

Year	'Fact'	Source
2007	Program <i>Beacon</i> : Companies were able to track purchases of users and notify their friends – without consent	https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/social-media/timeline-facebook-s-privacy-issues-its-responses-n859651
2011	Third-party apps in facebook could access nearly all of a user's personal data. Facebook users that never authenticated a third-party app could even have private posts collected if their friends used apps. Facebook was also charged with sharing user information with advertisers, despite a promise they wouldn't.	https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/social-media/timeline-facebook-s-privacy-issues-its-responses-n859651
2013	A bug exposed the email addresses and phone numbers of 6 million Facebook users to anyone who had some connection to the person or knew at least one piece of their contact information.	https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/social-media/timeline-facebook-s-privacy-issues-its-responses-n859651
2014	Companies like Facebook and Twitter rely on an army of workers employed to soak up the worst of humanity in order to protect the rest of us. And there are legions of them—a vast, invisible pool of human labor.	https://www.wired.com/2014/10/content-moderation/
2014	Facebook's mood-manipulation experiment with more than half a million randomly selected users altered their news feeds to show more positive or negative posts. The purpose of the study was to show how emotions could spread on social media.	https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/social-media/timeline-facebook-s-privacy-issues-its-responses-n859651
2014	My News Feed took on an entirely new character in a surprisingly short amount of time. After checking in and liking a bunch of stuff over the course of an hour, there were no human beings in my feed anymore. It became about brands and messaging, rather than humans with messages.	http://www.wired.com/2014/08/i-liked-everything-i-saw-on-facebook-for-two-days-heres-what-it-did-to-me/
2015	Video, news, Whatsapp and the perceived Internet: how Mark Zuckerberg's social network has	https://www.rivistastudio.com/dominio-zuckerberg/

	become a giant capable of swallowing up everything	
2015	You could be denied a loan simply because your friends have defaulted on theirs. It's the kind of digital redlining that critics of "big data" collection have been warning of for years. It could make Facebook a lot of money, and it could make the Web even less safe for poor people.	https://psmag.com/environment/mo-friends-mo-problems-might-have-to-defriend-joeey-with-the-jet-ski-bankruptcy/
2016	WhatsApp has been sharing user information and metadata with Facebook since 2016	https://itwire.com/guest-articles/5-biggest-whatsapp-scandals-and-security-issues-so-far.html
2016	Former Facebook employees accused the platform of deliberately omitting conservative-minded news stories from their trending news section.	https://gizmodo.com/former-facebook-workers-we-routinely-suppressed-conser-1775461006
2016	Facebook admitted it briefly blocked links to Wikileaks files containing internal Democratic National Committee (DNC) emails. The block seems to be the result of another algorithm accident that may have incorrectly determined the links to be malicious or spam.	https://gizmodo.com/facebook-admits-it-blocked-links-to-wikileaks-dnc-email-1784262270?rev=1469468660665
2016	What's the value of a Facebook like? It depends on where you look. But in Dhaka, Bangladesh, where 30 to 40 percent of Facebook likes are processed, the street value appears to be around \$50 for at least 1,000, according to a new documentary.	https://www.vice.com/en/article/what-life-for-a-bangladeshi-click-farmer-looks-like/
2016	Every time a Facebook member likes a post, tags a photo, updates their favorite movies in their profile, posts a comment about a politician, or changes their relationship status, Facebook logs it. When they browse the Web, Facebook collects information about pages they visit that contain Facebook sharing buttons. When they use Instagram or WhatsApp on their phone, which are both owned by Facebook, they contribute more data to Facebook's	https://www.propublica.org/article/breaking-the-black-box-what-facebook-knows-about-you

	dossier. And in case that wasn't enough, Facebook also buys data about its users' mortgages, car ownership and shopping habits from some of the biggest commercial data brokers.	
2018	Facebook was ordered to stop collecting private information about Belgian users on third-party sites using cookies. Facebook was also ordered to delete all data it collected illegally from Belgians, including those who aren't Facebook users but may have still landed on a Facebook page, or risk being fined up to 100 million euros.	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-facebook-belgium/facebook-loses-belgian-privacy-case-faces-fine-of-up-to-125-million-idUSKCN1G01LG/
2018	It was revealed that Facebook knew about massive data theft and did nothing.	https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/social-media/timeline-facebook-s-privacy-issues-its-responses-n859651
2018	Facebook gave some of the world's largest technology companies more intrusive access to users' personal data than it has disclosed, effectively exempting those business partners from its usual privacy rules. Pushing for explosive growth, Facebook got more users, lifting its advertising revenue. Partner companies acquired features to make their products more attractive. But Facebook also assumed extraordinary power over the personal information of its 2.2 billion users — control it has wielded with little transparency or outside oversight.	https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/18/technology/facebook-privacy.html
2018	Cambridge Analytica, a company that profiled voters for Donald Trump's campaign, allegedly gathered information on millions via a survey on Facebook. Furthermore, it manipulated the newsfeed of voters before Brexit, influencing the election	https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/cambridge-analytica-harvested-data-millions-unsuspecting-facebook-users-n857591
2019	Facebook treated user data as a bargaining chip with external app developers.	https://www.nbcnews.com/news/all/leaked-documents-show-facebook-leveraged-user-data-fight-rivals-help-n1076986

2019	Facebook has kept internal research secret for two years that suggests its Instagram app makes body image issues worse for teenage girls, according to a leak from the tech firm.	https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/sep/14/facebook-aware-instagram-harmful-effect-teenage-girls-leak-reveals
2019	Details from more than 500 million Facebook users have been found available on a website for hackers.	https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/apr/03/500-million-facebook-users-website-hackers
2019	Facebook has targeted politicians around the world promising investments and incentives while seeking to pressure them into lobbying on Facebook's behalf against data privacy legislation	https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/mar/02/facebook-global-lobbying-campaign-against-data-privacy-laws-investment
2019	The German Bundeskartellamt (Federal Cartel Office) prohibits Facebook from combining user data from different sources. The extent to which Facebook collects, merges and uses data in user accounts constitutes an abuse of a dominant position.	https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07_02_2019_Facebook.html
2019	An Instagram marketing partner was discovered scraping profile information from millions of users.	https://www.inc.com/jason-aten/instagram-just-acknowledged-it-has-a-much-bigger-privacy-problem-than-we-thought.html
2019	Facebook and Google's omnipresent surveillance of billions of people poses a systemic threat to human rights, Amnesty International warned in a new report as it called for a radical transformation of the tech giants' core business model.	https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/press-release/2019/11/google-facebook-surveillance-privacy/
2021	Facebook has been fined £50.5m for breaching an order imposed by the UK competition regulator during its investigation into the purchase of the gif creation website Giphy.	https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/oct/20/facebook-fined-for-breaching-order-in-giphy-takeover-investigation
2020	Facebook Seeks Shutdown of NYU Research Project Into Political Ad Targeting. In letter this month, Facebook says the project violates provisions in its terms of service that prohibit bulk data collection.	https://www.wsj.com/tech/facebook-seeks-shutdown-of-nyu-research-project-into-political-ad-targeting-11603488533

2021	A program known as XCheck has given millions of celebrities, politicians and other high-profile users special treatment, a privilege many abuse	https://www.wsj.com/articles/facebook-files-xcheck-zuckerberg-elite-rules-11631541353?mod=article_inline
2021	WhatsApp recently announced a new privacy policy that no longer allows users to opt out of sharing their data with parent company Facebook. According to the new policy, user data like phone numbers, address books, pictures and the contents of some messages will now be automatically shared with Facebook.	https://www.forbes.com/sites/blakemorgan/2021/01/14/whatsapp-controversy-shows-just-how-much-privacy-matters-to-customers/
2021	Facebook contributed to a genocide in Myanmar. Scholars, reporters, and United Nations investigators agree that the social media giant played a role in an explosion of ethnic conflict in 2017 that led to the death and displacement of hundreds of thousands Rohingya Muslims in Northern Myanmar.	https://systemicjustice.org/article/facebook-and-genocide-how-facebook-contributed-to-genocide-in-myanmar-and-why-it-will-not-be-held-accountable/
2021	WhatsApp has been fined €225m for breaking the EU's data privacy law by not telling its users how it was sharing their data with its parent company Facebook. In one of the biggest fines relating to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Irish data regulator applied a penalty more than four times the level it had initially proposed for the messaging service after coming under pressure from other European countries.	https://www.ft.com/content/bea42671-d940-461b-b550-9700fbf322b8
2022	Irish regulators have fined Instagram €405m for violating children's privacy concerning their phone numbers and email addresses.	https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-62800884
2022	Facebook is being sued for failing to protect users' personal data in the Cambridge Analytica breach. The scandal involved harvested Facebook data of 87 million people being used for advertising during elections.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-54722362

2022	Facebook is sued for \$725 Million dollar compensation for Cambridge Analytica Scandal	https://firewalltimes.com/facebook-data-breach-timeline/
2023	Meta is accused of receiving more than a million reports of under-13 users on Instagram from parents, friends and online community members between early 2019 and mid-2023. However, Meta disabled only a fraction of those accounts and collected their personal information without their parents consent.	https://edition.cnn.com/2023/11/26/business/meta-collecting-data-children-facebook/index.html
2023	Instagram's Algorithm delivers toxic video mix to adults who follow children. Test accounts followed only teen and tween gymnastics and cheerleading influencers. Those accounts were then recommended Reels for adult sexual content and sexualized child content, including risqué footage of kids, overtly sexual adult videos and ads from major brands.	https://www.wsj.com/tech/meta-instagram-video-algorithm-children-adult-sexual-content-72874155?mod=hp_lead_pos7
2023	Instagram Censored Image of Gaza Hospital Bombing, Claims It's Too Sexual. In responses to users who tried to post an alleged picture of the Gaza hospital bombing, Instagram and Facebook said it violated guidelines for sexual content or nudity.	https://theintercept.com/2023/10/18/gaza-hospital-instagram-facebook-censored/
2024	European consumer rights groups have accused Meta, the owner of Facebook and Instagram, of carrying out a “massive” and “illegal” operation of collecting data from hundreds of millions of users in the region, such data is used to infer their sexual orientation, emotional state or even their susceptibility to addiction — which they are unable to freely consent to.	https://edition.cnn.com/2024/02/29/tech/meta-data-processing-europe-gdpr/index.html
2024	CEO Mark Zuckerberg said the Biden administration had pressured the company to “censor” COVID-19 content during the pandemic, apparently referring to White House requests to	https://www.reuters.com/technology/zuckerberg-says-biden-administration-pressured-meta-censor-covid-19-content-2024-08-27/

	take down misinformation about the coronavirus and vaccines.	
2024	Meta is accused of bullying the open source community – a shocking claim that’s sent ripples through the tech world.	https://www.economist.com/business/2024/08/28/meta-is-accused-of-bullying-the-open-source-community
2024	Facebook has severely restricted the ability of Palestinian news outlets to reach an audience during the Israel-Gaza war, according to BBC research. In a comprehensive analysis of Facebook data, we found that newsrooms in the Palestinian territories - in Gaza and the West Bank - had suffered a steep drop in audience engagement since October 2023.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c786wlxz4jgo
2025	Facebook ended its third-party fact-checking program in the United States and said it would pull back on content moderation around political discourse. Meta’s policy on hateful conduct includes that LGBTQ people can now be called mentally ill because of their identities. Meta also disbanded its diversity, equity and inclusion team	https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/social-media/meta-boycott-facebook-instagram-users-delete-accounts-policy-changes-rcna187480
2025	The community standards updated on January 1 by Meta for its social networks detail how the company applies “visibility reduction” to certain content that it considers ‘problematic’ or “low quality,” even if it does not directly violate its policies or is not reviewed by humans. The vagueness of the measure's scope is compounded by the fact that it is applied at Meta's discretion and results in certain expressions being excluded from the reach of other users.	https://www.observacom.org/el-shadowbanning-en-meta-reducir-la-circulacion-de-contenidos-que-ni-siquiera-violan-sus-reglas/
2025	The Italian Competition Authority launches investigation into Meta over abuse of dominant position. From March 2025, Meta, which dominates the app-based communication services market, has decided to pre-install its artificial intelligence service on the WhatsApp app. In doing so, Meta could “force” its	https://en.agcm.it/en/media/press-releases/2025/7/A576

	users to use its chatbot and AI assistance services.	
2025	A California federal jury found Meta guilty on August 1, 2025, of violating the California Invasion of Privacy Act by intentionally intercepting intimate reproductive health data from Flo Period & Ovulation Tracker app users without consent—including period dates, sexual activity, pregnancy status, and masturbation habits. Flo Health, Google, and Flurry settled for \$59.5 million in September 2025 after promising users their data would remain “private and confidential” while secretly embedding software development kits (SDKs) that transmitted sensitive information to Meta and other tech giants for targeted advertising.	https://allaboutlawyer.com/flo-app-lawsuit-meta-guilty-in-59-5m-privacy-case-after-period-tracker-shared-intimate-data-file-your-settlement-claim-now/
2025	A sweeping crackdown on posts on Instagram and Facebook that are critical of Israel—or even vaguely supportive of Palestinians—was directly orchestrated by the government of Israel, according to internal Meta data obtained by Drop Site News. The data show that Meta has complied with 94% of takedown requests issued by Israel since October 7, 2023. Israel is the biggest originator of takedown requests globally by far, and Meta has followed suit—widening the net of posts it automatically removes, and creating what can be called the largest mass censorship operation in modern history.	https://www.dropsitenews.com/p/leaked-data-israeli-censorship-meta
2025	Meta shut down internal research into the mental health effects of Facebook after finding causal evidence that its products harmed users’ mental health, according to unredacted filings in a lawsuit by U.S. school districts against Meta and other social media platforms.	https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/boards-policy-regulation/meta-buried-causal-evidence-social-media-harm-us-court-filings-allege-2025-11-23
2025	A Spanish court has ordered Facebook owner Meta to pay 479 million euros (\$552 million) to Spanish digital media	https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/boards-policy-regulation/spanish-court-

	<p>outlets for unfair competition practices and infringing European Union data protection regulation, a ruling the company will appeal. Madrid's Commercial Court said on Thursday that the compensation, to be paid out to 87 digital press publishers and news agencies, was linked to Meta's use of personal data for behavioural advertising on Facebook and Instagram.</p>	<p>orders-meta-pay-550-mln-digital-media-companies-2025-11-20/</p>
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