

Typical Credit Monitoring Comparison

Identity theft protection and credit monitoring are often confused. Understanding the fundamental differences between the two can help better assist consumers in protecting their identities.

If you just want to keep an eye on your credit, then credit monitoring has some value. The core idea for credit monitoring is to give users access to their credit information so they can review it for accuracy and address any anomalies they may notice.

Credit monitoring is an umbrella category that covers a narrow spectrum of products that differ by provider. In fact, there are dozens of companies offering various levels of credit-monitoring services. Much of the core function of this service is performed by one of three major credit bureaus – Equifax, TransUnion and Experian.

In reality, any individual who wants to take the time to do it can monitor their own credit.

While credit monitoring is an important element of identity theft protection, it represents only a fraction of risk mitigation within a broader array of potential factors that can lead to your identity being stolen. Credit monitoring, at its best, is a defensive measure, providing fraud detection on your existing accounts. Bottom line, limited fraud detection offered by credit monitoring services simply isn't enough.

In contrast to credit monitoring services, LifeLock® identity theft protection can do far more to help safeguard your personal information from being compromised. Simply put, LifeLock monitors a much wider spectrum of your personal identifying information.

- LifeLock operates proactively, scouring far-reaching data sources.
- LifeLock also searches underground websites for your credit card numbers and other personal information, monitors your files at all three credit bureaus, and alerts you if there's a change in your information.
- LifeLock scans over a trillion data points every day, monitoring millions of identity attributes.
- They also scan public records, sex offender registries, file sharing networks and criminal record databases to look for items that may potentially put members at risk.

And, since no one can prevent all identity theft, LifeLock has a dedicated team of U.S.-based Identity Restoration Specialists who will manage a member's case from start to finish. These specialists are trained on federal legislation, national credit repository guidelines and consumer rights. They will help members contact financial institutions, and work with them to complete the necessary paperwork to get their life back in order.

LifeLock will also spend up to \$1 million to hire experts for each identity theft restoration case^{††} as well as reimbursing certain ID theft claims.[‡] Resolution is one big difference between LifeLock and other credit monitoring services that consumers should be aware of.

Identity fraudsters are not going away. They are becoming increasingly resourceful in their efforts to steal personal information for their advantage. While credit monitoring offers a limited amount of functionality, it is not the go-to solution. It simply can't deliver the full package like LifeLock.

[†] Network does not cover all transactions.

^{††} Service Guarantee benefits are provided under a master policy issued by State National Insurance Company. Under the Service Guarantee LifeLock will spend up to \$1 million to hire experts to help your recovery. Please see the policy for terms, conditions and exclusions at [LifeLock.com/legal](https://www.lifelock.com/legal)

[‡] Reimbursement benefits are provided under a master policy issued by State National Insurance Company. You will be reimbursed for certain out of pocket costs and expenses. You may not be eligible for all coverages or the maximum benefit limits. THE TYPES OF COVERAGE AND BENEFIT AMOUNTS AVAILABLE DEPEND UPON THE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM IN WHICH YOU ARE ENROLLED.

