

# Ransomware - threats, tactics and how to stop it



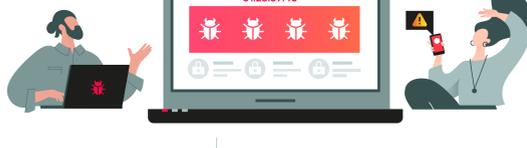
## Threats

### Ransomware targets

In 2019, **755,485** unique Kaspersky Security Network users were attacked by encryptors.

These included **209,679** corporate

and **22,440** SMB users\*



### Ransomware threats

In 2019, Kaspersky detected

**46,156** modifications of encryptors

and discovered **22 new families of malware**

Twice the number in 2018\*

### Ransomware globally

**Top 10 countries** attacked by encryptors in 2019 were

- Bangladesh
- Uzbekistan
- Mozambique
- Turkmenistan
- Ethiopia
- Nepal
- Afghanistan
- Vietnam
- China
- India

## Tactics

### Why it's a problem

Ransomware extorts money by taking control of your computer or the data stored on it, locking your computer to prevent normal use, or encrypting your data.



### How it works

Ransomware spreads using social engineering tricks, exploits or 'drive-by downloads'. Types include lock-screen, crypto-ransomware, Master Boot Record (MBR) and ransomware targeting web servers and mobiles.



## How to stop it

### Be prepared

Backup your files regularly. Ensure your read/write permissions don't allow files to be modified or deleted. And check your backups are in good shape.

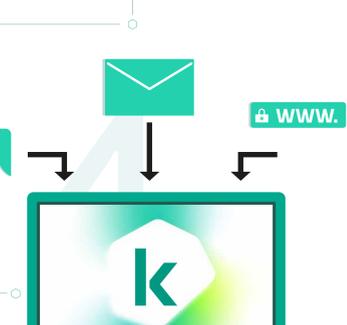
### Be on your guard

Be on the lookout for phishing attacks, fake messages and links, and potentially malicious files (e.g. by enabling the 'show file extensions' option in Windows settings).



### Take care of the basics

Regularly update your operating system and install the latest patches.



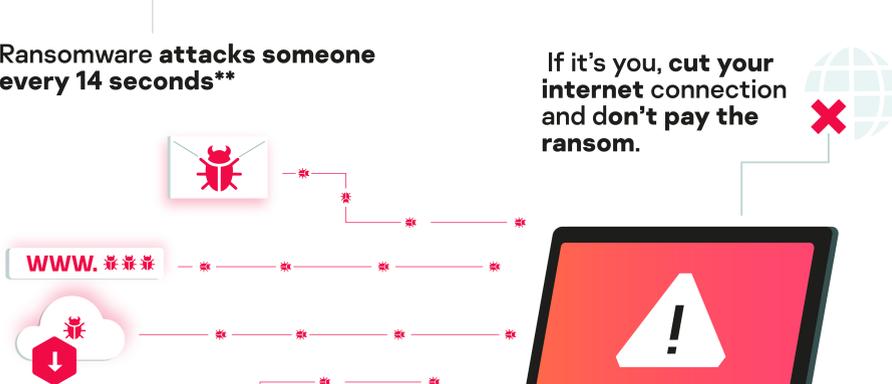
### Strengthen your defenses

Protect your devices by installing a robust cybersecurity solution. Kaspersky's top-rated products employ a multi-layered system of defense to keep you safe from known and emerging cyber threats.

## If the worst happens

Ransomware attacks someone every 14 seconds\*\*

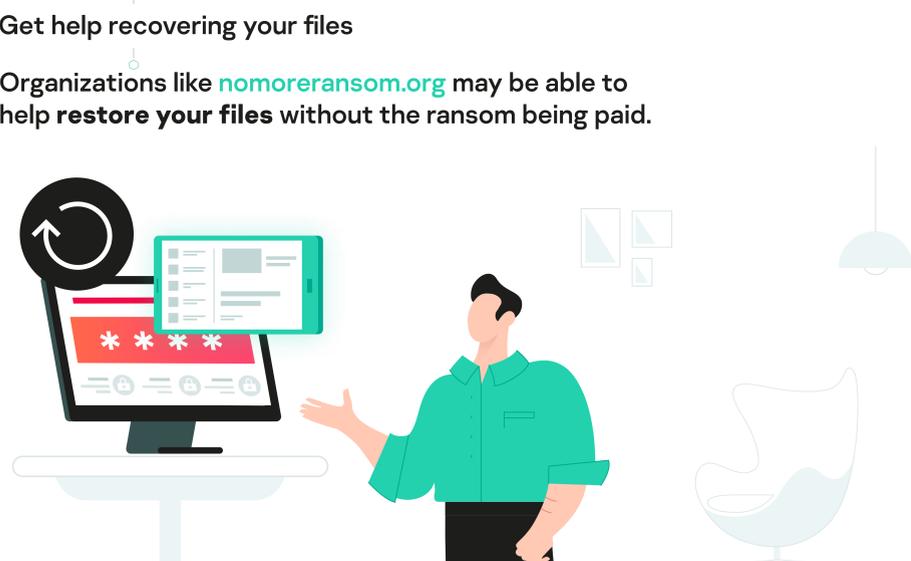
If it's you, cut your internet connection and don't pay the ransom.



You may not get your data back, and may simply be targeted again in the future.

### Get help recovering your files

Organizations like [nomoreransom.org](http://nomoreransom.org) may be able to help restore your files without the ransom being paid.



### Don't leave anything to chance

Take away all the guesswork by getting the **FREE Kaspersky Anti-Ransomware Tool**. It works alongside most security software and will help make ransomware a thing of the past.

[Learn more](#)



\* Kaspersky Security Bulletin 2019, Statistics  
 \*\* Cybersecurity Ventures. 2019 Cybersecurity Almanac: 100 Facts, Figures, Predictions and Statistics