

Threats Report

McAfee Labs

December 2018

Inside the Digital Underworld

In Q3, we examined how markets are changing on the dark web as well as the hot topics and commodities in underground hacker forums.

Underground Hacker Forums

Niche Markets
With the takedown of some high-profile dark web markets in 2017, vendors are moving away from large markets to build their own targeted marketplaces.

User Credentials
The use of valid accounts makes it child's play for cybercriminals to take over an individual's personal digital life or gain access to organizations.

Credit Cards
Large-scale credit card theft has shifted to third-party payment platforms on large e-commerce sites.

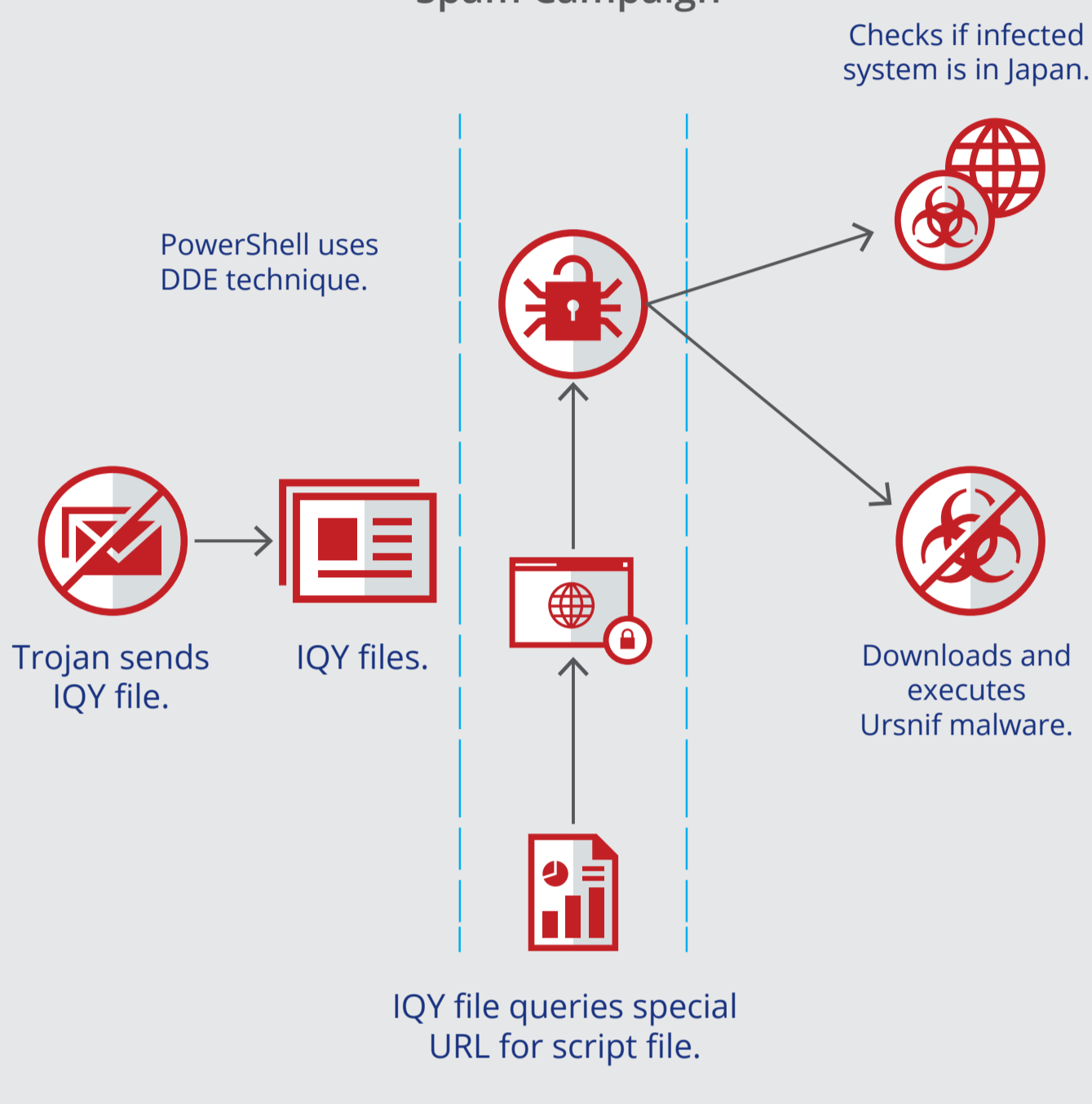
Remote Desktop Protocols
Shops that deal in RDP remained popular throughout Q3, continuing to serve criminals looking to commit credit card fraud, cryptomining, ransomware, and account fraud.

Ransomware-as-a-Service
Malware developers are forming strategic partnerships with other essential services, such as crypters and exploit kits, to aid their customers and increase infection rates.

Banking Trojans Turn to Uncommon File Types

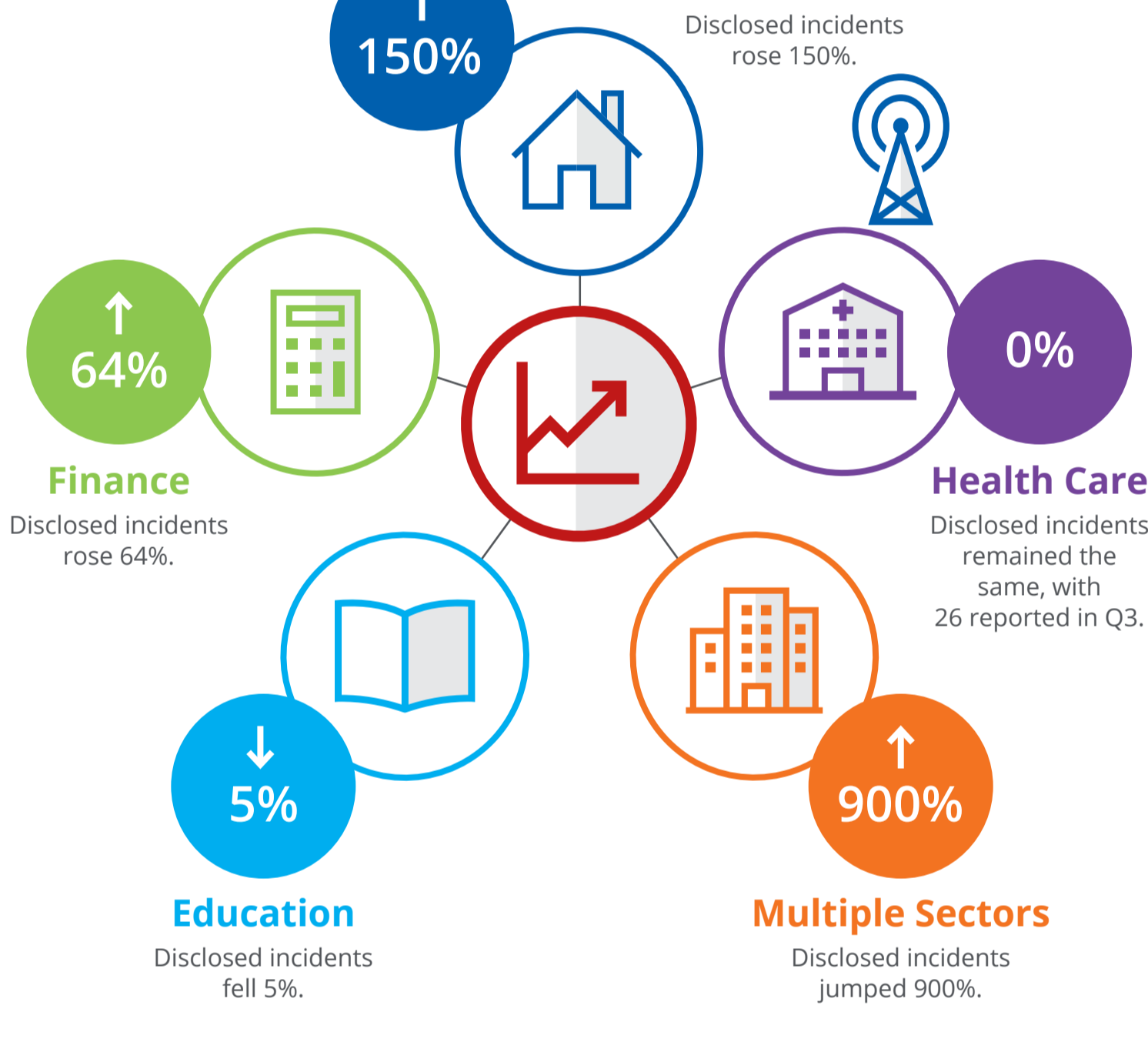
Banking malware remains a constant threat. In Q3 we saw an increase in the use of uncommon file types to bypass email protection systems.

Spam Campaign



Reported Incidents by Sector

Incidents affecting multiple sectors and the public sector saw the biggest jumps in Q3. The overall number of reported incidents fell 12%.



Threat Statistics

Incidents
We counted 215 publicly disclosed security incidents in Q3, a 12% decrease from Q2. Incidents involving the Americas (94) and those targeting the Public or Multiple Sectors (40 each) were the leading types of incidents in Q3.

12% ↓

JavaScript malware
New JavaScript malware again increased in Q3, up 45%. More than 10 million new samples sets a record high, up from around 7 million in Q2.

45% ↑

Malware
New malware samples jumped in Q3 to approximately 63 million, a 53% increase. The total number of malware samples has grown almost 34% over the past four quarters to more than 837 million samples.

53% ↑

Mobile malware
New mobile malware samples dropped by 24% in Q3. McAfee customers in Africa reported the highest rate of infection, at 11%. Total mobile malware grew 34% in the past four quarters to more than 29 million samples.

24% ↓

Coin miner malware
New coin miner malware leaped 55% in Q3. Total miner malware has increased more than 4,400% in the past four quarters to over 9 million samples.

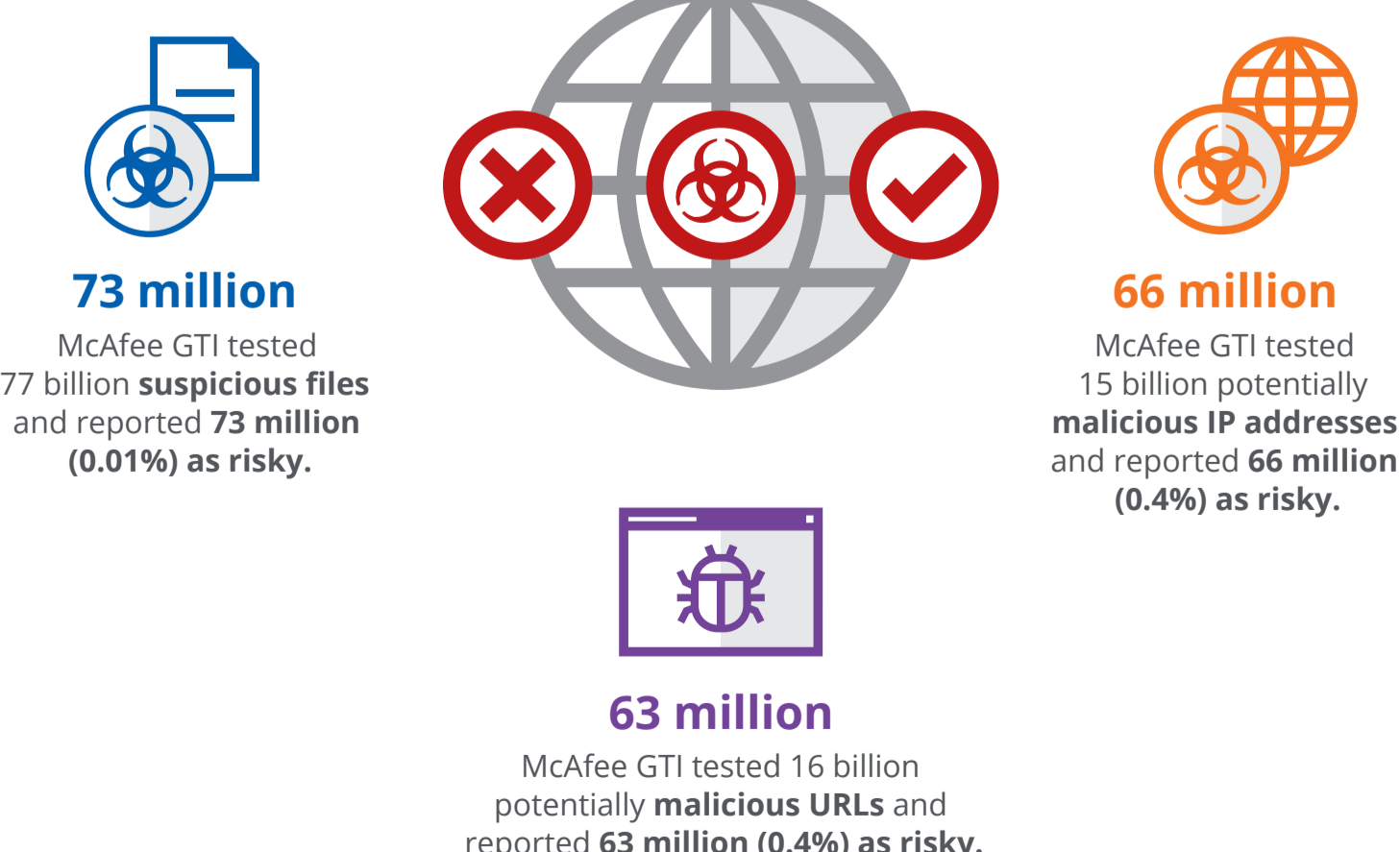
55% ↑

Ransomware
New ransomware samples rose in Q3, up 10%. The total number of ransomware samples continues to grow, increasing 45% over the past four quarters to more than 18 million samples.

10% ↑

McAfee Global Threat Intelligence

McAfee GTI received on average 49 billion queries per day in Q3.



Read the full *McAfee Labs Threats Report: December 2018*. Download now www.mcafee.com/December2018ThreatsReport