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RUSTSEC-2020-0009

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`read_scalar` and `read_scalar_at` allow transmuting values without `unsafe` blocks

Reported April 11, 2020

Issued October 2, 2020 (last modified: October 19, 2021)

Package [flatbuffers](#) ([crates.io](#))

Type Vulnerability

Aliases [CVE-2020-35864](#)

Details <https://github.com/google/flatbuffers/issues/5825>

CVSS Score 7.5 HIGH

CVSS Details

Attack vector	Network
Attack complexity	Low
Privileges required	None
User interaction	None
Scope	Unchanged
Confidentiality	None
Integrity	None
Availability	High

CVSS Vector [CVSS:3.1/AV:N/AC:L/PR:N/UI:N/S:U/C:N/I:N/A:H](#)

Patched `>=2.0.0`

Unaffected `<0.4.0`

Affected Functions Version

`flatbuffers::read_scalar` `>=0.4.0`

`flatbuffers::read_scalar_at` `>=0.4.0`

Description

The `read_scalar` and `read_scalar_at` functions are unsound because they allow transmuting values without `unsafe` blocks.

The following example shows how to create a dangling reference:

```
fn main() {
    #[derive(Copy, Clone, PartialEq, Debug)]
    struct S(&'static str);
    impl flatbuffers::EndianScalar for S {
        fn to_little_endian(self) -> Self { self }
        fn from_little_endian(self) -> Self { self }
    }
    println!("{}", flatbuffers::read_scalar:::<S>(&[1; std::mem::size_of:::<S>()]));
}
```