

Investigating How Data Leaks Can Occur on iOS Devices

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Instances of user data leaks have been linked to Apple's iOS products.

When using iPhones (and certain Mac devices), there is a possibility that your cleartext traffic could be exposed, or your IP address may leak, if the particular service you're using doesn't employ TLS (Transport Layer Security), due to leaks that occur on Apple devices under certain conditions.

Unfortunately, this vulnerability remains even when you have a VPN (Virtual Private Network) active, so it is important for customers to be aware of the potential for traffic leaks from iOS devices when connected to an attacker-controlled malicious access point - for example an attacker-controlled public Wi-Fi network.

PIA works with the cybersecurity research community in order to maintain a high standard of security and privacy for users, and values their input and assistance through the disclosure of vulnerabilities made in good faith. We were notified of this vulnerability related to iOS by one such security group, and further investigations are now underway.

We recommend that users take caution when connecting to unfamiliar networks from iOS devices and stay aware of the data leak risk associated with this. You are still well protected on iOS devices at all other times.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Support Team by submitting a ticket.