

# 7 Key Application Security Trends of 2021



## 1. Shifting to Cloud Security strategy

92% of organizations globally, host at least some of their IT environment in the cloud, and 79% of these companies have experienced at least one cloud data breach. With the increased expenditure on cloud services, businesses must now develop a continuous application security approach to secure cloud-native apps and data.

(Source: [expertinsights.com](https://www.expertinsights.com))

## 2. Ransomware will remain the biggest threat

In the first half of 2021, 1097 organizations were hit by ransomware attacks in contrast to 1112 attacks in 2020 for the entire year. Ransomware remains the biggest cybersecurity challenge that organizations should worry about.

(Source: [cognyte.com](https://www.cognyte.com))

## 3. Acceleration of Open-Source Attacks

In 2021, the world saw a surge of 650% in software supply chain attacks designed to exploit the weaknesses in upstream open-source ecosystems. As companies rely more and more on open-source software, application security becomes more challenging.

(Source: [helpnetsecurity.com](https://www.helpnetsecurity.com))

## 4. Vulnerable APIs

In Q3 of 2021, it was found that malicious API traffic increased by an enormous 348%. Organizations should increase their awareness of how API vulnerabilities are exploited and include API security as a core element of their security architecture.

(Source: Salt Security State of API Security Report – Q3 2021)

## 5. Automation

Automation testing is growing at 18% CAGR and is projected to hit \$28.8 billion in 2024. There continues to be a demand for automation to become a standard, inbuilt feature in security tools.

(Source: [markets.businessinsider.com](https://markets.businessinsider.com))

## 6. Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) Bypass

The MFA market is set to grow at a CAGR of 17.38% over the forecast period of 2021-2026 and is a critical requirement these days. However, attackers are now devising methods to bypass this security control.

(Source: [mordorintelligence.com](https://www.mordorintelligence.com))

## 7. COVID-19 Impact

COVID-19 will continue to impact the way we do business. Double-extortion ransomware attacks are projected to increase, targeting remote workers and online activities.

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