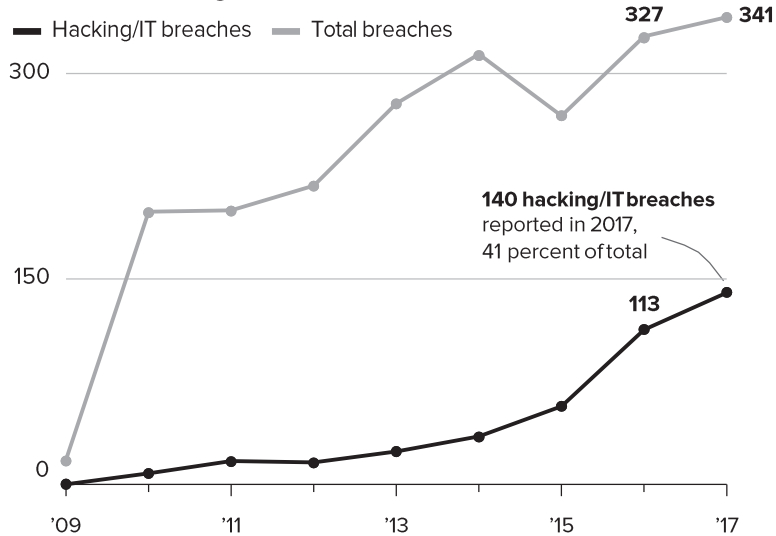


Jan. 3, 2018

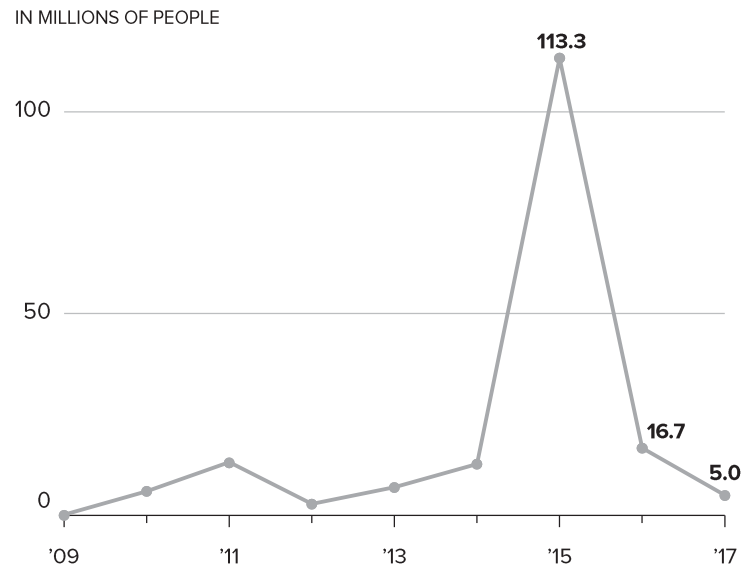
Reported Health Data Breaches, Hacks Reach New High in 2017

The number of patient data breaches reported to HHS by HIPAA-covered entities rose to a new high in 2017, with a total of 341 breaches that each affected at least 500 patients. Of those, 41 percent were caused by a hacking/IT incident, with network servers and email accounts continuing to be the most common targets. A surge in hacking incidents makes patient data increasingly vulnerable, as one hack might allow access to millions of patient records. In 2017, each hacking breach affected an average of nearly 25,000 individuals in 2017, while breaches overall affected an average of nearly 15,000 patients.

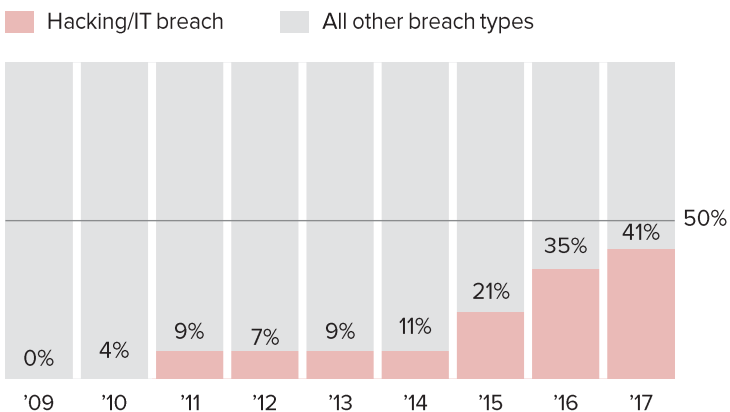
Total number of security breaches reported to HHS affecting 500 or more individuals



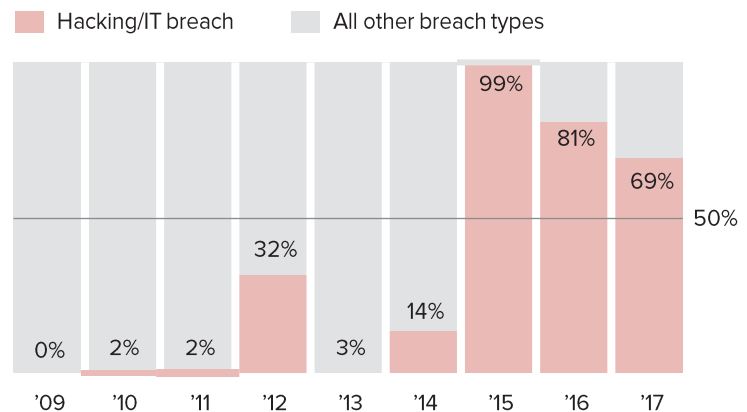
Number of individuals affected by all security breaches



Percentage of breaches resulting from hacking/IT incident

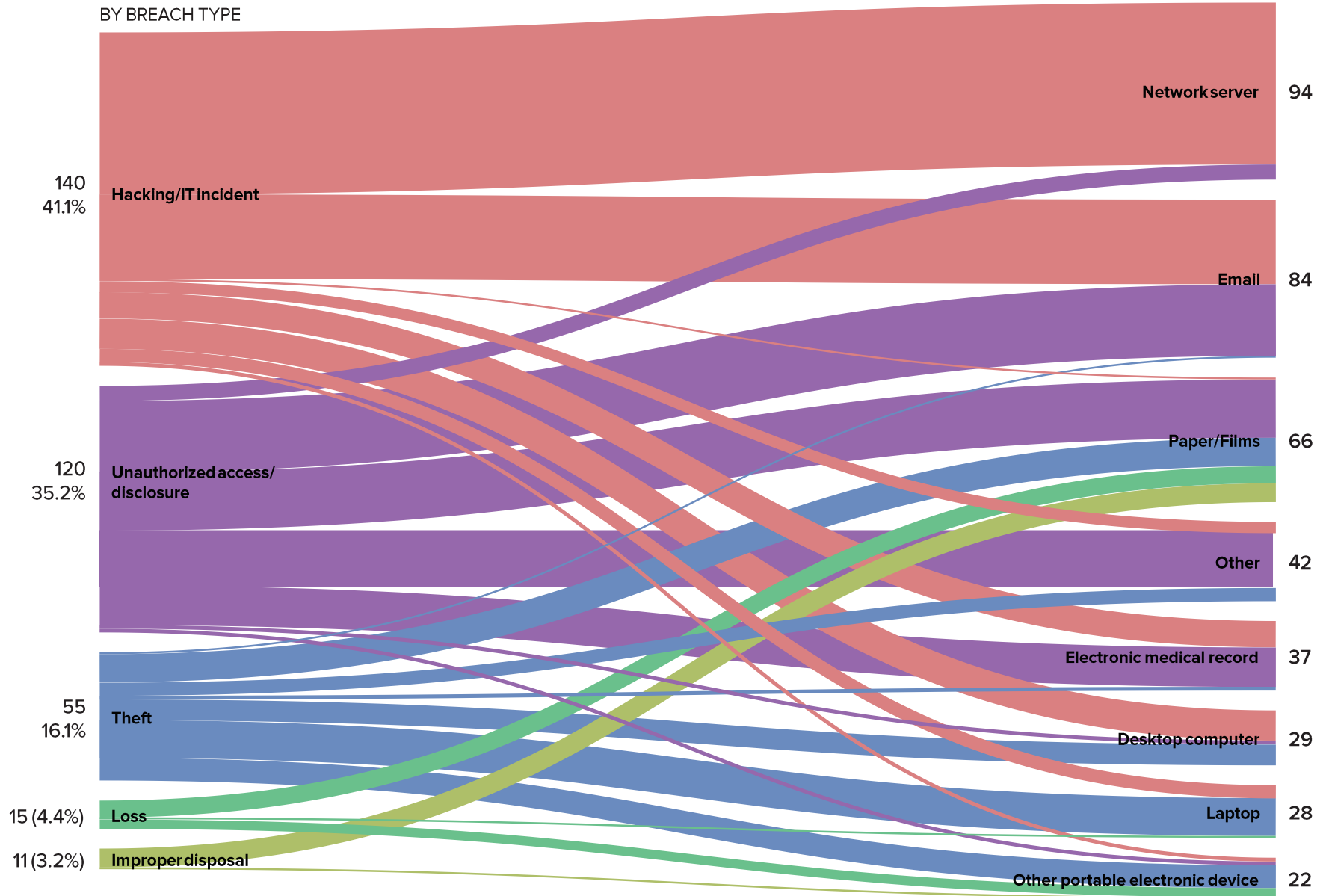


Percentage of individuals affected by hacking/IT breaches



Number of security breaches reported to HHS in 2017

BY LOCATION OF BREACHED INFORMATION



Note: The number of breach locations does not equal total (341) because some breaches allowed access to patient information from more than one location (i.e. electronic medical record and network server).

Source: HHS Office of Civil Rights Breach Portal