

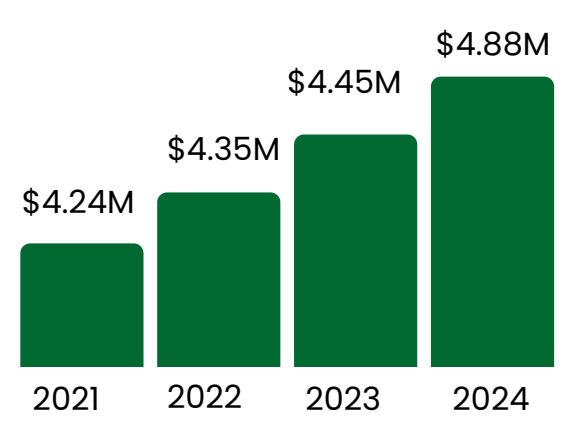


Handling Data The Right Way:

Practical Steps to Avoid Data Breaches

Data breaches pose a significant and growing threat to any organisations, resulting in massive financial losses and reputational damage. Adopting robust data handling practices, supported by technology and strong policies, essential for mitigating this risk, it protects the business and it's customers as well.

The Alarming Cost of Data Breaches



The average global cost of a data breach has surged, reaching **\$4.88** million in 2024. A significant **9.7%** increase from the previous year.

Surfshark reports show that **152,000** Nigerian accounts were compromised in the first half of 2025. Cumulatively since 2004, **23.3 million** Nigerian user accounts have been breached, including **7.3 million** email addresses and **13 million** passwords. In other words, roughly **10%** of Nigerians have been affected by breaches. Criminals use leaked data for various illegal activities, such as identity theft, scams, and blackmail.

Source: www.itedge-news.africa/data-breaches

Top Attack Vectors: Phishing, Ransomware, and Human Error



The trend of these attacks is quite similar across regions, but the case in Africa is often strengthened by foundational security weaknesses.

95% of data breaches in countries like Nigeria are linked to human error (weak passwords, accidental data leaks, social engineering). In late 2024, Nigeria moved from the **35th** to the **13th** position on the Global Threat Index, resulting from a major surge in cyberattacks.

Source: businesspost.ng/technology/human-error

In one regional study, third-party vendor and supply chain compromise accounted for **17%** of incidents and was a primary cause of high-cost breaches.

The NDPA establishes the Nigeria Data Protection Commission (NDPC), replacing the former Bureau, to regulate data processing and enforce compliance.



Data Subject Rights



Breach Notification



Penalties for Major Controllers



Enforcement

Data Protection is no longer a “May have” it has become a ‘Must have’ for any organisation that wants to thrive

The enactment of the Nigeria Data Protection Act (NDPA) in June 2023 provides a robust legal framework that significantly raises the stakes for poor data handling.



3 Practical Steps to Instantly Boost NDPC Compliance

Collect only what you need



Do not over-collect personal data

Employee Training



Ensure that all employees know how to properly handle data

Multi-Factor Authentication



Implement technical measures to ensure the security of personal data

Ready to take the first step towards compliance? Book a 15-minute discovery call with us here: bit.ly/Spurt_NDPAConsult

