

DECEIT

DECEIT-IR-002

The AI Fraud and Manipulation Report

How Artificial Intelligence Is Being Used to Deceive You Right Now

August 2026

Front Matter

METHODOLOGY

This report is compiled from publicly available sources, court records, and investigative journalism. Every factual assertion traces to a source in the source list (Appendix). Claims that cannot be sourced are removed or clearly marked as speculation. Pattern identification uses the Deceit Lexicon framework (deceit.site/lexicon).

Source Verification

All sources cited in this report were verified as live and accessible at the time of compilation. Source URLs are listed in the Appendix. If a source URL has broken since compilation, the original document can typically be found via the Wayback Machine (web.archive.org).

How to Cite This Document

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Correction Policy

If you find an error in this report, contact corrections@deceit.media. Verified corrections are published in the next edition and noted in the revision history.

Executive Summary

A survey of how AI is being used to deceive, manipulate, and defraud.

KEY FINDINGS

1. AI is being used to generate synthetic media (deepfakes, voice clones, AI-generated images) at scale, with declining detection rates.
2. AI chatbots are being deployed for romance scams, investment fraud, and impersonation, with conversational ability that exceeds many human scammers.
3. AI-generated content is flooding social media platforms, making it increasingly difficult to distinguish authentic from synthetic engagement.
4. The detection arms race is asymmetric: generating synthetic content is cheap and fast, while detecting it is expensive and slow.
5. Regulatory responses are lagging behind the threat, with most existing laws predating the current generation of AI capabilities.

Appendix

Source List

The following sources were used in compiling this report. All URLs were verified at time of compilation.

Related Pieces

This report draws on 0 editorial pieces from the [deceit.media](#) series:

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About Deceit

Deceit is a pattern literacy project. We name manipulation patterns so they can be recognized. [deceit.media](#) · [deceit.site](#) · [deceit.world](#)