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Equifax Reveals Full Horror of that Monstrous Cyber-heist of its Servers

Equifax has published yet more details on the personal records and sensitive information stolen by miscreants after they hacked its databases in 2017. Late last week, the company gave the numbers in letters to the various US congressional committees investigating the network infiltration, and on Monday, it submitted a letter to the SEC, corporate America's financial watchdog. As well as the – take a breath – 146.6 million names, 146.6 million dates of birth, 145.5 million social security numbers, 99 million address information and 209,000 payment cards (number and expiry date) exposed, the company said there were also 38,000 American drivers' licenses and 3,200 passport details lifted, too. The further details emerged after Mandiant's investigators helped “standardize certain data elements for further analysis to determine the consumers whose personally identifiable information was stolen.” The cyber-break-in occurred because Equifax ran an unpatched and therefore insecure version of Apache Struts, something it blamed on a single employee. At February's RSA conference in San Francisco, Derek Weeks of Sonatype claimed “thousands” of companies continued to download vulnerable versions of Struts.