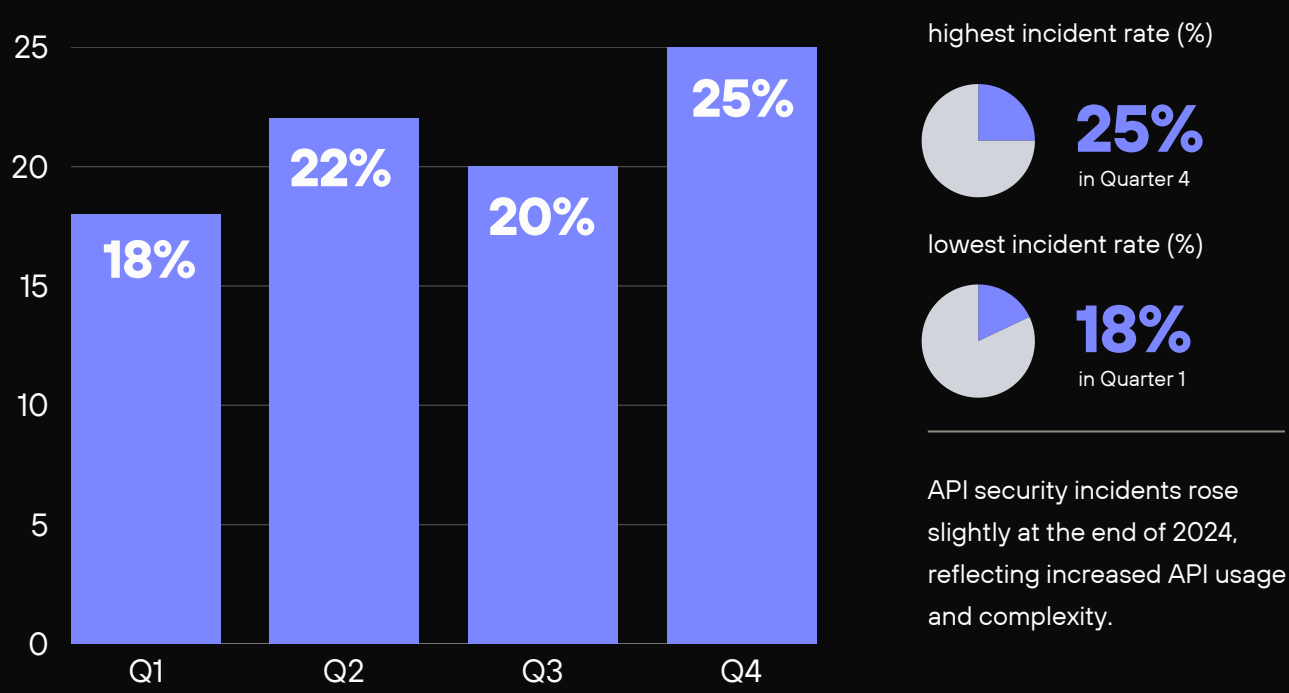# API Security for
FOUNDERS
What you need to know in 2025
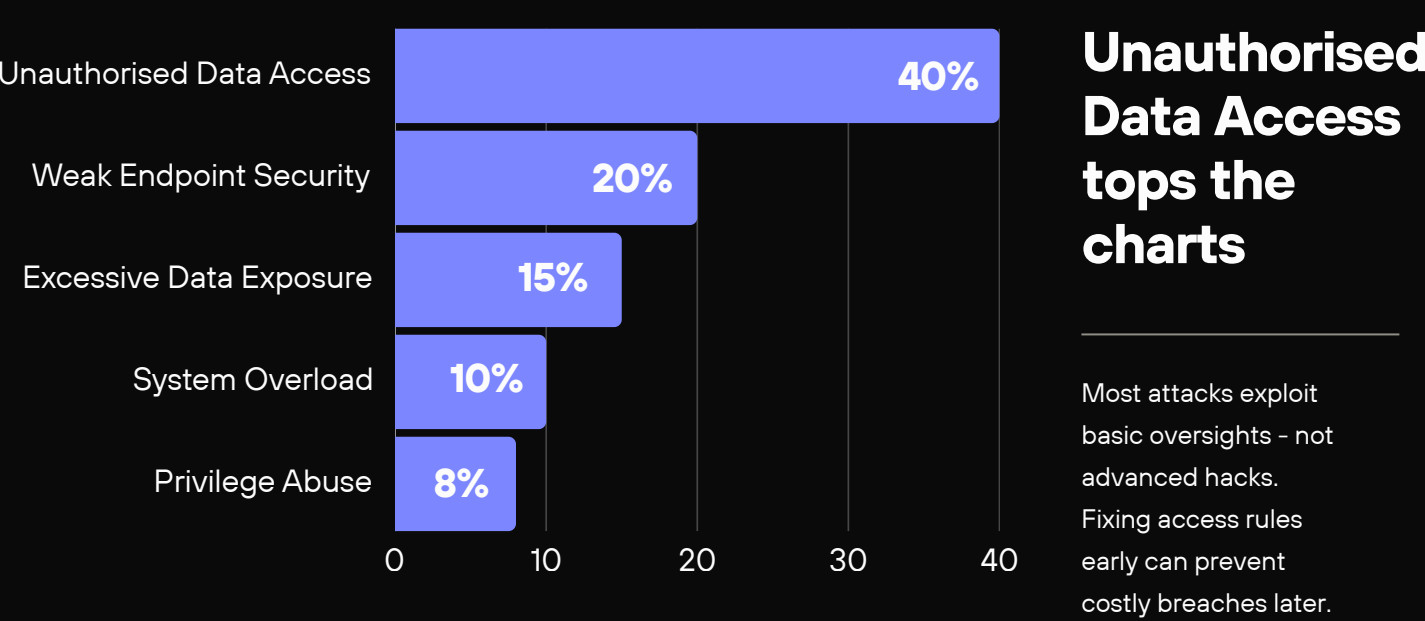
API Security incidents by quarter (2024)
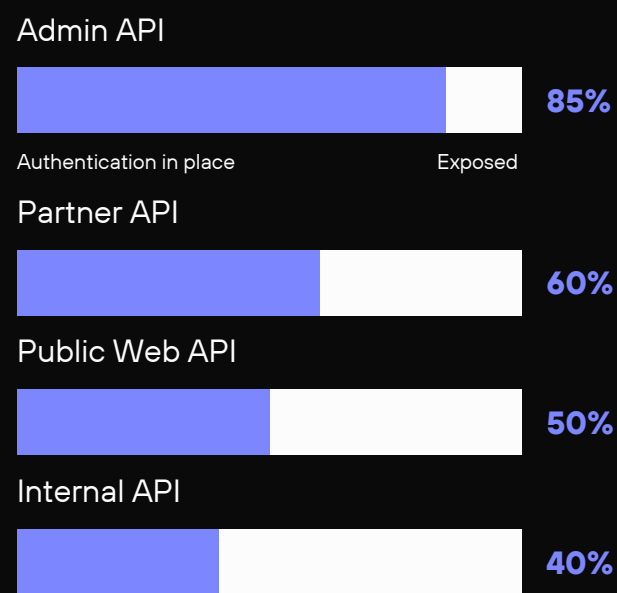

Bar chart values:
- Q1: 18%
- Q2: 22%
- Q3: 20%
- Q4: 25%

highest incident rate (%)

25% in Quarter 4

lowest incident rate (%)

18% in Quarter 1

API security incidents rose slightly at the end of 2024, reflecting increased API usage and complexity.

API Security testing adoption by startup stage (%)

10%	20%	35%	50%	70%
Pre-Seed	Seed	Series A	Series B	Series C+
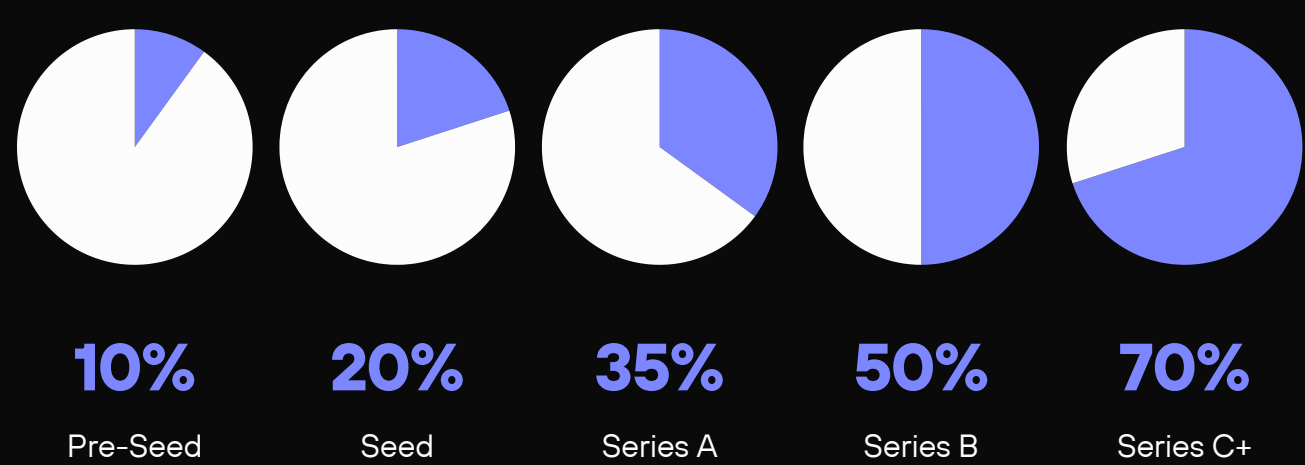
Top API vulnerabilities

- Unauthorised Data Access: 40%
- Weak Endpoint Security: 20%
- Excessive Data Exposure: 15%
- System Overload: 10%
- Privilege Abuse: 8%

Unauthorised Data Access tops the charts

Most attacks exploit basic oversights – not advanced hacks. Fixing access rules early can prevent costly breaches later.

Auth coverage by API type

Admin API

85%

Authentication in place   Exposed

Partner API

60%

Public Web API

50%

Internal API

40%

Average cost of a breach (EUR €M)

The average cost of a breach exceeded €4 million for the first time in 2024.

X-axis: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Need help securing your API? Let's talk.