Microsoft

Microsoft Security Intelligence Report

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Italy

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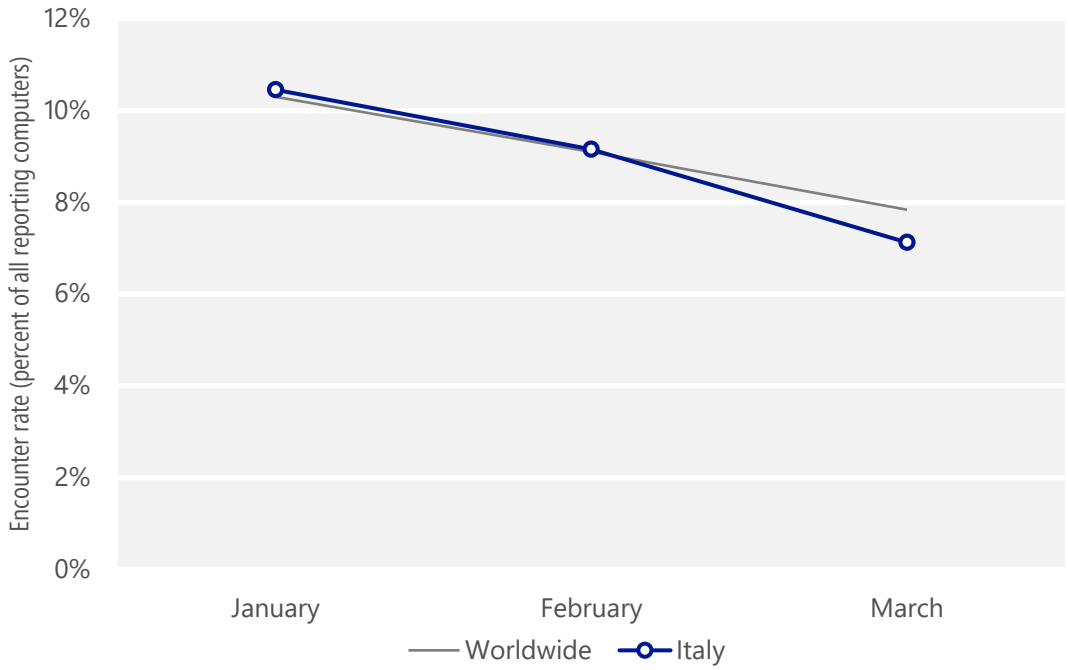
Italy

The statistics presented here are generated by Microsoft security programs and services running on computers in Italy in March 2017 and previous quarters. This data is provided from administrators or users who choose to opt in to provide data to Microsoft, using IP address geolocation to determine country or region.

Encounter rate trends

In March 2017, 7.1 percent of computers in Italy encountered malware, compared to the March 2017 worldwide encounter rate of 7.8 percent. The following figure shows the encounter and infection rate trends for Italy over the last three months, compared to the world as a whole.

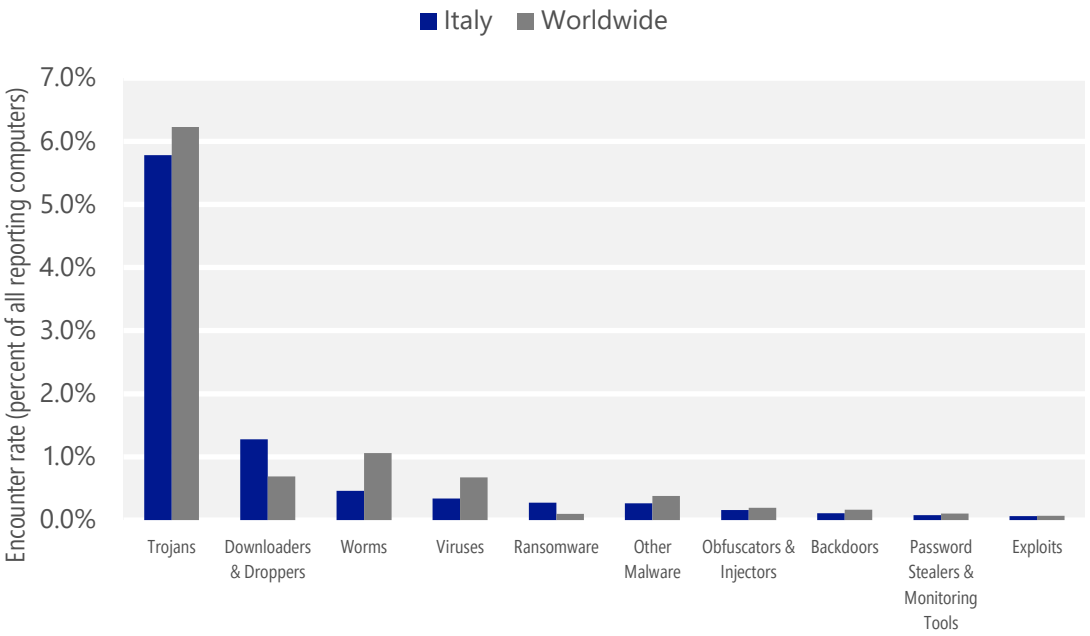
Malware encounter rate trends in Italy and worldwide



See the full report at http://www.microsoft.com/sir for more information about threats in Italy and around the world, and for explanations of the methods and terms used here.

Malicious software categories

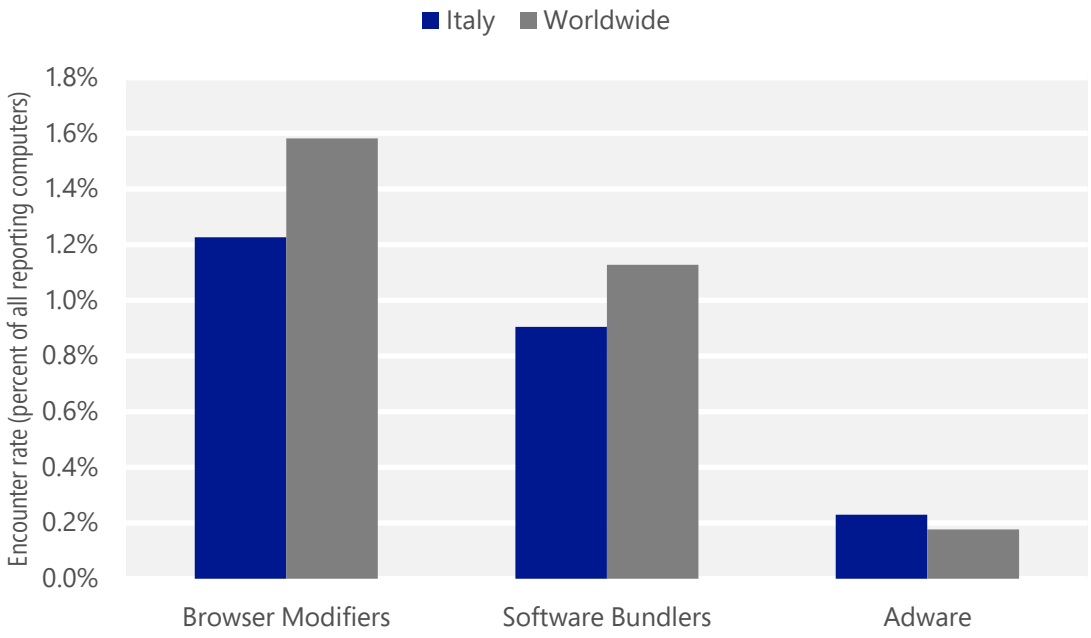
Malicious software encountered in Italy in March 2017, by category



- The most common malicious software category in Italy in March 2017 was Trojans. It was encountered by 5.78 percent of all computers there, up from 5.43 percent in February 2017.
- The second most common malicious software category in Italy in March 2017 was Downloaders & Droppers. It was encountered by 1.28 percent of all computers there, down from 1.39 percent in February 2017.
- The third most common malicious software category in Italy in March 2017 was Worms, which was encountered by 0.46 percent of all computers there, up from 0.43 percent in February 2017.

Unwanted software categories

Unwanted software encountered in Italy in March 2017, by category



- The most common unwanted software category in Italy in March 2017 was Browser Modifiers. It was encountered by 1.23 percent of all computers there, down from 1.37 percent in February 2017.
- The second most common unwanted software category in Italy in March 2017 was Software Bundlers. It was encountered by 0.90 percent of all computers there, down from 1.01 percent in February 2017.
- The third most common unwanted software category in Italy in March 2017 was Adware, which was encountered by 0.23 percent of all computers there, down from 0.29 percent in February 2017.

Top malicious software families by encounter rate

The most common malicious software families encountered in Italy in March 2017

	Family	Most significant category	% of reporting computers
1	Win32/Spursint	Trojans	1.06%
2	Win32/Skeeyah	Trojans	0.86%
3	Win32/Vigorf	Trojans	0.73%
4	Win32/Fuery	Trojans	0.65%
5	Win32/Dynamer	Trojans	0.35%
6	O97M/Donoff	Downloaders & Droppers	0.32%
7	Win32/Swrort	Trojans	0.23%
8	Win32/Rundas	Trojans	0.22%
9	JS/Nemucod	Downloaders & Droppers	0.20%
10	Win32/Xadupi	Trojans	0.19%

- The most common malicious software family encountered in Italy in March 2017 was Win32/Spursint, which was encountered by 1.06 percent of reporting computers there. Win32/Spursint is a cloud-based detection for files that have been automatically identified as malicious by the cloud-based protection feature of Windows Defender.
- The second most common malicious software family encountered in Italy in March 2017 was Win32/Skeeyah, which was encountered by 0.86 percent of reporting computers there. Win32/Skeeyah is a generic detection for various threats that display trojan characteristics.
- The third most common malicious software family encountered in Italy in March 2017 was Win32/Vigorf, which was encountered by 0.73 percent of reporting computers there. Win32/Vigorf is a generic detection for a variety of threats.
- The fourth most common malicious software family encountered in Italy in March 2017 was Win32/Fuery, which was encountered by 0.65 percent of reporting computers there. Win32/Fuery is a cloud-based detection for files that have been automatically identified as malicious by the cloud-based protection feature of Windows Defender.

Top unwanted software families by encounter rate

The most common unwanted software families encountered in Italy in March 2017

	Family	Most significant category	% of reporting computers
1	Win32/Foxiebro	Browser Modifiers	0.39%
2	Win32/ICLoader	Software Bundlers	0.19%
3	MSIL/Wizrem	Software Bundlers	0.12%
4	Win32/SupTab	Browser Modifiers	0.11%
5	Win32/Sasquor	Browser Modifiers	0.11%

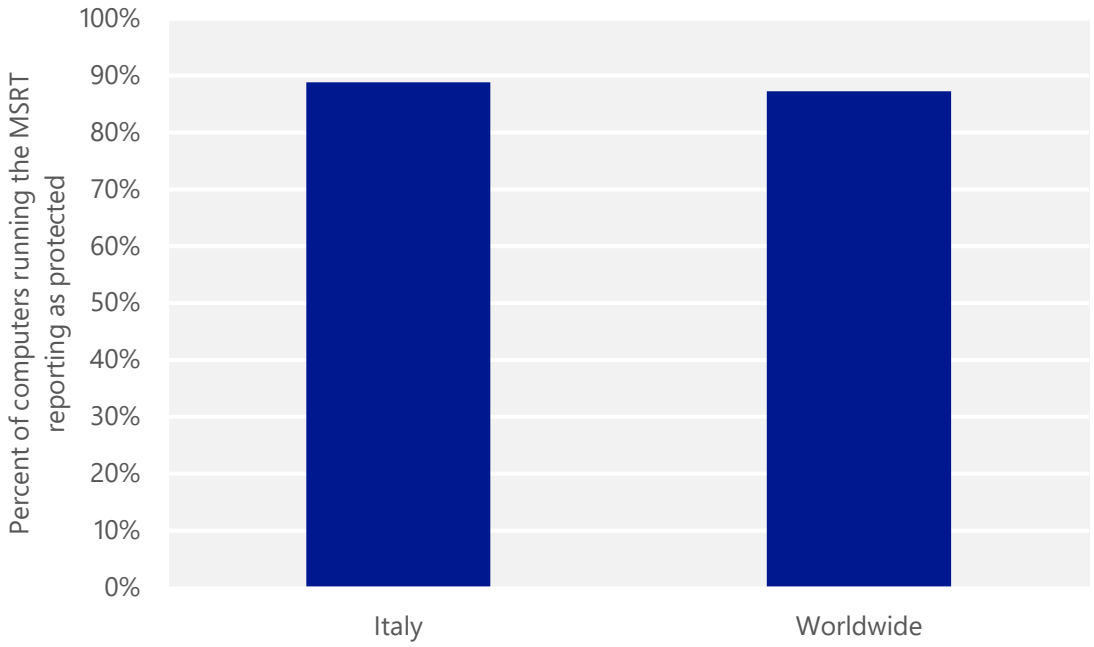
- The most common unwanted software family encountered in Italy in March 2017 was Win32/Foxiebro, which was encountered by 0.39 percent of reporting computers there. Win32/Foxiebro is a browser modifier that can inject ads to search results pages, modify web pages to insert ads, and open ads in new tabs.
- The second most common unwanted software family encountered in Italy in March 2017 was Win32/ICLoader, which was encountered by 0.19 percent of reporting computers there. Win32/ICLoader is a software bundler distributed from software crack sites, which installs unwanted software alongside the desired program. It sometimes installs other unwanted software, such as Win32/Neobar.
- The third most common unwanted software family encountered in Italy in March 2017 was MSIL/Wizrem, which was encountered by 0.12 percent of reporting computers there. MSIL/Wizrem is a software bundler that downloads other unwanted software, including Win32/EoRezo and Win32/Sasquor. It might also try to install malicious software such as Win32/Xadupi.

Security software use

Recent releases of the MSRT collect and report details about the state of real-time antimalware software on a computer, if the computer's administrator has chosen to opt in to provide data to Microsoft. This telemetry data makes it possible to analyze security software usage patterns around the world and correlate them with infection rates.

The figure below shows the percentage of computers worldwide and in Italy that the MSRT found to be running up-to-date real-time security software in March 2017.

Percent of computers in Italy and worldwide protected by real-time security software in March 2017



Malicious websites

Attackers often use websites to conduct phishing attacks or distribute malware. Malicious websites typically appear completely legitimate and often provide no outward indicators of their malicious nature, even to experienced computer users. In many cases, these sites are legitimate websites that have been compromised by malware, SQL injection, or other techniques, in an effort by attackers to take advantage of the trust users have invested in them. To help protect users from malicious webpages, Microsoft and other browser vendors have developed filters that keep track of sites that host malware and phishing attacks and display prominent warnings when users try to navigate to them.

The information presented in this section has been generated from telemetry data produced by Windows Defender SmartScreen in Microsoft Edge and Internet Explorer. See the Malicious Websites section of *Microsoft Security Intelligence Report, Volume 22* for more information about these protections and how the data is collected.

Malicious website statistics for Italy

Metric	Italy	Worldwide
Drive-by download pages per 1,000 URLs	0.08	0.17
Phishing sites per 1,000 Internet hosts	8.8	6.3
Malware hosting sites per 1,000 Internet hosts	8.0	14.8

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