

'Tis the Season FOR SAFER SHOPPING?

Assessing the Security Performance of the Retail Industry

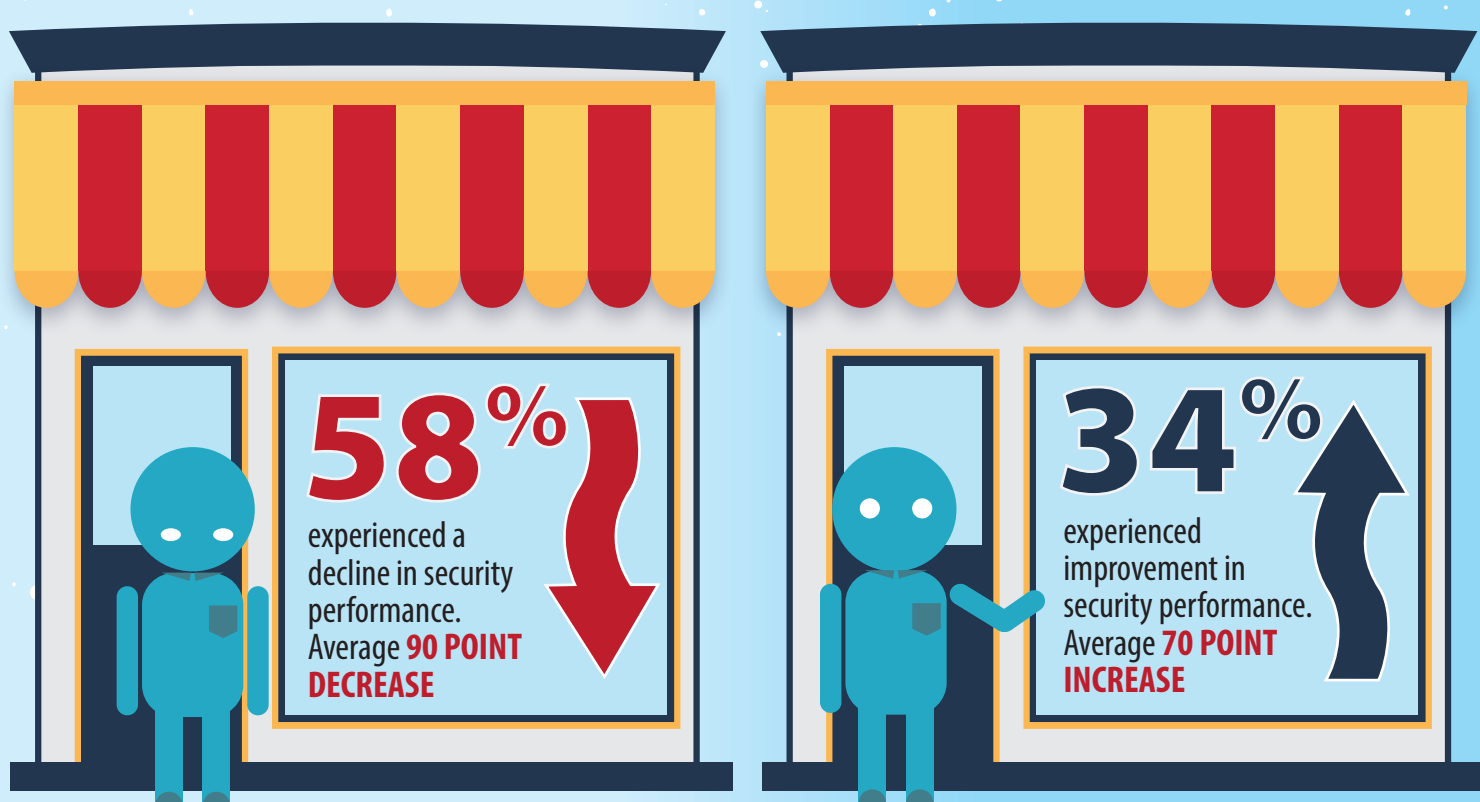
November 2013-2014

With the holiday shopping season fast approaching, **BitSight** has analyzed security posture in the retail sector to answer the question:

Are retailers more secure now than last year?

Has retail security performance **IMPROVED?**

Of the 300 companies rated...



What about **BREACHED** retailers?

BitSight also analyzed the security performance of 20 retailers who experienced high-profile breaches within the last year.



20 retailers who experienced high-profile breaches within the last year.



75% of retailers improved their performance

The average improvement in ratings was **50 points** from the time of the breach to November 2014.

25% continued to see a decline in performance after their breach event

Declining retailers saw their ratings drop **36 points** on average from the time of their breach to November 2014.

Are retail security teams responding to **INCIDENTS** on their networks more quickly?

5% increase in response times



Nov. 1, 2013
1.26 days



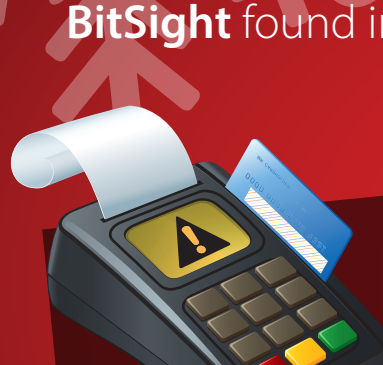
Retailers are taking slightly longer to respond to network security events.



Nov. 1, 2014
1.33 days

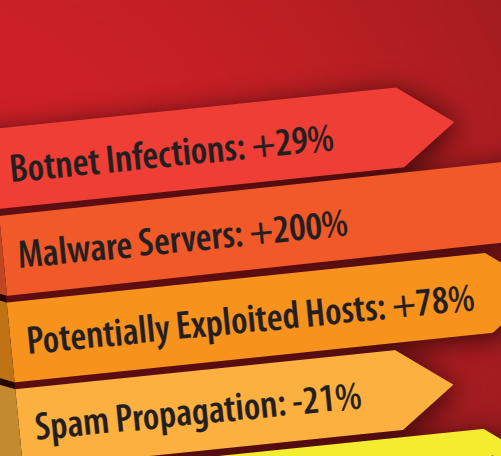
Retail under **ATTACK!**

BitSight found increases in nearly every event category analyzed:



Some of the more prevalent malware strains observed include Maazben, ZeroAccess, Zeus, Viknok, Conficker and Cutwail. BitSight observed almost a 75% drop in the number of Zeus infections after the government takedown of the Trojan earlier this year.

Risk Vectors:
% Change from 2013 to 2014



So... is **RETAIL SAFER** now than last year?

Not Really.

Unfortunately, security performance in the retail industry as a whole is on the decline, despite the best efforts of many organizations to clean up their networks. Even though a large portion of retailers are showing improvement, the fact that **33% of retail breaches were caused by a third party** is a stark reminder that organizations can take every precaution in securing their own network, but are still only as secure as the weakest link in their information supply chain. Even the least conspicuous vendor can leave your data at risk, which is why a continuous vendor risk management solution is essential in securing the extended enterprise.



Learn more about **BitSight Security Ratings** at <http://info.bitsighttech.com/retail-security-ratings>

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About BitSight:

BitSight Technologies is transforming how companies manage information security risk with objective, evidence-based security ratings. The company's Security Rating Platform continuously analyzes vast amounts of external data on security behaviors and is used by leading organizations in a variety of third party risk management applications (vendor risk management, cyber insurance underwriting, portfolio management, M&A diligence, etc) and for performance benchmarking against peers and competitors.