



Attorney General

Josh Stein

**PROTECTING THE NEXT
GENERATION OF
NORTH CAROLINIANS**



Thank you for joining. The webinar will begin shortly.

Gracias por estar aquí hoy. El seminario web comenzará pronto.

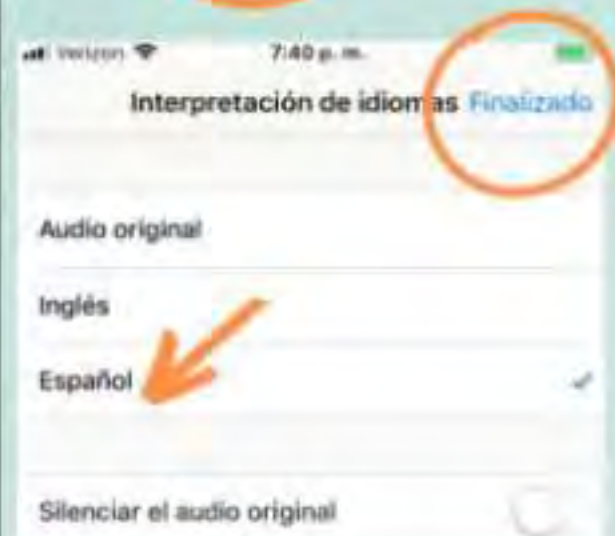
PARA ACCEDER A LA INTERPRETACIÓN



Por computador



Por teléfono inteligente



The webinar is also available on YouTube Live at <https://www.youtube.com/@NCAGO/streams>.

Transcription is available on Zoom and can be turned on at the bottom of your screen.

We have a limited amount of time today but will try to address questions not covered in the presentations in a follow-up email. Please submit questions via the Q&A link on Zoom or via email to outreach@ncdoj.gov.

The webinar will be recorded, and we will share a link to the recording in a follow-up communication.



Presenters

- Linda Reich, President and Co-Founder, kNot Today
- Boz Zellinger, NCDOJ Special Deputy Attorney General, Special Prosecutions
- Kevin Roughton, SBI Special Agent in Charge
- Kathryn Pomeroy, Wake County Assistant District Attorney, Special Victims Unit



Statistics

- 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 20 boys is a victim of child sex abuse.¹

Statistics

- 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 20 boys is a victim of child sex abuse.¹
- Over the course of their lifetime, 28% of U.S. youth aged 14 to 17 have been sexually victimized.¹

Statistics

- Data suggests that for children aged 10 to 14, roughly 10-14% have experienced sexual solicitation, with 3% then making offline contact with their online perpetrator.²

² National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners - <https://www.napnap.org/online-sexual-solicitation-of-children-and-adolescents-in-a-high-risk-population>

Online Sexual Solicitation of Children and Adolescents in a High-Risk Population, [https://www.jpeds.org/article/S0891-5245\(22\)00105-5/pdf](https://www.jpeds.org/article/S0891-5245(22)00105-5/pdf)

N.C.G.S. § 14-202.3. Solicitation of child by computer or certain other electronic devices to commit an unlawful sex act.

- (a) Offense. — A person is guilty of solicitation of a child by a computer if the person is 16 years of age or older and the person
 - knowingly, with the intent to commit an unlawful sex act,
 - entices, advises, coerces, orders, or commands,
 - by means of a computer or any other device capable of electronic data storage or transmission,
 - a child who is less than 16 years of age and at least five years younger than the defendant, or a person the defendant believes to be a child who is less than 16 years of age and who the defendant believes to be at least five years younger than the defendant,
 - to meet with the defendant or any other person for the purpose of committing an unlawful sex act.
 - Consent is not a defense to a charge under this section.

N.C.G.S. § 14-202.3. Solicitation of child by computer or certain other electronic devices to commit an unlawful sex act.

- (c) Punishment. — A violation of this section is punishable as follows:
- (1) A violation is a Class H felony except as provided by subdivision (2) of this subsection.
- (2) If either the defendant, or any other person for whom the defendant was arranging the meeting in violation of this section, actually appears at the meeting location, then the violation is a Class G felony.

LOCAL NEWS

Man known as 'Santa John' arrested on child sex charges

Apex police arrested John Thomas Peters, 70, of Cary, on charges involving a 15-year-old girl.

Posted 8:06 p.m. Jan 11, 2012 - Updated 11:27 a.m. Jan 12, 2012



Ti Ti Ti

A Cary man known for portraying Santa Claus at malls was arrested

NC mall Santa Claus arrested on child pornography charges

Share



WXII  12

Updated: 3:15 PM EDT Jun 1, 2015

Infinite Scroll Enabled

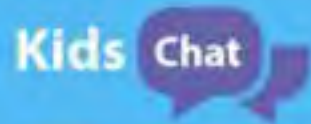


Leander Jones SOURCE: WNCN

'Santa' sentenced to 30 years in prison for making child porn



Websites



[CHAT](#) [BLOG](#) [FORUMS](#) [SAFETY](#) [PRIVACY](#) [FAQ'S](#) [CONTACT US](#)

Web's Best Chat for Older Kids, Youngs, and Teens



Welcome to Kids Chat Net.

We are your #1 source for free chat rooms and informative blogs for older kids and younger teens aged 13-19 years of age. We welcome all boys and girls. There are some chat room rules you **MUST** agree to first before proceeding. After reviewing them, please click the "I ACCEPT" button. A wide variety of information such as safety tips and an active blog will be





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NORTH CAROLINA STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

COMPUTER CRIMES UNIT INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE

**NCDOJ WEBINAR: ONLINE CRIMES AGAINST KIDS
NOVEMBER 1, 2023**

*Kevin Roughton
Special Agent in Charge, NCSBI
Commander, NCICAC Task Force*

NCICAC@ncsbi.gov

984-204-2761



Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program

We are a national network of 61 coordinated task forces
over 4,500 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies
investigating, prosecuting and developing effective strategies
to combat internet crimes against children.

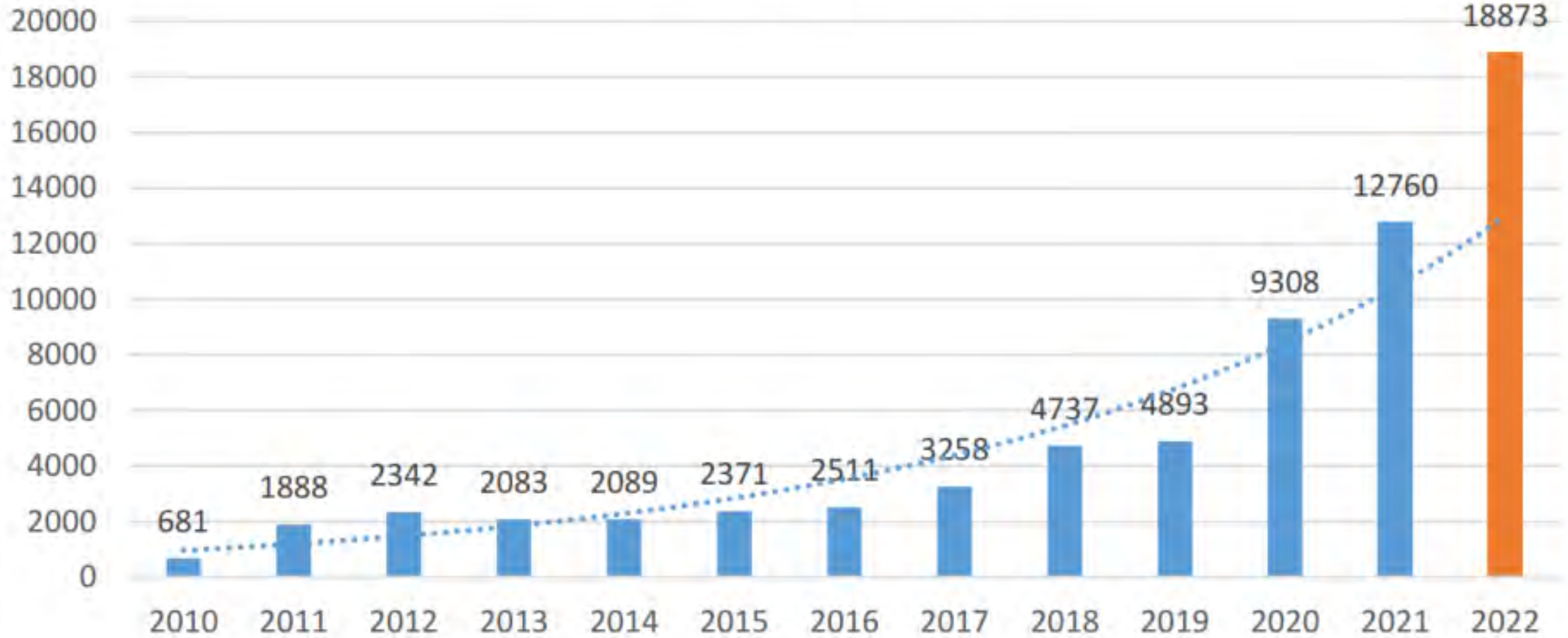




North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Computer Crimes/Child Exploitation Team



Yearly Cybertips

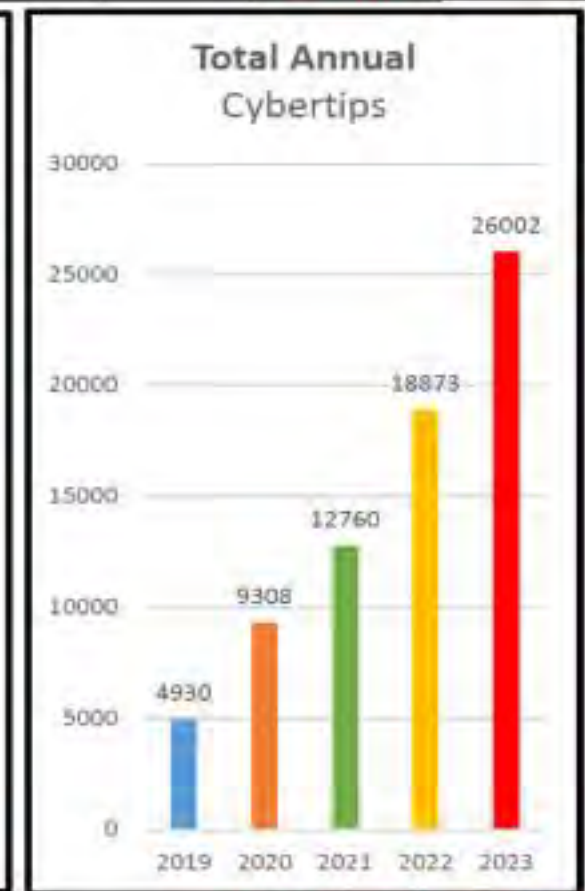
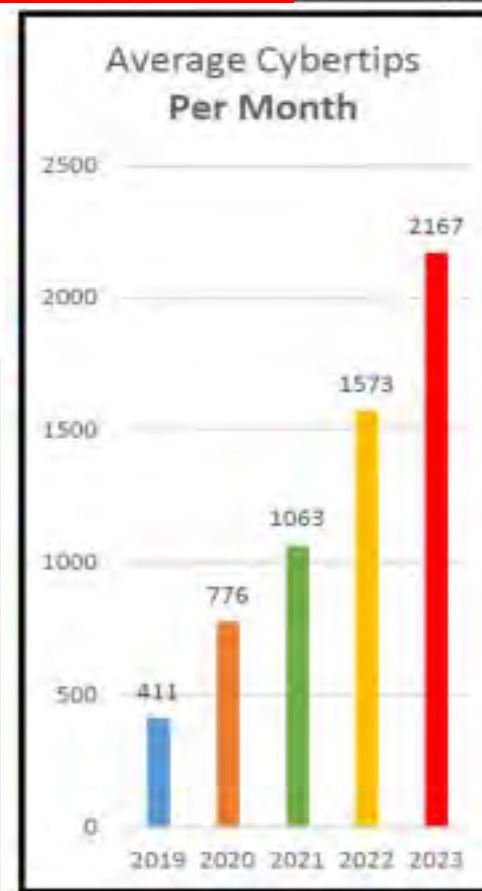
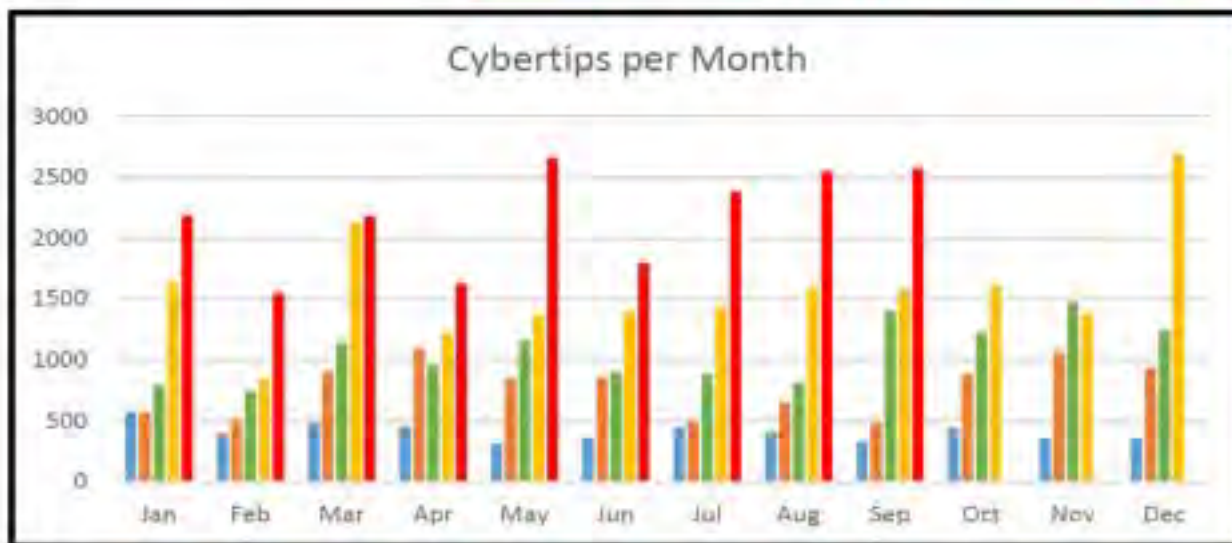


2023 North Carolina ICAC / CyberTip Stats

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	ANNUAL INCREASE
2019	573	397	483	453	313	365	446	411	332	442	360	355	4930	
2020	573	507	910	1098	850	855	491	650	486	887	1063	938	9308	189%
2021	799	746	1142	959	1162	904	887	813	1403	1226	1472	1247	12760	137%
2022	1634	844	2125	1216	1364	1400	1435	1600	1575	1613	1376	2691	18873	148%
2023	2184	1547	2182	1626	2659	1794	2383	2550	2576				26002	

**Total Increase
2019-2023:
527%**

Average Monthly Cybertips 2019	411
Average Monthly Cybertips 2020	776
Average Monthly Cybertips 2021	1063
Average Monthly Cybertips 2022	1573
Average Monthly Cybertips 2023	2167



**** 2023 projection based on YTD avg**

Updated: 10/2/2023



Overview

NCMEC's CyberTipline is the nation's centralized reporting system for the online exploitation of children. The public and electronic service providers can make reports of suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, child sexual molestation, child sexual abuse material, child sex tourism, child sex trafficking, unsolicited obscene materials sent to a child, misleading domain names, and misleading words or digital images on the internet.



What Happens to Information in a CyberTip?

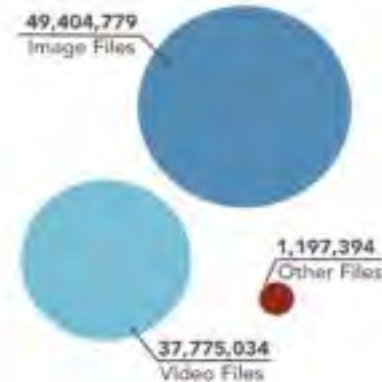
NCMEC staff review each tip and work to find a potential location for the incident reported so that it may be made available to the appropriate law-enforcement agency for possible investigation. We also use the information from our CyberTipline reports to help shape our prevention and safety messages.

In 2022, NCMEC's CyberTipline received more than 32 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation.



2022:

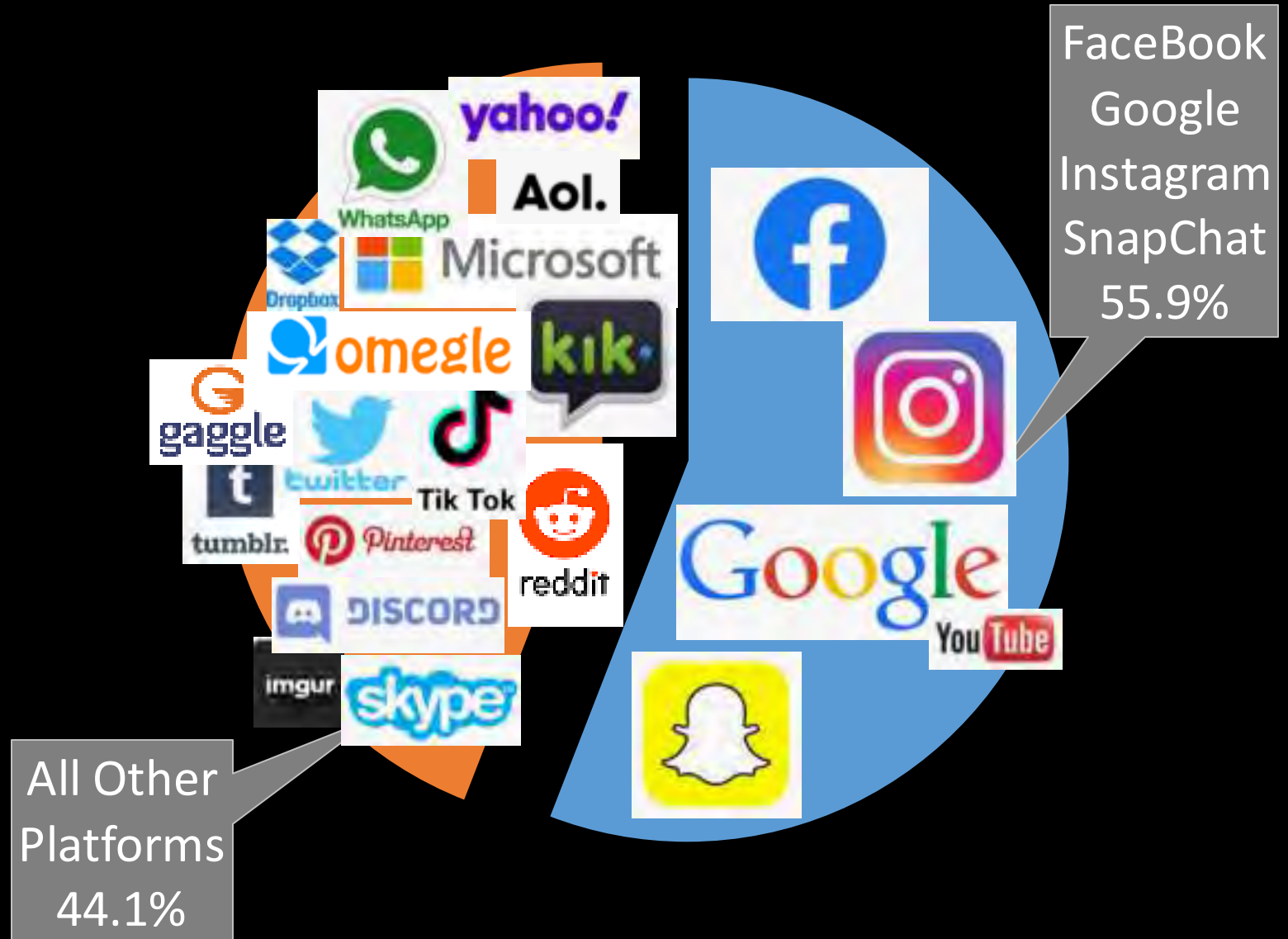
Reports to the CyberTipline
included 88.3 million files



CyberTips in 2022

When most people hear about CyberTips, they believe these are all related to the “creepy pedophiles” on the dark web or in the deep, hidden places of the internet.

Unfortunately, this perception is NOT TRUE!!



HOW DO WE CHAT-TEXT-MESSAGE SAFELY?

- Chat between **known** friends
- Realization and training that chat is “**flat**”
- Chatting carefully without full trust at 1st
- Realizing chat/media **IS** saved, **IS** shared, and **IS** reviewed
- Realizing everyone online puts on a persona...

If you wouldn't put it up
here.....

.....don't
put it here:





North Carolina Department of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



[Vimeo.com/ncicac](https://vimeo.com/ncicac)

SEXTORTION



Michigan Parents Speak Out Over Son's Tragic 'Sextortion' Suicide

| 'A RARE CASE' |

Isabella Ramirez Breaking News Intern
Published Jun 14, 2023 11:28AM EDT



GoFundMe

Last year, seventeen-year-old Jordan DeMay fell victim to a horrifying 'sextortion' ring involving three men who allegedly posed as a girl on Instagram to convince


ConsumerAffairs


In late December ConsumerAffairs reported on a troubling new scam: sextortion targeting adolescents and teen boys.

The scammer poses as a young girl and persuades the victim to text a sexually explicit photo of themselves. That, of course, is against the law. It's considered distributing child pornography.

The scammer then threatens to distribute the photo unless a payment is made using gift cards. Authorities say at least one suicide resulted from the scam. Since then the scam has evolved in other ways and surged in the first half of this year.

"Trend Micro has seen sextortion scams increase by over 50% from Q1'23 to Q2'23 with over 11,158,648 scams being seen in the first half of 2023," Jon Clay, vice president of Threat Intelligence at Trend Micro, told ConsumerAffairs.



ending to be a teen girl. (Brian Montgomery)

hat episode, they came back and said, 'You're Montgomery said.

I'm being
BLACKMAILED
online over nude
images of me!

WHAT DO I DO?



If sextortion is happening to you...

Know that you are not alone.

Unfortunately, this happens to many teenagers. It's called Sextortion. It is a crime and it is not your fault.

Reach out to an adult you trust for support.

Talking about what is happening might be difficult, but there is hope.

Let us help you.

Paying money rarely stops the blackmailer but reporting it can and we can help get images of you down. Report it at [CyberTipline.org](https://www.CyberTipline.org).

It's called Sextortion.

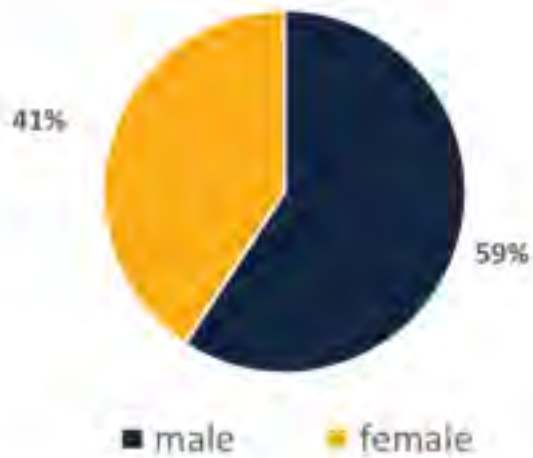


✉ gethelp@ncmec.org

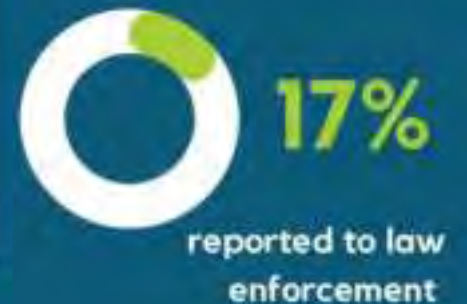
☎ 1-800-843-5678

🌐 [NCMEC.org/sextortion](https://www.ncmec.org/sextortion)

Sextortions reported in 2022



Victims are less likely to report outside of their inner circle

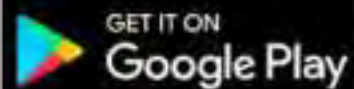
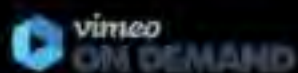


the hidden pandemic

SEXTORTION

Sextortion: The Hidden Pandemic

Sextortion: The Hidden Pandemic is available on these digital services





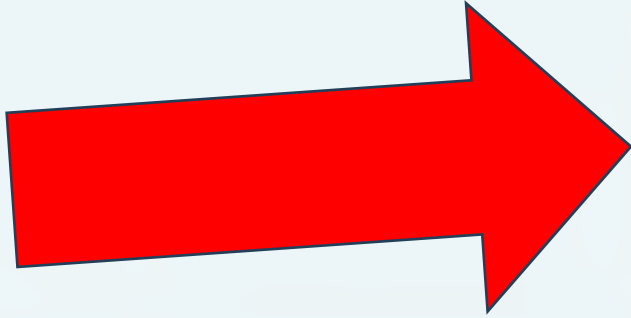
Internet Safety

The best tool we have to prevent Internet crimes against children is education and continued conversation. If you're looking for ways to educate yourself, your children, co-workers, teachers, etc., we have compiled videos and resources that offer a variety of tools for learning and teaching how to safely use the Internet.

Protect Our Youth Online: #StartTheConversation

There are two major events each year that highlight Internet Safety, Safer Internet Day (Feb) and Internet Safety Month (June). Although these events highlight the need for Internet Safety, it is our responsibility EVERY DAY to provide protective factors for youth to safely use technology. Many years ago, we said "put the computer in a common room". Today, our message is about a conversation. A conversation that highlights the good, and the not so good and dangerous aspects of technology use. We strongly urge all parents and guardians, educators, and child protection professionals to #StartTheConversation about technology safety. The many resources below can help inform and protect our families.

"The Internet holds tremendous potential for our nation's youth; however, the misuse of the Internet to prey on them is a serious problem requiring action by legislators, families, communities, and law enforcement." *Bow Research Center*

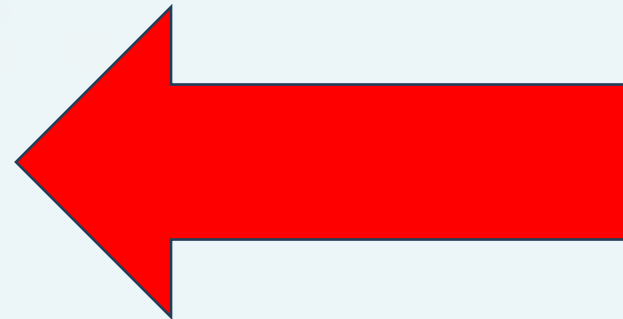


- [Social Media and Youth Mental Health – U.S. Surgeon General’s Advisory](#)
- [Parenting Children in the Age of Screens – Pew Research Center](#)
- [Teens and Pornography – Common Sense Media](#)
- [Role of Caregivers: Safeguarding & Enhancing Youth Resiliency Against Harmful Sexual Encounters Online - Thorn](#)
- [Crimes Against Children Research Center – University of New Hampshire](#)

Resources

We strive to find high quality and effective Internet resources which will help you and others get better informed about the current dangers and challenges in your effort to protect children across this country every day. Points of view or opinions expressed by these organizations do not necessarily represent the official position of the ICAC Task Force, OJJDP, or the U.S. Department of Justice.

- [ICAC Safer Internet Month Prevention and Awareness Video](#)
- [Multi-Faceted View to Protecting Children Online – Panel Discussion](#)
- [Sexting Tips for Parents and Youth](#)
- [Sextortion Awareness and Prevention](#)
 - [Sextortion Victim Resource](#)
 - [Law Enforcement Guide for Sextortion Victims](#)
 - [I didn’t think it would happen to me](#)
 - [This is Sextortion](#)



www.icactaskforce.org

Parents	Youth	General	Videos	IRT
Australia eSafety Commissioner				Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI)
Canadian Centre for Child Protection				Meta Safety Center
Common Sense Media				Microsoft Online Safety
Common Sense Media App Reviews				National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
Comparitech - Protecting Children's Privacy				NetSmartz
Connect Safely				NetSmartz - Gaming
Connect Safely - Tips and Advice				NetSmartz - Social Media
Crimes Against Children Research Center				PTA Connected (Take Charge of Your Digital Life)
Cyberwise				Thorn for Parents
Digital Wellness Lab (Boston Children's Hospital)				UK Internet Matters
Enough is Enough				

I AM A VICTIM OF SEXTORTION, WHAT CAN I DO?

IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT

You have been tricked and you are not alone!

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO:

WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE OFFENDER

- a) Don't pay them. If you already have, stop paying them.
 - Paying them only leads to a demand for more money.
- b) Stop all contact.
- c) Block them and report to the platform.
- d) Don't delete any communication to/from them.
 - Screenshot the messages (not explicit imagery)

SECURE YOUR DIGITAL ACCOUNTS

- a) Change your passwords on all social media accounts.
- b) Update privacy settings and use two-factor authentication.

NOTIFY YOUR LOCAL POLICE IF YOU FEEL YOU CAN'T DO THAT, TALK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT IT

- a) A parent
- b) An older sibling
- c) A close friend
- d) A teacher/counselor/coach

NOTIFY THE CYBERTIPLINE

<https://report.cybertip.org>

AVOID PAYING A "SERVICE" TO INVESTIGATE YOUR CASE

This can also be a scam, or a continuation of the scam.
Only report sextortion to law enforcement or a law enforcement agency.

UTILIZE FREE TRUSTED RESOURCES

See back of this page for free trusted resources.

WHAT CAN I DO?

IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT

You have been tricked and you are not alone!

You are a victim of organized crime, extorting
many people, both minors and adults

STOP & GET HELP

USE FREE TRUSTED RESOURCES

NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN

Take It Down Tool

Tool: takeitdown.ncmec.org/

PSA: [youtube.com/watch?v=sp4akb8zvd3E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sp4akb8zvd3E)

What to do: missingkids.org/theissues/sextortion

Request Victim/Family Support - email:

gethelp@ncmec.org

Report to the CyberTipline and Survivor Services

will reach out with additional resources:

[cybertipline.org](https://www.cybertipline.org/)

NATIONAL CRISIS HOTLINE

Call 988 or Text 4HOPE to 74741 or

<https://www.crisistextline.org/>

for access to a trained counselor

THORN

Stop Sextortion Get Help Now:

stopsextortion.com

Text THORN to 74741 for access to a
trained counselor

Parent resources: parents.thorn.org

FBI

"How Can We Help You?"

<https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/safety-resources/scams-and-safety/common-scams-and-crimes/sextortion>

ICAC

Task Force Contacts:

<https://icactaskforce.org/TaskForceContacts>

LOCAL RESOURCES



984-204-2761



NCICAC@ncsbl.gov



www.ncsbl.gov



www.icactaskforce.org



ICAC

Internet Crimes Against Children
Task Force Program





Practical Tips

FINDING RESOURCES



“Can I have a phone?”

- The question for most parents is not if you are going to give your child a phone, but when.
- How do you do that as safely as possible?

Then and Now

- We used to talk to our kids about strangers offering candy or pretending they lost a pet.
- We used to talk to our kids about what to do if we get separated in public.
- Now, the danger can reach our kids in our homes, sometimes even when they are sitting right next to us, thanks to the internet.

What Hasn't Changed?

- We still have to talk to our kids about dangers when it comes to the internet.
- Having fully open and honest conversations with our kids (with them, not to them) is the first line of protection.
- Highly recommend doing a technology or Cellphone Contract, before handing your kid a phone or letting them lose on a tablet or computer connected to the internet.
- This contract can help guide your conversation and emphasizes the seriousness of being safe on the internet.

Contracts

- There are numerous examples of contracts already out there, that you can use.
 - www.ncdoj.gov/familytech
- You can also create your own. Consider including (depending on your kid's age):
 - Requiring that any Apps be approved before being downloaded.
 - Requiring that any photos or videos be approved before posting or sharing.
 - Requiring that the device must remain in a different room from them to charge at night.
 - Outlining rules about sharing personal information.
 - Limiting screen time.
 - Agreeing that they will never be used while driving.

Trying to Keep up With Technology

- How can I talk to my kids about something I don't really understand?
- This can be an incredibly daunting task for parents who did not grow up in the age of the internet and cell phones.
- Because it changes constantly it can feel overwhelming to figure out where to even start.
- Parents **MUST** educate themselves in order to help protect their kids. Luckily, there are a lot of great resources available.

Where to Learn More

- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
 - Missingkids.org
 - Go to their Education tab and find netsmartz.
 - Has presentations & tipsheets for both parents and kids.
- Internet Crimes Against Children
 - Icactaskforce.org
 - Under the Resources tab you can find information on a variety of internet safety topics.
 - Under the Internet Safety tab, you can find additional resources.

Other Places to Educate Yourself

- **Family Online Safety Institute**

- [Fosi.org](https://fosi.org) – Has an entire section for parents that includes tool kits on digital parenting. Available in English and Spanish.

- **Thorn for Parents**

- [Parents.thorn.org](https://parents.thorn.org) – walks parents through different stages of technology maturity for kids.

- **Connect Safely**

- [Connectsafely.org](https://connectsafely.org) – Gives you access to quick guides and podcasts. Available in English and Spanish.

- **Boston Children's Hospital**

- [Digitalwellnesslab.org/parents/guides](https://digitalwellnesslab.org/parents/guides)

- Great blog on protecting kids' privacy that includes step by step instructions for controlling content on a range of different apps can be found at comparitech.com/blog/vpn-privacy/protecting-childrens-privacy

Internet Safety...There's an App for That

- There are a multitude of Apps available to help monitor the internet use of our kids. Some examples:
 - Bark
 - Aura
 - Qustodio
 - Family Keeper
 - Boomerang
 - Parental ER
 - The list goes on.
- Look at what they offer in the areas of:
 - What they monitor: texts, social media, web browsing, games, call logs, etc.
 - geolocation capabilities
 - Ability to block sites or set screen limits
 - Find what meets your family's needs.

Apps to Familiarize Yourself With

- **SnapChat**

- You can set content control: Tap your profile>settings>family center>invite your teen.
- You can customize content: Tap your profile>settings>additional services>lifestyles and interests>customize

- **Instagram**

- You can set content control: Go to settings and privacy>suggested content>sensitive content>continue>less

- **TikTok**

- You can set up family pairing, so you see what they see: Go to your profile page or your child's profile page>Tap on the three line that are located in the top right-hand corner>Tap Settings and privacy>Select Family Pairing> and follow the steps in the app.
- You can filter video keywords: Tap your profile>settings and privacy>content preferences

- **Discord**

- July 2023, they released “family center” which allows parents to see some of their kids’ activities, however it doesn’t allow them to see any messages and can easily be turned on and off by kids.

- **Omegle**

- No parental controls. No age verification requirement. No privacy settings.

- **Hoop**

- No parental controls. No ability to make your profile private.

- **Kik**

- No parental controls. Cannot make profile private. Some ability to filter, but very limited.

Nothing is Fool Proof

- You discover that an inappropriate image of your child has been or could be shared on online. Before you panic, there are resources available to help.
 - Available Resources:
 - Your local law enforcement.
 - takeitdown.ncmec.org – this was created by the national center for missing and exploited children (NCMEC). It can assist you in trying to remove inappropriate photos and videos that have been or may be shared that depict children 17 and younger.
 - You can report the photo or video to NCMEC’s cyber tip line. Go to: report.cybertip.org

Additional Resources

- Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force: icactaskforce.org/internetsafety.
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, including the CyberTipline and Take It Down: missingkids.org/gethelpnow/exploitation-resources.
- NCDOJ's Family Tech Agreement, available in English and Spanish: ncdoj.gov/familytech.
- kNot Today, a nonprofit founded by Carolina Panthers Head Coach Frank Reich and his wife Linda, offers a Parent & Caregiver guide, including tips on digital safety, available in English and Spanish: knottoday.org/guide/.



Thank you for being here today.



Attorney General

Josh Stein

**PROTECTING THE NEXT
GENERATION OF
NORTH CAROLINIANS**



Please visit our website to learn more about future events:

ncdoj.gov/nextgenwebinar

ncdoj.gov/protegiendo-a-la-proxima-generacion-de-carolina-del-norte-semenario-web/