

The risks and rewards of mobile devices: Safeguarding sensitive data in our digital world

Mobile devices mean convenience.

But with great convenience comes great risk.

Last year:



54% of global organizations claim they've experienced a data breach due to unauthorized access on mobile devices.

[source]



The first three quarters of 2023 alone exceeded 2021's previous record-breaking number with: **2,116 incidents in the first 9 months of 2023, compared to 1,862 in all 12 months of 2021.**[source]

Smartphones, tablets, and other portable technology are vulnerable to theft or loss, and missing devices increase the risk of data breaches — which can have catastrophic consequences.

In fact:



Lost or stolen devices are involved in 41% of data breaches

[source]



The average cost of a mobile related data breach is \$2.2 million USD

[source]



Only 28% of security practitioners believe their organizations can secure mobile devices' sensitive data

[source



Over the past three years, the cost of healthcare data breaches has increased by 53.3%

[source

Plus, data breaches usually lead to significant, but tough-to-quantify losses due to **reputational damage.**

But there's good news.

There are ways to prevent mobile device loss, improve security, and protect your investment. Consider these best practices:

- Automated workflows, like notifications for devices that aren't returned where or when they should be
- Improved privacy and security across mobile tools
- Manager visibility into device assignments and who has which device where
- A simple audit trail for accountability
- The power to lock down devices between each use, protecting data and privacy by maintaining control over who can access what, when



Ideally, these capabilities should come in a secure, personalized device environment free from repetitive, manual authentication. This will encourage employee adoption and maximize your return on investment.