

# Scraped Data of 1.5 Billion Facebook Users Offered for Sale on the Dark Web - Reports

By [RT News](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#)

Global Research, October 06, 2021

[RT News](#) 4 October 2021

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the “Translate Website” drop down menu on the top banner of our home page (Desktop version).

Visit and follow us on Instagram at [@crg\\_globalresearch](#).

\*\*\*

*Facebook, Messenger, Instagram, and WhatsApp are all down, but CEO Mark Zuckerberg has another headache: The personal data of 1.5 billion customers, scraped from his platform, is reportedly being offered for sale on the dark web.*

User IDs, real names, email addresses, phone numbers, and locations are among the data of more than 1.5 billion Facebook customers that’s up for sale, according to a [report](#) on the cybersecurity news outlet Privacy Affairs on Monday. The going price has been quoted as \$5,000 for a million names.

📄 Personal Information of Over 1.5 Billion Facebook Users Sold on Hacker Forum

Data includes:

- Name
- Email
- Location
- Gender
- Phone number

Appears to be obtained from web scraping. <https://t.co/F3qXa7yvge#cybersecurity> [#cybersec](#) [#Facebook](#) [#DarkWeb](#) [#privacy](#) [#hack](#)

— Privacy Affairs (@Privacy\_Affairs) [October 4, 2021](#)

The data “*appears to be authentic*” and was obtained through “*scraping*” - getting the information that users set to ‘public’ or allow quizzes or other questionable apps or pages to access.

It's the "biggest and most significant Facebook data dump to date," according to the publication - about three times greater than the April leak of 533 million phone numbers. Facebook said at the time this was "old data" and the security vulnerability responsible had been patched back in 2019.

Privacy Affairs reported that one purported buyer was quoted the price of \$5,000 for a million entries. Another user claimed they had paid the seller but had received nothing, and the seller had not yet responded. The samples of data provided to the unnamed "popular hacking-related forum" appeared to be real, the outlet said.

Facebook, Messenger, WhatsApp, and Instagram, all owned by Zuckerberg's social media behemoth, were struck by a serious global outage that began on Monday. However, the data dump doesn't appear to be related to the outage itself.

As scraping Facebook data becomes harder some long-time actors are willing to sell their huge bulks on the darknet. The latest announcement contains 1.5 Billion entries and exceeds very much what we have seen so far. [#facebook](#) [#api](#) [#leak](#) [#breach](#) [#darknet](#) [pic.twitter.com/ZhCQ7menhf](https://pic.twitter.com/ZhCQ7menhf)

— Marc Ruef (@mruef) [September 7, 2021](#)

While the accounts affected have not been compromised in the strictest sense of the word, cybersecurity experts point out that the users affected will be at increased risk of getting unsolicited texts, ads, and emails from criminals who obtained the purloined data.

\*

Note to readers: Please click the share buttons above or below. Follow us on Instagram, @crg\_globalresearch. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

The original source of this article is [RT News](#)

Copyright © [RT News](#), [RT News](#), 2021

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [RT News](#)

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance

a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)