

# Millions of counterfeit N95 face masks sold to Americans

12 February 2021



unlike fraud earlier in the pandemic that focused more on fleecing customers, the *AP* reported.

**More information:** [Associated Press Article](#)

Copyright © 2020 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Sales of foreign-made counterfeit N95 face masks in at least five states are being investigated by U.S. officials.

The fake 3M masks were sold to hospitals, medical facilities, and government agencies. Such counterfeit products could put [health care workers](#) at risk for coronavirus infection, the *Associated Press* reported. There have been already more than 1,250 raids by [law enforcement](#) that resulted in the seizure of 10 million counterfeit 3M masks alone.

Officials in Washington state examined their mask supply and discovered that 300,000 masks they had purchased for about \$1.4 million were counterfeit. Officials are investigating.

Federal investigators say there has been an increase in phony websites purporting to sell vaccines as well as fake medicine produced overseas and scams involving personal protective equipment. The schemes deliver phony products,

APA citation: Millions of counterfeit N95 face masks sold to Americans (2021, February 12) retrieved 16 May 2021 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-02-millions-counterfeit-n95-masks-sold.html>

*This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.*