

RSA FRAUDACTION™ INTELLIGENCE

TODAY'S CYBERCRIME LANDSCAPE

INTRODUCTION

Cybercriminals are known to thrive in times of crisis and major events, and today is no exception. In fact, never before has the ground been more fertile for social engineering attacks, preying on every emotion and circumstance.

RSA FraudAction™ analysts and researchers analyze a wide range of cyber attacks including phishing, Trojans and rogue apps. The team also monitors fraud forums and hacking forums on the darknet, underground marketplaces, open-web sources and fraud groups in social media.

The following is a short excerpt from a full report provided to RSA FraudAction customers on the current cybercrime landscape.

THE CYBERCRIME COMMUNITY

Our researchers have observed that the underground community is very organized in their communication and preparation for the new reality dictated by the global pandemic and resulting disruptions.

RSA FraudAction is a single, external threat management service that offers attack takedown and cyber intelligence.

[LEARN MORE](#)

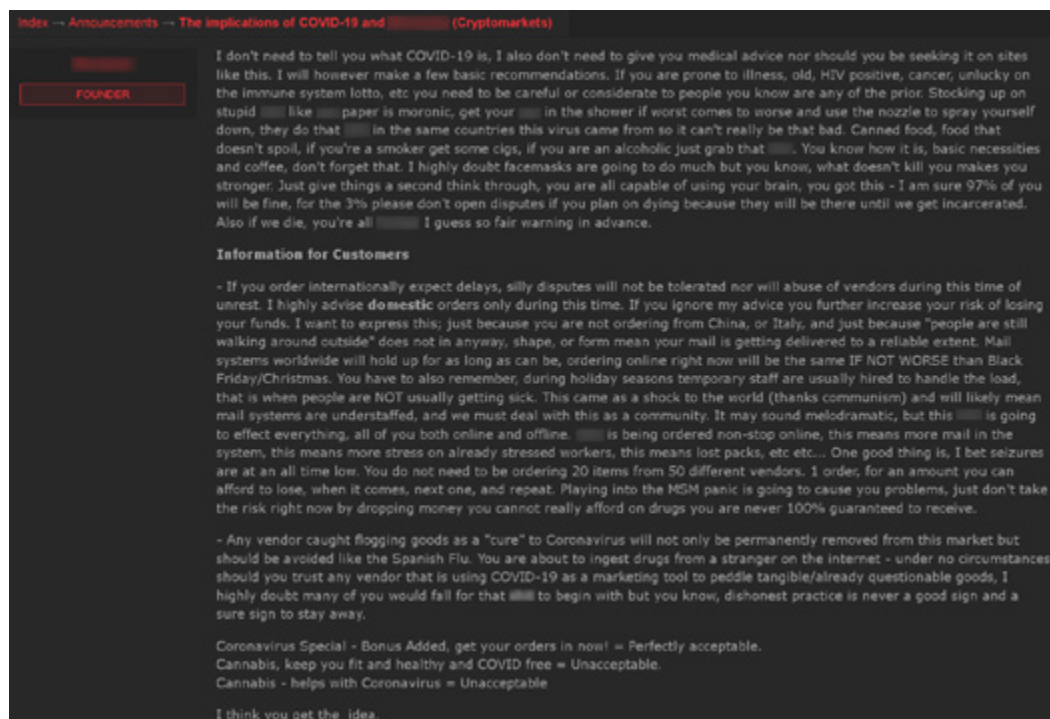


Figure 1: Underground marketplace publishes implications, warnings and guidelines in light of COVID-19

SUSCEPTIBLE VERTICALS

Medical and government institutions are major actors during these challenging times, and the public has become accustomed to frequent contact from these authorities. It is not surprising that these sectors have been heavily targeted in recent campaigns spreading cyber attacks. Several attacks of this nature were discovered by RSA FraudAction analysts.

Figure 2: Smishing attack impersonating HMRC

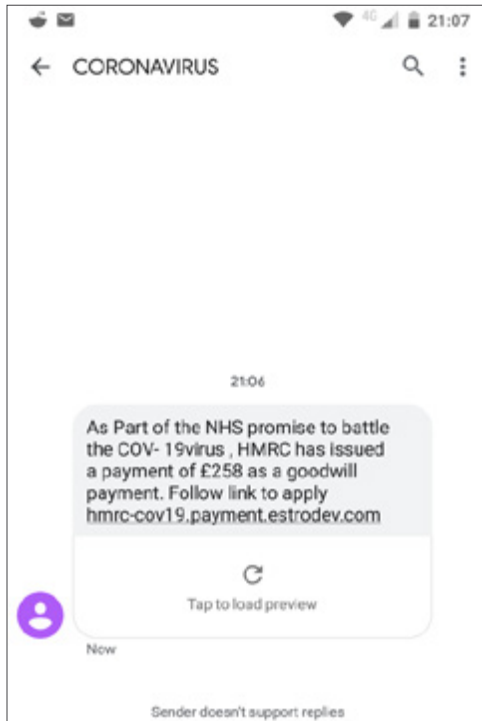


Figure 3: Russian-speaking underground forum—“Coronavirus Map” malware advert

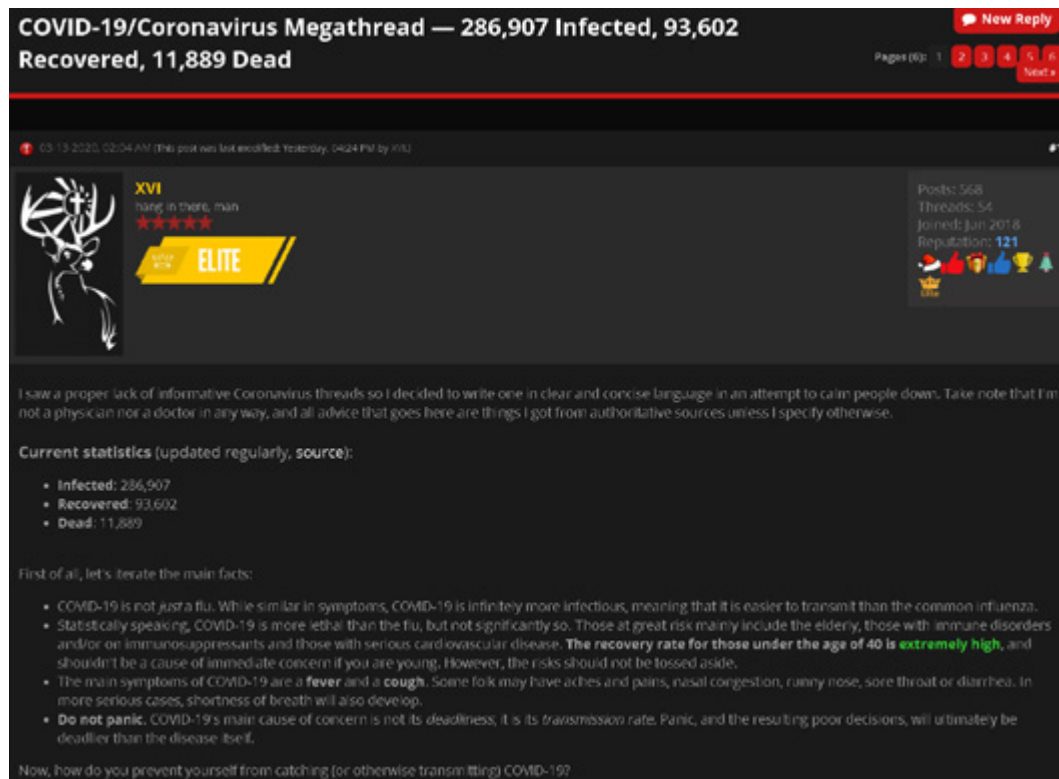


MALWARE AT ITS PEAK

Various malicious coronavirus maps have emerged, and while they do provide reliable information, they also infect end users with malware. Rogue apps are also being used to plant malware on victims' devices. The team has uncovered multiple examples of mobile malware hidden in what appear to be apps for coronavirus tracking.

A HUMAN LOOK INTO THE CYBERCRIME LANDSCAPE

Our researchers have come across countless threads in fraud venues with information, live updates, measures on how to keep safe, discussions, questions about the nature of the virus, thoughts, worries and more.



COVID-19/Coronavirus Megathread — 286,907 Infected, 93,602 Recovered, 11,889 Dead

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New Reply

03-13-2020, 02:04 AM (This post was last modified: Yesterday, 04:24 PM by XVI)

XVI
hang in there, man
★★★★★
ELITE

Posts: 568
Threads: 54
Joined: Jun 2018
Reputation: 121

I saw a proper lack of informative Coronavirus threads so I decided to write one in clear and concise language in an attempt to calm people down. Take note that I'm not a physician nor a doctor in any way, and all advice that goes here are things I got from authoritative sources unless I specify otherwise.

Current statistics (updated regularly, source):

- Infected: 286,907
- Recovered: 93,602
- Dead: 11,889

First of all, let's iterate the main facts:

- COVID-19 is not just a flu. While similar in symptoms, COVID-19 is infinitely more infectious, meaning that it is easier to transmit than the common influenza.
- Statistically speaking, COVID-19 is more lethal than the flu, but not significantly so. Those at great risk mainly include the elderly, those with immune disorders and/or on immunosuppressants and those with serious cardiovascular disease. **The recovery rate for those under the age of 40 is extremely high**, and shouldn't be a cause of immediate concern if you are young. However, the risks should not be tossed aside.
- The main symptoms of COVID-19 are a **fever** and a **cough**. Some folk may have aches and pains, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat or diarrhea. In more serious cases, shortness of breath will also develop.
- **Do not panic.** COVID-19's main cause of concern is not its deadliness, it is its *transmission* rate. Panic, and the resulting poor decisions, will ultimately be deadlier than the disease itself.

Now, how do you prevent yourself from catching (or otherwise transmitting) COVID-19?

Figure 4: Fraud forum—informative thread about COVID-19 providing an overview of the current situation

CONCLUSION

Global trends and events not only impact our personal and work lives but also significantly shape the cybercrime landscape. Cybercriminals have adapted quickly to the new reality, not only capitalizing on it but also sharing recommendations, guidelines and knowledge within their communities.

While the attack schemes themselves have not changed, the circumstances have. The exponential increase in digital traffic, including users less accustomed to online activity, significantly enhances susceptibility.

Want more? [Contact us](#) to discover the benefits of RSA FraudAction, including access to full reports on the latest online threats and fraud trends. For current customers, please reach out to FAS.Customer.Ops@rsa.com to request the full report.

RSA® Fraud & Risk Intelligence Suite enables organizations to manage risk across consumer-facing digital channels, allowing them to maximize revenues and minimize fraud losses. The suite is part of the RSA portfolio of business-driven security solutions, which provides a unified approach to managing digital risk that hinges on integrated visibility, automated insights and coordinated actions. RSA protects millions of users around the world and helps more than 90 percent of the Fortune 500 companies thrive and continuously adapt to transformational change. For more information, go to rsa.com.

