



Office of Inspector General

OCTOBER 2024 – MARCH 2025

SEMIANNUAL REPORT





Office of Inspector General

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Cover Photo: NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams are pictured aboard the International Space Station, and are later welcomed home by dolphins on March 18, 2025.

Message

FROM THE NASA OIG SENIOR OFFICIAL



NASA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) is committed to providing independent, objective, and comprehensive oversight to NASA—ensuring accountability, efficiency, and integrity. In doing so, we support the Agency's mission and strengthen its ability to expand the frontiers of space exploration, scientific discovery, and aeronautics research. I am proud to lead such a strong, effective organization composed of dedicated individuals. I would also like to thank George A. Scott, our former Deputy Inspector General, for more than 6 years of leadership and service.

This Semiannual Report summarizes the NASA OIG's activities and accomplishments between October 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. During this reporting period, we issued our annual, independent assessment of NASA's management and performance challenges. We will continue to examine these key challenges, including improving the management of the Agency's major programs and projects, partnering with commercial industry, and enabling mission critical capabilities and support services. Additionally, our Office of Audits issued three reports and made 24 recommendations.

Moving forward, our auditors will evaluate NASA's management of the Artemis campaign's government property and Human Landing System contracts, the Agency's planetary defense strategy, ongoing development of next-generation spacesuits, the progress of the Dragonfly mission, the Commercial Crew Program's collaboration with private industry, and other important topics.

Among our significant investigative achievements were two proactive investigations into Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness irregularities involving NASA contractors, which led to credits of just over \$915,000 being returned to NASA contracts. In another case, a university agreed to pay \$1.25 million to resolve allegations that it failed to implement cybersecurity requirements affecting multiple government agencies, including NASA. Overall, our investigative efforts during this period resulted in recoveries exceeding \$4.75 million, with more than \$1.37 million of those funds going directly to NASA.

With each audit and investigation, we identify risks, detect inefficiencies, and determine recommendations that make NASA stronger and more resilient. We appreciate the support of NASA, Congress, and the American public as we continue our oversight efforts.

We hope that you find this report informative.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert H. Steinau".

Robert H. Steinau
Senior Official
April 30, 2025

NASA's Top Management and Performance Challenges

As required by the Reports Consolidation Act of 2000, the OIG annually provides its independent assessment of the top management and performance challenges facing NASA. In our November 2024 report, we identified several NASA challenges in three critical areas:

- improving the management of major programs and projects
- partnering with commercial industry
- enabling mission critical capabilities and support services

Many of these issues are long-standing, difficult challenges central to NASA's core missions and will likely remain top challenges for years to come.

In our top management and performance challenges report and all related work, the OIG is committed to providing independent, objective, and comprehensive oversight of NASA programs, projects, and personnel to improve Agency outcomes. To that end, we plan to conduct audits and investigations in the coming year that focus on NASA's continuing efforts to address these and other challenges.



A SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket carrying NASA's Europa Clipper spacecraft after liftoff from Launch Complex 39A at Kennedy Space Center on October 14, 2024.

Office of **Audits**

The Office of Audits conducts audits and reviews of NASA programs, projects, operations, and contractor activities to identify waste and mismanagement and improve efficiency and effectiveness.



In preparation for the Artemis II crewed mission, teams at Kennedy Space Center practice getting out of the emergency escape basket.



Human Exploration

Astronauts assigned to crew the first flight tests and missions of the Boeing CST-100 Starliner and SpaceX Crew Dragon.

Human exploration activities remain among NASA's most highly visible missions, with the Agency currently operating the International Space Station, managing the commercial crew and cargo programs that support the Station, and planning for future exploration beyond low Earth orbit, including ambitious goals for the Artemis campaign. Through Artemis, NASA seeks to establish a sustainable lunar presence while preparing the way for crewed missions to Mars. Our oversight of these issues generally involves operations within the Agency's Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate, Space Operations Mission Directorate, and Space Technology Mission Directorate, as well as select portions of the Science Mission Directorate.

Ongoing Audit Work

NASA's Management of the Human Landing System Contracts

NASA's Management of Government Property for the Artemis Campaign

NASA's Management of Extravehicular Activity Spacesuits

NASA's Management of Its Commercial Crew Program



Science and Aeronautics

Artist's impression of the Double Asteroid Redirection Test, or DART, the world's first demonstration of asteroid deflection technology.

Science missions like the Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover, Parker Solar Probe, and James Webb Space Telescope further our understanding of the universe. Meanwhile, NASA's Earth-observing missions shed light on the atmosphere, severe weather and other natural hazards, wildfires, and global food production. And, as it has since its earliest days, the Agency continues to conduct research in pursuit of improvements and efficiencies in aviation technology. Our oversight of these areas generally corresponds to efforts undertaken by the Agency's Science Mission Directorate and Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate.

Ongoing Audit Work

Assessment of NASA's Standing Review Board Practices

NASA's Approach to Facilities and Operational Resilience

NASA's Implementation and Management of Its Planetary Defense Strategy

NASA's Management of the Dragonfly Mission



Mission Support and Information Technology

Integrated Engineering Sciences Building at Langley Research Center.

Institutional services such as human capital management, procurement, infrastructure, and security are organized under NASA's Mission Support Directorate. Our oversight of these functions covers a wide array of topics, including the Agency's workforce management, procurement of goods and services, operations and maintenance of facilities and infrastructure, and physical security. We also monitor and evaluate NASA's management of its information technology (IT) assets, which is led by the Agency's Chief Information Officer, and we continue to pay close attention to the Agency's efforts to improve its IT cybersecurity practices.

Audit of NASA's Zero Trust Architecture

[IG-25-004](#) | March 27, 2025

Zero trust architecture (ZTA) is a cybersecurity approach based on continual verification of each user, device, application, and transaction to protect critical systems and data. NASA has made progress implementing ZTA across its corporate systems managed by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, but has delayed implementation of non-corporate mission and Jet Propulsion Laboratory systems. By taking this approach, the Agency is missing an opportunity to address enterprise-wide issues that will impact ZTA adoption within the non-corporate environment.

Audit of NASA's Awards to Small Disadvantaged Businesses

[ML-25-002](#) | February 13, 2025

The OIG closed its audit of NASA's awards to small disadvantaged businesses due to the rescission of an executive order issued by the Biden administration in 2023, which formed the basis for our work. Although we made no formal recommendations, we communicated areas that the Agency may want to review as it takes action to improve overall efficiency, including in its procurement process, use of data, and accuracy of small disadvantaged business award data.

NASA's Compliance with Federal Export Control Laws

[IG-25-003](#) | February 4, 2025

The NASA Authorization Act of 2000 directs the OIG to annually assess the Agency's compliance with federal export control laws and reporting requirements for cooperative agreements between NASA and China or any Chinese company. During the past year, NASA has not established any new bilateral agreements with China. Additionally, we completed two audits and initiated two new audits related to IT assets and security systems, some of which contain data subject to export control laws. We also closed seven investigations related to inappropriate associations with China and the unauthorized access to export-controlled information.

Ongoing Audit Work

Audit of NASA's Mission Support Future Architecture Program (MAP)

Audit of NASA's Launch Infrastructure

Evaluation of NASA's Information Security Program under the Federal Information Security Modernization Act for Fiscal Year 2025



The OIG and its independent external auditor continue to assess NASA's efforts to improve its financial management practices by conducting and overseeing a series of audits—including the annual financial statement audit—to help the Chief Financial Officer and the Agency identify and address weaknesses. We also assess single audits of NASA grantees performed by external independent public accounting firms. The single audits provide NASA and stakeholders with assurance that these award recipients comply with federal reporting directives and assist the Agency in performing pre-award risk assessments and post-award monitoring efforts.

Audit of NASA's Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Statements

[IG-25-001](#) | November 15, 2024

The OIG contracted with the independent public accounting firm Ernst & Young LLP to audit NASA's fiscal year 2024 financial statements, which were found to present the financial position and results of NASA's operations in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. While there was no report of significant noncompliance with applicable laws and regulations, Ernst & Young identified one material weakness in internal control related to financial reporting oversight.

Fiscal Year 2024 Risk Assessment of NASA's Charge Card Programs

[ML-25-001](#) | October 16, 2024

The Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act requires Inspectors General to conduct periodic assessments of agency purchase and travel card programs to analyze the risk of illegal, improper, or erroneous transactions. For fiscal year 2024, we concluded the risk for these transactions was low, and therefore, we do not currently plan to conduct an audit of the Agency's charge card programs.

Ongoing Audit Work

NASA's Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act for Fiscal Year 2024

Audit of NASA's Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Statements

Desk Reviews of Select NASA Grantee Single Audits

Statistical Data

TABLE 1: AUDIT PRODUCTS ISSUED AND NOT DISCLOSED TO THE PUBLIC, CURRENT SEMIANNUAL REPORT

Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title	Objective
IG-25-002, 12/16/2024	NASA's Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Statements Audit Management Letter	Identified improvements in the effectiveness of the controls over financial reporting and the IT control environment.

TABLE 2: AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS YET TO BE IMPLEMENTED, CURRENT SEMIANNUAL REPORT

Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
Mission Support and Information Technology			
IG-25-004, 3/27/2025	Audit of NASA's Zero Trust Architecture		
	1. Collaborate with mission directorate officials to update NASA's ZTA implementation plan to include all efforts associated with the transition to ZTA within the non-corporate environment.	6/26/2026	\$0
	2. Develop a centralized process to track legacy systems that details deficiencies along with operational, technical, and financial constraints to determine a best course of action for remediation.	9/25/2026	\$0
	3. Embed OCIO subject matter experts within the mission directorates to provide Agency-focused advocacy and expertise to analyze mission system cybersecurity compatibility and operational complexities.	12/26/2025	\$0
	4. Engage mission directorates as ZTA pathfinders to identify and evaluate early adoption use-case candidates, employ a "test like you fly" approach, and provide insight to potential issues.	9/26/2025	\$0
Financial Management			
IG-25-002, 12/16/2024	NASA's Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Statements Audit Management Letter ^a		
IG-25-001, 11/15/2024	Audit of NASA's Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Statements		
	1. Ensure that control activities are operating as designed and that the appropriate level of documentation to evidence reviews is maintained to prevent and detect material misstatements.	11/30/2025	\$0
	2. Consider whether additional training on proper operation of its controls is necessary to enhance NASA's financial reporting control environment.	11/30/2025	\$0
	3. Perform ongoing monitoring over the operating effectiveness of its financial reporting controls.	11/30/2025	\$0

^a This table omits 17 recommendations from IG-25-002 that NASA determined to be sensitive or classified and therefore unsuitable for release.

TABLE 3: AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS YET TO BE IMPLEMENTED, PREVIOUS SEMIANNUAL REPORT

Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
Human Exploration			
IG-24-020, 9/26/2024	NASA's Management of Risks to Sustaining ISS Operations through 2030		
	1. Report on NASA's progress to reexamine available orbital debris tracking tools and offices to ensure all practicable data sources are leveraged to inform ISS operations and ensure crew safety.	9/30/2025	\$0
	2. Document safety contingency plans and vehicle reassignment rules to help ensure the safe return of crew in the event of an emergency—expanding these efforts to include damage to the Space Exploration Technologies Corporation's (SpaceX) Crew Dragon and The Boeing Company's Starliner.	6/30/2025	\$0
	3. Develop plans that reflect potential cost savings measures and anticipated reductions in operations for ISS decommissioning.	5/30/2025	\$0
	4. Update the controlled deorbit plan and ensure the plan includes key commitments, technical, schedule, and cost challenges impacting the 2031 deorbit time frame.	9/30/2025	\$0
IG-24-018, 9/24/2024	NASA's Rocket Propulsion Test Program		
	1. Establish a requirement in the RPT Program Plan for recurring right-size studies for the RPT capability portfolio and use the results to reexamine workforce and capability requirements for the future.	9/30/2025	\$0
	2. Ensure that cost models deployed at all RPT Centers include full recovery of applicable maintenance costs for the infrastructure and facilities being utilized, similar to that being piloted at Stennis.	9/30/2025	\$0
	3. Formally document and establish the FM&M process in the RPT Program Plan or RPTMB Operating Procedures.	9/30/2025	\$0
	4. Document the results and planned RPT actions following completion of the Commercial Capability Survey.	6/30/2025	\$0
	5. Ensure that the appropriate revisions are made to NPR and NPD 8600.1 to clarify the authority structure.	3/31/2025	\$0
IG-24-016, 8/27/2024	NASA's Management of the Mobile Launcher 2 Project		
	1. Ensure lessons learned from the ML-2's acquisition, contract, and project management are codified to inform future development efforts.	2/29/2028	\$2,977,057
	2. Conduct a thorough analysis of the feasibility of utilizing the fixed-price option, and if NASA determines that it will not be exercised, remove the option from the ML-2 contract.	2/1/2025	\$0
IG-24-015, 8/8/2024	NASA's Management of Space Launch System Block 1B Development		

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Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
	1. Coordinate with Boeing, the SLS Stages prime contractor, to develop a quality management system training program that is compliant with AS9100D and reviewed by the appropriate NASA officials.	7/31/2025	\$0
	2. Institute financial penalties for Boeing's noncompliance with quality control standards.	4/30/2025	\$0
	3. Perform a detailed cost overrun analysis on Boeing's Stages contract for EUS development.	12/31/2024	\$0
	4. Coordinate with DCMA to ensure contractual compliance with EVMS clauses.	10/31/2024	\$0
ML-24-007, 6/20/2024	Management Alert: Misuse of Government Furnished Property at Contractor Facility		
	1. Coordinate with the Assistant Administrator for Procurement to address the identified instances of Northrop Grumman Corporation's government-furnished property misuse at its Promontory, Utah, facility.	8/31/2024	\$0
IG-24-011, 5/1/2024	NASA's Readiness for the Artemis II Crewed Mission to Lunar Orbit		
	1. Ensure the root cause of Orion heat shield char liberation is well understood prior to the Artemis II mission.	8/31/2025	\$0
	2. Conduct analysis of Orion separation bolts using updated models that account for char loss, design modifications, and operational changes to Orion prior to launch of the Artemis II mission.	6/30/2025	\$0
	3. Require EGS conduct additional verification and validation for launch imagery equipment prior to launch attempts should launch conditions change.	9/30/2024	\$0
	4. Reexamine procedures to better ensure recovery of Orion jettisoned hardware for the Artemis II mission.	5/1/2024	\$0
	5. Develop a corrective action plan to mitigate or prevent the recurrence of uninterpretable Orion telemetry data for the Artemis II mission.	5/1/2024	\$0
	6. Establish a course of action and timeline for individual Artemis system design changes before beginning integrated system assembly stacking operations.	5/1/2024	\$0
IG-24-003, 10/19/2023	NASA's Management of the Artemis Supply Chain		
	2. Complete the Supply Chain Visibility Data Requirement Description effort to gain supplier data from contractors.	2/29/2024	\$0
	5. Ensure data is regularly entered into a supplier database (e.g., Insight Central) to track supplier data and ongoing challenges.	9/30/2024	\$0
	6. Incorporate a representative from the Logistics Management Division into each Artemis-related program and project at appropriate milestones, including at the onset of a contract and each life-cycle milestone.	12/31/2025	\$0

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Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
IG-24-001, 10/12/2023	NASA's Transition of the Space Launch System to a Commercial Services Contract		
	1. Establish achievable cost saving metrics beginning with Artemis IV SLS elements and production contracts.	12/31/2027	\$0
	2. Transition the core stage and Exploration Upper Stage contracts to fixed-price contracts with a per mission price to codify the actual costs.	12/31/2027	\$0
	3. If keeping contracts as cost-plus-award-fee, increase the percentage of cost as a factor when conducting contractor evaluations for award fee purposes.	12/31/2027	\$0
	4. Conduct a detailed review of all contractor-submitted documents to ensure the government's rights to data and processes are not unnecessarily transferred to the contractor.	12/31/2027	\$0
	5. Include contract flexibility on future SLS acquisitions that will allow NASA to pivot to other commercial alternatives.	12/31/2027	\$0
	6. For each Artemis SLS rocket under EPOC, add compensation to the DST contract such as incentive fees for when the contractor achieves specific cost saving goals.	12/31/2027	\$0
	7. Ensure Government Mandatory Inspection Points and government oversight teams remain throughout the EPOC transition period.	12/31/2027	\$0
IG-23-015, 5/25/2023	NASA's Management of the Space Launch System Booster and Engine Contracts		
	6. Conduct a thorough review of BPOC's scope of work and technical requirements needed to complete the respective periods of performance and update the contract as appropriate.	11/30/2023	\$0
IG-23-004, 1/17/2023	NASA's Partnerships with International Space Agencies for the Artemis Campaign		
	2. Establish NASA-led Artemis campaign boards and working groups for partners with agreed-upon commitments with NASA and provide opportunities for liaison representation from international partner agencies.	3/31/2024	\$0
	5. Establish a full-time export control team dedicated to the various Artemis programs in support of space flight developments.	12/31/2024	\$0
	6. Review export control requirements and consider additional roles for partner astronauts to increase their utilization in NASA space flight operations, to include amending existing agreements if necessary.	6/30/2024	\$0
	7. Establish a full-time export control team dedicated to the Artemis programs in support of space flight operations.	12/31/2023	\$0
	10. Develop an automated routing method for the processing of international agreements within NASA.	5/31/2025	\$0
IG-22-007, 1/11/2022	NASA's Management of Its Astronaut Corps		

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Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
	3. At least 18 months prior to the planned Artemis II launch, coordinate with Artemis program offices to complete the development and chartering of the framework of Artemis boards and panels to ensure alignment with future mission training needs for new vehicles and missions, including Orion, next-generation spacesuits, HLS, and Gateway.	8/21/2023	\$0
IG-22-005, 11/30/2021	NASA's Management of the International Space Station and Efforts to Commercialize Low Earth Orbit		
	1. Ensure the risks associated with cracks and leaks in the Service Module Transfer Tunnel are identified and mitigated prior to agreeing to an ISS life extension.	12/31/2026	\$0
IG-22-003, 11/15/2021	NASA's Management of the Artemis Missions		
	3. Develop an Artemis-wide cost estimate, in accordance with best practices, that is updated on an annual basis.	12/31/2024	\$0
	4. Maintain an accounting of per-mission costs to increase transparency and establish a benchmark against which NASA can assess the outcome of initiatives to increase the affordability of ESD systems.	12/31/2024	\$0
IG-20-018, 7/16/2020	NASA's Management of the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle Program		
	2. To the extent practicable, adjust the production schedules for Artemis 4 and 5 to better align with the successful demonstration of Artemis 2 to reduce schedule delays associated with potential rework.	6/1/2026	\$0
IG-20-012, 3/10/2020	NASA's Management of Space Launch System Program Costs and Contracts		
	2. Review HEOMD and NASA program management policies, procedures, and ABC reporting processes to provide greater visibility into current, future, and overall cost and schedule estimates for the SLS Program and other human space flight programs.	9/30/2025	\$0
	2b. Establish methodologies and processes to track and set cost commitments for Artemis II.	9/30/2025	\$0
	2c. Determine reporting and tracking procedures for setting cost and schedule commitments and monitor progress throughout the entire life cycle of the SLS Program (through at least 2030).	9/30/2025	\$0
IG-20-005, 11/14/2019	NASA's Management of Crew Transportation to the International Space Station		
	2. Correct identified safety-critical technical issues before the crewed test flights, including parachute and propulsion systems testing, to ensure sufficient safety margins exist.	9/30/2025	\$0
Science and Aeronautics			
IG-24-014, 7/31/2024	Audit of the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope Project		

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Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
	1. Further evaluate space communication and navigation risks, including running and reviewing loading analysis from all four networks.	3/31/2025	\$0
	2. Develop a contingency plan for Roman's space communication and navigation services, including an assessment of the Deep Space Network's ability to support Roman.	3/31/2025	\$0
	3. Assess the potential impacts of the delayed upgrades to the Near Space Network on Roman's scheduled launch timeline.	3/31/2025	\$0
IG-24-013, 6/6/2024	NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services Initiative		
	1. Conduct updated market research to assess capability growth across the lunar economy and associated transportation sector since 2017.	4/30/2025	\$0
	2. Reassess NASA's role in, and contribution to, the commercial lunar delivery market.	5/31/2025	\$0
	3. Finalize a management plan with clear leadership authority and responsibility that would delineate CLPS initiative performance goals and metrics that are measurable and targeted, criteria for augmented insight, a formal lessons-learned process, and any other relevant guidelines for the management plan's implementation.	11/30/2025	\$0
	4. Prepare and formalize a CLPS Manifest Selection Board charter and processes.	6/30/2025	\$0
	5. Strengthen procedures to ensure science payload interfaces and requirements are mature enough to write an RFTP that would minimize future requirement changes.	6/30/2025	\$0
IG-24-008, 2/28/2024	Audit of the Mars Sample Return Program		
	1. Ensure the MSR Program establishes a stable CCRS design prior to establishing the life-cycle cost and schedule estimate at KDP-C, incorporating recommendations from the 2023 IRB as appropriate.	4/30/2025	\$0
	2. Ensure the life-cycle cost and schedule estimates properly incorporate MSR Program complexity and performance as factors and do not only focus on external cost growth impacts and ongoing design issues.	4/30/2025	\$0
	3. Ensure the Agency Program Management Council is provided with a set of potential launch scenarios by KDP-C, including life-cycle cost and schedule estimates and an associated Joint Cost and Schedule Confidence Level for each.	4/30/2025	\$0
IG-23-018, 9/5/2023	NASA's Earth System Science Pathfinder Program		
	2. Reexamine its selection process to ensure PIs or their teams have sufficient experience, including project management, and the ability to dedicate necessary resources to effectively manage ESSP projects.	7/31/2025	\$0

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Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
	7. Develop a formal and clear guidance on the roles, responsibilities, and expectations for the inclusion of applications within Earth Venture Class projects.	7/31/2025	\$0
	8. Develop a methodology for funding applications in Earth Venture Class projects.	7/31/2025	\$0
IG-23-010, 3/20/2023	NASA's Management of Its Radioisotope Power Systems Program		
	1. Create an RPS resource allocation and technology development strategic plan that includes an evaluation and mitigation of risks for each project through its completion and provide a communication plan to stakeholders and mission managers.	9/30/2025	\$0
	2. Conduct high quality, frequent, and routine self-assessment TRAs by project management beginning after the initial implementation of a technology development project as a basis for TRL assessment and risk management discussions.	9/30/2025	\$0
	3. Per Title 51 and NPR 7120.5F, recalculate the life-cycle costs for Next-Gen RTG and DRPS projects to include funding NASA provides to DOE.	3/31/2026	\$0
	4. Institute an EVM process for Next-Gen RTG and DRPS projects that conforms with NASA policy, FAR requirements, and industry best practices.	3/31/2026	\$0
	5. For Next-Gen RTG and DRPS development efforts that transition to a space flight project, execute a JCL analysis at the proper phases in accordance with NPR 7120.5F.	3/31/2026	\$0
	6. In coordination with DOE, develop a means for the RPS Program to obtain high-fidelity Pu-238 and fueled clad current and future inventory information.	9/30/2025	\$0
	7. Develop a means to quantify risk of future Pu-238 and fueled clad availability that can be communicated to NASA mission managers and incorporated into mission development proposals and plans.	12/30/2024	\$0
	8. Leverage the RPS Program's existing business processes with its element structure to monitor fission technology development for SMD feasibility and educate stakeholders on the possibilities and differences.	9/30/2025	\$0
	9. Reevaluate the need and if appropriate reauthorize the organizational position of the Nuclear Power and Propulsion System Capability Leadership Team through the appropriate Mission Directorate and provide the Team responsibility for monitoring and advocating strategic nuclear power coordination across NASA.	7/31/2025	\$0
IG-21-011, 1/27/2021	NASA's Efforts to Mitigate the Risks Posed by Orbital Debris		
	3. Invest in methods and technologies for removing defunct spacecraft. As part of this effort, conduct a study evaluating the technical merit and cost to investing in active debris removal systems and technologies.	12/31/2025	\$0
IG-20-023, 9/16/2020	NASA's Planetary Science Portfolio		
	2. Engage relevant Centers and technical capability leaders to identify budgetary and accounting system solutions within the current budgetary and full cost accounting system to adequately fund and sustain critical technical discipline capabilities needed to support current and future projects.	3/31/2026	\$0

Office of Audits

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IG-19-019, 5/29/2019	Management of NASA's Europa Mission		
	9. Reassess the process of isolating key project personnel from instrument selection to balance their additional insight in integration and cost estimation while maintaining fairness in the announcement and mitigating conflicts of interest risks.	9/15/2025	\$0
Mission Support and Information Technology			
IG-24-010, 4/25/2024	Audit of NASA's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Engagement		
	1. Reevaluate the OSTEM performance goals to ensure they are distinct and well correlated with outcomes.	3/31/2026	\$0
	2. Develop a procedure to ensure OSTEM tracks and reports funding for all Agency STEM engagement activities.	12/31/2024	\$0
	5. Reevaluate jurisdictions eligible for EPSCoR funds to ensure effective and equitable distribution of Agency funds.	11/30/2024	\$12,613,442
	6. Require all NASA organizations capture STEM engagement activities in STEM Gateway.	12/31/2024	\$0
IG-24-009, 3/14/2024	Audit of NASA's High-End Computing Capabilities		
	5. Evaluate cyber risks associated with HEC assets to determine oversight and monitoring requirements, establish risk appetite, and address control deficiencies. Consider using NASA's Splunk enterprise platform as a shared resource.	12/31/2025	\$0
	6. Implement an HEC classification/category designation within Risk Information Security Compliance System for identifying HEC assets.	12/31/2025	\$0
	8. Document data risk impact levels, classification, and export control categorization for all HEC jobs.	12/31/2026	\$0
	9. Identify and mitigate gaps in the foreign national accreditation access process.	12/31/2026	\$0
IG-24-006, 12/19/2023	NASA's Privacy Program		
	5. Ensure that designated members of a Breach Response Team participate in a tabletop exercise, at least annually.	9/20/2025	\$0
	6. Require those with specific security and privacy roles to take privacy role-based training.	4/30/2025	\$0
IG-23-017, 8/17/2023	NASA's Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 Evaluation Report for Fiscal Year 2023		
	8. Revise its policies and procedures to document and implement a lessons learned process based on risk events within the ISCM and Risk Management areas. System security personnel should be instructed to record, analyze, and revise control activities to improve NASA's security posture.	9/30/2025	\$0

Office of Audits

Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
	11. Continue to implement the necessary entity-wide oversight to improve enforcement mechanisms and controls to ensure all standard baselines and vulnerabilities are monitored and remediated in accordance with Federal and Agency requirements.	7/31/2025	\$0
	15. Ensure that the security controls in control families PM, PT, and SR are updated and defined within the Agency's ISCM strategy.	9/30/2025	\$0
	16. Document the NMI process in NASA's ISCM Strategy to ensure its hardware inventory monitoring process is accurate, complete, and fully aligns with NASA's other continuous monitoring guidance and integrates processes, associated outputs, and incorporates results to provide situational awareness.	9/30/2025	\$0
	20. Continue its efforts to prioritize projects that address the complexities required across EL tiers to meet the intermediate (EL2) maturity level in accordance with OMB M-21-31.	12/31/2025	\$0
	27. Ensure that each information system owner of external systems has a current ISA that defines how each entity will manage, operate, use, and secure the interconnection.	3/31/2025	\$0
IG-23-016, 7/12/2023	Audit of NASA's Deep Space Network		
	1. Explore more efficient options for DSN scheduling, such as maintaining a list of DSN users by priority that is updated in real-time and accessible to all users.	9/30/2025	\$0
	2. Ensure completion of the DAEP's remaining antennas and transmitters and finalize requirements for the LEGS project.	10/31/2029	\$0
	3. Finalize international agreements, obtain appropriate clearances for installing the remaining 80 kW transmitters, and establish mechanisms to allow for greater oversight of DAEP project sites.	10/31/2029	\$0
	4. Explore options for utilizing commercial and international partners networks to offload excess demand from the DSN and to serve as backups in the event of network overages or outages.	12/31/2023	\$0
IG-23-008, 1/12/2023	NASA's Software Asset Management		
	2. Implement a single Software Asset Management tool across the Agency.	10/1/2027	\$39,000,000
	9. Centralize software spending insights to include purchase cards.	1/30/2026	\$0
IG-23-001, 10/5/2022	NASA's Compliance with the Geospatial Data Act for Fiscal Year 2022		
	2. Roles and responsibilities of the SAOGI and other key stakeholders are defined in both the Geospatial Data Strategy and its implementation plan.	7/31/2025	\$0
	3. The implementation plan for the Geospatial Data Strategy contains detailed action items and milestones, including those for developing a complete and accurate inventory of the Agency's geospatial data.	6/30/2025	\$0

Office of Audits

Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
	4. Continued coordination with NARA to establish the appropriate level of scientific data for inclusion in NARA-approved records schedules.	6/30/2025	\$0
IG-22-015, 8/4/2022	Ames Research Center's Lease Management Practices		
	1. Conduct cyclical reviews (no less than once every 5 years) of the Ames lease process to ensure compliance with federal and NASA requirements.	10/31/2024	\$0
	2. Update applicable real estate policies and NASA-wide guidance to enhance requirements and procedures to comply with EUL authority and to require maintaining appropriate documentation, documenting decisions, and fostering transparent coordination and communication with internal and external stakeholders in a timely manner.	10/31/2024	\$0
	3. Update applicable real estate policies and NASA-wide guidance to enhance requirements and standardize applicable financial practices (such as the benefit and cost analysis, life-cycle cost analysis, and audits of tenants' books and records when required) associated with leases.	10/31/2024	\$0
	4. Update applicable real estate policies and NASA-wide guidance to incorporate applicable security requirements and agreement clauses in leases.	10/31/2024	\$0
	5. Implement written procedures in the lease process to ensure compliance with federal and NASA requirements applicable, but not limited to, timely involvement of the RPAO, competition, life-cycle cost analysis, fair market value assessments, certifications, and termination clauses as appropriate.	9/30/2025	\$0
	9. Within the next 3 years, conduct a Center-wide security vulnerability risk assessment, including the districts outside Ames Campus, to ensure compliance with federal and NASA requirements.	6/30/2025	\$0
	10. Identify and implement mitigation strategies and resource requirements to address the security vulnerability assessment risks.	6/30/2025	\$0
IG-21-027, 9/8/2021	NASA's Construction of Facilities		
	1. Develop and institute an agency-wide process to prioritize and fund institutional and programmatic CoF projects that align with Agency-level missions and goals and require business case analyses to be completed and considered as part of the process prior to the project's approval.	9/30/2025	\$0
	3. Institute a process to ensure facility requirements are identified and funding sources are specified during a program's development and implementation phases.	9/30/2025	\$0
IG-21-002, 10/27/2020	NASA's Management of Its Acquisition Workforce		
	2. Document contract assignments to COs, CORs, and program/project managers in a centralized system for inclusion in the Performance Metrics Dashboard.	7/1/2025	\$0
IG-21-001, 10/2/2020	Audit of NASA's Compliance with the Geospatial Data Act		

Office of Audits

Report No. and Date Issued	Report Title and Recommendations	Estimated Completion Date	Potential Cost Savings
	2. Develop a unified Strategy Implementation Plan or “Roadmap” that defines detailed action items, milestones, and responsibilities for geospatial data management in support of missions across NASA.	10/31/2025	\$0
IG-20-011, 3/3/2020	NASA's Management of Distributed Active Archive Centers		
	1. Once SWOT and NISAR are operational and providing sufficient data, complete an independent analysis to determine the long-term financial sustainability of supporting the cloud migration and operation while also maintaining the current DAAC footprint.	3/31/2026	\$0
IG-20-001, 10/21/2019	NASA's Security Management Practices		
	5. Standardize the carrying of firearms by NASA civil servants in an Agency-wide policy while also addressing the appropriate situations when NASA contractors may carry their government-issued weapons off NASA property.	7/30/2025	\$0
IG-19-002, 10/22/2018	Audit of NASA's Historic Property		
	2. Develop comprehensive procedures for identifying and managing heritage assets, including defining roles and responsibilities for the different NASA entities responsible for evaluating what historic items would most effectively be maintained by the Agency and considered as heritage assets.	7/24/2024	\$0
	3. Evaluate and justify the existing list of NASA and contractor held heritage assets to determine whether NASA is the most effective owner and what property the Agency will retain because of its historical value.	12/1/2024	\$0
	5. Ensure NASA policy for using the proceeds from facilities leased under NHPA authority appropriately aligns with Agency goals to minimize excess facilities.	10/31/2024	\$0
IG-12-017, 8/7/2012	Review of NASA's Computer Security Incident Detection and Handling Capability ^a		
Financial Management			
IG-22-014, 6/28/2022	NASA's Compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act for Fiscal Year 2021		
	7. Develop a detailed review process, such as a checklist or job aid, outlining the review procedures performed by the Quality Assurance Division within the reporting process for overpayments from sources other than recapture audits to ensure that the primary reviewer and the supervisory quality control reviewers are performing a thorough review of the aggregated submissions of overpayments. Necessary review steps include ensuring overpayments are not reported twice, capturing issues with overpayments submitted for the incorrect period, and tracking identified and collected portions that occur in different fiscal years for accurate reporting.	11/29/2024	\$0

^a This table omits 2 recommendations from IG-12-017 that NASA determined to be sensitive or classified and therefore unsuitable for release.

TABLE 4: AUDITS WITH QUESTIONED COSTS

	Total Questioned Costs	Total Unsupported Costs
A. Management decisions pending from previous reporting period		
IG-24-016	\$2,977,057 ^a	\$0
B. Issued during period		
No reports	\$0	\$0
Needing management decision during period (A+B)	\$2,977,057	\$0
Management Decision Made During Period		
Amounts agreed to by management		
No reports	\$0	\$0
Amounts not agreed to by management		
IG-24-016	\$2,977,057	\$0
No Management Decision at End of Period		
Less than 6 months old		
No reports	\$0	\$0
More than 6 months old		
No reports	\$0	\$0

Notes: Questioned costs (the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended) are costs questioned by the OIG because of (1) alleged violation of a provision of a law, regulation, contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or other agreement or document governing the expenditure of funds; (2) a finding that, at the time of the audit, such cost is not supported by adequate documentation—an “unsupported cost”; or (3) a finding that the expenditure of funds for the intended purpose is unnecessary or unreasonable.

Management decision (the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended) is the evaluation by management of the findings and recommendations included in an audit report and the issuance of a final decision by management concerning its response to such findings and recommendations, including actions that management concludes are necessary.

^a IG-24-016 was issued on August 27, 2024. In response to the questioned costs, the Agency stated they would determine whether they agreed or disagreed by December 2024. On December 2, 2024, NASA disagreed with the questioned costs stating they were allowable and paid accordingly.

TABLE 5: AUDITS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS THAT FUNDS BE PUT TO BETTER USE

There were no audits with recommendations that funds be put to better use during this reporting period. A recommendation that funds be put to better use (the Inspector General Act of 1978 definition) is a recommendation by the OIG that funds could be more efficiently used if management took actions to implement and complete the recommendation, including (1) reductions in outlays; (2) deobligation of funds from programs or operations; (3) withdrawal of interest subsidy costs on loans or loan guarantees, insurance, or bonds; (4) costs not incurred by implementing recommended improvements related to the operations of the establishment, a contractor, or grantee; (5) avoidance of unnecessary expenditures noted in pre-award reviews of contract or grant agreements; or (6) any other savings that are specifically identified. (Dollar amounts identified in this category may not always allow for direct budgetary actions but generally allow the Agency to use the amounts more effectively in the accomplishment of program objectives.)

TABLE 6: OTHER MONETARY SAVINGS

There were no audits reporting other monetary savings during this reporting period. These would be savings resulting from actions taken by NASA due to conclusions or information disclosed in an OIG audit report that were not identified as questioned costs or funds to be put to better use in Tables 4 and 5, respectively.

TABLE 7: STATUS OF SINGLE AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS RELATED TO NASA AWARDS

Audits with Findings		13
Findings and Questioned Costs		
	Number of Findings	Questioned Costs
Management decisions pending from previous reporting period	9	\$0
Findings added during the reporting period	17	\$0
Management decisions made during reporting period	(6)	\$0
Agreed to by management	1	\$0
Not agreed to by management	0	\$0
Management decisions pending, end of reporting period	20	\$0

Note: The Single Audit Act, as amended, requires federal award recipients to obtain audits of their federal awards. The data in this table is provided by NASA.

Defense Contract Audit Agency Audits of NASA Contractors

The Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) provides audit services to NASA on a reimbursable basis. DCAA provided the following information for this reporting period on reports involving NASA contract activities.

Office of Audits

During this period, DCAA issued 16 audit reports involving contractors who do business with NASA. Corrective actions taken in response to DCAA audit report recommendations usually result from negotiations between the contractors and the government contracting officer with cognizant responsibility (e.g., the Defense Contract Management Agency and NASA). The agency responsible for administering the contract negotiates recoveries with the contractor after deciding whether to accept or reject the questioned costs and recommendations that funds be put to better use. The following table shows the amounts of questioned costs and funds to be put to better use included in DCAA audit reports issued during this semiannual reporting period and the agreed-upon amounts.

TABLE 8: DCAA AUDIT REPORTS WITH QUESTIONED COSTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT FUNDS BE PUT TO BETTER USE

	Amounts in Issued Reports	Amounts Agreed To
Questioned costs	\$613,000	\$0
Funds to be put to better use	\$0	\$0

Note: This data is provided to the NASA OIG by DCAA and may include forward pricing proposals, operations, incurred costs, cost accounting standards, and defective pricing audits. Because of the limited time between the availability of management information system data and legislative reporting requirements, there is minimal opportunity for DCAA to verify the accuracy of reported data. Accordingly, submitted data is subject to change based on subsequent DCAA authentication. The data presented does not include statistics on audits that resulted in contracts not awarded or in which the contractor was not successful.

Audits of NASA Contractors

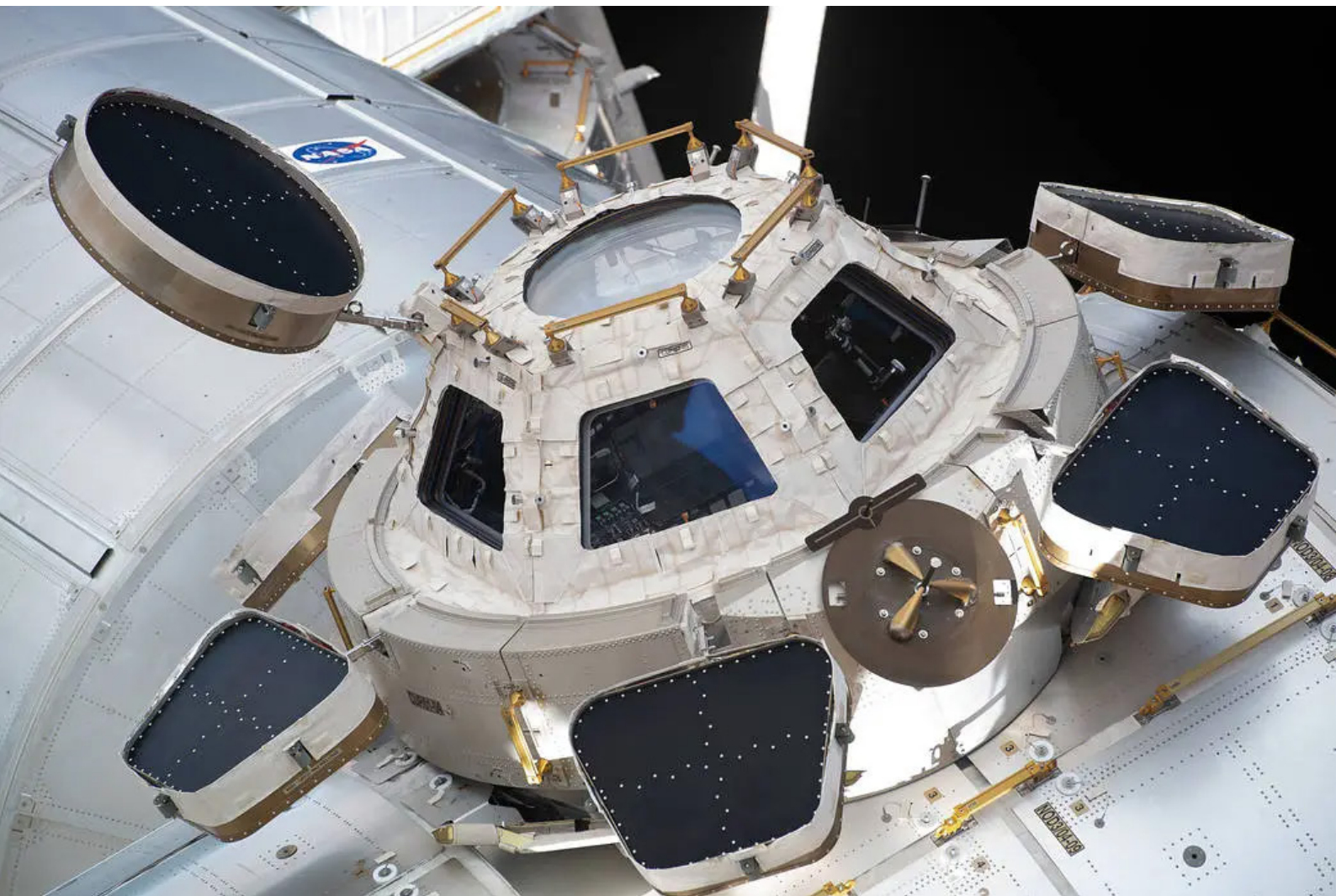
NASA contracts with independent public accounting firms and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Interior Business Center to perform a broad range of contract audits on the companies that conduct business with the Agency. The purpose of the audits is to assist procurement officials with financial information and advice relating to contractual matters and to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, and economy of contractor operations. Contract audits also assist NASA in the negotiation, award, administration, and settlement of contracts. During this semiannual reporting period, independent public accounting firms and the Interior Business Center issued 10 audit reports that involved contractors who do business with NASA. The auditors questioned \$1.7 million in costs.

TABLE 9: AUDIT REPORTS OF NASA CONTRACTORS WITH QUESTIONED COSTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT FUNDS BE PUT TO BETTER USE

	Amounts in Issued Reports	Amounts Agreed To
Questioned costs	\$1,691,322	\$1,691,322
Funds to be put to better use	\$0	\$0

Office of Investigations

The Office of Investigations investigates fraud, waste, abuse, misconduct, and mismanagement involving NASA personnel and contractors.



The International Space Station's "window to the world" is pictured from the Nauka Multipurpose Laboratory Module.

Procurement and Grant Fraud

Former Subcontractor Debarred

A former NASA subcontractor and their company were debarred from federal contracting for a period of 5 years for breaching two Voluntary Exclusion Agreements agreed to after the subcontractor and four others were convicted in an \$84 million fraud case for misrepresenting themselves as a woman-owned small business.

Florida Company Charged with Violating Federal Probation

A Florida company was charged with violating federal probation for making false statements concerning its assets, as well as its inability to satisfy court-ordered restitution and fines of \$5 million. As reported in a previous Semiannual Report, the company pled guilty to defrauding multiple federal agencies through the U.S. General Services Administration's Federal Excess Property Program by acquiring government-owned aircraft and converting them for personal use.

Contractors Sentenced and Debarred

The former head of an engineering company was sentenced to 18 months of supervised release and ordered to pay a \$9,500 fine for falsifying documents to obtain a security clearance in an attempt to receive a NASA subcontract. Another employee of the same company was sentenced to 12 months of supervised release and 50 hours of community service and ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine for the same crime. Both individuals were debarred from federal contracting for a period of 4 years. An affiliated contractor employee and two other firms were debarred for a period of 1 year for their role in the same scheme.

Former Contractor Debarred

As the result of a joint investigation by the NASA OIG and Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, a board member and executive director of a non-profit education contractor was debarred from federal contracting for a period of 3 years for their role in an embezzlement scheme involving NASA funds. The contractor was previously convicted of perjury, misappropriation of public funds, and grand theft by embezzlement of public funds.

Employee Misconduct

NASA Employee Terminated for Nepotism

As the result of a NASA OIG investigation, a NASA civil servant was removed from federal service for misusing their position to secure a position for their niece with a NASA contractor and directing government funds to the same company.

NASA Employee Suspended

As the result of a NASA OIG investigation, a Goddard Space Flight Center civil servant was suspended for 14 days for unprofessional behavior, inaccurate recording of time and attendance, an absence without leave, and destruction of government property.

NASA Employees Disciplined for Telework Abuse

As the result of a NASA OIG investigation, two NASA Headquarters employees were disciplined for abusing telework privileges. One employee received a written reprimand and suspended telework privileges, while a senior employee was placed on a Performance Improvement Plan and had their remote work agreement terminated.

Pandemic Relief Fraud

New Jersey Company Issues Credit to NASA

As the result of a NASA OIG investigation, a New Jersey management services company reported Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness credits of \$1.1 million, of which \$882,000 was applied against a NASA contract. The company initially failed to correctly report its annual incurred costs as required under Federal Acquisition Regulations.

Texas Company Issues Credit to NASA

As the result of a NASA OIG investigation, a Texas space research company in receipt of several Paycheck Protection Program loans credited \$34,854 in unallowable indirect costs to several NASA contracts. The company initially failed to report the costs due to an internal policy change that was not in compliance with Federal Acquisition Regulations.

Pennsylvania Resident Pleads Guilty to Fraud Scheme

As the result of a joint investigation by the NASA OIG, U.S. Department of Labor OIG, U.S. Department of Homeland Security OIG, and Social Security Administration OIG, a Pennsylvania resident pled guilty to a Pandemic Unemployment theft scheme where the subject and an accomplice stole numerous identities that were used to apply for unemployment benefits in multiple states. Sentencing is pending.

West Virginia Business Owner Sentenced for COVID-19 Relief Fraud

As the result of a joint investigation by the NASA OIG, a Pandemic Response Accountability Committee Task Force member, and the U.S. Secret Service, a West Virginia business owner who previously pled guilty to Paycheck Protection Program loan fraud was sentenced to 1 year of home detention and 5 years of supervised release and ordered to pay \$902,475 in restitution.

West Virginia Residents Sentenced for COVID-19 Relief Fraud

As the result of a joint investigation by the NASA OIG, a Pandemic Response Accountability Committee Task Force member, and the West Virginia State Police, two West Virginia residents who previously pled guilty to Paycheck Protection Program loan fraud were sentenced to 4 months of home detention and 5 years of supervised release and were ordered to pay \$29,592 and \$35,168 in restitution, respectively.

North Carolina Man Sentenced for COVID-19 Fraud Scheme

A NASA OIG investigation involving NASA employees identified a North Carolina resident who obtained nearly \$1 million in Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance funds through an identity theft scheme. The subject was indicted on 8 counts of wire fraud, conspiracy, aiding and abetting, and aggravated identity theft, which resulted in a guilty plea, 50 months of imprisonment, and restitution of \$655,869.

Cybercrimes

University Agrees to Civil Settlement

As the result of a joint investigation by NASA OIG, U.S. Department of Justice, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and Defense Criminal Investigative Service, a Pennsylvania university agreed to pay \$1.25 million to resolve

allegations that it failed to adhere to cybersecurity requirements affecting multiple government agencies including NASA. This qui tam investigation is part of the Justice Department's Civil Cyber Fraud Initiative.

Foreign Influence

University Settles Civil Allegations

As the result of a NASA OIG investigation, a Delaware university agreed to a civil settlement of \$715,580 to resolve allegations that it failed to disclose a professor's affiliation with and support from the government of the People's Republic of China in connection with NASA research funding.

Former University Professor Pleads Guilty

Following a joint investigation by the NASA OIG, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division, and National Science Foundation OIG, a former Ohio university professor pled guilty to one count of failure to report a foreign bank account and entered into a cooperation agreement with the United States. Previously, the university agreed to a civil

settlement of \$875,689 to resolve allegations that it failed to disclose the professor's affiliation with and support from the government of the People's Republic of China in connection with research funding from NASA and other federal agencies.

Contractor Employee Terminated

Following a joint investigation by the NASA OIG, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other law enforcement partners, a NASA contractor employee was terminated from their position after their employer was informed of an investigation into alleged export control violations involving Chinese foreign nationals, concurrent employment by multiple companies involved with government contracting, and unauthorized use of foreign nationals to complete tasks related to government contracts.

Other Cases

California Resident Sentenced for Impersonating Law Enforcement Officer

As the result of a joint investigation by the NASA OIG and multiple law enforcement entities, a California resident was sentenced to 27 months of imprisonment for impersonating a federal law enforcement officer in an attempt to obtain sensitive and non-public information from the U.S. Department of Defense.

Texas Resident Sentenced for Burglary

As the result of a joint investigation by the NASA OIG and Houston Police Department, a Texas resident was sentenced to 12 months of imprisonment for breaking into a SpaceX-leased building and stealing five encrypted iPads containing unspecified Commercial Crew Program information.

Contractor Charged with Stalking

As the result of a joint investigation by the NASA OIG and Cocoa Beach Police Department, a Kennedy Space Center contractor employee was charged by the State of Florida with stalking a former romantic interest by installing a tracking device on their vehicle and cyberstalking them from the employee's NASA-issued computer.

Narcotics Investigation Leads to Procedural Change

As the result of a NASA OIG investigation, Kennedy Space Center's largest contractor was directed to ensure compliance with NASA's Drug Free Workplace policy after high-grade methamphetamine was found in a building the company occupies on Center. The contractor immediately resumed random drug testing, which was suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, and reported drug testing metrics to the NASA Contracting Officer.

Statistical Data

TABLE 10: OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS COMPLAINT INTAKE DISPOSITION

Source of Complaint	Zero Files ^a	Administrative Investigations ^b	Management Referrals ^c	Preliminary Investigations ^d	Total
Hotline	8	7	0	19	34
All others	15	16	1	54	86
Total	23	23	1	73	120

^a Zero files are those complaints for which no action is required or that are referred to NASA management for information only or to another agency.

^b Administrative investigations include non-criminal matters initiated by the Office of Investigations as well as hotline complaints referred to the Office of Audits.

^c Management referrals are those complaints referred to NASA management for which a response is requested.

^d Preliminary investigations are those complaints where additional information must be obtained prior to initiating a full criminal or civil investigation.

TABLE 11: FULL INVESTIGATIONS OPENED THIS REPORTING PERIOD

Full Criminal/Civil Investigations ^a	35
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^a Full investigations evolve from preliminary investigations that result in a reasonable belief that a violation of law has taken place.

TABLE 12: INVESTIGATIONS CLOSED THIS REPORTING PERIOD

Preliminary, Full, and Administrative Investigations	114
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Note: The NASA OIG uses closing memorandums to close investigations. Investigative reports are used for presentation to judicial authorities, when requested.

TABLE 13: CASES PENDING AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD

Preliminary Investigations	61
Full Criminal/Civil Investigations	140
Administrative Investigations	83
Total	284

Office of Investigations

TABLE 14: QUI TAM INVESTIGATIONS

Qui Tam Matters Opened This Reporting Period	9
Qui Tam Matters Pending at End of Reporting Period	20

Note: The number of qui tam investigations is a subset of the total number of investigations opened and pending.

TABLE 15: JUDICIAL ACTIONS

Total Cases Referred for Prosecution ^a	31
Individuals Referred to the U.S. Department of Justice ^b	29
Individuals Referred to State and Local Authorities ^b	2
Indictments/Informations ^c	3
Convictions/Plea Bargains	3
Sentencing/Pretrial Diversions	6
Civil Settlements/Judgments	3

^a This includes all referrals of individuals and entities to judicial authorities.

^b The number of individuals referred to federal, state, and local authorities are a subset of the total cases referred for prosecution.

^c This includes indictments/informations on current and prior referrals.

TABLE 16: ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

Referrals	
Referrals to NASA Management for Review and Response	10
Referrals to NASA Management—Information Only	13
Referrals to the Office of Audits	2
Referrals to Security or Other Agencies	5
Total	30

TABLE 16: ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS *(continued)*

Recommendations to NASA Management	
Recommendations for Disciplinary Action	
Involving a NASA Employee	6
Involving a Contractor Employee	1
Involving a Contractor Firm	3
Other	-
Recommendations on Program Improvements	
Matters of Procedure/Safety	5
Total	15
Administrative/Disciplinary Actions Taken	
Against a NASA Employee	9
Against a Contractor Employee	2
Against a Contractor Firm	2
Other	1
Procedural Change Implemented	10
Total	24
Suspensions or Debarments from Government Contracting	
Involving an Individual	5
Involving a Contractor Firm	3
Total	8

Office of Investigations

TABLE 17: INVESTIGATIVE RECEIVABLES AND RECOVERIES

Judicial	\$3,590,439
Administrative ^a	\$1,160,943
Total^b	\$4,751,382
Total NASA	\$1,371,289

^a Includes amounts for cost savings to NASA as a result of investigations.

^b Total amount collected may not solely be returned to NASA but may be distributed to other federal agencies.

TABLE 18: WHISTLEBLOWER INVESTIGATIONS

No officials were found to have engaged in retaliation during this reporting period.

TABLE 19: SENIOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE INVESTIGATIONS REFERRED FOR PROSECUTION

Case Number	Allegation	Referral Date	Disposition
23-0129	Conflict of Interest	11/22/2024	Declined by U.S. Department of Justice, then referred to the Office of Special Counsel
22-0204	Sexual Assault—Assist to Local Authorities	10/28/2024	Prosecuted locally and terminated by NASA

TABLE 20: SENIOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE CASES NOT DISCLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Case Number	Allegation	Closure Date	Disposition
23-0238	Misuse of Position	3/12/2025	Unsubstantiated
24-0044	Sexual Assault	1/21/2025	Demotion, removal from worksite, and NASA procedural changes were made
24-0212	Post Employment Violation	1/10/2025	Unsubstantiated
24-0077	Abuse of Leave Donation Program	12/2/2024	Employee received verbal counseling
24-0124	Suspicious Financial Activity	11/19/2024	Unsubstantiated
24-0251	Whistleblower Retaliation	10/15/2024	Referred to the Office of Special Counsel

TABLE 21: REPORTS SUBMITTED UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE FALSE CLAIMS ACT

No reports were submitted under the Administrative False Claims Act during this reporting period.

TABLE 22: REPORTS SUBMITTED UNDER THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

No reports were submitted under the Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act during this reporting period.

Office of Data Analytics

The Office of Data Analytics provides the OIG analysis and research methodology services, data products, and automation tools to gain efficiencies and data-driven operations.



NASA astronaut Kate Rubins executes a nighttime simulated moonwalk in the San Francisco Volcanic Field in Northern Arizona.

OIG Data Analytics, Products, and Tools

- Provided data analytics, sampling, or survey support for 12 audits, including the Commercial Crew Program, Human Landing System contracts, management of spacesuits, government property, facilities and operational resilience, Standing Review Boards, and awards to small disadvantaged businesses.
- Automated two reporting processes, saving the Office of Audits 10 hours per week of data collection, cleaning, and report preparation to track the status of ongoing audit work.
- Delivered a machine learning tool, saving the Office of Investigations 8 hours per week of investigative review.
- Delivered a self-service entity (e.g., person, company, address) search tool for investigators and counsel. Maintained nine additional dashboards.
- Implemented a cloud data orchestration tool, which was used to deploy a proof-of-concept automation process on USAspending data.

Promotion of Data-Driven Operations

- Delivered cloud operations and artificial intelligence sessions to the NASA OIG as part of the Data Champion Series to improve data literacy and technical skills.
- Supported NASA OIG offices to finalize their action plans for the 2024 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey.
- Presented information on data visualizations to the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Data Analytics Working Group. Additionally, co-led two Data Analytics Working Group subgroups: (1) CIGIE Procurement Collusion Analytics, which collaborates on the use of analytics to combat anti-trust crimes and how to approach anti-trust issues, and (2) CIGIE Business Intelligence and Visualization, which shares data visualization and analytics software best practices.

Office of Legal Counsel

The Office of Legal Counsel provides legal advice to OIG managers, auditors, and investigators, and serves as both counsel in administrative litigation and the coordinator for whistleblower protection.



Members of NASA's Exploration Ground System's Landing and Recovery team work to secure the Crew Module Test Article.

Training

Legal Updates for OIG Agents

OIG Counsel gave legal update training required by the Attorney General's guidelines to OIG law enforcement officers. Updates included the impact of recent executive orders on U.S. Department of Justice policies applicable to the OIG. Other topics included a whistleblower reprisal case refresher, a presentation on the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, and case developments under the False Claims Act and recent Supreme Court decisions. The newly passed Administrative False Claims Act was also discussed.

Performance Improvement Plan Training for OIG Human Resources

Central Regional Counsel presented a training on mastering Performance Improvement Plans to OIG Human Resources employees. This targeted and in-depth training covered general performance improvement topics to include the causes of poor performance, when an improvement plan should be implemented, performance improvement governance, plan drafting tips, and Performance Improvement Plan pitfalls. After the information session, participants worked through case study exercises to showcase the skills they had learned.

Whistleblower Protection

Our whistleblower protection coordinator and Eastern Regional Counsel conducted a training for OIG audit personnel on recognizing and assisting whistleblowers at Goddard Space Flight Center.

Legislation

The Office of Legal Counsel analyzed several pieces of legislation, including:

- S.1524 Expanding Whistleblower Protections for Contractors Act of 2024
- National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025
- S.4656 Political Activity of OIG Employees

Regulatory Review

During this reporting period, the Office of Legal Counsel managed the processing of over 100 requests for review of proposed intra-agency and interagency regulations. Following triage of these requests, 29 of the regulations were substantively reviewed. This is a list of the more significant regulations:

- NASA Policy Directive 1210.1H, *Acceptance and Use of Monetary Gifts and Donations*
- NASA Policy Directive 1600.4A, *National Security Programs*
- NASA Procedural Requirements 1040.1A, *NASA Continuity of Operations (COOP) Planning Procedural Requirements*
- NASA Procedural Requirements 1600.2B, *NASA Classified National Security Information (CNSI)*
- NASA Procedural Requirements 1600.3B, *Personnel Security*
- NASA Procedural Requirements 8600.1A, *NASA Capability Portfolio Management Requirements*
- 14 CFR Parts 1264 and 1271, *Implementation of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act and Adjustment of Amounts for 2025*

TABLE 23: LEGAL ACTIVITIES AND REVIEWS

Freedom of Information Act Matters	48
Appeals	1
Inspector General Subpoenas Issued	25
Regulations Reviewed	29



Office of Inspector General

Appendixes

Appendix A. Inspector General Act Reporting Requirements	37
Appendix B. Debt Collection	38
Appendix C. Peer Reviews	39
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Appendix A. Inspector General Act Reporting Requirements

Inspector General Act Citation	Requirement Definition	Cross Reference Page Numbers
Section 404(a)(2)	Review of legislation and regulations	35
Section 405(b)(1)	Description of significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the establishment and associated reports and recommendations for corrective action made by NASA OIG	6-20
Section 405(b)(2)	Identification of each recommendation made before the reporting period for which corrective action has not been completed, including the potential cost savings associated with the recommendation	11-20
Section 405(b)(3)	Summary of significant investigations closed during the reporting period	25-27
Section 405(b)(4)	Identification of the total number of convictions during the reporting period resulting from investigations	29
Section 405(b)(5)	Information regarding each audit, inspection, or evaluation report issued during the reporting period, including a listing of each audit, inspection, or evaluation, and if applicable, the total dollar value of questioned costs (including a separate category for the dollar value of unsupported costs) and the dollar value of recommendations that funds be put to better use, including whether a management decision had been made by the end of the reporting period	10, 21-22
Section 405(b)(6)	Information on management decisions made during the reporting period with respect to any audit, inspection, or evaluation issued in a previous reporting period	21-22
Section 405(b)(7)	Information described under section 804(b) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996	-
Section 405(b)(8)	Peer review conducted by another OIG	39
Section 405(b)(9)	Outstanding recommendations from peer reviews of NASA OIG	39
Section 405(b)(10)	List of any peer reviews conducted by the Inspector General of another OIG during the reporting period, including a list of any outstanding recommendations made from any previous peer review (including any peer review conducted before the reporting period) that remain outstanding or have not been fully implemented	39
Section 405(b)(11)	Statistical tables showing the total number of investigative reports issued during the reporting period, the total number of persons referred to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution during the reporting period, the total number of persons referred to state and local prosecuting authorities for criminal prosecution during the reporting period, and the total number of indictments and criminal informations during the reporting period that resulted from any prior referral to prosecuting authorities	29
Section 405(b)(12)	Description of the metrics used for developing the data for the statistical tables	21-23, 28-31
Section 405(b)(13)(A) and (B)(i)(ii)	Summary of investigations involving senior government employees	31

Appendix A. Inspector General Act Reporting Requirements *(continued)*

Inspector General Act Citation	Requirement Definition	Cross Reference Page Numbers
Section 405(b)(14)	Summary of whistleblower investigations	31
Section 405(b)(15)(A) and (B)	Agency attempts to interfere with OIG independence	-
Section 405(b)(16)(A)	Closed inspections, evaluations, and audits not disclosed to the public	10
Section 405(b)(16)(B)	Closed investigations of senior government employees not disclosed to the public	31

Appendix B. Debt Collection

The Senate Report accompanying the supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act of 1980 (Pub. L. No. 96-304) requires Inspectors General to report amounts due to the Agency, as well as amounts that are overdue and written off as uncollectible. The NASA Shared Services Center provides this data each November for the previous fiscal year. For the period ending September 30, 2024, the receivables due from the public totaled \$1,085,469, of which \$656,536 is delinquent. The amount written off as uncollectible for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, was \$661,681.

Appendix C. Peer Reviews

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act requires the OIG to include in its semiannual reports any peer review results provided or received during the relevant reporting period. Peer reviews are required every 3 years. In compliance with the Act, we provide the following information.

Office of Audits

The NASA OIG Office of Audits performed an external peer review of the Federal Housing Finance Agency OIG for the 3-year period ending March 31, 2022, and issued our report on September 21, 2022. We also performed an external peer review of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau OIG for the 3-year period ending March 31, 2023, and issued that report on September 18, 2023. The U.S. Department of the Interior OIG completed a peer review of the NASA OIG Office of Audits in September 2024. The NASA OIG received a peer review rating of “pass,” and we are currently addressing the recommendations included in the Letter of Comment.

Office of Investigations

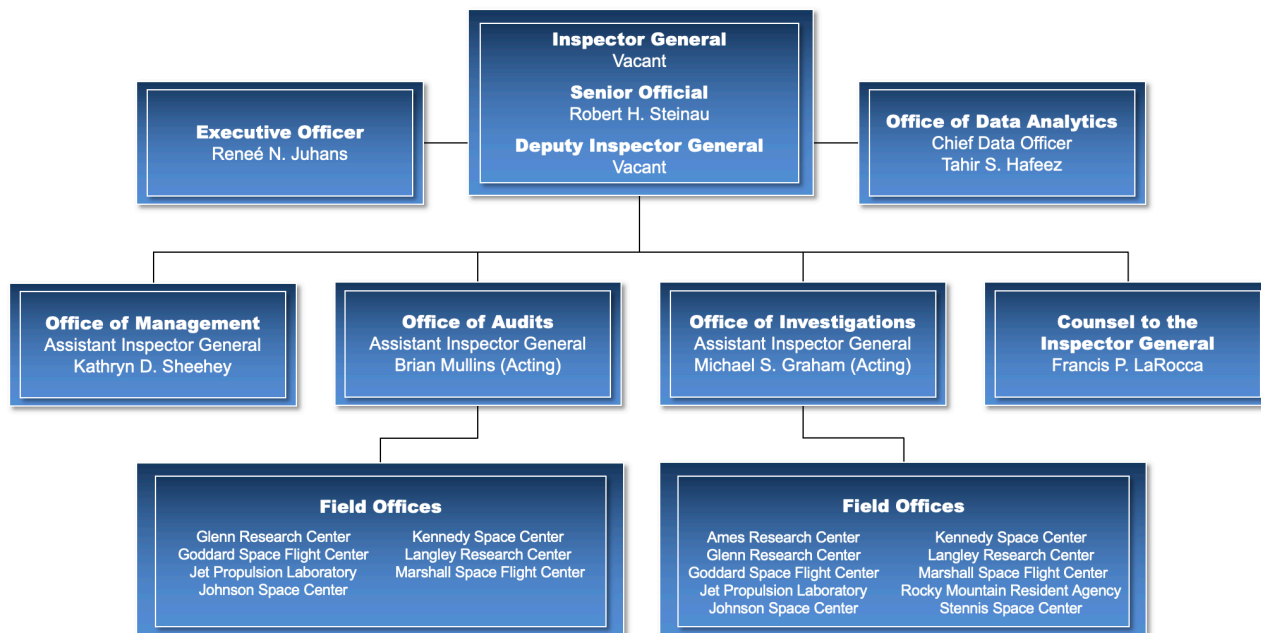
In January 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation OIG completed its review of the NASA OIG Office of Investigations and found the office to be compliant with all relevant guidelines. There are no unaddressed recommendations outstanding from this review. In October 2023, we completed an external peer review of the U.S. Department of Education OIG Office of Investigations.

Appendix D. Acronyms

CIGIE	Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
DCAA	Defense Contract Audit Agency
IT	information technology
OIG	Office of Inspector General
ZTA	zero trust architecture

Appendix E. Office of Inspector General Organizational Structure

Below is the NASA OIG's organizational structure and leadership for this semiannual reporting period.



THE NASA OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL conducts audits, reviews, and investigations of NASA programs and operations to prevent and detect fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement and to assist NASA management in promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL provides policy direction and leadership for the NASA OIG and serves as an independent voice to the NASA Administrator and Congress by identifying opportunities for improving the Agency's performance. The Deputy Inspector General assists the Inspector General in managing the full range of the OIG's programs and activities and provides supervision to the Assistant Inspectors General, Counsel, and Investigative Counsel in the development and implementation of the OIG's diverse audit, investigative, legal, and support operations. The Executive Officer serves as the OIG liaison to Congress and other government entities, conducts OIG outreach both within and outside NASA, and manages special projects.

THE OFFICE OF AUDITS conducts independent and objective audits and reviews of NASA programs, projects, operations, and contractor activities. In addition, the office oversees the work of independent public accounting firms in conducting NASA's annual financial statement audits.

THE OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS investigates allegations of cybercrime, fraud, waste, abuse, and misconduct that may affect NASA programs, projects, operations, and resources. The office refers its findings

either to the U.S. Department of Justice for criminal prosecution and civil litigation or to NASA management for administrative action. Through its investigations, the office develops recommendations for NASA management to reduce the Agency's vulnerability to criminal activity and misconduct.

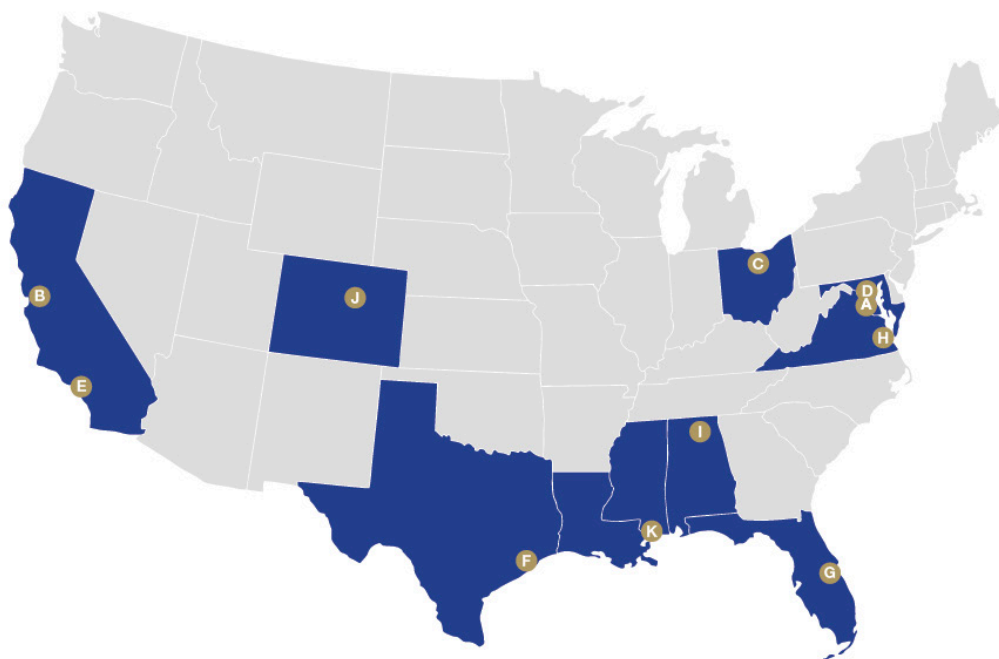
THE OFFICE OF DATA ANALYTICS provides analytic consultation and data services and develops data products to support audits, investigations, and management and planning functions. Composed of statisticians, data scientists, and data engineers, the office also develops a secure data analytic infrastructure that automates processes; secures data in cloud and on-premises environments; and rapidly disseminates critical information to decision-makers to detect and deter fraud, waste, and abuse.

THE OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL provides legal advice and assistance to OIG managers, auditors, and investigators. The office serves as OIG counsel in administrative litigation and assists the U.S. Department of Justice when the OIG participates as part of the prosecution team or when the OIG is a witness or defendant in legal proceedings. In addition, the office is responsible for educating Agency employees about prohibitions on retaliation for protected disclosures and about rights and remedies for protected whistleblower disclosures.

THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT provides financial, procurement, human resources, administrative, and IT services and support to OIG staff.

Appendix F. Map of Office of Inspector General Field Offices

The map below shows headquarters and field office locations for the OIG's Offices of Audits and Investigations.



A NASA OIG HEADQUARTERS

300 E Street SW, Suite 8U71
Washington, DC 20546-0001
Tel: 202-358-1220

B AMES RESEARCH CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Ames Research Center
Mail Stop 11, Building N207
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000
Tel: 650-604-3682 (Investigations)

C GLENN RESEARCH CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Mail Stop 14-9
Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field
Cleveland, OH 44135-3191
Tel: 216-433-9714 (Audits)
Tel: 216-433-6121 (Investigations)

D GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Code 190
Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, MD 20771-0001
Tel: 301-286-6443 (Audits)
Tel: 301-286-9316 (Investigations)

E JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

NASA Office of Inspector General
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91109-8099

Office of Audits
Mail Stop 180-202
Tel: 818-354-3451

Office of Investigations
Mail Stop 180-602
Tel: 202-358-1001

F JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Johnson Space Center
2101 NASA Parkway
Houston, TX 77058-3696

Office of Audits
Mail Stop W-JS
Building 1, Room 161
Tel: 281-483-9572

Office of Investigations
Mail Stop W-JS2
Building 45, Room 514
Tel: 281-483-8427

G KENNEDY SPACE CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Mail Stop W/KSC-OIG
Post Office Box 21066
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32815
Tel: 321-867-3153 (Audits)
Tel: 321-867-4093 (Investigations)

H LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Langley Research Center
9 East Durand Street
Mail Stop 375
Hampton, VA 23681
Tel: 757-864-8562 (Audits)
Tel: 757-864-3263 (Investigations)

NASA Office of Inspector General
Office of Investigations
402 East State Street, Room 3036
Trenton, NJ 08608
Tel: 609-656-2543 or
609-656-2545

I MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Mail Stop M-DI
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL
35812-0001
Tel: 256-544-0501 (Audits)
Tel: 256-544-9188 (Investigations)

J ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESIDENT AGENCY

NASA Office of Inspector General
Office of Investigations
6430 South Fiddlers Green Circle, Suite 350
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
Tel: 303-689-7042

K STENNIS SPACE CENTER

NASA Office of Inspector General
Office of Investigations
Building 3101, Room 119
Stennis Space Center, MS 39529-6000
Tel: 228-688-1493



SEMIANNUAL REPORT

To report fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement, contact the NASA OIG Hotline at 800-424-9183 or 800-535-8134 (TDD) or visit <https://oig.nasa.gov/hotline.html>. You can also write to NASA Inspector General, P.O. Box 23089, L'Enfant Plaza Station, Washington, DC 20026. The identity of each writer and caller can be kept confidential, upon request, to the extent permitted by law.

A glimpse of the aurora borealis viewline, shot on October 10, 2024, in Northern Virginia.
(Image Credit: Ray Tolomeo in collaboration with Carlyle Webb II)