

EDWARD SNOWDEN GOT ONE FIFTH OF AMERICANS TO ADOPT BETTER PASSWORDS

Thanks to Edward Snowden, almost 22% of Americans have adopted more complex passwords, one of the most basic things they could do to keep themselves safer online.

That's according to a Pew Research study released this week tracking how Americans have responded to the disclosures about government spying. It found that 87% of Americans are aware of the surveillance programs. And of those 87%, 25% are using more complex passwords. That likely means they've ditched passwords like "password" and replaced them with things that are harder for the average criminal hacker to guess.

That's actually a very significant change, all brought about by one guy's effort to illuminate what our government is doing. It won't protect most people against the NSA, but will make people safer from identity theft.

Meanwhile, Congress is diddling away passing a bill, CISA, that probably would not have prevented any known hack. I'd say Snowden is doing a better job at protecting the country.