

How to Protect Yourself from the Equifax Breach

On September 7, 2017, Equifax disclosed that a data breach it discovered on July 29 may have impacted as many as 143 million consumers in the United States. The company indicated the data was accessed between mid-May and July through a vulnerability in a web application. Attackers extracted information such as names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, addresses, some driver's license numbers, and about 209,000 U.S. consumers credit card numbers. Additionally, certain dispute documents that contained personal identifying data for 182,000 U.S. consumers were also compromised in the breach.

What can you do?

If you think your information was compromised here are a few things you can do to protect yourself:

- [A dedicated website](#) has been created by Equifax for consumers to determine if their information was been potentially compromised. Consumers can also sign up for a year of free credit file monitoring and identify theft protection.
- Consumers have until November 21, 2017 to take advantage of the complimentary year of credit file monitoring and identity theft protection.
- If you have any additional questions, Equifax has a dedicated call center at 866-447-7559 and is open every day (including weekends) from 7am – 1am Eastern time.
- Monitor your personal information and finances for any fraudulent activities.
- You can also visit the [Federal Trade Commission's website](#) to obtain information about steps you can take to better protect against identify theft as well as information about fraud alerts and security freezes.
- For more information regarding the breach from Equifax, click [here](#).

