



# New FTC Data Show Consumers Reported Losing More Than \$200 Million to Romance Scams in 2019

February 12, 2020

## Share This Page

FOR RELEASE

**TAGS:** [deceptive/misleading conduct](#) | [Bureau of Consumer Protection](#) | [Consumer Protection](#) | [Imposter](#) | [Online Dating](#)

New Federal Trade Commission data from the agency's Consumer Sentinel Network show that consumers reported losing \$201 million to romance scams in 2019—up nearly 40% since 2018.

Romance scammers prey on consumers who are looking for love, converting what feels like a budding relationship into an ask for money to help the scammer get out of some manufactured crisis. The stories and feelings can be compelling, and the losses can be huge.

In 2019, more than 25,000 consumers filed a report with the FTC about romance scams, and over the past two years total reported losses to romance scams were higher than to any other scam reported to the FTC.

A new [blog post from the FTC](#) has more information about the scams, including tips for recognizing a romance scam, along with a new infographic highlighting the latest data.

More information is also available on the [FTC's romance scam page](#), as well as [in a video](#). Information about FTC complaint data can be found at [ftc.gov/exploredata](https://ftc.gov/exploredata), and consumers can file a complaint at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://ftc.gov/complaint).

The Federal Trade Commission works to promote competition, and [protect and educate consumers](#). You can [learn more about consumer topics](#) and file a [consumer complaint online](#) or by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP (382-4357). Like the FTC on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), read our [blogs](#), and [subscribe to press releases](#) for the latest FTC news and resources.



[Romance Scams Infographic](#)

# Contact Information

**CONTACT FOR CONSUMERS:**

Consumer Response Center

877-382-4357

**CONTACT FOR NEWS MEDIA:**

Jay Mayfield

*Office of Public Affairs*

202-326-2656



ftc.gov