First Annual Awards:
Best/Worst Data-Driven Security Reports of 2011

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Nominees

- Akamai State of the Internet Report
- McAfee Revealed: Operation Shady Rat
- Microsoft Security Intelligence Report
- Ponemon Institute 2010 US Cost of a Data Breach
- Sophos 2012 Threat Report
- Symantec Internet Security Threat Report
- Verizon Data Breach Investigations Report
- Veracode State of Software Security, Volume 4

Write-ins

- Australian Government DSD Top 35 Cyber Security mitigations
- Cisco Security Report

19 people responded to this survey.
Runners-up

Sophos 2012 Threat Report (2 votes)

- “There's no data in it.”

Symantec Internet Security Threat Report (2 votes)

- “Very self serving”

McAfee Revealed: Operation Shady Rat (4 votes)

- “McAfee is choosing to focus on the 71 boundary cases which are most alarming, and to position McAfee as a high-end IR firm.”

- “Lots of holes in the methodology used to uncover the rat...”

- “No solid data, lots of name calling, pure marketing and FUD, also: released in
Winner
Ponemon Institute 2010 US Cost of a Data Breach (8 votes)

- “Poor experimental design.”
- “Confused, confusing, unclear - and with little data. Plus, the conclusion was probably written before the research.”
- “Larry's cost accounting is so horrendously suspect, to call them hyperbole is generous.”
- “Pokemon survey methodology is lame.”
Best Data-Driven Security Report of 2011

Runners-up
Microsoft Security Intelligence Report (3 votes)
Veracode State of Software Security (3 votes)
  • “Use of statistics to determine of results are actually significant. Other reports just count — which is certainly better than nothing.”

Winner
Verizon DBIR (11 votes)
  • “Honesty in reporting, very transparent, able to understand the bias.”
  • “I could read this report, correlate it with my own metrics, and locate my organization within a ‘larger picture’ of attacks and defensive strategies.
  • “It was real.”