

THE UK'S BIGGEST DATA BREACH FINES 2018

The ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) issued the **most - and largest - fines** ever in 2018, including:

11 fines totalling

£1,290,000

to organisations for **serious security failures**



+ 11 fines totalling

£138,000

to UK **charities** for unlawfully processing personal data in the 12 months to March 2018

From 25 May 2018 under GDPR it is a requirement for organisations to report serious data breaches to the ICO.



There were

2,447

self-reported data breaches - a 29% increase from last year



COMPANIES



EQUIFAX

FINED

£500,000

for failing to protect the personal information of up to **15 million UK citizens** during a cyber attack.

CARPHONE WAREHOUSE

FINED

£400,000

after serious security failures placed the data of more than **18,000 customers** and 1,000 staff at risk.

UBER

FINED

£385,000

for failing to protect the personal information of almost **82,000 drivers** in the UK during a cyber attack.



CHARITIES + PUBLIC SECTOR



BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY

FINED

£100,000

after the charity's IT network was compromised due to a cyber attack.

Hackers exploited a weakness in the Society's IT network to access the personal data of **417,000 of its supporters**.

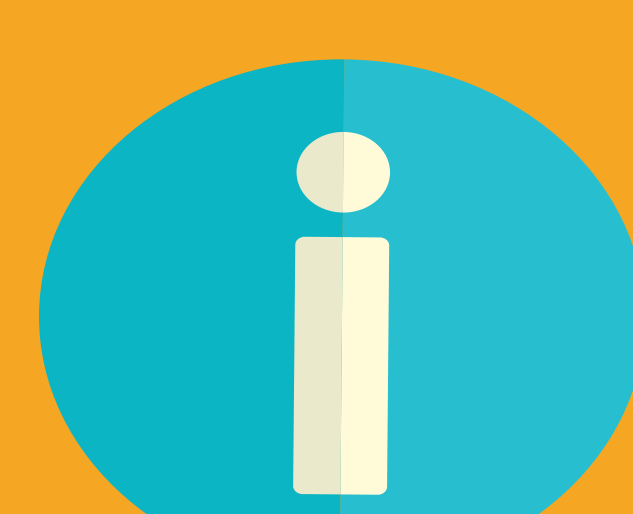
UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

FINED

£120,000

following a 'serious' web server breach involving the data of nearly **20,000 people**.

All the fines listed above were issued under the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998 rather than the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018.



The figure for similar breaches would have been **significantly higher** if discovered and investigated now (post May 2018).

Under the DPA, the maximum penalty for failing to protect data is **£500,000**.

Under GDPR, organisations can be fined up to:



€10,000,000

or **2% of total annual turnover** (whichever is higher) for **lesser data breach incidents**.



€20,000,000

or **4% of total annual turnover** (whichever is higher) for **significant data breaches**.

PROTECT YOUR DATA

Must-read NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) resources:

[Ten Steps to Cyber Security](#)

[Cyber Security: Small Charity Guide](#)

[Cyber Essentials Scheme](#)

Sources:

ICO enforcement action: <https://ico.org.uk/action-weve-taken/enforcement/>

ICO annual report: <https://ico.org.uk/about-the-ico/our-information/annual-reports/>

techtrust