**Equifax Hack**

**What is Equifax?**

* Equifax is a consumer credit reporting agency
* Equifax collects and aggregates information on over 800 million individual consumers and more than 88 million businesses worldwide.

**What happened?**

* A Series of data breaches had occurred from May 13th - July 30th
  + Attackers were able exploit a vulnerability on Equifax’s website
* It took roughly 6 weeks for Equifax to disclose it to the public
* This hack stole Approximately **143 million U.S. Equifax consumers' personal data** (including their full names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, and addresses)

**What does this mean?**

* It is likely victims will be targeted for identity theft due to their Social security and driver’s license numbers being stolen.
  + Consumers have been informed to perform a credit freeze
    - (blocking hackers from opening new lines of credit under their names)
  + These freezes are easily adverted by using Experian
    - Allows people to unfreeze account after answering some security questions
* Equifax is working with both an independent cybersecurity firm and the law enforcement to investigate

**Equifax vulnerabilities in Argentina**

* An employee portal designed to handle credit card disputes in Argentina had a major vulnerability
  + It was protected by the **Username admin** and **Password admin** 
    - This was easily exploited
  + This allowed for easy access to view, modify, and even delete any employee records
* This was the result of **incompetent security** more than a professional hack