THE DAILY TECH WIRE by Nuffield Consulting

Outages & Breaches: May 2026 in numbers

4 significant outages (1 critical) and 8 data breaches (5 critical) were logged in May 2026. The largest breach by records was Instructure (Canvas) (275M claimed). The longest outage with a known duration was AWS us-east-1 (28 hours). The most common outage cause was power (2 of 4).

OUTAGES	CRITICAL OUTAGES	DOWNTIME TRACKED	BREACHES	CRITICAL BREACHES
4	1	58 h	8	5
▲ 1 vs April	wide impact	across 3 outages with a known duration	▲ 1 vs April	sensitive data at scale

RECORDS EXPOSED	FURTHER CLAIMED
8.3M	280M
confirmed or company-reported	attacker claims, unverified

OUTAGE CAUSES



NAMED ATTACKERS



MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

28 May 2026	**Carnival breach exposes nearly 6 million** Carnival · breach · Unknown · 6M records	CRITICAL
26 May 2026	**Charter confirms breach after extortion threats** Charter Communications · breach · ShinyHunters · 5M claimed	CRITICAL
18 May 2026	**NYC Health + Hospitals loses biometrics in vendor breach** NYC Health + Hospitals · breach · Unknown · 1.8M records	CRITICAL
12 May 2026	**Foxconn confirms attack after Apple and Nvidia data theft claims** Foxconn · breach · Nitrogen	CRITICAL

7 May 2026	**AWS us-east-1 zone down 28 hours after cooling failure** AWS us-east-1 · outage · Power / cooling · 28 hours	CRITICAL
3 May 2026	**Canvas maker Instructure breached, data on 275M users reported** Instructure (Canvas) · breach · ShinyHunters · 275M claimed	CRITICAL
29 May 2026	**Lightning knocks out power across two Azure West US 2 zones** Microsoft Azure (West US 2) · outage · Power / cooling · 22.1 hours	MAJOR
25 May 2026	**Immigration software Docketwise exposes 143,000** Docketwise · breach · Unknown · 143K records	MAJOR

ALL 4 OUTAGES

29 May 2026	**Lightning knocks out power across two Azure West US 2 zones** Microsoft Azure (West US 2) · outage · Power / cooling · 22.1 hours	MAJOR
19 May 2026	**Google Cloud wrongly suspends Railway's production account** Railway · outage · Provider error · 7.9 hours	MAJOR
7 May 2026	**AWS us-east-1 zone down 28 hours after cooling failure** AWS us-east-1 · outage · Power / cooling · 28 hours	CRITICAL
5 May 2026	**Germany's .de domain DNS fails** DENIC (.de) · outage · DNS	MAJOR

ALL 8 DATA BREACHES

28 May 2026	**Carnival breach exposes nearly 6 million** Carnival · breach · Unknown · 6M records	CRITICAL
26 May 2026	**Charter confirms breach after extortion threats** Charter Communications · breach · ShinyHunters · 5M claimed	CRITICAL
25 May 2026	**Immigration software Docketwise exposes 143,000** Docketwise · breach · Unknown · 143K records	MAJOR
18 May 2026	**NYC Health + Hospitals loses biometrics in vendor breach** NYC Health + Hospitals · breach · Unknown · 1.8M records	CRITICAL
12 May 2026	**Foxconn confirms attack after Apple and Nvidia data theft claims** Foxconn · breach · Nitrogen	CRITICAL
8 May 2026	**Zara third-party database exposes 197,000 customers** Zara (Inditex) · breach · Unknown · 197K records	MINOR
5 May 2026	**Vimeo user data exposed via analytics provider** Vimeo · breach · ShinyHunters · 119K records	MINOR

3 May 2026	**Canvas maker Instructure breached, data on 275M users reported** Instructure (Canvas) · breach · ShinyHunters · 275M claimed	CRITICAL

2026 YEAR TO DATE

INCIDENTS YTD	OUTAGES YTD	BREACHES YTD	CRITICAL YTD	RECORDS EXPOSED YTD
54	**18**	**36**	**25**	**121M**
January to May 2026	significant outages	data breaches	outages and breaches	confirmed or company-reported

MONTH	OUTAGES	BREACHES	CRITICAL	RUNNING TOTAL
Jan	3	7	5	**10**
Feb	6	7	5	**23**
Mar	2	7	5	**32**
Apr	3	7	4	**42**
May	**4**	**8**	**6**	**54**
Total	**18**	**36**	**25**	**54**

CITE THIS

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

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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.