 Equifax Incorporate is a credit reporting agency that distributes information on 800 million individual consumers along with 88 million businesses worldwide. Equifax sells credit monitoring and fraud-prevention services directly to consumers. The incorporate owns massive amounts of data on consumers and possess the ability to turn over the said data to anyone who wants to know credit of certain individuals. Originally named Retail Credit Company before its last controversy, Equifax changed its name for a better image and expanded its credit report onto companies in the United States after 1975.

Forward to September 7th, 2017, Equifax announced a cybercrime identity theft event. Equifax breach had a major failure on the internal control of security system. The underlying causes of this breach involved an “Apache Struts” vulnerability with an IT systems administrator using an insecure password.

The publicized and known specific cause of the Equifax breach was a failure to install a well-publicized security patch to

System Affected

This attack impacted approximately 145.5 million U.S. consumers along with several million Canadian and British residents.

If you have a credit report, there’s a good chance that you’re one of the 143 million American consumers whose sensitive personal information was exposed in a data breach at Equifax, one of the nation’s three major credit reporting agencies.

The breach lasted from mid-May through July. The hackers accessed people’s names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, addresses and, in some instances, driver’s license numbers. They also stole credit card numbers for about 209,000 people and dispute documents with personal identifying information for about 182,000 people. And they grabbed personal information of people in the UK and Canada too.

Mitigations

Resources

<https://www.fastcompany.com/40464730/equifax-has-a-super-shady-history-that-might-explain-its-shady-present>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equifax>

<https://www.cpajournal.com/2017/12/15/equifax-data-breach/>

<https://www.equifax.com/business/all-products/>

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2017/09/equifax-data-breach-what-do>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2017/09/07/credit-reporting-firm-equifax-says-cybersecurity-incident-could-potentially-affect-143-million-us-consumers.html>