

# A Snapshot: Government-Wide Contracting

A 2024 Update

**The federal government obligated \$755 billion through contracts in fiscal year 2024, a \$22.5 billion decrease from fiscal year 2023 after adjusting for inflation.**

**Read on for a snapshot of federal contracting in fiscal year 2024.**

 **...Click or hover over graphics for more information.**

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**Which agencies are responsible for the most contract dollars? **



Click on an agency or department to filter figures below.

Click here for data underlying the chart

## What did they buy?

### Total Civilian Agencies

Services

**\$256**

Dollars in billions

Products

**\$54**

Dollars in billions

### Total Defense Agencies

Services

**\$240**

Dollars in billions

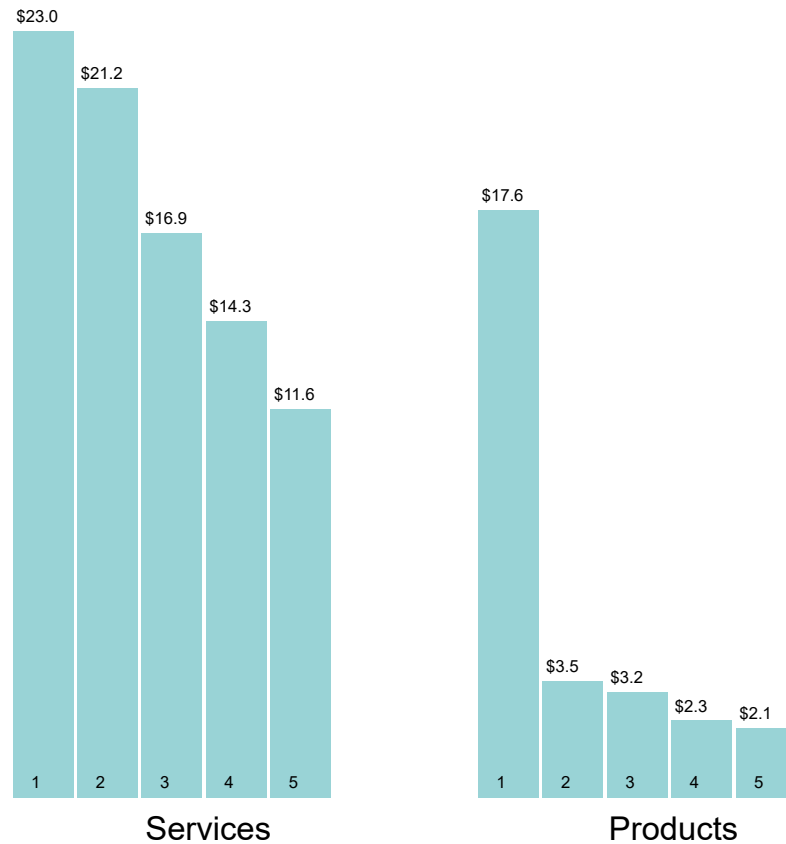
Products

**\$205**

Dollars in billions

**Top 5 Civilian Services and Products**

Total obligations (in billions)

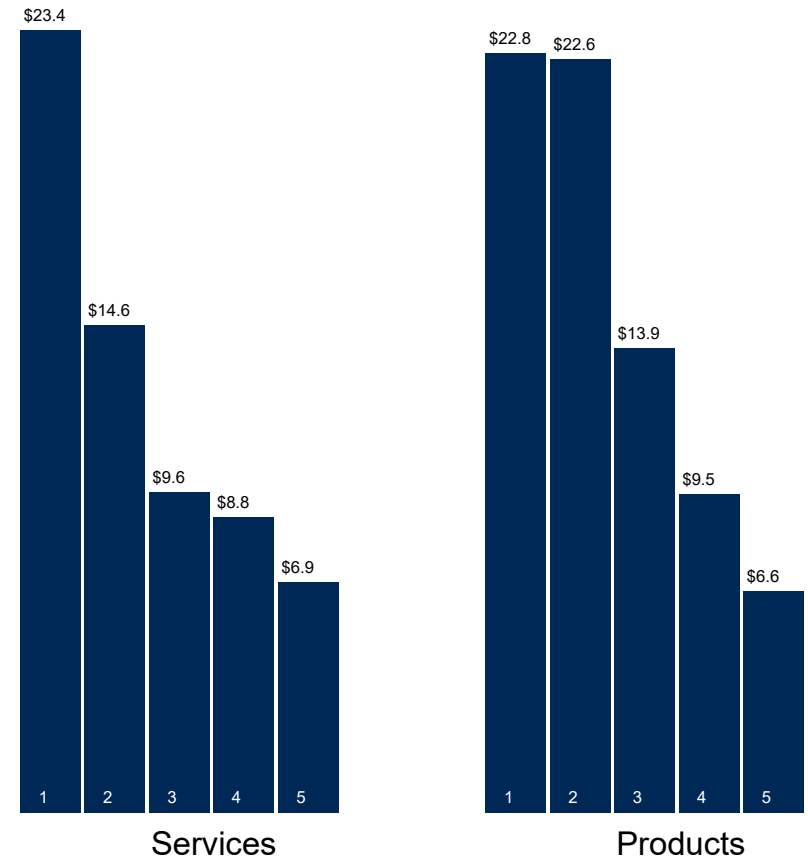


1. Support- professional: other
2. Medical- general health care
3. Operation of miscellaneous buildings
4. IT and telecom - business application/application development support services (labor)
5. Oper of Govt R&D Govt owned contractor oper facilities

1. Drugs and biologicals
2. Medical and surgical instruments, equipment, and supplies
3. IT and telecom - business application software (perpetual license software)
4. Precious metals primary forms
5. Passenger motor vehicles

**Top 5 Defense Services and Products**

Total obligations (in billions)



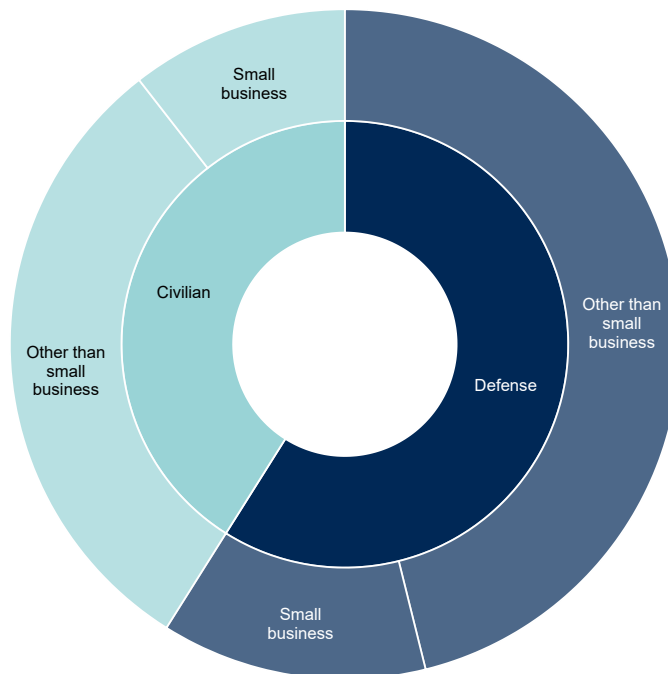
1. Support- professional: engineering/technical
2. Medical- general health care
3. Support- professional: other
4. National defense R&D services; department of defense - military; experimental development
5. Support- management: logistics support

1. Aircraft, fixed wing
2. Combat ships and landing vessels
3. Guided missiles
4. Liquid propellants and fuels, petroleum base
5. Marine lifesaving and diving equipment

**Similar to prior years, government-wide spending on services outpaced spending on products. Both civilian and defense agencies' top purchases were for professional support services.**

[Click here for data underlying the chart](#)

## Who got the contracts? 🗺️

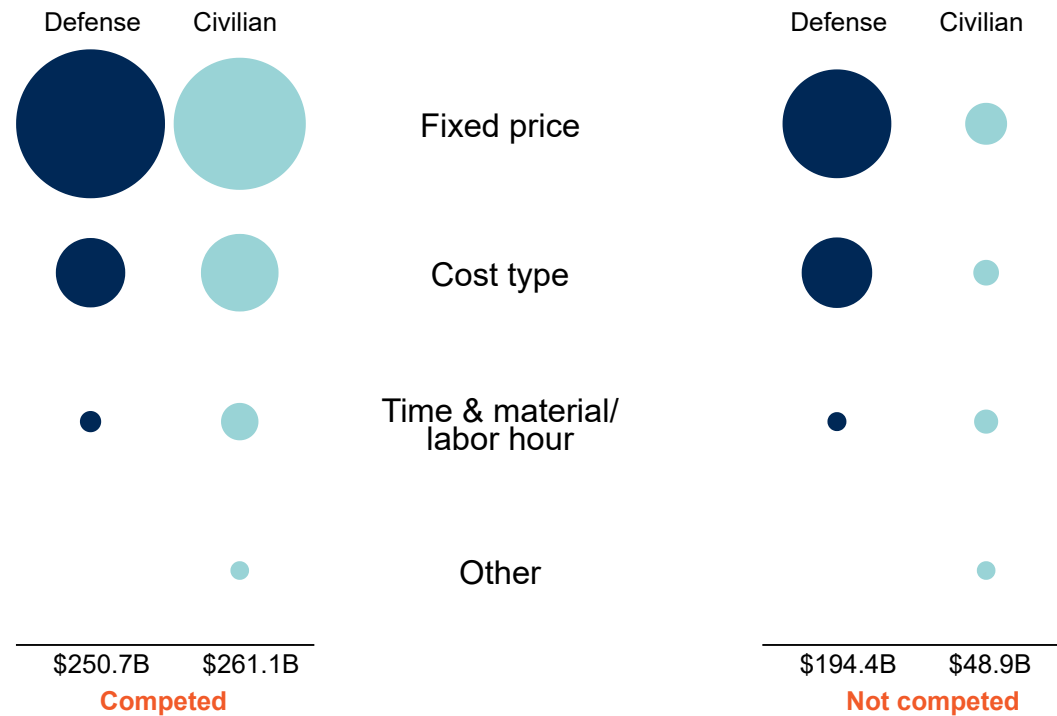


**To promote small business participation in federal contracting, there is a government-wide goal to award about a quarter of contract dollars to small businesses.**

[Click here for data underlying the chart](#)

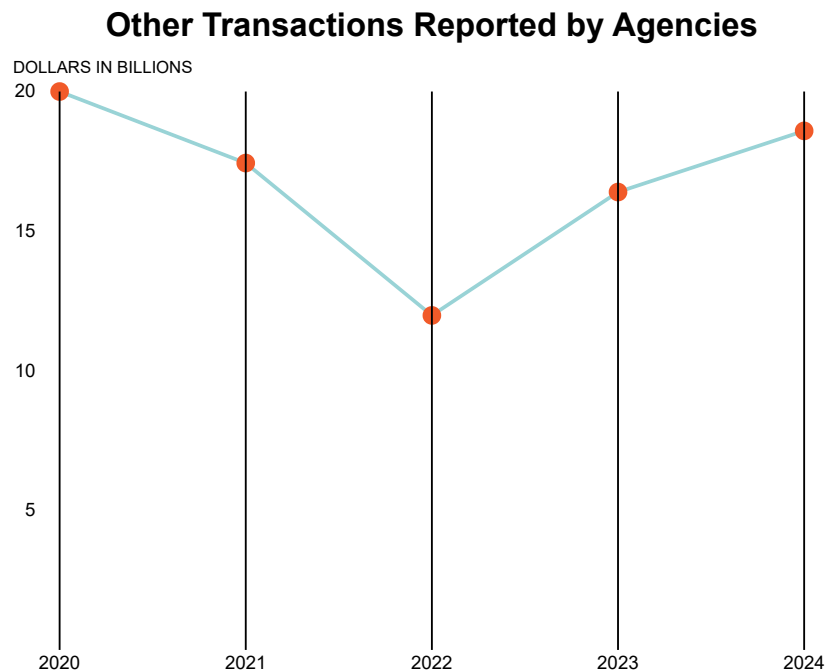
## How did they buy?

**The overall competition rate in fiscal year 2024 was 68%—civilian agencies' competition rate was 84% and Defense agencies about 56%.**



[Click here for data underlying the chart](#)

## What is the trend in spending through Other Transaction Agreements? 🗺️



**Other transaction agreements offer agencies a flexible way to purchase goods and services. In fiscal year 2024, agencies reported \$18.4 billion in spending on these agreements, a \$2.2 billion increase from fiscal year 2023.**

**Data on other transaction agreements are not included in data on federal contract obligations.**

[Click here for data underlying the chart](#)

## Interested in learning more?

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Source: GAO analysis of Federal Procurement Data System data as of June 2025.

All obligation amounts are presented in constant FY 2024 dollars. The figures above exclude missing or “other” values that represent less than one percent of total obligations.