THE SUBAWARD GAP

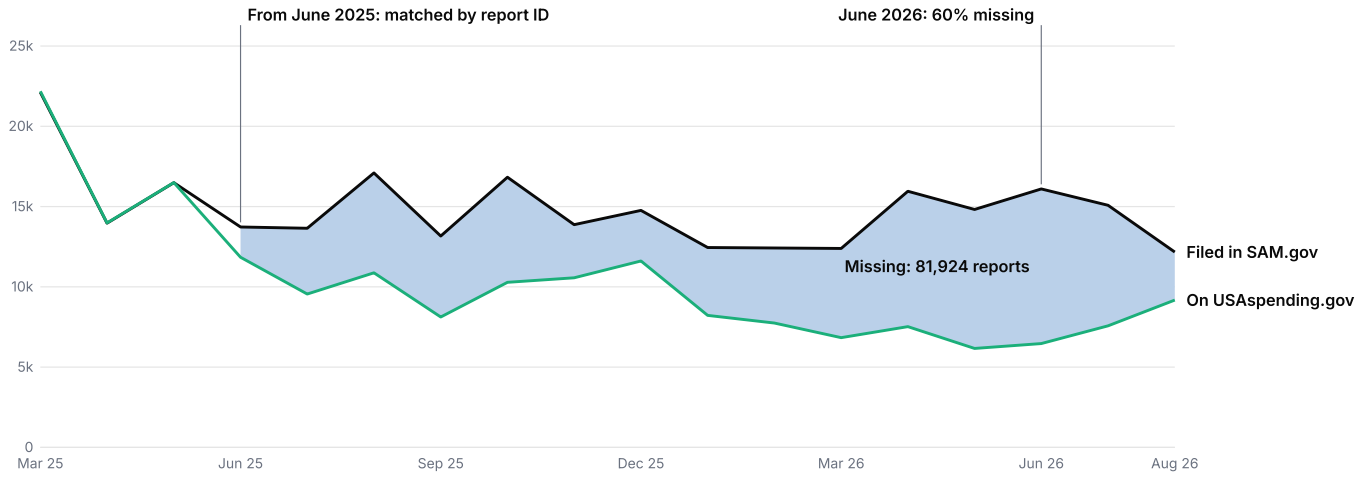
USAspending.gov is missing 38% of federal subcontract reports filed since June 2025

Prime contractors filed more than 214,000 subcontract reports on SAM.gov from June 2025 through August 2026. Nearly 82,000 of them, about $70 billion in subcontracts, do not appear on USAspending.gov.

PROCURA RESEARCH · Written by Jacob Grass · Edited by Nicole Halper · October 19, 2026 · Data accurate as of October 6, 2026

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Subcontract reports filed each month, in SAM.gov and on USAspending.gov, Mar 2025 – Aug 2026



Source: SAM.gov subaward reports; USAspending.gov's archive. From June 2025: matched by report ID; Mar – May 2025: counts by month submitted · Data as of Oct 6, 2026

1 · THE PROBLEM

By law, subcontracts must be made public. Since June 2025, many have not been.

Americans deserve to know where their tax dollars are being spent. The government agrees and has made public tools that allow users to see where and how money was spent. But, since June 2025, over $70 billion of taxpayer funding has had little transparency into how it was spent. We found this issue while building our own tools to view the data, so we have decided to publish them here for free. So how did this even happen?

Prime contractors, large companies who hold a direct contract with the government, often pass part of their work to subcontractors. Because federal funds pay for that work, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 created USAspending.gov, a publicly available, searchable website that lists funding recipients. It is operated by the Bureau of the Fiscal Service within the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Federal Acquisition Regulation FAR 52.204-10 requires a prime contractor to report each first-tier subcontract of $40,000 or more. The prime contractor's report must include who received the subcontract, its value, where the work is done and its purpose. Prime contractors file these reports in SAM.gov, which the General Services Administration (GSA) operates, and which replaced FSRS.gov in March 2025. The Fiscal Service then publishes each report on USAspending.gov next to its prime award, so that a reader can follow federal money one level below the prime.

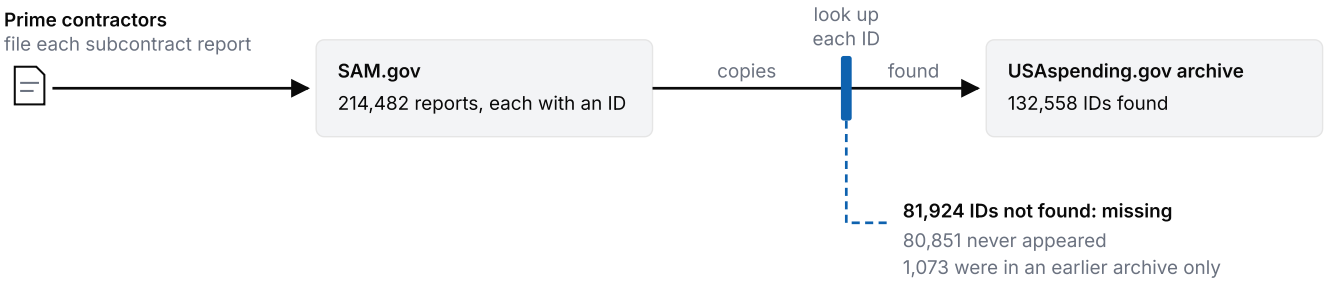
But since June 2025, the Fiscal Service has published fewer reports on USAspending.gov than primes filed, as the figure above shows. In total, about 38% of reports filed from June 2025 through August 2026 are missing.

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https://app.procurafederal.com/reports/the-subaward-gap

2 · HOW WE FOUND OUT

We researched every SAM.gov report ID on USAspending.gov.

Each SAM.gov report ID, searched in USAspending.gov's archive of Oct 6, 2026



Source: SAM.gov contract subaward reports filed June 2025 – August 2026; USAspending.gov archive · Data as of Oct 6, 2026

We noticed this trend when we realized one of our own reports was missing: a $320,000 subcontract that Procura's parent company, Astradian Technologies, maintains on an Air Force Research Laboratory program. SAM.gov lists it. USAspending.gov does not, and neither do the third-party tools that rely on its data. To verify whether this was a single error, we ran a secondary search across all other subcontract reports.

Procura reads SAM.gov's subaward reports every day—including deletions—and keys each report by its SAM.gov report ID. The Fiscal Service publishes USAspending.gov's full database once a month as an archive, and each subaward row features the same ID. We took every live contract subaward report filed in SAM.gov from June 2025 through August 2026 and searched its ID in the latest archive, dated October 6, 2026, as shown in the figure above. Since both use the same key, each report either appears in the archive or it doesn't.

Of 214,482 reports, 81,924 are not in the archive: 80,851 never appeared on USAspending.gov, and 1,073 appeared in an earlier archive and are missing from the most recent archive. Together they cover nearly 74,000 subcontracts; one subcontract can have several reports because a prime files a new report each time it changes the subcontract. Late filing does not explain the gap: 65.7% of the missing reports were filed by the FAR 52.204-10 deadline (the end of the month after the subcontract is issued).

3 · THE CORRECT PROCESS

According to the Treasury, every filed report should appear on USAspending.gov within days.

The Treasury's About the Data guide, last updated October 6, 2026, illustrates the pipeline: for example, a subaward report filed in SAM.gov on October 31 is available to USAspending.gov on November 1 and published to the site on November 2. Because this guide also says USAspending.gov relies on internal validations from source systems such as SAM.gov rather than running its own, a report that SAM.gov has passed should face no additional barriers to publishing on USAspending.gov.

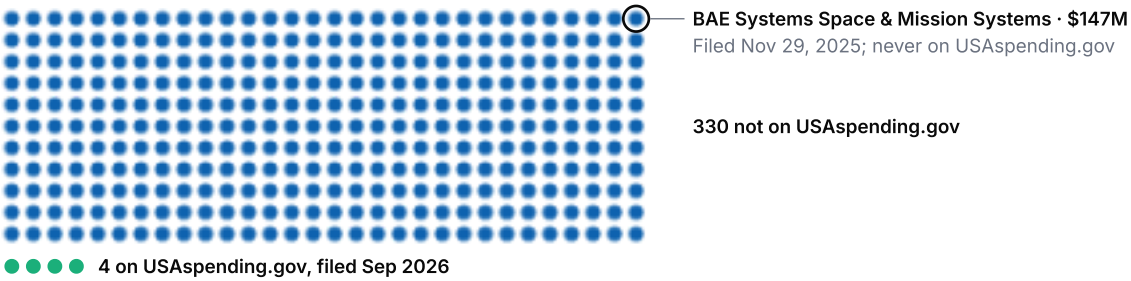
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The Treasury has not released a statement on this issue; it may not be aware of it. It remains unclear how or why USAspending.gov is missing the subcontract reports.

4 · ONE CONTRACT, $945M IN MISSING REPORTS

Raytheon filed 334 subcontract reports on one missile contract. USAspending.gov shows the four most recent and none of the other 330.

AMRAAM Lots 39-40 (FA865925CB003): subcontract reports in SAM.gov vs. on USAspending.gov, all filing dates



Source: SAM.gov subaward reports; USAspending.gov award API, Oct 16, 2026 · one dot per report

We researched the Air Force's July 2025 award to Raytheon for Lots 39 and 40 of AMRAAM, its medium-range air-to-air missile, worth $3.4 billion. By the end of August 2026, Raytheon had filed 330 subcontract reports on its prime contract in SAM.gov, worth $945 million and naming 133 subcontractors. Raytheon did what the rule requires—the reports are in SAM.gov. The Fiscal Service has published only four of these reports in USAspending.gov.

Those four rule out the simplest explanations. USAspending.gov lists the prime award, so the reports aren't delayed by it. The 90-day delay the Treasury applies to Defense procurement data concerns the prime award record, not subcontract reports. The pipeline from SAM.gov to USAspending.gov apparently works for this contract, since four subcontracts made it through to USAspending.gov.

One missing report is a $147 million subcontract to BAE Systems Space & Mission Systems, filed on November 29, 2025. It has never appeared on USAspending.gov. The prime contract does appear on USAspending.gov as of October 19, but its subawards include only four reports worth $1.33 million, none to BAE Systems.

5 · THE IMPACT

A missing report hides who receives federal funds and how they use them.

16,532
Subcontractors with missing reports, Jun 2025 – Aug 2026

10,759
Prime contracts with missing reports, Jun 2025 – Aug 2026

$70.5B
Unaccounted subcontracts, Jun 2025 – Aug 2026*

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*The dollar figure counts each subcontract once, at its latest reported amount.

Subcontract reports in SAM.gov and on USAspending.gov, three Defense contracts, filed Jun 2025 – Aug 2026

C-17 Globemaster III sustainment
Boeing · FA852626FB002



Filed 1,157 | On USAspending.gov 119 | Missing 1,038

Guided-missile frigate, FFG(X)
Marinette Marine · N0002420C2300



Filed 943 | On USAspending.gov 0 | Missing 943

AMRAAM Lots 39-40
Raytheon · FA865925CB003



Filed 330 | On USAspending.gov 0 | Missing 330

+4 filed Sep 2026, after the window

Source: SAM.gov subaward reports, matched by report ID to USAspending.gov's archive · Data as of Oct 6, 2026

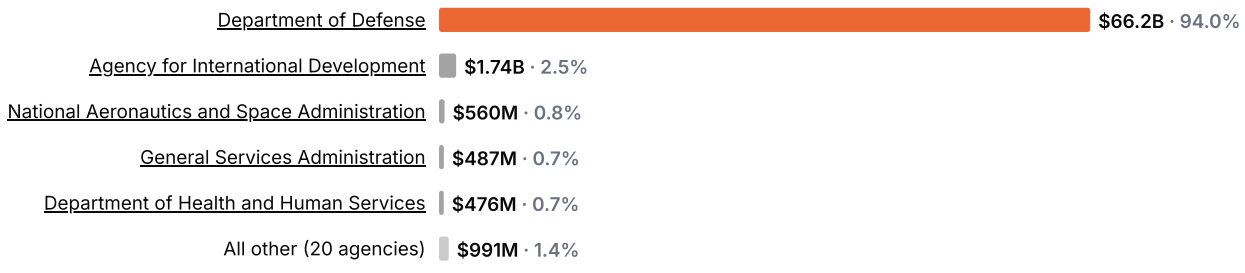
Raytheon's contract is one of many missing reports. We tallied up the total value of missing contracts partly because the shortfall changes from month to month; therefore, no fixed factor can correct a total calculated using data from USAspending.gov. Data is incomplete for any given prime's subcontractors, so auditors, congressional staffers or reporters relying on USAspending.gov see an incomplete dataset.

For some programs, the gap covers almost every report. The three Defense contracts in the figure above—for C-17 sustainment, the FFG(X) frigate and AMRAAM—had 2,430 subcontract reports filed in the window. Only 119 of these reports are on USAspending.gov. For each, the public record of money spent stops at the prime contractor.

6 · BY AGENCY

Defense contracts make up $66 billion of the gap.

Missing subcontract dollars by awarding agency, US$, de-duplicated to subawards, Jun 2025 – Aug 2026



Source: SAM.gov subaward reports, matched by report ID to USAspending.gov's archive · Data as of Oct 6, 2026

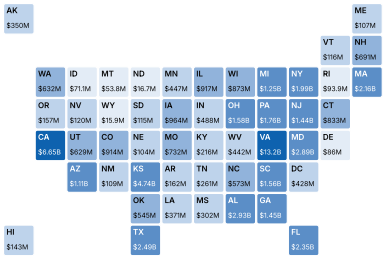
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In terms of contract dollars, the data gap falls almost entirely under Department of Defense contracts. These subcontracts account for $66 billion of the missing dollars. About 2% of reports under civilian agencies are missing, totaling $4.3 billion. The largest civilian agency's missing reports total $1.7 billion, under the Agency for International Development (USAID). The majority of this value resides in reports that Chemonics filed under one contract vehicle. The second-largest contract is with NASA, valued at $560 million.

7 · DATA BY STATE

Virginia subcontractors make up $13 billion of the gap.

Missing subcontract dollars by subcontractor state, de-duplicated to subawards, Jun 2025 – Aug 2026



- $5B or more
- $1B – $5B
- $500M – $1B
- $100M – $500M
- Under $100M

No US state recorded: $7.67B

Guam, Puerto Rico and Northern Mariana Islands: $189M, not on the map

Source: SAM.gov subaward reports, matched by report ID to USAspending.gov's archive · Data as of Oct 6, 2026

Subcontractor data is missing for subcontractors registered in every U.S. state. Virginia leads with about $13 billion, then California with $6.6 billion. Together, these two states account for more than a quarter of the missing dollars. Kansas is third, with $4.7 billion across 736 subcontracts.

8 · WHAT YOU CAN DO

Every missing subcontract is free to view, download and reuse.

Procura is committed to publishing this data for free. FFATA made subcontract reports public, and a public record is only useful when it's complete. All of this data is viewable on Procura's explorer pages.

We compiled every missing subcontract into one CSV file with its SAM.gov report ID, prime contract, subcontractor, state and amount. A subcontract is in the file when its latest report is missing, so the file counts slightly fewer missing reports than the headline (see the data and methods sections below for the exact split). The data table for each figure is exportable as an Excel or CSV file. No sign-up is necessary. All of this data is licensed under CC BY 4.0; anyone may view it, export it, republish it and build on it, as long as Procura is credited.

Use each row's prime award key in the data set to verify whether each subcontract is listed on USAspending.gov. Procura's contract and company pages list the subcontract reports filed in SAM.gov, so a subcontractor can find its own and compare.

Check it yourself

1. SAM.gov, the reports: “GET https://api.sam.gov/prod/contract/v1/subcontracts/search,” is read every day with deletions.
2. USAspending.gov, the archive: usaspending-db_20261006.zip, the full database download dated October 6, 2026.
3. The match key on each side is the SAM.gov report ID: “subAwardReportId” in the SAM.gov API, “sub_id” in the archive’s “rpt.subaward_search” table.
4. Take every live contract subaward report filed in SAM.gov from June 2025 through August 2026; look up each report ID in the archive’s subaward table; count a report as missing when no archive row contains its ID.
5. The result: the CSV of missing subawards (73,649 rows).

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Export CSV (.csv)
Every missing subaward · 73,649 rows · 12.8 MB

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Every chapter, figure and table

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Contract subaward reports by month, SAM.gov and USAspending.gov	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Subcontract reports under FA865925CB003, all filing dates; amounts de-duplicated to subawards	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Contract subaward reports filed June 2025 to August 2026, searched by SAM.gov report ID	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Contract subaward dollars missing from USAspending.gov, by awarding agency, de-duplicated to subawards	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Three Defense contracts: subcontract reports filed June 2025 to August 2026; amounts de-duplicated to subawards	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Contract subaward dollars missing from USAspending.gov, by subcontractor state, de-duplicated to subawards	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Record-level spot checks and grant subaward months	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Astradian Technologies subcontracts in SAM.gov and on USAspending.gov	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)
Reported amount of a single report, missing and on USAspending.gov	Export Excel (.xlsx)	Export CSV (.csv)

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Data and methods

Thirty-eight percent of the subcontract reports filed since June 2025—about $70 billion in federal funds—are on SAM.gov and not on USAspending.gov.

Data and methods

Item	Detail
System of record	SAM.gov contract subaward reports, live, filed June 2025 to August 2026; Procura's copy of SAM.gov, read October 15, 2026
USAspending.gov	Archive of October 6, 2026, matched by SAM.gov report ID
Spot checks	SAM.gov reports by day, SAM.gov's public feed, read October 1, 2026
About the Data	Treasury's USAspending.gov "About the Data" document, last updated October 6, 2026
Reporting threshold	FAR 52.204-10 and FAR 4.1403(a): $40,000 from October 1, 2025, set by Federal Acquisition Circular 2025-06 (FAR Case 2024-001, 90 FR 41872)
Grants	Three sampled months, April 2025, August 2025 and March 2026

- Disclosure: Procura sells federal contracting data analysis and may benefit from readers who use Procura instead of USAspending.gov; therefore, we publish every table, the full list and the methodology for anyone to verify.
- From June 2025 to August 2026, 214,482 contract subaward reports were filed with SAM.gov; 132,558 appear on USAspending.gov, and 81,924 (38.2%) are missing. In total, 80,851 of them never appeared on USAspending.gov; 1,073 appeared in an earlier USAspending.gov archive and are absent from the October 6, 2026, archive.
- Every dollar total in this report is de-duplicated to subawards; the report-size table and the medians describe single reports, not totals. A de-duplicated total takes the reported amount (not obligations or outlays) of the latest report of each subcontract, counted once. On that basis, the 81,924 missing reports are 73,649 subcontracts worth $70.5 billion; 71,857 of those subcontracts ($67.8 billion) have no report at all on USAspending.gov. Summing report by report instead, the missing reports total $78.4 billion, which is higher because a prime contractor files a new report each time it revises a subcontract. Hence, a revised subcontract counts more than once. Some subcontracts reuse a subaward number, so $70.5 billion is a floor.
- The agency breakdown and the full list count subcontracts and their latest dollars on the same basis and sum to the total. The state breakdown sums to it in the final row, "No U.S. state recorded: $7.67B," whose subcontractor has no SAM.gov profile ($7.1 billion) or is registered outside the United States ($0.5 billion); the state map leaves that row out. The three-contract table covers only its three contracts.
- The full list has 73,649 rows, one per subcontract whose latest report is missing; its column of missing reports adds up to 81,362. The other 562 of the 81,924 missing reports belong to subcontracts whose latest report is on USAspending.gov.
- The 4,038 Defense reports ($7.1 billion) that SAM.gov added for July and August after October 1 are not counted as missing: they reached SAM.gov's public feed only days before USAspending.gov's October 6 archive, and the November archive is the first fair test.
- March to May 2025 in the monthly chart are counts by month submitted (SAM.gov and USAspending.gov's archive of September 6, 2026) before the gap began; every later month is the report-by-report match. In those months, USAspending.gov's count is slightly higher than SAM.gov's because SAM.gov's count holds live reports only and USAspending.gov's archive keeps some reports that primes later deleted, so the table leaves their missing count blank.
- Grant subawards show no such gap: the three grant months we sampled match within 1%. Grant sub-recipients without a SAM.gov registration cannot be tied to a company by any source, so no claim here covers them.
- The reason the reports are missing is unknown. Treasury's About the Data document, last updated October 6, 2026, does not mention missing contract subaward reports.

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- The document says controls to prevent duplicate subaward records were added when reporting moved to SAM.gov in March 2025. Duplicate prevention cannot account for the 71,857 subcontracts that have no report at all on USAspending.gov.
- The About the Data document defines the subaward reporting threshold as $30,000. Federal Acquisition Circular 2025–06 raised the threshold in FAR 4.1403(a), which FAR 52.204-10 refers to, to $40,000 from October 1, 2025; this report uses $40,000 as the threshold.
- The About the Data document's Subaward Data Quality section dates several of its statements "as of August 2022." Its only mention of the SAM.gov system measured here is the note on duplicate controls added in March 2025.

FFATA	The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, which requires the reports.
Subaward	A subcontract under a prime contract, or a subgrant under a prime grant. One subaward can have several reports.
System of record	SAM.gov, operated by the General Services Administration (GSA), where primes have filed subaward reports since FSRS.gov retired on March 8, 2025.
USAspending.gov	The public website, operated by the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, U.S. Department of the Treasury, that copies the reports and links them to prime awards.

Reports found on USAspending.gov: three days of contract reports, three months of grant reports

Check	Day or month	Reports in SAM.gov	Found on USAspending.gov	Result
Record-level, contract reports	2024-08-28	1,000	1,000	All present
Record-level, contract reports	2025-02-14	647	647	All present
Record-level, contract reports	2025-08-29	837	225	73% missing
Monthly, grant reports	2025-04			Match within 1%
Monthly, grant reports	2025-08			Match within 1%
Monthly, grant reports	2026-03			Match within 1%

Astradian Technologies subcontracts: amount, dates and presence in each source

Subcontract	Prime contract	Amount, US$	Signed	Reported	On USAspending.gov	In SAM.gov
P000061635	FA807520F0072	$249,500	Jul 23, 2024	Aug 28, 2024	Present	Present
P000080127	FA807525F0046	$320,000	Jul 29, 2025	Aug 29, 2025	Absent	Present (report 29524613)

Amount of a single report: missing vs on USAspending.gov, Jun 2025 – Aug 2026

Statistic	Missing, US$	On USAspending.gov, US$
25th percentile	$45,516	$45,937

Statistic	Missing, US$	On USAspending.gov, US$
Median	$94,752	$99,901
75th percentile	$303,328	$320,829
90th percentile	$1,169,973	$1,168,897

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