CrashPlan | **SANS**

Do you know where your data is?

In their 2024 Endpoint Data Survey, SANS surveyed 169 security and IT professionals about where their organizations' data exists and what is being done to protect it.

Main Takeaways

- Data sprawl and diverse endpoints (laptops, tablets, smartphones) heighten endpoint security concerns.

- Remote and hybrid work amplify visibility gaps and risks.

- Many organizations handle data subject to regulations like GDPR, GLBA, and HIPAA.

- Despite the risks, organizations store sensitive data on endpoints at an alarming rate.

Nearly 4 out of 5 organizations store sensitive data on endpoints

Large majority of organizations store sensitive data in files, as opposed to formal data systems

Survey Findings

Regulatory Policy Gaps

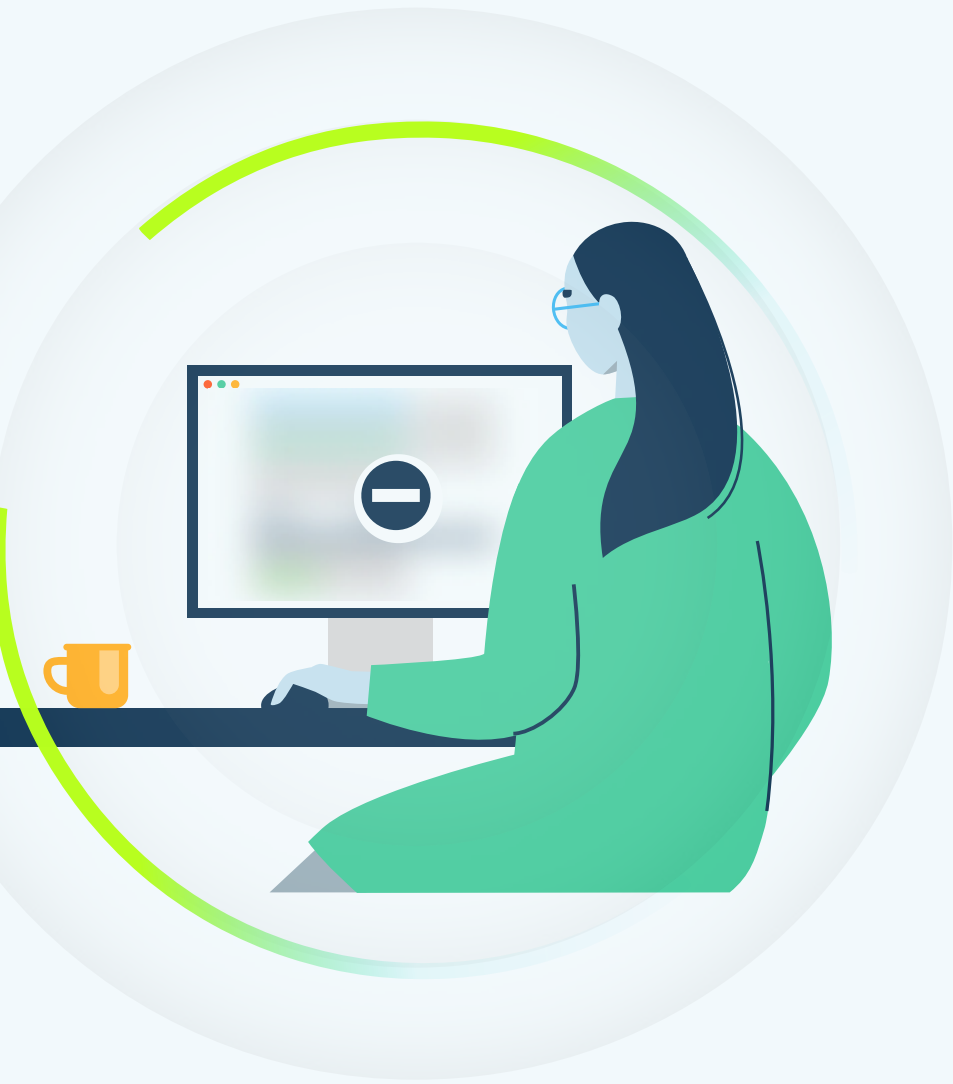Policies such as GDPR exist but are often not followed effectively.

Operational Risk

Most common risk from data damage or deletion.

Reputational Risk

Most important risk from data exposure.

Data Types and Compliance

- **Personally Identifying Information:** 62% attempt blocking, but 80% still have data on endpoints.

- **Financial Data:** 57% attempt blocking, but 76% still have data on endpoints.

- **Intellectual Property:** 54% attempt blocking, but 78% still have data on endpoints.

- **Technical Data:** 46% attempt blocking, but 80% still have data on endpoints.

- **Other Data:** 11% attempt blocking, but 74% still have data on endpoints.

Some PII Stored as Files	74%
Some IP Data Stored as Files	77.9%
Some Financial Data Stored as Files	66.7%
Some Technical Data stored as Files	72.8%
Some Other Data Stored as Files	63.2%
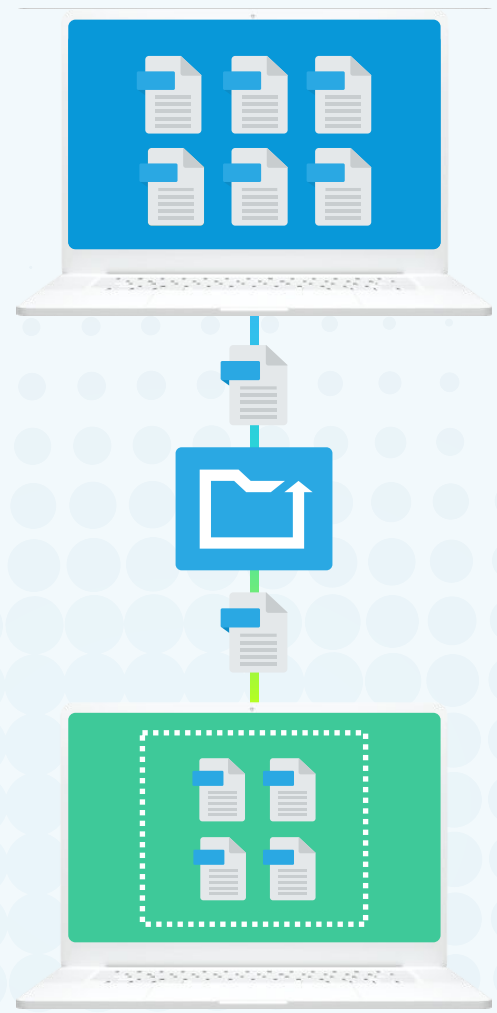
Recommendations

Organizations must rethink endpoint data security by balancing business needs that drive local device use with security and compliance requirements.

Understand Gaps

Identify reasons for gaps between the risks and day-to-day practices in endpoint data security.

Align Policies

Ensure policies align with business needs and risk tolerance.

Sustainable Management

Develop user-friendly and operationally sustainable data management practices.

Access the full report here