

# CYBER SECURITY IN NUMBERS



**95% of all cyber-attacks** are caused by a successful phishing email. Approximately **6 million** potentially malicious emails were blocked by University systems in 2020.

**ACTION POINT:** Be vigilant of unsolicited emails which might have malicious intent. Find out more about phishing and how to spot it on [phishing.gov.uk](#) and always report suspicious emails to the IT Service Desk – [servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk).



Ransomware attacks globally have risen **350%** and they cost businesses more than **£70 billion** per year worldwide.

**GUIDANCE:** Never click links or open attachments in suspicious or unsolicited emails. Review information security advice on [informationsecurity.abdn.ac.uk](#) and complete your [annual security awareness training](#).



**All cybercrime is up 600%.**

Social Engineering based cybercrime saw a **300% increase in 2020** mainly due to COVID-19 related scams and the increase in home working.

Always report suspicious emails to the IT Service Desk – [servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk), and be aware of telephone or SMS based attacks.

**GUIDANCE:** Review our [social engineering awareness training](#) and [social engineering awareness video](#), advice from the [IT Service Desk](#) and complete your [annual security awareness training](#).



**92%** of malware is delivered by email. It is estimated that there were **over a billion** malware infections worldwide in the past year, and this is increasing year on year.

**ACTION POINT:** Keep all software up to date, use anti-virus software on personal devices and never click links or open attachments in suspicious emails. Review information security advice on [informationsecurity.abdn.ac.uk](#) and complete your [annual security awareness training](#).

If you require further information please contact the Information Security Team **email:** [servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:servicedesk@abdn.ac.uk)

# DATA PROTECTION IN NUMBERS

**£20  
MILLION**

The University can be fined for failing to handle personal data properly. BA were fined £20 million by the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a data breach.

This is the largest fine the ICO has imposed for a personal data breach. If you are unsure about how to handle personal data see our [guidance](#) or contact the Information Governance Team.

**GUIDANCE:** If you think that a personal data breach has occurred, please contact the Information Governance Team at [dpa@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:dpa@abdn.ac.uk) as soon as possible.



If you are engaging a supplier to handle University data you **MUST** consider undertaking a

This is to ensure that the suppliers we do business with offer sufficient safeguards for personal and University data. **If the supplier will be paid less than £10,000 use a Data Protection Impact Assessment. Higher value contracts need an**

**ACTION POINT:** Please read our [Data Protection Impact Assessment](#) for step-by-step guidance.



Over **12,000** personal data breaches are reported annually to the Information Commissioner (ICO).

**They happen at the University too. We can all take easy steps to avoid the most common type of breach – email misdirection.**

**ACTION POINT:** You can switch off auto Complete. This hugely reduces the chance of emails being sent to the wrong recipient. Please read our [guidance](#) on how to



Individuals have the right to request both their own personal data from the University, as well as other non-personal information.

In 2020 **527** requests were received by the University. **These requests must be responded to either within one calendar month or 20 working days.**

**GUIDANCE:** If you are asked to help respond to a request, please respond promptly, to ensure the deadline can be met.

If you require further information please contact the Information Governance Team email: [dpa@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:dpa@abdn.ac.uk)