

Lifelabs Data Breach

Questions:

a. Who were the victims of the attacks?

15 million Customers of Lifelabs were the victims of this attack. In a recent blog post, Lifelabs revealed that most of the victims were in Ontario and British Columbia. And also Lifelabs company is a victim too because a class-action lawsuit in Toronto is seeking a total of \$1.14 billion dollars in damages has been filed against Lifelabs following a cyber-attack in which the data of 15 million of its customers was accessed by criminals.

b. What technologies and tools were used in the attack?

The company did not elaborate on the nature of the attack, which leaves Canadian customers uncertain about the current level of risk to their personal information. Some news outlets reported on it as if it was a ransomware attack, but there is no clear indication.

c. When did the attack happen within the network?

LifeLabs reported the data breach to government partners on October 28, 2019, but waited until December 17 to notify its customers.

d. What systems were targeted?

According to the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario (IPC) and the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia (OIPC), "Cybercriminals penetrated the company's systems, extracting data and demanding a ransom," which LifeLabs paid. This points to a likely ransomware attack.

e. What was the motivation of the attackers in this case? What did they hope to achieve?

My guess is the intent was to hit a medical lab to demand more money from the company (Lifelabs).

f. What was the outcome of the attack? (stolen data, ransom, system damage, etc.)

15 million customers of LifeLabs, Sensitive information exposed in this incident may have included customers' names, addresses, email addresses, logins, passwords, dates of birth, health card numbers, and lab test results. The cyber-criminals who accessed the data were paid an undisclosed amount by LifeLabs in return for a promise to not make the information public.

Source:

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/we-re-sorry-15m-lifelabs-customers-may-have-had-data-breach-in-cyberattack-1.4733963?cache=>

<https://globalnews.ca/news/6311853/lifelabs-data-hack-what-to-know/>

<https://www.insurancejournal.com/news/international/2020/06/26/573633.htm>

<https://theconversation.com/lifelabs-data-breach-hackers-could-still-hold-health-records-of-15m-canadians-129071>

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/lifelabs-data-breach-the-largest-ever-in-canada-may-cost-the-company-over-1-billion-in-class-action-lawsuit/>

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/lawsuit-filed-against-lifelabs/#:~:text=A%20class%20Daction%20lawsuit%20has,17%20to%20notify%20its%20customers.%20https://www.uscybersecurity.net/cybernews/lifelabs-data-breach/>