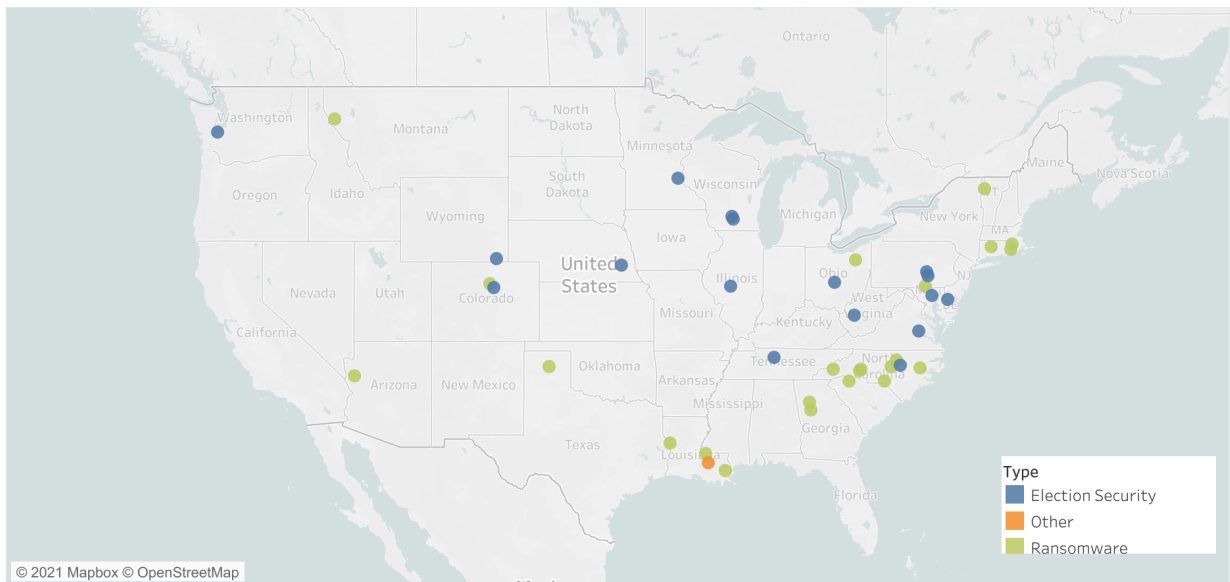


27 states activated (24 states were accounted for in this study) the National Guard at least once to either provide cybersecurity support to the state's election efforts or to respond to a cyber attack.³ North Carolina had the highest number of activations with eight, followed by Louisiana with four.

We found that governors mainly called on the National Guard to address ransomware attacks. Just over half of the reported cases were for such attacks (23) with 17 cases for election security support and one case that served as a hybrid of the two categories. Of those 23 ransomware attacks, eight targeted local government entities, making it the most targeted category of this study. The only other category to have more than five such cases were attacks on public school systems (7).



Activations of the National Guard



Source: Third Way will provide source information upon request.

Note: This map was created based on publicly available information and will be updated periodically.

TOPICS

CYBERSECURITY 98

ENDNOTES

1. National Guard Bureau. "2021 National Guard Bureau Posture Statement," *National Guard Bureau*, <https://www.nationalguard.mil/portals/31/Documents/PostureStatements/2021%20National%20Guard%20Bureau%20Posture%20Statement.pdf>, Accessed 11 Jun. 2021.
2. Ruiz, Monica and David Forscey. "The Hybrid Benefits of the National Guard," *The Lawfare Institute* <https://www.lawfareblog.com/hybrid-benefits-national-guard>. Accessed 11 Jun. 2021.
3. National Guard Bureau. "2021 National Guard Bureau Posture Statement," *National Guard Bureau*, <https://www.nationalguard.mil/portals/31/Documents/PostureStatements/2021%20National%20Guard%20Bureau%20Posture%20Statement.pdf>, Accessed 11 Jun. 2021.