

# Appendix to June 15, 2001 FTC Testimony on Cross-Border Fraud

# Cross-Border Fraud Statistical Report



Federal Trade Commission June 2001



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#### INTRODUCTION

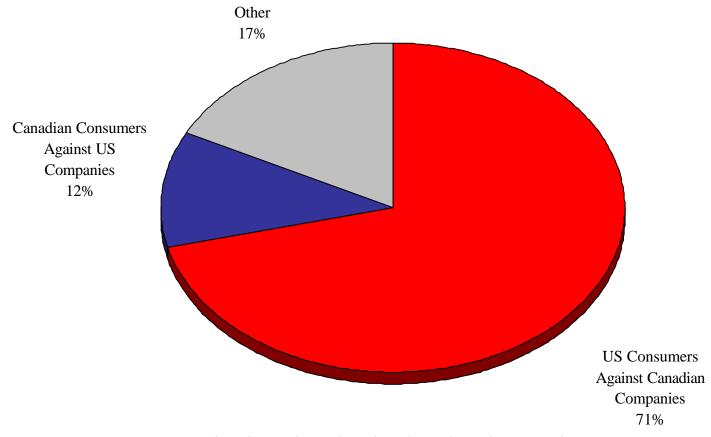
Consumer Sentinel is a secure automated consumer complaint database developed by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), in cooperation with its law enforcement partners, to collect and make available investigative information about consumer fraud and deception. Currently, the Consumer Sentinel database has over **350,000** complaints received by the FTC and other data contributors. The collected investigative information is accessible to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in the United States, Canada, and Australia through a secure, password-protected web site. Between January 1999 and March 2001, more than 70 organizations contributed data to Consumer Sentinel. More information on this joint project is available at www.consumer.gov/sentinel.

During calendar year 2000 Consumer Sentinel received over **97,000** fraudrelated complaints about transactions involving more than **\$138** million. The following are a series of statistical reports from the Consumer Sentinel database presenting information about U.S. and Canadian consumer complaints. Company location is based on addresses reported by the complaining consumers. Please note that in some instances companies report an address, often a maildrop, in one place, but are in fact located in another. Please note also that we are constantly adding data, and that this data is tracked using its original entry date into the data contributors' systems. Accordingly, transfers of data from other organizations may contain complaints from previous months. This may retroactively change some totals and percentages on our graphs and charts.





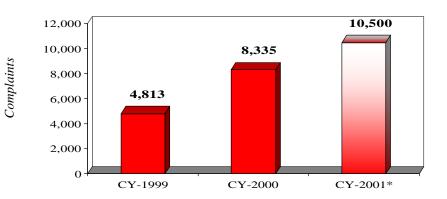
### Percentage of Cross-Border Complaints Calendar Year 2000\*



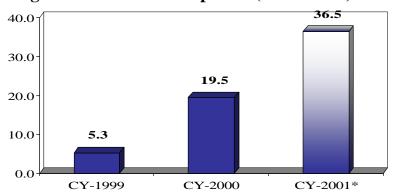
\*Percentage is based upon the total number of complaints from United States and Canadian Consumers (11,735) where company location was reported.



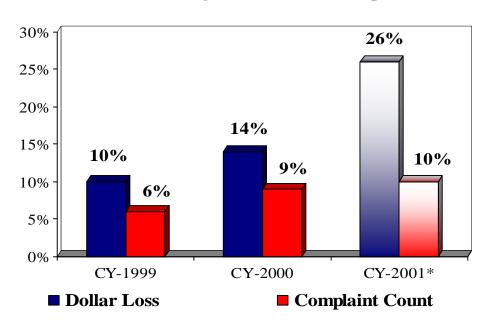
### US Consumers Complaint Count Against Canadian Companies



# **Dollar Loss Reported by US Consumer Complaints Against Canadian Companies (In Millions)**



# Percentage of Complaints and Dollar Loss From US Consumers Against Canadian Companies\*\*

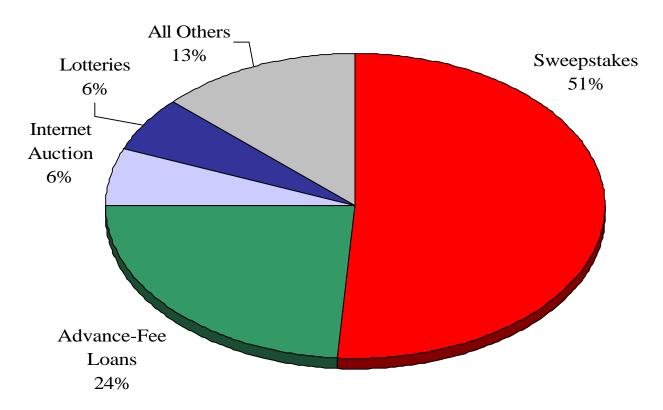


\*\*Percentage is based upon the total number of complaints and total dollar loss reported by calendar year.



# US Consumers' Top Complaints Against Canadian Companies Calendar Year 2000

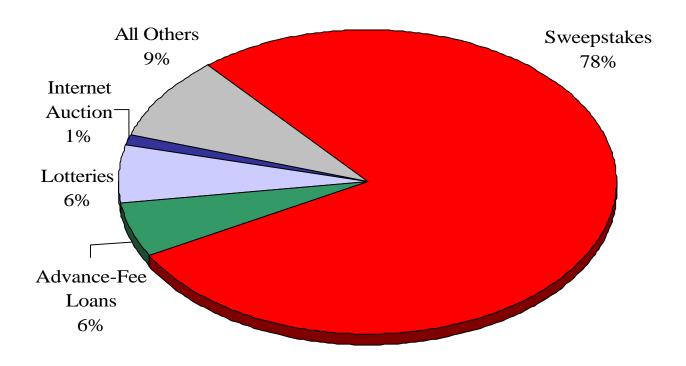
# By Complaint Count





## US Consumers' Top Complaints Against Canadian Companies Calendar Year 2000

# By Dollar Loss





## US Consumer Complaints Against Canadian Companies Calendar Year 2000

	<b>Complaints</b>	Percentage of				
Complaint	<b>Reporting Dollar</b>	<b>Complaints Reporting</b>	<b>Total Dollar</b>	Average		
Count	Loss	<b>Dollar Loss</b>	Loss Reported	Dollar Loss*	Mode**	
8,317	7,238	87%	\$19,504,805	\$2,694	\$26	

<sup>\*</sup> Average dollar loss is based upon the total number of complaints where dollar loss was reported.

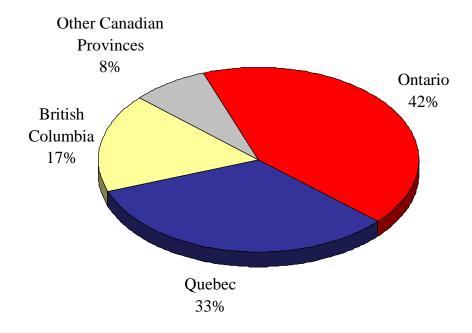
### **Top Product or Service**

		$No.\ of$	Percentage of		Percentage of
Rank	Product or Service	Complaints	Complaints	Dollar Loss	Dollar Loss
1	Prizes\S weepstakes\Gifts	4,253	51%	\$15,192,367	78%
2	Advance-Fee Loans, Credit Arrangers	2,017	24%	\$1,181,436	6%
3	Internet Auction	536	6%	\$205,986	1%
4	Lotteries\Lottery Ticket Buying Clubs	479	6%	\$1,220,588	6%
5	Shop-at-Home\Catalog Sales	181	2%	\$107,422	1%
6	Investments: Other (note in comments)	109	1%	\$652,365	3%
7	Employ Agencies\Job Counsel\Overseas Work	78	1%	\$149,428	1%
8	Travel\Vacations	70	1%	\$65,119	0%
9	Credit Card Loss Protection	65	1%	\$3,541	0%
10	Computers: Equipment\Software	54	1%	\$29,649	0%

<sup>\*\*</sup> Mode is the most frequently occurring dollar loss reported. Calculation of the mode excludes complaints with dollar loss reported as \$0.



# **US Consumers Complaints Against Canadian Companies by Canadian Province**



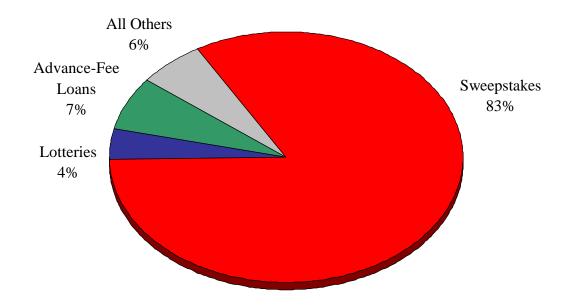
### Detailed Complaint Count

		No. of	
Rank	Company State Name	Complaints	Percentage
1	Ontario, Canada	3,513	42%
2	Quebec, Canada	2,712	33%
3	British Columbia, Canada	1,431	17%
4	Alberta, Canada	358	4%
5	Manitoba, Canada	102	1%
	Other Provinces	190	2%



### Top Subjects From US Consumers Complaints Against Companies Located in Quebec Canada Calendar Year 2000

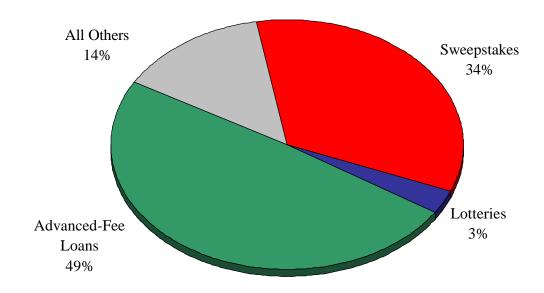
Rank	Product or Service	No. of Complaints	Percentage	
1	Prizes\Sweepstakes\Gifts	2,209	83%	
2	Advance-Fee Loans, Credit Arrangers	191	7%	
3	Lotteries\Lottery Ticket Buying Clubs	96	4%	
4	Internet Auction	57	2%	
	Sum:	2,553	96%	
	Sum Other:	159	4%	





# **Top Subjects From US Consumers Complaints Against Companies Located in Ontario Canada Calendar Year 2000**

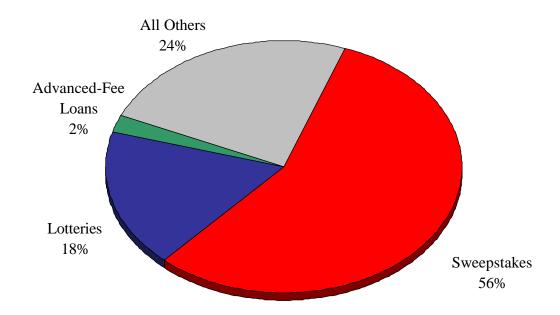
Rank	Product or Service		No. of Complaints	Percentage
1	Advance-Fee Loans, Credit Arrangers		1,663	49%
2	Prizes\Sweepstakes\Gifts		1,157	34%
3	Internet Auction		233	7%
4	Lotteries\Lottery Ticket Buying Clubs		92	3%
5	Shop-at-Home\Catalog Sales		87	3%
6	Travel\Vacations		53	2%
		Sum:	3,285	98%
		Sum Other:	228	2%





# Top Subjects From US Consumers Complaints Against Companies Located in British Columbia Canada Calendar Year 2000

Rank	Product or Service		No. of Complaints	Percentage
1	Prizes\Sweepstakes\Gifts		783	56%
2	Lotteries\Lottery Ticket Buying Clubs		254	18%
3	Internet Auction		151	11%
4	Investments: Other (note in comments)		79	6%
5	Shop-at-Home\Catalog Sales		31	2%
6	Advance-Fee Loans, Credit Arrangers		21	2%
		Sum:	1,319	95%
		Sum Other:	112	5%



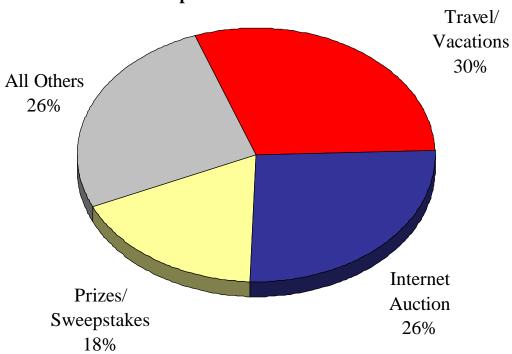


# Canadian Consumer Complaints Against Companies Located in the United States Calendar Year 2000

**Totals** 

Complaint Count	Dollar Loss
1,366	\$1,556,476

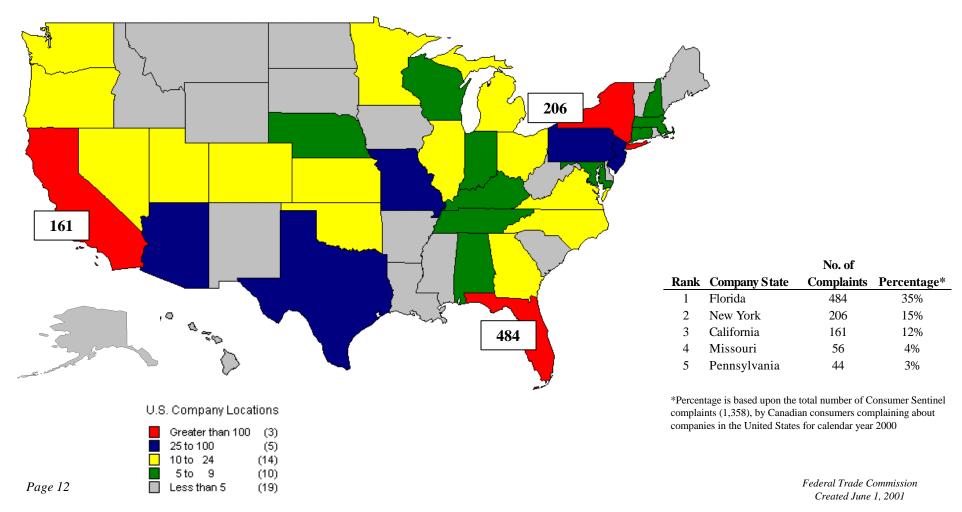
### **Top Products or Services**





## Canadian Consumer Complaints Against Companies Located in the United States Calendar Year 2000

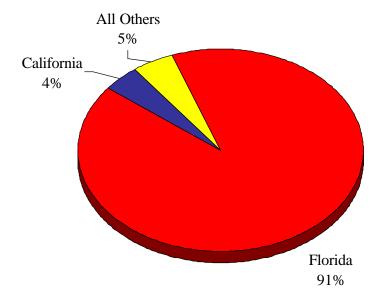
### **Top Company Locations in the United States**





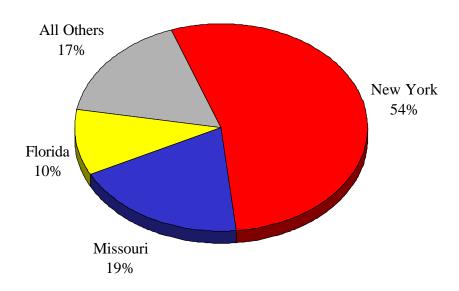
### Canadian Consumer Complaints Against Companies Located in the United States Calendar Year 2000

### **Travel/Vacation Complaints**



Company State	No. of Complaints
Florida	373
California	17
Virginia	6
Arizona	2
New York	2
All Others	9

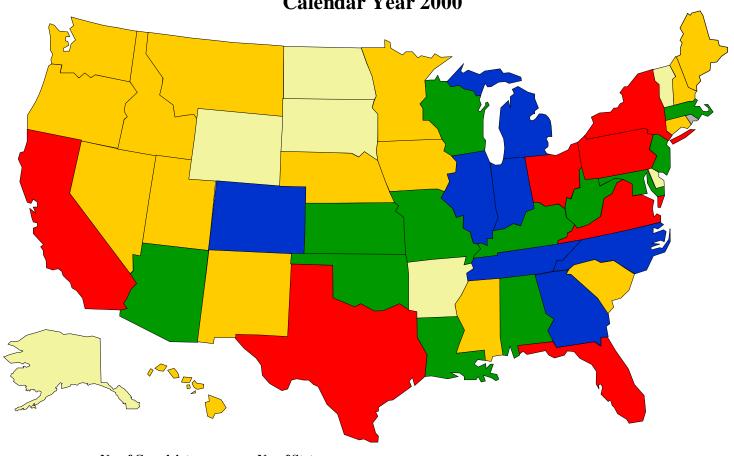
### **Prizes/Sweepstakes Complaints**



Company State	No. of Complaints
New York	132
Missouri	47
Florida	25
All Others	41



# US Consumer Complaints Against Canadian Companies by Consumer State Calendar Year 2000



No. of Complaints	No. of States
Greater than 301	7
201 - 300	7
101-200	12
51-100	16
25-50	8
Fewer than 25	1