Government organizations are entrusted with both the funding and the responsibility to serve the public good. Unfortunately, fraud perpetrators violate that trust, resulting in lost funds, unmet public needs, and reputational damage. Our study provides some insight into the direct cost of occupational fraud against government organizations.*

Our study covered 357 cases of occupational fraud against the government, with an average loss per case of $2,522,000. 24% of these cases had losses of $1 million or more, causing total losses of more than $872 million.

Loss per case varied with the 25th percentile at $25,000, median at $138,000, and 75th percentile at $800,000.

*All loss amounts are expressed in terms of U.S. dollars, which is how respondents reported this information in the Global Fraud Survey.
THE TYPICAL CASE OF OCCUPATIONAL FRAUD AGAINST A GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION LASTS 12 MONTHS BEFORE BEING DETECTED.

OCCUPATIONAL FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT IS BECOMING MORE COSTLY.

OCCUPATIONAL FRAUD AFFECTS VARIOUS LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT DIFFERENTLY.

- National: 46% ($200,000*)
- State/provincial: 27% ($56,000*)
- Local: 25% ($125,000*)
- Other: 2% (N/A*)

*Dollar amounts are median loss. Median loss calculations for categories with fewer than 10 cases were omitted.