



Government  
Business  
Council

# Managing Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in the Federal Government

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A Candid Poll of Federal Leaders

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Underwritten by



Grant Thornton

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# Overview

## **Purpose**

According to the Government Accountability Office (GAO), improper payments across the federal government in fiscal year 2015 totaled approximately \$137 billion, an increase of \$12 billion from the previous year.<sup>1</sup> Such figures are indicative of the waste, fraud, and abuse which federal agencies are forced to manage on a daily basis. In order to better understand the perceptions of agencies' waste, fraud, and abuse management from federal stakeholders, Government Business Council undertook a poll on behalf of Grant Thornton in March 2017.

## **Methodology**

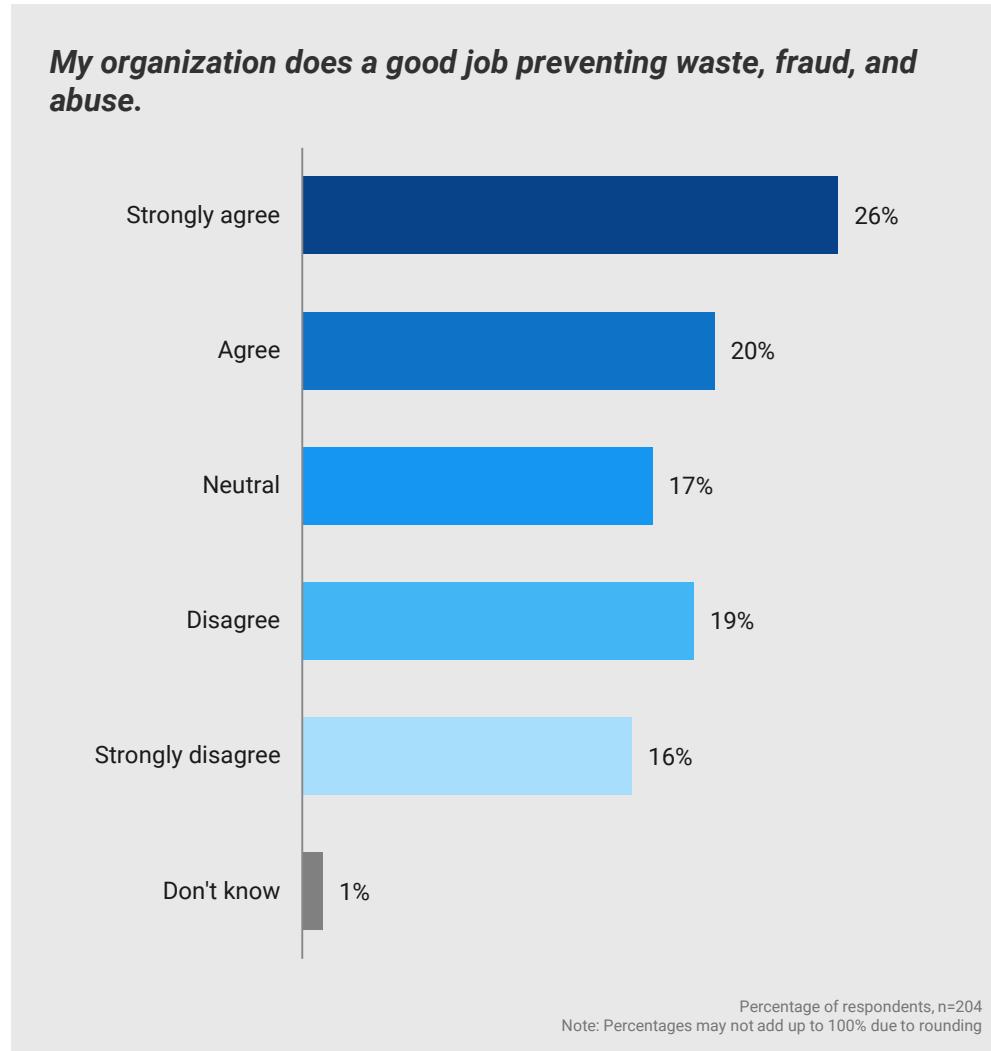
Government Business Council released a poll on March 21, 2017 to a random sample of *Government Executive*, *Defense One*, *Nextgov*, and *Route Fifty* subscribers. 204 federal employees responded to the poll.

1. GAO: "Reducing Government-wide Improper Payments." [Link](#)

# Research Findings

## Almost half of respondents believe their organization successfully prevents waste, fraud, and abuse

Close to 1 in 2 respondents agree that their organization does a good job preventing waste, fraud, and abuse. Over 1 in 3 respondents disagree or strongly disagree with the statement while another 17% remain neutral.



**35%**

of respondents disagree or strongly disagree that their organization does a good job preventing waste, fraud, and abuse

Overall, respondents who have a favorable opinion of their agency's waste, fraud, and abuse mitigation efforts outnumber those who responded unfavorably. However, the fact that over one-third of respondents do not have positive opinions of their agency's efforts does not speak highly of federal waste, fraud, and abuse prevention.

# About

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## Government Business Council

As Government Executive Media Group's research division, Government Business Council (GBC) is dedicated to advancing the business of government through analysis, insight, and analytical independence. An extension of Government Executive's 40 years of exemplary editorial standards and commitment to the highest ethical values, GBC studies influential decision makers from across government to produce intelligence-based research and analysis.

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