



Australian Government
Australian Institute of Criminology

AICs Research into Global Economic and Electronic Crime

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Global, Economic & Electronic Crime

What our research is about and how we do it

- Research questions
- Methods
- Dissemination of findings

Global / transnational crime

- Transnational, organised, cross-border crime
- Environmental crime, maritime crime

Economic crime

- Personal fraud, business fraud and intellectual property crime
- Fraud against government, money laundering and financing of terrorism

Electronic crime

- Technology-enabled crime

Future research

- Global trends, patterns of victimisation, responses



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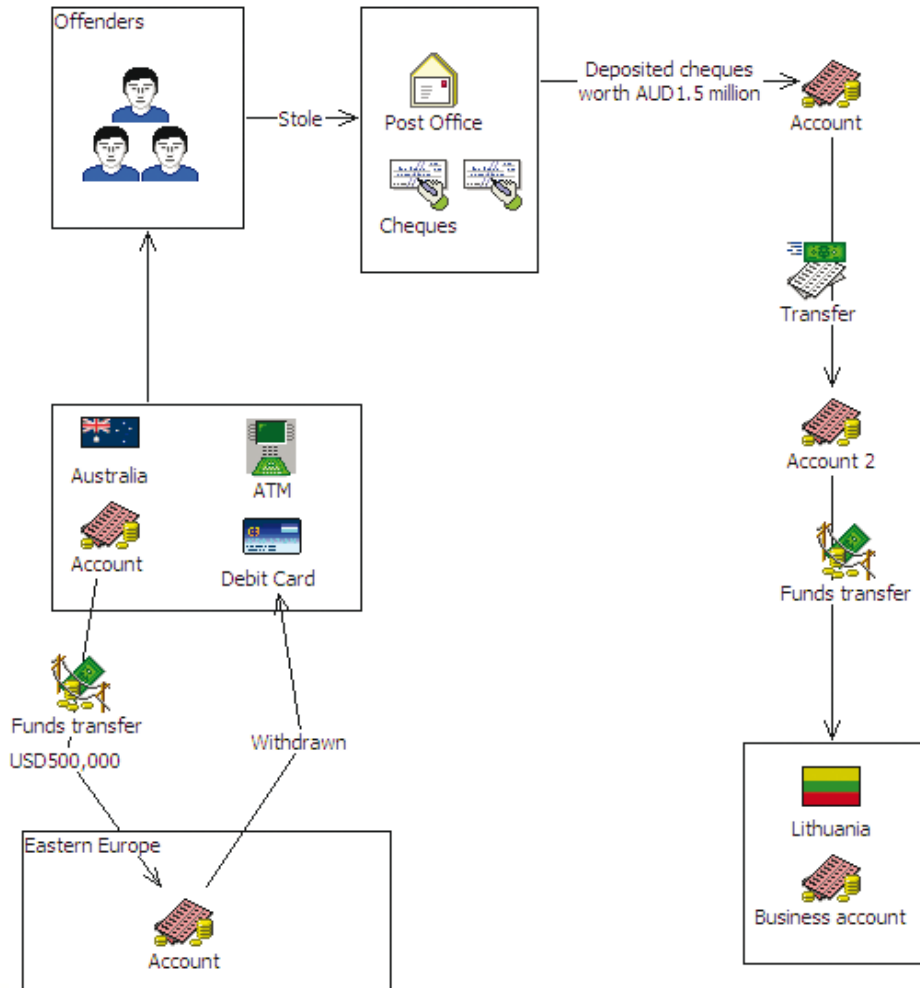
Research questions

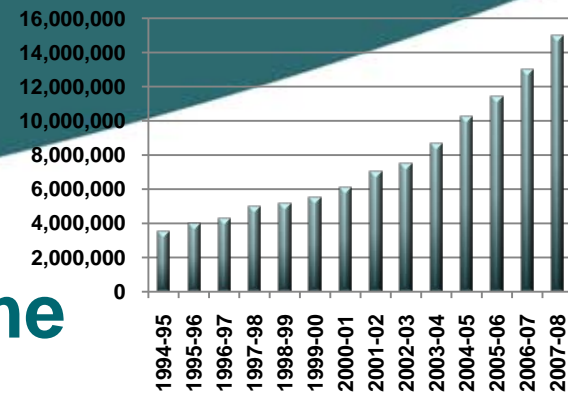
- How are sophisticated crimes committed (e.g. credit cards, internet)?





Transnational superannuation fraud





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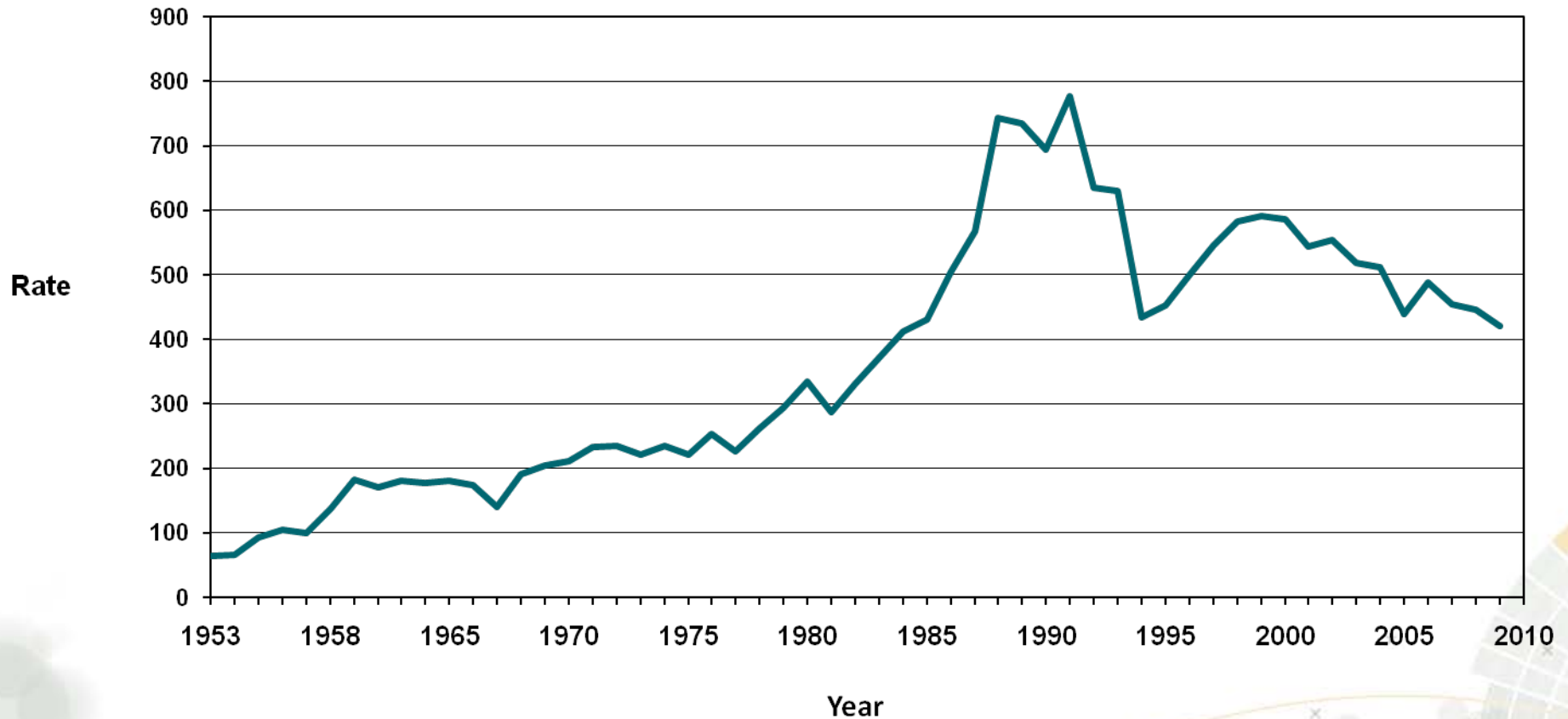
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Official Australian fraud statistics

Rate per 100,000 popn, recorded by Australian police (1953/54 - 2008/09)





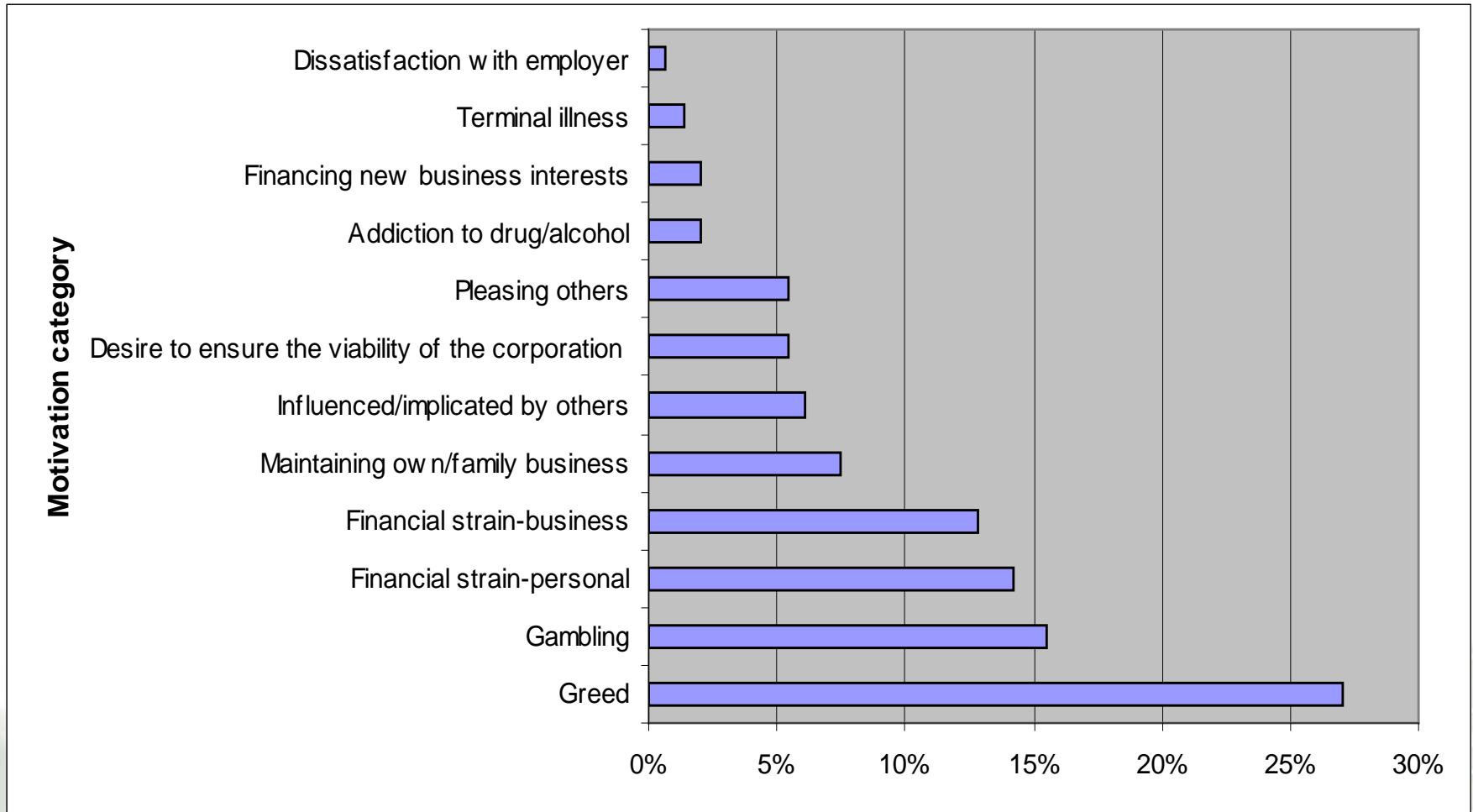
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- Who commits them and why do people commit them?



The motivations of fraudsters (AIC/PwC)





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- How much money is at stake, lost and recovered?

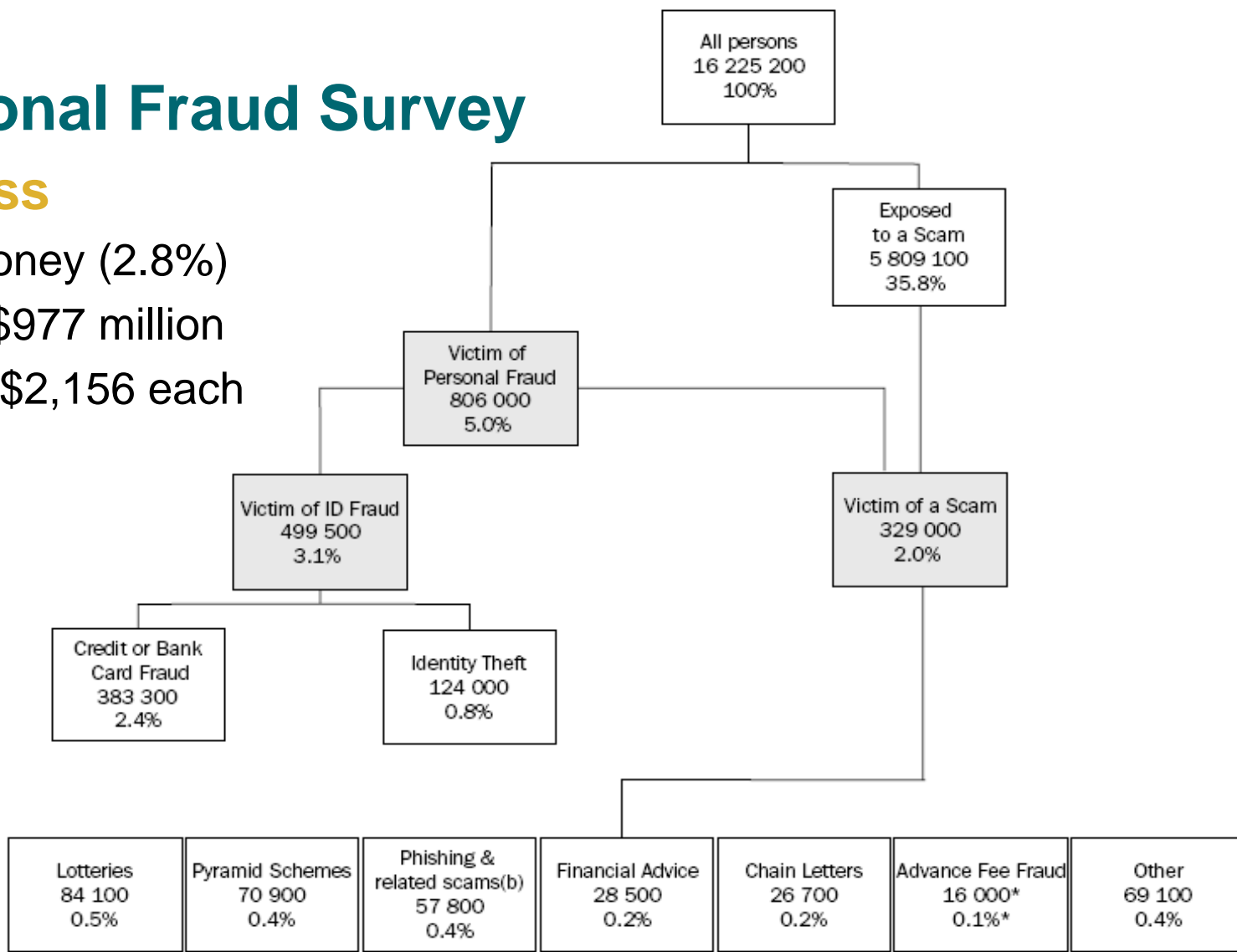


ABS Personal Fraud Survey

Financial loss

453,100 lost money (2.8%)

- Total losses: \$977 million
- Mean losses: \$2,156 each





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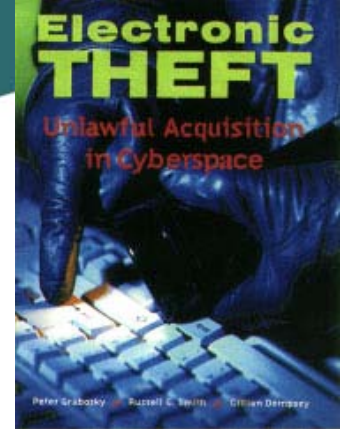
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Methods

- Online and desk-based reviews of books, reports and articles
- Legislative and case-law analysis, including sentencing research
- Consultations with business, government and the community
- Surveys of households, businesses, offenders and victims
- Analysis of media reporting of crime



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Dissemination of findings

- Reports, books, articles, conference papers, roundtables, online, media



Global / transnational crime

Transnational organised crime

- Work with the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime
- Outlaw motor cycle gangs – proscribing criminal groups
- Drug trafficking and people trafficking – hiding the proceeds of crime
- Organ trade / medical tourism / sex tourism

Cross-border crime

- International financial crime e.g. tax evasion and money laundering

Environmental crime

- Pollution and illegal waste disposal; carbon pollution / climate change
- Illegal logging and vegetation clearance; illegal trade in fauna/flora
- Water theft

Maritime crime

- Sea piracy and crimes on the high seas
- Fisheries crime – Patagonian toothfish, shark fin, abalone



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Fraud against the government

- Tax fraud, welfare fraud, medicare fraud, internal public sector fraud





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Tax refund scam



Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office

Dear Australian Taxation Office customer,

After the last annual calculation of your fiscal activity we have determined that you are eligible of AUD \$250.50. Please submit the tax refund form and allow us 3-5 business days in order to process your refund.

A refund can be delayed for a variety of reasons. For example submitting invalid records or applying for a refund on a form that is not yet due.

To access the form for your tax refund, please [Click Here](#).

NOTE!

For security reasons, we will record your ip-address and date.

Thank you,
Australian Taxation Office Online Department.



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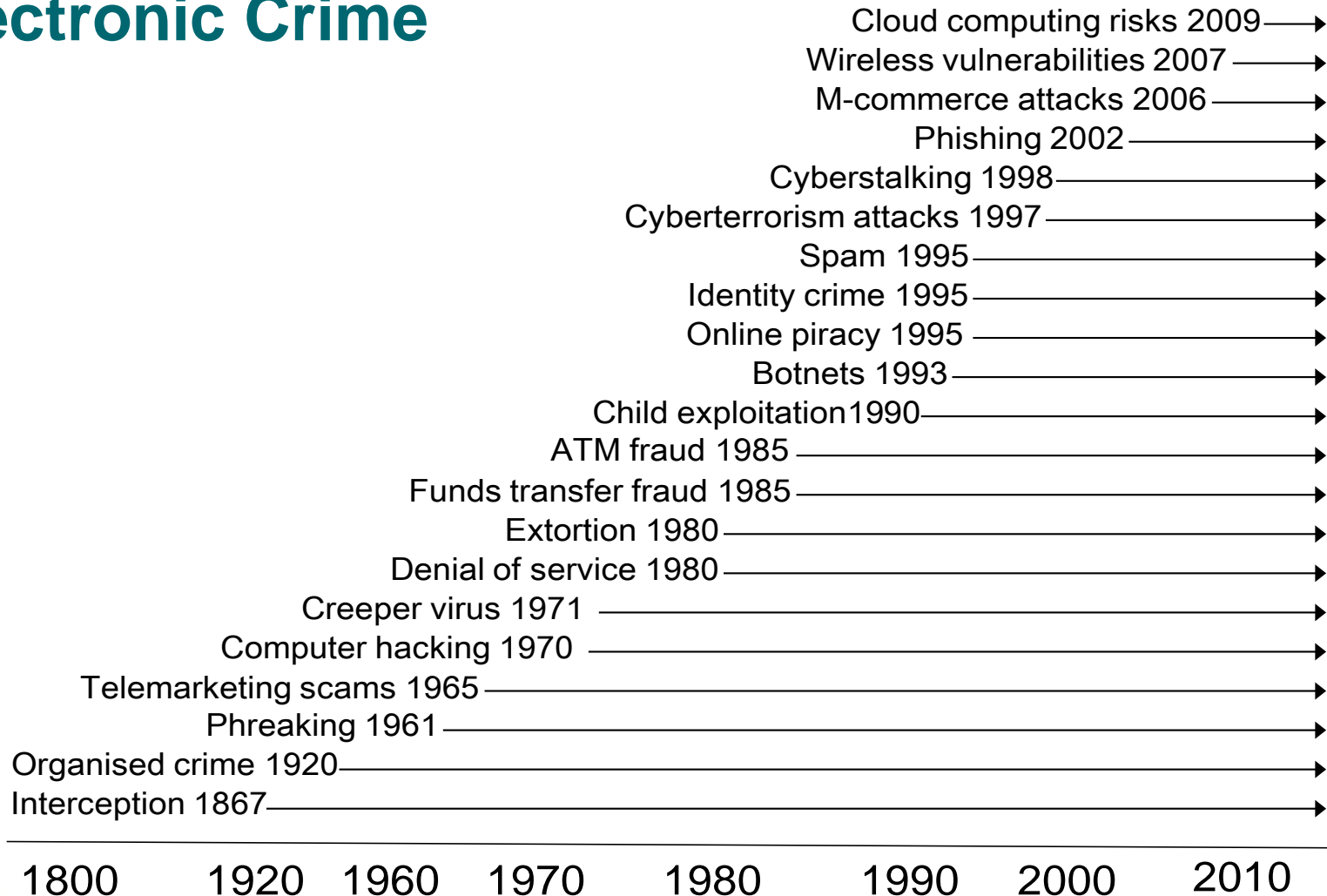
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Money laundering and financing of terrorism

- Typologies of money laundering and financing of terrorism
- Trade-based money laundering; Alternative remittance systems
- Currency smuggling and bearer negotiable instruments
- Professions and money laundering
- AML/CTF regulation – comparative and evaluative research



Electronic Crime





Future GEEC research

Crime trends

- Global influences of rates of fraud (e.g. global financial crisis)
- Effects of global warming on crime – migration, carbon trading fraud
- Fraud against new government programs – insulation, school building
- Cybercrime – mobile and wireless fraud; crime risks of cloud computing

Patterns of victimisation

- Why do people respond to consumer scam invitations?
- What online fraud risks face small business?
- What fraud risks face older people – superannuation fraud; online fraud

Responses to sophisticated crime

- Impact of smartcard technologies on fraud (Chip/PIN)
- Spoofing biometric identification systems
- Criminal justice sanctions – electronic monitoring; internet restrictions
- Restorative justice and white collar crime



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Australia's national research and knowledge centre on crime and justice