

Windows SIG

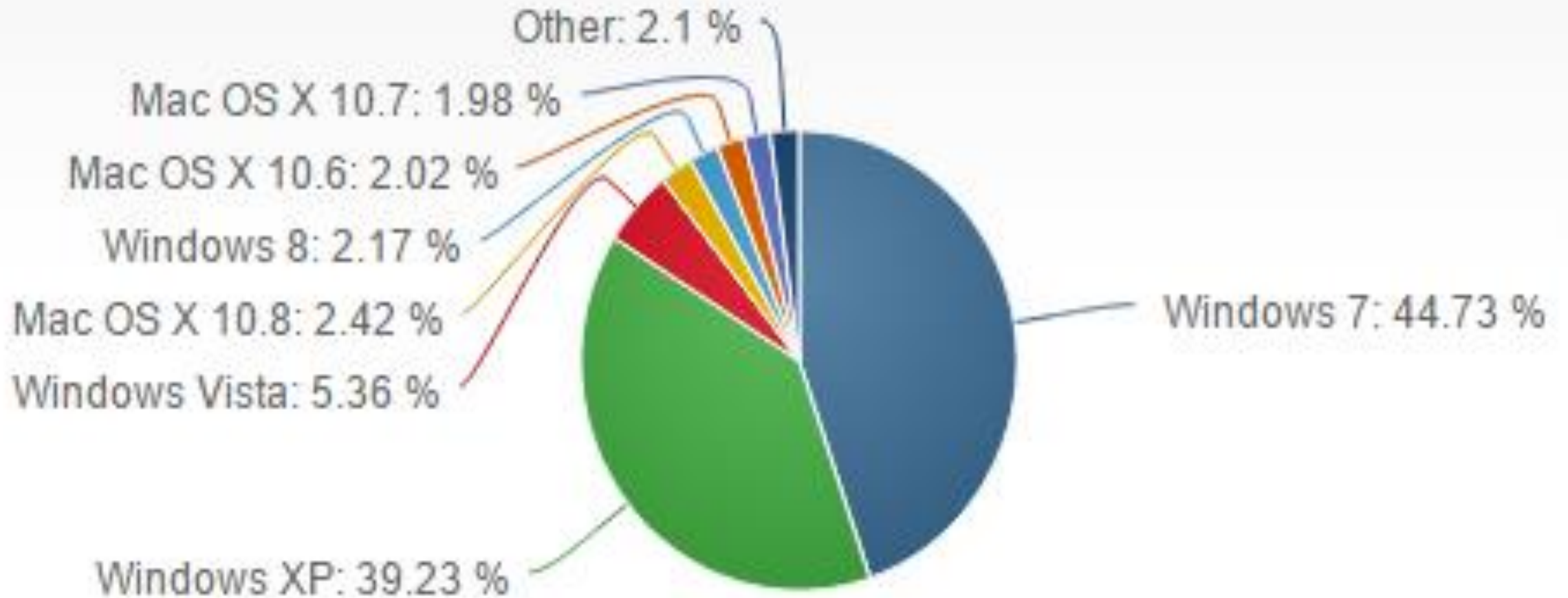
021015

Real-time Cyber Attacks

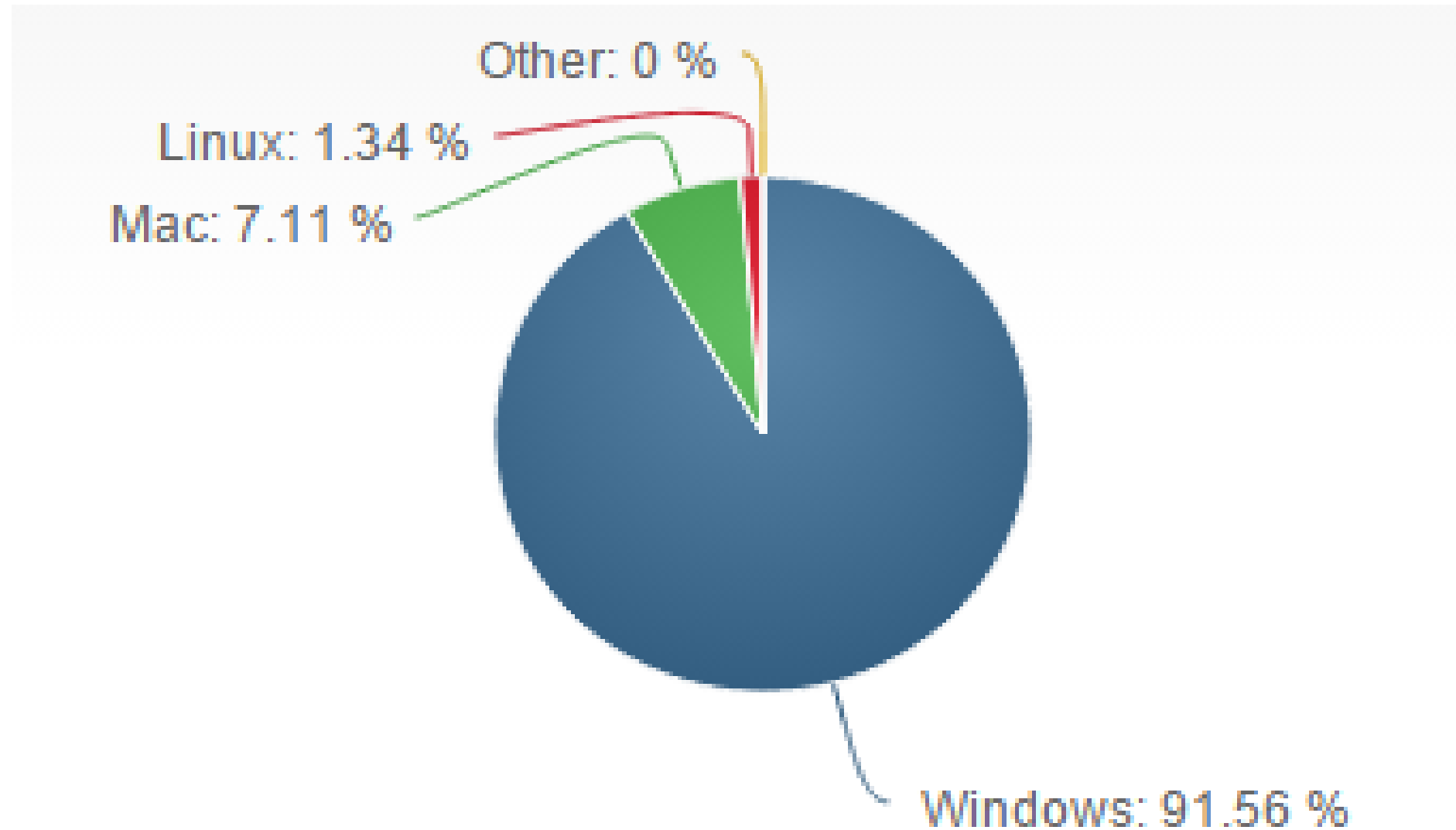
If you do not take security as a very serious issue, it is recommended that you spend some time on the following URLs

- <http://map.ipviking.com/>
- <https://www.fireeye.com/cyber-map/threat-map.html>

Operating System Market Share

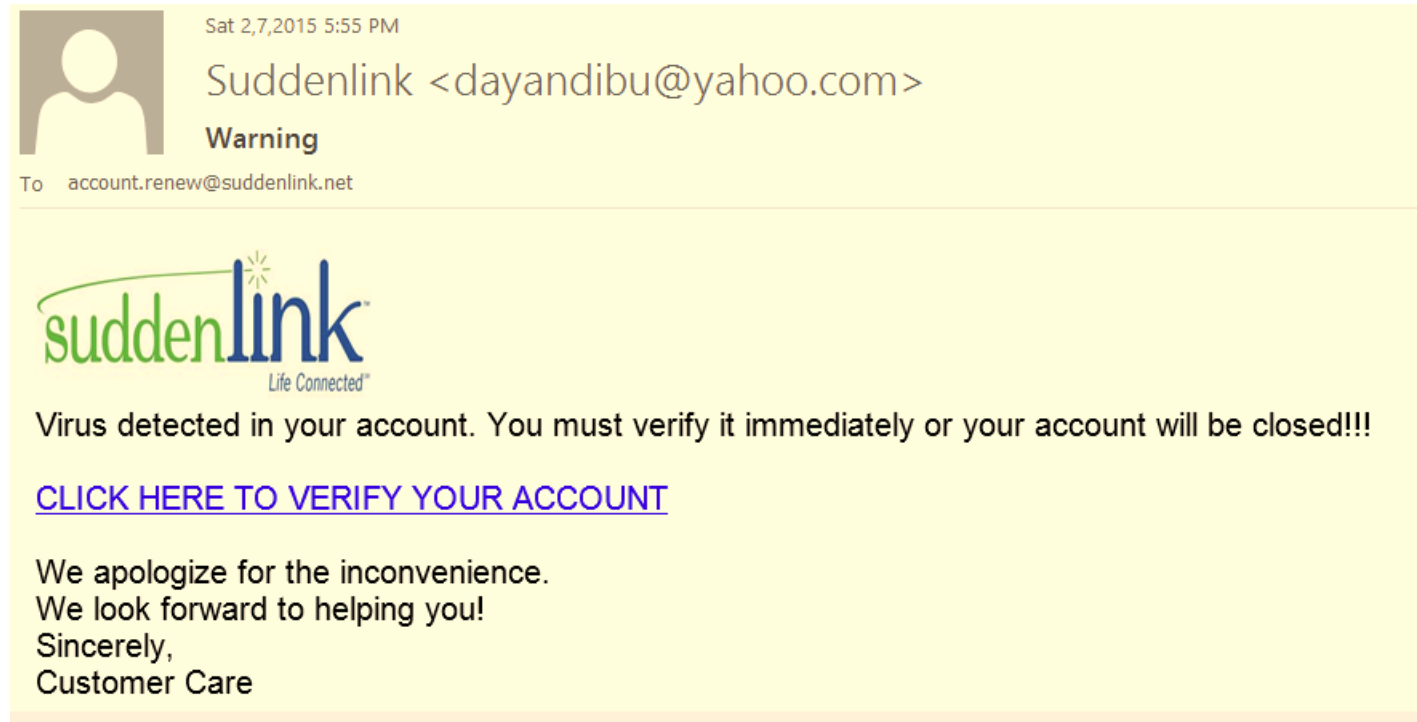


Market Share Combined



Latest Suddenlink Phishing Email

The following was received on 020815



1. Suddenlink would never send a similar email
2. The “from” email address is not reasonable
3. The “to” email address is not “personalized”
4. Suddenlink does not have a “Customer Care” department
5. Do not “ever” click on links, delete the email!

25 Most Compromised Passwords!

123456

password

12345

12345678

qwerty

1234567890

1234

baseball

dragon

football

1234567

monkey

letmein

abc123

111111

mustang

access

shadow

master

michael

superman

696969

123123

batman

trustno1

If you are using one of the foregoing passwords, change it ASAP!

Google Earth Pro, Now Free...!

- Google Earth Pro, an upgrade for Google Earth, formerly \$399, now free
- Sign up is no longer required
- Download GEP at this link
<http://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html> , click “Agree and Download”
- Enter the license key... **GEPFREE**
- More info about GEP is available at this link
<https://www.google.com/work/mapsearch/products/earthpro.html>

New Sun City Portal...

- The new Sun City Portal will be available on and after February 12th
- The URL for the new portal will be... www.sctexas.org
- Windows SIG will maintain a “micro” website
- To logon to the portal and the SIG micro site requires a login, here’s how...
[TempLogin](#)
 - Your User Name is your CA badge number
 - Your Password is your date of birth (MMDDYY), (recommend that you change PW!)
 - 1st time in requires that you agree to “Terms of Use” and if so, you are in!
 - On the top menu, click... “Clubs & Neighborhoods”
 - In the left panel, click... “Chartered Clubs”
 - On the Chartered Clubs page under Computer Club, you will see Windows SIG
 - Click... “Windows SIG”
 - In the left panel you will see... “Windows Meeting Notes”, click to access
 - There you can view and or download a copy of the “meeting notes”

The Toxic Windows Freeware Ecosystem

- The “freeware” system is broken and if you download anything from the likes of e.g.
 - ✓ Download.com
 - ✓ Cnet.com, or
 - ✓ Click on Glary application updates
 - ✓ Or virtually any other freeware website, you’re asking for trouble!
- Practically every piece of freeware is stuffed with junk!
- If you try to avoid download sites and “google” e.g. “VLC player” ... you are pointed to a myriad of sites that serve up adware-filled junk installers
- That is why we recommend [www.ninite](http://www.ninite.com) as your primary site for free software. Ninite is not technically a freeware site, it is more a site for techs to setup and maintain computers. Ninite is the only safe site for Windows downloads that we are aware of!
- If you cannot find an app on Ninite, go only to the vendors website, make sure that is where you are, go slow and read before you click

Apps for Your Consideration

1. The apps on the first page that follows are all available, free at www.ninite.com
2. Ninite is the safest place to download malware free apps
3. Several apps that are needed should be secured only from the vendor source
4. Sometimes accessing the vendor source can be an adventure
5. The second page attempts to provide you with the app and the safe URL
6. Even then, it is very import that you slow down and read before you click!

Application	What It Does	Why?
Google Chrome	Internet browser	not all browsers work as intended
Mozilla Firefox	Internet browser	Not all browsers work as intended
Skype	Communication tool	Staying in touch
iTunes	Entertainment & education	Great resource
VLC	Media Player	Flexible alternative to WMP
K-lite Codec	Adds codecs reduces play problems	Provides media player flexibility
Silverlight	A Java alternative	For websites that employ Silverlight
Picasa	Picture management	The “best” tool for picture management
Foxit Reader	PDF management	Safer tool than Adobe
LibreOffice	Office suite	Alternative to MSO
Microsoft Essentials	Antivirus program	Only for Win7 and earlier OSs
Malwarebytes	Malware removal	Paid version effective for prevention
OneDrive	Cloud storage	For Win7 and earlier
Google Earth	Globe, map and program	Exploring the universe
ImgBurn	Flexible disk prep	Best of class for CD/DVD management
Auslogics	Disk defrag tool	Better tool than Windows defrag
Revo	Application removal tool	Best of class for application removal
Glary	1 click maintenance	Do not update apps from Glary!!!!
7Zip	Zipping and unzipping tool	Best of class!!

Vendor Apps and URLs

App	URL	Why
CCleaner	www.piriform.com	Trash removal and tools
Recuva	www.piriform.com	Deleted file recovery
Windows Live Mail	http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-live/essentials	Email client, alternative to webmail
EaseUs Backup (ToDo backup free)	http://www.easeus.com/download/tbf-download.html	Try Windows backup 1 st , ToDo backup is an excellent alternative
Autoruns	https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/bb963902.aspx	For “run” awareness and malware identification
Process Explorer	https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/bb896653	Computer process management
AdwCleaner	https://toolslib.net/downloads/viewdownload/1-adwcleaner	“onetime” malware removal

- There are explanations and tutorials available for Autoruns and Process Explorer
- Autoruns and Process Explorer are free tools developed by Mark Russinovich a former Austin resident

Computer Security

App (1.)	URL	
Windows 7 – Microsoft Security Essentials	https://ninite.com/ (under header security)	Free start with MSE (1.), until dissatisfied (2.)
Windows 8.x nothing to download comes with operating system		If you purchased a brand computer be sure to remove “trial-ware”
Malwarebytes (3.)	https://ninite.com/ (under header security)	Free version removes most malware, paid version “prevents” malware
Web of Trust (WOT) (4.)	https://www.mywot.com/	Flags most “dangerous” websites
AdwCleaner (5.)	https://toolslib.net/downloads/viewdownload/1-adwcleaner/	Effective for removal of persistent malware – does not permanently install

- (1.) When you understand that no malware program provides total security, it leads to try free options 1st
- (2.) Microsoft Security Essentials is a free antivirus program, that uses few system resources
- (3.) Guidance is to employ one malware program, malware programs typically employ enormous resources
- (4.) WOT is effective in flagging dangerous websites, install on each browser
- (5.) AdwCleaner is a one time use app and must be re-installed/download for repeated use

Computer Maintenance

App	URL	
CCleaner	http://www.piriform.com/ccleaner	Best of class, effective for removal of system trash
Glary (1.)	https://ninite.com/ (under header Utilities)	“One click maintenance”, do not update drivers when prompted by Glary
Malwarybytes	https://ninite.com/ (under header Security)	Run 1 or 2x per month if employing free version, not necessary if employing paid version
Auslogic Defrag	https://ninite.com/ (under header Utilities)	1 or 2x per month, best of class, do not run defrag programs if employing SSDs
AdwCleaner	https://toolslib.net/downloads/viewdownload/1-adwcleaner/	A “best practice” is to run AdwCleaner 1x per month even if you do not believe you are infected

(1.) Early on we found that if CCleaner and Glary were run, that each found a large amount of trash, so we recommended both. As time has passed, CCleaner has gone thru numerous updates and as a result CCleaner finds more trash and Glary less. There are issues with Glary’s program update app that results in malware (all 3rd party program update apps have issues). If you choose to employ Glary use “one click maintenance” only!

Finally...

- With your permission we will visit Wi-Fi and routers at the next SIG meeting on February 24th ?
- Questions or comments...?