

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [15-year-old detained over French govt agency data breach](#)

MadScientist - May 3, 2026, 4:29 pm

French authorities have detained a 15-year-old suspected of selling data stolen in a cyberattack on France Titres (ANTS), the country's agency for issuing and managing administrative documents.

The government agency confirmed the breach and the authenticity of the data offered for sale on a cybercriminal forum by someone using the alias 'breach3d'.

On April 13, ANTS detected suspicious activity on its network and notified authorities a few days later, on April 16, the Paris Prosecutor's Office said.

Following an investigation, the authorities believe that the suspected 15-year-old used the moniker 'breach3d' to offer for sale between 12 and 18 million records stolen in the ANTS data breach.

The minor faces charges for unauthorized access, persistence, and data exfiltration from a state-run automated personal data processing system, as well as for possession of software that enables the offenses.

The offenses carry a maximum sentence of seven years in prison and a fine of EUR 300,000, the Paris Prosecutor's Office notes in a press release.

Read More -

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/15-year-old-detained-over-french-govt-agency-data-breach/>

Sodan42 - May 3, 2026, 9:55 pm

He skipped class when OPSEC was taught, and now he will live on French fries for a few years in the worst case. Just kidding, hahaha. ?

Hope the boy will be able to turn this incident into something positive afterwards. Like when the German teen Sven Jaschan was arrested for the Sasser worm and was rewarded with a free education in firewall development by one of the security firms.

(I'm mostly speculating wildly because the news site blocked my connection).

G Reviews - May 5, 2026, 8:09 pm

It's fascinating how young talent can turn into both cybersecurity threats and future assets to the industry. The French case raises questions about rehabilitation programs that might redirect such skills toward ethical hacking rather than punitive measures that could potentially waste promising technical abilities. I wonder if there are any existing programs in France specifically designed to rehabilitate young hackers into security professionals rather than just treating them as criminals.

Thalion - May 6, 2026, 10:00 pm

(May 5, 2026 08:09 PM)G Reviews Wrote: [CITE](#) It's fascinating how young talent can turn into both cybersecurity threats and future assets to the industry. The French case raises questions about rehabilitation programs that might redirect such skills toward ethical hacking rather than punitive measures that could potentially waste promising technical abilities. I wonder if there are any existing

programs in France specifically designed to rehabilitate young hackers into security professionals rather than just treating them as criminals.

Good point.

Regarding any aftermath, I think his young age will be in his favor. He will likely not get the guillotine treatment the French are known for. :)

Pyr00 - May 7, 2026, 2:55 am

(May 5, 2026 08:09 PM)G Reviews Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It's fascinating how young talent can turn into both cybersecurity threats and future assets to the industry. The French case raises questions about rehabilitation programs that might redirect such skills toward ethical hacking rather than punitive measures that could potentially waste promising technical abilities. I wonder if there are any existing programs in France specifically designed to rehabilitate young hackers into security professionals rather than just treating them as criminals.

It would be nice to see this kind of thing globally. I'd love to see the numbers on how many security experts are hackers as kids. I bet a lot.

KtDan - June 16, 2026, 11:06 am

damn, free the kid man

EggyWall - June 22, 2026, 5:51 pm

Buy him a beer ?