

Understanding expenses fraud

Expenses are the second largest controllable cost to business after salaries.

Expenses fraud costs UK businesses **in excess of £100 million*** each year.



have bent the rules when claiming expenses

1 in 4 agreed the longer you stay with a company the more likely you are to bend the rules

Reasons for expense fraud



70%

said company had no expenses management software



47%

said they were unaware on an expenses policy



9%

said expenses were never queried or checked

Fraud profile

Men are more likely to bend the rules



16-24 year olds are the worst offending age group

16-24 43%

25-34 25%

35-44 26%

45-54 19%

55+ 25%

Regions

Scotland is the most likely to pay for their own breakfast (66%)

West Midlands is the least (36%)

The other regions:

61% East

57% Wales

54% North East

54% South East

52% London

49% South West

46% Northern Ireland

44% North West

41% East Midlands

40% Yorkshire

Sectors



72%

Arts and Culture sector most likely to 'bend the rules'



38%

Sales & Marketing



19%

Manual skilled



18%

Clerical



18%

Education



14%

Healthcare



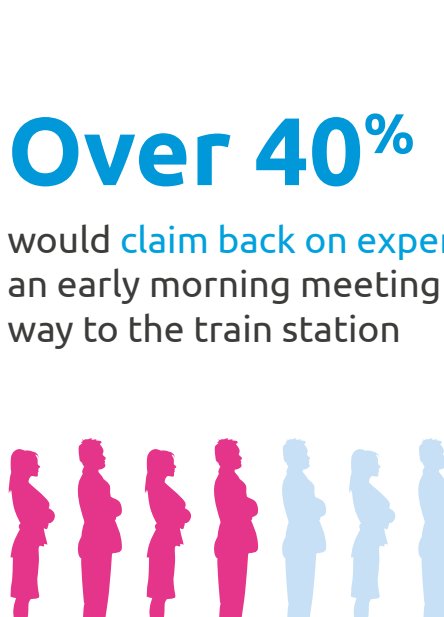
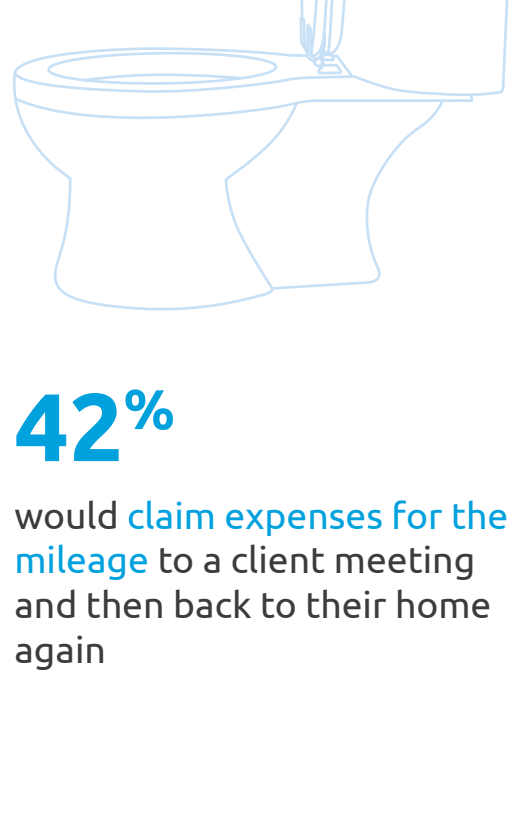
7%

Legal

Headline findings

Almost 1 in 10

16-24 year olds would claim back for a 30p toilet trip when waiting for the train to a client meeting

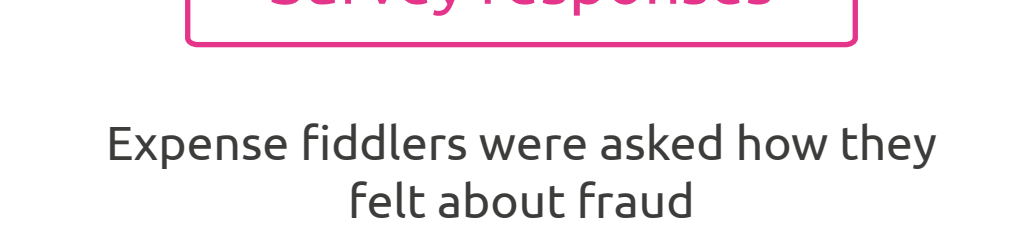


42%

would claim expenses for the mileage to a client meeting and then back to their home again

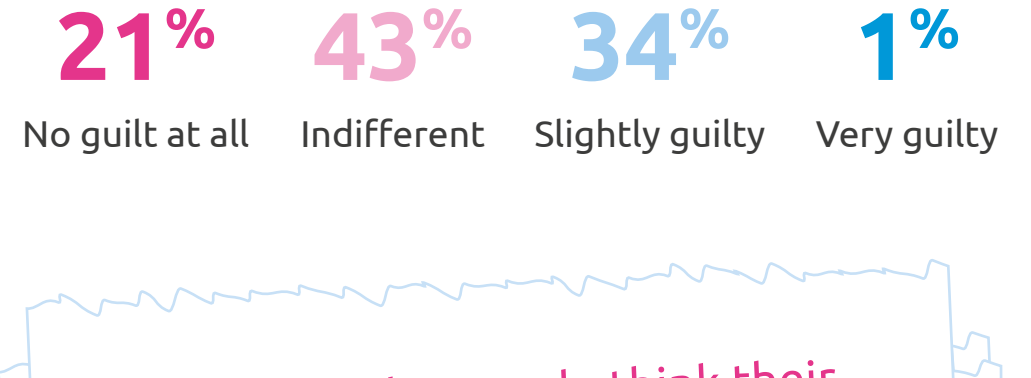
Over 40%

would claim back on expenses for their breakfast if they had an early morning meeting and had to buy something on the way to the train station



Survey responses

Expense fiddlers were asked how they felt about fraud



Reasons why people think their expenses policy isn't always fair:

Food and drink allowance is too low

"Rates not uplifted since 1988" – food and mileage costs are not with the times, and therefore it often ends up costing you more money

Senior managers appear to be able to claim back for more items on expenses (preferential treatment)

You often feel out of pocket when you have to pay using your own expenses upfront

It's "all in the company's interest"

If you lose a receipt you can't claim back for the expense

What annoys people the most about claiming for expenses:



The amount of time it takes for them to be paid



Seeing the rules being bent by others and being approved!

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always exceed expectations

Data is from a 2014 censuswide survey, commissioned by webexpenses, of 1,000 UK employees.

*National Fraud Authority, 2013