Budgets lag risk

We're underinvesting in the fix.

Email is the single largest vector for cyberattacks in the healthcare sector. Despite that, most healthcare orgs allocate less than 6% of their IT budgets to cybersecurity.[2]

This wouldn't be so damning if healthcare were an outlier in the right direction—but it's not. Compare this to:

- Financial services, where cybersecurity budgets often exceed 10–12% of total IT spend[3]
- General industry, where cybersecurity takes up 21% of IT budgets on average[4]

Email security is buried inside broader IT budgets, making it easy to overlook and underfund the tools that matter most.

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Stop worrying if your email is HIPAA compliant.

Meanwhile, HIPAA settlements for email-related breaches are climbing. The average cost of a breach is now $9.8 million in lawsuits, fines, and operational fallout. That dwarfs any line item on your IT budget.

CYBERSECURITY IN IT BUDGET ALLOCATION

Industry	Percent of budget
Healthcare	<6%
Financial services	10-12%
General industry	21%

> "I see the gap in time between new vulnerabilities emerging and budgets catching up to them. That delay? That's where the attackers live."
>
> **Tony Cox, CIO**
> Henderson Behavioral Health

If email is your frontline exposure, your investment should reflect that. Instead, it's often treated as a sunk cost or a compliance tax.

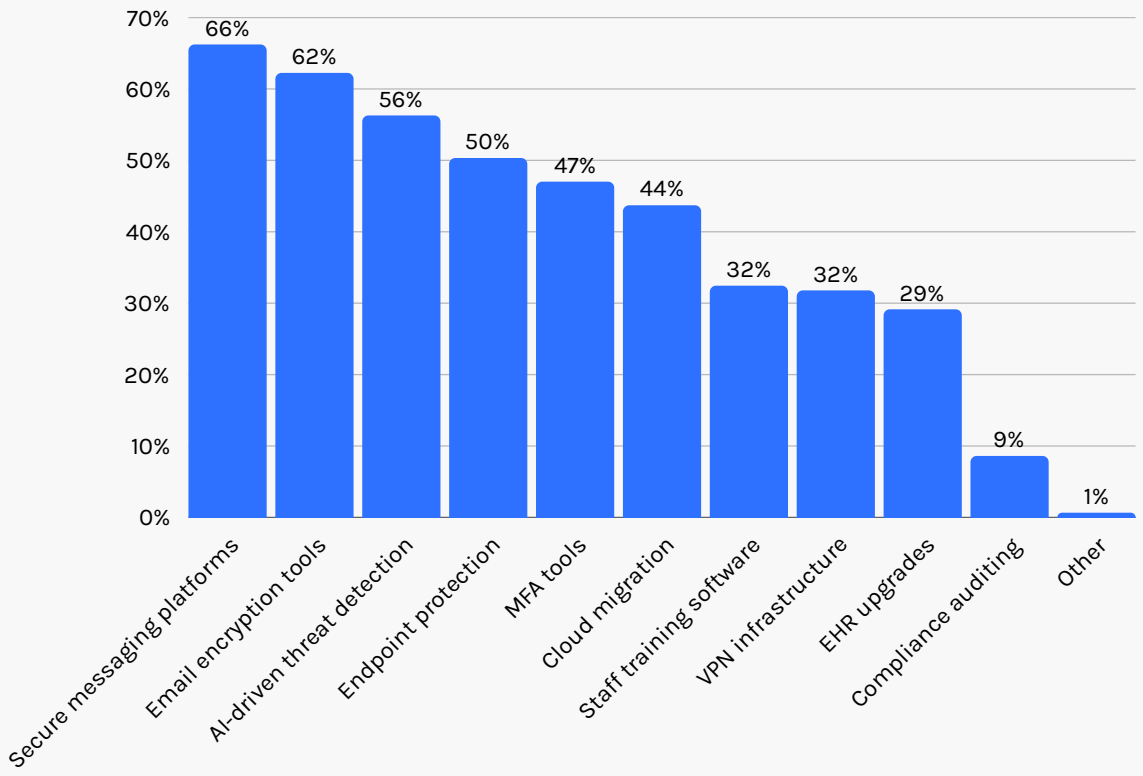
This isn't about spending more. It's about spending right.

KEY TAKEAWAY

Treating email like a second-tier risk opens you up to top-tier costs.

> "Organizations that adopt risk-based budgeting frameworks demonstrate greater cybersecurity resilience, with structured investment strategies leading to a 40% reduction in security incidents."[5]
>
> **Shahan Ahmed**
> Montclair State University

IT INVESTMENTS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS



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