

Wasteful Government Spending

- The government's [free cell phone](#) program: \$2.2 billion in 2013 alone
- The \$51.6 million the Administration spent promoting Obamacare last year, including funds paid to public relations firms
- The \$4 million the IRS spends a year to run its own full-service TV production studio
- The 183 Conferences paid for by federal agencies over the last several years that cost taxpayers more per attendee than the infamous October 2010 General Services Administration Las Vegas conference
- Maintenance of government [properties](#) that are either not in use or underutilized: \$1.7 billion in 2010 alone
- EPA [grants](#) to foreign countries: over \$100 million over the last ten years
- The \$47,000 cigarette smoking [machine](#) that can hold up to 40 cigarettes at a time that was just purchased by the Department of Veterans Affairs
- The \$1.2 million [awarded by](#) the National Science Foundation to pay seniors to play the [video game](#) "World of Warcraft" to see what impact it had on their brain

- The Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that some people are double-dipping from unemployment and disability benefits programs. This lack of coordination among government agencies is costing taxpayers \$850 million annually. GAO found one individual who drew \$62,000 from unemployment insurance and disability insurance at the same time she was working and earning an additional \$7,000 in income.
- In fiscal year 2010, the federal government spent nearly \$1.7 billion to maintain 77,700 underused or unused buildings.
- In 2008 and 2009 alone, the Department of Justice spent (DOJ)\$121 million to host or participate in 1,832 conferences.
- The Government Accountability Office (GAO) identified 34 areas in which federal agencies or initiatives have overlapping goals or duplicative services, which cost taxpayers billions of dollars each year. There are:
 - More than 80 economic development programs operating out of four different agencies: the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Housing and Urban Development, and the Small Business Administration;
 - More than 100 economic development programs spread across five agencies within the Department of Transportation;
 - Seven federal agencies, including the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Housing and Urban Development, which have more than 20 programs addressing homelessness;

- 44 employment and training programs in the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Labor; and
- 82 programs on teacher quality run through the Departments of Defense, Education, and Energy, as well as NASA and the National Science Foundation.
- Fifteen federal agencies are involved in administering 30 food safety laws, resulting in fragmented food safety oversight.