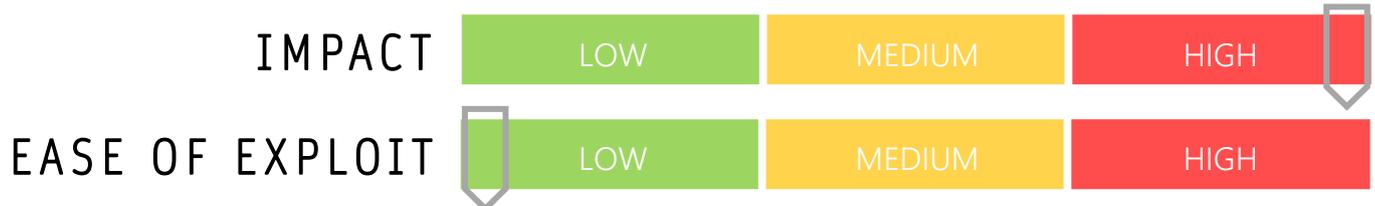


# CYBER GUIDANCE ISSUE 00036

## INCREASED DDOS ATTACKS

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### OVERVIEW

With the appearance of Covid-19 and an increased proportion of the global population working from home, a significant increase in DDoS attacks, upwards of 500%, compared to the same period last year has been noticed in 2020. Attacks seen on the New Zealand Stock Exchange from 26<sup>th</sup> August bring this reality close to home.

### BREAKDOWN

Not only is the volume of attacks noticeably increasing, but the scale and intensity has been considerably greater than what has been previously observed. 151% increase has been noted by Neustar’s Secure Operations Centre (SOC) with attacks as weighty as 1.17Tb per second being observed. Attacks seen at a rate of 100Gbps have nearly tripled, and 70% of the attacks noted came in below 5Gbps, where attackers recognize that smaller attacks may bypass traffic threshold restrictions, but still cause massive disruptions. Risk of this type of attack extends to any organization with an internet presence, and heavy reliance on VPN for a remote workforce would be seriously degraded by such an attack. Insecure Internet of Things (IoT) or “Smart” devices are an easy target for attackers wishing to establish distributed devices to launch this type of attack.

### REMEDIATION STEPS

- Change default passwords on any IoT devices connected to the internet and review their security settings
- Discuss DDoS protection with your Internet Service Provider (ISP)
- Investigate DDoS protection services that may be relevant to your organization through specialised suppliers.

### REFERENCES & RESOURCES

Neustar:	<a href="https://www.home.neustar/resources/whitepapers/cyber-threats-and-trends-report-2020-first-half">https://www.home.neustar/resources/whitepapers/cyber-threats-and-trends-report-2020-first-half</a>
Threatpost:	<a href="https://threatpost.com/ddos-attacks-skyrocket-pandemic/159301/">https://threatpost.com/ddos-attacks-skyrocket-pandemic/159301/</a>
Security Brief:	<a href="https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/ddos-attacks-surge-542-amidst-covid-19-pandemic-report">https://securitybrief.co.nz/story/ddos-attacks-surge-542-amidst-covid-19-pandemic-report</a>
Kaspersky:	<a href="https://www.inforisktoday.com/kaspersky-ddos-attacks-spike-during-covid-19-pandemic-a-14805">https://www.inforisktoday.com/kaspersky-ddos-attacks-spike-during-covid-19-pandemic-a-14805</a>
NZX:	<a href="https://www.nzx.com/announcements/358636">https://www.nzx.com/announcements/358636</a>