

Auditability in the U.S. Navy: A Knowledge Assessment of the Contracting Workforce

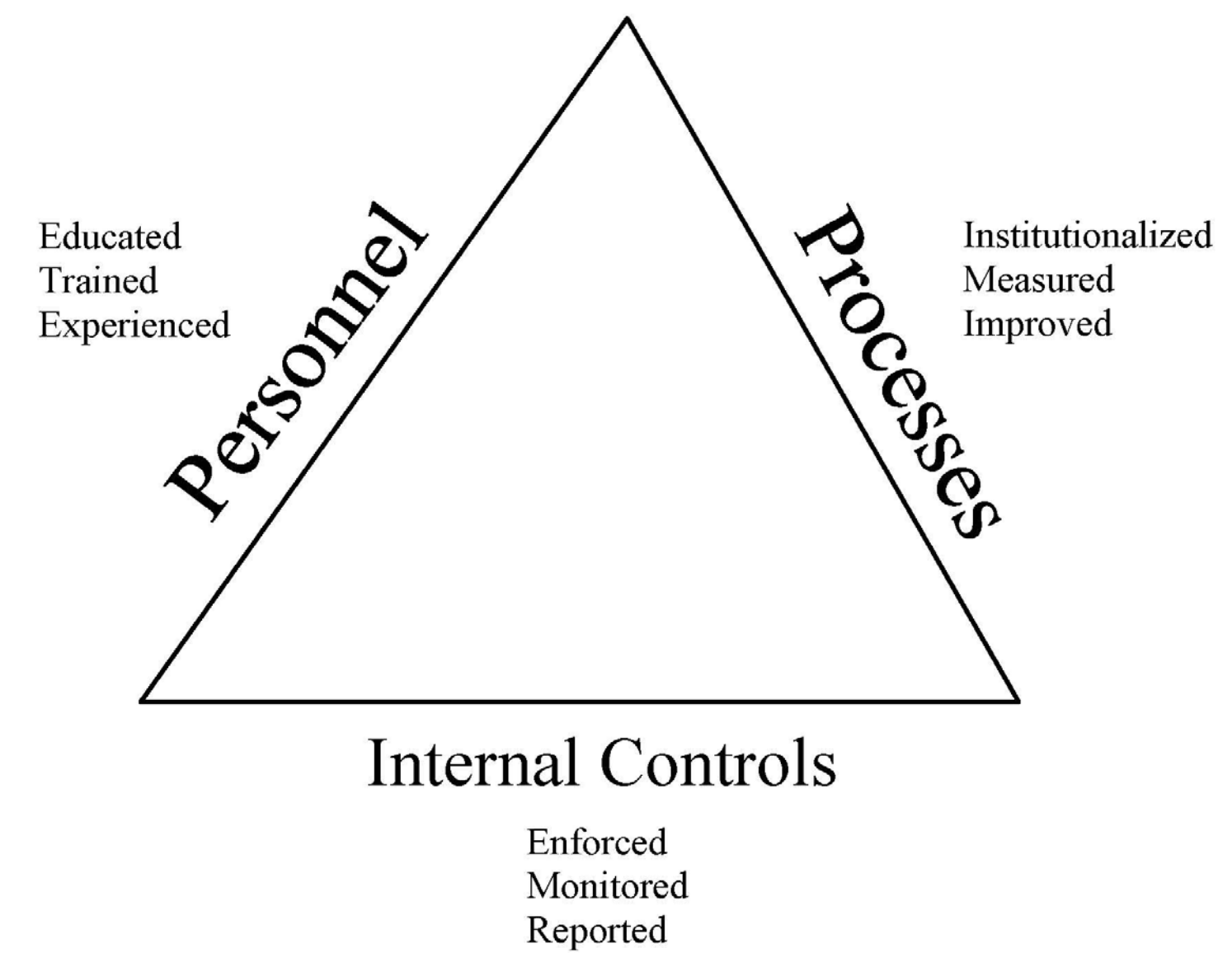


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Abstract

The purpose of this research was to evaluate the knowledge level of Navy contracting professionals regarding contract management processes, internal control components, and procurement fraud schemes. The research method included a survey which contained questions regarding contract management processes, internal control components, and procurement fraud schemes.

Auditability Triangle



Auditability Triangle. Source: R. G. Rendon & Rendon (2015, p. 716)

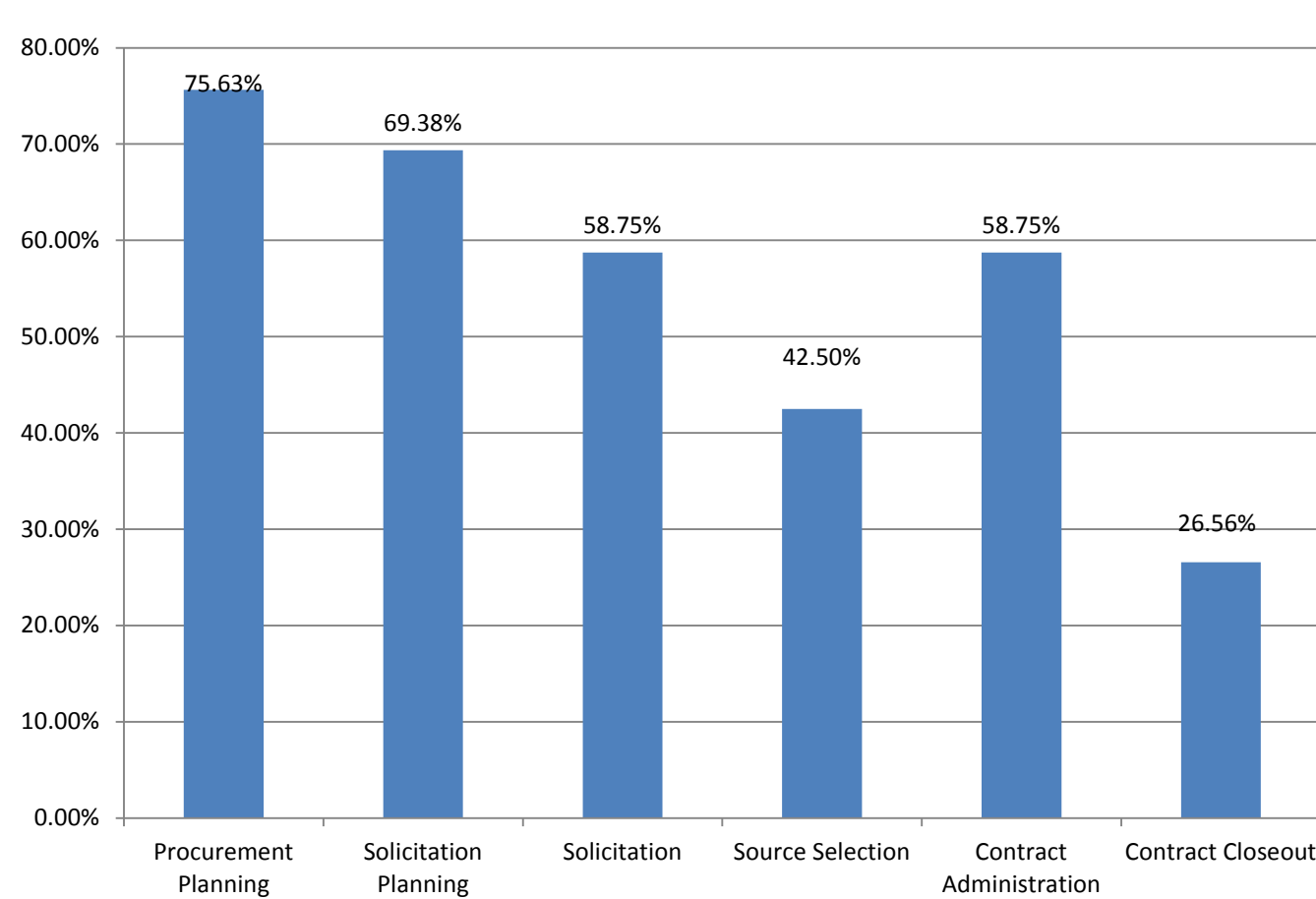
Methods

The research methodology consists of a literature review discussing auditability theory and the three aspects of competent personnel, capable contracting management processes, and effective internal controls. An online survey will be deployed to a Navy organization. The survey assesses the competency level of the contracting workforce in the areas of contracting processes, internal controls, and procurement fraud schemes. Based on the analysis from the survey responses, recommendations will be provided to the Navy contracting command regarding procurement fraud competence of the contracting workforce.

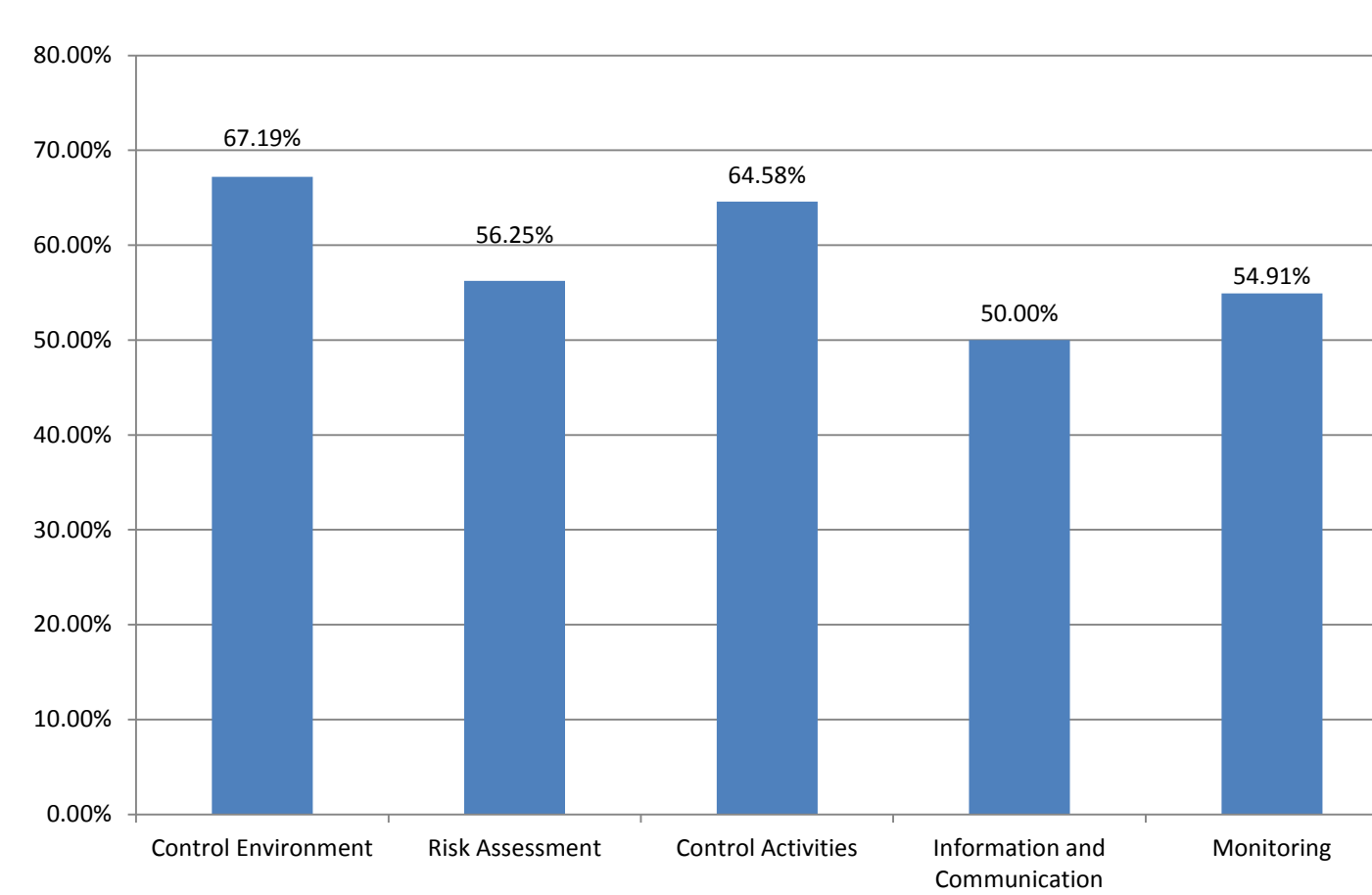
Results

The results of this research identified differences between levels of fraud knowledge and perceptions of an organization's vulnerability to procurement fraud schemes. The results of the survey identified areas of weaknesses in the various contracting processes related to procurement fraud.

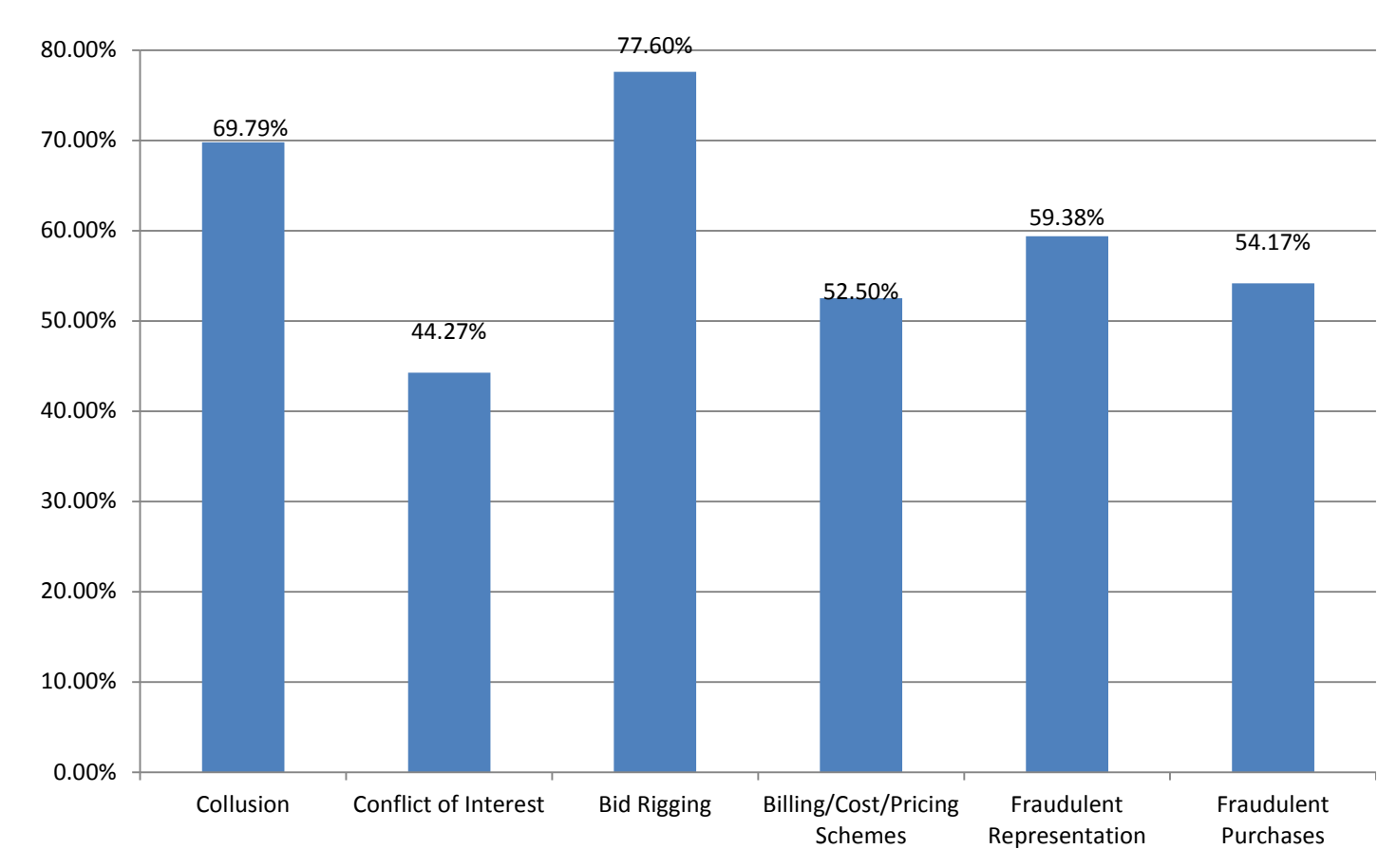
Having strong auditability in an organization would help to identify susceptibilities to procurement fraud and assist in reducing vulnerabilities. Based on the results of the survey, recommendations are provided to the Navy for improvement of organizational auditability related to contracting.



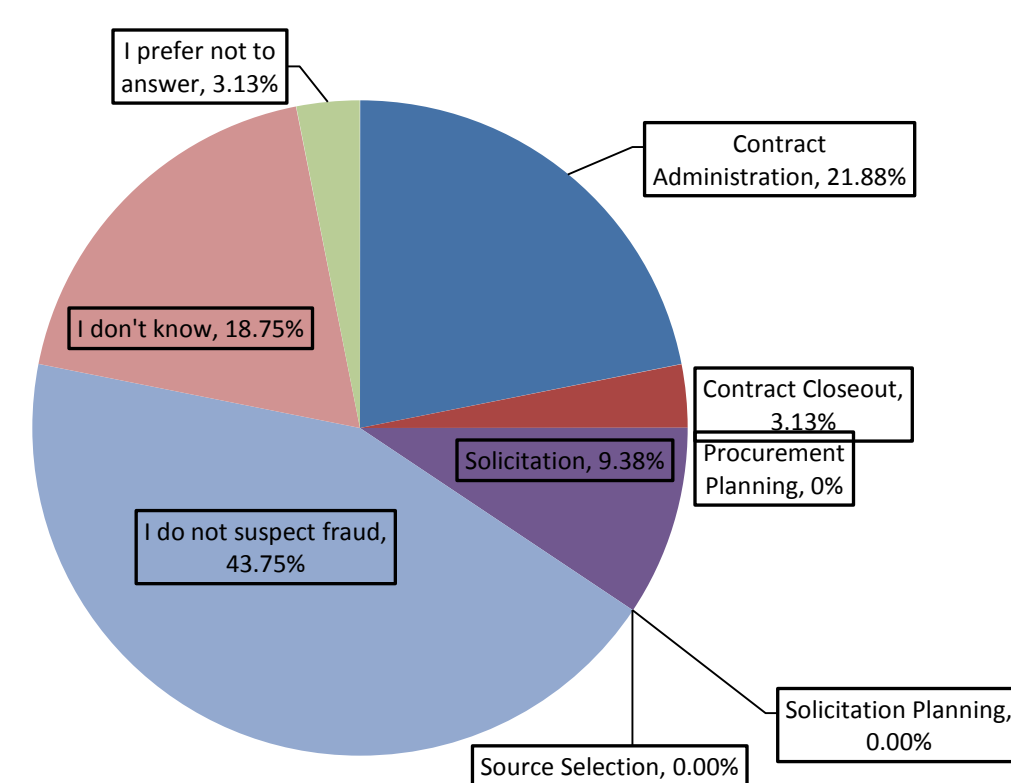
Average Score by Contracting Process



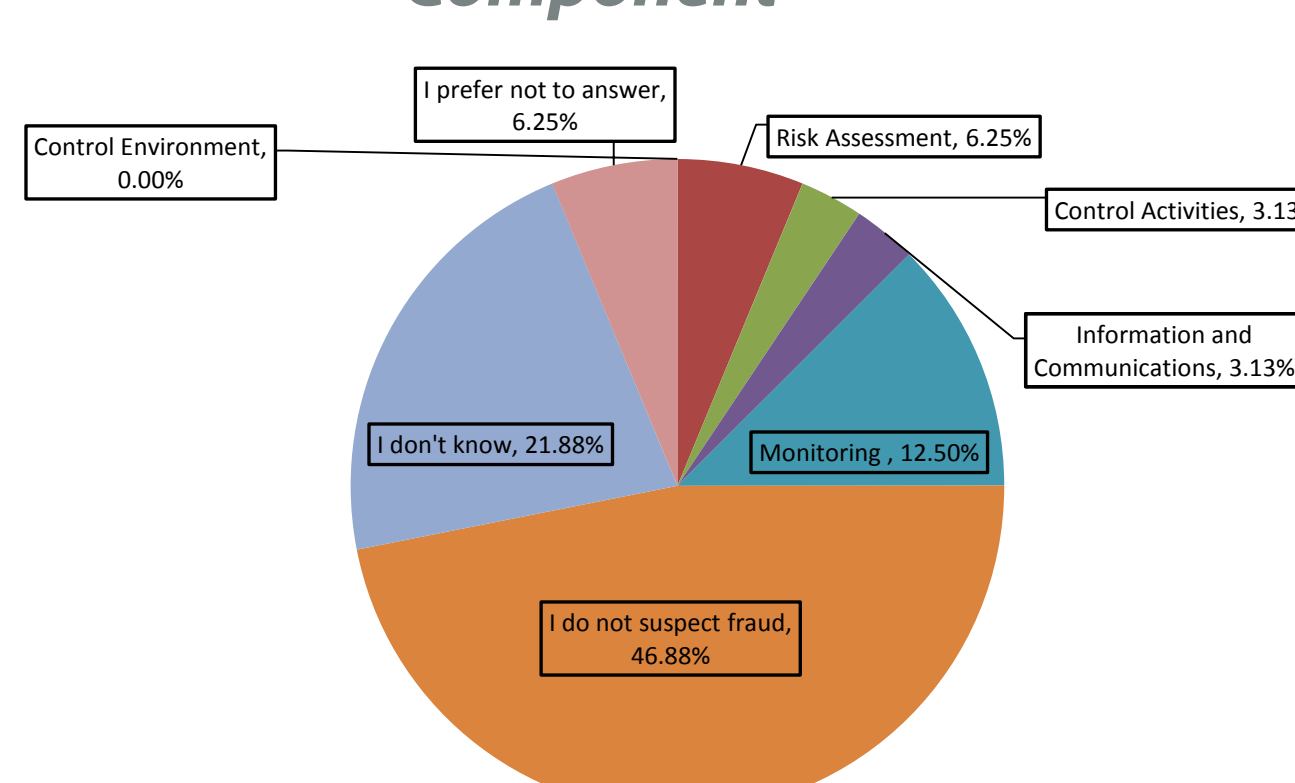
Average Score by Internal Control Component



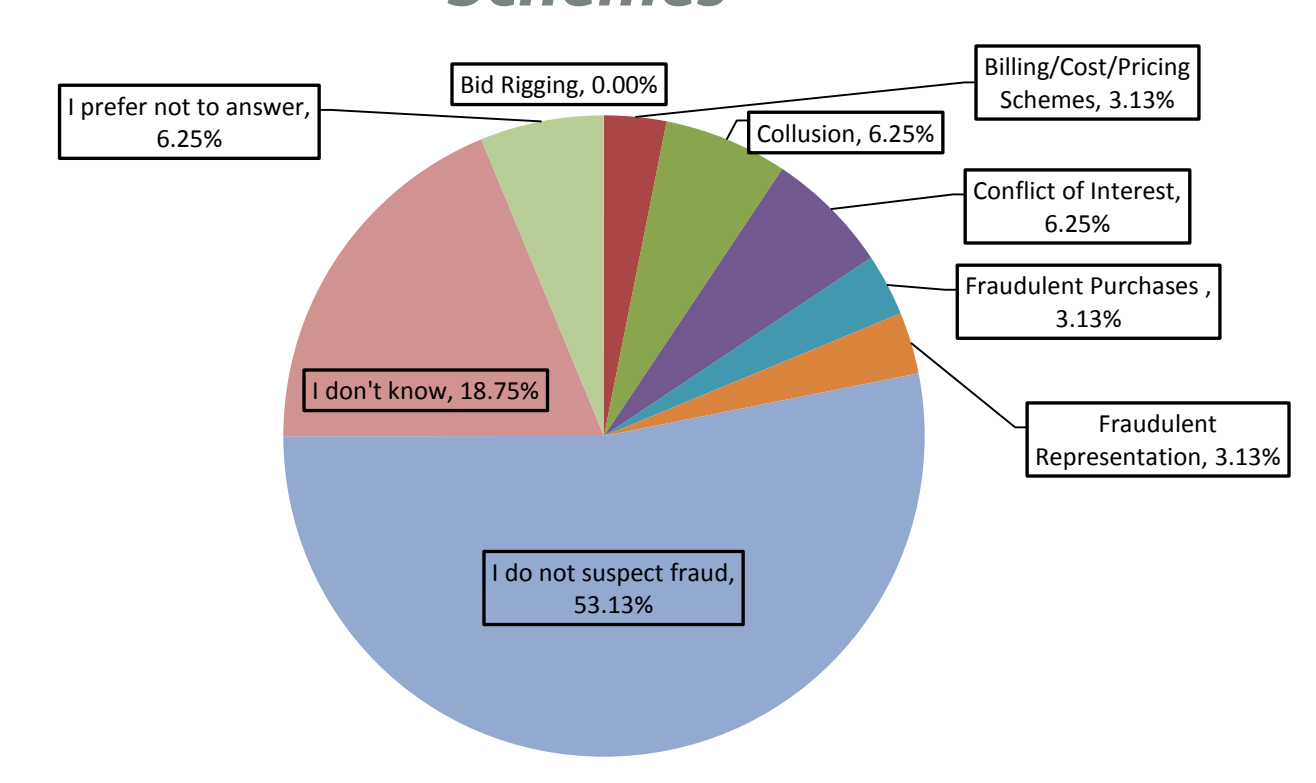
Average Score by Procurement Fraud Schemes



Percentage of Responses to Contracting Process Perception Question



Percentage of Responses to Internal Control Perception Question



Percentage of Responses to Procurement Fraud Schemes Question