



11% Increase in Spam Calls for June Reflects Scammers' Final Push Ahead of STIR/SHAKEN Deadline

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FCC's June 30th deadline for anti-caller ID spoofing framework likely drove the highest monthly increase in spam calls since March 2021.

NEW YORK, July 7, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- [RoboKiller](#), the app that eliminates 99% of spam calls and text messages, [reveals Americans received an estimated 5.9 billion spam calls in June 2021- an 11%](#) increase from May. Spam text volume stayed relatively flat in June at 7.1 billion spam texts - a 1% increase from May. June's growth in total spam calls is the largest monthly increase since March 2021, which had a 16% increase from April.

Spam Call Resurgence Reflects Scammers' Final Push Before New Anti-Spoofing Framework STIR/SHAKEN

Monthly spam call increases for June are likely driven by the FCC's enforcement of STIR/SHAKEN on June 30th, 2021. STIR/SHAKEN (*Secure Telephone Identity Revisited (STIR) and Signature-based Handling of Asserted Information Using toKENs (SHAKEN) standards*) is a new technological framework designed to reduce the use of illegal caller ID spoofing on all voice networks in the United States by validating the caller ID of a phone call while the call is being placed. The TRACED ACT, signed into law in 2019, mandated that all voice networks adopt the STIR/SHAKEN framework or a robocall mitigation plan by June 2021 as the first step forward in a unified solution to caller ID spoofing.

As previously reported by RoboKiller, the new STIR/SHAKEN framework has been driving abnormal robocall trends in the months leading up to the FCC deadline. This is because some large carriers released their STIR/SHAKEN solutions early and scammers have been working to find new technological loopholes around them. As a result, RoboKiller predicts Americans will experience as much as a 5-10% decrease in total spam calls for the months of July and possibly August 2021, but a rebound later in the year as scammers adapt and find new approaches.

Flat Spam Text Trends from May to June Show Scammers Are Keeping Spam Texts In Their Back Pocket

The slowdown in spam text growth from May to June 2021 likely indicates that scammers are more focused on establishing technological workarounds to the STIR/SHAKEN framework for robocalling rather than completely pivoting to spam texts following the June 30th deadline.

However, this doesn't mean Americans should count spam texts out. RoboKiller predicts a 5% increase in spam texts for the month of July as more scammers look to offset losses on robocalls and attempt new approaches to steal from Americans over the phone. This means Americans are on track to receive more than 86 billion spam texts in 2021, a 55% increase from 2020.

Scammers Continue to Craft More Relevant Phone Scams To Increase Their Earnings

As the landscape becomes more complicated for robocallers to place thousands of illegal calls a day, many scammers are adjusting their approach to focus on quality over quantity. Scammers do this by tailoring their scams to relevant societal events in the United States to be more believable to the target.

For example, student loan robocall scams have increased by more than 30% in the past 3 months. This is likely due to recent media coverage on student loan debt legislation, as well as COVID relief programs for student loan forgiveness coming to an end in the coming months.

Bank text scams have also emerged as a new threat to consumers, now representing more than 3% of the more than 7 billion spam texts received by Americans each month. As economic anxiety continues, scammers understand this means people are checking their bank accounts more often and therefore have a higher likelihood victims will fall for a scam.

JUNE 2021 KEY PHONE SCAM TRENDS

Top Five Most Spam-Called States:

State	Total Estimated Spam Calls	Estimated Spam Calls Per Person
Texas	612,227,724	26
California	493,695,279	15
Florida	352,932,701	20
New York	231,851,713	14
Ohio	217,541,347	22

Top Phone Scams Nationwide:

Robocall Scam Category	Estimated Spam Calls	% of Total Robocalls	Link to Audio Examples
Vehicle Warranty	1,181,146,700	19.8%	Listen to Scam Recording
Health Insurance	567,331,816	9.5%	Listen to Scam Recording
Student Loans	446,952,586	7.5%	Listen to Scam Recording

*All audio examples are phone scams blocked and audio fingerprinted by RoboKiller

Top Five Most Spam-Texted States:

State	Total Estimated Spam Text Messages	Estimated Spam Texts Per Person
Texas	819,069,100	34
New York	715,293,968	43
California	648,870,447	20
Florida	361,175,128	21
Ohio	344,988,362	35

Top Text Scams Nationwide:

Spam Text Category	Estimated Spam Texts	% of Total Spam Texts
Amazon, UPS, & Other Delivery Scams	1,692,726,647	23.5%
Bank Scams	220,319,753	3.1%
Apple + Device Sweepstakes	200,082,059	2.8%

Tips On How To Stop Phone Scams:

- Don't answer phone calls from unknown phone numbers, especially those that call or text at odd hours.
- Never provide personal, banking, or sensitive information over the phone to any caller.
- Don't follow any prompts like "Press 1" or click any links.
- Download a spam call and text blocker like [RoboKiller](#) to equip your phone with the latest phone-scam-fighting technology. Apps like RoboKiller use global databases of millions of known scams to prevent scammers from reaching you in the first place.

Any brand interested in protecting themselves against scams perpetrated under their name can contact our [enterprise services team](#) for more information.

RoboKiller's Data Insights

These national robocall and spam text insights are provided by [RoboKiller](#), the only app that helps eliminate 99% of spam calls in the United States. RoboKiller's Robocall Insights is powered by its global database of millions of known phone scams and audio fingerprints. This data is estimated by monitoring observed robocall and spam text trends for Americans who have trusted RoboKiller to stop their spam calls and has been featured by major media publications since its release in 2018.

For a comprehensive analysis of robocall trends in specific cities, states, and area codes, details on particular phone scams, or any other related custom inquiries, please contact RoboKiller's robocall insights team [here](#) or at pr@robokiller.com.

With more than 12 million downloads to date, RoboKiller has been named a leader in technical and mobile achievement by the Webby Awards, Media Excellence, Best in Biz, and more. RoboKiller was also [named the most effective solution to robocalls by the FTC](#) as the winner of the most recent Robocalls: Humanity Strikes Back competition. RoboKiller is available for download on the Apple App Store and Google Play. To learn more about RoboKiller, visit www.robokiller.com.

About RoboKiller:

RoboKiller is the leading independent spam call blocker in the United States. RoboKiller's predictive spam call blocking technology uses A.I. and machine-learning to intercept an incoming spam call in less than 0.01 second. RoboKiller then deploys its army of spam-call-fighting Answer Bots to waste scammers' time and resources, preventing them from placing thousands of spam calls each minute. Since its launch in 2017, RoboKiller has helped more than 10 million Americans prevent approximately \$140M losses to phone scams and live their lives spam-call-free™ RoboKiller, a Teltech brand, is a division of Mosaic Group, an [IAC](#) Company (NASDAQ: IAC).

Media Contacts:

Zapwater Communications
Teltech@zapwater.com

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