

MID-YEAR

SCAM AND CYBERCRIME BRIEF 2026

IN THE **FIRST HALF OF 2026**, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SCAM CASES **FELL BY 14.4% TO 16,821** AND THE TOTAL AMOUNT LOST **FELL BY 17.9% TO ABOUT \$410.6 MILLION**



TOP 10 SCAMS OF CONCERN

	1	2	3	4	5
	E-COMMERCE SCAMS	PHISHING SCAMS	INVESTMENT SCAMS	JOB SCAMS	GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IMPERSONATION SCAMS
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED	3,865	3,104	2,256	2,247	1,363
TOTAL AMOUNT LOST	\$8.3 MILLION	\$9.6 MILLION	\$169.8 MILLION	\$34.9 MILLION	\$90.8 MILLION
AVERAGE AMOUNT LOST PER CASE	\$2,160	\$3,108	\$75,267	\$15,534	\$66,643
	6	7	8	9	10
	SOCIAL MEDIA IMPERSONATION SCAMS	SEXUAL SERVICES SCAMS	LOAN SCAMS	INTERNET LOVE SCAMS	FAKE FRIEND CALL SCAMS
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES REPORTED	587	478	384	373	353
TOTAL AMOUNT LOST	\$3.9 MILLION	\$1.5 MILLION	\$2.1 MILLION	\$8.4 MILLION	\$818 THOUSAND
AVERAGE AMOUNT LOST PER CASE	\$6,698	\$3,156	\$5,518	\$22,709	\$2,319

TOP 5 CONTACT METHODS

There has been a decrease in reported scam cases involving online platforms – such as messaging platforms, social media and phone calls. However, they continue to be used as a first approach for majority (89.0%) of scam cases.

1	2	3	4	5
MESSAGING PLATFORMS	SOCIAL MEDIA	ONLINE SHOPPING PLATFORMS	PHONE CALLS	OTHER WEBSITES
1H 2026 4,636 1H 2025 4,731	1H 2026 4,488 1H 2025 5,883	1H 2026 1,890 1H 2025 1,857	1H 2026 1,631 1H 2025 3,206	1H 2026 1,035 1H 2025 984



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SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY



SCAM VICTIM PROFILE

Most scam victims were aged below 50. The average amount lost per **elderly victim** has risen compared to the first half of 2025, and **remained the highest** among all age groups.



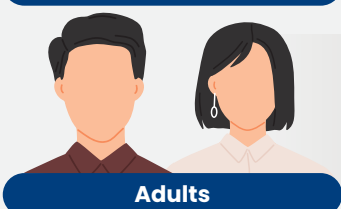
AGES 19 AND BELOW:

E-commerce scams, Phishing scams, Job scams



AGES 20 – 29:

E-commerce scams, Job scams, Phishing scams



AGES 30 – 49:

E-commerce scams, Phishing scams, Job scams



AGES 50 – 64:

Phishing scams, Investment scams, Job scams



AGES 65 AND ABOVE:

Government officials impersonation scams, Investment scams, Phishing scams

POLICE WORK WITH VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS TO COMBAT SCAMS

PREVENT AND BLOCK SCAMS



- New and enhanced Codes of Practice under Online Criminal Harms Act for Online Messaging and Conferencing Services, Social Media Services and E-Commerce Services, for additional safeguards against online scams.
- Expansion of the Facility Restriction Framework to include restrictions on new Digital Token Payment account registrations and the use of Singpass to register for high-risk services such as bank accounts, mobile lines, and corporate entities.

DETECT AND REPORT SCAMS



- In a trial under the National Scams List initiative, for every scam-linked account shared with participating banks, at least one additional previously unreported account was disrupted.
- More than 47,500 scam-related mobile lines, 37,500 WhatsApp lines, 31,600 online monikers and advertisements and 52,200 malicious websites were disrupted.

ENFORCE AGAINST SCAMS AND RECOVER LOST MONIES



- More than 2,900 money mules and scammers were investigated, with at least 470 charged in the first half of 2026.
- Convicted offenders where caning was meted out have received between 1 and 3 strokes of the cane and an average sentencing of 26 months' imprisonment.

PUBLIC EDUCATION



- ScamShield suite of anti-scam resources (e.g. ScamShield Helpline 1799)
- Anti-scam publicity through SaferSG roadshows and scam advisories
- Outreach efforts to reach the elderly through materials in vernacular languages to promote protective measures.
- New E-Commerce Scam Situation Report that ranks the top 10 platforms based on reported scam losses and cases, enabling the public to exercise greater caution when transacting on higher-risk platforms.

PUBLIC VIGILANCE IS ESSENTIAL IN SAFEGUARDING AGAINST SCAMS

ADD



...ScamShield app and enable security features such as two-factor authentication (2FA)

CHECK



...for potential scams signs and trends with legitimate sources and verify with people you trust whenever you are in doubt

TELL



...authorities if you encounter scams and share the latest scam alerts with friends and family

A discerning public is the first line of defence against scams



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