Scam facts at a glance

Silver Watchdogs · A free handout to open a talk · No sign-up

Official figures from the FBI and the FTC for people age 60 and older in 2025, plus simple talking points. Then point people to silverwatchdogs.com.

$7.7 billion
lost, reported to the FBI by people 60 and older in 2025 (up 59%)

201,266
FBI complaints from people 60 and older in 2025 (up 37%)

$38,500
average loss reported to the FBI by people 60 and older in 2025

12,444
people 60 and older who reported a loss over $100,000 to the FBI

Over $3 billion
lost, reported to the FTC by people 60 and older in 2025 — about five times the 2020 total

Top scams right now

1. A call that sounds like a grandchild in trouble — even the voice can be faked
2. Scammers going after VA benefits
3. Someone pretending to be from the FBI, the FTC, or the police
4. Holiday tricks: fake delivery texts, empty gift cards, and fake charities
5. A "deputy" calling about a warrant or missed jury duty

What to tell your audience

1. Hang up. Call back on a number you already have, or look up yourself.
2. Never pay with gift cards, crypto, or gold, and never hand cash to a stranger at the door.
3. Slow down. A rush is a warning sign.
4. Talk to someone you trust before you send money or share a bank detail.
5. Report it at ReportFraud.ftc.gov, or start at silverwatchdogs.com.

Free help: silverwatchdogs.com

Free to use and share. No sign-up.

Sources: FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center, 2025 Annual Report, Elder Fraud section (complaints filed by people age 60+). FTC, Protecting Older Consumers 2025–2026 (Consumer Sentinel Network, calendar year 2025). The FBI and the FTC keep separate counts. Figures were checked in the official reports in November 2026.