KEY FINDINGS FROM 2020 VERIZON PAYMENT SECURITY REPORT

Caution: Sober news ahead.

The 2020 Verizon Payment Security Report (PSR) makes for **rather sober reading**, particularly if you're a CISO responsible for designing, implementing and executing data security compliance programs. **Here are some key report findings:**

1 ORGANIZATIONS STRUGGLING TO MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE

In 2019, only 27.9% of organizations assessed for the report had maintained PCI DSS compliance **during their interim compliance validation.**
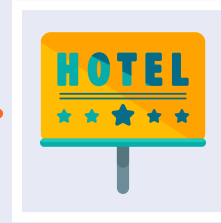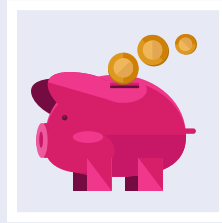
This is the **third consecutive year** compliance maintenance rates have fallen.

2 PROCEED WITH CAUTION WHEN DEALING WITH CERTAIN SECTORS

Retail, financial and hospitality are the worst offenders when it comes to maintaining compliance.

3 AND THE SAME GOES FOR GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

Organizations in the **US and EMEA** are the least likely to have maintained compliance. They should take lead from those in **Asia Pacific**, where **87%** are most likely to maintain it.

Only **8.5%** of orgs examined maintained compliance

Second worst ... **40.5%** of orgs maintained compliance

WHAT IS BEHIND THE FIGURES?

1. CISOs stuck being **more reactive than proactive**

2. COVID's effects still at play, particularly the **rapid shift to remote employees**

3. **Lack of leadership** and strategic support at management level

Achieving compliance is one thing. Maintaining it is another.

On a positive note, **IT budgets are increasing**. That means potentially more cash for security improvements.