

ITRC - 2020 Data Breaches Down as Much as 60% When Compared to 2019

According to data from the Identity Theft Resource Center, the number of data breaches this year has decreased significantly when compared to 2019. Depending upon the way that the data is measured, that reduction is anywhere from a low of 10% to a high of 60%.

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var s = document.createElement('SCRIPT'), s1 = document.getElementsByTagName('SCRIPT')[0];  
s.type = 'text/javascript';  
s.src = 'http://widgets.digg.com/buttons.js';  
s1.parentNode.insertBefore(s, s1);  
})();
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(function() {  
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po.src = 'https://apis.google.com/js/plusone.js';  
var s = document.getElementsByTagName('script')[0]; s.parentNode.insertBefore(po, s);  
})();
```

The overall number of data breaches reported is down by 30% so far this year. In terms of the number of people who have had their information exposed in a data breach, that figure is down by 60%. While that may sound fantastic, it needs to be put in perspective. It still means that more than 290 million people had their data exposed.

It is also worth pointing out that a data breach at a single company - Blackbaud - actually involved data from a large number of companies. If each of those companies had been counted as a single data breach, the number of breaches this year would only be reduced by 10% when compared to 2019.

But we're not ones to look a gift horse in the mouth. A reduction in the number of data breaches along with a reduction in the number of people having their data breached is good news. It is also somewhat unexpected given the fact that COVID19 has forced people into lockdown, and forced criminals to focus more on online crimes.

by Jim Malmberg

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