Optimistic outlook for most respondents

Three-fourths of forensic respondents and more than half of valuation respondents anticipate growth in their practices in the next two to five years.

10%–50% of respondents who expect growth:

- Forensic respondents: 76%
- Valuation respondents: 54%

Top near-term issues for FVS accountants

- 25% Electronic data analysis (big data)
- 20% Increased complexity and scrutiny in engagements
- 14% Competition and fee pressure
- 11% Regulatory changes
- 7% Attracting and retaining qualified staff

Growing business areas for valuation professionals

Here’s where respondents said they’re most likely to experience increased demand:

- Shareholder/partner disputes: 34%
- Contractual disputes: 29%
- Gift and estate taxes: 25%
- Bankruptcy, insolvency, and reorganization: 18%
- Family law/matrimonial disputes: 15%

A few years ago, big data wasn’t even in the top five issues that FVS accountants expected to face in the next two to five years. Now it’s No. 1.
Growth predictions for damages calculation work

- Breach of Contract: 35%
- Intellectual Property: 32%
- Business Tort Cases: 27%
- Mergers and Acquisitions: 22%
- Employment: 19%
- Unfair Competition: 13%

(Percentage of respondents predicting increase)

Most commonly experienced frauds

- Check Fraud: 15%
- Employee Expense Fraud: 12%
- Misuse or Diversion of Assets: 10%

53% of respondents had experienced fraud in the past year

(Business and industry respondents only)

Where the respondents worked

- Public Accounting or Consulting Firm: 55%
- Government: 9%
- Business and Industry: 23%
- Education: 3%
- Law Enforcement: 1%
- Other: 9%

Services offered

Respondents at firms offered a range of services. The top categories:

- Fraud Prevention, Detection, and Response: 44%
- Valuation: 37%
- Economic Damages: 31%