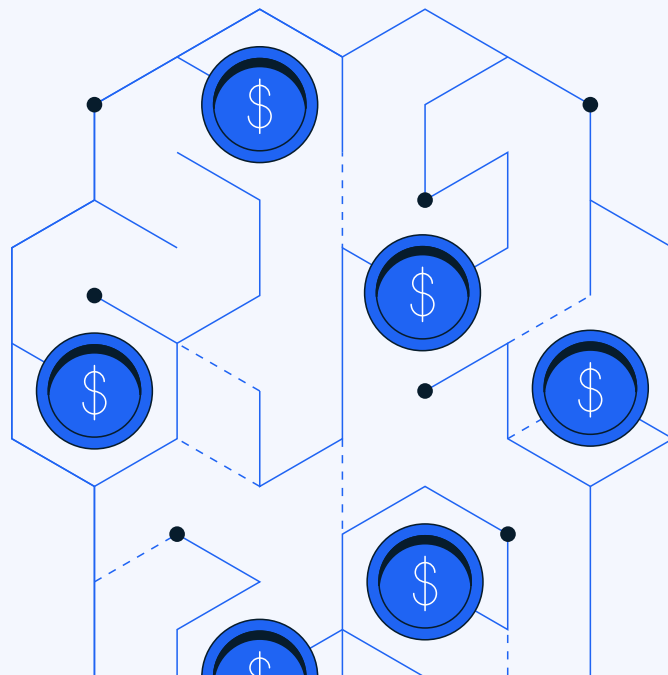




BLOCKCHAIN INTELLIGENCE

A 100x Return on Investment for Government Asset Recovery



In an era of increasingly sophisticated financial crime, governments and law enforcement agencies are turning to advanced blockchain intelligence tools like TRM Labs to combat fraud, money laundering, and other illicit activities. The [results speak for themselves](#): these tools have enabled the recovery of billions of dollars in stolen and illicitly obtained assets, demonstrating an exceptional return on investment (ROI) for law enforcement, regulatory, and national security agencies.

The case for blockchain intelligence tools

Blockchain intelligence, also known as blockchain analytics, involves ingesting and organizing raw transaction data based on identifiers like timestamps, currency, volume of funds transferred, or addresses involved. This data is then enriched with intelligence, such as information about who controls an address, and is used to trace and track the movements of funds in investigations.

Blockchain intelligence tools allow law enforcement to trace cryptocurrency flows, identify suspicious activity, and connect blockchain wallets to real-world identities. TRM uses advanced analytics to generate actionable insights that have directly led to high-profile asset seizures.

Bitfinex Hack (2022):

US authorities seized USD 3.6 billion in stolen Bitcoin linked to the Bitfinex hack by tracing funds through thousands of transactions across multiple wallets. This unprecedented operation showcased how blockchain intelligence tools enable precision tracing that would otherwise be impossible. Read TRM's in-depth analysis [here](#).

Colonial Pipeline Ransomware Attack (2021):

Authorities used blockchain intelligence tools to trace USD 2.3 million in ransom payments in Bitcoin to a specific wallet, allowing for a swift recovery of the funds and highlighting [the effectiveness of these tools](#) in countering cybercrime.

Hydra Darknet Market (2022):

A crackdown on the Hydra darknet marketplace led to the seizure of hundreds of millions of dollars in cryptocurrency, disrupting a major hub for illegal transactions and demonstrating the role of blockchain analytics in dismantling illicit online networks.

"Pig Butchering" Scams (2023):

The US Department of Justice (DOJ) seized USD 112 million in cryptocurrency tied to fraudulent investment schemes where victims were defrauded through fake apps. This operation, led by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Phoenix with support from multiple agencies, underscores the critical role of coordinated blockchain investigations. Read TRM's case study [here](#).

Dark Web Narcotics Network (2023):

The US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) [dismantled](#) a major dark web narcotics operation, seizing approximately USD 150 million in cryptocurrency – the largest such seizure in DEA history. The network had distributed controlled substances across the US via dark web marketplaces.

Drug Proceeds Seizure (2024):

An IRS-Criminal Investigation's (IRS-CI) [operation](#) resulted in the seizure of approximately USD 150 million in cryptocurrency, marking the largest single cryptocurrency and cash seizure related to drug proceeds at the time.

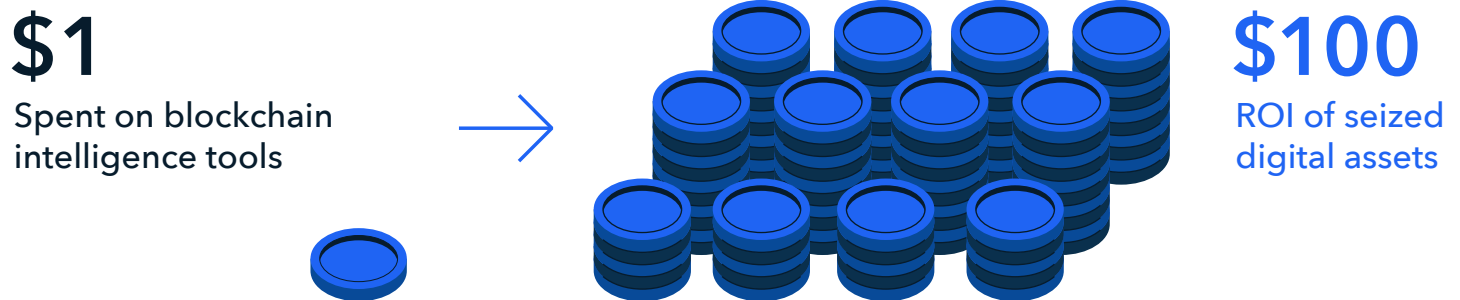
Each of these cases illustrates the transformative impact of blockchain intelligence tools in enabling law enforcement to trace, disrupt, and recover illicit funds effectively.

Quantifying ROI:

For every \$1 spent on blockchain intelligence, \$100 is returned in seized or forfeited crypto proceeds

The ROI of blockchain intelligence tools is easily quantifiable when measured against the assets recovered. For every USD 1 spent on blockchain intelligence tools, USD 100 is returned in liquidated crypto proceeds, making a compelling fiscal justification for these investments. In 2023 alone, US law enforcement agencies – including the FBI, IRS-CI, US Secret Service, DEA, US Postal Inspector Service (USPIS), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and others – reported seizing and/or forfeiting over USD 3 billion in digital assets. The numbers are detailed in annual reports from the [DOJ](#) and the [US Treasury Department](#).

This recovery far exceeded the USD 30 million [spent](#) on blockchain tools such as TRM. This is an ROI – net profit divided by investment multiplied by 100 – of nearly **10,000%**.



Beyond financial recovery: Deterrence and prevention

The benefits of blockchain intelligence extend beyond asset recovery. These tools act as a powerful deterrent against financial crimes. Criminals are less likely to engage in illicit activity when they know authorities have the means to track and seize their funds. Additionally, the insights generated by these tools enhance global collaboration, enabling governments to disrupt entire networks rather than merely targeting individual actors.

Strategic investment for long-term gains

Investing in blockchain intelligence tools is not merely a tactical decision but rather a strategic one. As cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology become more integrated into the global economy, the risks associated with digital financial crime will only grow. By adopting tools like TRM now, governments can stay ahead of the curve, ensuring both financial and operational readiness for future challenges.

Blockchain intelligence and government efficiency

With the focus on government accountability and the establishment of the Department of Government Efficiency, there is a renewed focus on ensuring taxpayer funds are allocated to high-ROI investments. Blockchain intelligence tools fit seamlessly into this mission by enabling faster investigations, greater asset recoveries, and streamlined operations. By integrating these tools into enforcement strategies, governments can demonstrate fiscal responsibility while enhancing their ability to combat financial crimes effectively. This approach not only maximizes returns but also reinforces public trust in government operations.

A cost-effective solution for modern enforcement

The data is clear: blockchain intelligence tools deliver exceptional ROI for government operations. They have transformed asset recovery into a cost-effective and efficient process, making them indispensable in the fight against financial crime. For governments looking to maximize their enforcement budgets while achieving significant results, investing in blockchain intelligence is a smart and strategic move.

Whether measured in billions of dollars recovered, operational efficiencies, or the deterrence of future crimes, blockchain intelligence tools like TRM offer unparalleled value. As financial crimes grow in complexity, the adoption of these tools will undoubtedly define the next era of effective government enforcement and asset recovery.