OBJECTIVE:
The study aims to give compliance leaders a view into organizations’ tone at the top, process to assess risk and compliance, and ethics oversight structure and scope.

METHODS USED:
Over 800 executives globally participated in the survey. They represented a great diversity of company sizes, industries, and responsibilities. Just over a third of respondents came from companies with anticipated revenues of more than $5 billion.

KEY FINDINGS:
- 98% of respondents have senior leadership that is committed to compliance and ethics.
- 55% indicate senior leadership provides on ad hoc program oversight or delegates most compliance and ethics oversight activities.
- 48% report organizations assesses its “tone at the top.”
- 54% conduct compliance and ethics-specific risk assessment activities beyond ERM efforts.
- 21% use employee surveys to gather information for their risk assessments.
- 20% have Boards of Directors that formed separate, stand-alone compliance/ethics committee.
- 89% select compliance monitoring as a primary area of responsibility.
- 72% have dedicated business unit or business area compliance officers.

CONCLUSION:
- Senior executives support compliance and ethics programs but are less visibly engaged in leading their companies’ programs.
- Compliance and ethics are aligning activities with other assurance functions, but more coordination is possible.
- In their risk assessment, compliance and ethics teams may be missing valuable “bottom up” information.
- Dedicated business unit compliance officers are keenly focused on monitoring activities.
- In-house compliance committees are becoming more streamlined.

Full Report