

2.5 million Californians exposed in data breaches

July 3 2013

A state report reveals 2.5 million Californians have had Social Security numbers, credit card and bank accounts and other sensitive information exposed in 131 data breaches since 2010.

The San Jose Mercury News reports the disclosure was made Monday by Attorney General Kamala Harris in the first report of its kind for the state.

The breaches occurred at companies ranging from Barnes & Noble Inc. to American Express Co., at banks and universities, and government agencies.

Harris issued the report under a state law that went into effect last year requiring institutions that collect data to report any breaches involving more than 500 people.

The report says at least 1.4 million of those whose information was exposed could have been easily protected if the data had been encrypted.

© 2013 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: 2.5 million Californians exposed in data breaches (2013, July 3) retrieved 16 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-07-million-californians-exposed-breaches.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is</p>
--

provided for information purposes only.