



Statistic	Internet Fraud
Source	National Consumers League: <i>Internet Fraud Statistics Report</i> (http://www.fraud.org/internet/intstat.htm)
Time Series	1997-Present (Annually)
Description	<p>The “Internet Fraud Statistic Report” is published by the National Consumers League.¹ Annual reports provide statistics of Internet fraud, specifically top Internet fraud schemes, method by which each scheme was initiated, amount of money defrauded, average dollar loss statistics from each type of scheme, methods of payment involved in each scheme, and the age distribution of victims.</p> <p>Data for the report are obtained from complaints submitted to the National Fraud Information Center (NFIC), either through a hotline or online form established on National Consumers League’s web site. The NFIC is the only nationwide toll-free hotline for consumers to get advice about telephone solicitations and report possible telemarketing fraud to law enforcement agencies. In 1996, the Internet Fraud Watch was created, enabling the NFIC to offer consumers advice about promotions in cyberspace and route reports of suspected online and Internet fraud to the appropriate government agencies.</p> <p>Semi-annual reports are also available, but not for all years. Semi-annual reports provide similar information on the annual reports but also include the major geographical location of victims.</p>
Data Access	Data are publicly available.

¹ The National Consumers League is a private, nonprofit advocacy group representing consumers on marketplace and workplace issues. The National Consumers League provides government, businesses, and other organizations with the consumer's perspective on concerns, including child labor, privacy, food safety, and medication information.