



National Cyber Safety Assessment 2026

Understanding public concerns and trust in
an evolving digital landscape.

Executive Summary

This report analyzes the findings of a national cyber safety survey involving 466 individual respondents across the United States. The assessment evaluates public confidence, primary online safety concerns, and trusted local resources to outline actionable paths forward.

The findings reveal a critical vulnerability: while Americans are highly anxious about immediate financial threats like identity theft and financial fraud, 1 in 3 respondents lack confidence in finding trustworthy advice, forcing many to handle threat incidents entirely alone. However, there is an overwhelming public demand for education, with a solid majority of respondents eager to attend local, community-centric safety events.

Respondent Demographics

The survey gathered insights from 466 Americans, representing a wide range of age demographics. Notably, older adults—who are often specifically targeted by financial scammers—made up the largest portion of the surveyed audience.

AT A GLANCE



466

Individual Responses



65+

Largest Demographic
Surveyed

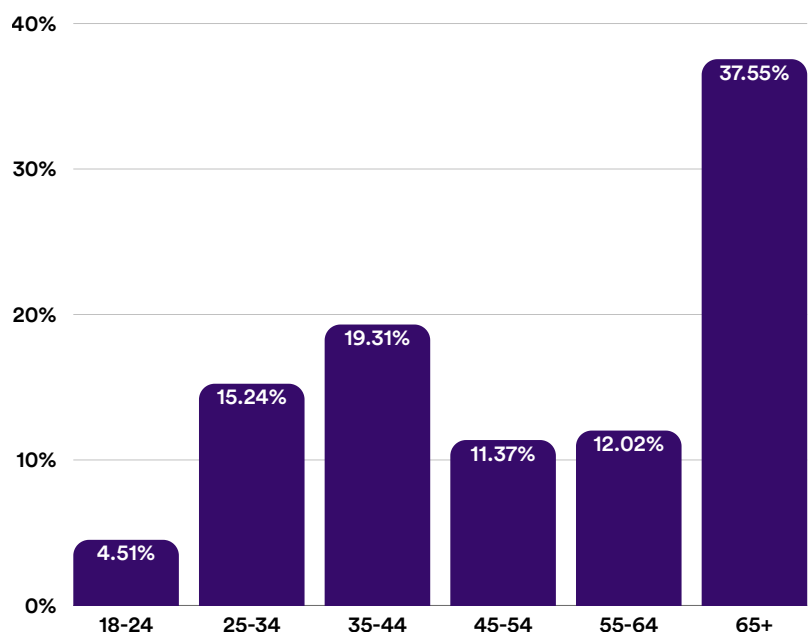


52% Female

48% Male

of those who specified

Age Group Prevalence

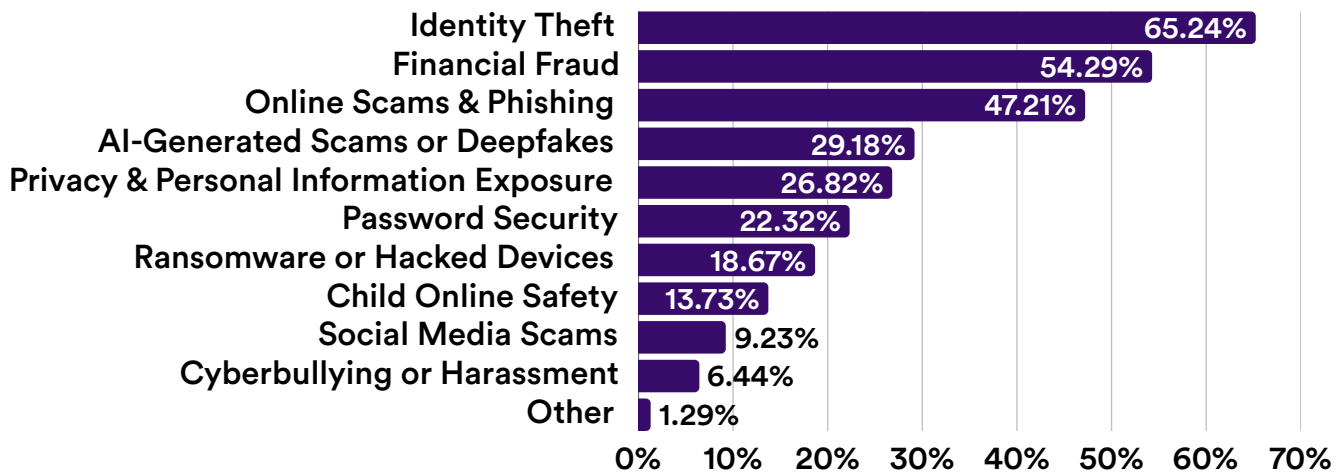


Top Cybersecurity Concerns

The majority of public safety concerns focus on financial implications, followed closely by phishing and evolving digital threats.

Which of the following online safety topics concern you the most?

(Select up to 3)



Trend Insight: Evolving technological threats, specifically AI-generated scams and deepfakes (29.18%), are now concerning more citizens than traditional risks like ransomware or hacked devices (18.67%).

The Guidance & Trust Gap

The most trusted source for online safety guidance is local cybersecurity professionals; however, cybersecurity professionals are far more prevalent in urban areas, leaving rural communities with far fewer resources.

AT A GLANCE



1 IN 3

Lack confidence in finding advice



25%

Try to figure it out alone



Cybersecurity Professional

52%



Law Enforcement

44%



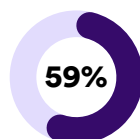
Internet Service Provider

36%



Community Organizations

23%



Over half of the respondents confirmed they would attend free, local cybersecurity awareness events.