Q1 2023 Data Breach Analysis: The Lack of Actionable Information in Data Breach Notices Continues to Grow

Summary

+ The number of publicly reported U.S. data compromises dropped in Q1 2023 (445) compared to Q4 2022 (512). However, the number of data breaches with no actionable information about the root cause of the compromise grew to 187 in Q1 2023 compared to 155 in Q1 2022 and five (5) in Q1 2021.

+ Among the Top Ten Compromises reported in Q1 2023, 60 percent did not include information about the root cause of the event compared to 40 percent in Q4 2022. For the third consecutive quarter, the Healthcare industry reported the most data compromises among the Top Ten in Q1 2023.

+ More than 89M individuals (estimated) were victims of data compromises in Q1 2023. Eight of the Top Ten compromises impacted more than 1M people. Compromises in the Manufacturing & Utilities, Technology, Healthcare, and Transportation industries impacted the most people, with an estimated 84+M victims.

+ Supply chain attacks continued to be a significant attack vector for threat actors seeking personal information in Q1. Of the 378 breaches attributed to cyberattacks, 53 were supply chain attacks compared to 54 ransomware attacks. Phishing continued to be the most common attack vector that led to a data breach (106) in Q1.

Q1 Data Compromise Highlights
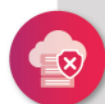
Number of Q1 Compromises

445 TOTAL COMPROMISES

89,140,686 TOTAL VICTIMS

436 DATA BREACHES
89,061,759 VICTIMS

7 DATA EXPOSURES
78,927 VICTIMS

2 UNKNOWN COMPROMISES
UNKNOWN NUMBER OF VICTIMS

Top Compromises by Industry in Q1

| HEALTHCARE | 81 Compromises |
FINANCIAL SERVICES	70 Compromises
OTHER	59 Compromises
MANUFACTURING & UTILITIES	54 Compromises
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	42 Compromises

Q1 Attack Vectors

CYBERATTACKS
378 Breaches
85,037,991 Victims

SYSTEM AND HUMAN ERRORS
58 Breaches/Exposures
4,033,355 Victims

PHYSICAL ATTACKS
7 Breaches/Exposures
69,340 Victims

SUPPLY CHAIN ATTACKS
48 Breaches/Exposures
73 Entities Affected
11,188,035 Victims

Q1 Public Data Breach Notices

187 NOTICES WITHOUT ATTACK VECTOR

258 NOTICES WITH ATTACK VECTOR
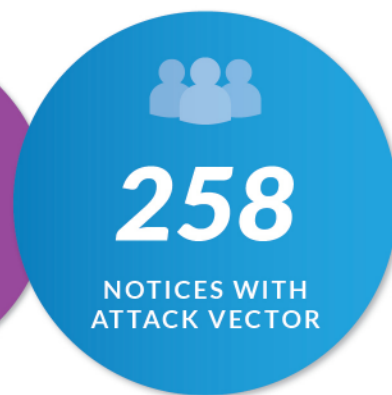
Top 5 Compromises by Victim Count in Q1

T-MOBILE
37,000,000 VICTIMS

PEOPLECONNECT, INC.
20,221,007 VICTIMS

WEEE! INC.
11,000,000 VICTIMS

INDEPENDENT LIVING SYSTEMS, LLC
4,226,508 VICTIMS

REGAL MEDICAL GROUP, INC.
3,300,638 VICTIMS

Q1 2023 Data Compromise Charts

Top 10 Compromises of Q1 2023

	Entity	Victims Impacted
1	T-Mobile	37,000,000
2	PeopleConnect, Inc. – Instant Checkmate & Truthfinder	20,221,007
3	Weee! Inc.	11,000,000
4	Independent Living Systems, LLC	4,226,508
5	Regal Medical Group, Inc. Lakeside Medical Organization, ADOC Medical Group, and Greater Covina Medical	3,300,638
6	Cerebral, Inc. – pixel	3,179,835
7	Fortra, LLC	1,202,834
8	Zoll Medical Corporation	1,004,443
9	Zacks Investment Research, Inc.	820,000
10	CentraState Healthcare System	617,901

Compromise Year-over-Year Totals

Year	Compromises	Victims
Q1 2023	445	89,140,686
2022	1,802	422,627,277
2021	1,862	298,213,506
2020	1,108	310,218,744
2019	1,279	883,558,186
2018	1,175	2,227849,622
2017	1,506	1,825,413,935

Unless otherwise noted, all data reported here was entered into the ITRC *notified* database between January 7, 2023, through March 31, 2023.

Quarter-to-Quarter

Year	Compromises	Victims
Q1 2023	445	89,140,686
Q4 2022	512	252,778,204
Q3 2022	473	108,407,026
Q2 2022	413	34,673,836
Q1 2022	404	26,768,211
Q4 2021	566	35,388,356
Q3 2021	445	166,249,443
Q2 2021	497	55,321,228
Q1 2021	354	41,254,479

Compromises by Sector Q1 2023 vs. Q1 2022 & 2021

	Year					
	Q1 2023		Q1 2022		Q1 2021	
	Compromises	Victims	Compromises	Victims	Compromises	Victims
Education	31	357,001	21	106,099	24	112,684
Financial Services	70	1,707,880	68	5,732,597	49	7,848,115
Government	23	758,901	13	790,763	11	647,917
Healthcare	81	13,879,551	73	4,377,462	71	3,332,703
Hospitality	6	176,404	6	57,392	6	53,152
Manufacturing & Utilities	54	38,161,023	52	249,706	38	384,934
Non-Profit/NGO	18	75,222	20	629,822	15	509,219
Professional Services	42	69,227	45	3,022,491	30	3,566,213
Retail	16	170,080	18	272,950	20	506,821
Technology	33	22,362,858	16	10,832,588	23	17,377,396
Transportation	12	11,095,128	8	20,930	14	139,250
Other	59	327,411	64	675,411	53	6,695,075
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	445	89,140,686	404	26,768,211	354	41,254,479

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Attack Vector Q1 2023 vs. Q1 2022 & 2021

	Q1 2023	Q1 2022	Q1 2021
Cyberattacks	378	366	311
Phishing/Smishing/BEC	106	112	117
Ransomware	54	71	62
Malware	17	24	34
Non-Secured Cloud Environment	4	3	4
Credential Stuffing	8	2	2
Unpatched Software Flaw	-	-	-
Zero Data Attack	2	-	1
Other	5	7	86
NA – Not Specified	182	147	5
System & Human Error	58	33	31
Failure to Configure Cloud Security	7	4	8
Correspondence (Email/Letter)	22	12	12
Misconfigured Firewall	5	5	-
Lost Device or Document	-	1	2
Other	21	5	9
NA – Not Specified	3	6	-
Physical Attacks	7	3	12
Document Theft	-	1	1
Device Theft	7	1	3
Improper Disposal	-	1	-
Skimming Device	-	-	-
Other	-	-	8
NA – Not Specified	-	-	-
Data Leak	-	-	-
Unknown	2	2	-

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