

GITHUB_TOKEN

Over 100,000 GitHub repos have leaked API or cryptographic keys

Thousands of new API or cryptographic keys leak via GitHub projects every day.



By [Catalin Cimpanu](#) for [Zero Day](#) | March 21, 2019 -- 23:21 GMT (16:21 PDT) | Topic: [Security](#)

A scan of billions of files from 13 percent of all GitHub public repositories over a period of six months has revealed that over 100,000 repos have leaked API tokens and cryptographic keys, with thousands of new repositories leaking new secrets on a daily basis.

The scan was the object of academic research carried out by a team from the North Carolina State University (NCSU), and the study's results have been shared with GitHub.

- API Tokens (**GITHUB_TOKEN**)

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- Cryptographic keys (used for encrypting/decrypting plaintext)