

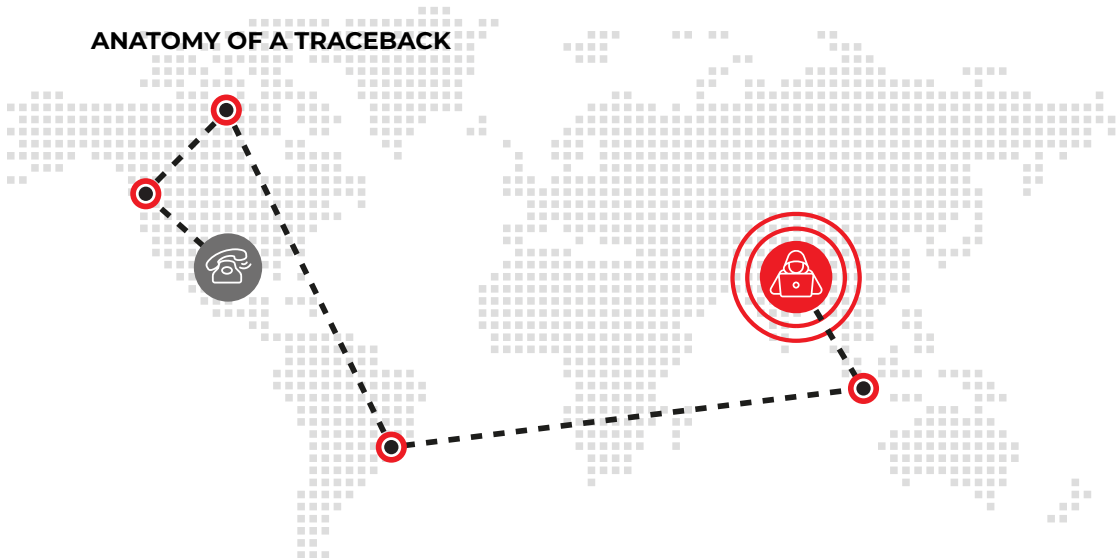
# THE INDUSTRY TRACEBACK GROUP EXPLAINED

EACH DAY, THE USTELECOM-LED INDUSTRY TRACEBACK GROUP (ITG) collaborates with carriers (wireline, wireless, VoIP, and cable) and law enforcement to trace, source, and ultimately, stop illegal robocalls. This effort, relying on a close public-private partnership, targets illegal robocall scams that prey on the elderly and other vulnerable individuals, impersonating governments and brands such as, financial and hospitality industries, as well as telephony denial of service (TDoS) attacks on hospitals and public safety networks that threaten these essential services.

## How the ITG Works

Using a secure traceback portal, suspected illegal robocalls are traced systematically back through various networks until the ITG identifies the originator of the suspicious calls, where the calls entered the U.S. if internationally originated, and often the identity of the calling party.

## ANATOMY OF A TRACEBACK



**DID YOU KNOW:** 89% of seniors receive at least one robocall per week, while more than half (56%) receive at least seven robocalls per week.

Source: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200915005194/en/TNS-Report-COVID-19-Leads-to-First-Robocall-Volume-Drop-In-Years>

## TIMELINE

2015

USTelecom establishes the Industry Traceback Group (ITG) to play a central role in the battle against illegal robocalls.

2019

Congress passes and the President signs into law the TRACED Act formalizing industry efforts through the designation of an official traceback consortium.

2020

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) designates the ITG to fulfill the role of the official Congressionally-mandated traceback consortium.

2021

The FCC renews the ITG's designation.

2022

The FCC renews the ITG's designation.

INDUSTRY  
**TRACEBACK** <<<<  
GROUP

## Collaboration = Results

The ITG relies on the cooperation of hundreds of domestic and foreign voice service providers, including the ITG members that support the effort. The ITG also works in close partnership with government entities who rely on ITG referrals and data to bring illegal robocalls to justice.

## A Dynamic and Expanding Traceback Effort

Just as robocallers keep evolving in their methods, so too does the ITG. To keep ahead, the ITG traceback team is:

- Incorporating new data sources and analyses
- Expanding partnerships with victims of brand impersonation and other phone-based fraud, including financial institutions, hospitality companies, and utilities, to take collective action to protect consumers
- Providing new tools and actionable information to providers to help them police their networks and customers

**DID YOU KNOW:** California, Florida, & Texas lead the U.S. with number of received robocalls.

## More Must be Done

- Congress should pass S.3335 and HR.7598 the Robocall Trace Back Enhancement Act introduced by Senators Thune and Markey.
- S. 3335 and HR.7598 would help bolster the work of the ITG in its efforts to prevent illegal robocalls by providing the ITG, as the official traceback consortium, limited liability protection that would empower the ITG to share more data with stakeholders to fight illegal robocalls.

**LEARN MORE** about the  
**Industry Traceback Group** at  
**Tracebacks.org**

## GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS IMPERSONATION ROBOCALL CAMPAIGNS

WHETHER PRETENDING TO BE  
THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION,  
A LOCAL SHERIFF, YOUR LOCAL  
UTILITY COMPANY, A LEADING BANK,  
HOSPITALITY BRAND, OR TECH COMPANY

ARE AMONG THE  
**top campaigns the  
ITG focuses on**

A COMBINED TOTAL OF

**78%**

OF ALL TRACEBACKS

INDUSTRY  
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