

OEM: Weekly SITREP

November 16, 2021



USA & WORLD

- The rise of <u>political violence</u> in the U.S.
- International student numbers at U.S. colleges in decline.
- A record 4.4 million Americans <u>quit</u> their jobs in September.
- U.S. Department of Education: <u>Return to School Roadmap</u>.
- 11 lessons learned from COVID-19 by universities.
- <u>Memo</u>: DHS/FEMA on maximizing assistance to respond to COVID.
- 10k patients <u>caught Covid-19</u> in a hospital, some never made it out.
- Employers may still foot Covid-19 <u>testing bills</u> if mandate stands.
- Experts worry <u>plateau</u> in U.S. cases foretells winter spike.
- Moderna & NIH are in <u>dispute</u> over who invented vaccine.
- <u>UN Hunger Agency</u>: 45m people on the brink of starvation.
- Publishing rackets undermine <u>scholarly publishing</u>.
- A.I. Innovation Act (<u>S. 3175</u>) pilot program forming data libraries.
- Regeneron: monoclonal antibodies protection lasts months.
- Viral: Terrorists will use Wuhan 'lab leak' chaos to wage <u>new biowar</u>.
- China's '<u>zero-Covid</u>' policy in doubt rising cases pose challenge.
- Ohio: Chinese Intelligence Officer convicted of <u>espionage</u>.
- Hackers with <u>Chinese</u> links breach defense, energy targets.
- When police struggle to retain officers, <u>public safety suffers</u>.
- Landsat spacecraft <u>image</u> highlights changing world.



<u>Climate Migration</u>: Natural Disasters & Extreme Temperatures Factors in Relocation

America's Climate-Endangered Areas Are Becoming More Populous Population change due to net migration in counties with certain climate risks, 2016-2020



In a 2.0°C warming scenario, an additional 1.6 billion people could be exposed to heat stress by 2050.



CALIFORNIA

- \$1.2-trillion infrastructure bill: What California will get.
- The problem of <u>ghost guns</u> in California.
- Gas prices set <u>new record</u> high.
- Cal football '<u>breakthrough cases</u>' 99% of the team fully vaccinated.
- Affordable <u>campus housing crisis</u> hitting public university systems.
- Draft political <u>maps</u> of California's redrawn <u>districts</u>.
- California joins the Beyond Oil & Gas Alliance (<u>BOGA</u>).
- <u>Quick Guide</u>: Covid vaccinations for children.
- Cal State faculty threatens <u>strikes</u> as salary negotiations reach impasse.
- AIA signs letter against "inhumane" designed student accommodation.
- Over 500K people <u>screened</u> for Adverse Childhood Experiences.
- More Latino students attending college, but '<u>disturbing gaps</u>' remain.
- Ex-Gov. Jerry Brown focuses on saving California forests from fires.
- USC <u>situation</u> shows that "universities should beware of what might happen when they turn their deans into businesspeople charged with monetizing their valuable brands however they can."
- UC prioritizes Californians, but can it afford to lose out-of-state students?
- What it's like to fight a <u>megafire</u>.
- A <u>Judge</u> takes his mental health struggles public.
- State rolled out <u>websites and apps</u> to fight COVID-19 did they work?



Teen Vax Rates Vary Wildly by County

The highest vaccination rates among youths 12 to 17 in California are found mostly in the Bay Area. The state's rural northern counties, conversely, report some of the lowest rates.



REGION

- <u>Extremism</u>: Hate & anti-government groups active in SoCal.
- Riverside listed as the <u>most sleep deprived</u> County in the State.
- Record breaking <u>heat</u> across SoCal.
- Will Riverside County get <u>sued</u> over its redistricting process?
- Riverside County has the highest <u>inflation</u> in the country.
- 1 dead, 6 hospitalized in <u>crash</u> on the 215.
- UCR apart of UC <u>Drug Discovery Consortium</u>.
- Drought <u>emergency</u> declared in SoCal.
- Mask refusal leads to <u>stabbing</u> at Santa Monica grocery store.
- New <u>20/20 Interview</u> with survivors of Perris 'House of Horrors.'
- Riverside officials announce <u>plan</u> after Native American chant mocking.
- Vaccine protested in <u>Norco</u> by parents, school & federal employees.
- <u>Lawsuit</u> alleges sexual misconduct at SB Co. PD's Office.
- Thousands gather in LA to protest <u>COVID vaccine mandate</u>.
- Dodgers stadium will <u>transform</u> into holiday season wonderland.
- <u>LAX</u> braces for international travel surge as travel bans lifted.
- LA on pace to see highest <u>murder rate</u> in more than a decade.
 - With a county of Riverside Emergency operations center is currently activated to Management Watch.



SAFEPASS L.A.

THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES REQUIRES YOU TO BE VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19 TO ENTER THIS BUSINESS.

IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR VACCINATION, PLEASE HAVE YOUR PROOF OF VACCINATION AND ID READY (ID REQUIRED IF AGE 18+)



As of November 8, 2021, patrons must show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 to enter the indoor portion of this business. The following exemptions to this requirement are permitted: making deliveries or pickups, providing services or repairs, emergency or regulatory purposes, to get to the outdoor portion of the business, to use the restroom, or for picking up items such as food for take-out or delivery. In addition, exemptions are available for sincerely held religious beliefs or a medical condition. Patrons using medical or religious exemptions are required to show proof of an engative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of entry into the indoor portion of this business.



<u>SafePassLA</u>: LA is among a growing number of cities requiring people to show proof of vaccination to enter various types of businesses and venues.

COMMUNICATIONS

Office of Emergency Management

- 15 November:
 - Homecoming: Virtual event <u>registration</u>
- 12 November:
 - Healthy Holiday Challenge Register NOW!
- 11 November:
 - A Veterans Day message from President Drake: Celebrating those who have served
- 10 November:
 - UCPD Crime Alert Update: Glen Mor Market Attempted Robbery Suspect Arrested
 - Staff Pantry Events 11/18 & 12/9: Bags of pre-packed groceries will be available to the first 100 staff, either walk-up or drive-thru, at the roundabout near Pentland Hills.
- 09 November:
 - UC Riverside Open Forum: Director of Intercollegiate Athletics

Please Reference Notes Section For More Information

NOTABLE

- China and Russia Are Waging Irregular Warfare Against the United States
- Higher Ed's Jobs Recovery Sputters
- Sophos releases the 2022 Threat Report
- Study: Over 25,000 tons of COVID-related plastic waste pollutes oceans
- Top 10 Errors Related To COVID-19 Vaccination
- <u>AG 's legal brief argues Biden's 'anger' at unvaccinated drove vax mandates</u>
- Damascus Station: Exploring the world of espionage
- Global Economics Intelligence executive summary, October 2021
- Podcast: The Resurrection of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan
- Sen. Johnson Holds Expert Panel On Federal Vaccine Mandates and Vaccine Injuries
- <u>Congressman working to get government and industry to team-up against foreign threats</u>
- <u>COVID-19 Misinformation is Ubiquitous</u>
- Implications of ISIS-Taliban Rivalry for Central Asian Jihad
- How Extreme Weather and Climate Change-Fueled Disasters Have Closed Classrooms
- Ted Cruz called Big Bird getting COVID-19 vaccine "propaganda."
- America Needs a New Scientific Revolution
- <u>New study finds genes and air pollution multiply healthy people's risk of depression</u>
- <u>Will we be sorry we shut down?</u>
- <u>Global Partnership to focus on climate change fueled terrorism</u>
- Scammers impersonate guest editors to get sham papers published



Holiday Threats 2021

The holiday shopping season is shaping up to be rife with peril & risk:

- Supply chain interruptions: have widened the peak fraud time window for many attackers.
- Semiconductor chip shortage: affecting availability of new cars, laptops / gaming consoles & increasing fraud activity.
- **Cybersecurity:** 5 billion sets of credentials & PII are available on the Dark Web.
- **Privacy concerns:** includes stolen identity & payment security.





1/3 of Customers

plan to shop online exclusively this holiday season.

66% of Customers

are concerned about financial or personal information being compromised this holiday season.



Holiday Fraud 2020-21: Stats

- November 2020 E-commerce sales reached **\$100 billion** for the first time.
- <u>**146%</u>** increase in automated fraud attacks in 2020.</u>
- Consumer abuse including false claims <u>doubled</u> in the first half of 2021.
- By September 2021, a <u>510%</u> increase in fraud pressure (fraudulent orders) noted.
- <u>57%</u> of attacks targeting retail websites in 2021 were carried out by bots.
- Account takeover attempts, looking to hijack customers' accounts to steal personal and financial info, reached <u>33%</u> so far in 2021.
- 200% month-on-month increase in DDoS attacks in September 2021.
- According to FBI-IC3 2020 reporting:
 - Non-payment or non-delivery scams cost people more than **\$265 million**
 - Credit card fraud accounted for another **\$129 million** in losses

This 2021 holiday shopping season will be a wild one for ecommerce merchants. Not only are online sales expected to reach historic highs, but fraudsters are also going to pull out all the stops to seize as much as they can in the resulting (chaotic) environment.



Holiday Fraud 2021: Projection



Holiday shopping 2021 projections and stats

Overall US holiday sales (i.e. retail sales taking place in the months of November and December) are expected to grow 8.5-10.5% this year to as much as \$859 billion after increasing 8.2% last year. Prepandemic, holiday sales averaged around 4.4% growth each year.

Online sales are expected to grow 11-15% this holiday season to reach up to \$226 billion.

Consumer spend on holiday items surged over the past many years. Holiday sales are projected to reach \$843-859 billion this year, more than double what they were in 2002, when total holiday sales hit just \$416.4 billion.

These record sales are expected despite growing supply chain, inventory, and fulfillment concerns. Out-of-stock messages are up 172% right now compared to before the pandemic.

FBI-IC3 2020 Report



2020 - TOP 10 STATES BY VICTIM LOSS¹⁰

California, home to tech & internet industries, is also the main target of cyber crime ranking #1 in the nation for attacks.



2020 Overall State Statistics Victim per State*			2020 Overall State Statistics Continued Total Victim Losses by State*			2020 Overall State Statistics Continued Count by Subject per State*		
1	California	69,541	1	California	\$621,452,320	1	California	26,379
2	Florida	53,793	2	New York	\$415,812,917	2	Florida	19,364
3	Texas	38,640	3	Texas	\$313,565,225	3	Texas	12,914
4	New York	34,505	4	Florida	\$295,032,829	4	New Jersey	10,616
5	Illinois	20,185	5	Ohio	\$170,171,951	5	New York	10,052

FBI-IC3 2020 Report





Holiday Fraud: Elder Vulnerability

- Seniors are more susceptible to scams and fraud.
- Seniors find online shopping intimidating since they didn't grow up using the internet and might not understand a scam is being presented to them.
- Scams targeting the elderly take advantage of the fact an older adult may be suffering from memory/dementia issues.
- Examples of scams targeting seniors include:
 - Grandparent scam
 - <u>Robocalls/phone scams</u>
 - <u>Computer tech support scams</u>
 - <u>Confidence Fraud/Romance Scams</u>
 - Online shopping schemes
- The FTC has conducted research which reveals patterns and trends related to fraud impacting older adults. For more information see the FTC publication <u>'Protecting Older</u> <u>Consumers 2020–2021'</u>



IC3 Over 60 Victims by the Numbers

- Each year, millions of elderly Americans fall victim to some type of financial fraud or internet scheme.
- Once successful, scammers are likely to keep a scheme going because of the prospect of significant financial gain.

Risk Reduction: Cyber Insurance



- Personal cyber insurance, also called "cyberattack insurance," is often sold as an add-on to homeowners insurance and can cover a range of cyber crimes:
 - Cyber attack coverage
 - Cyberbullying coverage
 - Cyber extortion coverage
 - Data breach coverage
 - Online fraud coverage
- In addition to the above types of coverage, personal cyber insurance might include services such as:
 - Access to fraud specialists
 - Active cyber monitoring
 - Lawsuit protection
 - Replacing or repairing electronic data
 - Retrieving, replacing or recreating financial or personal identification documents

More than 66% of past cyberattack victims said they'd be receptive to paying for personal cyber insurance if it was offered.

Risk Reduction: Security Pro Tips



- Be sure all your devices are up to date.
- Be wary of unsolicited text messages or emails.
- Instead of clicking on a link in a message or email, go directly to the website.
- Customer service agents should never ask for PII.
- Use a digital wallet instead of inputting your bank or credit card info.
 - PayPal and other products provide such services and are trustworthy and safe to use.
- Engage the services of a credit monitoring agency for the holidays.
- iPhones have a built-in service that will notify you if your credentials are exposed on the Dark Web.
- Verify the legitimacy of a buyer or seller before moving forward with a purchase.
- Avoid sellers who post under one name but ask that payment be sent to someone else.
- Always get a tracking number for items purchased online so you can follow the delivery process.
- Consider canceling your purchase if a seller requests funds be wired directly to them via a money transfer company, pre-paid card, or bank-to-bank wire transfer.
 - Money sent in these ways is virtually impossible to recover, with no recourse for the victim

Always be wary of deals that seem too good to be true!

FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center



- If you believe you or someone you know may have been a victim of fraud, contact your local <u>FBI field office</u> or <u>submit a tip online</u>. You can also file a complaint with the <u>FBI's Internet Crime</u> <u>Complaint Center</u>.
- When reporting a scam—regardless of dollar amount—include as many of the following details as possible:
 - Names of the scammer and/or company
 - Dates of contact
 - Methods of communication
 - Phone numbers, email addresses, mailing addresses, and websites used by the perpetrator
 - Methods of payment
 - Where you sent funds, including wire transfers and prepaid cards (provide financial institution names, account names, and account numbers)
 - Descriptions of your interactions with the scammer and the instructions you were given
- You are also encouraged to keep original documentation, emails, faxes, and logs of all communications.

The FBI - IC3 accepts online Internet crime complaints from either the actual victim or from a third party to the complainant.