

# Journal Entry 3

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Prompt: Visit [PrivacyRights.org](https://www.privacyrights.org) to see the types of publicly available information about data breaches. How might researchers use this information to study breaches? What branch or branches of Social Science do you think would benefit the most from a site hosting this information?

PrivacyRights.org is basically an archive of reported data breaches across the United States. The site has an extensive catalog of over 100,000 data breaches dating as far back as 2005 and lets users search for specific incidents or browse the catalog through filters including the type of organization affected, breach type, type of data involved, and the state where it occurred. I think this kind of information could be very useful to researchers studying data breaches in a few different ways. Researchers could study things like the types of businesses and organizations most targeted by cyberattacks, the total number of attacks over a specific time frame, trends in the types of attacks and data breaches, and the types of data most commonly targeted. This site could also be useful for researching the financial effects these data breaches have on companies, as well as the effects they have on their reputations with the public. I think the social sciences that would find this type of information most useful in their research would be economics, law, and political science. Economists could use this site to research how a data breach at a large financial institution might affect the economy. When it comes to researchers in law and political science, they could use PrivacyRights.org to look into how implementing certain policies and laws might change which types of organizations are targeted or affect the total number of attacks in general. For example, they could study whether certain laws reduce the number of data breaches or influence which organizations are most commonly targeted.