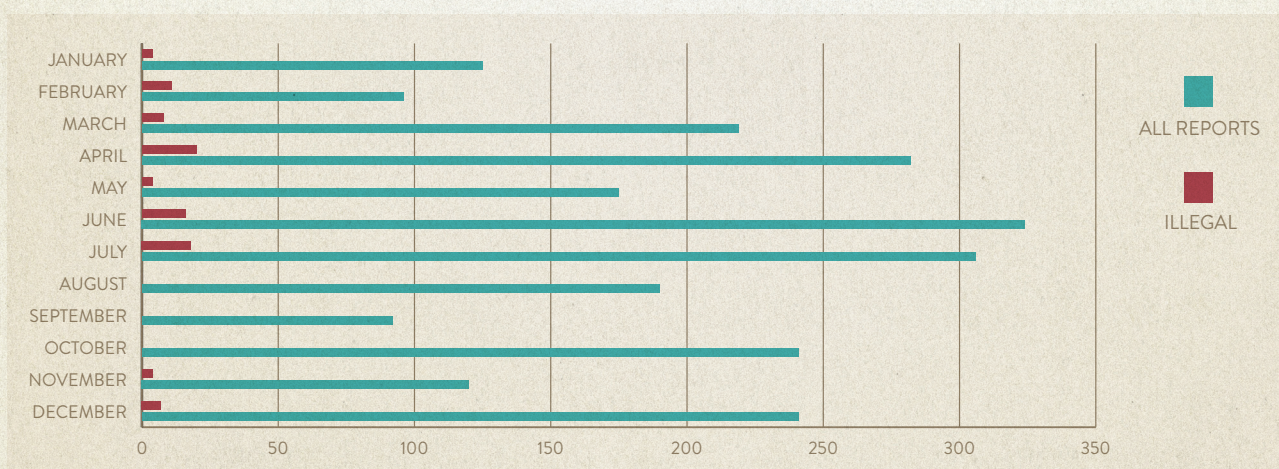


Hotline.ie Annual Report ANALYSIS 2011



Only 92 instances of unique illegal content in 2011 - a dramatic 50.5% fall on last year.

Given that overall reporting to the Hotline has been similar to previous years, only decreasing slightly in 2011, this outcome is a welcome indication that the average Internet user is not encountering content they suspect to be illegal as frequently as occurred in the past. On average just over 200 reports per month were dealt with by Hotline.ie during 2011. The graph below shows the breakdown of reports processed and reports recorded as illegal under Irish law across each month of the year.

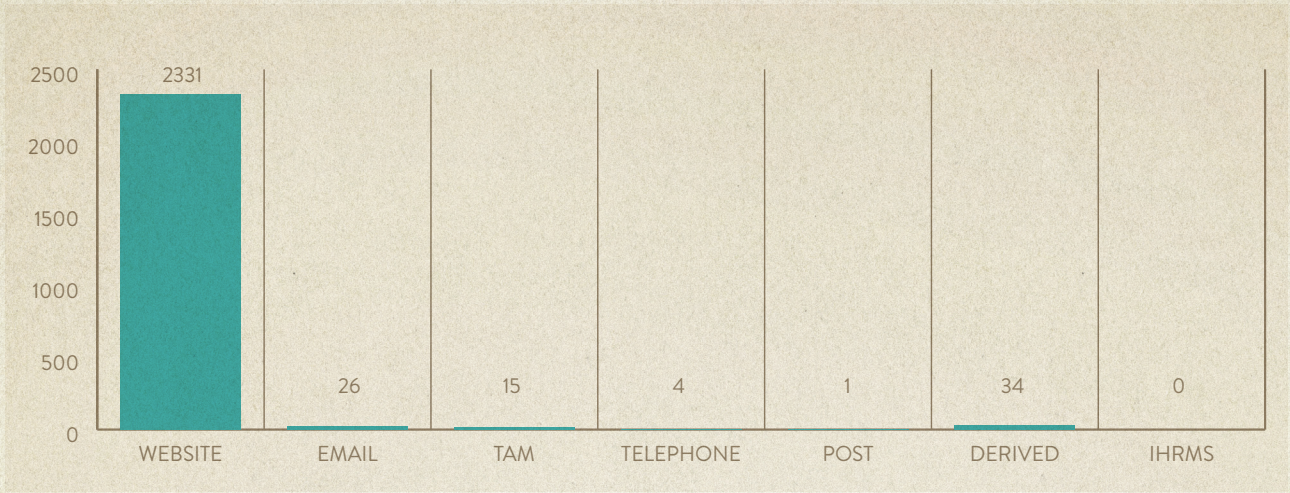


2011 - Reports processed compared to those assessed as illegal in each month

HOTLINE.IE REPORT RESULTS IN BULGARIAN ARREST

In April 2011, a report received by Hotline.ie led to the arrest in Bulgaria of a secondary school teacher who was charged with possession and distribution of child pornography. The Hotline Analyst investigated the reported content and traced this to an IP address in Bulgaria from which an illegal child sexual abuse video was being shared. The Analyst gathered the necessary technical information to identify the specific ISP connection of the alleged perpetrator which was then transmitted to our Bulgarian counterparts, aiding the Bulgarian Police Cybercrime Unit and ultimately resulting in the arrest on the 12th May.

This case shows how effective international cooperation between INHOPE Hotlines, Police and ISPs can be in tackling online distribution of child sexual abuse content.



Hotline.ie report source comparison chart

HOTLINE COOPERATION

In an impressive example of the trans-jurisdictional cooperation that is crucial in tackling the global problem of the distribution of CSAC (Child Sexual Abuse Content) online, Hotline manager Paul Durrant joined speakers from around the globe in Taiwan in April 2011, to share his expertise on the need for initiatives to keep pace with the ever evolving technological landscape. This is indicative of the continual progression of the Irish hotline in increasing their technical knowledge and meeting the advances on the Internet. The borderless nature of the modern Internet necessitates international cooperation and communication and it is reassuring to see events such as this bringing expertise from countries as far afield as USA, Australia, Japan and South Korea.

In 2011 the Hotline processed 2,411 reports. These were made up of 2,377 external reports and 34 derived reports. The reports received from the public are referred to as “External Reports”. On assessment, these may or may not prove to be probably illegal under Irish law. As can be seen from the graph above Hotline did not receive any reports via IHRMS (INHOPE Report Management System) in 2011, which means that the 41 other countries which operate hotlines did not encounter any illegal content hosted in Ireland. Yet worldwide the INHOPE network exchanged notifications of 29,908 reports of illegal web content via IHRMS in 2011. This authenticates Ireland’s outstanding record in relation to CSAC.

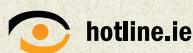
Under the procedures agreed with Government, the Hotline is not permitted to proactively search for illegal content. Therefore, to carry out its function, the Hotline relies totally on the public to initiate reports. For more information on the different types of reports the hotline can act on, please see www.hotline.ie.

ISPAI members (www.ispai.ie) promote and financially support the Hotline service as part of their actions to help protect their services and customers from exposure to illegal content. The Hotline also receives part-funding from the European Commission.

ISPAI MEMBERS SUPPORT HOTLINE.IE



Co-Funded by the European Union



Office for Internet Safety
An Oifig Sábháilteachta Idirlin