COMCAST JUST RELEASED YOUR HOME ADDRESS AND SOCIAL SECURITY ID DATA

✕

Comcast Security Flaw Exposes Partial Addresses, Social Security Numbers of 26 Million Users (buzzfeednews.com)

66

[olsmeister](#) writes:

> A security flaw in the Comcast Xfinity online portal [exposed social security numbers and partial home addresses of more than 26.5 million subscribers](#), according to security researcher [Ryan Stevenson](#). Comcast says the flaws have already been patched and that it currently has no reason to believe that the flaws were ever exploited.

BuzzFeed reports of the two vulnerabilities:

> One of the flaws could be exploited by going to an "in-home authentication" page where customers can pay their bills without signing in. The portal asked customers to verify their account by choosing from one of four partial home addresses it suggested, if the device was (or seemed like it was) connected to the customer's home network. If a hacker obtained a customer's IP address and spoofed Comcast using an "[X-forwarded-for" technique](#), they could repeatedly refresh this login page to reveal the customer's location. That's because each time the page refreshed, three addresses would change, while one address, the correct address, remained the same. Eventually, the page would show the first digit of the street number and first three letters of the correct street name, while asterisks hid the remaining characters. A hacker could then use IP lookup websites to determine the city, state, and postal code of the partial address.

> In the second vulnerability that Stevenson discovered, a sign-up page through the website for Comcast's Authorized Dealers (sales agents stationed at non-Comcast retail locations) revealed the last four digits of customers' Social Security numbers. Armed with just a customer's billing address, a hacker could brute-force (in other words, repeatedly try random four-digit combinations until the correct combination is guessed) the last four digits of a customer's Social Security number. Because the login page