

On July 29th, 2017, the database of a credit bureau called Equifax was breached.

Equifax is one of the largest credit unions in the country, with over 800 million customers. Of this 800 million, 143 million customers had sensitive information such as Social Security numbers, birth dates, home addresses, and drivers' license numbers. An additional 200 million had their credit card information exposed. Equifax has stated that they believe that the hacking effort began in mid-May, only 2 months before the breach occurred. One of the biggest reasons for the breach was that there was a vulnerability in the application that allowed the attackers access was unpatched. Poor system segmentation also made it easy for hackers to move around the database. It also took Equifax a long time to report the breach. The company has issued a settlement to those who were affected. There isn't much information about what they did in response from a technical standpoint, other than the vague notion that they improved security and the upper-ranks of the company experienced massive turnover.