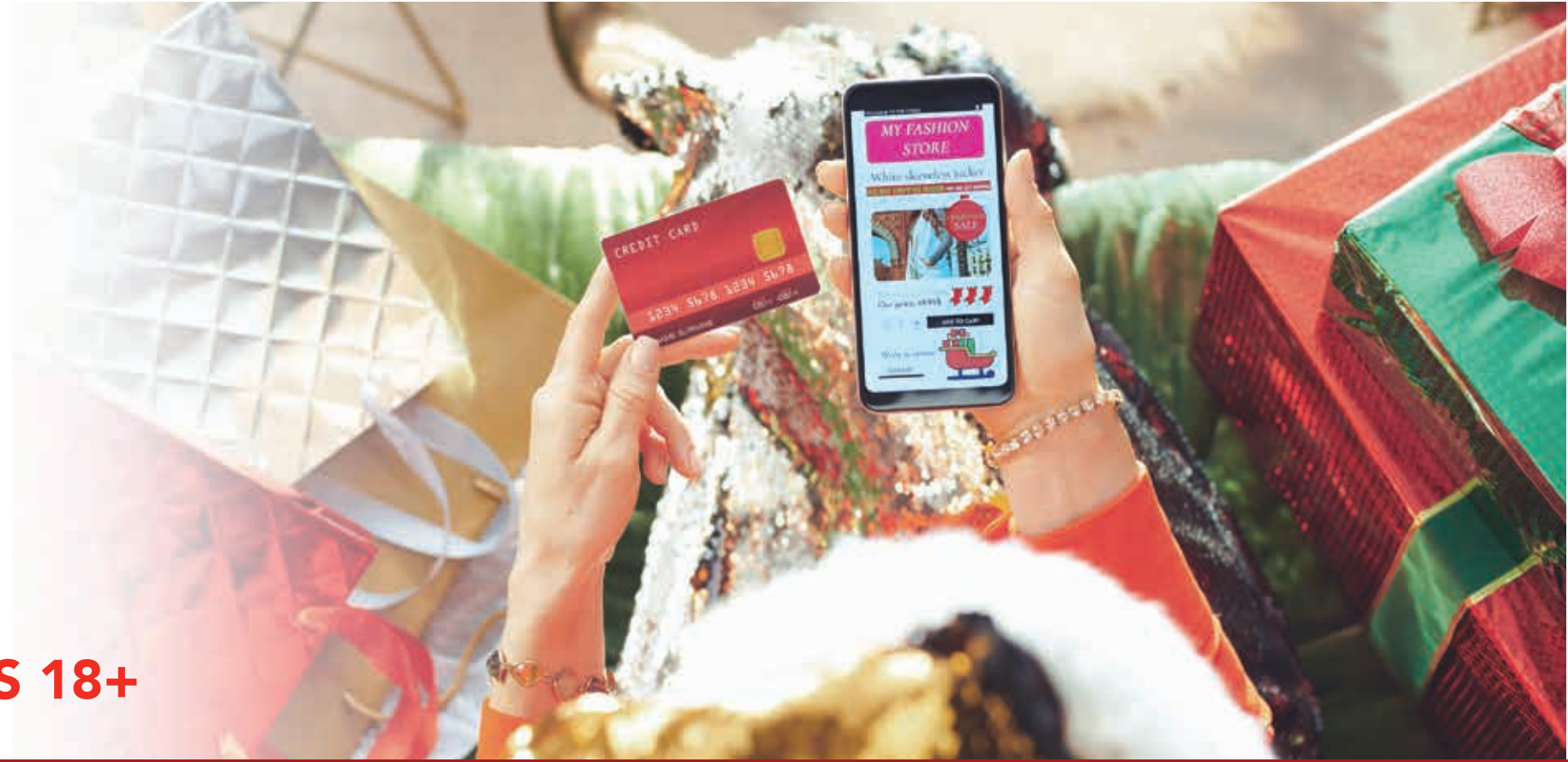




# Fraud Watch Network

## SEASON'S CHEATINGS: BEWARE OF HOLIDAY SCAMS

AN AARP VERMONT SURVEY OF ADULTS 18+



ONE IN SIX VERMONT ADULTS FAILED A 5 QUESTION QUIZ ABOUT HOLIDAY SCAMS, PUTTING THEM AT RISK FOR FALLING VICTIM TO SCAMMERS' TACTICS

### CHARITY SCAMS



# 3 IN 10

Vermont adults say they received a donation request to a charity or cause that was likely fraudulent.



Only **3 IN 10** Vermont adults who received requests for donations checked out the recipient on a charity rating site.

Among those who did, two in five decided not to proceed with the donation.



### SHIPPING PACKAGES

**HALF OF VERMONT ADULTS** will send packages to family and friends this holiday season, but **56% NEVER** request a signature (which means the package can be left outside for porch pirates to scoop up).

### GIFT CARDS



**2 IN 3** plan to buy gift cards.

**14%** report that they have given and/or received a gift card that had no funds on it (compromised by a scammer or the result of clerk error).



The vast majority of Vermont adults recognize that gift cards are not accepted as a form of payment to settle a debt with the government.

**10%** think they are.

18-49 (15%) vs 50+ (6%) (answered the question incorrectly)