# **Health & Human Services 2023 Contract Awards Analysis**

**Top Recipients of HHS Contract Awards**

* Leidos Biomedical Research Inc. received **$40,923,834,199** in contract awards, the highest of any recipient.
* Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC: **$23,677,197,421**
* Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation: **$19,088,863,737**
* Palmetto GBA, LLC: **$18,144,587,805**
* Rapid Deployment Inc.: **$17,531,911,459**
* Novitas Solutions, Inc.: **$17,374,555,326**
* General Dynamics Information Technology, Inc.: **$17,236,578,242**
* National Government Services, Inc.: **$15,999,975,338**
* CGS Administrators, LLC: **$14,664,504,996**
* Leidos, Inc.: **$12,148,646,277**

*The top 10 recipients each secured over $12 billion in funding, showing a high concentration of awards among major federal contractors.*

**Top Awarding Agencies and Sub-Agencies**

* Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services awarded the most, with **$205,893,542,672** in total contracts.
* National Institutes of Health: **$121,133,051,114**
* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: **$62,184,861,179**
* Office of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response: **$57,023,723,828**
* Administration for Children and Families: **$28,453,295,720**
* Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration: **$11,144,484,112**
* Food and Drug Administration: **$10,043,665,556**
* Indian Health Service: **$9,306,800,551**
* Health Resources and Services Administration: **$3,917,923,113**
* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: **$3,780,803,728**
* Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: **$1,395,198,776**
* Office of the Inspector General: **$130,494,341**

*Awarding activity is highly concentrated in Medicare/Medicaid and NIH, with other agencies distributing substantially less.*

**Geographic Distribution of HHS Contract Funding**

* Virginia: **$136,637,437,771** (highest by state)
* Maryland: **$99,164,100,941**
* Pennsylvania: **$21,522,748,181**
* Texas: **$16,283,998,629**
* Massachusetts: **$15,996,447,692**
* California: **$13,353,862,177**
* District of Columbia: **$7,479,005,971**
* Illinois: **$6,984,468,604**
* Oklahoma: **$2,634,344,157**
* Arizona: **$2,162,073,705**

*Funding is heavily concentrated in the DC/Maryland/Virginia region, reflecting the location of major federal contractors and agencies.*

**Industry Sectors and Service Areas Funded by HHS**

* Direct Health and Medical Insurance Carriers (NAICS): **$99,251,496,351**
* Computer Systems Design Services: **$55,927,035,463**
* Custom Computer Programming Services: **$32,400,884,324**
* R&D in Physical/Engineering/Life Sciences (except nanotech/biotech): **$30,064,489,767**
* Facilities Support Services: **$23,982,406,504**
* Administrative Management/General Management Consulting: **$20,811,124,097**
* All Other Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services: **$20,004,767,653**
* Emergency and Other Relief Services: **$19,295,044,385**
* Pharmaceutical Preparation Manufacturing: **$15,887,590,588**
* Other Computer Related Services: **$15,426,849,038**

*Federal health insurance and IT/tech services dominate the sector landscape for HHS awards.*

**Competition Type Breakdown and Award Value**

* National Institutes of Health: **30,401** contracts totaling **$121,133,051,114**
* Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: **3,977** contracts, **$205,893,542,672**
* Indian Health Service: **15,731** contracts, **$9,306,800,551**
* Food and Drug Administration: **5,416** contracts, **$10,043,665,556**
* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: **8,224** contracts, **$62,184,861,179**

*Some agencies have fewer, much larger contracts (e.g., Medicare/Medicaid), while others process many smaller awards.*

**Awards by Business Size and Average Value**

* Other Than Small Business: **36,764** contracts, **$431,124,469,637** (average ≈ $11,732,417 per contract)
* Small Business: **34,823** contracts, **$83,283,375,051** (average ≈ $2,392,933 per contract)

*Large businesses capture the vast majority of contract value, though small businesses also secure a significant number of contracts.*

**Time Trends in HHS Contract Awards**

This section analyzes the yearly trend in the total value of HHS contract awards, using the Period of Performance Start Date and the sum of the Current Total Value Of Award Cleaned.

* There was a **significant increase in contract value** between 2016 and 2020.  
  + 2016: Year of Period Of Performance Start Date — **$17,920,298,473**
  + 2020: Year of Period Of Performance Start Date — **$77,719,837,490**
* The trend remained at a historically high level in 2021 before decreasing after 2022.
* The value of contract awards saw steady growth throughout the 2010s, with a particularly sharp rise after 2015, peaking in 2020 and 2021.
* Early years (1999–2010) had relatively low contract values, typically less than $10B per year.
* The period from **2016 to 2021** marks the **era of highest HHS contract activity** by total dollar value.
* The jump from 2016 to 2020 represents a more than fourfold increase in annual contract value.
* After 2021, contract values show a noticeable decline, indicating either a return to historical averages or the winding down of pandemic-era contracts.

**Key Insights:**

* The substantial rise in contract value during 2020 and 2021 likely reflects pandemic-related spending and emergency federal responses.
* These findings provide a clear historical context for HHS contract awards, highlighting how external events (such as public health emergencies) can dramatically impact federal procurement activity.

**Data Quality and Missing Information**

* The analysis is based on cleaned data with missing or blank current\_total\_value\_of\_award fields filled as zero.
* 7,257 contracts out of 71,587 did not have an end date for the period of performance, so some duration-based analyses focus only on start dates or valid records.
* A small number of rows are missing state or country information for recipients; these rows are retained but flagged in location-based breakdowns.

**Conclusion**

The HHS Contract Awards of 2023 illustrate the concentration of federal health spending among top contractors, agencies, and states—especially in insurance, technology, and research sectors. While large businesses receive the majority of contract value, small businesses remain active participants. Geographic and agency patterns highlight the critical roles of Virginia, Maryland, Medicare/Medicaid, and NIH. These findings provide transparency and set a reference point for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders monitoring public health investments. Ongoing data quality checks and further time-based or sectoral analyses can deepen understanding in future reviews.

**Executive Summary**

The 2023 fiscal year saw the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) award over $514 billion in contracts, shaping public health, scientific research, and medical innovation across the country. This report delivers a detailed examination of contract distribution by recipient, agency, geography, and industry, providing clarity on how federal funding priorities materialize in practice. Key findings reveal that a small group of major contractors secured the lion’s share of funds, awards were highly concentrated in a handful of agencies and regions, and the majority of dollars flowed to large businesses and health insurance-related sectors. The distribution of contract values and counts shows a complex federal procurement landscape—balancing large-scale healthcare delivery, advanced research, and support for smaller enterprises. This analysis provides transparency into federal health spending and establishes a baseline for future oversight, benchmarking, and policy development.