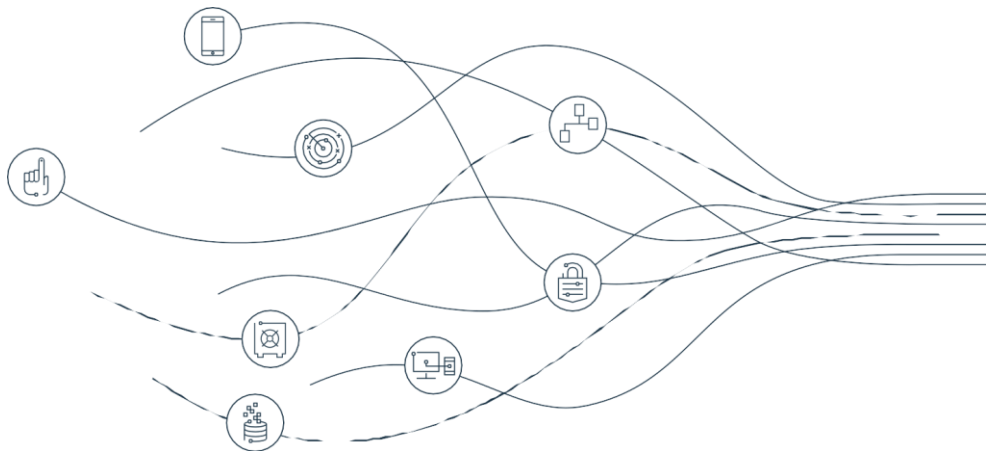


# Monitoring Global Security Incidents

## Lab 1

Version: 2021.02.08



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## Contents

<b>PREFACE</b> .....	<b>4</b>
OVERVIEW .....	4
DEPENDENCY .....	4
OBJECTIVES .....	4
TOOLS.....	4
FLOW.....	4
<b>MILESTONE 1: X-FORCE EXCHANGE</b> .....	<b>5</b>
MILESTONE OVERVIEW .....	5
CREATE AN ACCOUNT .....	5
DEEP DIVE .....	6
TAKING A LOOK AT THREATS TODAY.....	8
MILESTONE SUMMARY .....	11
MORE EXAMPLES .....	12

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## Preface

### Overview

Over the course of this lab, we will dig deeper into cybercrimes, specifically WannaCry. Using interactive charts and free to use programs we will visualize all of the data collected from WannaCry around the world. We will then take a look at how we can keep tabs on security incidents happening around the world right now.

**Estimated Time to Complete:** 45 mins

### Dependency

This lab leverages concepts imparted in the *Cybersecurity Landscape* lecture.

### Objectives

There is one Milestones you must complete:

1. Monitor Global Attacks in Real Time with X-Force Exchange

### Tools



X-Force Exchange

*IBM X-Force Exchange* is a threat intelligence sharing platform enabling research on security threats, aggregation of intelligence, and collaboration with peers.

### Flow



1. The User will access X-Force Exchange through their internet browser.

## Milestone 1: X-Force Exchange

### Milestone Overview

This lab requires the completion of one Milestones:

#### 1. X-Force Exchange

In this Milestone, we will dive into the Cyber Landscape by using X-Force Exchange to witness attacks in real time and follow known vulnerabilities.

### Create an Account

In order a better visual and more data on what happened during these attacks we are going to use IBM's X-Force Exchange. This is a completely free service, but you will need to create an account.

1. Navigate to <https://exchange.xforce.ibmcloud.com/>
2. Click "Create IBMid" at the top right

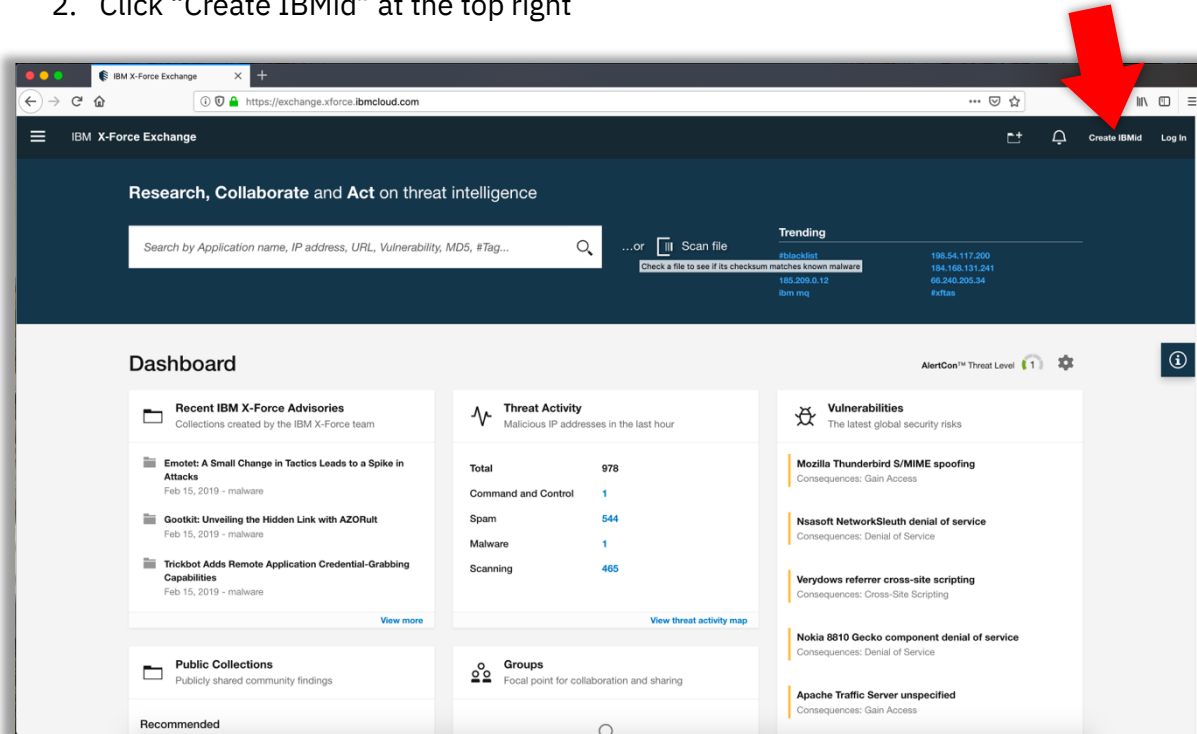


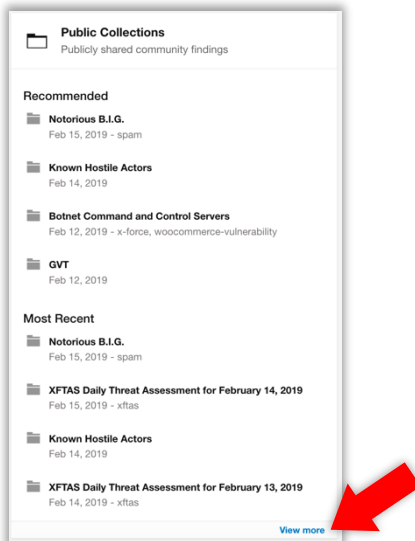
Figure 2-1 X-Force Exchange - Dashboard

3. Fill in the required information and continue.
4. Upon creation of your new account return to the homepage and login.

## Deep Dive

Let's continue our investigation of WannaCry.

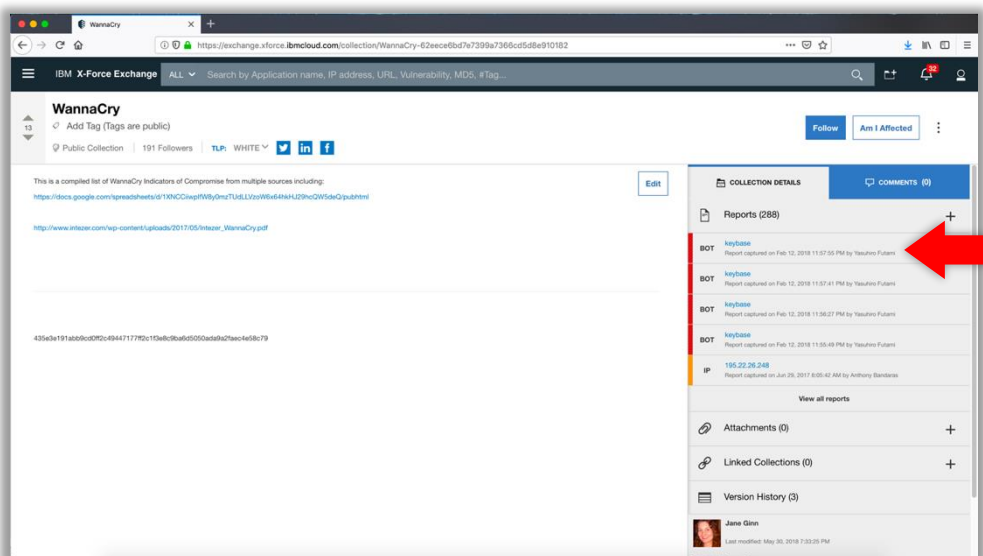
1. Click "View More" at the bottom of *Public Collections*.



**Figure 2-2** Public Collections

2. In the search bar type in "WannaCry".
3. Select the WannaCry collections folder.

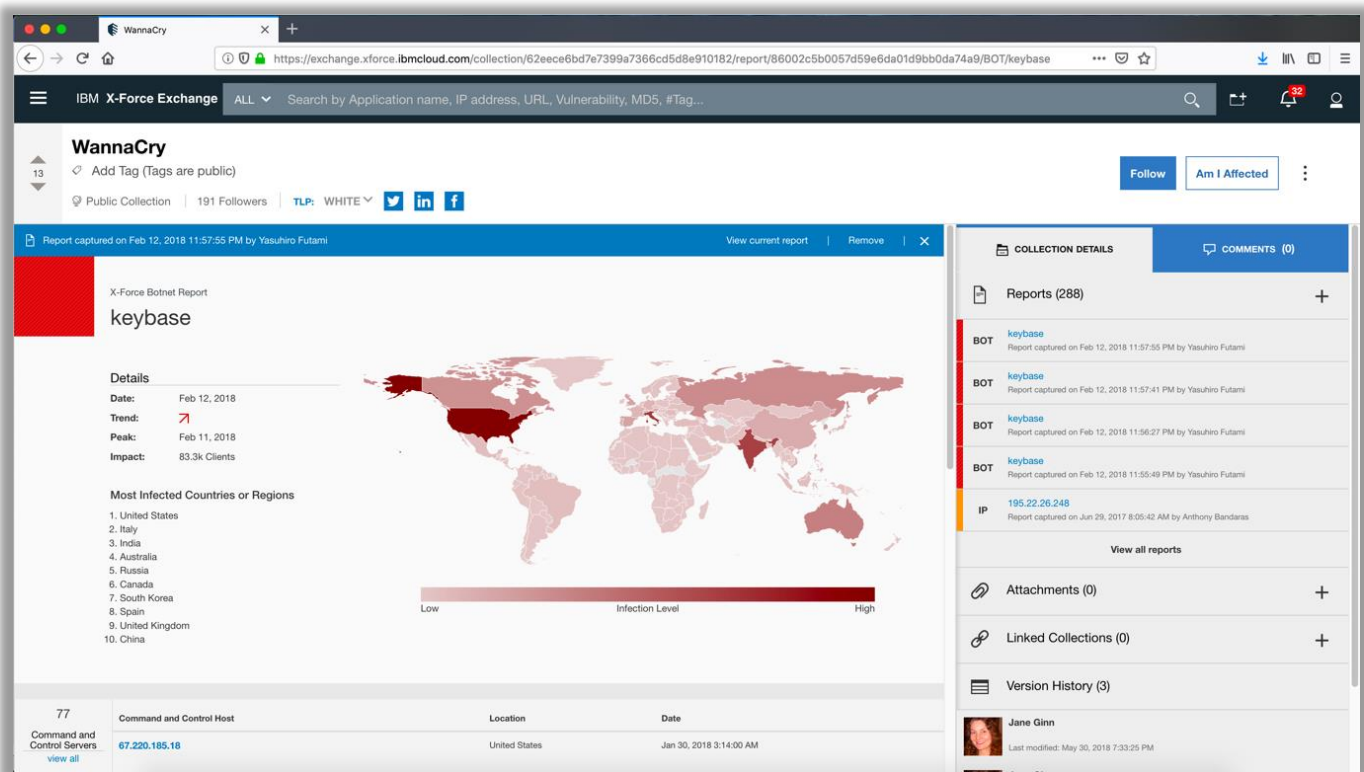
The Collections folder contains over 280 reports on the activities of the WannaCry ransomware. What we are interested in for this lab is the most recent Botnet report. This will give an excellent visual on where the ransomware was last active.



**Figure 2-3** WannaCry Folder

#### 4. Click the most recent Botnet report on the right side.

The Botnet report (*Figure 2-4*) contains when the attack was last captured, if the attack has more or less botnet clients than previous attacks, when the attack was at its strongest, how many people were affected, as well as a list of the countries affected and a map which displays the severity in each country.



**Figure 2-4** WannaCry Botnet Report

## Taking a Look at Threats Today

X-Force Exchange offers a plethora of information on past cyberattacks, but what we need to know, as security experts, is “What is plaguing the world right now?” X-Force Exchange can help us out with this as well.

1. Navigate back to the X-Force homepage.
2. Click on “View threat activity map” under *Threat Activity*.

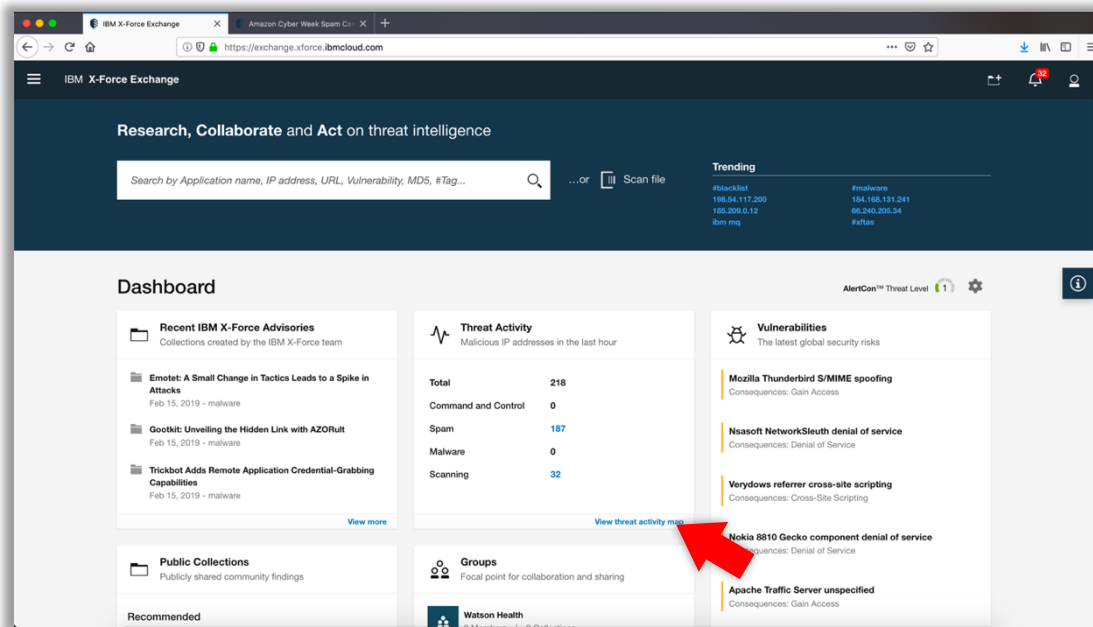
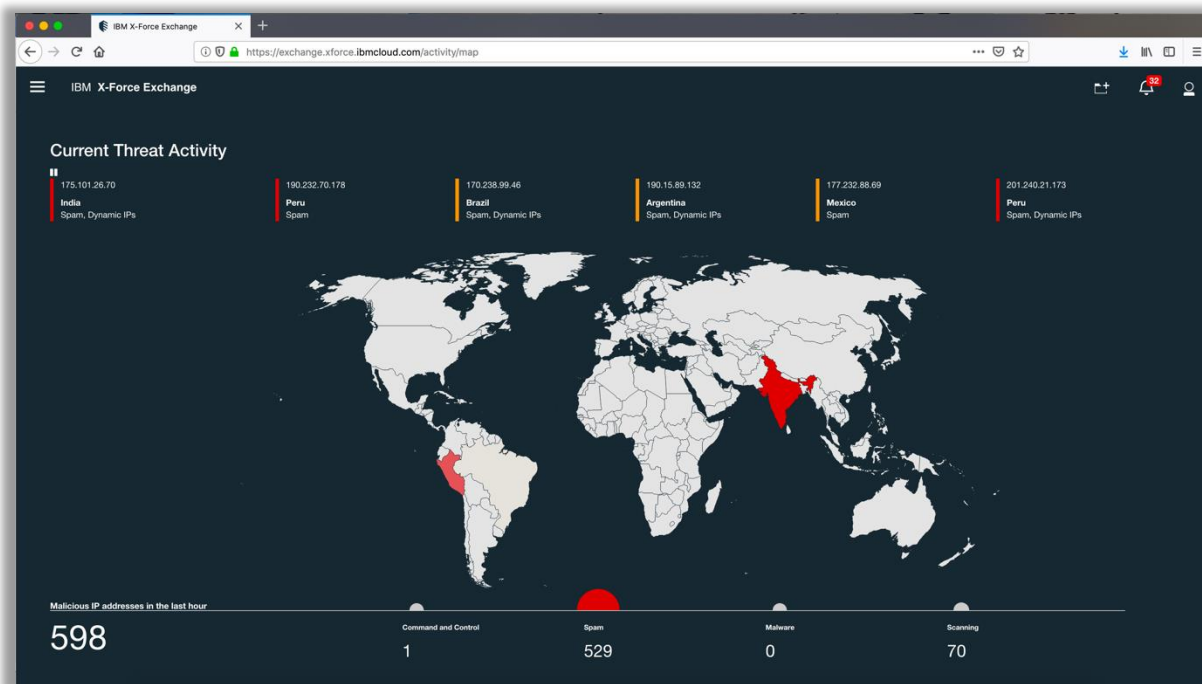


Figure 2-5 X-Force Exchange - Dashboard

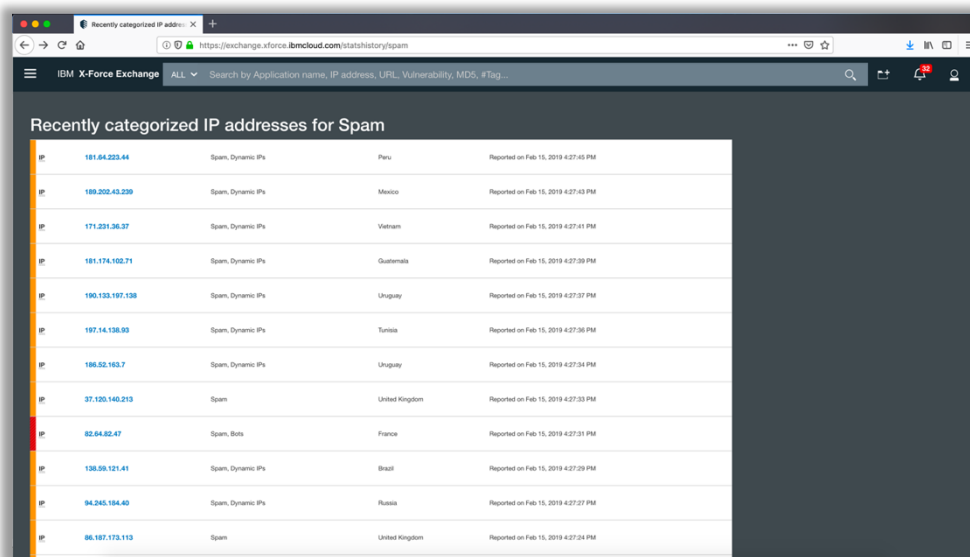


X-Force Exchange scans the globe and sends reports of current threat activity in real time (*Figure 2-6*). Scrolling over a report will halt more reports coming in and highlight the country affected by that attack.



**Figure 2-6** Current Threat Activity

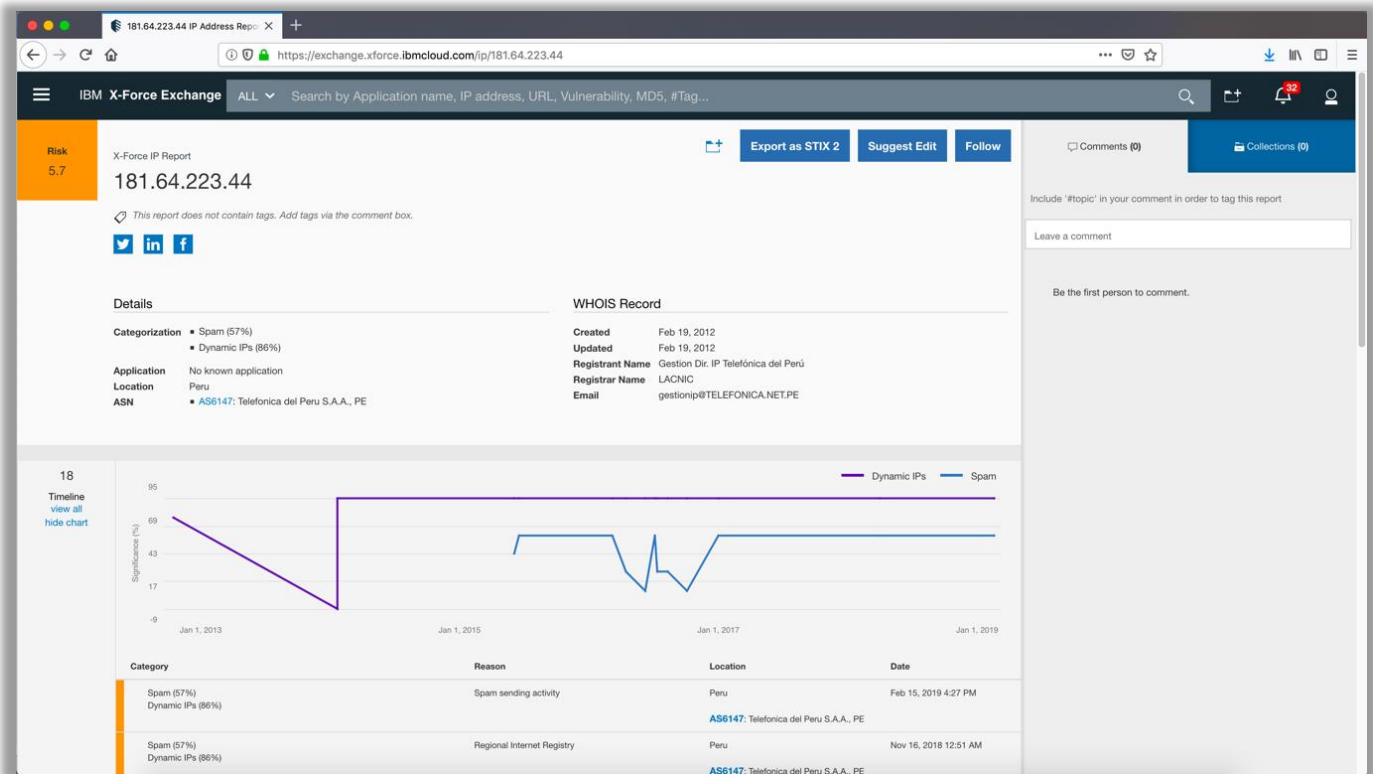
3. Click on “Spam” at the bottom of the page.
4. A list of categorized IP addresses will appear that have all been connected to recent spam attacks.



**Figure 2-7** IP addresses for Spam

5. Click on one of the captured IP Addresses.

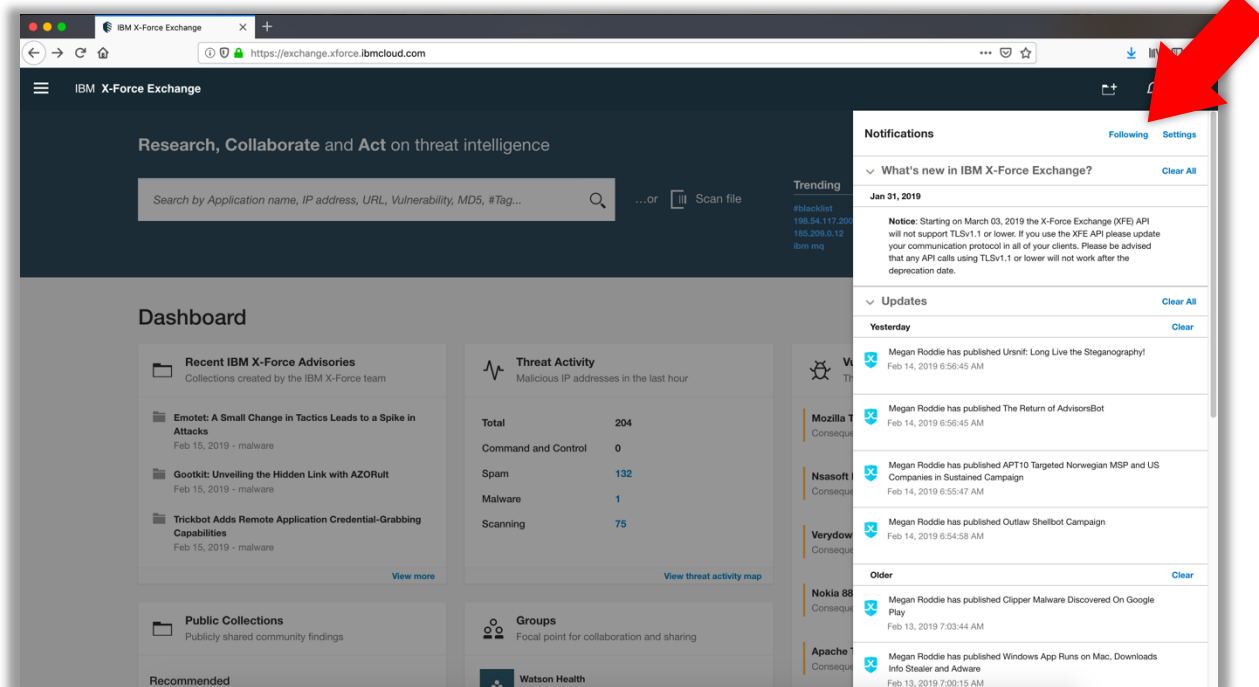
This Threat Report (*Figure 2-8*) contains a risk score, from 1-10, that gives a general impression of how credible the threat from this IP is. It also provides us with further data that can be used by a team of security analysts to help pinpoint where the attack took place, who was attacked, and not only the date, but the exact timeframe of when the attack was active.



**Figure 2-8** Captured IP Address Threat Report

6. Follow the incident by clicking the “Follow” button at the top right of the report. This will send you a notification if there are any new instances or changes to the report, so you do not need to keep checking in manually.

7. Return to the homepage, open up the notification tab on the top right, and click on the “following” link to see a list of what you are currently following.



**Figure 2-9** X-Force Exchange - Notifications

## Milestone Summary

X-Force Exchange can be crucial for Cybersecurity and cyber awareness. With X-Force Exchange, we can monitor the online environment, in real-time, and actively follow known security issues. Security concerns can be investigated to not only tell us where the problem originated, but who has been affected and what type of systems are under threat.

## More Examples

If you would like to explore more with X-Force Exchange, the *Amazon Cyber Week Spam Campaign* collection is a great example and contains a lot of information on how hackers scammed millions out of consumers by impersonating Amazon support and utilizing spam.

<https://exchange.xforce.ibmcloud.com/collection/Amazon-Cyber-Week-Spam-Campaigns-c2ad3c53d2e3a5432024a6a137ab233c>

The screenshot shows the IBM X-Force Exchange interface for the 'Amazon Cyber Week Spam Campaigns' collection. The main content area features a section titled 'Amazon Gift Card Campaign' with a description of the scam and a screenshot of an email. The email content includes the Amazon logo, 'Black Friday Deals Week', and a gift card code: 'Grab this Card - Code: X7896G66-70F1X'. The right sidebar displays 'COLLECTION DETAILS' with a list of reports, including URLs and a malware entry (MAL).

**Figure 2-10** Amazon Cyber Week Spam Campaign



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