News Brief

MST INSURANCE SOLUTIONS

FBI Releases 2024 Internet Crime Report

The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) recently released its [2024 Internet Crime Report](#). The annual report combines data from 859,532 complaints of suspected internet crimes and provides information on losses of over $16 billion, a 33% increase from 2023.

The IC3 Internet Crime Report stated that 256,256 complaints of internet crimes resulted in actual losses, with an average loss of $19,372 per crime.

"Reporting is one of the first and most important steps in fighting crime so law enforcement can use this information to combat a variety of frauds and scams," FBI Director Kash Patel said. "The IC3 … is only as successful as the reports it receives; that's why it's imperative that the public immediately report suspected cyber-enabled criminal activity to the FBI."

The 2024 report noted that most complaints were received from California, Texas and Florida, and individuals over 60 suffered the most losses at almost $4.8 billion. That group also submitted the highest number of complaints at 147,127. Those aged 40-49 submitted the second most complaints, with 112,755.

The report noted that the top five complaints involved:

1. **Phishing/spoofing:** 193,407
2. **Extortion:** 86,415
3. **Personal data breach:** 64,882
4. **Nonpayment/nondelivery:** 49,572
5. **Investment:** 47,919

The top five internet crimes by complaint loss amount included:

1. **Investment:** $6,570,639,864
2. **Business email compromise:** $2,770,151,146
3. **Tech support:** $1,464,755,976
4. **Personal data breach:** $1,453,296,303
5. **Nonpayment/nondelivery:** $785,436,888

Additionally, the report stated that cyber-enabled fraud, where criminals use the internet or other technologies to commit fraud, was responsible for nearly 83% of losses ($13.7 billion) in 2024. Cyberthreats—which are malicious acts that seek to damage or steal data or disrupt digital life (e.g., ransomware, malware, viruses, data breaches and denial-of-service attacks)—caused 263,455 complaints and resulted in $1.571 billion in losses. The report also noted that ransomware and data breaches accounted for the most reported cyberthreats among critical infrastructure organizations.

Complaints referencing cryptocurrency tallied 149,686 in 2024, accounting for $9.3 billion in losses. This represented a 66% increase in losses compared to 2023. The top five internet crime complaint types related to cryptocurrency included:

1. **Extortion:** 47,054
2. **Investment:** 41,557
3. **Personal data breach:** 11,644
4. **Tech support:** 11,129
5. **Employment:** 6,533

The FBI recommends that organizations and individuals frequently reviewing consumer and industry alerts published by the IC3. Internet crime complaints can be filed at https://www.ic3.gov/.