

Cybercrime Losses Exceeded \$10 Billion in 2022: FBI

The FBI received more than 800,000 cybercrime-related complaints in 2022, with losses totaling over \$10 billion, the agency's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) revealed in its latest report.

The IC3's 2022 Internet Crime Report shows that while the number of complaints was smaller compared to 2021, losses increased from \$6.9 billion to \$10.3 billion. In the past five years, the agency received a total of 3.26 million complaints for \$27.6 billion in losses.

The top five types of cyber-related crimes in 2022 were phishing (300k complaints), personal data breach (58k complaints), non-payment/non-delivery scams (51k), extortion (39k), and tech support scams (32k).

More than 21,000 complaints were related to business email compromise (BEC) attacks, with \$2.7 billion in losses.

The IC3's Recovery Asset Team (RAT) has managed to help many victims of BEC attacks recover their funds. The agency said that it has had a 73% success rate to date, with \$433 million frozen of a total of \$590 million reported losses.

In 2022, investment scams exceeded BEC in terms of losses, with \$3.31 billion reported – there was a 127% increase compared to 2021. A significant chunk of the total was blamed on cryptocurrency investment fraud, which increased from \$907 million in 2021 to \$2.57 billion in 2022.

As for ransomware attacks, the FBI received more than 2,300 complaints last year, with adjusted losses reaching more than \$34 million. Over 800 of these complaints came from organizations across 14 of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors. The most targeted, with over 100 incidents each, were the healthcare, critical manufacturing, government facilities, and IT sectors.

The ransomware operations most commonly seen targeting critical infrastructure were LockBit, BlackCat, and Hive – Hive was recently disrupted by law enforcement.

Call center fraud, which includes tech support and government impersonation scams, made 44,000 victims, with losses exceeding \$1 million, according to data from the FBI.

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