Profile of a Fraudster

Our study includes perpetrator data from more than 2,000 fraud cases, which can help organizations assess fraud risk in their own workforces.

Gender

Males committed more frauds and caused higher losses.

Males
$150,000 Median loss
72% of cases

Females
$85,000 Median loss
28% of cases

Tenure

Occupational fraudsters who had been with their organizations at least 6 years caused TWICE the loss of less-tenured employees.

5 years or less
Median loss: $100,000

6 years or more
Median loss: $200,000

Level of Authority

Most occupational frauds are committed by employee-level or manager-level personnel. But frauds by owners/executives are much more harmful.

Employee
Median loss: $60,000

Manager
Median loss: $150,000

Owner/Executive
Median loss: $600,000

Percentage of cases

41%
35%
20%

Education

64% of occupational fraudsters had a university degree or higher.

No university degree
Median loss: $100,000

University degree or higher
Median loss: $195,000

High-Risk Departments

More than three-fourths of all occupational frauds were committed by employees from these 8 business units:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive/upper management</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer service</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative support</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchasing</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age

Older fraudsters caused much larger median losses

- <40
  - Median loss: $75,000
- 40-54
  - Median loss: $150,000
- 55+
  - Median loss: $425,000