FAIS — FinCEN's Pioneering AI System for Detecting Money-Laundering Leads from Cash-Transaction Reports

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Operating at FinCEN since March 1993, the rule-based FAIS system linked cash-transaction reports to surface money-laundering leads: over 400 investigative reports covering more than $1 billion in suspected laundered funds, documented in a peer-reviewed AAAI case study.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	3/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-08-08

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), U.S. Department of the Treasury — accessed 2026-08-08

AI Magazine / AAAI case study — accessed 2026-08-08

US Congress Office of Technology Assessment report (Princeton archive) — accessed 2026-08-08

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