

FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND AND IMPACT OF WHITE HOUSE FRAUD TASK FORCE

President Trump signed an executive order in March 2026 creating the White House Task Force to Eliminate Fraud with Vice President JD Vance spearheading the effort.

Did You Know...

→ As of September 2026, Vice President JD Vance [claimed](#) that since the White House task force was established, close to \$250 billion in fraudulent activity has been identified.

→ In the Executive Order [establishing](#) this task force, Section 1 of the EO blames lax state controls and "illegal aliens, criminals, foreign gangs," and public officials, and it cites Minnesota, California, Illinois, New York, Maine, and Colorado.

→ Since the task force was established, several executive agencies, including the FBI and DOJ, have independently confirmed investigations to hold accountable individuals and entities accused of fraudulent actions involving government funding.



Government Accountability Office



Based on information from a review of data between 2018 and 2022, the U.S Government Accountability Organization (GAO) estimates the federal government loses \$233-\$521 billion a year to fraud, approximately 3-7% of federal obligations.

According to GAO's report, this estimate excludes fraud against state, local, or tribal administration of federal programs unless federal authorities investigated and reported it, meaning that more fraud is not only possible, but likely.

Background And Impact Of White House Fraud Task Force

Executive Summary

During the second Trump Administration, the White House has identified government benefits fraud to be a significant source of loss for the federal government. The Government Accountability Organization estimated that over a four-year period, between \$233 and \$521 billion was lost annually to fraud, approximately 3-7% of federal obligations. To counter this loss, President Trump signed an executive order in March 2026 creating the White House Task Force to Eliminate Fraud with Vice President JD Vance spearheading the effort.

The task force has delivered significant results in its short existence. The White House, DOJ, FBI, and other agencies have identified numerous individual and entities who have been accused of committing fraud against the US Government. As of September 2026, Vice President Vance reported that the task force had identified close to \$250 billion in fraudulent payments and was working to criminally charge responsible parties and reclaim as much federal funding as possible. There has been substantial reporting at both the local and national level over efforts to root out fraud, including individuals who have been indicted for defrauding government programs.

Fraud Against The Government

- Based on information from a review of data between 2018 and 2022, the U.S Government Accountability Organization (GAO) [estimates](#) the federal government loses \$233-\$521 billion a year to fraud, approximately 3-7% of federal obligations.
- According to GAO's report, this [estimate](#) excludes fraud against state, local, or tribal administration of federal programs unless federal authorities investigated and reported it, meaning that more fraud is not only possible, but likely.
- According to the GAO, fifteen agencies [reported](#) about \$186B in improper payments have accumulated for FY 2025, up \$24B from the prior year. Since FY 2003, an estimated \$3 trillion in improper payments have accumulated.
- According to the U.S. Sentencing Commission, government benefits fraud [convictions](#) rose 242% from 2020 to 2024.
- Programs which were [conducted](#) to support citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic were a source of significant fraud, with pandemic programs losing hundreds of billions in fraudulent payments, including more than \$100 billion in unemployment insurance.
- Voters have consistently expressed concern over fraud in government services:
 - In December 2025, the Napolitan News Service [found](#) 84% of voters say fraud is at least a somewhat serious problem in the state government.
 - In January 2026, the Napolitan News Service [found](#) seventy percent (70%) of voters say that states that accept federal money for programs like Medicaid, food stamps, road building, and

education should be required to provide information to the federal government that could help uncover fraud.

- In April 2026, the Napolitan News Service [found](#) that just 5% of voters say there is not very much waste and fraud in federal spending. In contrast, 65% say that either A Lot of (44%) or Most (21%) spending is waste and fraud.

Task Force Created

- In February 2026, in his State of the Union address, Trump [said](#), "I am officially announcing the war on fraud to be led by our great Vice President JD Vance," citing the need after fraud allegations from the state of Missouri.
- On March 16, 2026, President Trump [signed](#) Executive Order 14395, which [established](#) the Task Force to Eliminate Fraud. Vice President Vance was designated as chairman of the task force, with Treasury, DOJ, USDA, Labor, HHS, HUD, Education, VA, DHS, SBA, and OMB, identified as members.
- The Task Force was [created](#) with a mandate over several areas relating to addressing fraud concerns in the United States, including improve eligibility verification, investigate fraud facilitated by officials, dismantle fraud networks, and promote data sharing with states and law enforcement.
- In the Executive Order [establishing](#) this task force, Section 1 of the EO blames lax state controls and "illegal aliens, criminals, foreign gangs," and public officials, and it cites Minnesota, California, Illinois, New York, Maine, and Colorado.

Examples Of Fraud Identified

Since the task force was established, several executive agencies, including the FBI and DOJ, have independently confirmed investigations to hold accountable individuals and entities accused of fraudulent actions involving government funding. As of September 2026, Vice President JD Vance [claimed](#) that since the White House task force was established, close to \$250 billion in fraudulent activity has been identified.

- In March 2026 federal prosecutors [charged](#) 11 individuals in a major real estate and loan fraud ring targeting elderly Americans in California.
- In April 2026, the SBA [referred](#) over 560,000 pandemic era loans to the Treasury department for collections on an estimated \$22 billion in delinquent and suspected fraudulent loans.
- In April 2026, the Department of Justice [secured](#) a guilty plea from a California fraudster accused of submitting \$270 million in false reimbursement claims.
- On April 15, 2026, 447 hospices and 23 home health agencies were [suspended](#), with fraudulent payments estimated to exceed \$600M.
 - By May 2026, \$1.4 billion in home health and hospice funding was [suspended](#) by the federal government after irregularities were noted that indicated fraudulent behavior.

- In May 2026, the Trump Administration [identified](#) over 10,000 suspected fraud cases in immigration student work programs.
- In May 2026, the FBI was able to [return](#) a fugitive from overseas accused of a \$3.7 billion Medicare fraud after he fled to escape justice.
- In May 2026, the DOJ [announced](#) the Minnesota Health Care Fraud Takedown, which resulted in criminal charges against 15 defendants. Those charged include owners of child care centers and various Medicaid providers for their alleged participation in various fraud schemes involving over \$90 million in intended loss.
 - That includes the two largest Medicaid fraud cases ever charged in the District and first-of-their kind charges involving additional Medicaid programs.
- In June 2026, the Department of Justice [charged](#) four Ohio residents — including two state employees — in a \$30 million Medicaid billing fraud scheme and seized 14 luxury vehicles;
- In June 2026, the Department of Justice [announced](#) charges against 455 defendants, including 90 doctors and licensed medical professionals for their alleged participation in health care fraud schemes involving over \$6.5 billion in false claims.
- In June 2026, Federal authorities [apprehended](#) a fugitive accused of masterminding a \$3.7 billion Medicare fraud scheme.
- In June 2026, Said Abdullahi Ereg [surrendered](#) to the FBI for his role in the Feeding Our Future fraud scheme, including conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, and money laundering, which received more than \$4.2 million in Federal Child Nutrition Program funds.
- In June 2026, Department of Justice [secured](#) a guilty plea from a North Carolina man who orchestrated a \$60 million Medicare fraud scheme.
- In June 2026, the Trump Administration [secured](#) a lengthy prison sentence for the owner of two telemedicine companies who was conspired to submit more than \$136 million in false and fraudulent Medicare claims.
- In June 2026, the Department of Justice [sentenced](#) a Texas woman to two years in prison for fraudulently obtaining Eaton fire relief funds.
- In July 2026, the Small Business Administration [suspended](#) nearly 8,000 Wisconsin borrowers connected to \$375 million in suspected fraudulent pandemic-era loans.
- In July 2026, the Trump Administration [announced](#) it stopped \$220 million in fraudulent skin substitute claims and suspended billing privileges for over 800 providers complicit in Durable Medical Equipment fraud.
- In July 2026, the Department of Justice [charged](#) six New Jersey individuals in connection to a \$20 million healthcare fraud kickback scheme.

- In July 2026, the Trump Administration [announced](#) it blocked 53,000 fraudulent student loan applications in just the first months since deploying enhanced screening, preventing more than \$200 million in fraudulent financial aid from being disbursed.
- In July 2026, the DOJ [announced](#) they had arrested Khalid Satary, who was accused of billing Medicare for over \$547 million for unnecessary genetic testing.
- In July 2026, the Trump Administration [paused](#) more than \$1 billion in Medicaid payments to California and Minnesota due to suspected fraud and noncompliance.
- In July 2026, federal authorities [apprehended](#) a fugitive wanted for her role in a \$32 million COVID-19 relief fraud scheme, the fourth individual on the FBI's Most Wanted Fraudsters list captured.
- In August 2026, the Department of Justice [announced](#) criminal charges against 19 defendants involved in a fraudulent home healthcare scheme defrauding Pennsylvania's Medicaid program of nearly \$4 million.
- By August 2026, 1,076 hospices had been [removed](#) from Medicare in California alone.
- In September 2026, Vice President Vance [announced](#) that 750,000 people allegedly fraudulently enrolled in Affordable Care Act insurance plans will be kicked off the programs.
- In September 2026, the Anti-Fraud Task Force [identified](#) more than \$1.2 billion in suspected COVID-era HHS contract fraud that it was reviewing.
- In October 2026, the DOJ [announced](#) a nationwide tax fraud crackdown, identifying 76 defendants and more than \$490 million in estimated intended tax losses, including new charges against 31 individuals accused of schemes targeting American taxpayers.

Reporting On Fraud From The Ecosystem

- In February 2026, Alpha News [reported](#) that the Minnesota's Department of Human Services identified three care providers collectively received more than \$12.3 million in state funds, far more than public records showed at the time of the initial reporting.
- In February 2026, the Center Square [reported](#) two "fraud tourists" from Pennsylvania pled guilty to stealing \$3.5 million from Minnesota's Housing Stabilization Services program
- In April 2026, Alpha News [reported](#) that since the Minnesota Department of Human Services began reviewing every Medicaid provider enrolled in 13 "high-risk" welfare programs, 42.5% of the providers reviewed have been disenrolled.
- In May 2026, Alpha News [covered](#) reporting on the Department of Justice announcing fraud charges against 15 individuals in Minnesota who targeted \$90 million in taxpayer funds.
- In June 2026, Alpha News [reported](#) six Minnesotans were charged in connection with the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) recent nationwide crackdown on health care fraud, accused of defrauding the government of at least \$375,000.

- In August 2026, Just The News [reported](#) a DOJ identified more than \$2 million in questionable cost from crime victims grants, including Nevada's Division of Child and Family Services which identified more than \$365,000 in questioned costs at Miracle Minds Therapy, also known as United Citizens Foundation.
- In August 2026, Just the News [reported](#) six Medicaid providers in Ohio had been indicted on fraud charges for allegedly stealing \$558,383 from the healthcare state-federal program for low-income residents.
- In October 2026, Alpha News [reported](#) the sentencing of Abdi Nur Salah, former aide to Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey, in the Feeding Our Future scandal.