



DESPITE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TOLD, VPNs CAN'T REALLY PROTECT VOTE CENTERS

When we've pointed out that vote centers require an internet connection to prevent multiple voting at different vote centers by nefarious actors, pro-machine election officials have been quick to add "But that connection is safely protected by a VPN (virtual private network)!" Not true!

VPNs are becoming more and more of a technological risk today as the following tech research proves. If a county has a vote center and VPN, its registration, personal and voting data is anything BUT safe. Hackers can sneak into a system via poor security, steal data, plus assess how many people have voted and, therefore, how many extra ballots for their favorite candidate can be inserted. So, if you like to give hackers easy access to your elections, then simply carry on with these vulnerable router/VPNs.

The company whose router/VPN "protects" Williamson County's vote center internet connections was hacked in 2022 and extensive data was held for ransom. Cisco couldn't even keep itself safe!

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/daveywinder/2022/08/13/cisco-hacked-ransomware-gang-claims-it-has-28gb-of-data/?sh=649b68524043>

FBI Warns of Russian Cyber Espionage Operation Targeting Cisco Devices.

<https://cyberinsider.com/fbi-warns-of-russian-cyber-espionage-operation-targeting-cisco-devices/>

The Cisco Meraki router/VPN – which Williamson County uses -- is not on this list of best VPNs.

https://us.cybernews.com/lp/best-vpn-us/?campaignId=21731799060&adgroupId=171693734590&adId=766688662465&targetId=kwd-339562367947&device=c&unique=EAlaIQobChMIncCph9OrkAMVIZxaBR3eTTFNEAAYASAAEgKlkPD_BwE&gad_source=5&gad_campaignid=21731799060&gclid=EAlaIQobChMIncCph9OrkAMVIZxaBR3eTTFNEAAYASAAEgKlkPD_BwE

Best VPN routers 2025 – Cisco Meraki is not on this ZDNET list either.

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/best-vpn-router/>

The increasingly insecure state of VPNs.

<https://www.excaltech.com/the-increasingly-insecure-state-of-vpns/>

Gartner predicts that by 2023, 60% of enterprises will have phased out most of their VPNs.

<https://www.appgate.com/blog/your-vpn-is-insecure>

Break up with your insecure VPN.

<https://www.scmagazine.com/news/content/break-up-with-your-insecure-vpn>

VPN risks continue to grow: 65% of companies are considering adopting VPN alternatives.

<https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2022/09/29/adopting-vpn-alternatives/>

Data science insight: How VPN vulnerabilities affect ransomware risk.

<https://www.corvusinsurance.com/blog/data-science-insight-how-vpn-vulnerabilities-affect-ransomware-risk>

VPNs aren't as safe as you think they are.

<https://www.xda-developers.com/vpn-safety-misunderstandings/>

Dell Laptops Vulnerable to 'ReVault' Attacks That Survive OS Reinstall

(Williamson County's registration computers are Dell laptops.)

<https://cyberinsider.com/dell-laptops-vulnerable-to-revault-attacks-that-survive-os-reinstall/>

Are US-based VPNs trustworthy? Here's why I don't recommend them.

<https://www.cnet.com/tech/services-and-software/are-us-based-vpns-trustworthy-heres-why-i-dont-recommend-them/>

Chinese Hackers Breach Cisco Devices in Global Telecom Attacks.

<https://cyberinsider.com/chinese-hackers-breach-cisco-devices-in-global-telecom-attacks/>

Best VPN Service for 2025: Our Top Picks in a Tight Race – Cisco router/VPN not on this 2025 list as well.

<https://www.cnet.com/tech/services-and-software/best-vpn/>

###