

The 4 steps of identity theft fueling massive COVID unemployment fraud

Unemployment insurance agencies were understaffed and ill-prepared for the tsunami of pandemic-related claims. While controls were loosened to urgently get assistance to those in need, that exposed the agencies to organized fraud at a scale never seen before.

#1



UI fraud is now the Secret Service's top caseload.

28x



UI fraud in 2020 is 28x more than 2019.

\$6 billion



Has been lost to UI fraud in 2020 according to the US Department of Labor.

HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

1. DATA BREACHES

1,000,000,000+

Billions of records exposed annually due to data breaches.



2. THE DARK WEB

\$1

Cost of a Social Security number.

\$5

Cost of a credit/debit card number.



4. GOVERNMENT FRAUD

22%

of identity theft came from government fraud, pre-pandemic.



3. IDENTITY THEFT

25%

1 in 4 victims of a data breach have their identity stolen.

:03

1 person every 3 seconds is a victim of identity theft.



#2

That's 2nd only to fraud in banking.