



Numbers Now

Criminal Justice in Oklahoma

June 2019 (Vol. 9, No.1)

Content:

- National Fraud Awareness Week
- National Internet Safety Month
- OCJS Research Requests in 2018

In the approaching months, National Internet Safety Month (June) and National Fraud Awareness Week (August) are occurring. In this edition of Numbers Now, the Office of Criminal Justice Statistics (OCJS) has provided tips and sources to keep children safe on the internet. Adults should exercise the same caution when using the internet as well, and any person using the internet should also be aware of internet fraud scams. OCJS has also included sources and information about current internet fraud scams. These scams could be experienced through internet use at home or at work.

Fraud Awareness

In April of 2019, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) released the annual *Internet Crime Report* for the calendar year of 2018. The report highlights the Internet Crime Complaint Center's (IC3) effort to monitor trending scams. IC3 is a tool available to the public to file a complaint to the FBI regarding scams, fraud, and other acts of suspected criminal activity that use the internet. IC3 analyzes and disseminates information received for investigative and intelligence purposes, and for law enforcement and public awareness.

In the 2018 report, IC3 received more than 300,000 complaints. IC3 reported an estimated two billion dollars were lost due to internet scams. IC3 noted specific types of schemes during the year of 2018. The following examples of scams were highlighted in the report:

Business E-mail Compromise (BEC): The BEC/E-mail Account Compromise (EAC) scam is performed when a legitimate E-mail address for a business or individual is compromised by the offender. When performing this type of scam, the offender may conduct actions such as unauthorized funds transfers or requesting the victim's W-2 information.

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can assist you and your agency with statistics for grant applications,
program assessments, or any other research requests.*

For more information, please visit: [OCJS/Oklahoma-Statistical Analysis Center](https://ocjs.ok.gov/)



Extortion: When extortion occurs, an offender makes criminal demands of valuables from the victim. Commonly, the demand will include virtual currency; virtual currency allows more anonymity. The offender may threaten physical harm, financial harm, or releasing sensitive information about the victim.

For more information about internet crime scams, the 2018 report, filing a complaint, or the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), please visit: [Internet Crime Complaint Center \(IC3\)](#).

#CyberAware

It's summertime! The month of June falls within summer vacation for students who now have more time surf the internet. A [Pew Research Center study](#) finds that 92% of teenagers go online daily, with 24% reporting that they go online "almost constantly." With children and teenagers going online at such a high rate, it is important to communicate with them about internet safety.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recommends parents and educators to begin talking early, openly, and honestly with youth about internet safety. These talks should let children know that information on the internet is not always accurate, and people they meet on the internet may not be who they claim to be. Further, adults should communicate with children how to use privacy and security settings to protect their information. Children should be reminded that what they post online can negatively impact others and to stick to the "golden rule" both offline and on.

Video games are equally as popular, if not more, than social media with kids. Parents can use parental controls online and in video games to monitor and filter what their children see. In addition, parents can ensure their kids secure accounts with strong passwords, have children use avatars or other pictures instead of pictures of themselves, and caution them about using voice chat in game unless all players are known. Bullying is a problem in the video gaming community as well, so an environment should be created in which kids can openly approach adults about harassment. Most video games have a block and report feature, and parents should make sure their children know how to use this function.

There are plenty of ways to make sure children and teens are #CyberAware this month and year-round. These are some additional resources to guide both adults and kids on internet safety:

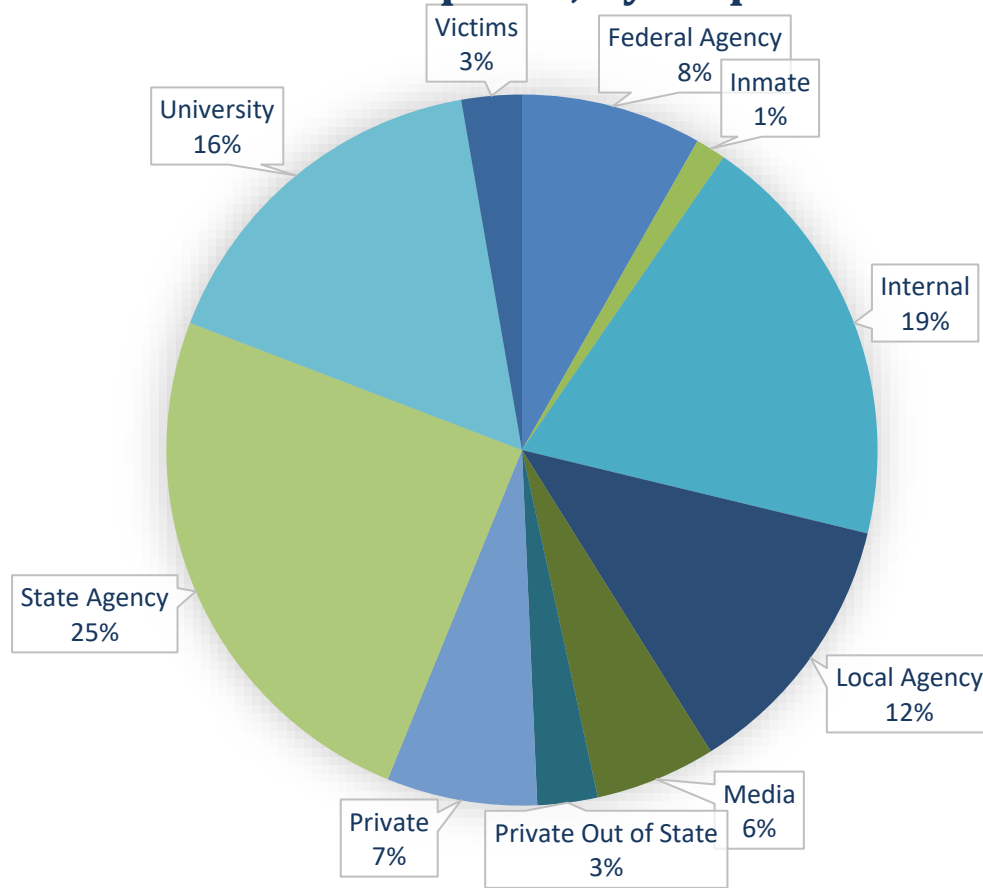
[Stay Safe Online](#)

[Department of Homeland Security Internet Safety Toolkit](#)

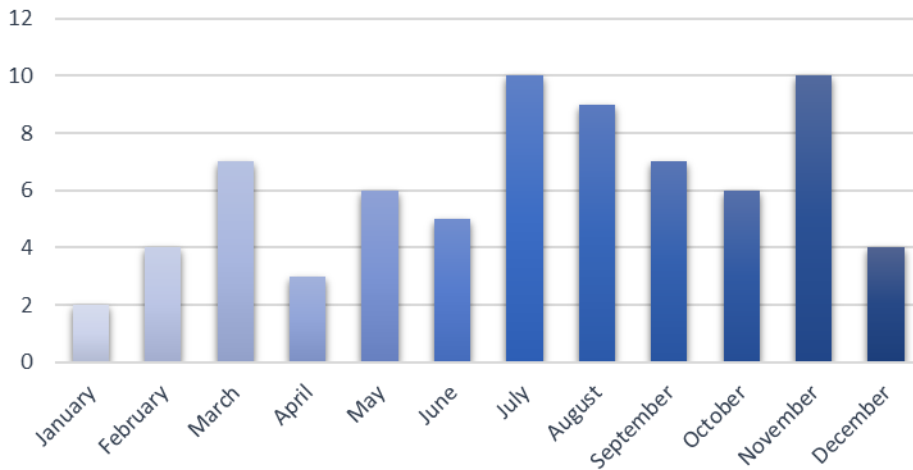


Office of Criminal Justice Statistics: Research Requests in 2018

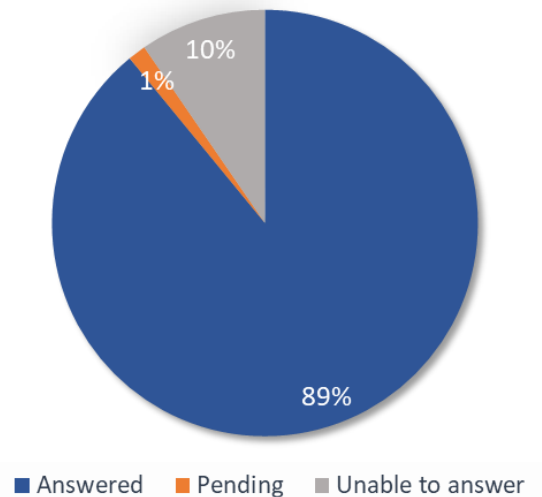
Research Requests, By Requestor



Research Requests, By Month



Response Rate



OCJS Mission

To collect, analyze, and disseminate criminal justice research to educate and assist law enforcement and the citizens of Oklahoma.