

Kansas Unemployment Insurance Fraud Impact

June 14, 2021

Presented By:

Phillip M. Hayes

Vice President

The Arnold Group (TAG)

Chairman, KS Employment Security Board of Review

Kansas Department of Labor



Kansas Unemployment Insurance Fraud Impact



- Impact on the KS UI Trust Fund
- Impact on KS Employers & Claimants
- Multi-Factor Authentication – Identity Verification
- UI Fraud Mitigation Strategies for Employees
- UI Fraud Mitigation Strategies for Employers
- Questions / Comments

KDOL: “Seeing Record Spike in ID Theft-UI Fraud” | 10/06/20

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Laura Kelly, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 6, 2020

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KDOL Launches Effort to Stop Identity Theft-Related Unemployment Fraud

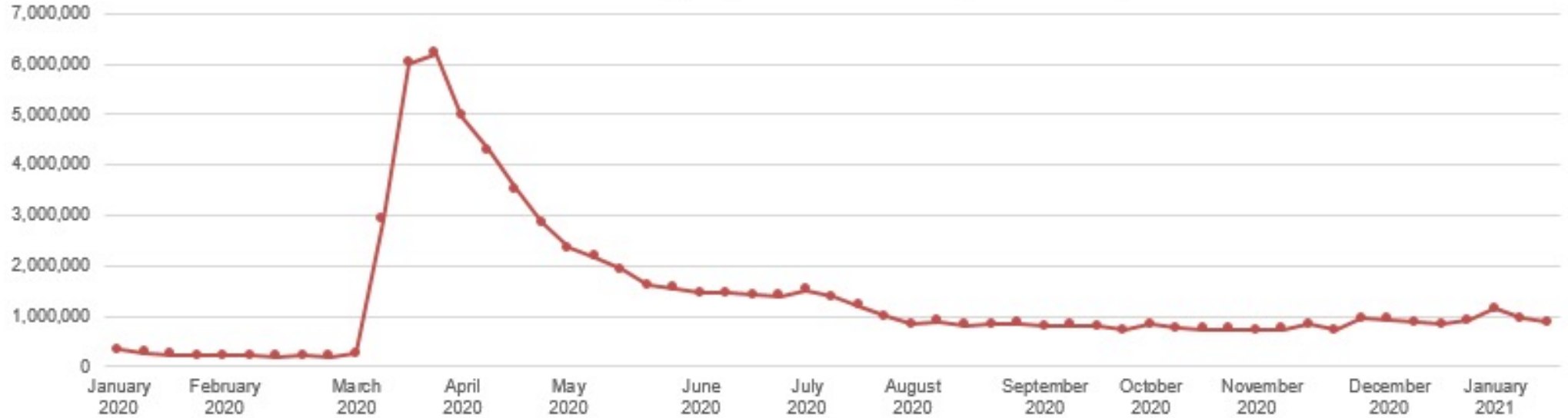
Topeka, KS - The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) today announced actions it is taking in an effort to combat the growing threat of identity theft. Kansas, like every other state, is seeing a historic increase in reports of fraudulent unemployment claims. To date, KDOL has prevented approximately 45,000 identity theft-related fraudulent claims from being paid out.

“We are seeing a record spike in identity theft-related unemployment fraud in Kansas and nationally,” Acting Secretary of Labor Ryan Wright said. “Identity theft is not a nameless, faceless crime. Fraudsters are victimizing our family members, friends, neighbors and coworkers. The Kansas Department of Labor is working with law enforcement and adding additional layers of protection for Kansans, but we need your help to combat this growing threat.”

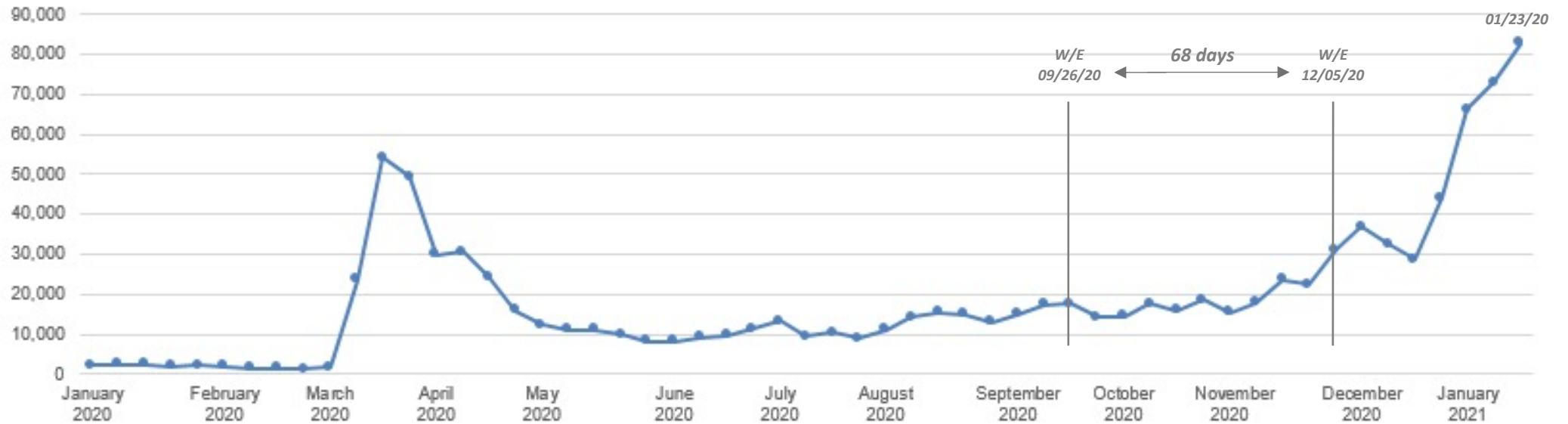
In response, KDOL created the www.ReportFraud.ks.gov website. The site serves as a one-stop shop for any person that suspects she or he may have been a victim of identity theft. Once a suspected identity theft claim is reported on the site, the system generates a police report number and tips for victims to use to help mitigate the damage from the theft. The agency’s fraud team is then able to prevent the fraudulent claims from being paid.

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Initial Unemployment Claims (National)



Initial Unemployment Claims (Kansas)



Week Ending 01/23/21 Simple Snapshot

Filing Week: 1/23/2021 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)				
State	Population	Population %	Initial Claims	Initial Claim %
California	39,512,223	12.04%	53,299	6.10%
Kansas	2,913,314	0.89%	82,944	9.49%
Illinois	12,671,821	3.86%	108,808	12.45%
United States	328,239,523	100.00%	873,966	100.00%

January 26, 2021 – KS SHRM & Unemployment Insurance Services Testimony

- KS Senate and KS House Commerce Committees
- \$300M - \$600M Estimated UI Fraud in Kansas

KS UI Benefits: Pre-MFA (Identity Verification) Solution

							Full Totals & Averages Since WE 3/21 (45 Weeks)		Four (4) Week Average 1/2/2021 — 1/23/2021	
Week Ending							Totals	Weekly Averages	4 Wk Totals	4 Wk Avg.
1	Kansas Trust Fund Balance	\$ 400,600,000	\$ 375,300,000	\$ 338,700,000	\$ 302,200,000	\$ 273,300,000	\$ 246,900,000			
2	# Weeks Trust Fund to ZERO - KS Only benefits (KS Only - UI)	13.34	12.11	9.76	7.31	6.13	7.67			
3	# Years Trust Fund to ZERO - KS Only benefits (KS Only - UI)	0.26	0.23	0.19	0.14	0.12	0.15			
4	Projected Date of KS Trust Fund Bankruptcy	3/22/2021	3/20/2021	3/11/2021	3/1/2021	2/27/2021	3/17/2021	USDOL Reports 82,944 Initial KS Claims for W/E 01/23/21		
5	Regular Claims									
6	Initial Claims	34,624	30,074	45,743	69,404	76,513	25,489	1,086,282	24,140	217,149
7	Call Center	788	618	1,009	1,537	1,167	620	137,048	3,046	4,333
8	Internet	33,836	29,456	44,734	67,867	75,346	24,869	949,233	21,094	212,816
9	Internet %	97.72%	97.95%	97.79%	97.79%	98.47%	97.57%	97.38%	97.38%	98.00%
10	Continued Claims	83,628	85,172	92,961	103,909	102,561	75,883	3,333,059	74,068	375,314
11	Total Payments Summary	\$ 53,000,447	\$ 38,471,191	\$ 43,050,837	\$ 43,105,488	\$ 45,875,429	\$ 34,871,425	\$ 2,718,679,314	\$ 60,415,096	\$ 166,903,179
12	Regular Unemployment Insurance (KS Only - UI)	\$ 30,028,587	\$ 30,984,021	\$ 34,716,769	\$ 41,323,096	\$ 44,570,345	\$ 32,201,874	\$ 1,064,965,627	\$ 23,665,903	\$ 152,812,084
13	Fed Pandemic Unemployment Comp (FPUC)	\$ 1,538,982	\$ 554,292	\$ 463,431	\$ 468,465	\$ 393,411	\$ 1,842,006	\$ 1,223,599,739	\$ 30,589,993	\$ 3,167,313
14	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)	\$ 2,823,305	\$ 1,154,186	\$ 945,198	\$ 613,613	\$ 396,788	\$ 478,256	\$ 186,754,172	\$ 5,335,833	\$ 2,433,855
15	Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Comp (PEUC)	\$ 7,059,897	\$ 5,475,620	\$ 5,065,189	\$ 522,261	\$ 355,432	\$ 260,237	\$ 113,915,565	\$ 3,350,458	\$ 6,203,119
16	State Extended Benefits (EB)	\$ 2,005,220	\$ 234,372	\$ 123,452	\$ 78,004	\$ 65,083	\$ 31,073	\$ 11,769,965	\$ 452,691	\$ 297,612
17	Lost Wages Assistance (LWA)	\$ 9,544,456	\$ 68,700	\$ 1,736,798	\$ 100,049	\$ 94,370	\$ 57,979	\$ 117,674,246	\$ 7,354,640	\$ 1,989,196
18	Regular Unemployment Insurance (KS Only - UI)									
19	# Weeks Compensated	72,519	73,816	81,888	96,336	103,325	74,279	2,984,184	66,315	355,828
20	Final Payments	1,187	998	980	1,119	926	776	56,482	1,255	3,801
21	Individuals Receiving Payments	63,256	66,142	71,525	82,089	91,377	66,883	2,588,864	57,530	311,874
22	Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$ 414.08	\$ 419.75	\$ 423.95	\$ 428.95	\$ 431.36	\$ 433.53	\$ 16,120.12	\$ 358.22	\$ 1,717.79
23	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)									
24	Initial Claims	5,656	3,509	2,625	6,951	7,574	5,416	206,263	7,639	22,566
25	Continued Claims	48,392	15,442	20,812	31,124	37,822	31,602	2,896,878	107,292	121,360
26	# Weeks Compensated	11,307	4,130	4,200	2,689	1,397	1,402	688,580	19,674	9,688
27	Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Comp (PEUC)									
28	Initial Claims	1,368	925	765	14	22	9	39,717	1,471	810
29	Continued Claims	20,341	16,168	13,874	867	766	371	316,786	11,733	15,878
30	# Weeks Compensated	21,260	16,697	14,047	1,216	995	452	328,791	12,177	16,710
31	State Extended Benefits (EB)									
32	Initial Claims	2,647	214	40	14	10	8	9,873	395	72
33	Continued Claims	4,808	253	158	159	158	62	24,333	973	537
34	# Weeks Compensated	6,572	701	270	238	199	61	39,847	1,594	768

KS SHRM & Business Community Testifies in Topeka | 01/26/21



Testimony for KS House Commerce,
Labor & Economic Development Committee
Employment Security Law Reforms
Submitted on behalf of The Kansas State Council of the
Society for Human Resource Management (KS SHRM)
January 26, 2021 | Phillip M. Hayes



Members of the Committee:

My name is Phillip Hayes and I am here today on behalf of The Kansas State Council of the Society for Human Resource Management (KS SHRM) in support of critical UI reforms. I am the Vice President of The Arnold Group, A Human Resource Company in Wichita, Kansas that provides staffing, recruiting, executive search, talent acquisition, and HR outsourcing solutions. Additionally, I currently serve as a member of the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL), which I have been a member for 20+ years and most recently KS SHRM is a professional organization that advances the interests of the professional HR managers on fair and effective people in small businesses. On a daily basis, our members work on workforce planning, HR development, and unemployment insurance.

When crisis and calamity take jobs away, make ends meet. That is where the Kansas pandemic is unprecedented, overwhelming claimants in a timely manner, and exposing employers to deal with the challenges of furloughs have and continue to experience agreement across the political spectrum in responding to the economic emergency. The COVID-19 pandemic brought our economic crisis to no one anticipated. It's imperative during future critical times of need. Kansas business leaders have clamored for began chairing the KS SHRM – KS Unemployment reforms since then, I have become a strong support for necessary and critical

1. **Creation of the Unemployment Compensation**

- States rely heavily on information processing UI claims and pay us today. There is an urgent need for the new Unemployment Compensation members, representing employers, the responsible primary focus of the Council in 1. Review and recommend experience had by individual 2. Recommend system features 3. Recommend methods for 4. Recommend methods for

2. **Realign the Kansas Duration of Benefits**

- Adjust the KS unemployment statute with the Federal Reserve unemployment rate standard

3. **Provide Additional Relief to All R**

- Provide additional relief to 1. system. By applying these 2. Rebalance the trust fund out 3. Adjust automatic trigger 4. Apply the base rate method

4. **Recalibrate and Rebalance the S**

- Instead of charging a flat rate MERIT based principles rates are earned based on 1. Review and recommend experience had by individual 2. Recommend system features 3. Recommend methods for 4. Recommend methods for

2. KDOL IT Modernization – Continual UI IT System Development, Customization, Enhancements and Upgrades

- The pandemic caught the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) off guard, with low numbers of knowledgeable state employees regarding unemployment insurance benefits. Many Kansans were left without recourse and were unable to access assistance right away. KDOL administers unemployment compensation across the state with decades-old software and outdated computers. Investment in modern, reliable, and modifiable computer systems must be a critical first step to better serve impacted employees as well as employers. KDOL must adopt and implement a new infrastructure to efficiently administer unemployment insurance assistance in a timely, accurate, and secure manner.
- A new IT modernization effort must define new system integrity requirements as well as have an implementation deadline to ensure a new Ka the next downturn.

3. Unemployment Compensation B

- Introduce a requirement to notice of determination. TI unemployment compensation withholding process and KI elections to each claimant at

4. Kansas Unemployment Insurance

- Introduce a requirement to 1 years within 90 days of each impacting their tax rate.

5. Realign the Kansas Duration of B

- Adjust the KS unemployment statute with the Federal Reserve unemployment rate standard

6. Provide Additional Relief to All R

- Provide additional relief to 1. system. By applying these 2. Rebalance the trust fund out 3. Adjust automatic trigger 4. Apply the base rate method

7. Recalibrate and Rebalance the S

- Instead of charging a flat rate MERIT based principles rates are earned based on 1. Review and recommend experience had by individual 2. Recommend system features 3. Recommend methods for 4. Recommend methods for

- Bottom 11 (Negative) Rate Groups:
 - 3,178 Employers | 5.42% of all rated employers
 - SUTA tax rate increases ranging from 21.05% to 28.57% | Average increase of 24.81%
- With proposed changes – ALL rated KS employers will experience the same increase in their UI tax rate:
 - Top, Bottom and ALL rate groups in between:
 - 58,665 Employers | 100.00% of ALL rated employers
 - SUTA tax rate of 26.32% (max) | Average increase of 26.32% (max)

8. Provide Immediate Economic Relief to Employer Chargeability and Credits as it relates to any Claimant Fraud Determination

- Employers should receive full chargeability credits immediately upon fraud determination decisions for any unemployment benefit amounts erroneously or fraudulently paid to any person associated w/ their account.

9. Provide Economic Relief to the KS UI Trust Fund Related to All Improper Payments Between 3/15/20 and 12/31/22

- As reported under The Payment Integrity Information Act (PIIA), and as a result of the inadequacies of the KDOL's unemployment insurance compensation IT system, any and all improper payment amounts determined between 3/15/20 and 12/31/22 should be replenished to the Kansas Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund through funds in the state general fund or any alternative fund determined by the legislature.
- The KS UI Trust Fund should receive an allocation of future federal funds that KS receives after 1/1/21 in response to and/or related to a pandemic.
- Any federal unemployment benefit programs established as a result of COVID-19 or future pandemic should NOT be continued with any Kansas State Unemployment Tax Act (SUTA) contributions made by Kansas employers.

10. Enhance the Work Share Program to Prevent Future Layoffs

- KDOL should increase awareness/support and reduce the administrative burden for the Work Share Program. Work Share allows employers to reduce hours rather than resort to layoffs while workers maintain employer-sponsored benefits and receive unemployment benefits to offset reduced hours. This underutilized program keeps workers connected with employers so that when the economic improves, employers can increase their hours again without having to rehire and train.
- Create a requirement for KDOL to create and manage an annual promotional campaign for the Work Share Program to encourage and improve business participation.

11. Requirement for KDOL to Acknowledge, Process and Respond to ALL Reported Job Refusals

- Just as employers have 10 days to respond to KDOL's Employer Job Refusal Statement form, KDOL should have the same requirement to respond to all job refusals reported by an employer. All reported job refusals should be acknowledged, processed and responded to in a timely manner to ensure a proper determination will be made by KDOL.

Additionally, I have included nine addendums (A-I) as additional background information as reference. In closing, KS SHRM strongly supports the critical changes necessary to enhance and strengthen the Employment Security Law. Thank you for service to our great state and also for the opportunity to appear before you. I would be happy to stand for questions now or at the appropriate time. I am also available by phone or email to address any future questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Phillip M. Hayes, SPHR
Vice President – The Arnold Group
316.619.7864 | phayes@the-arnold-group.com

Kansas Unemployment Insurance Fraud Estimates

KS UI Fraud Payments - Estimate 1:					
November 2020 Labor Report: Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs	KS Regular Claims from 3/21/20-1/16/21 (44 Weeks)	Estimate of 2020 Fraudulent UI Claims in Kansas	Average Weekly Benefit Amount (44 Weeks)	Estimated Fraudulent Regular KS UI Benefit Payment Cost (44 Weeks)	
1,119,700	1,060,793	73.14%	775,880	\$356.51	\$276,609,073

KS UI Fraud Payments - Estimate 2:					
1/21/21 KDOL Fraud Claims Estimate (44 Weeks)	Less the KDOL est. 250,000 fraud claims	Estimate of 2020 Fraudulent UI Claims in Kansas	Average Weekly Benefit Amount (44 Weeks)	Estimated Fraudulent Regular KS UI Benefit Payment Cost (44 Weeks)	
250,000	810,793	73.14%	593,026	\$356.51	\$211,419,853

KS UI Fraud Payments - Estimate 3:					
KS Regular Claims from 3/21/20-1/16/21 (44 Weeks)	Estimate 36.57% (fraud estimate halved)	Maximum Weekly Benefit Amounts (\$10M difference thru 44 wks)	Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount (44 Weeks)	Estimated Improper Regular KS UI Benefit Payment Cost (44 Weeks)	
1,060,793	387,940	\$488 < 7/31/20 \$503 > 8/1/20	\$503.00	\$195,133,886	

KS UI Improper Payments - Estimate 1:					
Total # Wks Compensated from 3/21/20-1/16/21 (44 Wks)	Improper Payment Rate	14.21% of Total # Wks Compensated	Average Weekly Benefit Amount (44 Weeks)	Estimated Improper Regular KS UI Benefit Payment Cost (44 Weeks)	
2,909,905	14.21%	413,498	\$356.51	\$147,415,994	

KS UI Improper Payments - Estimate 2:					
UI Payment Accuracy by State 7/1/17 - 6/30/20 (primarily pre-pandemic)	State	Improper Payment Rate	Rank	Total Regular KS UI Benefits paid from 3/21/20-1/16/21 (44 Weeks)	Estimated Improper Regular KS UI Benefit Payment Cost (44 Weeks)
https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/unemployment-insurance-payment-accuracy	Kansas	14.21%	10th Highest	\$988,193,408	\$140,422,283

Average KS UI Fraud Estimates:	Average Improper Payments Averages:	Avg. Fraud + Improper Payments Combined:
\$227,720,937	\$143,919,139	\$371,640,076

Gov. Kelly: “Shut down Unemployment Servers” | 01/27/21

The Wichita Eagle

STATE

Kansas to shut down unemployment servers this weekend as part of fight against fraud

BY MEGAN STRINGER

JANUARY 27, 2021 05:34 PM, UPDATED JANUARY 28, 2021 01:09 PM



Kansas Governor Laura Kelly answers questions about unemployment fraud claims and security upgrades to the Department of Labor's website. (Jan. 27, 2021) BY GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY/FACEBOOK

Multi-Factor Authentication | Identity Verification

MFA Implemented between Jan. 31 – Feb. 2, 2021



KS UI Benefits: Post-MFA (Identity Verification) Solution

							Full Totals & Averages Since WE 3/21 (51 Weeks)		Four (4) Week Average 2/13/2021 — 3/6/2021	
Week Ending							Totals	Weekly Averages	4 Wk Totals	4 Wk Avg.
1	Kansas Trust Fund Balance	\$ 246,900,000	\$ 265,000,000	\$ 268,800,000	\$ 272,900,000	\$ 275,200,000	\$ 264,900,000			
2	# Weeks Trust Fund to ZERO - KS Only benefits (KS Only - UI)	59.86	464.71	39.94	150.53	35.65	26.62			
3	# Years Trust Fund to ZERO - KS Only benefits (KS Only - UI)	1.15	8.94	0.77	2.89	0.69	0.51			
4	Projected Date of KS Trust Fund Bankruptcy	3/25/2022	1/2/2030	11/19/2021	1/9/2024	11/3/2021	9/8/2021			
5	Regular Claims									
6	Initial Claims	16,927	4,905	6,630	3,774	3,227	2,267	1,124,012	22,039	15,898
7	Call Center	841	390	2,761	483	600	433	142,556	2,795	4,277
8	Internet	16,116	4,515	3,869	3,291	2,627	1,834	981,485	19,245	11,621
9	Internet %	95.21%	92.05%	58.36%	87.20%	81.41%	80.90%	87.32%	87.32%	73.10%
10	Continued Claims	79,792	22,058	23,219	27,960	16,898	24,463	3,527,449	69,166	92,540
11	Total Payments Summary	\$ 15,210,006	\$ 1,315,738	\$ 13,377,139	\$ 14,604,395	\$ 26,193,410	\$ 24,393,968	\$ 2,813,773,970	\$ 55,172,039	\$ 78,568,912
12	Regular Unemployment Insurance (KS Only - UI)	\$ 4,124,778	\$ 570,254	\$ 6,729,527	\$ 1,812,958	\$ 7,720,081	\$ 9,949,817	\$ 1,095,873,042	\$ 21,487,707	\$ 26,212,383
13	Fed Pandemic Unemployment Comp (FPUC)	\$ 10,762,655	\$ 523,091	\$ 5,957,046	\$ 6,416,421	\$ 12,346,592	\$ 10,560,935	\$ 1,270,166,479	\$ 27,612,315	\$ 35,280,994
14	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)	\$ 286,148	\$ 194,109	\$ 215,867	\$ 906,153	\$ 680,781	\$ 991,568	\$ 190,028,798	\$ 4,634,849	\$ 2,794,369
15	Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Comp (PEUC)	\$ 18,282	\$ 9,984	\$ 399,330	\$ 5,421,986	\$ 5,355,438	\$ 2,795,415	\$ 127,916,000	\$ 3,197,900	\$ 13,972,169
16	State Extended Benefits (EB)	\$ 1,343	\$ -	\$ 75,369	\$ 43,577	\$ 75,818	\$ 82,433	\$ 12,048,505	\$ 376,516	\$ 277,197
17	Lost Wages Assistance (LWA)	\$ 16,800	\$ 18,300	\$ -	\$ 3,300	\$ 14,700	\$ 13,800	\$ 117,741,146	\$ 5,351,870	\$ 31,800
18	Regular Unemployment Insurance (KS Only - UI)									
19	# Weeks Compensated	14,193	1,526	17,083	4,698	18,331	25,099	3,065,114	60,100	65,211
20	Final Payments	431	26	476	98	444	860	58,817	1,153	1,878
21	Individuals Receiving Payments	12,265	863	10,832	2,777	13,279	13,720	2,642,600	51,816	40,608
22	Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$ 290.62	\$ 373.69	\$ 393.93	\$ 385.90	\$ 421.15	\$ 396.42	\$ 18,381.83	\$ 360.43	\$ 1,597.40
23	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)									
24	Initial Claims	4,142	3,574	2,411	1,304	767	522	218,983	6,636	5,004
25	Continued Claims	30,057	40,546	37,919	28,218	21,833	19,070	3,074,521	93,167	107,040
26	# Weeks Compensated	455	690	837	6,458	2,232	3,643	702,895	17,144	13,170
27	Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Comp (PEUC)									
28	Initial Claims	60	145	22	81	42	26	40,093	1,215	171
29	Continued Claims	501	413	472	1,330	4,583	6,934	331,019	10,031	13,319
30	# Weeks Compensated	52	25	1,231	18,532	5,908	8,612	363,151	11,005	34,283
31	State Extended Benefits (EB)									
32	Initial Claims	34	42	24	8	2	26	10,009	323	60
33	Continued Claims	84	70	32	19	32	23	24,593	793	106
34	# Weeks Compensated	19	-	272	89	178	256	40,661	1,312	795

KS UI Benefits: Pre- VS. Post-MFA 4 Week Comparison

01/02/2021 – 01/23/2021:

- Average Weekly Kansas Regular UI Benefits:
 - **\$38,203,021**
- Projected Insolvency Date:
 - **03/17/21**

————— *MFA Implemented between Jan. 31 – Feb. 2, 2021* —————

02/13/21 – 03/06/2021:

- Average Weekly Kansas Regular UI Benefits:
 - **\$6,553,096**
- Projected Insolvency Date:
 - **09/08/21 (Q1 & Q2 Employer Contributions not included)**

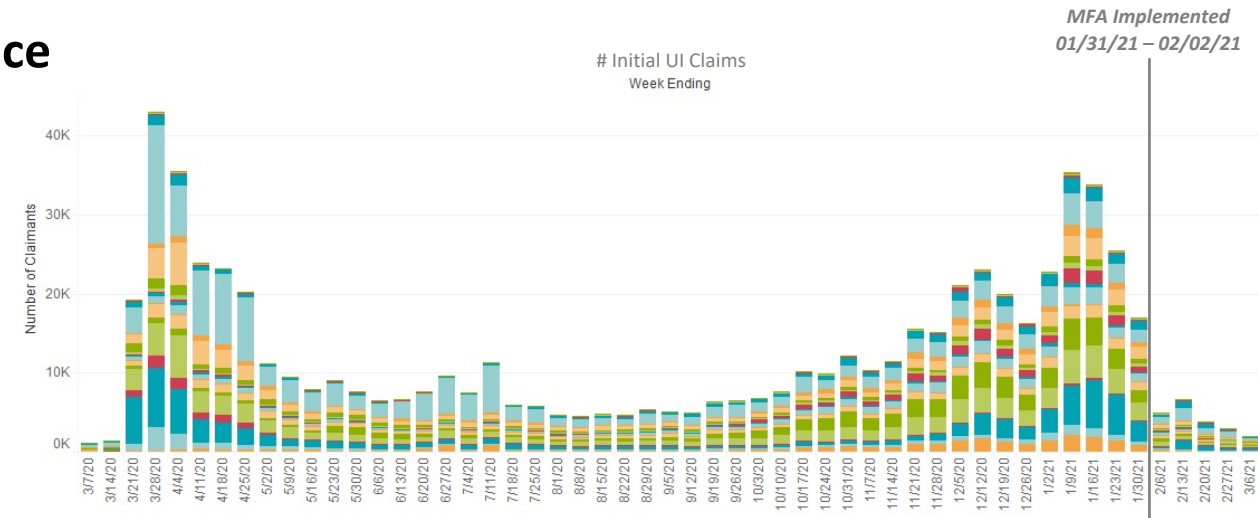
***Average Weekly Benefits
decreased 82.85% with MFA***

Kansas Estimated UI Fraud Summaries

U.S. DOL Improper/Fraud Payment Rate for Kansas Prior to Pandemic: **14.21%**

Regular Kansas Unemployment Insurance

- 12/29/2019 – 11/28/2020:
\$842,348,475 x 14.21% = **\$119,697,718**
- 11/29/2020 – 03/06/2021:
\$292,426,717 x 14.21% = **\$41,553,836**
- 09/27/2020 – 03/06/2021:
\$424,773,155 x 82.85% = **\$351,924,559**



Total Estimated Fraud:

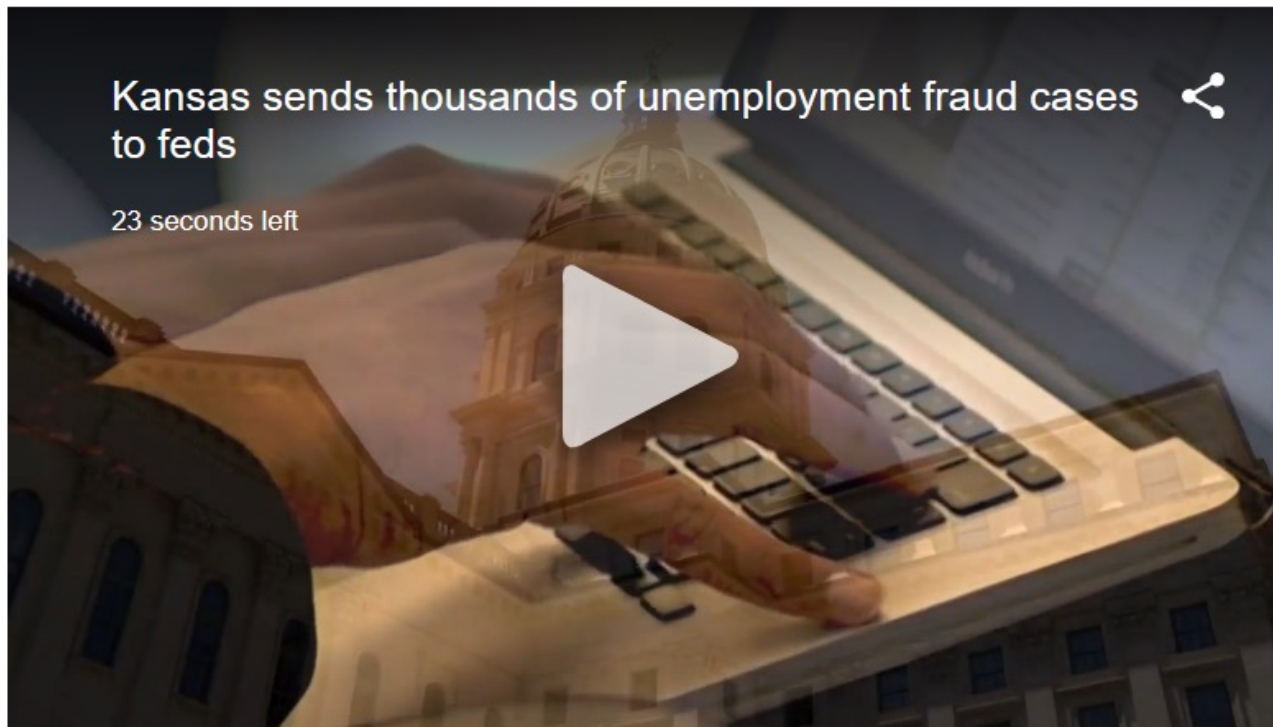
- Regular Kansas UI = **\$513,176,114**
- Federal UI: \$1,717,900,928 x 14.21% = **\$244,113,722 (conservative)**
- Combined KS & Fed UI: **\$757,289,836 OR \$913,176,114 (w/ LPA \$400M Fed)**

Estimated Fraud:

- KDOL = KS Traditional UI: **\$140M** | Fed. UI Programs: **\$150M** | **\$290M Total**
- LPA = KS Traditional UI: **\$200M** | Fed. UI Programs: **\$400M** | **\$600M Total**
- KS SHRM = KS Traditional UI: **\$513M** | Fed. UI Programs: **\$244-\$400M** | **\$757-\$913M Total**

KDOL Reports 50,000 fake UI claims to Feds | 02/23/21

Kansas turns over 50,000 fake unemployment claims to federal investigators



TOPEKA, Kan. —

The Kansas Department of Labor has referred more than 50,000 cases of fraud to investigators, and stopped payments on another 500,000 cases. Those are just cases from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

These 50,000 cases do NOT include the avalanche of claims submitted in January of 2021.

by: Heidi Schmidt

Posted: Feb 23, 2021 / 05:11 PM CST / Updated: Feb 23, 2021 / 05:11 PM CST

KDOL MFA: Fraudulent Login Attempts & BOT Attacks

**Cumulative Totals*

Bots and fraudulent login attempts stopped since 2/3/21:

- 02/08/21: >1.0M
- 03/08/21: 6.12M
- 04/05/21: 6.56M
- 05/10/21: 7.61M
- 06/03/21: 7.80M



UI Claims Recovery Comparison | 4/22/21

As a result of closing the ID theft-UI fraud flood gates, Kansas UI metrics greatly improved:



Smallest Increase* (Latest Week vs 2019)

1. New Jersey
2. Connecticut
3. Arizona
4. Massachusetts
5. Kansas



Biggest Increase* (Latest Week vs 2019)

47. District of Columbia
48. Utah
49. Oklahoma
50. North Dakota
51. Delaware

*Refers to the change in the number of unemployment insurance initial claims in the week of April 12, 2021 compared to the week of April 15, 2019.

Smallest Increase*** (Latest Week vs Same Week of 2020)

1. Florida
2. South Dakota
3. Kansas
4. Kentucky
5. South Carolina



Biggest Increase*** (Latest Week vs Same Week of 2020)

47. District of Columbia
48. Vermont
49. Wyoming
50. Delaware
51. Utah

***Refers to the change in the number of unemployment insurance initial claims in the week of April 12, 2021 compared to the week of April 13, 2020.

Smallest Increase** (Latest Week vs Start of 2020)

1. New Jersey
2. South Carolina
3. South Dakota
4. Pennsylvania
5. Kansas



Biggest Increase** (Latest Week vs Start of 2020)

47. Nevada
48. Oklahoma
49. Utah
50. New Mexico
51. District of Columbia

**Refers to the change in the number of unemployment insurance initial claims in the week of April 12, 2021 compared to the week of January 1, 2020.

Smallest Increase**** (Since Start of COVID-19 Crisis vs. Previous Year)

1. New Hampshire
2. South Dakota
3. Kansas
4. North Carolina
5. South Carolina



Biggest Increase**** (Since Start of COVID-19 Crisis vs. Previous Year)

47. Idaho
48. Texas
49. West Virginia
50. Oklahoma
51. Alaska

****Refers to the change in the number of unemployment insurance initial claims between the weeks of March 15, 2021 to April 12, 2021 compared to the weeks of March 16, 2020 to April 13, 2020.

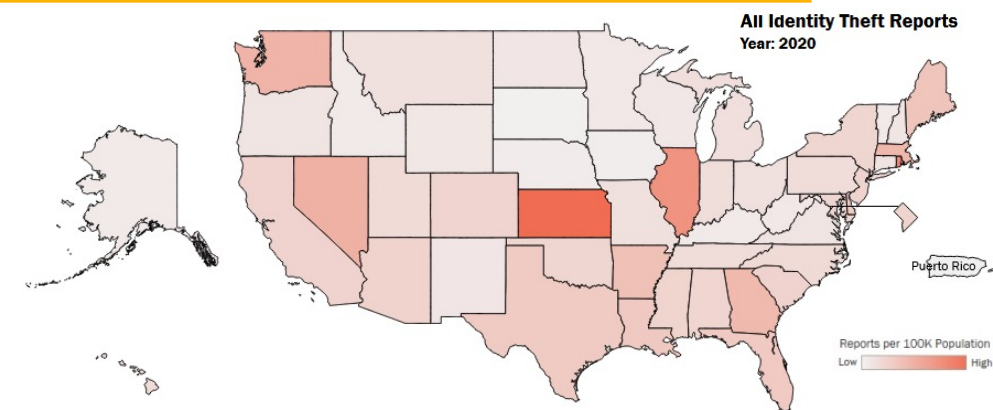
Identity Theft | Kansas was #1 in 2020 | 04/28/21

Rank	State	Identity theft reports in 2019	Identity theft reports in 2020	% increase in identity theft reports 2019-2020
1	Kansas	2,272	43,211	1801.9%
2	Rhode Island	1,145	12,621	1002.3%
3	Maine	809	7,183	787.9%
4	Washington	7,111	54,247	662.9%
5	Illinois	23,142	135,038	483.5%
6	Massachusetts	8,607	45,575	429.5%
7	Arkansas	4,524	17,470	286.2%
8	Oklahoma	3,706	13,797	272.3%
9	Montana	706	2,439	245.5%
10	Colorado	6,274	20,762	230.9%

Methodology: Federal Trade Commission data on identity theft reports from 2019 and 2020 were used to compile this report.

Source:

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/federal.trade.commission#!/vizhome/FraudandIDTheftMaps/IDTheftbyState>



All Identity Theft Reports

Kansas

Year	Rank	Reports per 100K		# of Reports	
		#	YoY % Change	#	YoY % Change
2021 (1Q)	2	1,239	233.96%	36,096	-16.46%
2020	1	371	1852.63%	43,210	1801.85%
2019	39	19	5.56%	2,272	6.12%
2018	35	18	0.00%	2,141	2.00%
2017	34	18		2,099	

ID theft outbreak in Kansas

Kansas led the country in per-capita reports of identity theft, with 1,483 reports for every 100,000 residents. When metro areas across the U.S. were analyzed, four in Kansas led all others: Topeka had 1,925 reports for every 100,000 persons; Lawrence, 1,717; Wichita, 1,395; and Manhattan, 1,207. In fifth place was Tuscaloosa, Alabama, with 1,195 identity theft reports for every 100,000 residents.

KDOL Fraud Software Security Updates* | 06/07/21



Kansas UI Benefits Snapshot – Most Recent 4 Weeks

					Full Pandemic Summary		Four (4) Week Summary	
					Since WE 03/21/20 (64 Weeks)		05/15/21— 06/05/21	
Week Ending					Totals	Weekly Averages	Most Recent 4 Week Totals	Most Recent 4 Week Averages
1	Kansas Trust Fund Balance	\$ 415,600,000	\$ 408,300,000	\$ 404,500,000	\$ 400,900,000			
2	# Weeks Trust Fund to ZERO - KS Only benefits (KS Only - UI)	91.45	77.50	85.65	87.31			
3	# Years Trust Fund to ZERO - KS Only benefits (KS Only - UI)	1.76	1.49	1.65	1.68			
4	Projected Date of KS Trust Fund Bankruptcy	2/14/2023	11/15/2022	1/18/2023	2/6/2023			
5	Regular Claims							
6	Initial Claims	2,021	2,382	2,122	1,650	1,153,554	18,024	8,175 2,044
7	Call Center	902	898	1,039	583	152,327	2,380	3,422 856
8	Internet	1,119	1,480	1,224	1,067	1,001,327	15,646	4,890 1,223
9	Internet %	55.37%	62.13%	57.68%	64.67%	86.80%	86.80%	59.82% 59.82%
10	Continued Claims	10,423	11,488	11,249	10,343	3,672,355	57,381	43,503 10,876
11	Total UI Payments Summary (KS & Federal)	\$ 20,883,219	\$ 28,412,082	\$ 19,291,606	\$ 17,842,421	\$ 3,100,851,545	\$ 48,450,805	\$ 86,429,328 \$ 21,607,332
12	Regular Unemployment Insurance (KS Only - UI)	\$ 4,544,759	\$ 5,268,593	\$ 4,722,661	\$ 4,591,690	\$ 1,157,896,367	\$ 18,092,131	\$ 19,127,703 \$ 4,781,926
13	Fed Pandemic Unemployment Comp (FPUC)	\$ 9,398,757	\$ 16,781,652	\$ 8,936,191	\$ 8,062,485	\$ 1,395,287,411	\$ 23,648,939	\$ 43,179,085 \$ 10,794,771
14	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)	\$ 832,788	\$ 989,663	\$ 1,135,579	\$ 1,067,796	\$ 203,690,911	\$ 3,772,054	\$ 4,025,826 \$ 1,006,457
15	Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Comp (PEUC)	\$ 6,080,409	\$ 5,358,399	\$ 4,487,854	\$ 4,115,510	\$ 199,467,427	\$ 3,763,536	\$ 20,042,172 \$ 5,010,543
16	State Extended Benefits (EB)	\$ 26,506	\$ 10,475	\$ 9,321	\$ 4,940	\$ 12,397,069	\$ 275,490	\$ 51,242 \$ 12,811
17	Lost Wages Assistance (LWA)	\$ -	\$ 3,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 132,112,360	\$ 3,774,639	\$ 3,300 \$ 825
18	Regular Unemployment Insurance (KS Only - UI)							
19	# Weeks Compensated	11,695	13,715	12,216	11,015	3,222,164	50,346	48,641 12,160
20	Final Payments	260	320	240	222	62,695	980	1,042 261
21	Individuals Receiving Payments	8,628	9,450	9,198	8,792	2,760,902	43,139	36,068 9,017
22	Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$ 388.61	\$ 384.15	\$ 386.60	\$ 416.86	\$ 23,547.65	\$ 367.93	\$ 1,576.22 \$ 394.06
23	Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)							
24	Initial Claims	262	255	230	197	222,498	4,837	944 236
25	Continued Claims	6,795	7,113	6,028	6,485	3,211,550	69,816	26,421 6,605
26	# Weeks Compensated	3,338	3,845	4,198	3,752	757,309	14,024	15,133 3,783
27	Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Comp (PEUC)							
28	Initial Claims	125	104	111	105	43,170	938	445 111
29	Continued Claims	13,108	13,562	11,384	11,342	466,550	10,142	49,396 12,349
30	# Weeks Compensated	17,753	15,811	11,682	11,131	553,822	12,040	56,377 14,094
31	State Extended Benefits (EB)							
32	Initial Claims	-	-	-	-	10,039	228	- -
33	Continued Claims	16	13	9	7	24,848	565	45 11
34	# Weeks Compensated	75	41	31	17	41,902	952	164 41

KDOL Guidance: Protecting Yourself / Employees

Recognize fraud and scams:

1. The FBI advises the public to be on the lookout for the following suspicious activities:
 - Receiving communications regarding unemployment insurance forms when you have not applied for unemployment benefits
 - Unauthorized transactions on bank/credit card statements related to unemployment benefits
 - Any fees involved in filing or qualifying for unemployment insurance
 - Unsolicited inquiries related to unemployment benefits
 - Fictitious websites and social media pages mimicking those of government agencies
 - Requests for bank information
 - Surveys
2. Never give out personal information over email or text message; don't open/respond to unsolicited messages
3. Don't wire money, and always ignore the following requests:
 - Communications related to your UI benefits from someone asking for money
 - Someone who says they can help you file for your benefits for a fee; and
 - Anyone claiming to work for KDOL who says they need a fee to complete your application
 - Offers from people/organizations you don't recognize promising early/faster UI benefit payments
4. Pay attention to emails with misspelled words, unusual address, statements demanding action right away, emails asking for personal information or bank account information
5. Never give out your personal information on websites or social media channels, especially those that claim they can help you apply for UI benefits
 - Third parties cannot apply for your benefits



Unemployment Insurance: Benefits Fraud

- First and foremost, whether or not you are an identity-theft victim
 - Protect your Social Security number and other personal information
 - Expect that the personal information of every adult in the U.S. has been exposed
- Here's what to do:
 1. Verify the Fraud
 2. Report It
 - KDOL (or other state labor department)
 - To Your Employer
 3. Assess the Damage
 4. Remediate Damage
 5. Take Precautions
 - Be alert to any suspicious mail, phone calls, email or social media requests, these could be attempts to gather personal information or a sign of existing fraud
 - Warning Signs:
 - Offers from people/organizations you don't recognize promising earlier/faster UI benefits
 - Solicitations from people you don't know offering money in exchange for personal info
 - Letters/emails/texts indicating new accounts or UI benefits have been initiated in your name/SSN



KDOL Guidance: Reporting UI Fraud

- Fraudulent claims created using you or your employee's personal information, including Social Security Number and date of birth, indicates that personal information is exposed and there is risk of further financial harm
- Remain vigilant & immediately report ANY suspicious activity related to unemployment claims
 - If you receive a letter or debit card in the mail for UI benefits and you did not file for unemployment
 - If you suspect someone has fraudulently filed for benefits using your name or any of your information, you need to report this to KDOL immediately
 - In such cases, we recommend reporting it immediately, online:
 1. Report UI Fraud / Identity Theft on KDOL fraud site: www.ReportFraud.ks.gov
 - This reporting site automatically generates a police case number
 - **An employee or an employer can report the fraudulent claim**
 - After you submit a fraud report, KDOL's Fraud Investigation Unit will take appropriate action:
 - Including freezing the account associated with the report
 - If any payments were made, they should not be recognized as income to you at end of the calendar year
 - Reported fraudulent claim(s) should not impact a legitimate claimant's ability to collect UI should they need to in the future
 - No charges should be assessed to your employer
- If you receive a UI claim notice (for you, another person, or , an employee) concerning a claim you didn't make, act quickly and report it as soon as possible

KDOL Fraud Resources



- During the week of December 14, 2020, KDOL announced it discovered a fraudulent unemployment benefits website
 - KDOL is working w/ law enforcement to track down the fraudsters:
 - Secret Service, FBI, the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Attorney General's Office
- Legitimate Kansas Department of Labor websites:
 - Main KDOL Site: www.dol.ks.gov
 - Unemployment Benefit Site: www.GetKansasBenefits.gov
 - PUA Benefit Site: www.PUA.GetKansasBenefits.gov
 - **Fraud Site, including Identity Theft:** www.ReportFraud.ks.gov
 - Recommended Browsers: **Chrome, Firefox, and Edge**
 - Fraud Hotline: 785.291.6059
 - **KS UI Benefits Self Service Portal:** <https://uiassistance.getkansasbenefits.gov>
- Legitimate US Department of Labor websites:
 - Report UI Fraud: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/unemployment-insurance-payment-accuracy/UIFraudReporting>
 - Report Identity Theft: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/UIIDtheft>



KDOL Guidance: Protecting Yourself / Employees

If you believe your identity has been stolen and a fraudulent unemployment claim has been filed on your behalf, here are some additional steps you can take to protect yourself:

1. Report UI Fraud / Identity Theft on KDOL fraud site: www.ReportFraud.ks.gov (police case # issued)
2. Visit www.identitytheft.gov to report the fraud to the FTC and get help with important next steps for recovery
3. Request a free copy of your credit report and dispute any fraudulent transactions
 - Online: www.annualcreditreport.com
 - Call: 877.322.8228
4. Place a credit freeze/fraud alert on your credit record with at least one of the three credit bureaus:
 - Equifax: 866.349.5191
 - Experian: 888.397.3742
 - TransUnion: 800.680.7289
5. Contact your respective financial providers (banks, credit cards, stocks, etc.) to flag irregular transactions
 - Inform them you are a victim of identity theft and ask them to put a fraud alert on your account
6. Create account with Social Security Administration: www.ssa.gov/myaccount and check your Social Security earnings Record for suspicious activity
7. Notify Internal Revenue Service and review IRS resources
 - Fraud Hotline: 800.908.4490 (IRS will issue a personal PIN number for tax filings)
 - Guide to ID Theft: www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/employment-related-identity-theft
 - ID Theft Tool Kit: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-news/fs-12-08.pdf>
8. Change passwords on your email, banking, and other personal accounts
9. Take notes about all conversations and keep copies of all records

KDOL Partners with Law Enforcement Agencies

Home > Unemployment > Report Fraud > Law Enforcement Identity Verification

Identity Verification for Law Enforcement Officers

Download the Identity Verification form and submit to the online portal.

[DOWNLOAD FORM](#)

Expand All

- Overview
- Identity Verification for LEOs Frequently Asked Questions
- Participating Law Enforcement Agencies**

**38 Law Enforcement Agencies
participating as of 6/9/21**

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
www.dol.ks.gov

IDENTITY VERIFICATION –LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

K-FRD 102 (4-21)

Information collected on this form is for identification of a claimant for unemployment compensation benefits. Once completed this form is confidential pursuant to K.S.A. 44-714(e) and K.A.R. 50-4-2. Unauthorized disclosure of the completed form may result in civil and criminal penalties.

Section A (completed by claimant applying for unemployment compensation benefits):

Name: _____ Social Security number: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Section B (completed by Law Enforcement Officer of a Kansas law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the location of the claimant's residence or last known place of employment in Kansas, or if all Kansas law enforcement agencies having jurisdiction over those locations have declined to participate, then by a participating law enforcement agency and the Secretary of Labor approves such submission from such law enforcement agency):

I, _____ attest that the individual identified above provided me with the following forms of identification and have checked the boxes for each. NOTE: An individual must provide one or two of the forms below based on the federal [Form I-9 requirements](#) (See page 3); all documents must be unexpired:

- ☐ Driver's license or identification card issued by a state or outlying territory of the U.S., provided it contains a photograph or information including information such as name, address, date of birth, gender, height and eye color.
- ☐ I.D. card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities, provided it contains a photograph or information including information such as name, address, date of birth, gender, height and eye color.
- ☐ School I.D. with photograph
- ☐ Voter registration card
- ☐ Native American Tribal document
- ☐ Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority
- ☐ U.S. Military or draft record
- ☐ Military dependent's I.D. card
- ☐ U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card
- ☐ Permanent Resident card
- ☐ U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Document (MMD) card

Acceptable documents for individuals **under the age of 18** who are unable to present a document listed above:

- ☐ School record or report card
- ☐ Clinic, doctor or hospital record
- ☐ Day care or nursery school record

For minors under the age of 18 and certain individuals with disabilities who are unable to produce any of the listed identity documents, special notations may be used in place of a List B document of the I-9 form. A complete list of acceptable documentation can be found at: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central/form-i-9-acceptable-documents>

Section C - Benefit Payment Information

- ☐ Debit Card sent to the above address

☐ Direct Deposit
Bank Routing no. _____
Acct. no. _____

MICR
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 0 0 1
Routing Number Account Number Check Number

Claimant Certification: I certify that the information I have provided is correct and complete, and I understand the willful or intentional misrepresentation or failure to disclose a material fact is punishable under the Kansas Employment Security Law and any other penalties available under state and federal law.

Printed name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

LEO Certification:

Printed name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

ORI Number: _____ Law Enforcement Agency Name: _____

KDOL ER Guidance: Appeal COVID-19 & Fraud Related Claims



1. **Contributing Employers:** comprise the vast majority of businesses in the state, **71,768**
 - **Should NOT** be charged for any new COVID-19 related claims or fraudulent claims
 - Protest any claims that are COVID-19 or fraud related found on annual Notice of Benefit Charges (NBC) statement
 2. **Rated Governmental Employers** are 2.7% of the employers or **1,982** entities
 - **Should NOT** be charged for any new COVID-19 related claims or fraudulent claims
 - Receive quarterly notices of charges, with rate notices mailed in June
 - Should protest any claims that are COVID-19 related or fraudulent
 3. **Reimbursing Employers** comprise just under 1% of the employers or **715** businesses
 - Billed 100% for their claims, however the CARES Act offered 50% relief of charges
 - **Should NOT** be charged for COVID-19 related or fraudulent claims
 - Receive quarterly statements of charges; these ERs likely to see most dramatic change to charges
 - Should protest any claims that are COVID-19 related or fraudulent
- KDOL encourages all employers to **carefully check their Notice of Benefit Charges (NBC) statements** for fraudulent/COVID-19 related claims. If any found, ERs should protest charges so KDOL can remove them
 - Contributing employer NBC statements will be issued by KDOL in **late October, early November**
 - Reimbursing employer NBC statements are issued by KDOL in **late January, April, July, & October**



Appeal ALL fraudulent and COVID-19 related claims listed

KDOL ER Guidance: Employer Help Desk



- KDOL Employer Help Desk launched the week of December 21, 2020
- Designed to aid businesses dealing with unemployment and other issues
- Help desk is not for the unemployed, it's for their former employers
- Businesses can call **888-396-3725**, M-F, 8am-4:30pm, to get answers about:
 - Filing quarterly wage reports and unemployment tax returns
 - Paying unemployment taxes
 - SUTA tax rates questions/concerns
 - How to handle fraudulent claims
 - Businesses also able to submit applications for the Work Share Program

Note: Unemployed workers should continue to call the KDOL contact center at 800.292.6333 or visit [GetKansasBenefits.gov](https://www.getkansasbenefits.gov)

UI Fraud: KDOL Website



Unemployment ▾

Employers ▾

Workers
Compensation ▾

Labor
Relations ▾

Industrial Safety
and Health ▾

Workplace
Laws ▾

Overpayments ▾



Select Language ▾



Unemployment Contact Centers

Kansas City	(913) 596-3500
Topeka	(785) 575-1460
Wichita	(316) 383-9947
Toll-Free	(800) 292-6333

Business Hours

Monday – Friday

8 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday

8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday

1 p.m. – 5 p.m.


Report Unemployment Claim Fraud

Like states all across the country, Kansas is seeing an increase in reports of unemployment claim fraud due to identity theft.

Fraudulent claims are being filed using the names and personal information of people who have not lost their jobs. If you suspect a claim has been improperly filed using your identity or your employees' identity, please let KDOL know.

REPORT FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY

UI Fraud: KDOL Resources



Unemployment ▾

Employers ▾

Workers Compensation ▾






Labor Relations ▾

Industrial Safety and Health ▾

Workplace Laws ▾

Overpayments ▾

Q

Select Language ▾

You can also call the Fraud Hotline at (785) 291-6059 to report fraud.

REPORT FRAUD

Unemployment Fraud

Expand All

Overview

Like states all across the country, Kansas is seeing an increase in reports of unemployment claim fraud due to identity theft. Fraudulent claims are being filed using the names and personal information of people who have not lost their jobs. People are often unaware a claim has been made on their behalf until they receive a determination notice in the mail from KDOL or until their employer receives a notice to verify the employee's status.

A review of these fraudulent claims indicates that scammers are finding personal information through incidents like credit card data breaches and then using that information to illegally attempt to collect unemployment. **These fraudulent attempts are not due to a breach of the KDOL unemployment system or because of anything that you have done.** Furthermore, receiving a letter of determination does not mean that benefits were paid; only that a claim was filed with your information.

Unemployment fraud is a felony. It is the willful misrepresentation of information to collect unemployment benefits. Each year, employers pay unemployment taxes which are deposited into the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. Unemployment benefits are paid out from this fund to workers who have lost their job through no fault of their own. Employers' tax rates are affected when workers make claims against their account and the balance of the Trust Fund. KDOL wants to ensure unemployment benefits are not being diverted from the Trust Fund to those who are not eligible. Kansas law provides penalties to claimants and employers who commit fraud.

Report Unemployment Fraud

Worker Misclassification

Unemployment Fraud and Worker Misclassification Resources

Source: <https://www.dol.ks.gov/fraud>

UI Fraud: Reporting to KDOL



www.reportfraud.ks.gov OR www.fraudreport.ks.gov

Kansas Department of Labor



If you suspect someone has committed unemployment fraud, which includes filing claims using you or your employees' name and personal information, please fill out the form below.

Submission Form

Supported browsers are Chrome, Firefox, or Edge

NOTE

By completing this form, benefits will be suspended pending investigation as you are confirming that you, an employee, or another individual is an ID theft victim by submitting the Report Fraud form. **ALL PAYMENTS WILL BE STOPPED PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THAT INVESTIGATION.**

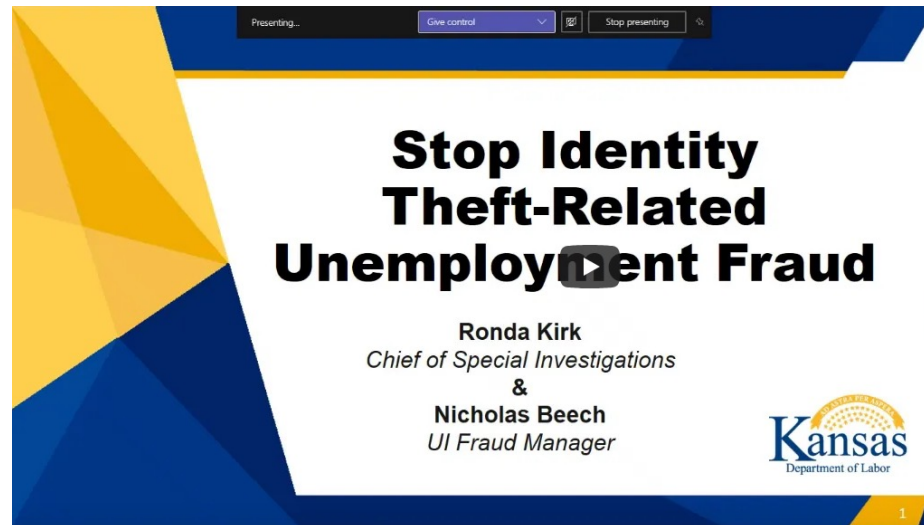
I RECEIVED A NOTICE FOR AN EMPLOYEE/EMPLOYEES

I RECEIVED A NOTICE FOR MYSELF

I RECEIVED A NOTICE FOR SOMEONE ELSE

UI Fraud: KDOL Mitigation Strategies for Employers

KDOL Webinar:



February 22, 2021

Source:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMEaWBf_O3A

KDOL Slidedeck:

Identity Theft Protection and Prevention

If you experience identity theft, here are a few key steps you can take to protect yourself (more information available on our website):

- ✓ Report identity theft: www.ReportFraud.ks.gov
- ✓ Notify all three major credit reporting bureaus
- ✓ Request a "fraud alert" on your credit report
- ✓ Contact your financial institutions.
- ✓ Create account with Social Security Administration: www.SSA.gov and check Earnings Record for suspicious activity.
- ✓ Notify Internal Revenue Service's fraud hotline at 1-800-908-4490.
- ✓ Request a copy of your Wage and Income Transcript from the IRS.
- ✓ Report identity theft with the Federal Trade Commission: www.FTC.gov

February 22, 2021

Source: <https://www.dol.ks.gov/documents/20121/57869/Stop+Identity+Theft+-+Related+Unemployment+Fraud+powerpoint.pdf/29198e91-4a77-ecfe-0ded-4aade728350e?t=1614320873519>

UI Fraud: KS SHRM Mitigation Strategies for Employers



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COVID-19 Resources

Kansas SHRM Resources on Unemployment Fraud

- KDOL UI Tax-Related Call Center
- Form 1099-G Resources
- KDOL Employer Help Desk
- KS SHRM Webinars
 - 4/22/20: KS Shared Work Program
 - 5/13/20: UI & KS Shared Work Program, Revisited
- Kansas, Federal and SHRM Resources

GETTING KANSANS BACK TO WORK: EMPLOYER GUIDANCE FOR

HANDLING JOB REFUSALS

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) has released updated resources for employers, workers and states as businesses begin to reopen across the nation.

The DOL emphasized it will take the cooperation of employers, employees and state agencies to prevent unemployment fraud. Claimants should be educated on state requirements that failure to accept suitable work offers may lead to denial of unemployment benefits.

The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) states an individual is not eligible for unemployment benefits if they fail to accept suitable work without good cause if a **valid, bona fide offer** (must include acknowledgement from the claimant/job seeker) of work is made. Beginning May 13, 2021, KDOL is required by law (House Bill 2196) to investigate all reported job refusals **within 10 days**. The following considerations will be investigated:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Suitability: | • Labor Market Conditions: |
| • Skills | • Prospects for work |
| • Training | • Number of jobs available in their occupations or skills area, etc. |
| • Experience | • Job/working conditions |
| • Capabilities needed for the job | |

KDOL will investigate all reported job refusals

- if the job is determined to be suitable, KDOL will also investigate if they had good cause for refusing work;
 - availability issues such as illness, hospitalization, lack of childcare or transportation, etc. will disqualify an individual;
- if the job is determined to be suitable and the individual failed to accept the work without good cause, they may be disqualified for benefits.

No action can be taken and the claimant may continue to receive benefits if a refusal is not reported.

Kansas employers can report ALL job refusals with this form:



bit.ly/KSjobrefusal

Source: <http://ksshrm.org/covid-19/>

Join us for Session 2 on 6/15/21: KS UI Fraud Aftermath & Legislative Response

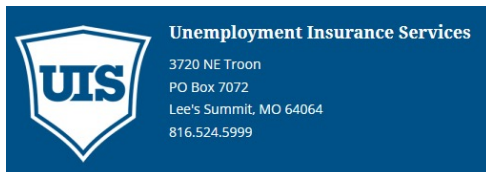
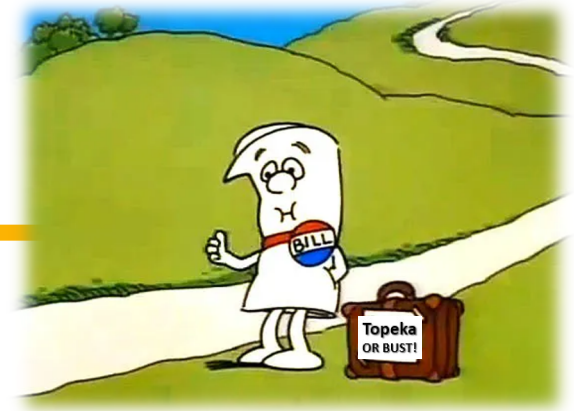


- Modernization: Building a Better System
- Unemployment Insurance IT System Requirements
- Holding Employers Harmless
- My Re-Employment Plan
- Work Refusal Provisions
- Kansas UI Tax Rate Structure Changes
- Shared Work Program Changes
- Other Provisions
- Questions / Comments

Register for Session 2:

<https://form.jotform.com/211404485488157>

Kansas UI Reform Advocacy Alliance



August 26, 2020 – Formal Letter

- Letter to KS Office of Recovery for Spark Committee
 - KS Business Community Requested \$300M in CARES Act Dollars for the Kansas UI Trust Fund

September 17, 2020 – Off Session Testimony

- KS Special Committee on Economic Recovery

November 17, 2020 – Off Session Testimony

- KS Special Committee on Economic Recovery

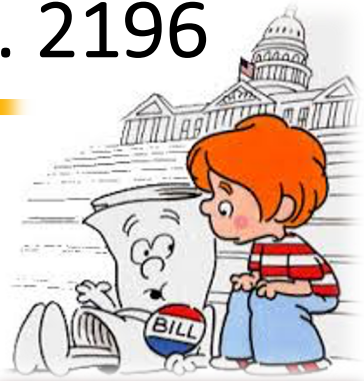
January 26, 2021 – 2021 Legislative Session Testimony

- Senate Commerce Committee
- House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee

Senate Substitute for Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2196

Changing provisions of the employment security law including creation of the **unemployment compensation modernization and improvement council**, development of a **new unemployment insurance information technology system**, provision of **tax information to claimants**, publication of trust fund data, the **maximum benefit period**, the **charging of employer accounts for benefits paid**, employer **contribution rate determination and schedules**, **crediting of employer accounts for fraudulent or erroneous payments**, transfer of **federal COVID-19 moneys to the unemployment insurance trust fund**, emergency expansion of the employment security board of review, providing for the **my reemployment plan program and workforce training program** availability to claimants, changes to the **shared work compensation program** and other unemployment trust fund provisions.

- 02/01/2021 House—Introduced—HJ 155
- 02/02/2021 House—Hearing: Thursday, February 4, 2021, 1:30 PM Room 346-S
- 02/02/2021 House—Referred to Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development—HJ 157
- 02/03/2021 House—Hearing: (proponents) Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 1:30 PM Room 346-S
- 02/03/2021 House—Hearing: (opponents) Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 1:30 PM Room 346-S
- 03/02/2021 House—Committee Report recommending substitute bill be passed by Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development—HJ 359
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Committee Report be adopted recommending substitute bill be passed—HJ 374
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Representative Miller was adopted—HJ 374
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Representative Clayton was adopted—HJ 385
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Representative Clayton was rejected Yea: 39 Nay: 83—HJ 385
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Representative Probst was rejected Yea: 44 Nay: 78—HJ 386
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Representative Tarwater was adopted—HJ 397
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Representative Miller was rejected Yea: 40 Nay: 80—HJ 399
- 03/03/2021 House—Committee of the Whole - Substitute bill be passed as amended—HJ 410
- 03/04/2021 House—Final Action - Substitute passed as amended; Yea: 87 Nay: 36—HJ 438
- 03/10/2021 House—Engrossed on Tuesday, March 9, 2021—HJ 461
- 03/10/2021 Senate—Received and Introduced—SJ 323
- 03/11/2021 Senate—Referred to Committee on Commerce—SJ 326
- 03/12/2021 Senate—Hearing: (opponents) Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 10:30 AM Room 546-S
- 03/12/2021 Senate—Hearing: (proponents) Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 10:30 AM Room 546-S
- 03/12/2021 Senate—Hearing: (neutral) Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 10:30 AM Room 546-S
- 03/12/2021 Senate—Hearing: (opponents) Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 10:30 AM Room 546-S
- 03/29/2021 Senate—Committee Report recommending substitute bill be passed by Committee on Commerce—SJ 448
- 03/30/2021 Senate—Committee of the Whole - Committee Report be adopted recommending substitute bill be passed—SJ 486
- 03/30/2021 Senate—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Senator Olson was adopted—SJ 482
- 03/30/2021 Senate—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Senator Olson was adopted—SJ 482
- 03/30/2021 Senate—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Senator Sykes was rejected—SJ 486
- 03/30/2021 Senate—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Senator Olson was adopted—SJ 482
- 03/30/2021 Senate—Committee of the Whole - Amendment by Senator Steffen was adopted—SJ 483
- 03/30/2021 Senate—Committee of the Whole - Substitute bill be passed as amended—SJ 482
- 03/31/2021 Senate—Final Action - Substitute passed as amended; Yea: 40 Nay: 0—SJ 555
- 04/06/2021 House—Non-concurred with amendments; Conference Committee requested; appointed Representatives Tarwater, Long and Clayton as conferees—HJ 653
- 04/07/2021 Senate—Motion to accede adopted; Senator Olson, Senator Steffen and Senator Holland appointed as conferees—SJ 583
- 04/09/2021 Senate—Suspend 3(f) - Distribution of CCR copies
- 04/09/2021 Senate—Suspend 3(f) - 30 minute Rule
- 04/09/2021 Senate—Conference Committee Report was adopted; Yea: 38 Nay: 0
- 04/09/2021 House—Conference Committee Report was adopted; Yea: 122 Nay: 0
- 04/16/2021 House—Enrolled and presented to Governor
- 04/26/2021 House—Approved by Governor
- **05/13/2021 Kansas Register—Publication—Law is Effective**



Questions / Comments?



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