Cyber Attack Threats

About
I attended a program about cyber security at Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH. The program was sponsored by ISTS and Information Technology Services at Dartmouth. We attended lectures by experts, performed labs, and even toured Dartmouth's data center. I learned about many topics involving cyber security, but one of the ones that stood out to me was the different motives for cyber attacks and how the hackers commit their crimes.

Economics of Fraudware
- over $525 million dollars were lost to Internet Fraud in 2012
- $781 million dollars were lost in 2013
- researchers at ICSI Berkeley infiltrated 2% of spam networks for 26 days
  - 350 million messages sent
  - resulted in 28 sales for $100 each
  - averaged to $100 per day

Cyber Attack Motives
- Espionage
- Intellectual Property Theft
- Cyber-Crime (identity theft, financial theft, etc)
- Hacktivism (hacking for a cause)
- Messing around

IRS Fraud
- prevented 81% of all identity theft attempts, around $24.4 billion
- $5.8 billion lost

Espionage
- breaching confidential communication
- data and information
- cyber security surpasses terrorism in the Worldwide Threat Assessment Report 2013

Intellectual Property Theft
- stolen software, research, designs, pirating music and movies

Medical Fraud
- stolen identities cover health services
- prescription drug fraud
- fake bills
- 19% increase from 2012-2013
- 1.8 million victims in 2013
- $12 billion dollars in losses

Hacktivism
- use of computers and networks to promote political ends
- Denial-of-Service
- Defacements
- Information disclosure