The Profiler

Employee guide • Fraud in Israel in numbers • 2026

Superheroes against fraud

Employees are the first line of defense.
What is happening in Israel, what global data says, and what an ordinary employee can do



In short: what the data says

1. In Israel the police opened 13,563 fraud-and-extortion records in 2025, up 14% from 2023 (11,851). These are opened cases, not convictions.

2. The National Cyber Directorate got about 26,500 incident reports in 2025, 52% of them phishing. Fraud often starts with one message.

3. Worldwide (ACFE 2026), a tip from a person is the top way fraud is found (43%), and 55% of tips come from employees. In an Israeli survey (Fahn Kanne), 44% of cases were exposed by an anonymous tip.

4. Time costs money: the median loss was $40,000 when caught within 6 months and $1,115,000 when the fraud ran over 5 years.

5. With employee training the median loss was $85,000 vs $141,000 without (-40%). With a hotline: $100,000 vs $150,000 (-33%). This is an association, not proof of cause.

Not verified: no single Israeli figure for fraud losses or for return on training (page 16).

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Israel in brief

Four numbers from official and Israeli sources.

13,563

"Fraud and extortion" criminal-case records opened by police in 2025, up from 11,851 in 2023

26,500

cyber incident reports to the 119 center in 2025, up 55%. 52% were phishing

44%

of embezzlement cases in an Israeli survey (2022-23) were exposed by an anonymous tip

79%

of perpetrators in that survey were senior managers, shareholders or partners

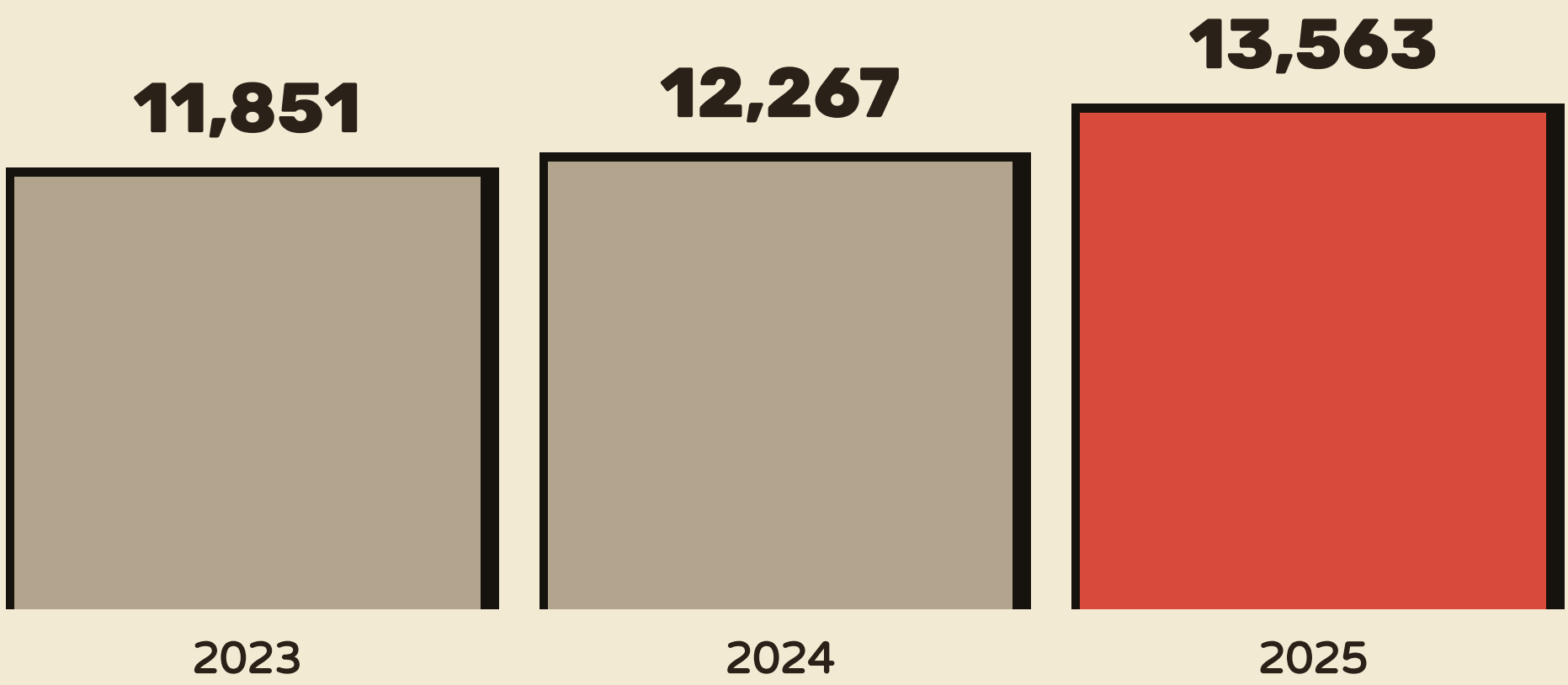
Sources on the following pages. Last page: what could not be verified.



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Israel Police: rising trend

Fraud-and-extortion offence records in criminal investigation files, by year.



+14% from 2023 to 2025

All fraud-offence group (incl. document forgery and more): 19,835 in 2023, 19,398 in 2024, 20,391 in 2025.

These are opened cases, not convictions, and not all complaints. Many offences go unreported. This is fraud against everyone, not only employee fraud.

Source: Israel Police, 'Crime records data', data.gov.il (updated 19 Apr 2026). Checked directly against the dataset on 28 Oct 2026.

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National Cyber Directorate

Fraud enters an organization through one message. 2025 was a record year.

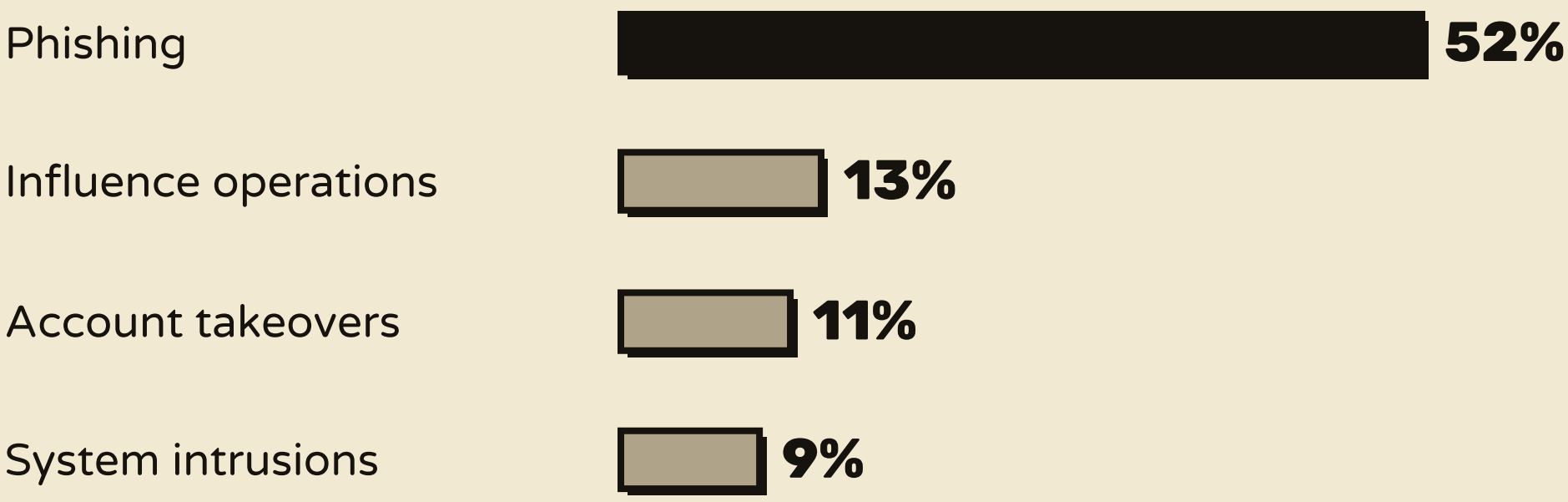
31,657

phishing attacks countered in 2025, 7x the previous year

14,000

citizen phishing reports to the 119 center in 2025

Incident types reported to 119 (about 26,500 reports)



Main impersonation targets: national infrastructure, public services, banks and credit card companies. Goals: credential theft, malware, credit card fraud.

Source: Israel National Cyber Directorate, 2025 Annual Report (25 Feb 2026) and phishing release (19 Feb 2026), gov.il.

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Employee fraud in Israeli organizations

Fahn Kanne (Grant Thornton Israel) survey, 100+ organizations, cases from 2022-2023.

	Israel	Global
Exposed by anonymous tip	44%	43%
Perpetrator: senior, owner or partner	79%	60%
Perpetrator: junior employee	15%	37%

NIS 5-6.5M

estimated average loss per embezzlement case for an Israeli organization (similar to the MENA average of about USD 1.6 million)

Before that (2020-21): only 30%. The global comparison in the survey uses ACFE 2022-23 data.

This is one consulting firm's survey, with no full methodology published, and not a representative sample of the economy. It shows a trend, not all of Israel.

Source: Grant Thornton Israel (Fahn Kanne), 'Survey of embezzlements in companies', 6 Jun 2024, grantthornton.co.il. ACFE 2026, pp. 52-54.

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Banks and consumers

No single body in Israel collects fraud data. Here is what has been published.

~NIS 100M

Banks Association estimate of 2024 fraud losses, and over NIS 1 billion in attempts

2x, 2x

complaints to the Consumer Protection Authority doubled 2021 to 2022, and doubled again in 2024

14 / 14

employee embezzlements reported to the Banking Supervision in 2023 and 2024. In 2024, 7 went to police/prosecution

Banks Association figures were given orally in a Knesset committee (May 2025). The Knesset Research Center found no written data behind them. The embezzlement amounts in the supervisor's report are unclear in the text, so they are not shown.

Sources: Knesset Research and Information Center, 'Tools for dealing with financial fraud against vulnerable consumers' (19 Feb 2026). Bank of Israel, Supervisor of Banks report on embezzlement for 2024, boi.org.il.

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The law protects those who report

Protection of Employees (Exposure of Offenses and Harm to Integrity or Proper Administration) Law, 5757-1997.

1 **No retaliation or dismissal**
An employer may not harm an employee's work matters or dismiss them because they filed a complaint against the employer or another employee, or helped someone else file (section 2)

2 **Labor court**
Compensation even without financial damage; exemplary damages up to NIS 50,000, and up to NIS 500,000 in serious cases (amounts indexed yearly) (section 3)

3 **Cancelling a dismissal**
The court may order a dismissal cancelled or a transfer, for public bodies and any employer with more than 25 employees

4 **Public employees**
The State Comptroller, as Public Complaints Commissioner, can issue a temporary or permanent protection order

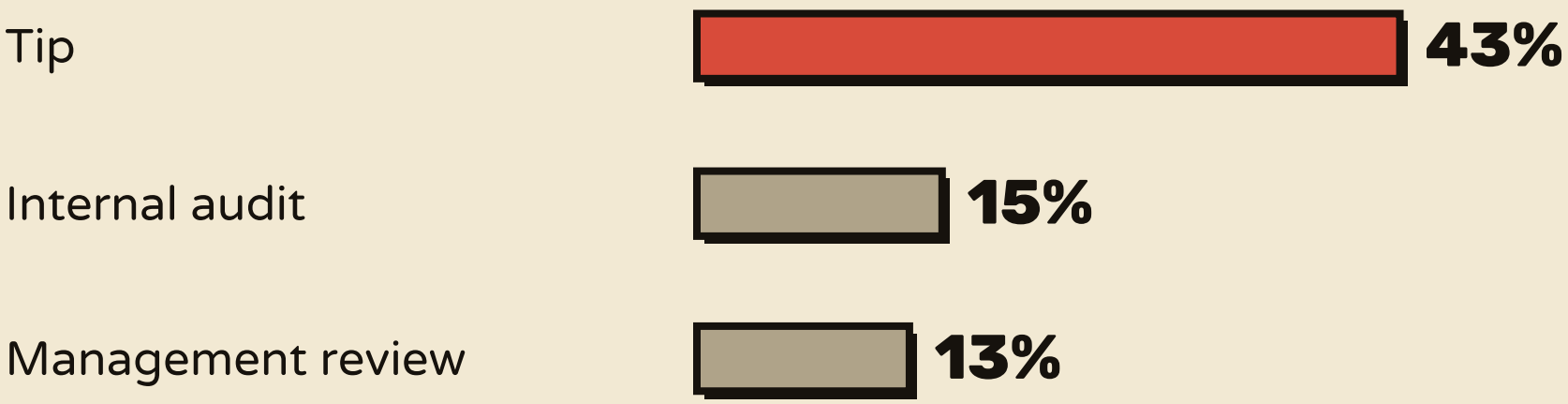
General description, not legal advice. Law text read from Nevo. The Knesset database shows the last amendment on 17 May 2022; later changes were not checked. Conditions (good faith, causation) depend on the facts.

Sources: Nevo, nevo.co.il/law_html/law00/71697.htm. Knesset legislation database, main.knesset.gov.il. State Comptroller's Office, mevaker.gov.il/ombudsman/protection-of-whistleblowers.

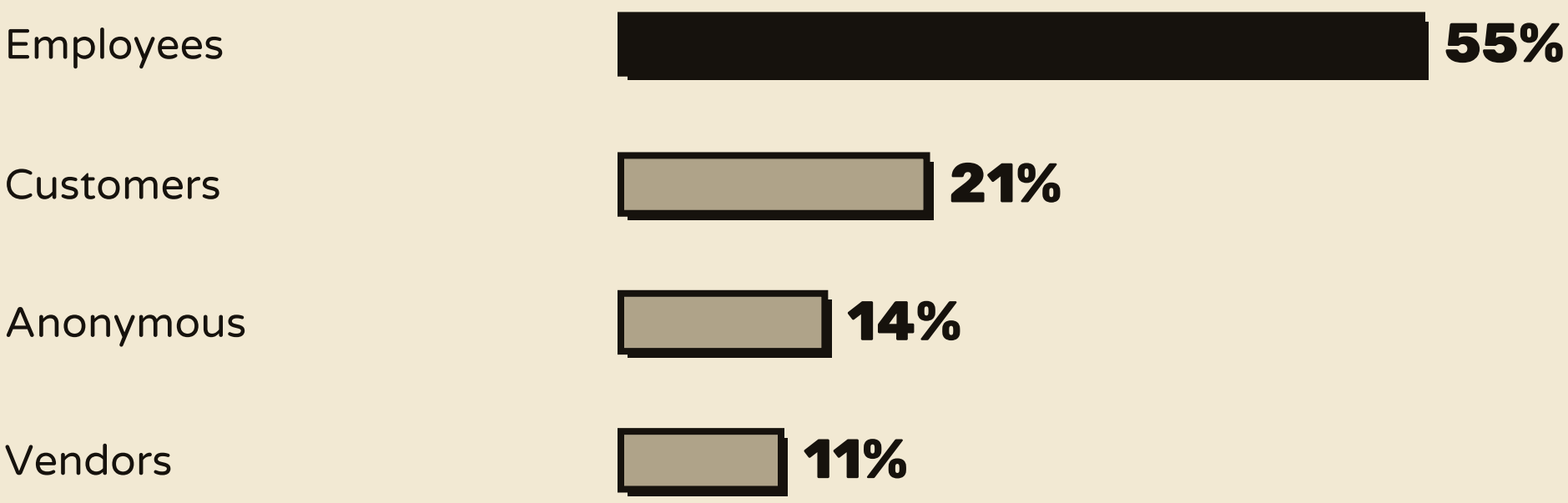
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The world: who catches fraud

A tip from a person is the number one method worldwide too.



Who the tips came from



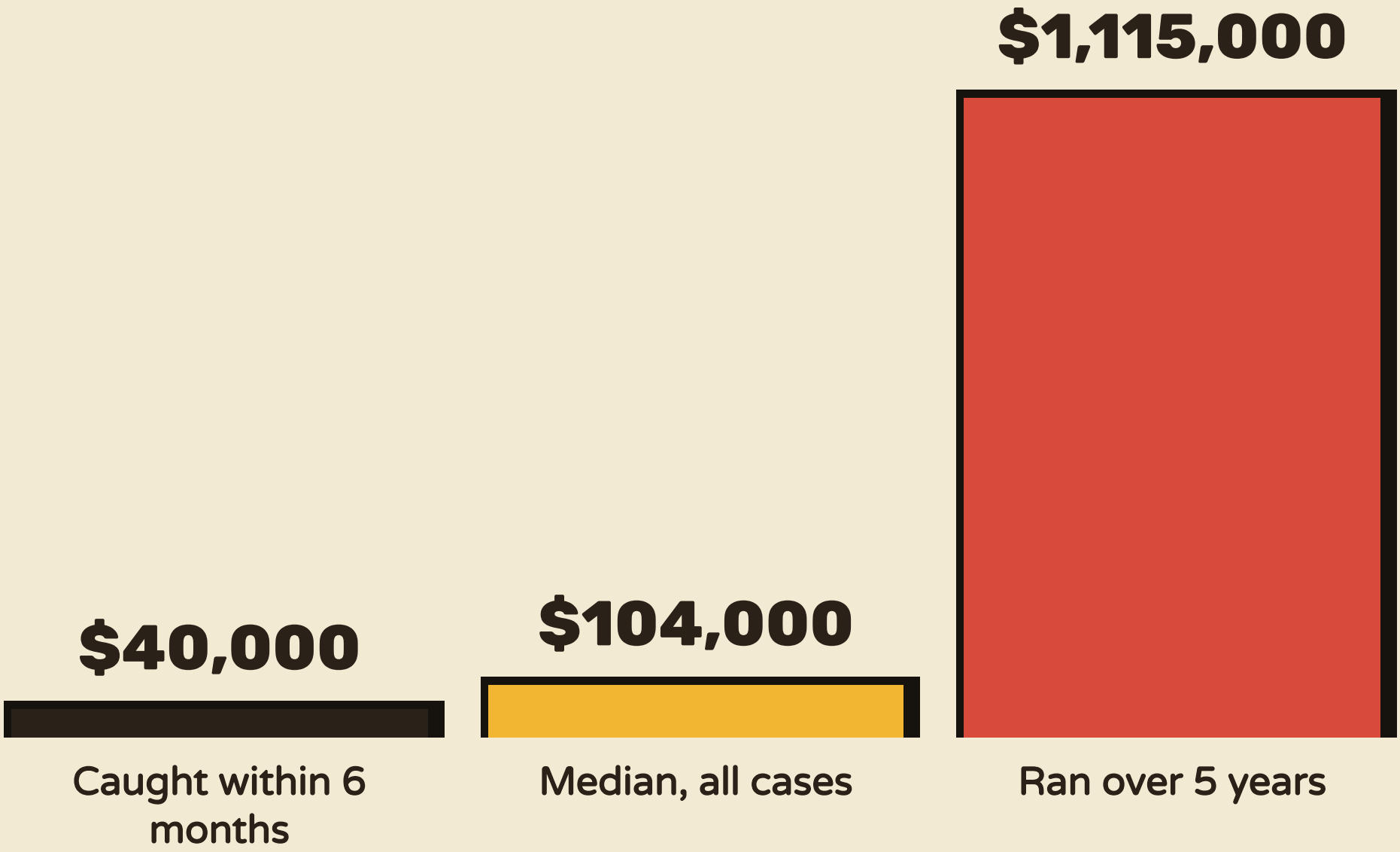
Percentages in the second chart as published; they add up to more than 100%.

ACFE, Report to the Nations 2026 (May 2026): 2,402 cases, 143 countries. pp. 23-27.

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Every month costs money

The longer a fraud runs, the bigger the damage. Early detection is the difference.



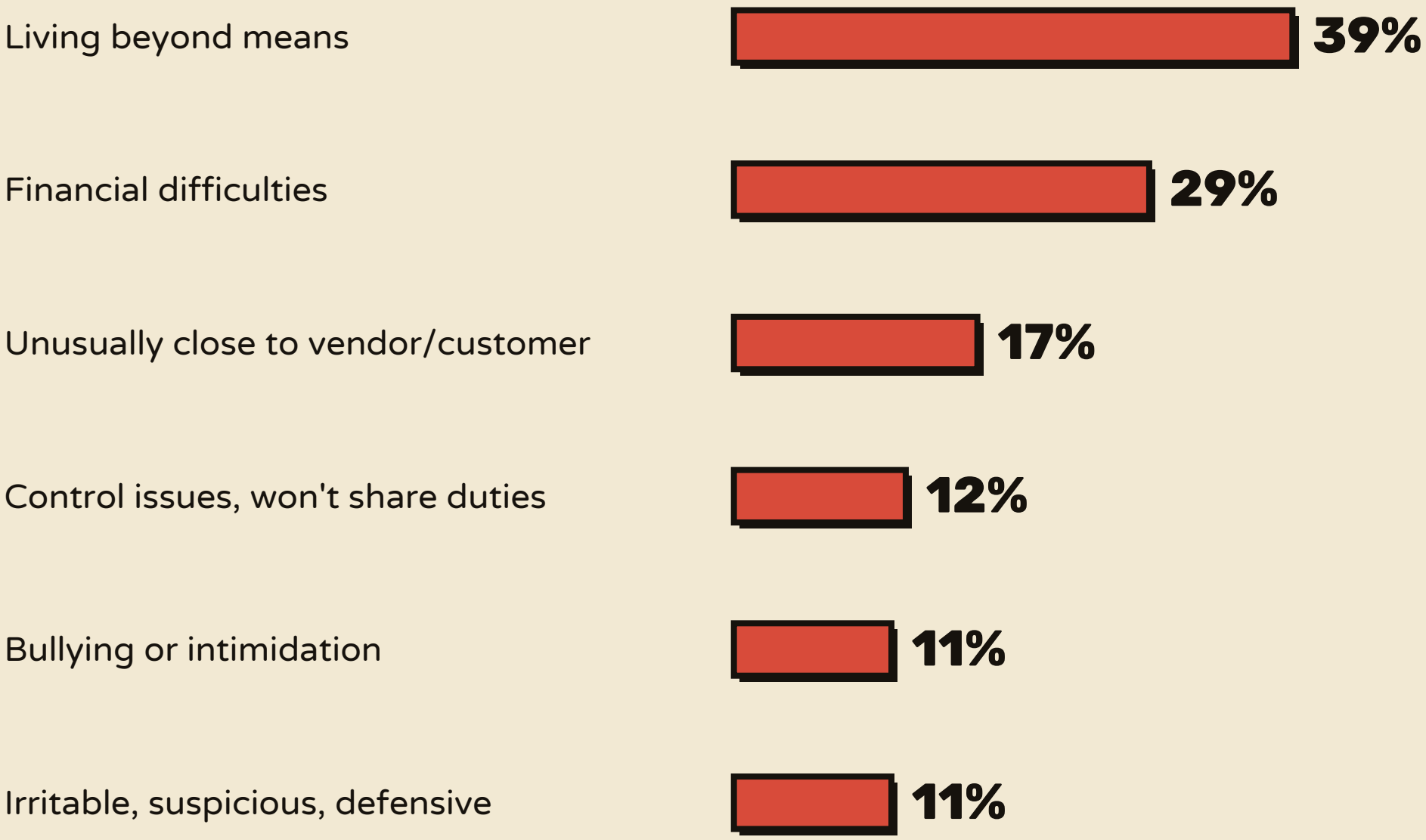
Median loss per case, USD. Typical time to detection: 12 months. Fraud experts estimate organizations lose about 5% of revenue to fraud each year.

ACFE 2026, pp. 4, 17-18.

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Behavioral red flags

In 84% of cases the fraudster showed at least one behavioral red flag.



A red flag is not proof. Honest people show them too. In 16% of cases no flag was seen. What matters is change, and a repeating pattern.

ACFE 2026, p. 70, Fig. 55.

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Training and reporting change results

Organizations that train employees and let them report lose less.

Median loss per case

Fraud training for employees	**$85,000** With	**$141,000** Without	**-40%**
Hotline	**$100,000** With	**$150,000** Without	**-33%**

Employees at organizations with training were more than 2x as likely to submit a tip that led to detection. 71% of employee whistleblowers had training.

This is an association, not proof of cause. 67% of organizations in the study train employees.

ACFE 2026, pp. 38-43.

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Saw something? 4 steps

You do not need to be an investigator. You need to know what to do.

1. **Notice the pattern**
   Not one sign alone: a process exception, a document that does not add up, behavior that repeats

2. **Don't confront or investigate alone**
   It can damage the review and put you at risk. Hand it to whoever is responsible

3. **Report through the right channel**
   A manager, the responsible function or a reporting line. Worldwide, 32% of whistleblowers went to their direct supervisor first

4. **Give facts**
   What you saw, when and where. No guesses, no accusations

How tips were reported worldwide



The steps are standard working guidance from the author, not statistics. Channel and supervisor figures: ACFE 2026, pp. 26-27.

The Fraud Fighter code

- ✓ I know where to report
- ✓ I notice patterns, not rumors
- ✓ I don't accuse: I share facts
- ✓ I don't join in on shortcuts
- ✓ I ask when something doesn't add up

Fraud loves silence. A strong organization is one where people feel safe to speak.



The bottom line

The data points one way: fraud is usually found through people, and the earlier it is found, the less it costs.

Organizations that train employees and give them a way to report showed lower median losses. That makes training and awareness an investment worth taking seriously.

It is evidence of an association, not a promise of results, and there is no Israeli figure for the return on the investment.



Sources

1. Israel Police, Crime records data (data.gov.il/dataset/crime_records_data), updated 19 Apr 2026; checked 28 Oct 2026
2. Israel National Cyber Directorate, 2025 Annual Report, 25 Feb 2026 (gov.il/en/pages/2025report); phishing 2025, 19 Feb 2026 (gov.il/en/pages/phishing190226)
3. Grant Thornton Israel (Fahn Kanne), embezzlement survey, 6 Jun 2024 (grantthornton.co.il)
4. Knesset Research and Information Center, financial fraud against vulnerable consumers, 19 Feb 2026 (fs.knesset.gov.il)
5. Bank of Israel, Supervisor of Banks report on embezzlement, 2024 (boi.org.il/media/wpeeij5j/202515.pdf)
6. Protection of Employees Law, 1997 (nevo.co.il/law_html/law00/71697.htm); State Comptroller (mevaker.gov.il)
7. ACFE, Occupational Fraud 2026: A Report to the Nations, May 2026 (acfe.com), read in full

What could not be verified, and limits

- No single Israeli body collects fraud data, so there is no single Israeli figure for fraud losses.
- Police data counts opened cases of all fraud types, not only employee fraud.
- Fahn Kanne survey: one firm's survey, methodology not fully published; we found no equivalent Israeli figures from PwC, KPMG or EY.
- Banks Association: an oral estimate in the Knesset, without written data. Bank embezzlement amounts in the supervisor's report are unclear and omitted.
- We found no published Israeli figures from an ACFE Israel chapter, the Israel Securities Authority or the Capital Market Authority.
- ACFE data is cases investigated by CFEs worldwide, not a random sample, and not Israel-specific.
- Charts were rebuilt from the data. This document is not issued by any body named.