

## Cyber risk scores play a key role in the census

Yoshiyasu Takefuji

Robert M. Groves et al. wrote an article entitled "Science matters for the census," (1). US government stated that the Census Bureau has several policies to ensure the data we collect is protected and your privacy is respected (2). Although the security of data has been emphasized, the massive data leak was reported (3). The company Alteryx Inc. accidentally made public a file that contained the personal information of 123 million American households (3). The U.S. has 126 million households in all, according to the Census Bureau (3). The database contained information across 248 categories, including addresses, phone numbers, mortgage ownership, age, ethnicity and personal interests such as whether a person is a dog or cat enthusiast (3). Fortunately, the data did not include people's names, Social Security numbers, credit card information or passwords (3). CSTAR cyber risk scores are as follows: U.S. Census Bureau (872), Experian (728), Alteryx (692) (3). Weaker link can be fatal throughout the chain (3). We must understand that weaker link of cyber risk scores should be strengthened.

### References:

1. Robert M. Groves et al., "Science matters for the census," *Science* 23 Feb 2018: Vol. 359, Issue 6378, pp. 847
2. <https://www.census.gov/privacy/>
3. Tracey Lien, "Alteryx data breach exposed 123 million American households' information," <http://www.latimes.com/business/technology/la-fi-tn-alteryx-data-breach-20171222-story.html>