THE DAILY TECH WIRE by Nuffield Consulting

Outages & Breaches: December 2024 in numbers

6 significant outages (0 critical) and 8 data breaches (2 critical) were logged in December 2024. The largest breach by records was PowerSchool (71.9M claimed). The longest outage with a known duration was ChatGPT (OpenAI) (8 hours). The most common outage cause was cyberattack (3 of 6). 1 of the incidents mainly affected the UK.

OUTAGES	CRITICAL OUTAGES	DOWNTIME TRACKED	BREACHES	CRITICAL BREACHES
6	0	16 h	8	2
same as November	wide impact	across 3 outages with a known duration	▲ 1 vs November	sensitive data at scale

RECORDS EXPOSED	FURTHER CLAIMED
3.6M	71.9M
confirmed or company-reported	attacker claims, unverified

OUTAGE CAUSES



NAMED ATTACKERS



MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

30 Dec 2024	China-linked hackers breach US Treasury via BeyondTrust US Treasury · breach · Silk Typhoon (China)	CRITICAL
28 Dec 2024	PowerSchool breach hits tens of millions of students PowerSchool · breach · Unknown · 71.9M claimed	CRITICAL
27 Dec 2024	VW software unit exposes location data of 800,000 EVs Volkswagen (Cariad) · breach · None (exposure) · 800K records	MAJOR

27 Dec 2024	**Cyberhaven Chrome extension hijacked** Cyberhaven · breach · Unknown	MAJOR
26 Dec 2024	**DDoS attack delays Japan Airlines flights** Japan Airlines · outage · Cyberattack	MAJOR
26 Dec 2024	**Azure data centre power failure takes ChatGPT down** ChatGPT (OpenAI) · outage · Power / cooling · 8 hours	MAJOR
19 Dec 2024	**Russian attack shuts Ukraine's state registers** Ukraine state registries · outage · Cyberattack	MAJOR
17 Dec 2024	**Hunters International leaks Telecom Namibia customer data** Telecom Namibia · breach · Hunters International · 500K records	MAJOR

ALL 6 OUTAGES

26 Dec 2024	**DDoS attack delays Japan Airlines flights** Japan Airlines · outage · Cyberattack	MAJOR
26 Dec 2024	**Azure data centre power failure takes ChatGPT down** ChatGPT (OpenAI) · outage · Power / cooling · 8 hours	MAJOR
19 Dec 2024	**Russian attack shuts Ukraine's state registers** Ukraine state registries · outage · Cyberattack	MAJOR
11 Dec 2024	**Meta apps down worldwide for hours** Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp · outage · Unknown · 4 hours	MAJOR
11 Dec 2024	**ChatGPT, API and Sora down for about four hours** ChatGPT (OpenAI) · outage · Configuration change · 4 hours	MAJOR
10 Dec 2024	**Play ransomware disrupts Krispy Kreme online ordering** Krispy Kreme · outage · Cyberattack	MAJOR

ALL 8 DATA BREACHES

30 Dec 2024	**China-linked hackers breach US Treasury via BeyondTrust** US Treasury · breach · Silk Typhoon (China)	CRITICAL
28 Dec 2024	**PowerSchool breach hits tens of millions of students** PowerSchool · breach · Unknown · 71.9M claimed	CRITICAL
27 Dec 2024	**VW software unit exposes location data of 800,000 EVs** Volkswagen (Cariad) · breach · None (exposure) · 800K records	MAJOR
27 Dec 2024	**Cyberhaven Chrome extension hijacked** Cyberhaven · breach · Unknown	MAJOR

17 Dec 2024	**Hunters International leaks Telecom Namibia customer data** Telecom Namibia · breach · Hunters International · 500K records	MAJOR
16 Dec 2024	**Interlock leaks Texas Tech health data on 1.4 million** Texas Tech University Health · breach · Interlock · 1.4M records	MAJOR
16 Dec 2024	**ConnectOnCall breach exposes 910,000 patients** ConnectOnCall · breach · Unknown · 910K records	MAJOR
3 Dec 2024	**Black Basta claims 500GB from BT Conferencing** BT Conferencing · breach · Black Basta	UK MINOR

2024 YEAR TO DATE

INCIDENTS YTD	OUTAGES YTD	BREACHES YTD	CRITICAL YTD	RECORDS EXPOSED YTD
144	**60**	**84**	**29**	**574M**
January to December 2024	significant outages	data breaches	outages and breaches	confirmed or company-reported

MONTH	OUTAGES	BREACHES	CRITICAL	RUNNING TOTAL
Jan	6	9	4	**15**
Feb	4	9	5	**28**
Mar	6	8	2	**42**
Apr	5	3	0	**50**
May	4	9	5	**63**
Jun	5	8	4	**76**
Jul	4	8	3	**88**
Aug	6	6	1	**100**
Sep	6	4	1	**110**
Oct	2	5	0	**117**
Nov	6	7	2	**130**
Dec	**6**	**8**	**2**	**144**
Total	**60**	**84**	**29**	**144**

CITE THIS

Nuffield Consulting, “Outages & Breaches: December 2024 in numbers”, The Daily Tech Wire,published December 2024. https://techwire.nuffieldconsulting.com/reports/2024-12/ (retrieved 15 Nov 2026).

The underlying data for every month is in the CSV download.

© 2026 Nuffield Consulting · Contact info@nuffieldconsulting.com

Compiled from public reporting and summarised in our own words. Every incident links to its original source. Severity: critical means wide impact, such as essential services disrupted or sensitive data exposed at scale; major means notable impact on one organisation's customers or a widely used service; minor is limited, brief or

local. Outage status: ongoing (still disrupted at last report), partially restored, reported (state not yet confirmed), resolved, or post-mortem (cause explained by the provider). "Claimed" marks figures from attackers that the organisation has not confirmed.