

# Fraud at a glance

As a business leader, you need to protect and defend against countless threats, but what are you doing to protect your organization from the threats inside your own walls? Internal fraud is a serious risk for businesses of all sizes and across all industries, and the impact may be greater than you think. These highlights from ACFE's annual fraud report show some key areas to watch.



## General Business

**2,504** fraud cases

**\$125,000** Median loss per case



## Hotline/anti-fraud policy

Most common anti-fraud controls



## 14 months

Median duration of a fraud scheme



## Tip

Most common detection method



**\$1.5 million**

Average loss per case



## Corruption

Most common scheme



## Financial statement fraud schemes

Least common (10% of cases) and most costly (\$954,000 median loss)

Total losses across all industries

**\$3.6 billion+**

## Key findings across industries



Internal controls weaknesses were responsible for nearly half of frauds.



Small businesses (<100 employees) lost nearly twice as much per case.



Fraudsters who had been with their company for more than 5 years stole nearly four times more.

Source: Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) Report to the Nations, 2020 Global Study on Occupational Fraud and Abuse

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