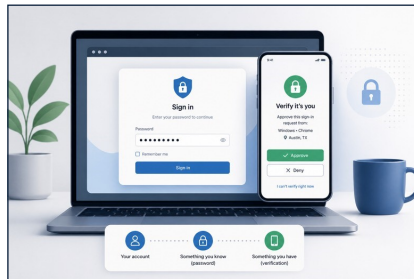




Welcome to the TXDPS Cyber Security Newsletter

One big thing: Guard Your Online Accounts



What to know: Most security incidents don't start with some advanced hack - they start with someone getting access to an account they shouldn't have.

That's it.

Once someone's in, they can read emails, reset passwords, move laterally, or send convincing phishing messages from a trusted account. So the goal to protect your account isn't perfection—it's making that first step a lot harder. The good news is that a few small habits go a long way.

Five simple ways to protect your accounts:

- **Use a unique password for every account.** If one account is compromised, this keeps it from being used to access other sites.
- **Turn on Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) wherever it's available.** This is one of the most effective ways to prevent unauthorized access.
- **Use a password manager.** It creates and stores strong passwords so you don't have to remember them (or reuse them).
- **Avoid "almost the same" passwords.** Adding a "!" or changing one letter/number doesn't help – attackers know those patterns.
- **Pause before entering your credentials.** Especially after clicking a link. If something feels off, go directly to the site instead. (Plenty of phishing emails will ask for your credentials after clicking a link or opening an attachment; don't fall for it!)

Attackers look for easy wins. Reused passwords without MFA are exactly that – so don't give them a shortcut!

In the News

Cybercrime losses jumped 26% to \$20.9 billion in 2025

(Matt Kapko | April 7, 2026)

"Cybercrime remains a booming business.

Annual cybercrime losses amounted to almost \$20.9 billion last year, reflecting a 26% increase from 2024, the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) said in its annual report Tuesday.



The comprehensive study exposes a worsening digital crime environment that is driving financial losses, with momentum moving in the wrong direction and compounding at an alarming rate. Annual cybercrime losses have jumped almost 400% from \$4.2 billion in 2020, and cumulative losses in that five-year period surpassed \$71.3 billion.

The FBI's IC3, which formed as the country's central hub for cybercrime reporting in 2000, is busier than ever. "We now average almost 3,000 complaints per day," Jose Perez, the FBI's operations director for its criminal and cyber branch, wrote in the report.

The annual internet crime report highlights growing and sustaining trends. Yet, the scope of the study is limited and relies entirely on cybercrime incidents submitted to the FBI.

The full impact of cybercrime remains murky, as an unknown number of victims suffer in the shadows and never report the crimes they endure.

The FBI received more than 1 million complaints last year, with victims aged over 60 reporting the largest amount of crimes that also resulted in the greatest amount of total losses by age group. Victims at least 60 years old filed 201,000 complaints with losses totaling nearly \$7.75 billion, or about 37% of all cybercrime-related losses last year."

Full Story: <https://cyberscoop.com/fbi-internet-crime-complaint-center-annual-cybercrime-report>

A Few More Cyber News Stories:

Minecraft Players Targeted by LofyStealer

<https://cybersecuritynews.com/minecraft-players-targeted-by-lofystealer>

This New Tool Can Steal Your Passwords And Info - Even With 2FA Enabled

<https://www.slashgear.com/2146538/storm-password-info-steal-tool-bypass-two-factor>

Anthropic's Claude Mythos Finds Thousands of Zero-Day Flaws Across Major Systems

<https://thehackernews.com/2026/04/anthropics-claude-mythos-finds.html>

Spot the Phish

This Month's Challenge

For this month's challenge, let's take another look at phishing emails. More practice!

This year, phishing remains the top cyber threat, serving as the primary entry point for over 90% of successful cyberattacks. And approximately 3.4 billion phishing emails are sent globally every day.

So let's sharpen our skills! (Your personal inboxes receive phishing emails, too.)

Good luck; please let me know how you do.

<https://globallearningsystems.com/freecontent/SpotThePhish/story.html>

Spot The Phish (Spear Phishing): A Game by Global Learning Systems

New Emails will appear below.

**HOW WELL CAN YOU SPOT A PHISH?
LET'S FIND OUT!**

Mom

Dad's appointment got moved up again. Can you tell

PLAY