

In the United States, statistics indicate a significant presence of internet child predators and ongoing efforts by law enforcement to combat them:

- **Active Predators:** At any given time, an estimated 50,000 predators are actively seeking out children on the internet.¹
- **Perpetrator Activities:** Online child predators engage in various criminal activities, including grooming, sexually explicit communication, sextortion, attempting to meet children for sexual purposes, and involvement in the collection, distribution, and production of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).² They often use online platforms like forums, social media, chat rooms, and gaming sites, frequently concealing their identities or pretending to be someone they are not to avoid detection.³
- **Arrests and Convictions:**
 - Since its inception in 1998, the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program has reviewed over 844,600 complaints of child sexual victimization, leading to the arrest of more than 89,400 individuals.⁴
 - In fiscal year 2024 alone, ICAC task forces conducted approximately 203,467 investigations, resulting in over 12,600 arrests of offenders.⁵
 - Specific operations, such as "Operation Grayskull," have led to the convictions of numerous offenders involved in dark web sites dedicated to child sexual abuse, with sentences ranging from lengthy prison terms to life imprisonment.⁶
 - The FBI's "Innocent Images National Initiative" saw substantial increases in cases opened, indictments, arrests, and convictions between fiscal years 1996 and 2005, with a 2325% increase in arrests, locates, and summons.⁷