

2021 ANALYSIS OF CORRUPTION TRENDS (ACT)

DEDICATED TO BABITA DEOKARAN AND THE THOUSANDS OF WHISTLE-BLOWERS

WHO RISK THEIR LIVES DAILY IN THEIR PURSUIT FOR A CORRUPTION-FREE SOCIETY.

The 2021 edition of the Analysis of Corruption Trends (ACT) Report is the fifth in a series published by Corruption Watch, which highlights whistle-blower complaints received by the organisation in the first six months of the year. The purpose of this publication is to present the trends, patterns and hotspots of corruption in South Africa, based on crowd-sourced whistle-blower claims.

In the first half of 2021, 1 964 whistle-blowers approached Corruption Watch to report acts of corruption. Some of the key findings include:

- Since 2018, police corruption has been the most common form reported to Corruption Watch, and it continues to be a hotspot for 2021. Other hotspots include corruption related to the managing of the novel coronavirus pandemic (8%), as well as corruption in public schools (6%) and public housing (4%);
- The majority of complaints are located in Gauteng province (42%), followed by the KwaZulu-Natal (10%) and Western Cape (9%), and the Eastern Cape (7%);
- The most common types of corruption experienced include maladministration (16%), procurement corruption (16%), and abuse of authority (15%);

Most Covid-19 related complaints received tell of compliance issues in the temporary employment relief scheme (TERS), followed by procurement corruption in the health and education sectors, and corruption in relation to the distribution of food parcels.

The trends presented in this publication are similar to that of our 2020 ACT Report and other reports, which is telling in terms of both the public and private sectors' efforts to combat corruption.

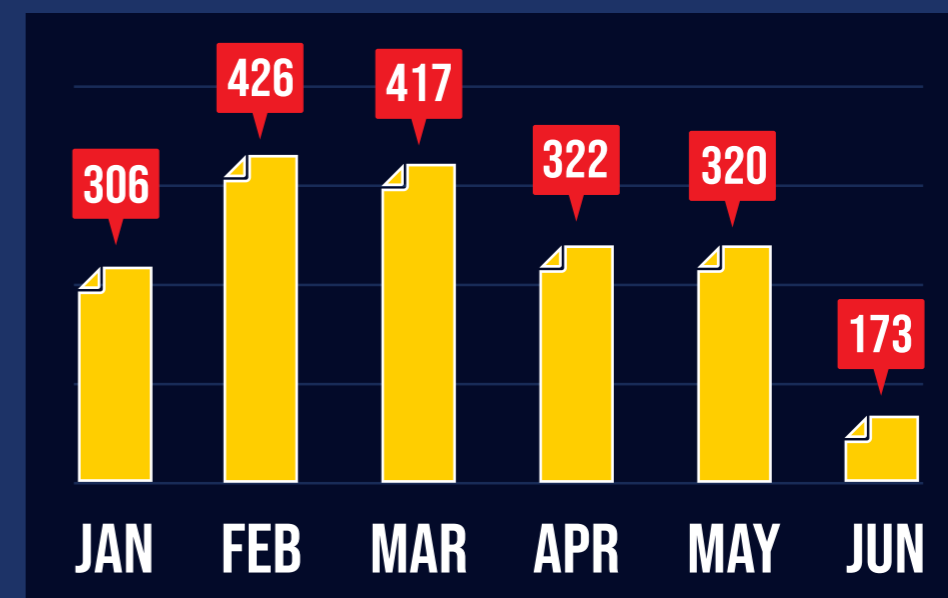
Importantly, the lack of progress in this regard is having a dire impact on the majority of people in South Africa, who are unable to access basic rights and services. As we have cautioned before, the situation continues to be untenable and corruption is the fuel that is feeding a raging fire of discontent, as witnessed in the recent civil unrest.

The environment has become even more hostile towards whistle-blowers who continue to face threats to their lives and livelihoods. At the same time, those in positions of power suffer minimal consequences for their involvement in corruption. South Africa is severely underperforming in its fight against corruption, and until we see real commitments from all sectors of society to address this problem, the patterns of abuse and impunity will largely remain the same.

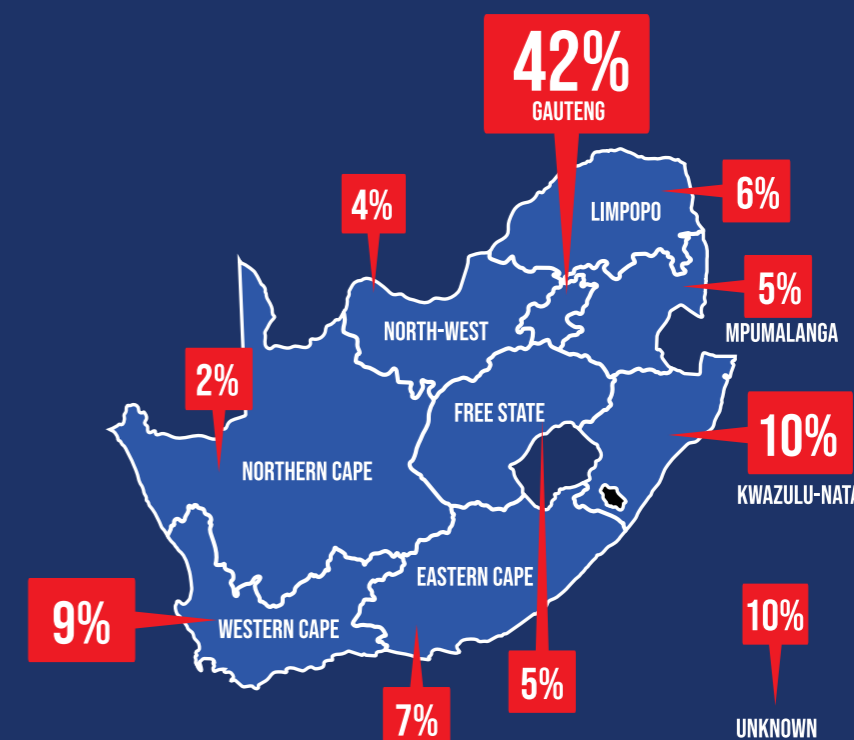
From January - June 2021, Corruption Watch received

1 964 ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION

from whistle-blowers



The majority of complaints stemmed from



REPORT CORRUPTION

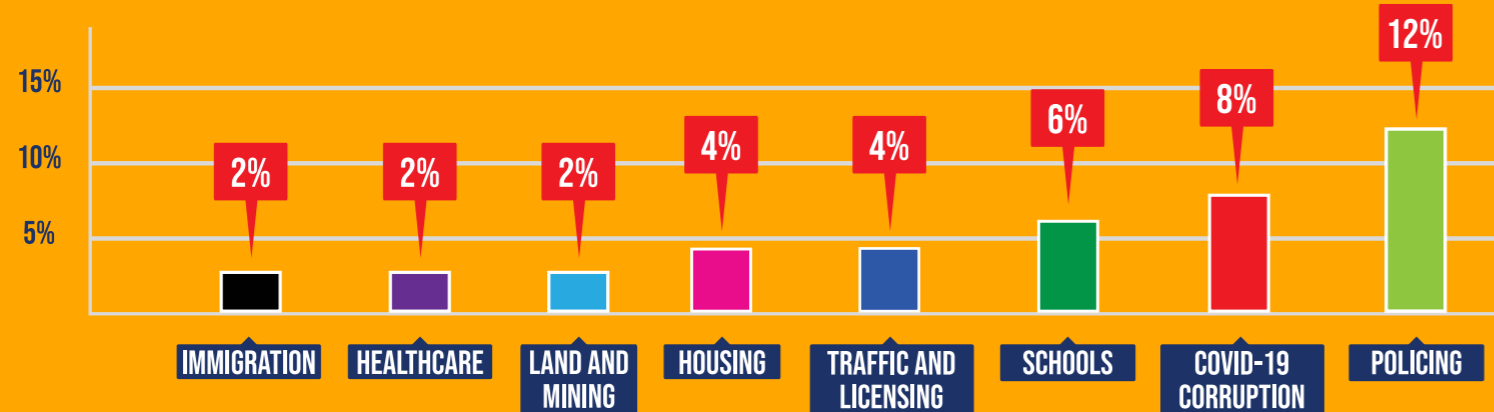
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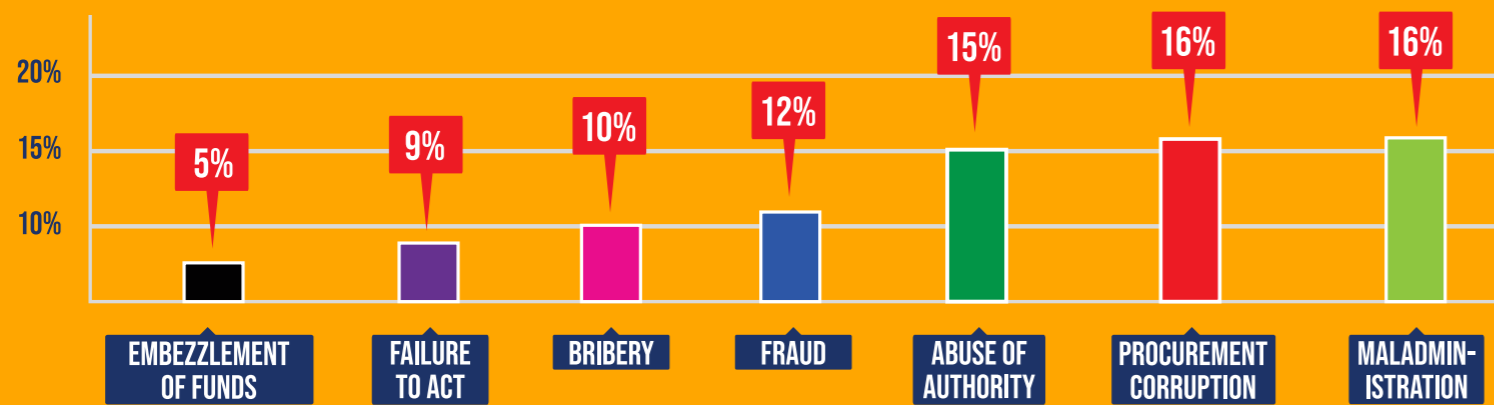
CORRUPTION HOTSPOTS

Sectors relating to policing, responses to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the basic education sector emerged as hotspots for corruption in the first half of 2021.



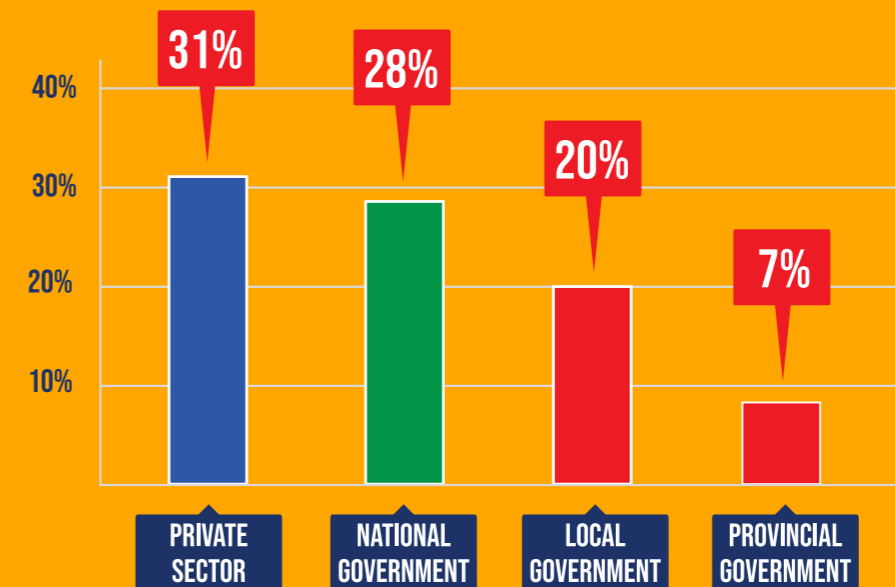
TYPES OF CORRUPTION

The most common types of corruption reported in the first half of 2021 include issues related to maladministration, abuse of authority, and procurement corruption.



INSTITUTIONAL LOCATION

Most reports received relate to corruption involving the private sector, followed by corruption located in all three tiers of government.



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SECTORAL HOTSPOTS POLICING



POLICE CORRUPTION IS STILL THE NUMBER ONE

TYPE OF CORRUPTION EXPERIENCED BY

WHISTLE-BLOWERS

With the majority reporting an:



37%

ABUSE OF AUTHORITY



34%

DERELICTION OF DUTY



22%

BRIBERY

Most policing complaints emanate from:



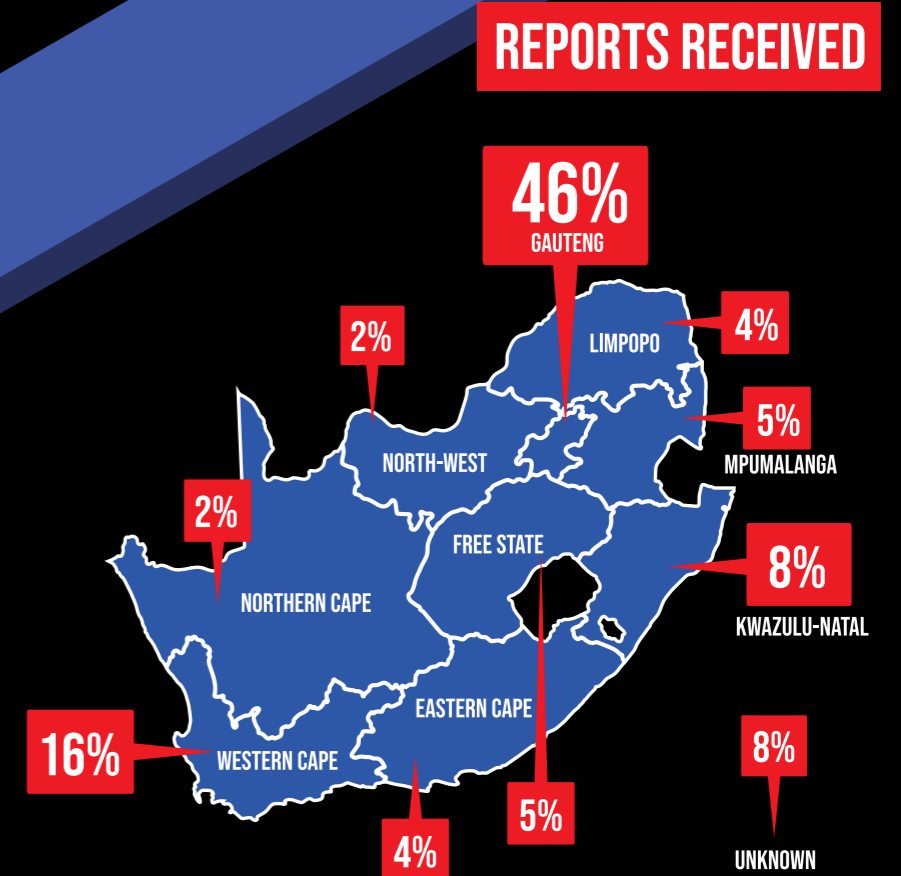
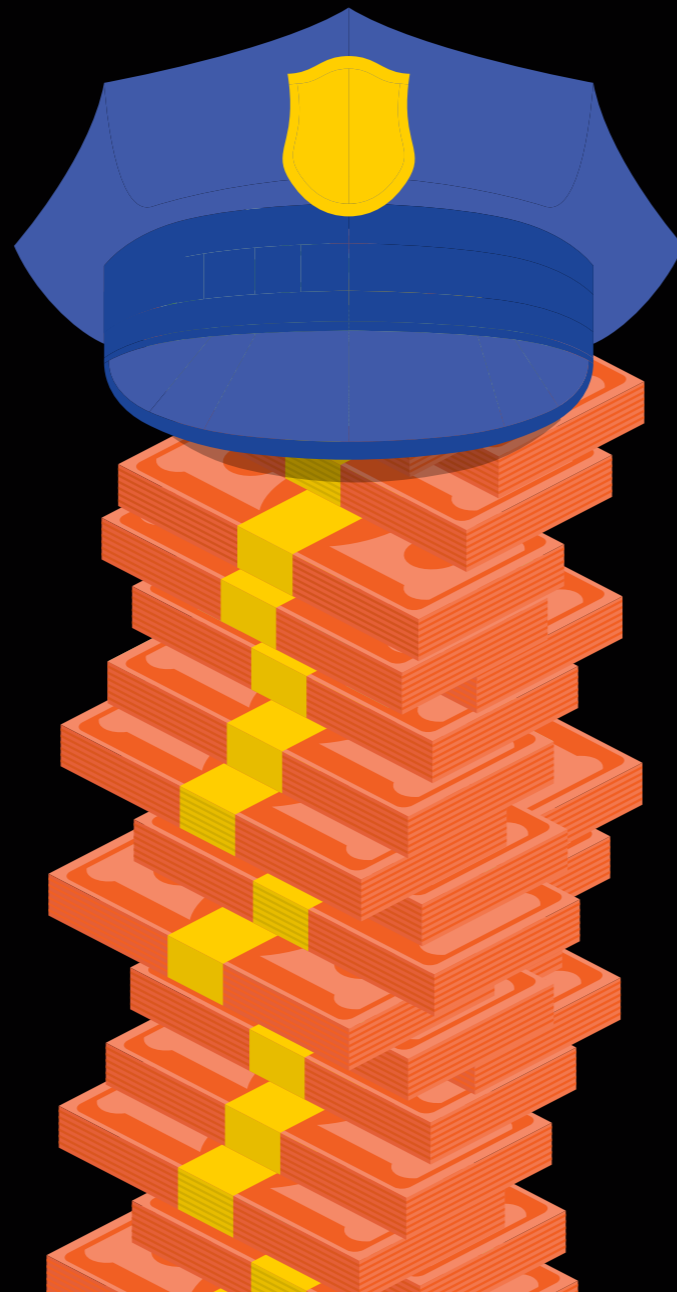
46%

GAUTENG

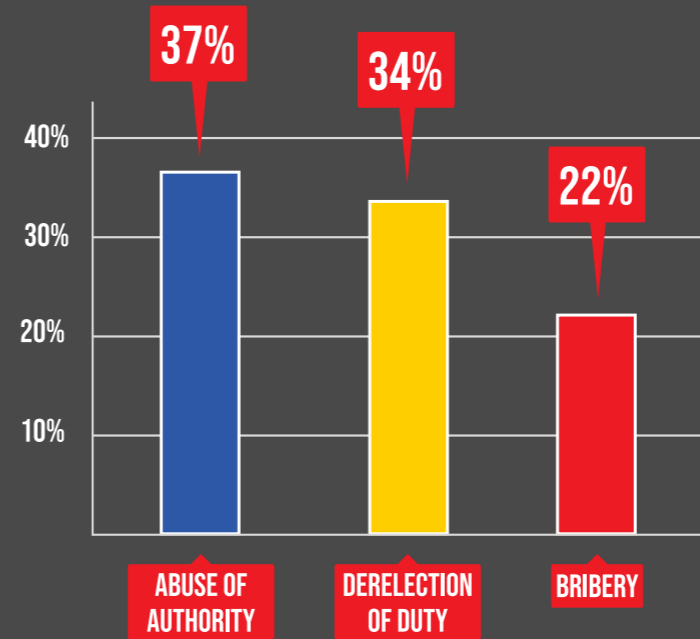


16%

WESTERN CAPE



TYPES OF CORRUPTION



REPORT CORRUPTION

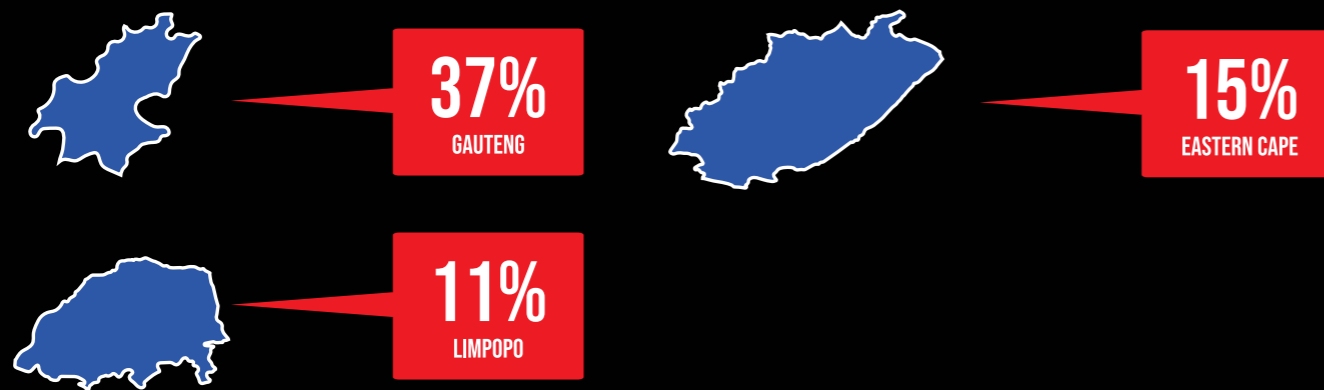
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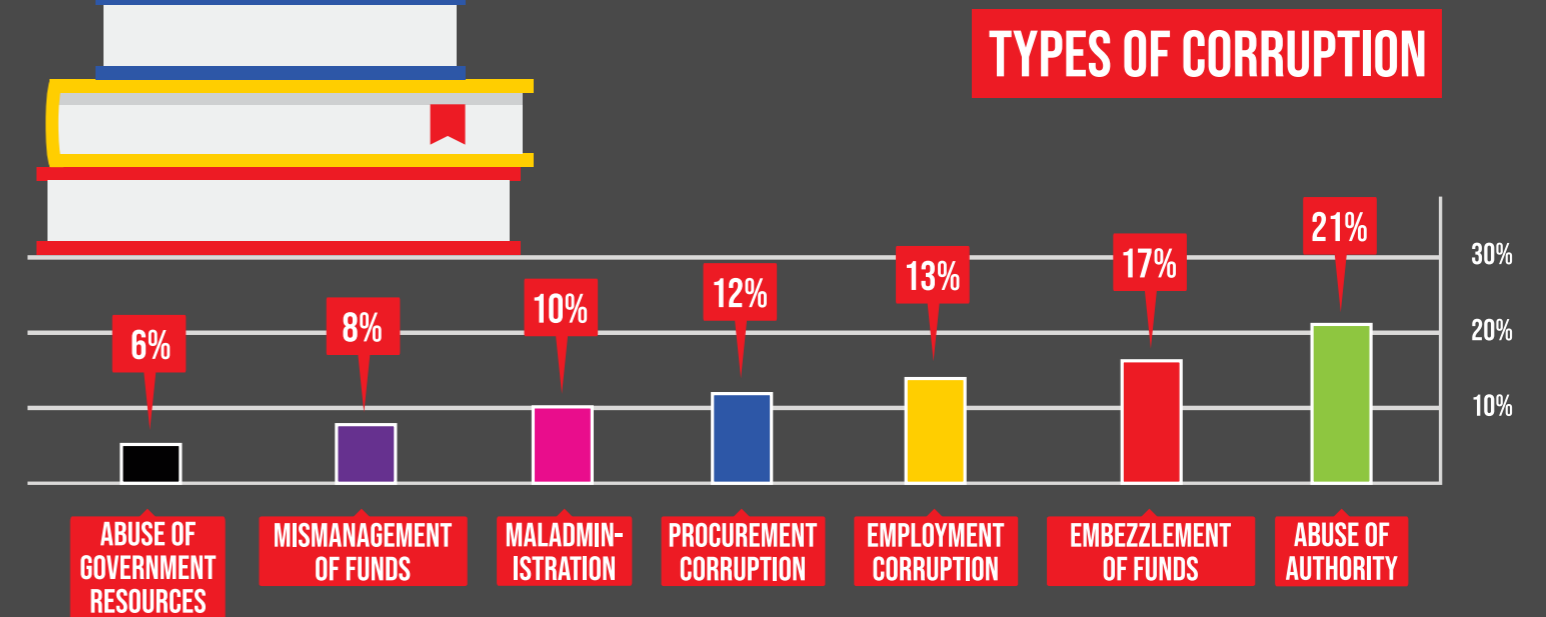
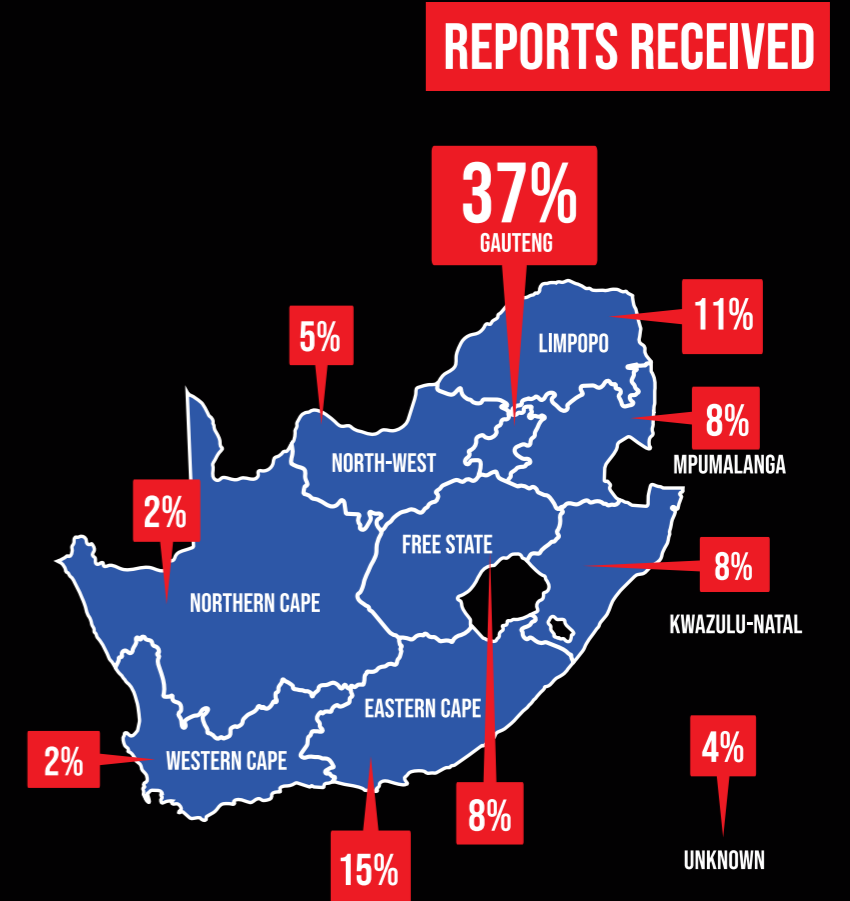
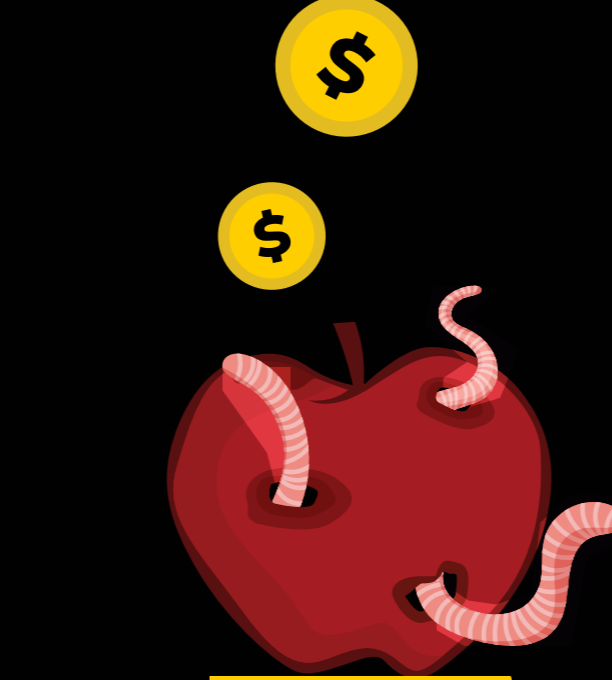
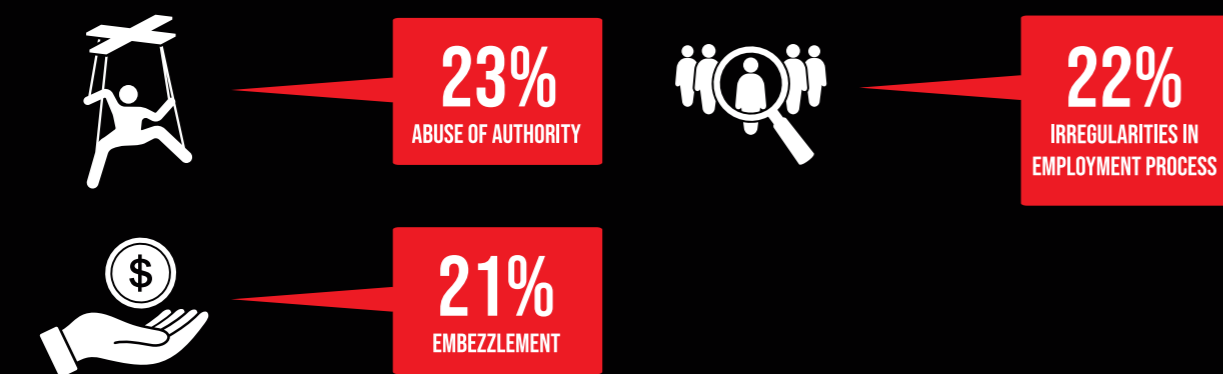


SECTORAL HOTSPOTS SCHOOLS

DURING THIS PERIOD, A NUMBER OF WHISTLE-BLOWERS IN GAUTENG, THE EASTERN CAPE AND LIMPOPO REPORTED ALLEGED CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The majority noted issues relating to:



REPORT CORRUPTION

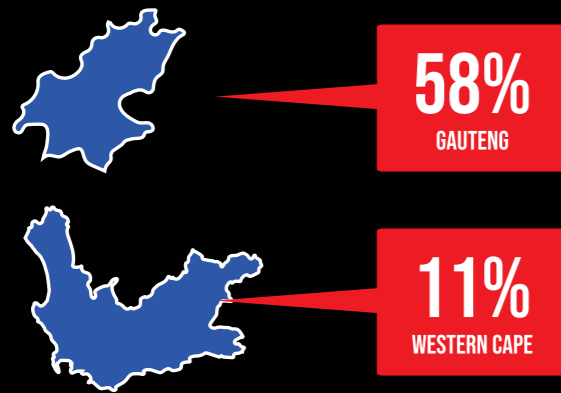
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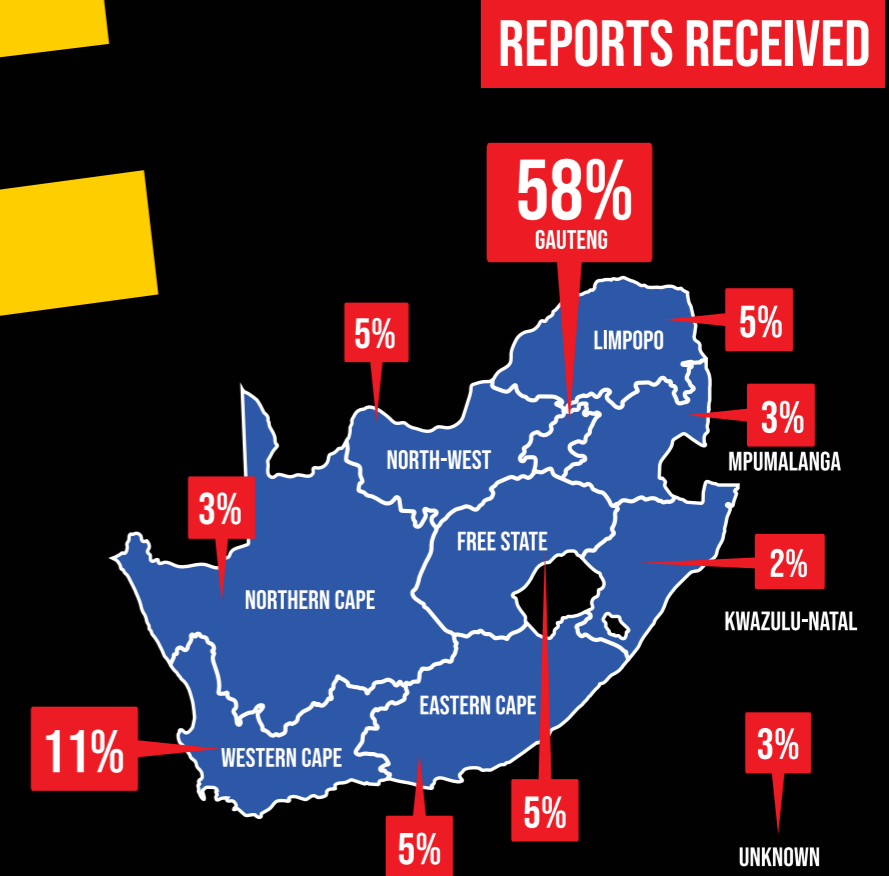
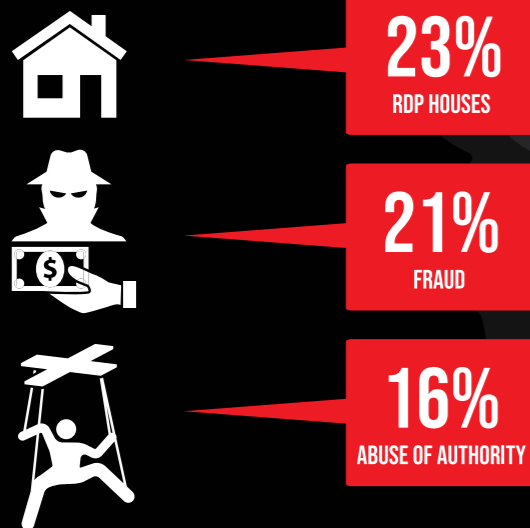


SECTORAL HOTSPOTS HOUSING

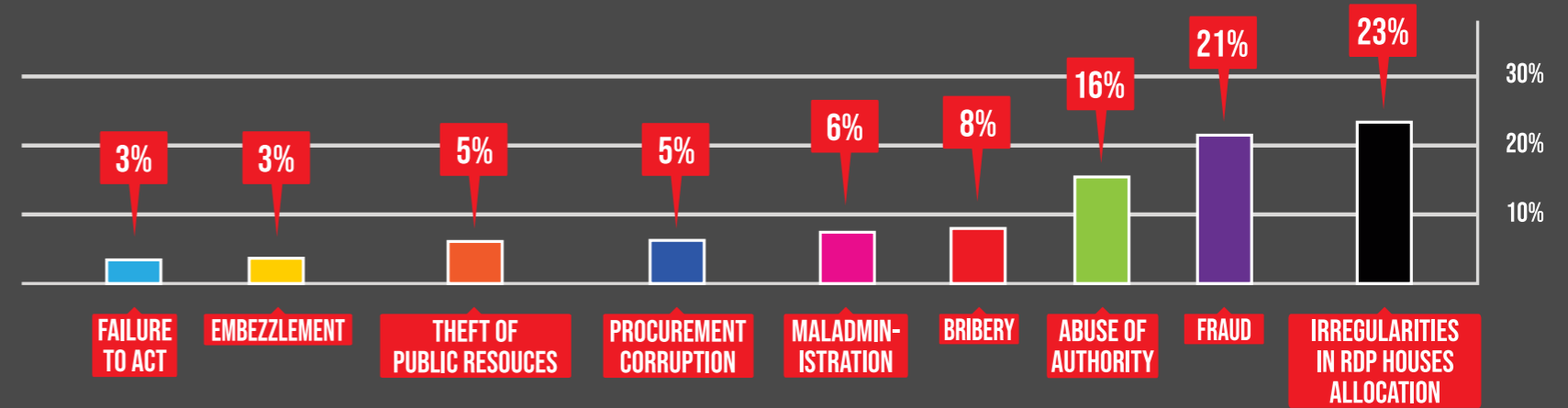
**IN RELATION TO CORRUPTION IN THE PUBLIC HOUSING
SECTOR, GAUTENG AND THE WESTERN CAPE EMERGE
AS HOTSPOTS**



With most whistle-blowers highlighting:



TYPES OF CORRUPTION



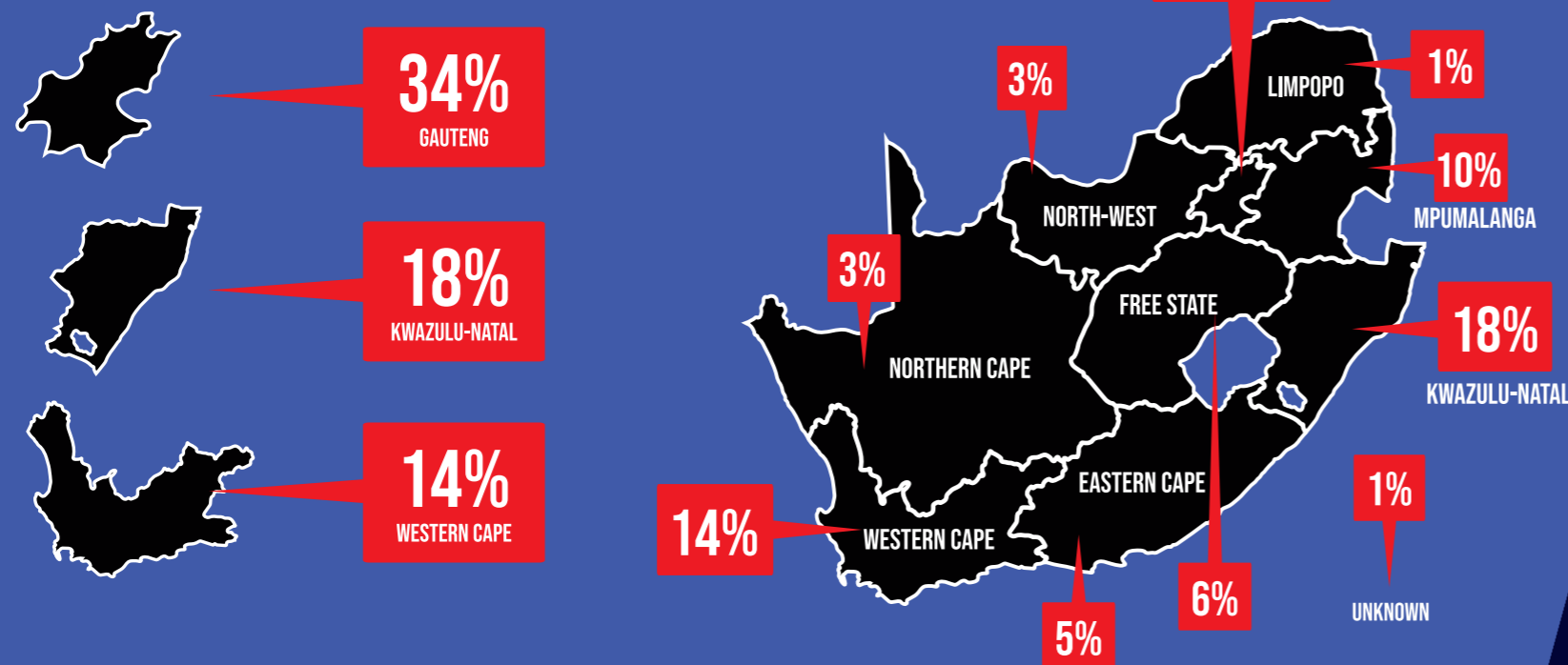
REPORT CORRUPTION

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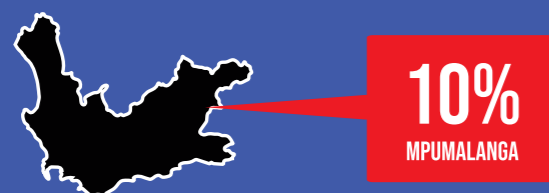
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SECTORAL HOTSPOTS COVID-19 RELATED CORRUPTION

**IN RELATION TO GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, THE MAJORITY OF CORRUPTION
REPORTS STEMMED FROM**

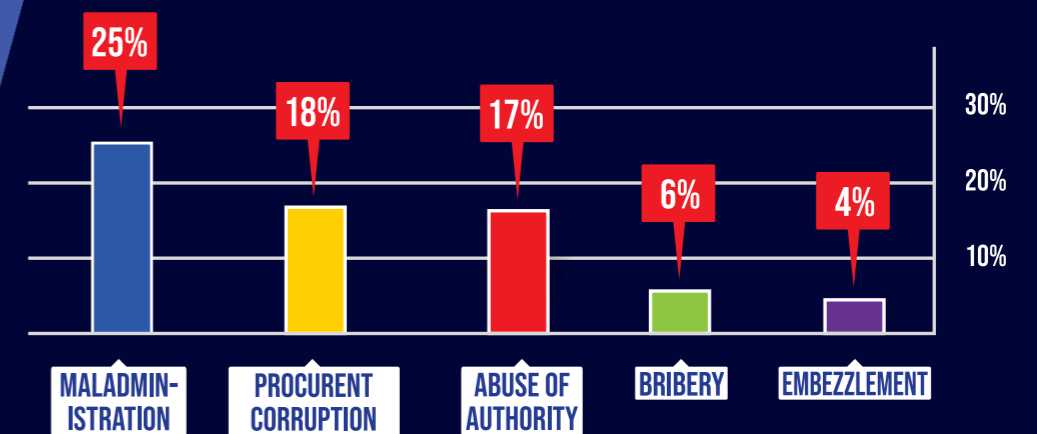


WITH A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER EMANATING FROM

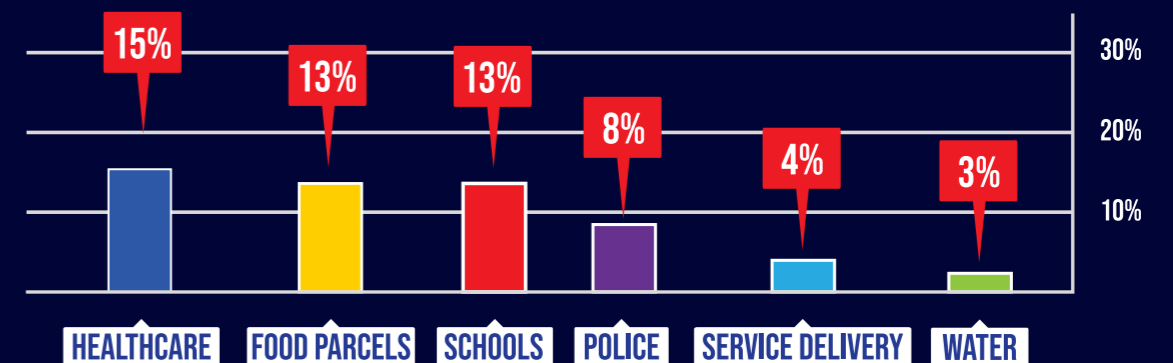


TYPES OF CORRUPTION

Most allegations referred to issues of maladministration, irregularities in procurement processes, and abuse of authority.



Fifteen percent of these complaints were located in the health sector, followed by the basic education sector (13%). During this reporting period, whistle-blowers continued to complain about being asked for money in order to access food parcels, as well as food parcels being stolen or being given in exchange for patronage.



REPORT CORRUPTION

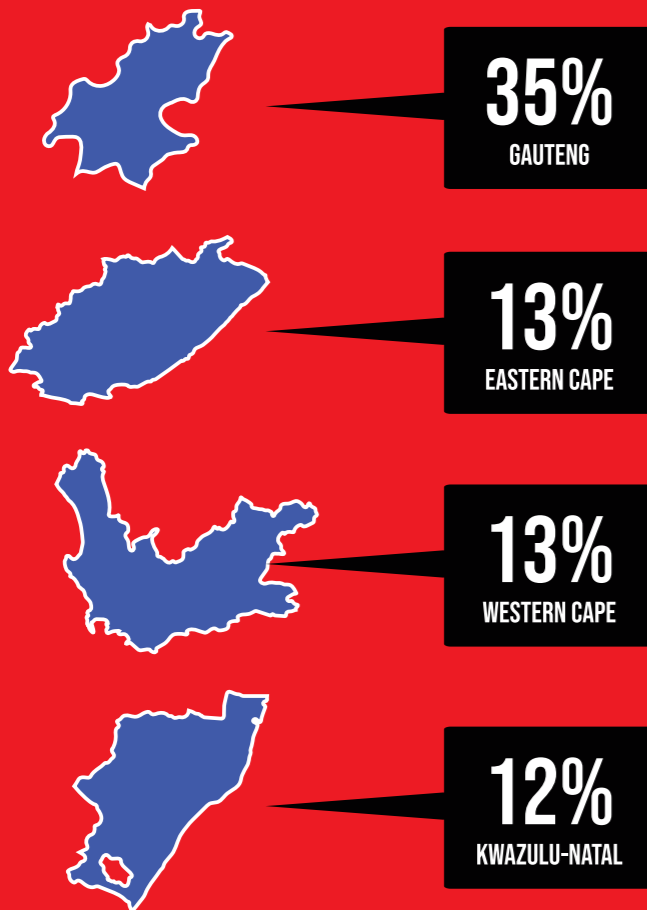
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SECTORAL HOTSPOTS TERS AND COVID RELIEF

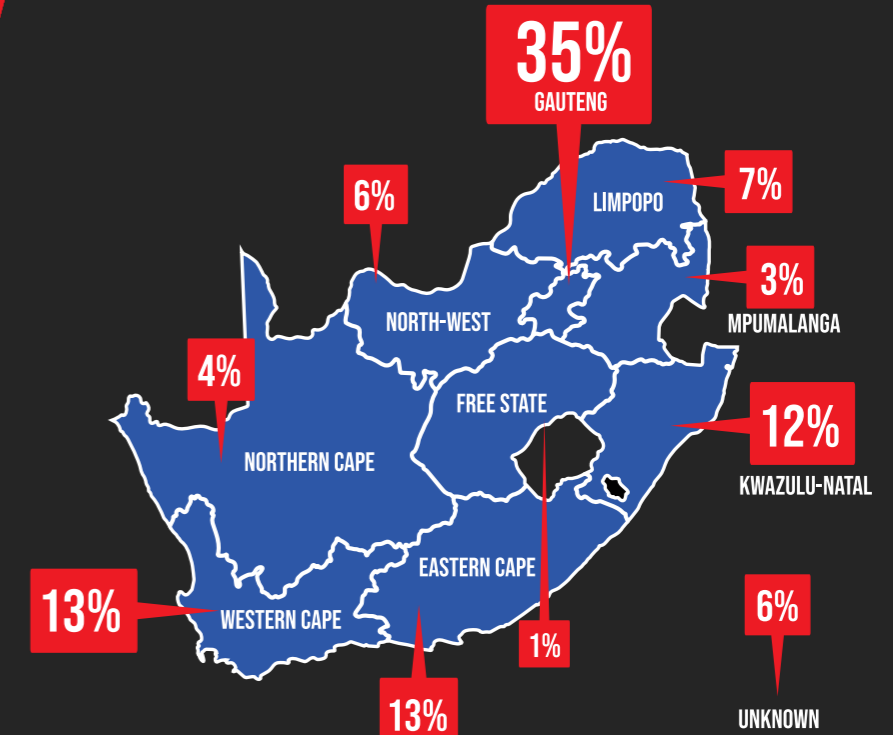
**IN RELATION TO THIS SECTOR, MOST CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS
EMERGED FROM**



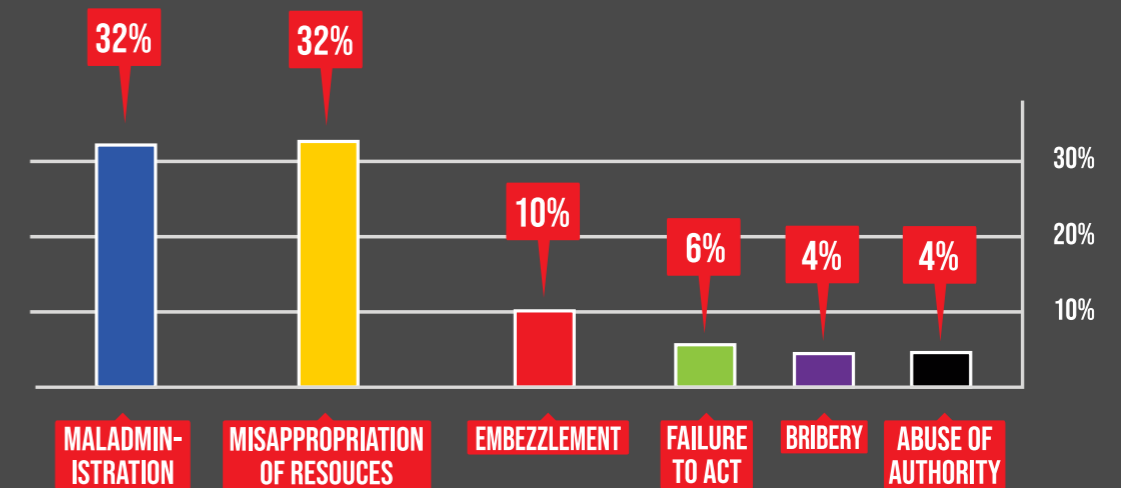
**REPORTERS MAINLY ALLEGED THAT THEIR EMPLOYERS WERE
ABUSING THE TERS GRANTS, BY EITHER PARTIALLY PAYING
THEM OR NOT PAYING THEM AT ALL.**



REPORTS RECEIVED



TYPES OF CORRUPTION



REPORT CORRUPTION

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