

About FedSpending.org

FedSpending.org relies on the federal government's data for this website. The data is largely from two sources: the [Federal Procurement Data System](#), which contains information about federal contracts; and the [Federal Assistance Award Data System](#), which contains information about federal financial assistance such as grants, loans, insurance, and direct subsidies like Social Security.

The data are often missing parts or sections and at times are significantly limited in its usefulness. This is solely because of the way the government collects and manages the information. OMB Watch is not responsible for the quality of the data and hopes the use of this website will prompt the government to improve the quality of the information it collects and provides to the public.

OMB Watch obtained the Federal Assistance Awards Data System data from the U.S. Census Bureau. It obtained the Federal Procurement Data System data from [Eagle Eye Publishers, Inc.](#) because the government's FPDS-NG site did not contain complete data for FY 2005, and what data it had raised serious quality concerns. Eagle Eye Publishers, Inc. went directly to the Department of Defense to obtain data missing from FPDS-NG and also cleaned up many fields in the database.

This website would not be possible without the support of the [Sunlight Foundation](#), which made a three-year \$334,272 grant to fund FedSpending.org, \$194,687 of which will be spent in the first year. The Sunlight Foundation supports using new information technologies to enable citizens to learn more about what Congress and their elected representatives are doing, and thus ensure greater transparency and accountability by government, help reduce corruption, and foster public trust in the vital institutions of democracy.

OMB Watch started development of this website after years of frustration over not being able to obtain information about federal contracts and grants. We believe the public has a right to know how government spends money so that citizens can hold elected officials accountable for the national priorities they set.

We hope this site serves as a prototype for the recently passed Federal Accountability and Transparency Act passed in Congress that requires the Office of Management and Budget to provide a free online database of all federal spending. Not only will FedSpending.org function as a tool for the public and journalists to find out about government spending, it will also serve as a tool to easily measure the success of OMB in this endeavor.

Credit for developing the site goes to Sean Moulton and Adam Hughes, who lead the work team at OMB Watch. Rich Puchalsky did the programming for the site, and Kathy Cashel did the web design. Nick Bartoli, Gary Bass, Dana Chasin, Craig Jennings, Matt Lewis, Denise Moore, Clay Northouse, Anna Oman, and George Sorvalis played important roles in building the site. We also want to thank a number of reviewers including Scott Amey, Larry Makinson, and Tim Yaney.