

Billions spent, little to show for it

The Government Accountability Office, agency inspectors general, the Defense Contract Audit Agency and other government investigators compiled a list of 32 Homeland Security Department contracts awarded in the past five years, with a cumulative worth of about \$34.5 billion. They found abuses and/or mismanagement in all 32 contracts.

The five biggest contracts were:

Amount	DHS agency	Contract	Contractor(s)	Problems
\$17 billion	Coast Guard	Deepwater	Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman	Wasteful spending and mismanagement.
\$10 billion	Border and Transportation Security	U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology program	Accenture, partners	Lacks capability to track entry and exit of persons; reliance on out-of-date technology.
\$1.7 billion	Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hurricane Katrina relief trailers	Multiple contractors	Trailers bought fail FEMA regulations for homes on flood plains; failed to negotiate price.
\$1.2 billion	Transportation Security Administration	Baggage screening machines	Boeing Service Co.	High false alarm rates; estimated \$3 billion to \$5 billion to upgrade to more efficient machines.
\$1 billion	TSA	Airport telecommunications	Unisys	Overbilling; DHS officials misled Congress on costs.

Source: House Government Reform Committee