Public Opinion is That White Collar Crime Can be as Serious as Street Crime

Which is more serious: A robber or contract fraudster who steals $100?

- 38.0% of respondents think it’s more serious for a contract fraudster.
- 44.0% think it’s more serious for a robber.
- 18.0% think they are equally serious.
Perceptions of Seriousness Can be Related to the Type of White Collar Crime

Which is more serious: A robber or embezzler who steals $100?

- Robber: 27%
- Embezzler: 56%
- Equal: 17%

*The pie chart illustrates the percentage of respondents who perceive a robber or an embezzler as more serious for stealing $100.*
Perceptions of Seriousness Can be Linked to Status or Authority of Offender

Which is more serious: A public official accepting a bribe or a private citizen bribing a public official?

- 74%: Public Official
- 12%: Private Citizen
- 14%: Equal
Violations of Public Trust Can be Judged as Quite Serious

Which is more serious: A public official accepting a bribe or a corporation bribing a public official?

- 36% Corporation
- 45% Public Official
- 19% Equal
Public Opinion is That the Fraudster Will be Less Likely to be Caught

Who do you think is more likely to be caught: A robber or fraudster who steals $1000?

![Bar chart showing public opinion on the likelihood of catching a robber or fraudster. The chart indicates that 74% believe a robber is more likely to be caught, 22% think a fraudster is more likely, and 3% believe they are equally likely.]
The Public Also Feels the Fraudster WILL be Punished Less Severely

Who WILL be punished more severely: The robber or the fraudster?

- Robber: 82%
- Fraudster: 16%
- Equal: 2%
Public Opinion Varies on Who SHOULD be Punished More Severely

Who SHOULD be punished more severely: The robber or the fraudster?
Social View Has Little Impact on Opinions of Punishment

Who SHOULD be punished more severely: The robber or the fraudster?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political View</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
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- Liberal
- Moderate
- Conservative

- Fraudster
- Robber and Fraudster Equally
- Robber
Testing the Strength of Association Between WCC Punishment Severity and Key Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Gamma Score*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WCC Seriousness</td>
<td>.416</td>
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<td>Victimization (Credit Card or Bank Account Numbers Taken)</td>
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<td>Income</td>
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<td>Risk Behaviors</td>
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* p<.01