Local Businesses Beware! Atlanta and Denver Among the Most Cyber Infected Cities

Last Updated: Aug 24, 2018   **by Michael Guta**   **InTechnology Trends**   **1**

If your small business is located in Atlanta, Orlando or Denver, beware! A new report has identified these cities as the top three with the highest malware infection in the US during the first six months of 2018.

EnigmaSoft was able to come with a list of cities, states and the days of the week with the most infections by looking at infection rate data from its SpyHunter 5 anti-malware software in the first half of 2018.

The traditional metrics which were used to identify the most livable cities now includes the digital infrastructure, including how safe this infrastructure is. With digital technology now making up a great deal of the way we communicate, work and play, securing the infrastructure and devices we use has become a growing concern.

The cities and states on the list vary greatly and according to the company, there is no definitive answer why some are doing better than others.

EnigmaSoft spokesperson Ryan Gerding, said, " "It's hard to say exactly why one city or state has a higher rate of infection than others. There's a wide variety at the top of the list. Larger cities, smaller cities, and cities in every geographic area. The same is true for the least infected areas. New York and San Francisco ranked near the very bottom of the list."

In addition to the most infected cities, EnigmaSoft also looked at all fifty states and days of the week which seem to be the worst for malware infections.

Top Cybercrime Cities

Atlanta came in first with 1035.45% over the average of malware infection rates. This was followed by Orlando with 985.90% and Denver with 953.04%.

St. Louis and Tampa rounded up the top five with 822.90% and 750.30% respectively.

The lowest rate was in Anchorage, Alaska at 18.07%

U.S. Cities with the Highest Malware Infection Rates

Rank	City	% Over Average
1	Atlanta	1035.45%
2	Orlando	985.90%
3	Denver	953.04%
4	St. Louis	822.90%
5	Tampa	750.30%
6	Newark	603.15%
7	Washington	541.89%
8	Cleveland	490.62%
9	Madison	458.22%
10	Cincinnati	422.84%
11	Raleigh	312.84%
12	Dallas	276.37%
13	Irvine	270.31%
14	Minneapolis	267.69%
15	Buffalo	244.84%

16	Boise	236.93%
17	Boston	216.03%
18	Miami	214.62%
19	Greensboro	194.55%
20	Pittsburgh	191.79%
21	Milwaukee	184.29%
22	Las Vagas	166.87%
23	Kansas City	166.46%
24	Phoenix	153.93%
25	Seattle	153.64%
26	Columbus	132.50%
27	Portland	125.27%
28	Sacramento	98.17%
29	San Jose	92.84%
30	Baton Rouge	91.57%
31	Indianapolis	89.80%
32	Honolulu	83.12%
33	Omaha	80.13%
34	Scottsdale	78.60%
35	Austin	72.91%
36	Baltimore	71.41%
37	Lincoln	70.12%

38	Colorado Springs	63.81%
39	Birmingham	55.81%
40	Tulsa	53.55%
41	Philadelphia	52.04%
42	Plano	48.82%
43	Albuquerque	46.66%
44	Charlotte	46.47%
45	Norfolk	40.61%
46	Tucson	39.82%
47	San Diego	37.74%
48	Bakersfield	32.63%
49	Louisville	30.68%
50	Wichita	26.74%
51	Anchorage	18.07%

The States

When it comes to states, Colorado was number one with 106.19% over the average of malware infection rates. New Hampshire was next with 88.16%, followed by Virginia at 67.10%, New Jersey at 47.27% and Oregon rounding out the top five with 28.29%.

The state with the least infection rate was Alabama at -65.16%

U.S. States Ranked by Malware Infection Rates

Rank	State	% Over Average
1	Colorado	106.19%

2	New Hampshire	88.16%
3	Virginia	67.10%
4	New Jersey	47.27%
5	Oregon	28.29%
6	Montana	17.28%
7	Wyoming	16.88%
8	Missouri	15.74%
9	New York	13.40%
10	Pennsylvania	9.37%
11	Maine	6.12%
12	Massachusetts	-1.40%
13	Arizona	-2.59%
14	Georgia	-3.51%
15	North Dakota	-4.61%
16	Wisconsin	-5.88%
17	Nebraska	-5.99%
18	Iowa	-8.96%
19	Maryland	-9.38%
20	Alaska	-10.23%
21	Florida	-12.59%
22	Ohio	-13.01%

23	Washington	-14.48%
24	Rhode Island	-15.36%
25	South Dakota	-16.31%
26	Texas	-16.67%
27	Kansas	-17.14%
28	Arkansas	-18.22%
29	Connecticut	-20.65%
30	New Mexico	-20.91%
31	Vermont	-20.97%
32	Utah	-21.82%
33	South Carolina	-22.01%
34	Michigan	-23.64%
35	Idaho	-23.84%
36	Nevada	-25.18%
37	Illinois	-25.24%
38	North Carolina	-26.90%
39	West Virginia	-27.15%
40	Delaware	-28.14%
41	Minnesota	-33.04%
42	Louisiana	-34.24%
43	California	-37.72%
44	Oklahoma	-38.29%

45	Indiana	-38.56%
46	Kentucky	-40.50%
47	Hawaii	-48.88%
48	Tennessee	-55.03%
49	Mississippi	-57.17%
50	Alabama	-65.16%

The Days

As to the worst day for malware infections, Wednesday gets the top spot followed by Friday, and Thursday.

Sunday seems to be the least favorite day for malware infections.

Days of the Week Ranked from Most Infections to Least

1	Wednesday
2	Friday
3	Thursday
4	Monday
5	Tuesday
6	Saturday
7	Sunday

Ways to Protect your Computers From Malware

EnigmaSoft recommends users to back up their data on physical and cloud-based solutions. This means having an external drive for the physical part and a cloud service provider. And once you have it in place, create an automatic schedule to back up your system regularly.

This provides you with the latest clean install of your system so you can restore it in the event of an infection which renders your computer inoperable.

The next suggestion is to always update the software on your computer. This includes drivers, operating system, security and more. Having an out of date software is a vector of attack most often used by hackers to breach your system.

Adjust your setting for automatic updates!!

The last two recommendations are to install a security software you know and trust and never open a link in an email or social media if you don't know who sent it.

Being secure means staying vigilant and proactive in protecting your digital presence. There is no one solution, but if you apply all of the suggestions security experts recommend you will make it that much harder for hackers.

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