



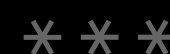
Sector Under Attack: Financial Services

Big game hunting (BGH), targeted intrusions, and hacktivism remain key threats to financial institutions.



136 out of 281+
adversaries currently tracked by
CrowdStrike target financial services¹

Attack Advancements in Financial Services



↑ 25%

increase in intrusion
frequency year-over-year²



↑ 109%

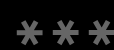
increase in targeted
intrusion activity
year-over-year⁴



↑ 100%

increase in North Korean
cyber theft in 2024³

How Adversaries Achieve Their Objectives



Exploit legitimate credentials to gain access and
extend presence without raising alarms



Adapt sophisticated hands-on-keyboard attacks
to evade detection



Focus on cross-domain tradecraft to maintain
persistence, move laterally, and exfiltrate data

Key Adversaries Targeting Financial Services Institutions



SCATTERED SPIDER ↗

This adversary has targeted financial services institutions in North America by leveraging sophisticated social engineering techniques to capture user credentials. The adversary often targets accounts belonging to IT personnel to gain access to tools that assist with lateral movement and account compromise.



BITWISE SPIDER ↗

This eCrime adversary is responsible for the development of LockBit ransomware and the StealBIT information stealer. The adversary relies on credential brute-forcing and software supply chain compromises to gain initial access.



GRACEFUL SPIDER ↗

This financially motivated eCrime group uses Clop ransomware and engages in data theft by exploiting multiple zero-day vulnerabilities in file transfer applications. The adversary targets financial entities, as reflected on their dedicated leak site.

Questions for Defenders

- Do you know who is targeting you?
- Are you prepared for the latest adversarial tactics and techniques?
- Are all of your user credentials, cloud assets, and endpoint assets protected?

Visit the [Adversary Hub](#) or download the [CrowdStrike 2026 Global Threat Report](#)

1. Adversaries tracked by CrowdStrike Counter Adversary Operations as of 03/06/2025
2. CrowdStrike 2024 Threat Hunting Report

3. CrowdStrike Counter Adversary Operations 2024 trend data
4. CrowdStrike 2024 Threat Hunting Report