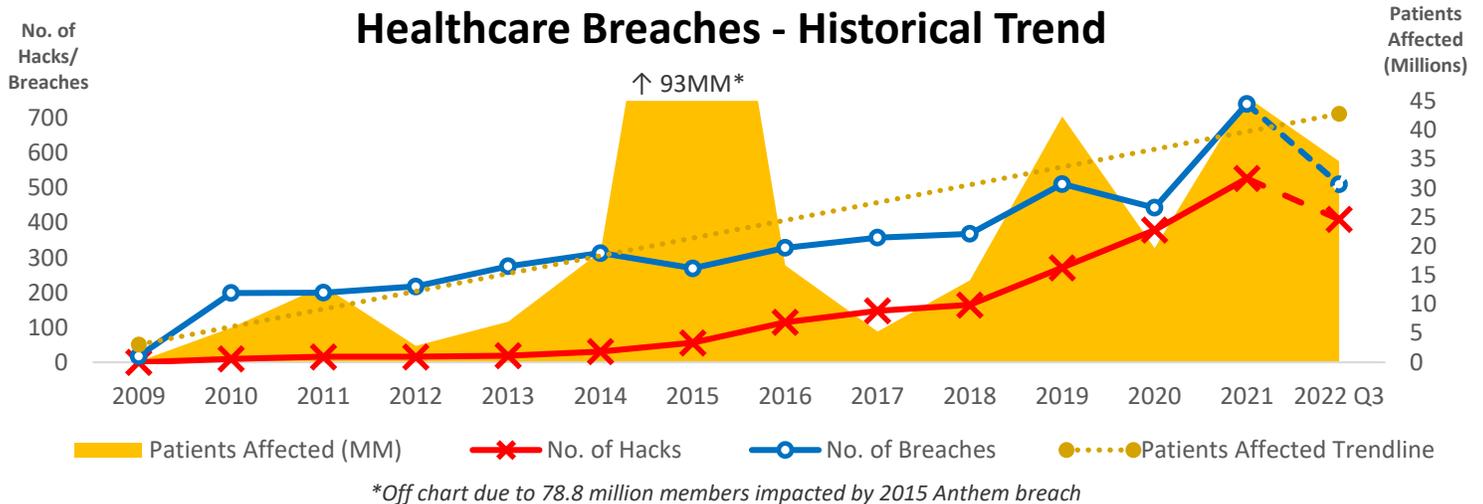
Q3 '22 Patient Impact - Data Location



By the Numbers: Historical Trends

From 2009 to **September 30, 2022**, **4,640 breaches** that impacted 500 patients or more have been reported to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), for a new total of **338,461,090** individuals affected.

Incidents involving **Business Associates and Business Partners** now total **1087**, or 23% of all events. This is a sad new milestone: over 100 million patients have been affected since reporting began (**107,185,580**, or **32% of the total**).



Breach Breakdown – 2009 to Present

Exploit Type	Number of Incidents	% Total Incidents	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Hacking	2,101	45%	277,971,026	82%
Unauthorized Access	1,130	25%	20,137,393	6%
Theft	989	21%	26,748,056	8%
Loss	224	5%	8,324,964	2%
Improper Disposal	107	2%	2,116,152	1%
Other*	89	2%	3,163,499	1%

Source: https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/breach/breach_report.jsf

* Category discontinued in 2010