# Cisco Umbrella

The 3 riskiest cloud applications of 2021

And what you can do to protect your business

With all the changes of the past year, businesses are working in entirely new ways — and cloud-based apps are making it possible. But, new benefits come with new risks.

Cisco recently conducted a study of top trends in cloud applications. Discover the apps on the rise, the risks they pose, and strategies for keeping your data, users, and business safe.

The traffic for cloud-based apps grew by **33%** in 2020
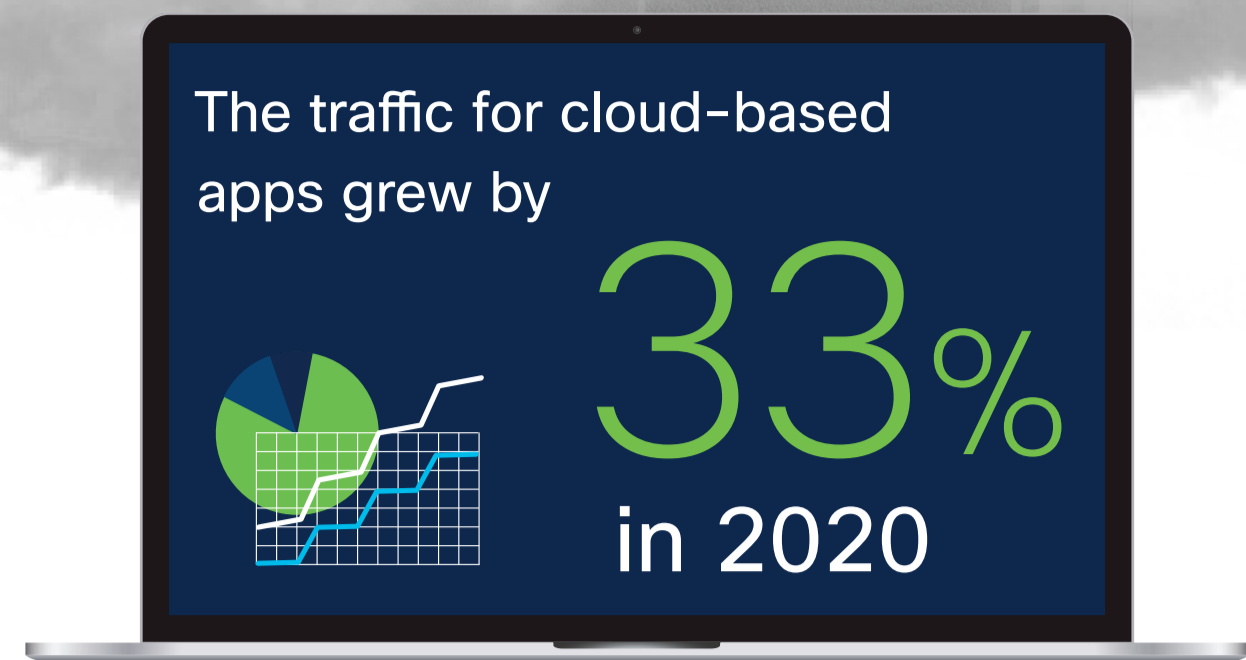
1

Remote desktop software
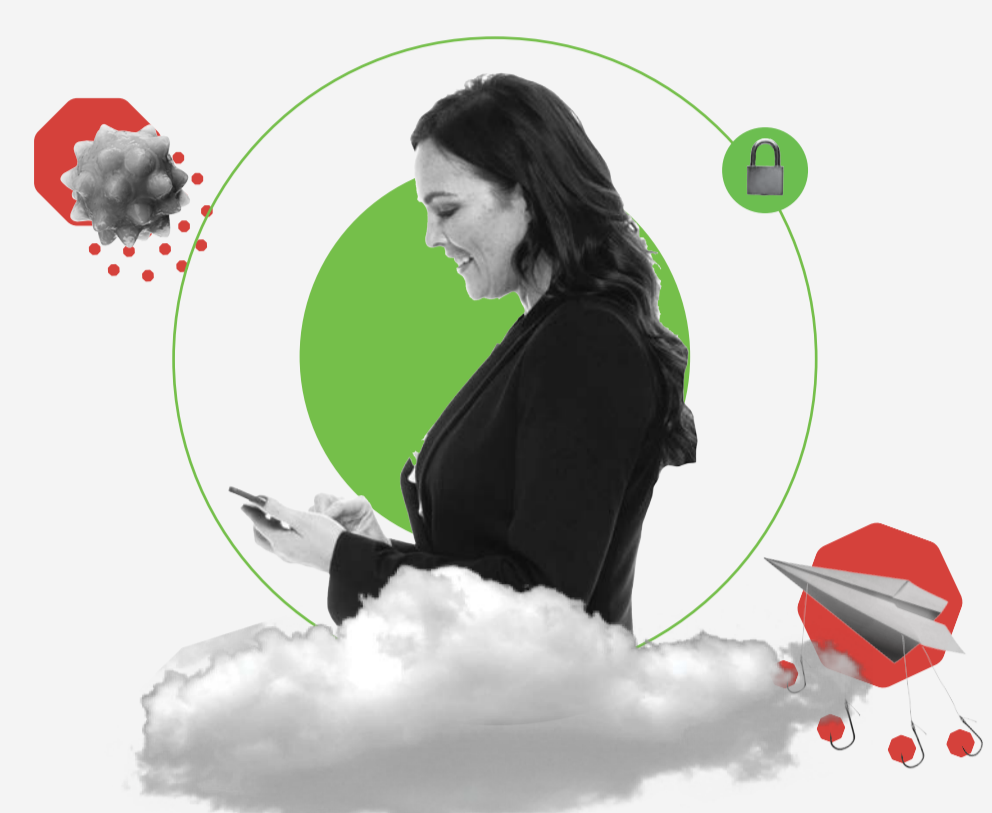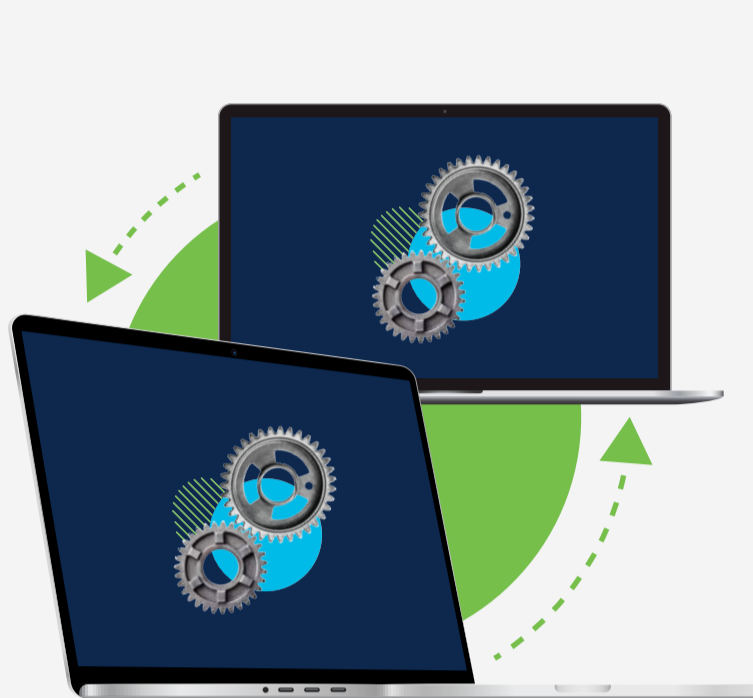
As remote workers look for technical support for their devices, they increasingly turn to remote software, often unapproved by IT.

Unfortunately, this software has proven to be the most exploited vector for ransomware and other attacks.

Beyond increasing awareness of the threats of remote software, Cisco Umbrella application discovery and blocking controls can help organizations discover and block rogue remote desktop protocol queries.

47% to 55%

of ransomware attacks leveraged Remote Desktop Protocol software.

AN ONGOING THREAT:

TeamViewer, a free remote desktop application, averaged 3 billion+ blocked DNS requests daily.

2

Cloud data storage

When it comes to storage, IT usually has an app they prefer teams to use. Unfortunately, employees don't always use that platform, or they use other services in addition to it.

Accessing, sharing, and transferring data between cloud services can leave organizations open to malware, data loss, and exfiltration.

To protect from data loss, organizations must aggressively enforce the use of a single platform with app monitoring and process controls. As for malware, IT should look for security solutions that automatically scan cloud files.

50B to 60B

daily transactions make Microsoft Azure the most popular cloud storage service.

But that means other popular apps get restricted:

iCloud blocked
20X other services

Dropbox blocked
16X other services

3

Social and streaming media apps

Social and streaming media can be useful in the workplace; streaming music can, for instance, boost productivity. Social sites can provide valuable info and new ways to communicate and collaborate.

But, if there's no limit to these services, they can be resource hogs, major distractions, and even a potential path to data exfiltration.

Clearly defining approved apps is a good start. And tools that help discover, control, and block apps — and automate these controls — can put IT back in control.

10B

queries daily to

Youtube   **Facebook**

with **40%** growth over a 5-month period

When it comes to cloud applications, it's not all about risks. Check out the full report from Cisco to discover other insights and trends to keep you on top of the latest.

To learn more, download the full report

Read the report

2021 cloud application security

The current landscape, risks, and solutions

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