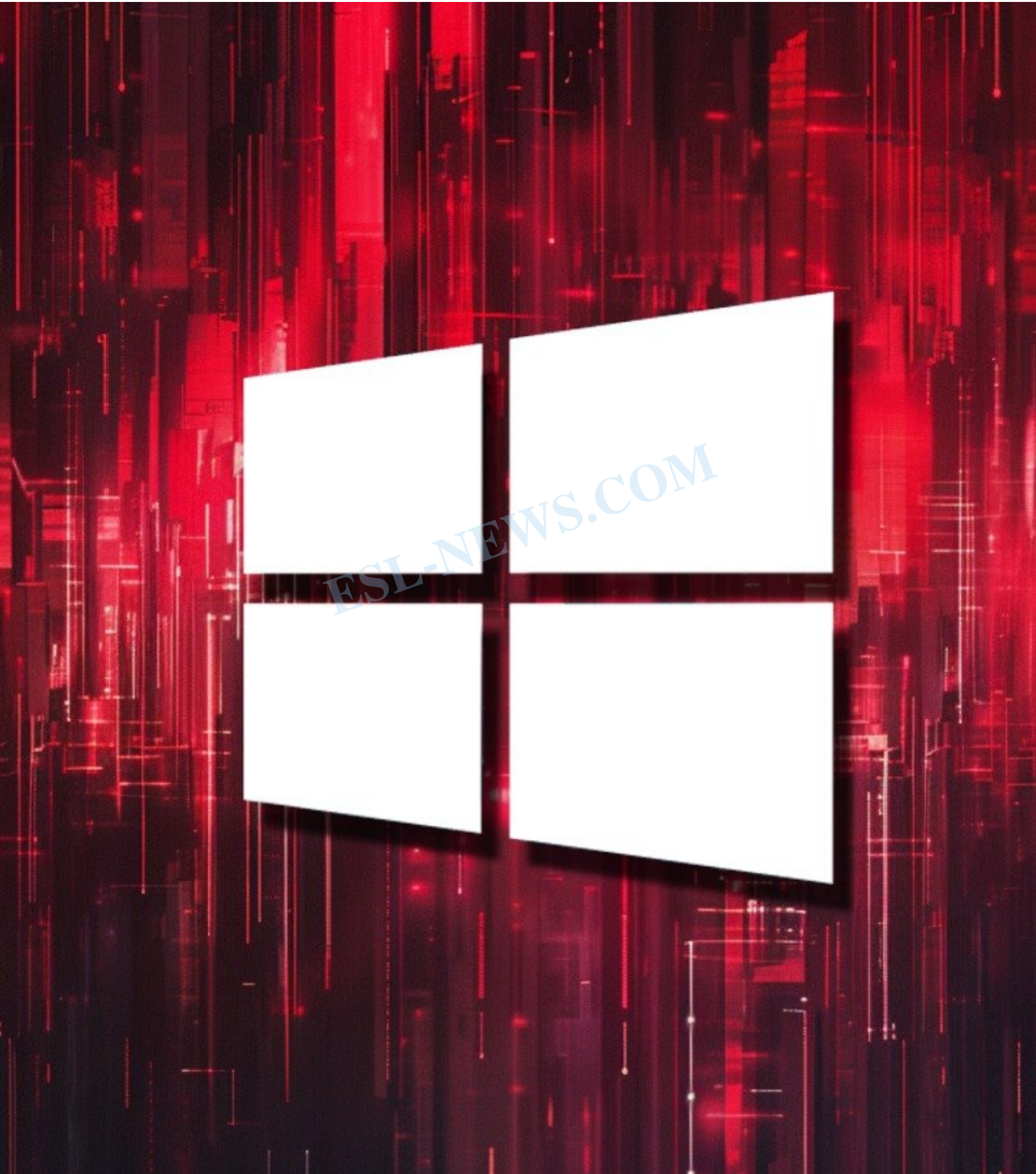




Upgrade Now: Windows 10 Security Alert!

Description

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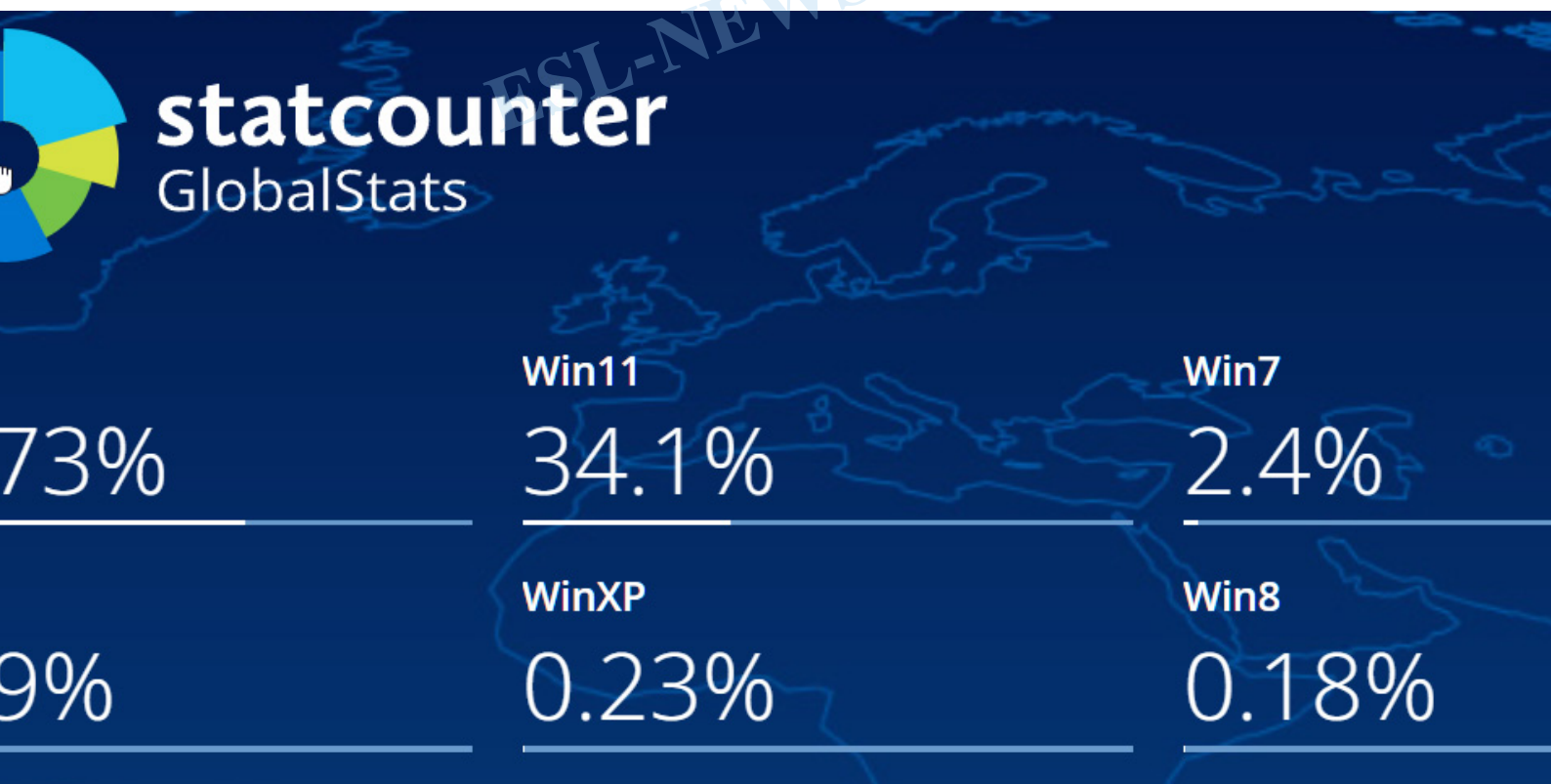
ESET, a cybersecurity firm, is strongly recommending Windows 10 users to consider upgrading to Windows 11 or transitioning to Linux to avert a potential "security crisis" as the decade-old operating system approaches the end of support by October 2025.

Thorsten Urbanski, a security expert at ESET, cautions that the window of opportunity to avoid a security catastrophe in 2025 is rapidly closing. "We urge users not to delay until October, but rather make the switch to Windows 11 promptly or opt for an alternative operating system if their current device cannot support the latest Windows OS. Failure to do so exposes users to substantial security vulnerabilities, rendering them susceptible to perilous cyber threats and data compromise."

Effective October 14, 2025, Windows 10 will no longer receive complimentary security updates, unless users opt for extended security updates at a cost. This leaves Windows 10 users vulnerable to newly discovered vulnerabilities, potentially resulting in severe breaches and widespread malware proliferation.

With approximately 32 million computers in Germany running Windows 10, constituting about 65% of household devices, the risk is pronounced. In contrast, Windows 11 is installed on only 33% of German devices, roughly 16.5 million units.

StatCounter validates these statistics, revealing that as of December 2024, nearly 63% of global Windows users are still reliant on Windows 10, while only about 34% have made the transition to Windows 11.



Windows operating system usage worldwide

Source: StatCounter



The [Steam Hardware & Software Survey](#) provides a more favorable outlook for Windows 11 gamers, with 54.96% already operating on Windows 11, compared to 42.39% on Windows 10 by the close of 2024.

While gamers are proactive in upgrading hardware for optimal performance, the transition for businesses and other consumers tends to lag, with older systems running sufficiently, albeit with increasing vulnerability.

With the impending Windows OS shift posing greater risks than the Windows 7 migration, the urgency for action is evident. Notably, the reluctance to upgrade to Windows 11 among Windows 10 users stems from missing features, performance concerns, and the stringent TPM hardware requirement hindering compatibility with older devices.

Microsoft's unwavering stance on the TPM requirement underscores its critical role in bolstering security measures, particularly for encryption key storage, credential protection, and seamless integration with features like Secure Boot and Windows Hello for Business.

For users unable to migrate to Windows 11, Microsoft offers extended security updates (ESU) at a cost. Businesses can access ESU for three years, priced at \$61 for the first year, \$122 for the second year, and \$244 for the third, totaling \$427. A consumer ESU plan is also available for a year at \$30 per device.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Vulnerabilities** /ˌvʌl.nə.rəˈbɪl.ɪ.tiz/ (noun): Weaknesses in a system that can be exploited to cause harm.
2. **Compromise** /ˈkɒm.prə.maɪz/ (verb): To make something vulnerable to danger or harm.
3. **Proactive** /prəˈæk.tɪv/ (adjective): Taking action by causing change and not only responding to change.
4. **Migration** /maɪˈɡreɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The process of moving from one operating system to another.
5. **Penetration** /ˌpɛn.əˈtreɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The act of entering or breaking through an area or system.
6. **Integration** /ˌɪn.tɪˈɡreɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The process of combining or coordinating different components into a unified whole.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What cybersecurity firm is strongly recommending Windows 10 users to consider upgrading to Windows 11 or transitioning to Linux before October 2025?

Option: A. McAfee

Option: B. ESET



Option: C. Symantec

Option: D. Kaspersky

2. According to ESET, what potential risk does staying on Windows 10 pose for users after October 2025?

Option: A. Performance degradation

Option: B. Security vulnerabilities

Option: C. Compatibility issues

Option: D. Data loss

3. What percentage of German devices are running Windows 11, as mentioned?

Option: A. 45%

Option: B. 55%

Option: C. 33%

Option: D. 75%

4. What is the percentage of global Windows users still on Windows 10 as of December 2024?

Option: A. 20%

Option: B. 34%

Option: C. 50%

Option: D. 75%

5. What is one of the reasons for the reluctance to upgrade to Windows 11 among Windows 10 users?

Option: A. Better performance

Option: B. Missing features

Option: C. Lower cost

Option: D. Improved compatibility

6. What is the primary role of TPM hardware in Windows security measures?

Option: A. Backup storage

Option: B. Network connectivity

Option: C. Data encryption

Option: D. Processor speed

True-False

7. Windows 10 will continue to receive complimentary security updates after October 2025.

8. Older systems running Windows 10 are not vulnerable to security threats.



9. Businesses can opt for extended security updates for Windows 10 at no cost.
10. Windows 11 gamers are more likely to experience optimal performance compared to Windows 10 gamers.
11. Microsoft offers extended security updates for Windows 11 users at a cost.
12. The transition to Windows 11 poses less risk than the migration from Windows 7.

Gap-Fill

13. According to the content, nearly _____ % of global Windows users were still reliant on Windows 10 as of December 2024.
14. Microsoft offers extended security updates for businesses for a total of _____ years.
15. The consumer ESU plan from Microsoft costs \$ _____ per device for a year.
16. The percentage of Windows 11 gamers operating on Windows 11 is _____ % according to the Steam Hardware & Software Survey.
17. Windows 11 is installed on about _____ million German devices, as mentioned in the content.
18. Effective October 14, 2025, Windows 10 will no longer receive complimentary security updates unless users opt for extended security updates at a _____.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. B. ESET 2. B. Security vulnerabilities 3. C. 33% 4. B. 34% 5. B. Missing features 6. C. Data encryption

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. 63 14. 3 15. 30 16. 54.96 17. 16.5 18. cost



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What are weaknesses in a system known as?
Option: Strengths
Option: Capabilities
Option: Vulnerabilities
Option: Opportunities
2. Which term refers to the movement of individuals from one place to another?
Option: Adaptation
Option: Migration
Option: Integration
Option: Exploration
3. What term describes a process where one event triggers a series of similar events?
Option: Crossover
Option: Chronology
Option: Succession
Option: Cascade
4. What is a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment called?
Option: Habitat
Option: Ecosystem
Option: Territory
Option: Environment
5. What do you call an animal that preys on others?
Option: Preparer
Option: Predator
Option: Provider
Option: Protector
6. Which term refers to something that is complete and thorough?
Option: Superficial
Option: Fragmentary
Option: Comprehensive
Option: Limited
7. What is an investigation into a matter or situation called?



- Option: Probe
- Option: Search
- Option: Research
- Option: Survey

8. What term describes a meeting often a chance one between people or groups?

- Option: Interaction
- Option: Collide
- Option: Encounter
- Option: Impede

9. Which term relates to the combined effects of temperature and salinity on seawater density?

- Option: Thermohaline
- Option: Halothermic
- Option: Temperature
- Option: Salinity

10. What is the importance or meaning of something referred to as?

- Option: Triviality
- Option: Inconsequence
- Option: Significance
- Option: Insignificance

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Being _____ means acting in anticipation of future problems or opportunities.
12. The archaeologists _____ ancient artifacts at the excavation site.
13. The _____ of seawater varies around the world.
14. Starting a new business is always a risky _____.
15. By repeatedly _____ the importance of safety the supervisor ensured that all workers followed the guidelines.
16. Scientists use _____ to remotely monitor data from satellites.
17. The lion is considered a top _____ in the savannah.
18. The _____ of different technologies has led to the development of innovative



products.

19. The security breach resulted from a successful network _____ by hackers.

20. During their hiking trip they hoped to _____ rare wildlife.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The process of combining different elements into a harmonious whole was known as .
22. Animals that primarily feed on plants and vegetation are categorized as .
23. Scientists who study the history of life on Earth through fossils are referred to as .
24. A journey or voyage undertaken for a specific purpose or mission is called an .
25. The long- sequel to the popular movie generated a lot of buzz among fans.
26. The artist's of the classic painting brought a fresh perspective to the original work.
27. The complex plot of the thriller movie was full of and unexpected twists.
28. Taking a approach to problem-solving can help prevent issues before they arise.
29. The children's book was filled with colorful illustrations and characters.
30. The detective needed to the true identity of the suspect.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Vulnerabilities 2. Migration 3. Cascade 4. Ecosystem 5. Predator 6. Comprehensive 7. Probe 8. Encounter 9. Thermohaline 10. Significance

Gap-Fill: 11. Proactive 12. Unearthed 13. Salinity 14. Venture 15. Emphasizing 16. Telemetry 17. Predator 18. Convergence 19. Penetration 20. Encounter

Matching sentence: 1. Integration 2. Herbivores 3. Paleontologists 4. Expedition 5. Anticipated 6. Reimagining 7. Intrigue 8. Proactive 9. Whimsical 10. Ascertain

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL6

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