

Week 3 Journal Entry: PrivacyRights.org

Visit PrivacyRights.org to see the types of publicly available information about data breaches. How might researchers use this information to study breaches and forecast future data breach trends?

After viewing the website, PrivacyRights.org, it is clear there are a few different ways that researchers could use the information provided to study, as well as forecast, data breaches. These include being able to create a timeline of past data breaches (think “history repeats itself”), having the ability to sort data breaches by attack vector, information compromised, and more.

By creating a timeline of previous data breaches, the researchers might be able to help predict future breaches. The idea here would be to find patterns within past data breaches that could then be used to predict future ones. Maybe a certain criminal group attacks a specific type of company or maybe they launch attacks after certain political events take place. Using this information, security researchers would be more prepared for similar attacks that take place in the future.

Using the raw data from the website, a spreadsheet could be made where data breaches could be grouped by variables like date, what information was stolen, how the breach occurred, who was responsible, and the list goes on. When we have quantitative measurements we can use it to find other patterns and track behaviors within cybercriminal enterprises. This is a very useful website in a lot of ways and I will keep it bookmarked to reference later on.