

# Fourth NATIONAL JUVENILE ONLINE VICTIMIZATION STUDY

## A Study of Technology-Facilitated Crimes against Juveniles

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Please help us gather information about this important problem by having a knowledgeable person in your agency answer these questions about technology-facilitated crimes involving child sexual abuse material (child pornography) or child sexual exploitation.
- The questions concern cases that resulted in arrests between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019 ~~and “sexting” cases you may have handled in 2019.~~
- This survey ~~should can~~ be completed by a representative who is ~~most~~ knowledgeable about your agency’s ~~records of investigation arrests investigations of involving~~ technology-facilitated sex crimes against children.

### Sponsored by:

U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice  
810 Seventh Street NW  
Washington, DC 20531

### Return surveys to:

Crimes against Children Research Center  
University of New Hampshire  
10 West Edge Drive, Ste. 106  
Durham, NH 03824-3586  
Email: [UNH.NJOV4@unh.edu](mailto:UNH.NJOV4@unh.edu)  
Ph: [603-405-8465](tel:603-405-8465)

### BURDEN STATEMENT

Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, and completing the screener. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the National Institute of Justice, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20531.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**What is the N-JOV Study?** N-JOV is a study of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to collect information from across the nation about technology-facilitated crimes with juvenile victims, in particular sex crimes and child sexual abuse image cases. The results will be reported to the U.S. Department of Justice and be available to law enforcement agencies.

**Why is the N-JOV Study being conducted?** The N-JOV Study measures growth and change in technology-facilitated sex crimes against juveniles. We have conducted three previous surveys. The 1<sup>st</sup> asked about cases ending in arrest in 2000, the 2<sup>nd</sup> asked about arrest cases in 2006, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> about arrest cases in 2009. Policy makers and law enforcement officials will use the final study results to help secure resources for investigators and encourage citizens to report these crimes. **The enclosed bulletin is an example of the information this research provides to law enforcement policy makers.**

**Who sponsors the N-JOV Study?** The N-JOV Study is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice.

**Who is conducting the N-JOV Study?** Researchers at the Crimes against Children Research Center (CCRC) at the University of New Hampshire are conducting the N-JOV Study. The CCRC has completed numerous studies about crimes with juvenile victims. Information about us and copies of reports from the previous three N-JOV Studies can be downloaded from our website at <https://cola.unh.edu/family-research-laboratory/projects-topics/national-juvenile-online-victimization-study-n-jov>.

**How was our agency chosen?** ~~All ICAC Task Forces are invited to participate in this study and ICAC Task Forces are part of a larger group nationally representative sample of 2,500. Your agency/agencies was chosen randomly selected from a list of U.S. law enforcement agencies to participate in the study. You are part of a national sample of approximately 2500 agencies.~~

**Why is our participation important, even if we don't have any of these cases?** Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. However, we need your response to make the study results accurate. **Even if your agency did not investigate any relevant cases** please complete and return this survey. Whatever your agency's experiences, they represent the experiences of other agencies like yours across the nation.

**What will you do with the completed mail surveys?** If your agency has a case related to the N-JOV Study, we will contact you to schedule a telephone interview with the key investigating officer about a random subset of these cases. Interviews should last approximately 40 minutes and will ask about case characteristics.

**What security and confidentiality protections are in place for the N-JOV Study?** Agency names, names of individuals, and other identifying information will not be used in any reports, published materials or discussions of the study results. In fact, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) approves a

Privacy Certificate for every study funded by their agency. If we call you back to gather more information about a case, we will not ask you for information, like names, that would identify specific

victims. Also, information that could link a specific agency with any data gathered will be accessible only to the researchers, all of whom have signed non-disclosure agreements, as required by federal law. Further, federal law states that information gathered for research studies is immune from legal process, including subpoenas, and may be used for research and statistical studies only (34 USC 10231a).

**Who can we contact for questions?** If you have questions about the survey, or if your agency has made too many arrests to list on this form, please contact [Leanne Gast](mailto:Leanne.Gast@unh.edu) us at [603-405-8465](tel:603-405-8465) or [UNH.NJOV4@unh.edu](mailto:UNH.NJOV4@unh.edu). If you have any questions about your rights as a research subject you may contact Melissa McGee in the UNH Research Integrity Services Office at 603-862-2005 or [Melissa.McGee@unh.edu](mailto:Melissa.McGee@unh.edu) to discuss them.

<b>GLOSSARY OF STUDY TERMS</b>	
<b>Arrest</b>	Includes cases where an arrest has been made, a warrant has been issued but no arrest made, or an offender has been arraigned without arrest.
<b>Child / minor / juvenile</b>	Person under the age of 18.
<b>Sexual exploitation</b>	Any kind of a sex crime or offense involving sexual acts or sexual material, including consensual acts like statutory rape and misdemeanors like contributing to the delinquency of a minor.
<b>Suspect</b>	A person who is accused or suspected of committing a crime.
<b>Child sexual exploitation material (CSAM)</b>	Pictures, videos, or other visual material that shows a person who is a child (< 18 years old) engaged in explicit sexual activity or represented in a sexual context. CSAM includes materials that are sometimes referred to as child pornography.
<b>Grooming</b>	A preparatory process in which a perpetrator gradually gains a person’s or organization’s trust with the intent to be sexually abusive.
<b>Sex trafficking</b>	A commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.

## ARREST CASES

1. Between **January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019**, did your agency make ANY ARRESTS in cases involving the attempted or completed sexual exploitation of a minor, AND at least one of the following occurred:
  - The offender and the victim first met through technology
  - The offender committed a sexual offense where technology was used to facilitate the crime in some way (e.g., grooming, sex trafficking), regardless of whether or not they first met online

Yes  
 No
2. Between **January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019**, did your agency make ANY ARRESTS in cases involving the possession, distribution, access, or production of child sexual abuse material (i.e., child pornography), and at least one of the following occurred:
  - Illegal images were found on technology (cloud, computer, flash drives, memory cards, tablet, cell phone etc.) possessed or accessed by the suspect
  - The suspect used technology to order or sell child sexual abuse material
  - There was other evidence that illegal images were downloaded from the Internet or distributed by the suspect using technology
  - The suspect was using steaming apps to view live video of child sexual exploitation

Yes  
 No
3. Indicate the total number of arrests your agency made between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019 that fit one or more of the criteria above.

#### 4. IMPORTANT!

For each arrest, please include a printout or contact the study team with the following information:

1. Case number (or other identifying information)
2. Name of key investigator (or person most knowledgeable about that case)
3. Phone number of key investigator
4. Email address of key investigator

Note. Researchers will be calling investigators for confidential follow-up interviews on a random subset of these cases. No identifying information will be asked during these interviews and investigators can skip any question they prefer not to answer.

## YOUTH PRODUCED SEXUAL IMAGES (SEXTING)

1. Between **January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019**, did your agency handle any cases that did not result in an arrest that involved sexual images created by minors (age 17 or younger) AND these images were or could have been child sexual abuse material (child pornography) under the statutes of your jurisdiction? Please include:

- Cases where minors took pictures of themselves OR other minors, including “sexting”
- Cases that may have been crimes, but were not prosecuted for various reasons
- Cases that were handled as juvenile offenses
- Other cases involving sexual images produced by juveniles and an arrest was not made

Yes (Continue below)

No (Go to Page 10)

[Cannot provide this information \(please specify why\)](#)

2. Indicate the total number of these cases handled by your agency between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019 that fit one or more of the criteria given in Question #1.

3. **IMPORTANT!**

[For each investigation, please include a printout or contact the study team with the following information:](#)

[1. Case number \(or other identifying information\)](#)

[2. Name of key investigator \(or person most knowledgeable about that case\)](#)

[3. Phone number of key investigator](#)

[4. Email address of key investigator](#)

[Note. Researchers will be calling investigators for confidential follow-up interviews on a random sub-set of these cases to not to over-burden investigators. No identifying information will be asked during these interviews and investigators can skip any question they prefer not to answer.](#)

4. [We are also interested in how these sexting cases come to the attention of your agency more generally and what you typically do with them when they do. Please use the space below to tell us a little bit about that.](#)

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## ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

**1. How did you search for the requested cases? (Mark all that apply)**

- Recollection of 2019 cases by investigators or other agency staff
- Searched agency records by hand
- Searched NIBRS/UCR report
- Searched record management system (please specify system)
  
- Some other way (please specify)

**2.** In the sections above we asked for information on arrests and investigations for technology-facilitated sex crimes against children. We're also interested in learning about the **total volume of reports** your agency received in 2019. Approximately how many reports did your agency receive in 2019 for technology-facilitated sex crimes against children, regardless of whether an arrest was made or not? \_\_\_# reports

Approximately how many of these reports, if any, were received from the CyberTipline (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children)? \_\_\_\_\_# reports

**3.** Is the number of reports of technology-facilitated sex crimes against children so large that you have to use a system for triaging or setting priority among cases?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

If yes, can you indicate which of the following are *very important, somewhat important or not important* when triaging cases:

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
Amount of identifying information about the Suspect			
Amount of identifying information about a victim(s)			
Amount of time elapsed between the evidence and receiving the report in your agency			
Confirmation of illegal content or activity			
Volume of illegal content			
Extremity of the illegal content			
Whether the suspect has access to children			
Which technology platforms are involved			
Source of the report			
Indicators of violence			
Agency resources			

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about technology-facilitated sex crimes against children you have encountered? If so, please use this space for that purpose. Also, any comments you wish to make that you think may help us in future efforts to understand these crimes will be appreciated, either here, call [Leanne Gast](mailto:Leanne.Gast@unh.edu) at 603-405-8465 or email [UNH.NJOV4@unh.edu](mailto:UNH.NJOV4@unh.edu).

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**INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY:**

Today's Date	
Name	
Position or Title	
Agency Name	
Department or Unit	
City and State	
Zip code	
Phone Number	
Email Address	

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY.  
PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM IN THE  
POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE PROVIDED.**

*Your contribution to this study is greatly appreciated.*