GAO Highlights

DOGE WALL OF RECEIPTS

More Transparency Needed on How Savings Are Derived from Contract, Grant, and Lease Terminations

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A report to congressional requesters

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What GAO Found

The Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) began posting its estimated savings on a web page known as the Wall of Receipts on February 17, 2025. As of July 7, 2026, the Wall of Receipts reported savings of $110 billion across contracts, grants, and leases, but some savings estimates are incorrect or lack supporting evidence. While DOGE provided some information about estimated savings, several issues limit the transparency and reliability of these reported savings.

- **DOGE was not transparent regarding methodologies used to calculate savings**. Specifically, DOGE did not use its stated methodology to calculate the majority of savings associated with the contracts reported as terminated. For grants, DOGE did not provide sufficient information to verify the method used to calculate 96 percent of DOGE-reported savings. Similarly, the Wall of Receipts does not include an explanation of how the savings from terminated leases were calculated.
- **The Wall of Receipts includes leases identified for termination before DOGE was established**. Specifically,108 of the 264 leases identified for termination on the Wall of Receipts, about $15.3 million of the total $53.5 million in savings, were already in process for termination when DOGE was established.
- **GAO's review of selected contracts identified potential cost savings, but the basis for some reported savings is unknown.** For example, DOGE reported $1.7 billion in savings on the Department of Defense's Defense Health Agency contract for IT services at more than 700 military treatment facilities worldwide. While DOGE initially identified the contract for termination, in the end, no action was taken to terminate the contract, or to reduce scope, value, or funding. Thus, no savings were achieved.

While the Wall of Receipts includes some information about the data and sources underlying reported savings, it does not sufficiently disclose limitations affecting data quality. GAO's key practices for transparently reporting government information state that federal government websites should disclose known data quality issues and limitations.

DOGE launched the initial iteration of the Wall of Receipts in February 2025 less than a month after the entity was established in January 2025. Since the initial launch, there have been no updates on the site to shed additional light on the cost savings methodology or to disclose any data limitations. As of July 7, 2026, the web page remains live. Because U.S. DOGE Service officials did not respond to requests for information, GAO could not determine the reasons why DOGE did not disclose data quality issues and limitations when the website first went live or at any time since then. Publicly reporting government data, such as on the Wall of Receipts, can have significant value. However, conveying the methodologies used to calculate savings, as well as any data limitations on the Wall of Receipts, would provide policymakers and the public with the needed caveats to better interpret and use the information.

Why GAO Did This Study

Federal agencies obligated more than $2 trillion for contracts, grants, and leases in fiscal year 2025. In an effort to transform federal spending and ensure transparency, the President issued several executive orders, including Executive Order 14158 to establish DOGE. Additionally, agencies were directed to establish agency DOGE teams and consult with these teams to review federal contracts, grants, and real estate.

GAO was asked to evaluate DOGE's savings estimates listed on the Wall of Receipts for contract, grant, and lease terminations. This report assesses (1) the methodologies DOGE used to estimate savings from contracts, grants, and leases reported as terminated, and (2) the extent to which DOGE discloses any data limitations. This review covered savings data reported on the Wall of Receipts for contracts, grants, and leases from January 20, 2025, through July 7, 2026.

GAO analyzed data from the Wall of Receipts, publicly available federal databases, and information sources such as USASpending.gov. GAO also interviewed officials from selected federal agencies about the contracts or leases in their purview. DOGE did not respond to GAO's request for information or interviews.

What GAO Recommends

GAO recommends that the Executive Office of the President, through the U.S. DOGE Service, should ensure that known data quality issues and limitations are prominently displayed on the Wall of Receipts. The U.S. DOGE Service did not provide comments on this report.