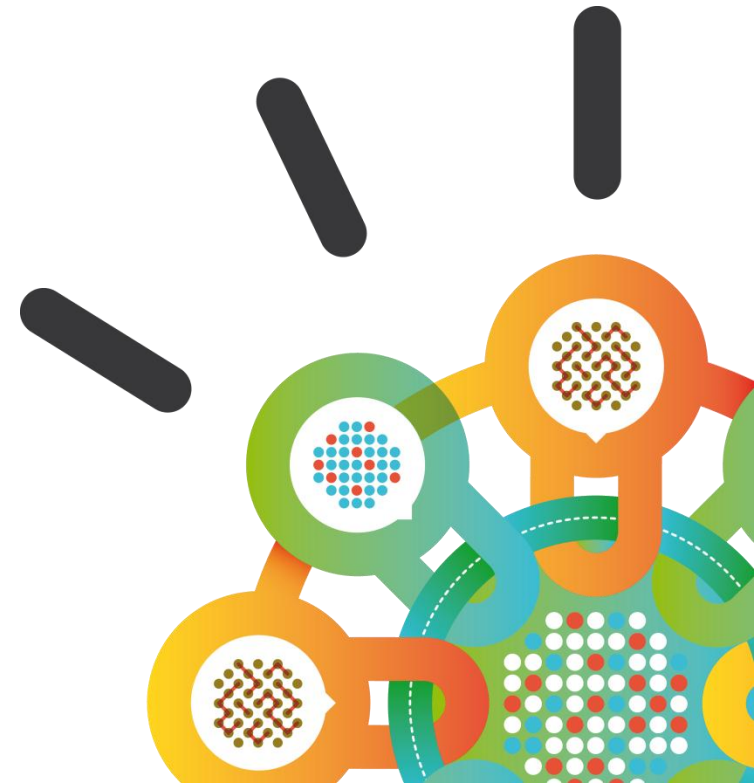


Security Intelligence.
Think Integrated.

IBM X-Force: The Emerging Threat Landscape

October, 2014

*Paul Griswold
Program Director, Strategy & Product Management
Infrastructure Security
IBM Security Systems*





IBM X-Force is the foundation for advanced security and threat research across the IBM Security Framework.

IBM Security has global reach



IBM Security by the Numbers



IBM X-Force® delivers expert analysis and threat intelligence



Backdoors
Botnets
Buffer Overflow Attacks
Client Side Attacks
Cross-site Scripting (XSS)
Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS)
Exploit Toolkits
Malicious Content
Peer-to-Peer Networks
Protocol Tunneling
Reconnaissance
SQL Injection
Trojans
Worms

*Sharing real-time and
anonymized threat intelligence*



**IBM Security Operations Centers
and Security Products**

X-Force Helps Keep Customers Ahead of the Threat

- Cataloging, analyzing and researching vulnerabilities since 1997
- Providing zero-day threat alerts and exploit triage to IBM customers worldwide
- Building threat intelligence from collaborative data sharing across thousands of clients
- Analyzing malware and fraud activity from 270M+ Trusteer-protected endpoints

IBM X-Force® Research and Development

Expert analysis and data sharing on the global threat landscape



The IBM X-Force Mission

- **Monitor** and evaluate the rapidly changing threat landscape
- **Research** new attack techniques and develop protection for tomorrow's security challenges
- **Educate** our customers and the general public
- **Integrate** and distribute Threat Protection and Intelligence to make IBM solutions smarter

IBM X-Force® Research and Development

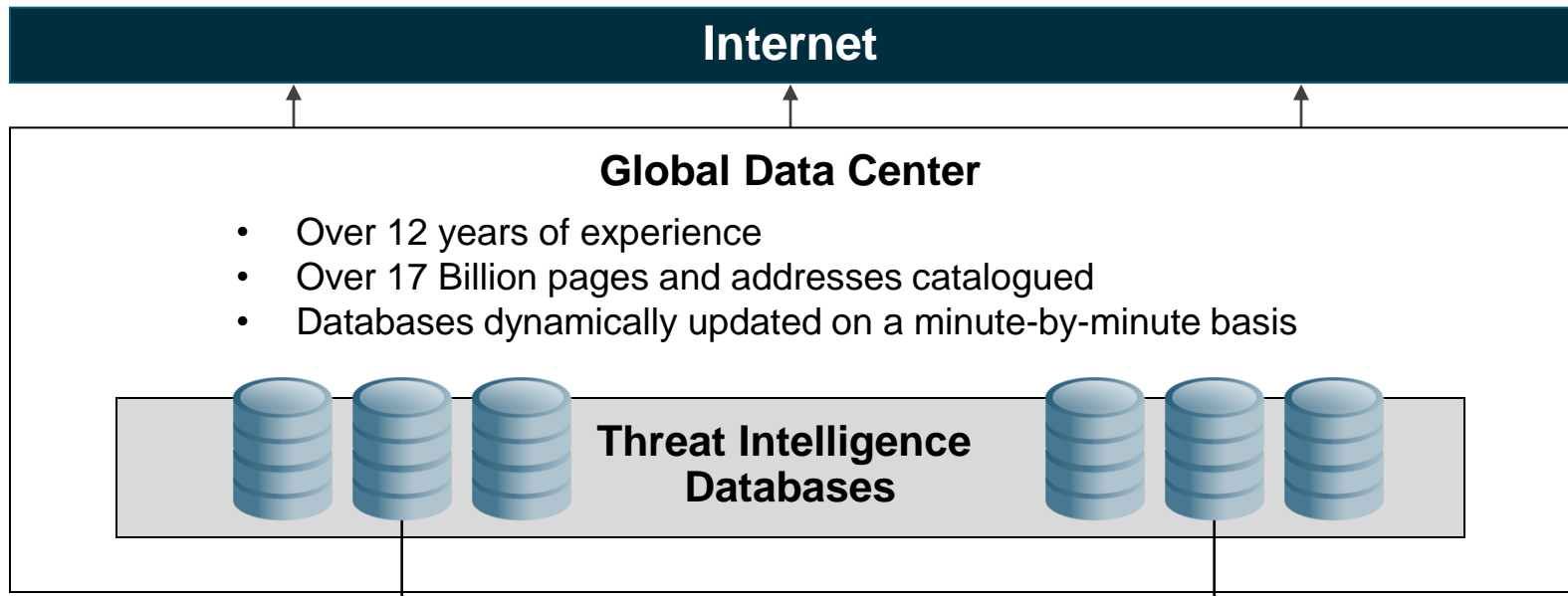
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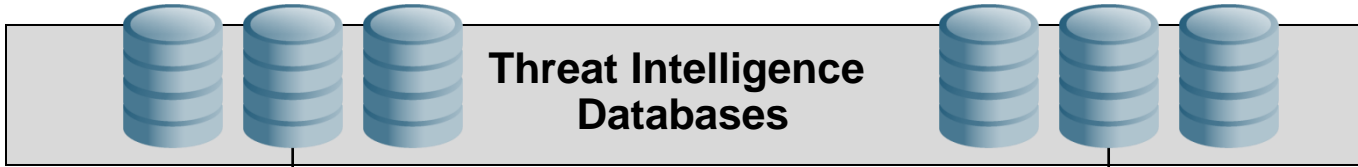
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Monitor - X-Force has the skills and infrastructure for collecting and analyzing changing threats



- Over 12 years of experience
- Over 17 Billion pages and addresses catalogued
- Databases dynamically updated on a minute-by-minute basis



Data capture

- Crawler robots search the web in parallel
- Honeypots & darknets capture information
- Spamtraps obtain Spam IPs and samples

X-Force Threat Intelligence



Analysis

- Server clusters analyze the data acquired
- Insights for different threats are gleaned from the data and stored in an efficient manner

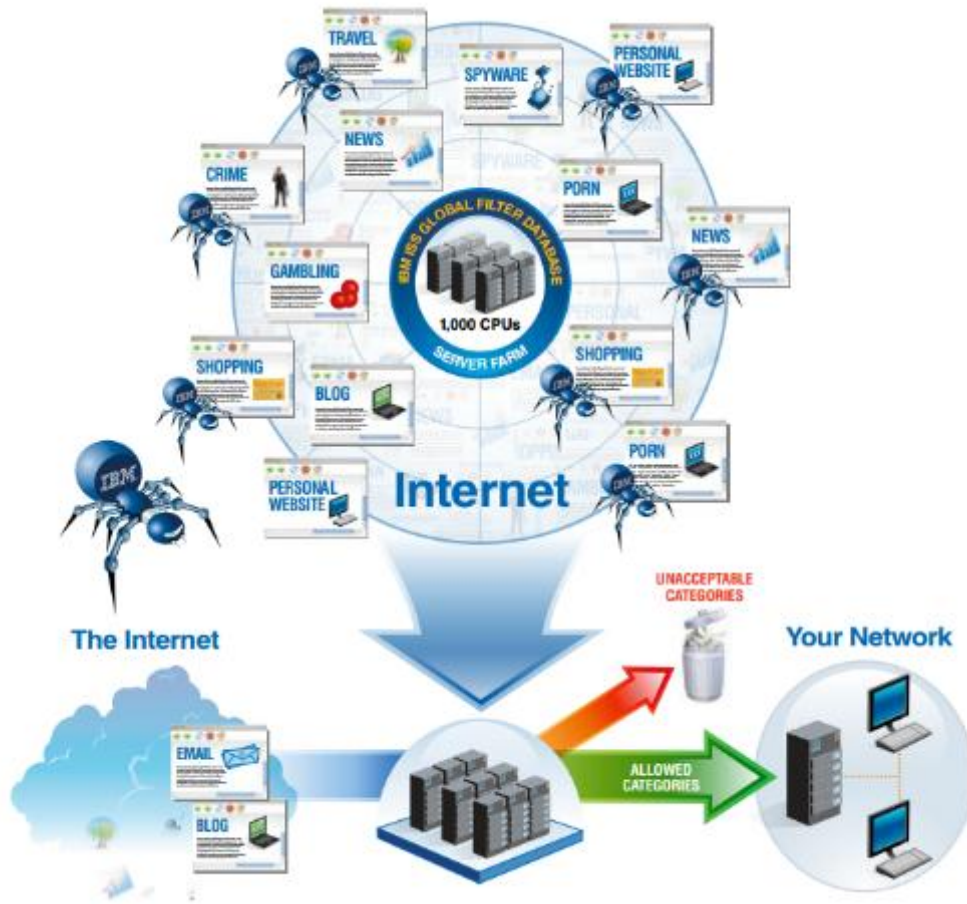
Monitor - Intelligence integrated into products for better accuracy

Web Crawler

- Crawlers collect image and text data from the Internet 24x7x365
- Every day, hundreds of thousands of changes to customers
- Indexed into 80+ categories
- Extended to Application Control

IP Reputation

- Malicious IPs
- Malware hosts
- SPAM sources
- Dynamic IPs
- Anonymous Proxies
- and more...



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Research - We analyze them all - X-Force Database (XFDB)

Most comprehensive Vulnerability Database in the world

- Updated daily by a dedicated research team
- Entries date back to the 1990's
- Over 80,000 unique vulnerabilities

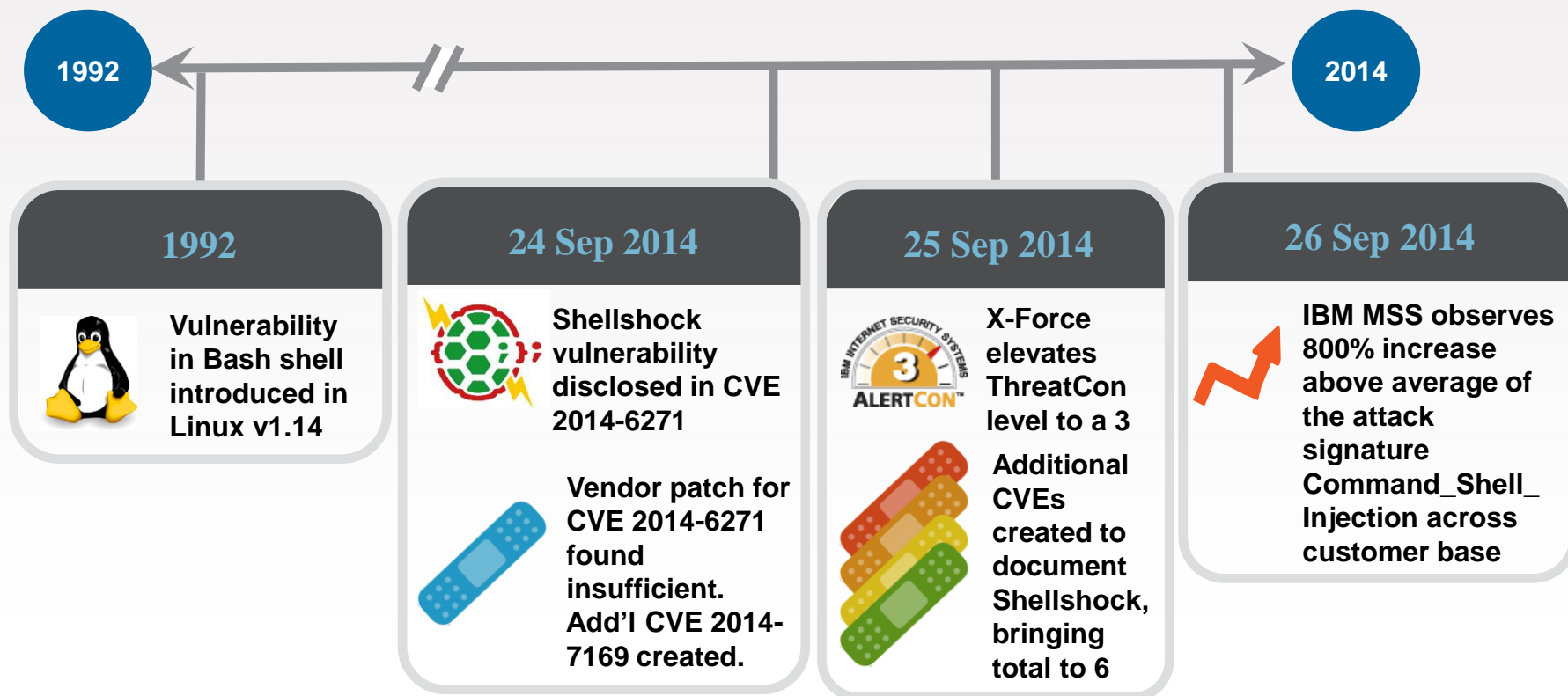
Research also turns into innovative product “engines”

- Protocol Analysis Module
- Shellcode Heuristics
- Web Injection Logic Engine
- Java and JavaScript Heuristics



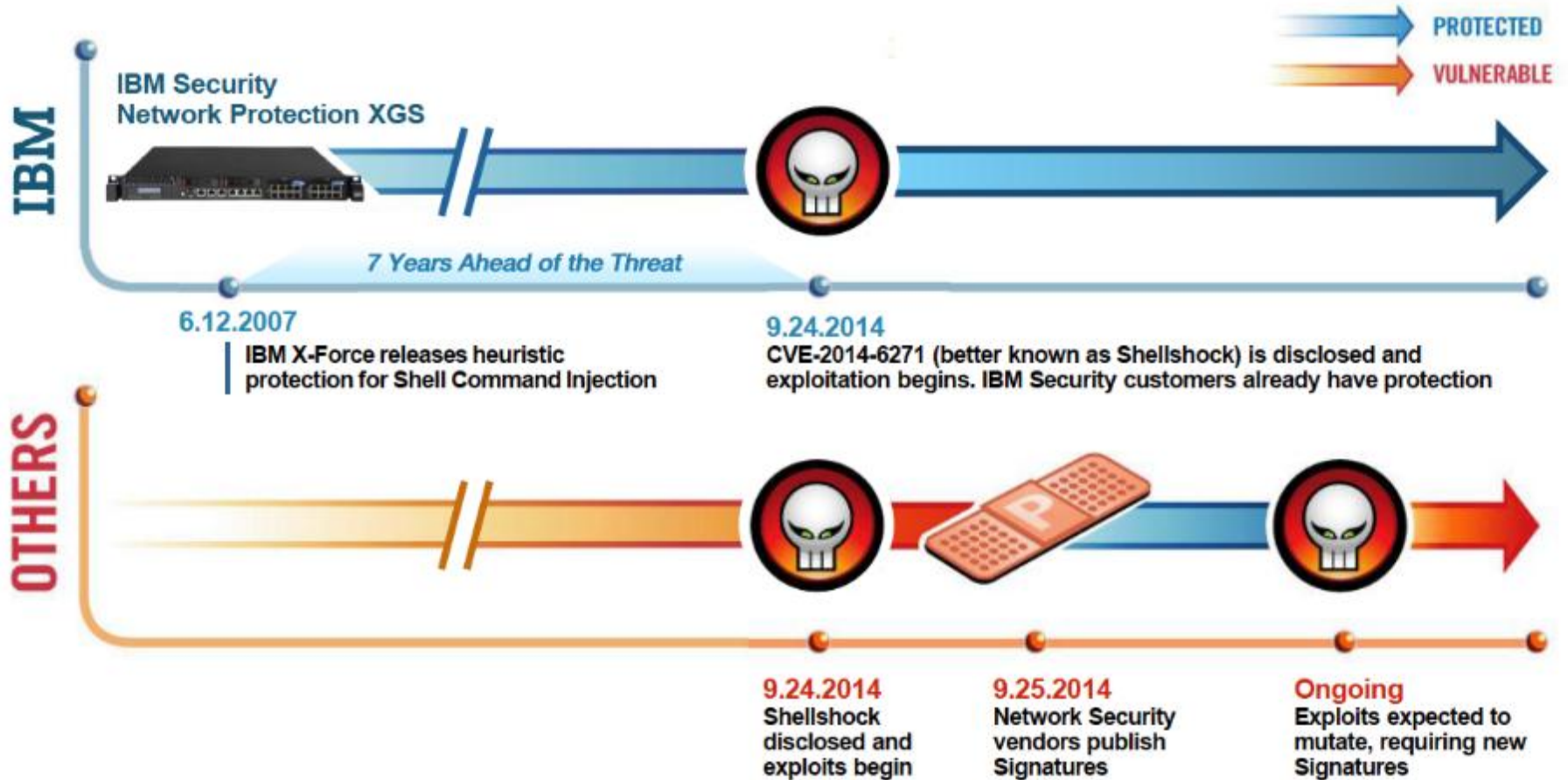
The disclosure of the Shellshock bug in September brought immediate exploit attempts.

Patching the original vulnerability was complicated by the development of additional exploit techniques, resulting in additional CVE numbers created.



Avoiding the Shock

IBM's preemptive security helps protect customers against the Bash "Shellshock" vulnerability



IBM Security Network Protection XGS is the only network security solution to offer protection **2661 days** before impact.

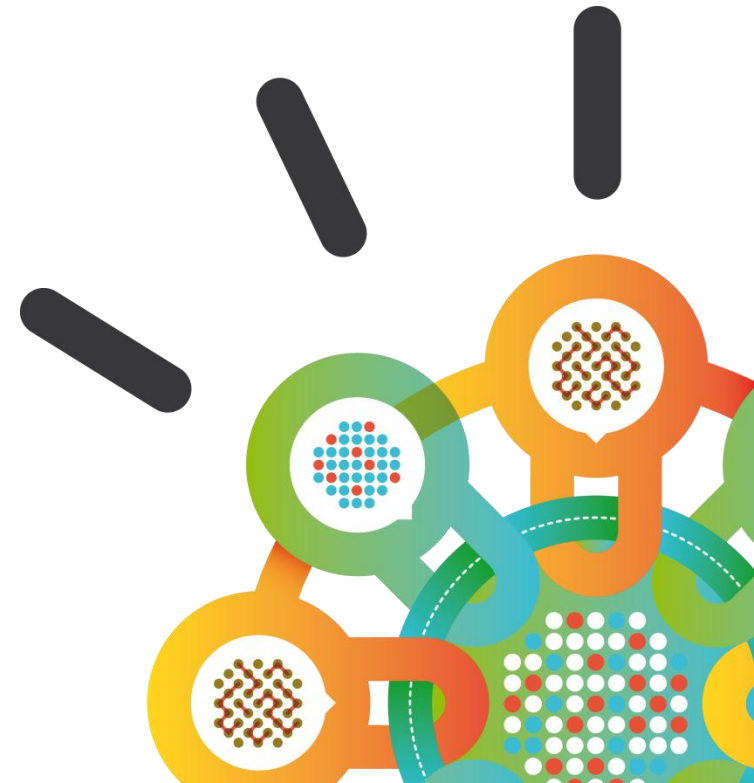
Behavioral-based detection blocks attacks that have never been seen before

● IBM Protection ○ Disclosed




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X-Force Threat Intelligence Quarterly Review



Threat Intelligence Quarterly

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Is your organization vulnerable?

The disclosure of the Heartbleed vulnerability has been the largest security event in 2014. Find out how it's shaped security strategies across organizations.

→ Get the facts in the IBM X-Force Threat Intelligence Quarterly - 3Q 2014



Overview

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Resources

→ IBM X-Force Threat Intelligence Quarterly 3Q 2014



Connect with IBM Security



IBM X-Force Threat Intelligence Quarterly - 3Q 2014



Learn about long term impact of the Heartbleed vulnerability disclosure

→ Download Now

The IBM X-Force Threat Intelligence Quarterly – 3Q 2014

So far, the disclosure of the Heartbleed vulnerability in the OpenSSL library has been the biggest event to hit the security industry in 2014. This report provides insights about:

- **The Immediate Aftermath of Heartbleed:** Just one day after the disclosure, IBM Managed

After Heartbleed was disclosed, MSS witnessed over 300,000 attacks in 24 hrs, and average of 3.47 attacks per second for more than hundreds of customers!

Heartbleed attack activity for IBM Managed Security Services customers

April 2014

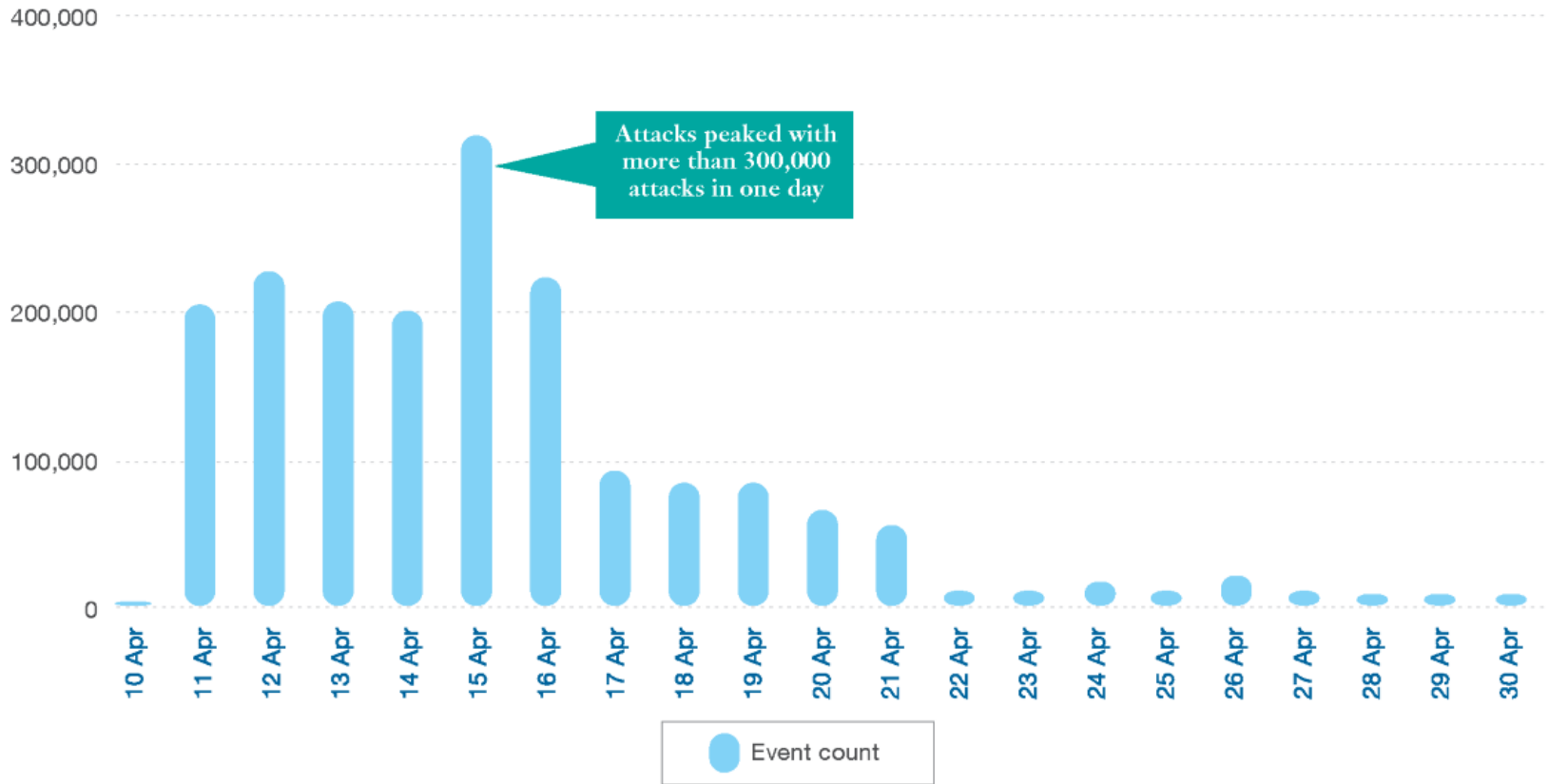


Figure 1. Attack activity related to the Heartbleed vulnerability, as noted for IBM Managed Security Services customers, in April 2014

MSS continues to average 7k attacks per day – mostly from malicious hosts.

Sampling of Heartbleed attack activity

24 April 2014 through 1 July 2014

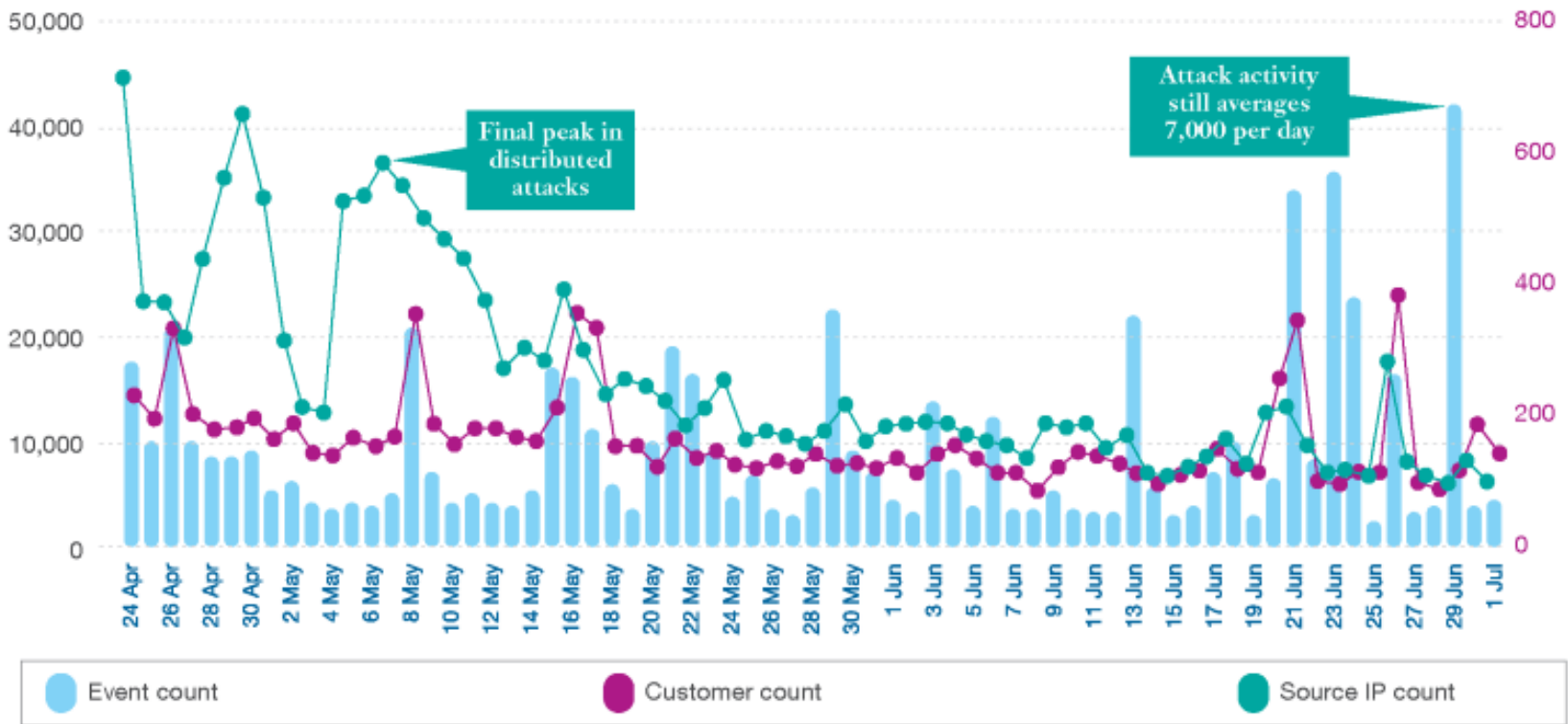
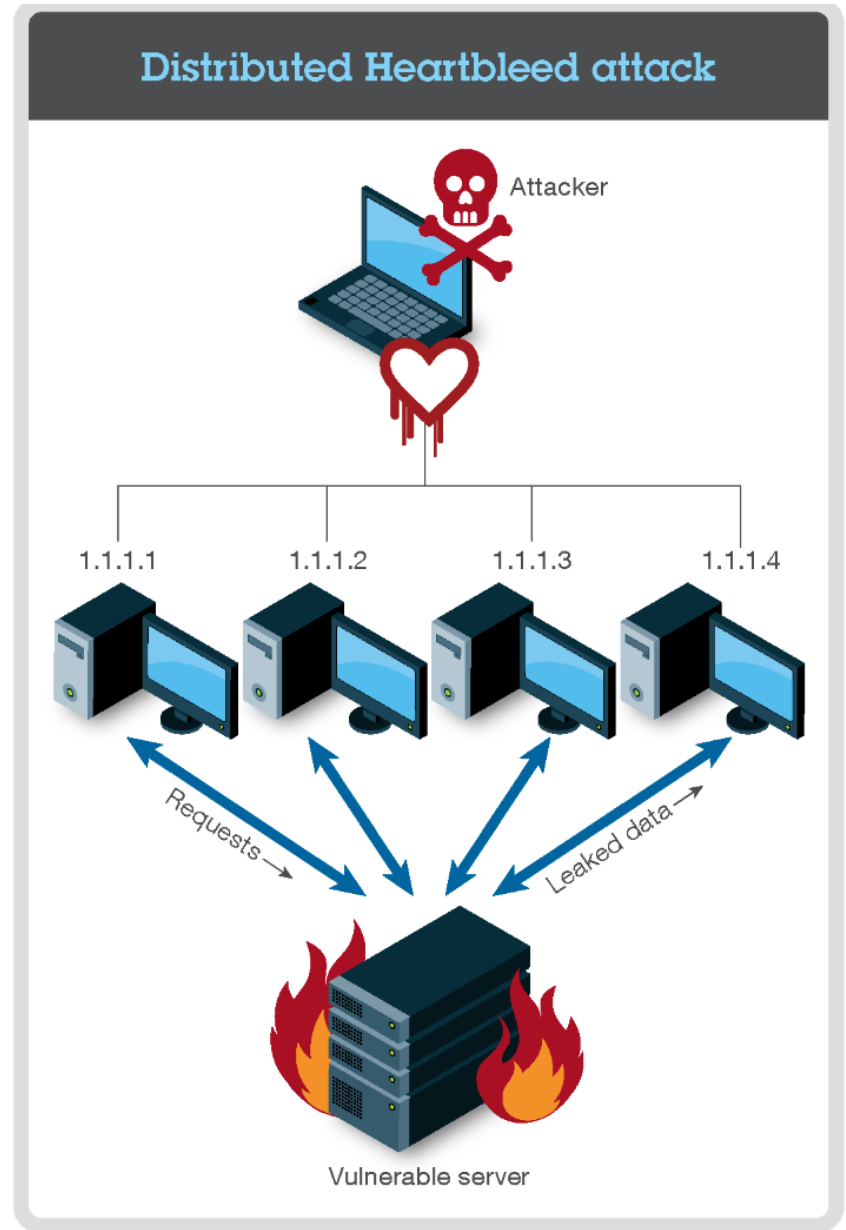


Figure 3. Sampling of Heartbleed attack activity for IBM Managed Security Services customers, 24 April 2014 through 1 July 2014

Source: IBM X-Force® Research and Development

Rather than a single IP address executing the attack repeatedly, many of the attacks used a distributed method.

This enabled attackers to have a large, diversified attack surface and the flexibility to overcome rudimentary blocking strategies.



One-day attack methods demonstrate how quickly attackers rush to exploit a vulnerability like Heartbleed.

Timeline of one-day attacks for Heartbleed vulnerability

7 April 2014 through 9 April 2014

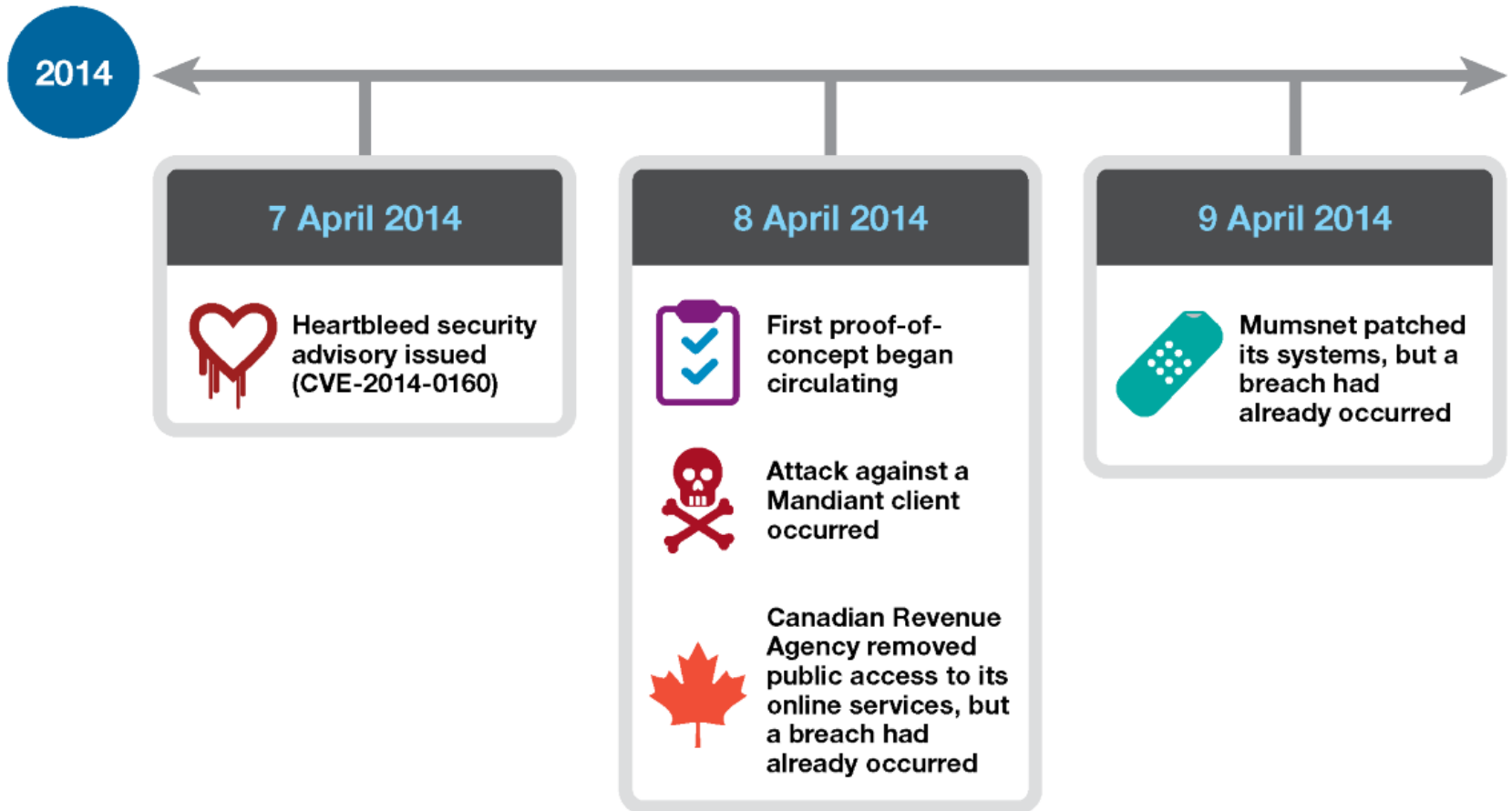


Figure 4. Timeline of one-day attacks for Heartbleed vulnerability (CVE-2014-0160), 7 April 2014 through 9 April 2014

X-Force noted this trend was similar to a 2012 disclosure of a Java vulnerability.

Timeline of one-day attacks for 2012 Java vulnerability

12 June 2012 through 11 July 2012

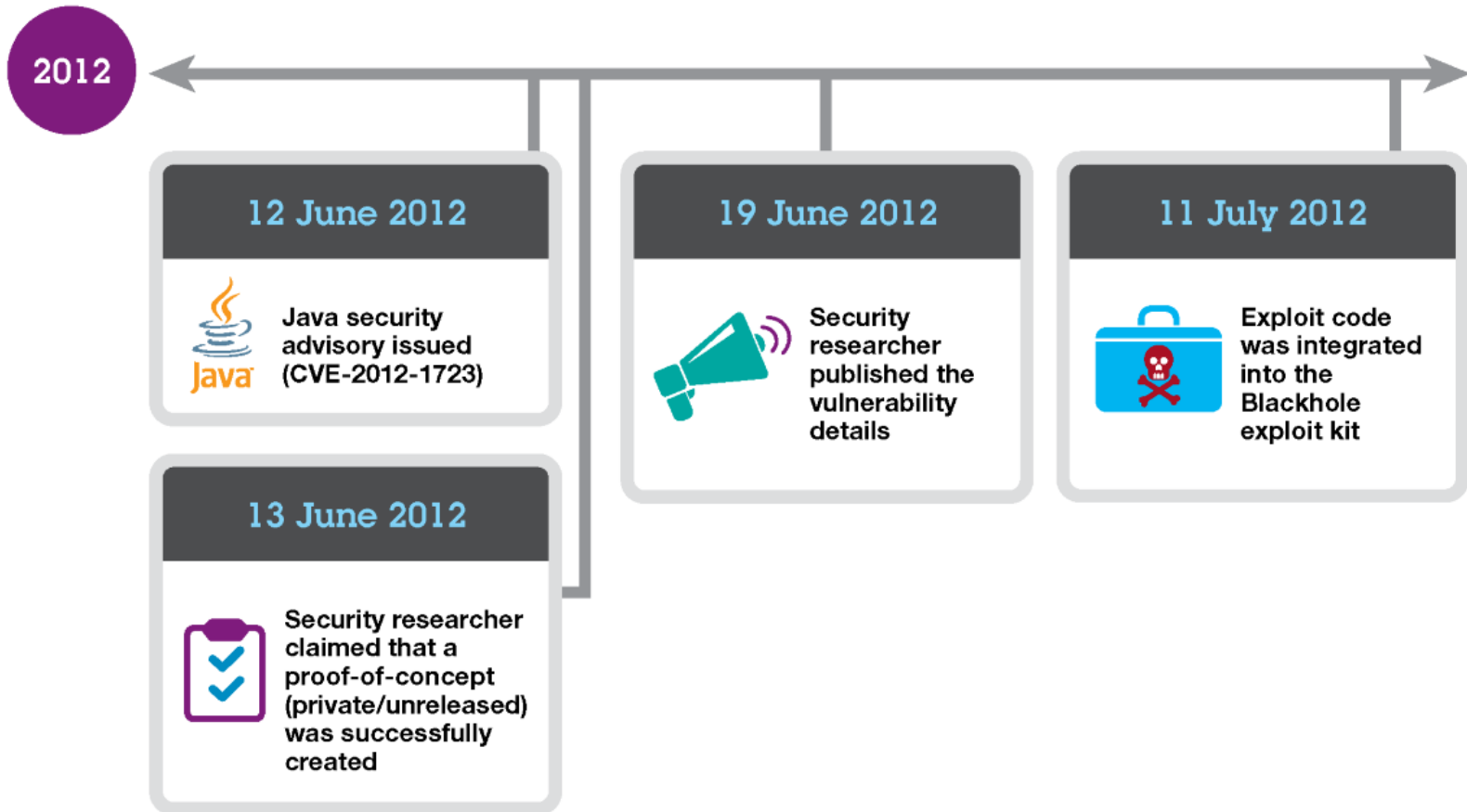


Figure 5. Timeline of one-day attacks for 2012 Java vulnerability (CVE-2012-1723), 12 June 2012 through 11 July 2012

There was a decline in vulnerability disclosures in the first half of 2014; this could be the first reduction since 2011.

Vulnerability disclosures growth by year

1996 through 2014 (projected)

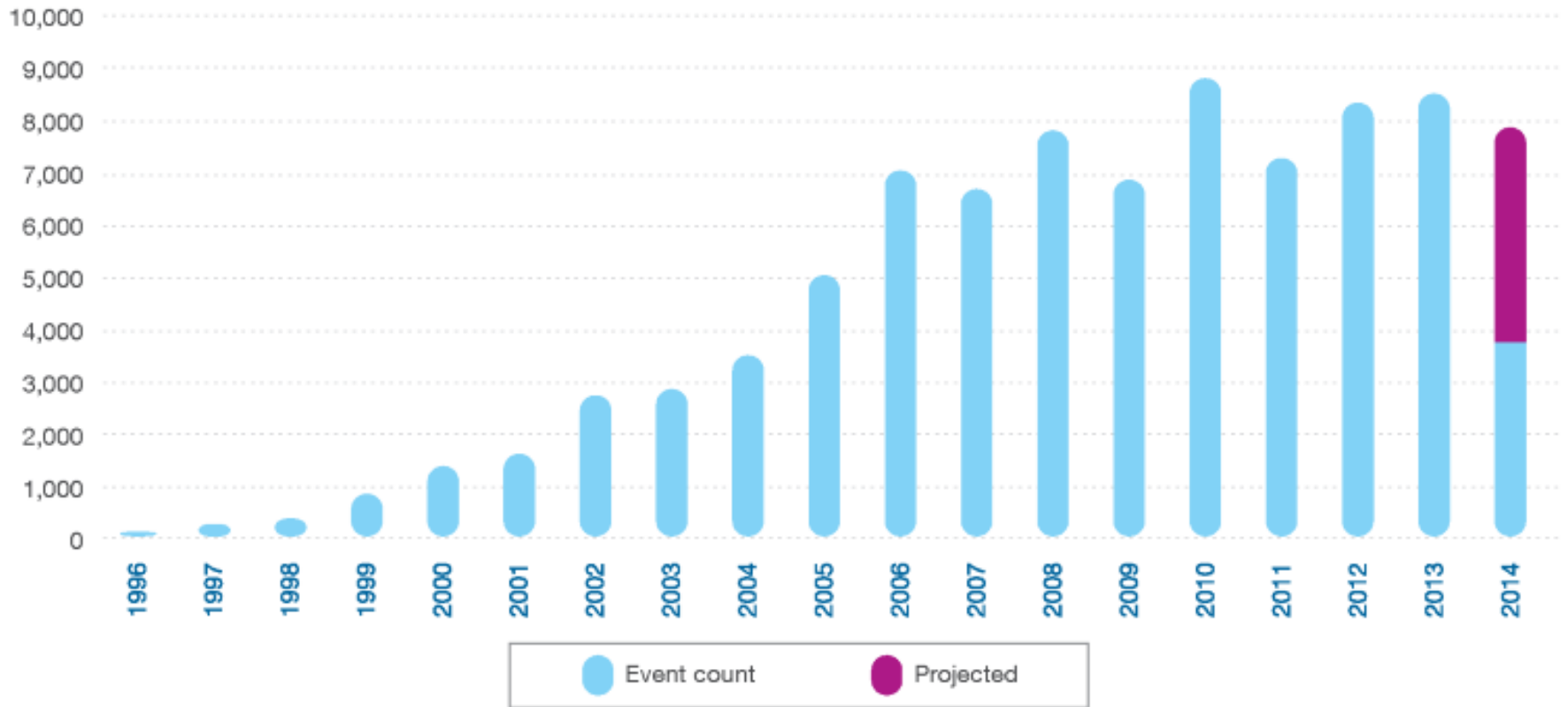


Figure 6. Vulnerability disclosures growth by year, 1996 through 2014 (projected)

It is difficult to point to any one factor that has contributed to the decline in the number of vulnerability disclosures in 2014.

A decreasing number of vendors consistently reporting vulnerabilities might be contributing to the recent decline in total overall vulnerabilities disclosed.

Vulnerability disclosures by large enterprise software vendors

2013 and 1H 2014

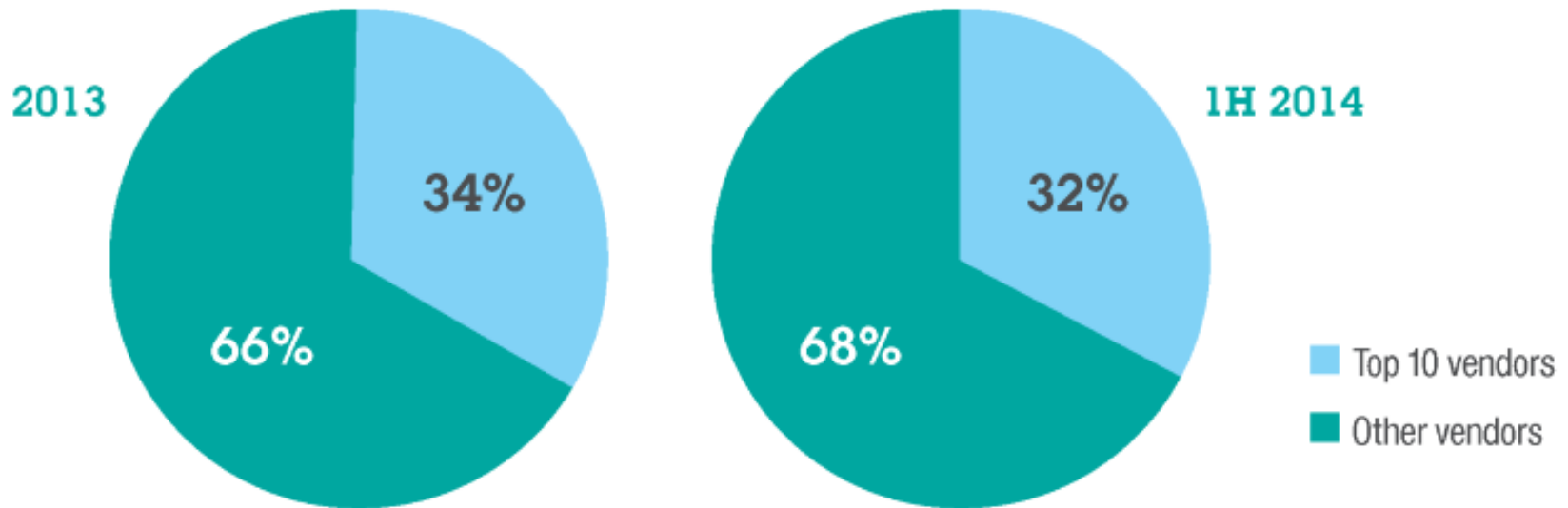


Figure 7. Vulnerability disclosures by large enterprise software vendors, 2013 and 1H 2014

Plug-ins are responsible for 90% of total CMS vulnerabilities disclosed. This heightened risk leads to mass infection.

Web application vulnerabilities for core CMS platforms and CMS plug-ins, 1H 2014

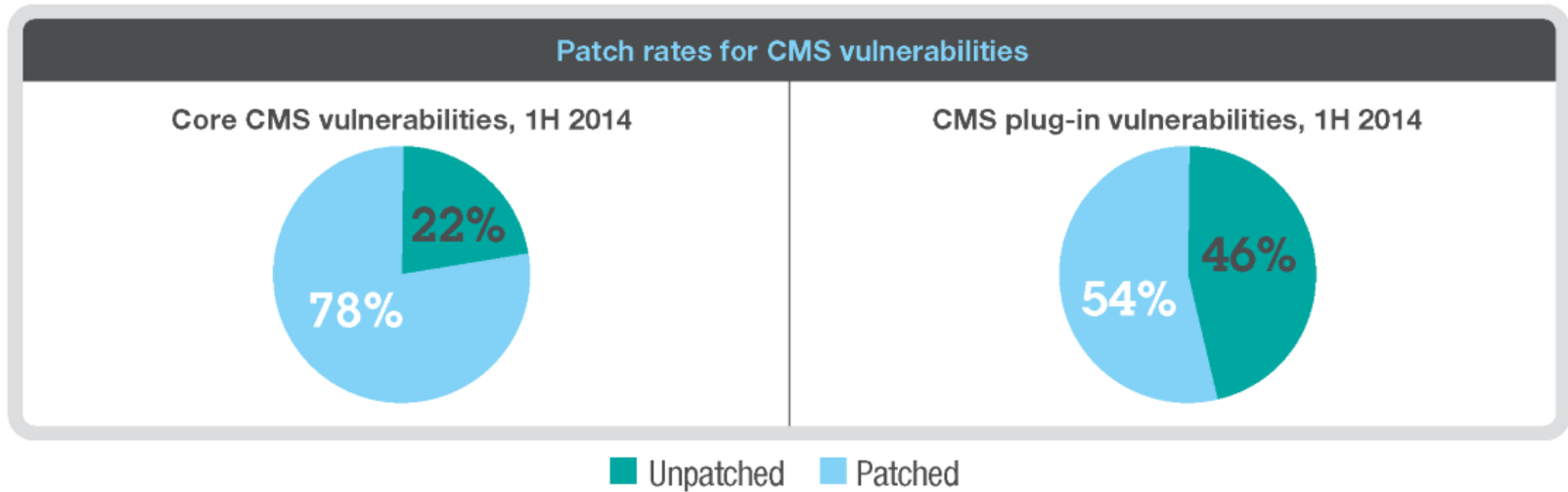
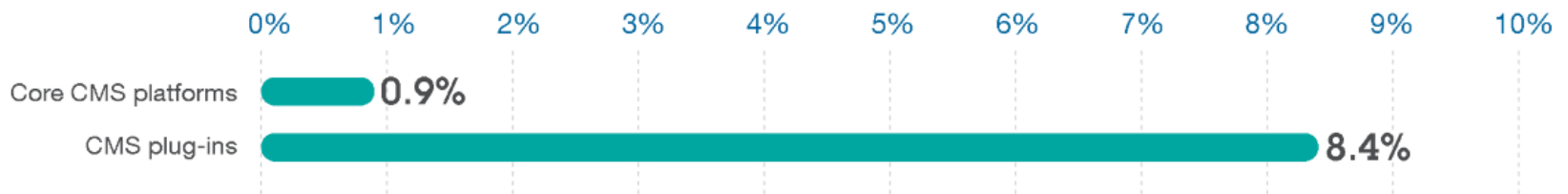


Figure 8. Web application vulnerabilities for core CMS platforms and CMS plug-ins, as a percentage of all disclosures and corresponding patch rates, 1H 2014

Does current CVSS scoring represent actual risk to networks and systems?

CVSS base scores, 2012 through 1H 2014

CVSS score	Severity level
10	Critical A successful exploit is likely to have catastrophic adverse effects
7.0 – 9.9	High A successful exploit is likely to have significant adverse effects
4.0 – 6.9	Medium A successful exploit is likely to have moderate adverse effects
0.0 – 3.9	Low A successful exploit is likely to have limited adverse effects

Heartbleed existed for two years and received a CVSS medium base score of 5.0.

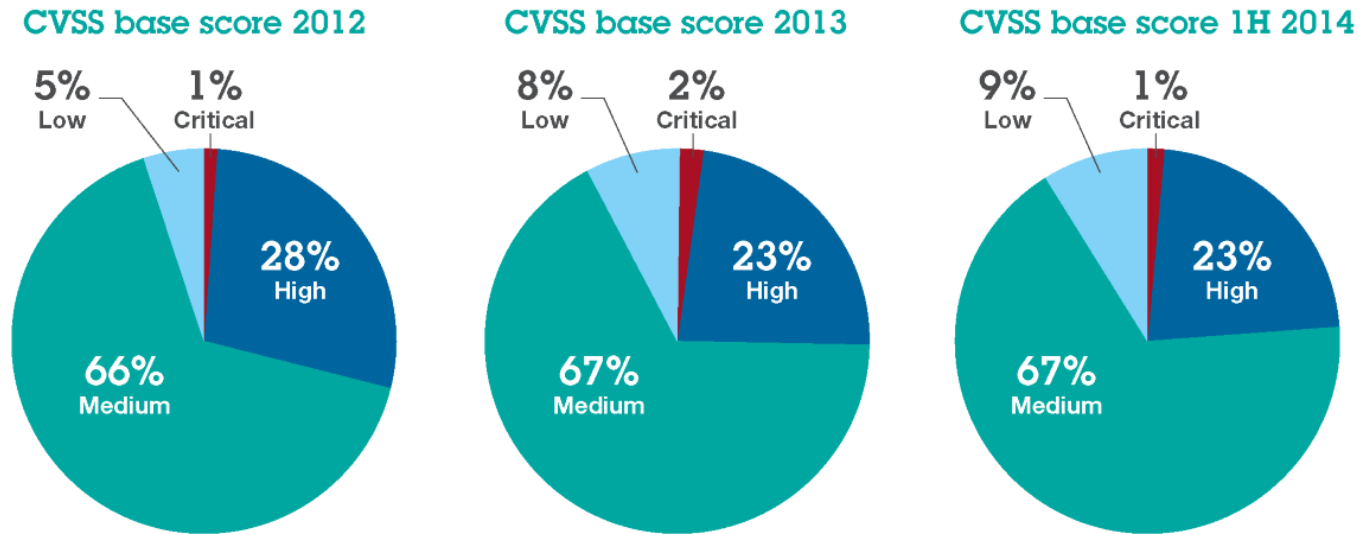


Figure 9. CVSS base scores, 2012 through 1H 2014

Source: IBM X-Force® Research and Development

What can you do to mitigate these threats?



Keep up with threat intelligence.



Maintain a current and accurate asset inventory.



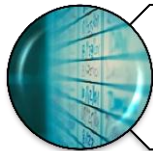
Have a patching solution that covers your entire infrastructure.



Implement mitigating controls.



Instrument your environment with effective detection.



Create and practice a broad incident response plan.



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Statement of Good Security Practices: IT system security involves protecting systems and information through prevention, detection and response to improper access from within and outside your enterprise. Improper access can result in information being altered, destroyed or misappropriated or can result in damage to or misuse of your systems, including to attack others. No IT system or product should be considered completely secure and no single product or security measure can be completely effective in preventing improper access. IBM systems and products are designed to be part of a comprehensive security approach, which will necessarily involve additional operational procedures, and may require other systems, products or services to be most effective. IBM DOES NOT WARRANT THAT SYSTEMS AND PRODUCTS ARE IMMUNE FROM THE MALICIOUS OR ILLEGAL CONDUCT OF ANY PARTY.

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