

GAO: Feds Paid Out \$124.7 Billion In Improper Payments In FY 2014

By Administrator

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RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has determined that federal taxpayers are footing the bill for billions in improper payments through a variety of social welfare programs.

GAO found that improper payments for fiscal year 2014 totalled \$124.7 billion, up by \$19 billion from the previous year's total of \$105.8 billion.

The waste was spread over 22 agencies and 124 programs, said GAO's report.

"The increase in the 2014 estimate is attributed primarily to increased error rates in three major programs: the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Medicare Fee-for-Service and Medicaid programs, and the Department of the Treasury's Earned Income Tax Credit program. These three programs accounted for \$80.9 billion in improper payment estimates, or approximately 65 percent of the government-wide total for fiscal year 2014," according to GAO's report highlights.

The full report can be found at gao.gov.