



Cyber security in Hong Kong

Figure 1 — Cybercrime cases and average financial loss

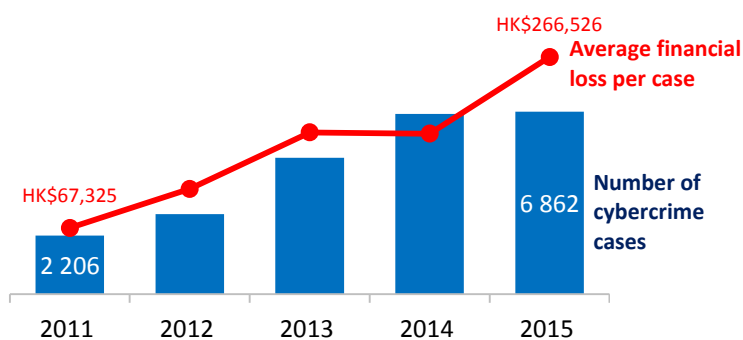
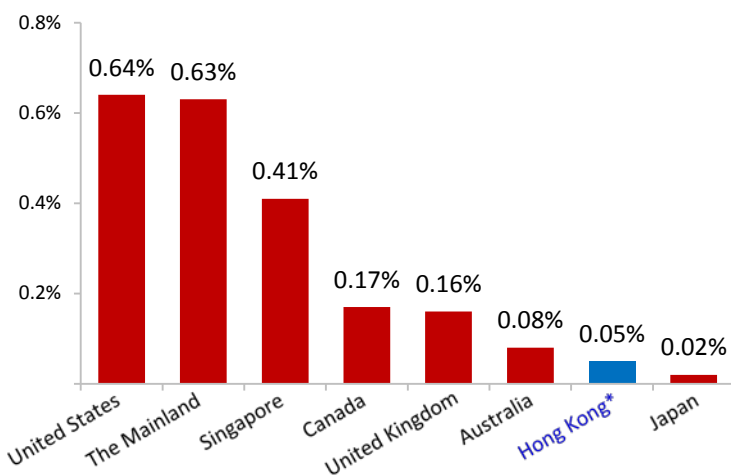


Figure 2 — Types of cybercrime

| | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Online business fraud | 888 | 1 105 | 1 449 | 2 375 | 1 911 |
| Social media deception | N.A. | N.A. | 261 | 1 239 | 1 422 |
| Unauthorized access to computer | 567 | 1 042 | 1 986 | 1 477 | 1 223 |
| Naked chat-related blackmail | N.A. | N.A. | 477 | 638 | 1 098 |
| Others | 751 | 868 | 960 | 1 049 | 1 208 |
| Total | 2 206 | 3 015 | 5 133 | 6 778 | 6 862 |

Figure 3 — Financial loss due to cybercrime as a percentage of GDP in 2014



Note: (*) In 2015, the financial loss due to cybercrime in Hong Kong as a percentage of GDP increased to 0.08%.

Highlights

- As Hong Kong people on average spent 30.5 hours each week in using Internet services in 2015, there have been considerable concerns over cyber security. As a matter of fact, the number of cybercrime cases in Hong Kong has tripled in four years to 6 862 cases in 2015 (Figure 1).
- In 2015, online business fraud, social media deceptions and computer hacking are the most common types of cybercrime. These three categories accounted for two thirds of overall cybercrime cases (Figure 2).
- Average financial loss due to cybercrime in Hong Kong has quadrupled in four years to HK\$266,526 per case in 2015. As to total financial loss due to cybercrime, it surged by 50% to HK\$1.8 billion in 2015, with its ratio to GDP going up from 0.05% to 0.08% (Figure 3).
- Yet financial loss due to cybercrime in Hong Kong was lower than most of advanced economies. For instance, financial loss of 0.64% of GDP was seen in the United States, primarily because of theft of credit card information during online payment (Figure 3).

Cyber security in Hong Kong (cont'd)

Figure 4 — Number of IT security incidents

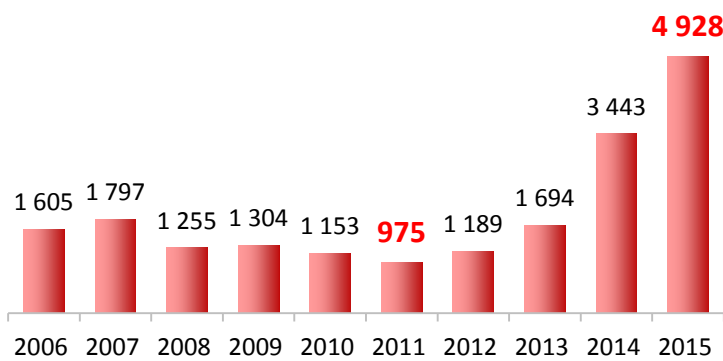
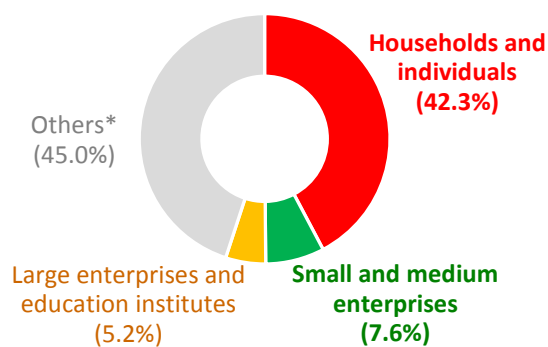
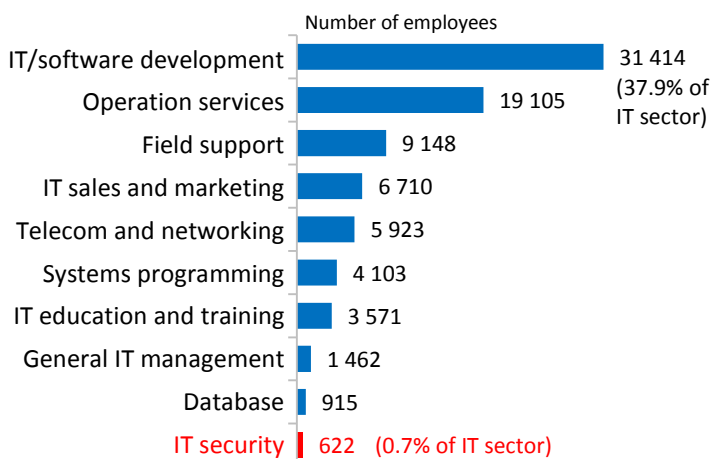


Figure 5 — Victims of IT security incidents in 2015



Note: (*) Overseas Internet users and those who were unreachable.

Figure 6 — Manpower of IT sector in Hong Kong in 2014



Highlights

- Another area of concern about cyber security was security risk involving confidentiality, integrity and availability of computer systems, though it may not constitute criminal offences.
- The number of IT security incidents has surged by 405% in four years to 4 928 in 2015, primarily due to the uplift in phishing and botnet. This contrasted against the 46% decrease seen during 2007-2011 (**Figure 4**).
- Households and individuals were hardest hit by IT security incidents in 2015, accounting for 42.3% of victims. It was followed by small to medium-sized enterprises, which also suffered from limited resources and expertise in IT security (**Figure 5**).
- There is a seemingly neglect of IT security in manpower usage in the IT sector. Amongst all 82 973 IT employees, there were just 622 persons specializing in IT security. With a share of just 0.7%, it ranked at the bottom among all IT job categories in 2014 (**Figure 6**).

Data sources: Latest figures from Census and Statistics Department, Fight Crime Committee, Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre, Hong Kong Police Force, McAfee and Office of the Communications Authority.

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22 November 2016
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