

How to Fight Child Identity Theft

Protecting Child Victims From an “Adult” Crime

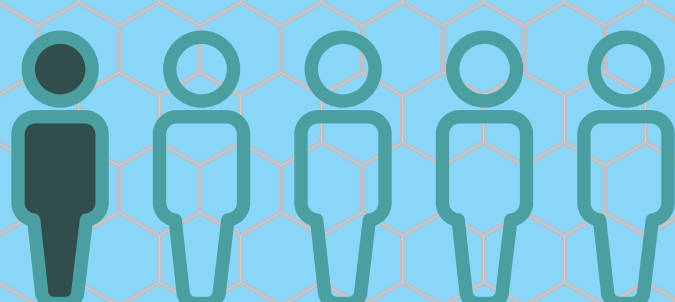
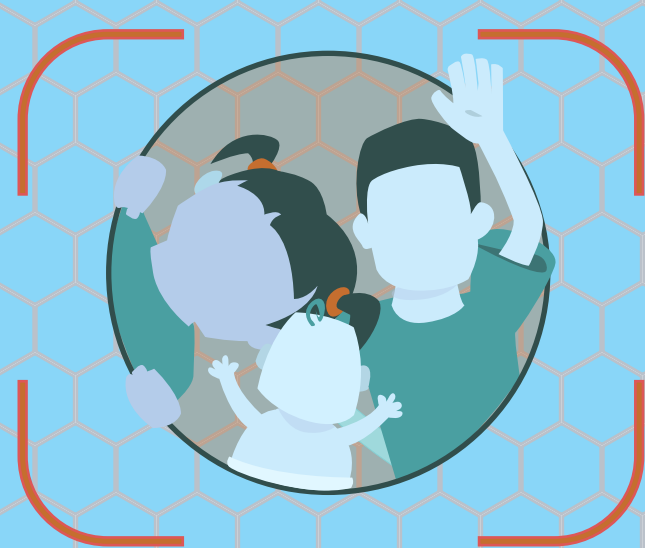
TODAY’S CHALLENGE

A child’s identity credentials are particularly valuable to identity thieves, because their use can go undetected for years.

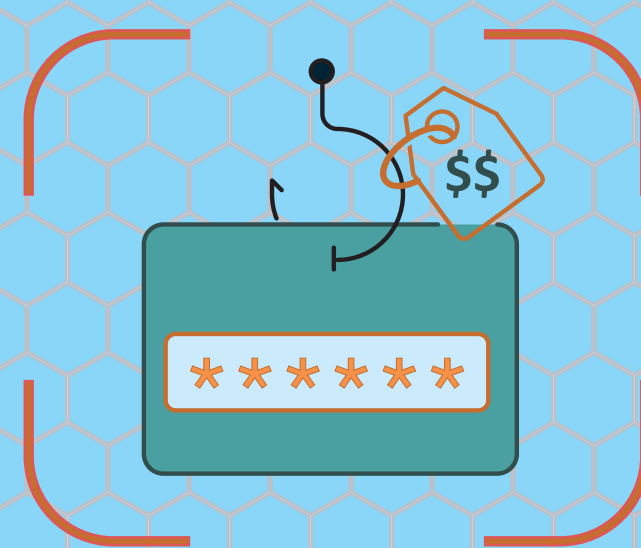


CHILD IDENTITY THEFT BY THE NUMBERS

In 2017 **>1 Million** children fell victim to identity theft.¹

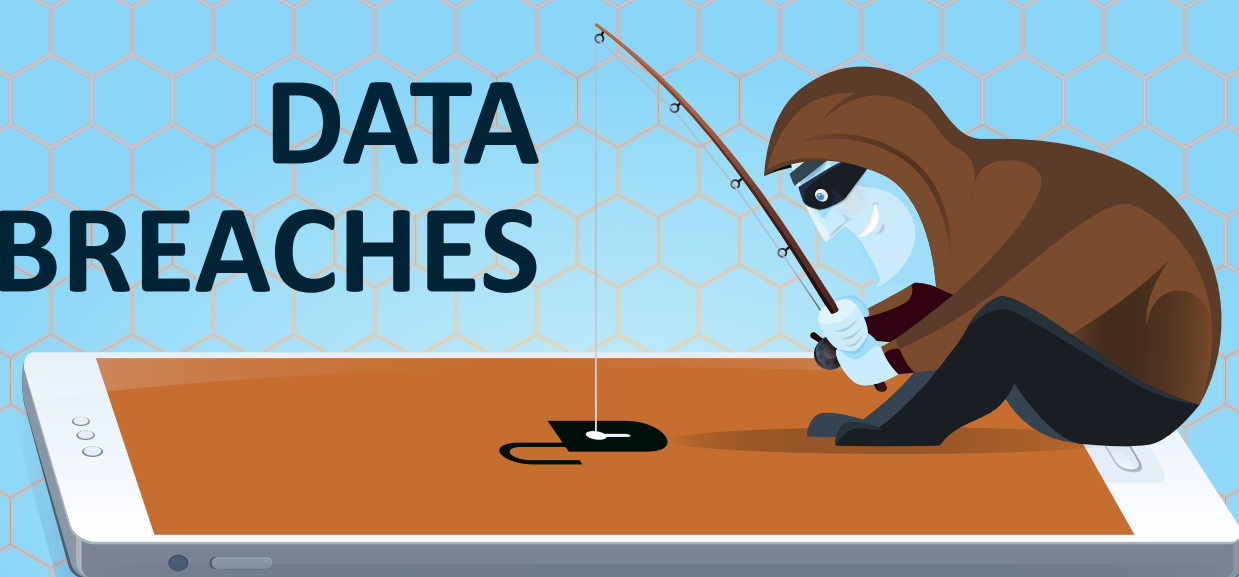


1 in 5
were **eight to twelve** years old.¹



\$2.67 Billion
in **total losses**.¹

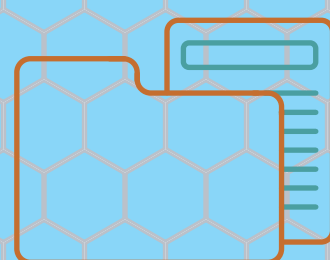
DATA BREACHES



ENDANGER CHILD IDENTITY

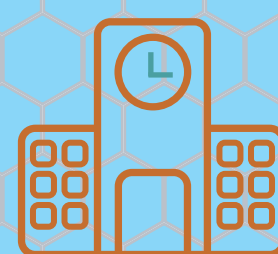
Such breaches give fraudsters access to personally identifiable information (PII) like Social Security numbers, birth-dates, phone numbers and addresses, health insurance and Medicaid information, and more – all sensitive data that can help crooks steal identities.²

The commoditization of stolen data on the dark web makes it easier than ever for criminals to steal identities.²

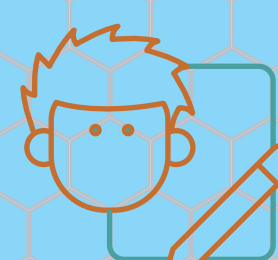


In 2019:

15.1 Billion
records were **exposed**
in data breaches.²



U.S. **K-12 public school districts** and education agencies were **victim to 348 data breaches**.³



2.3 Million
students’ data **exposed** in
education data breaches.⁴

SAFEGUARDING CHILD IDENTITY

SECURE YOUR CHILD’S CREDIT



TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS

Watch for Red Flags

Notices from the IRS or credit card companies bearing your child’s name could indicate identity theft.

Don’t Delay

Act immediately if you see something suspicious.

Freeze Your Child’s Credit

Learn how at:
idtheftcenter.org/childIDtheft.



Are your family’s sensitive documents secured?

Consider a bank box or fireproof, locked safe at home.

Is a Social Security number required or optional?

If a form requests a SSN, don’t be afraid to ask. Refrain from divulging SSNs unnecessarily.

Have you had “the talk”?

Have routine, age-appropriate conversations with your kids about what it means to share info online and in-person – and why it’s best to keep it private.

Sources: 1. <https://www.javelinstrategy.com/coverage-area/2018-child-identity-fraud-study> • 2. <https://www.riskbasedsecurity.com/2020/02/10/number-of-records-exposed-in-2019-hits-15-1-billion/> • 3. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/number-of-student-data-breaches-ransomware-attacks-nearly-triple-in-last-year-301012914.html> • 4. <https://notified.idtheftcenter.org/s/>