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Highlights

Investigative Accomplishments

investigations opened, by priority area

	transportation safety	21		public interest	6
	grant and procurement fraud	13		other	3
	employee integrity	2			

69/75

investigations & complaints closed/opened

28/24

convictions/indictments & criminal informations

\$1,446,831,212

financial impact of DOT OIG investigations

Audit Accomplishments

audit reports, by agency

25

audit reports issued

142

recommendations

\$1,222,151,187

financial impact of DOT OIG audit reports

	FAA	6		FTA	2		NHTSA	0
	FHWA	2		GLS	1		NTSB	2
	FMCSA	0		MARAD	1		OST	8
	FRA	0		Multimodal*	1		PHMSA	0
							STB	2

*Multimodal refers to audits that involved two or more agencies.









Performance Highlights

We investigate allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, and other violations of law by DOT employees, contractors, grantees, and regulated entities. Some of the most significant issues for which we completed or concluded investigations during this reporting period include:

- Bid rigging.** An asphalt company was fined \$733,940 for two separate bid rigging conspiracies, and two individuals were fined \$150,000 and sentenced to a combined 48 months of probation for scheming to rig bids for contracts to provide asphalt paving services.
- Ticketing fraud and child exploitation.** An individual was sentenced to 360 months in prison, 60 months of supervised release, and \$468,037 in restitution for scheming to defraud Amtrak and consumers using unauthorized or stolen credit card numbers to make unauthorized Amtrak reservations. The individual also coerced or enticed a minor to engage in sexual acts during the scheme.
- Drone safety.** An undocumented immigrant was sentenced to 117 months in prison and 36 months of supervised release for firing a handgun at a police drone while being a prohibited person in possession of a firearm, possessing with intent to distribute a substance containing fentanyl, and possessing a firearm to further a drug trafficking scheme.
- Household goods moving fraud.** Moving company employees were sentenced to 24 months in prison, 12 months of supervised release, and \$30,000 in forfeiture for a fraud scheme involving holding customers' goods hostage. The employees were also ordered to pay \$1,795,950 in restitution to their victims.

Investigative Accomplishments






	hotline contacts received	2,396
	investigations & complaints* closed/opened	69/75
	criminal/civil investigations referred for prosecution	107/16
	convictions/indictments & criminal informations	28/24
	years of incarceration, probation, home detention, supervised release	141
	financial impact of DOT OIG investigations	\$1,446,831,212
	hours of community service	140
	civil settlements & judgments	30

*A complaint is the preliminary review of an allegation during which it is determined whether an investigation will be opened.

Statistical Data

Financial impact of DOT OIG investigations



total financial impact		\$1,446,831,213
	costs avoided	\$14,421,240
	forfeitures	\$376,298,840
	recoveries	\$525,415,478
	finances and special assessments	\$523,191,440
	restitution	\$7,504,215

Types of monetary impositions

Forfeitures are tools to deprive criminals of the proceeds of their crimes and recover property that may be used to compensate victims and deter crime.

Recoveries include funds returned to the Government resulting from criminal and civil judgments, pleas, and settlements.

Fines are criminal or civil monetary penalties.

Special assessments are part of the sentence for offenders of certain Federal crimes, applied on a per-count basis. The money is placed in the Crime Victims Fund to recompense victims of offenses against Federal law.

Restitution is a criminal or civil award to a victim for harm caused by the offender’s wrongful acts.

Investigative workload



75
investigations & complaints opened this reporting period



379
ongoing investigations & complaints






69
investigations & complaints closed this reporting period

Criminal prosecutions

DOT OIG investigates and refers a variety of matters for criminal prosecution, including cases involving transportation safety, procurement and grant fraud, consumer and workforce fraud, and employee integrity issues.

Numbers of investigations referred, accepted, and declined for criminal prosecution

	referred**	107
	accepted*	81
	declined*	42

Individuals and businesses referred to the U.S. Department of Justice or State/local authorities for criminal prosecution

individuals referred to DOJ	82
businesses referred to DOJ	20
individuals referred to State or local authority	5
businesses referred to State or local authority	0




*Number of investigations accepted and declined may include those initiated in a prior reporting period.

**Referred for prosecution or routed to the appropriate agency.

Civil prosecutions

DOT OIG investigates and refers civil matters for prosecution, including False Claims Act cases involving fraud on DOT programs.





Numbers of investigations referred, accepted, and declined for civil prosecution

	referred**	16
	accepted*	11
	declined*	4

Human trafficking

In accordance with the Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022 (Public Law Number 117-348), DOT OIG is required to report on its human trafficking investigations.

Numbers of investigations referred, accepted, and declined for criminal prosecution

	allegations received	6
	referred**	5
	accepted*	0
	declined*	0

Summary of referrals for criminal and civil prosecution



grant and procurement 43

false claims	14	overbilling	1	kickbacks	2
DBE eligibility		false statements	11	embezzlement	1
fraud (financial/ownership/control)	4	DBE pass through fraud	2	anti-trust, bid rigging/collusion	3
Buy America requirements	2	other	2		
surety bonds	1				



aviation 21

certificate fraud, non-commercial airman	1	commercial pilot, operating aircraft under the influence	1	interference or tampering with an aircraft	2
certificate fraud, commercial airman	1	SUPs, parts maintenance	3	certificate fraud, aircraft	4
falsification of FAA orders or other documents	3	unauthorized operation of an aircraft	5	airman's log	1



motor carrier 9

CDL fraud of school or 3rd party tester	1	drug and alcohol program violation	1	fraudulent registration filings, reincarnated carriers	2
CDL	1	driver qualification	1	log books	3



public interest 11

aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft	2	household goods/moving companies	4	unmanned aircraft systems	3
certificate fraud, medical by doctor	2				

Summary of referrals for criminal and civil prosecution (cont.)

employee integrity 10



conflict of interest (public corruption, current employee)	4	bribery/gratuities (employee conduct)	1	violation of law, rule, or regulation	1
ethics violation (misconduct)	1	theft	1	other	2

transportation safety 2



falsification of FRA- required records	2
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hazmat 9



carriage by motor vehicle/ public highway	2	carriage by vessel	4	illegal shipment of airbags	1
illegal transportation of stolen hazmat	1	pipelines	1		

workforce protection 8



economic fraud committed by carrier	4	economic fraud committed by forwarder/broker	1	undocumented workers	3
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other 10



forgery/alteration of documents	4	impersonation of a government official	2	child sexual abuse material	1
emissions fraud	2	retaliation against an agent	1		

Investigative reports

DOT OIG distributed **49** investigative reports, including reports of investigation, stakeholder memos, and management implication reports.

Indictments and informations from prior referrals

A total of **13** indictments or criminal informations resulted from previous referrals for prosecution.

Whistleblower retaliation

DOT OIG closed **0** investigations in which a DOT official was found to have engaged in whistleblower retaliation.

Metrics used to develop investigative statistical data

DOT OIG maintains an Investigative Case Management System to track the life of an investigation. It captures hundreds of data points, including dates, significant investigative steps, referrals, and outcomes (criminal, civil, and administrative). It is also the repository for reports of investigation, stakeholder communications, and management implication reports. Each statistic and outcome reported is validated against the appropriate legal documents.

Judicial actions and outcomes

indictments and criminal informations	24
convictions	28
years of incarceration and home detention	80
years of supervised release	40
years of probation	20
hours of community service	140

Types of judicial actions

An **indictment** is a formal, written accusation of a crime made by a grand jury and presented to court for prosecution.

A **conviction** is the result of a criminal court proceeding that ends in a judgment that the defendant is guilty as charged.

Supervised release is a period of court supervision that often follows an offender's service of a Federal prison sentence. The primary purpose of supervised release is not to punish, but instead to facilitate the defendant's reentry into the community.

Probation is a period of supervision over an offender, ordered by a court instead of a sentence of imprisonment.

Community service is a sentencing option ordering offenders to perform a number of service hours for the benefit of the public.

Administrative actions and outcomes resulting from DOT OIG investigations

suspension and debarment actions*

individual suspension	4
individual debarment	0
business suspension	1
business debarment	0
suspension referral	14
debarment referral	4

personnel actions

proposed removal	0
removal	1
employee suspension	1
employee resigned/ retired during investigation	2

other actions

compliance agreement	1
enforcement action taken	1
Federal funds reduced	0
certificate/license/permit revoked/terminated	5
suspension/debarment referral**	6
corrective action taken	1
decertification, MBE/DBE	1
Federal funds participation terminated	1

* Numbers of suspensions and debarments may include referrals made in a prior reporting period.

** Specifically, when another agency with which DOT OIG is working jointly initiates the suspension/debarment referral.

Types of administrative actions

Suspension and debarment excludes an individual or entity from doing business with the Federal government.

Personnel actions include significant changes in employee duties, responsibilities, or working conditions.

Compliance agreements are voluntary agreements aimed at preventing future wrongdoing by putting

safeguards in place to correct past misconduct and identify and correct any future misconduct.

Federal funds reduced refers to money a State or locality repaid to a DOT agency following the improper award of a contract or unallowable expenses.

Investigations involving senior Government employees that were closed but not disclosed to the public

There were 2 administrative investigations involving violations of 5 C.F.R. Part 2635 in which misconduct was unsubstantiated.

Investigations involving senior Government employees where misconduct was substantiated

There were no investigations involving senior Government employees in which misconduct was substantiated.

Types of allegations

Unsubstantiated allegations include no criminal, civil, or administrative actions taken as a result of the investigation.

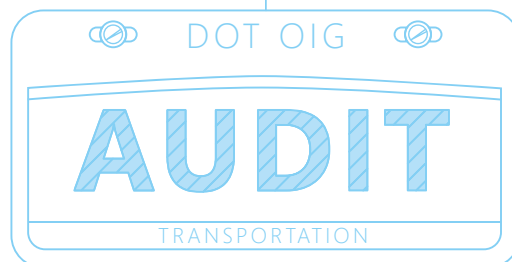
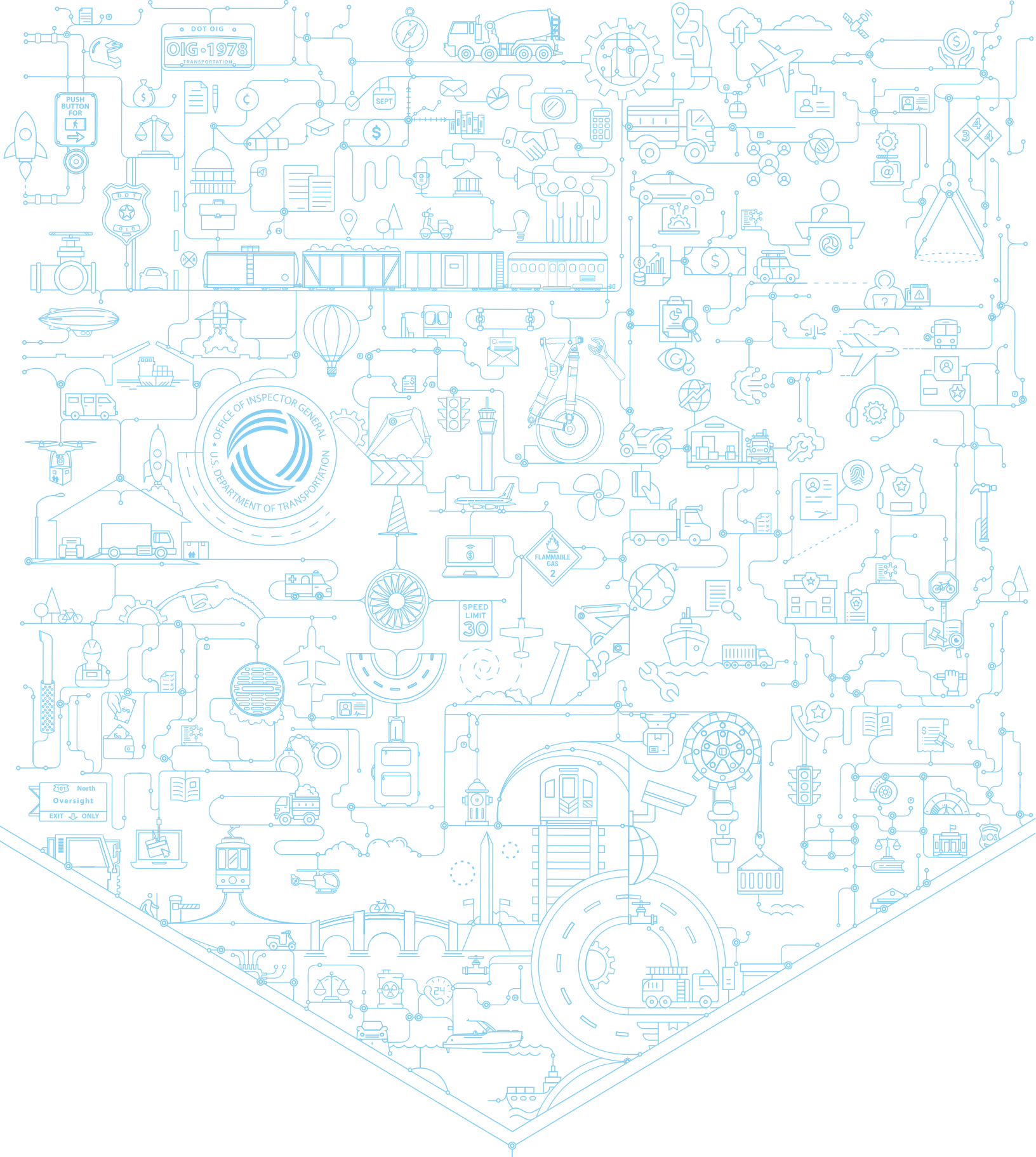
Substantiated allegations are allegations that were investigated and determined to have occurred.

Hotline Complaint Center

DOT OIG maintains a Hotline Complaint Center to receive allegations of fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement in DOT programs and operations. Allegations may be reported 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by DOT employees, contractors, or the general public.



total hotline contacts received		2,396
	fax +1 (202) 366-7749	1
	letters 1200 New Jersey Ave SE, West Bldg, 7th floor, Washington, DC 20590	28
	phone calls +1 (800) 424-9071	262
	web contacts www.oig.dot.gov/hotline	715
	emails hotline@oig.dot.gov	1,390



Performance Highlights

We conduct independent and objective audits and reviews of DOT programs and activities to ensure they operate economically, efficiently, and effectively. Some of the most significant issues for which we completed reviews during this reporting period include:

- **Boeing production issues.** FAA's oversight of Boeing's production systems is insufficient and lacks data-driven assessments and milestones to determine if Boeing's Safety Management System is effective and to ensure that production issues are identified and resolved. FAA also faces challenges in addressing allegations of undue pressure within Boeing aircraft manufacturing.
- **Mobile device security.** The U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, DOT's Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), and FAA have not ensured proper security and prompt software updates for their mobile devices. FAA has also not ensured that its inventories are correct, and in some cases FAA and OCIO were paying for unused devices.
- **Anti-competitive bidding.** At least one-third of FHWA's Federal-aid Highway projects in our sample were potentially impacted by complementary bidding that contributed to an overall contract cost increase of about \$1.2 billion. FHWA's guidance did not sufficiently support State DOTs' identification of these anticompetitive practices.
- **Construction quality assurance oversight.** FHWA's divisions lack thorough guidance to effectively oversee State DOTs' construction quality assurance programs. The Agency's reviews of these programs are also insufficient and do not fully address all regulatory requirements.

Audit Accomplishments



audit reports issued

25



recommendations

142



financial impact
of DOT OIG audits

\$1,222,151,187

To access our full library of audits, recommendations, investigations, testimonies, and other reports, visit <https://www.oig.dot.gov/>.



Statistical Data

Completed audits by type

reports25

performance audits	11	financial audits	9
audits under Single Audit Act	5	attestation engagements	0

recommendations142

performance audits	64	financial audits	72
audits under Single Audit Act	6	attestation engagements	0

financial impact\$1,222,151,187

performance audits	\$1,214,939,218
audits under the Single Audit Act	\$7,211,969
financial audits	\$0
attestation engagements	\$0

Note: Dollars shown are amounts reported to management. Actual amounts may change during final resolution. See pages 14 and 15 for definitions.

Types of audits

Performance audits provide objective analyses, findings, and conclusions to assist management and those charged with governance and oversight to, among other things, improve program performance and operations, reduce costs, facilitate decision making by parties with responsibility to oversee or initiate corrective action, and contribute to public accountability.

Financial audits are assessments that determine whether the reported financial conditions, results, and use of resources are presented fairly in accordance with recognized criteria.

Audits under the Single Audit Act are examinations of an entity that expends \$1 million or more in Federal assistance (i.e., Federal funds, grants, or awards) received for its operations. We review single audit reports and report quarterly on significant findings related to programs directly funded by DOT. We also perform quality control reviews on a sample of the single audits.

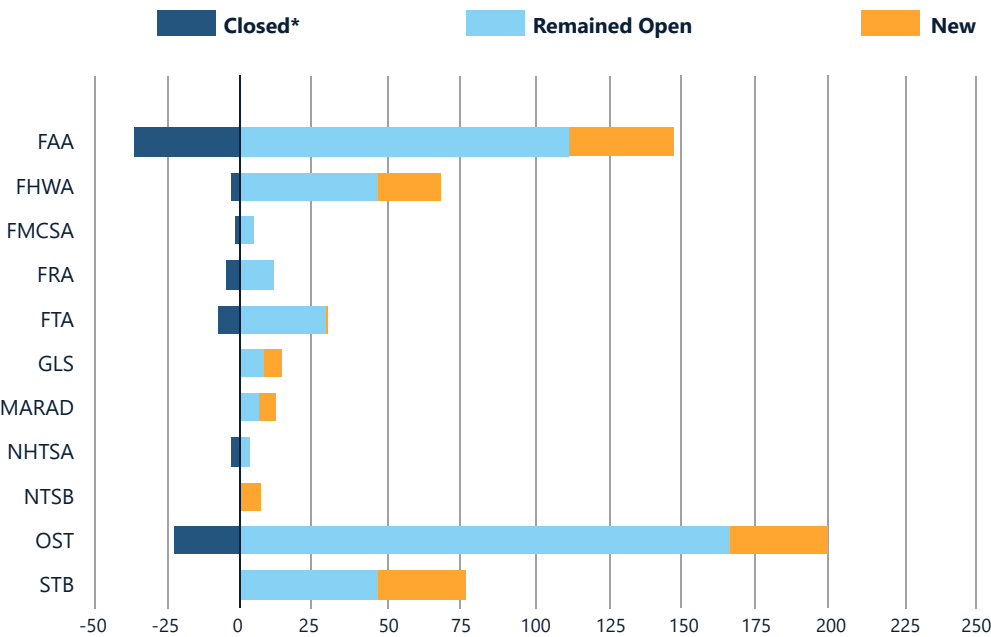
Attestation engagements are examinations, reviews, or agreed-upon procedure engagements of a subject matter or assertion for which another party is responsible.

Open audit recommendations

As of March 31, DOT OIG had **572 open recommendations**, which were included in **175** audit reports issued since **June 5, 2014**. Of these, **58** recommendations (from **36** reports) carry an **estimated monetary or cost savings totaling over \$1,042,286,926**, including funds that could be put to better use and questioned costs.

Please visit our Recommendation Dashboard at www.oig.dot.gov/recommendation-dashboard for accurate and timely data on the status of DOT OIG’s audit recommendations, links to audit summaries associated with each recommendation, interactive charts and recommendation data visualizations, and reports on recommendations required by the Inspector General Act.

Status of audit recommendations, first half of FY 2025



*Some closed recommendations were opened prior to the reporting period.

Open and closed audit recommendations

A recommendation is **opened** on the date the audit report is issued. Once opened, a recommendation is “unresolved” until the auditee and DOT OIG agree on the step(s) necessary to address the recommendation. Then the recommendation is considered “resolved” and remains open until the auditee completes the corrective action and provides DOT OIG with sufficient supporting evidence of the actions taken.

A recommendation is **closed** after the auditee has agreed with the recommendation, takes appropriate corrective action, and provides DOT OIG with sufficient supporting evidence to demonstrate that the action was taken.

Peer Reviews

DOT OIG's auditing and investigations functions are subject to peer reviews in accordance with generally accepted Government auditing standards, CIGIE guidelines, and the Attorney General Guidelines for Federal OIGs with statutory law enforcement authority. These peer reviews provide formal, objective assessments of DOT OIG's adherence to prescribed standards, regulations, and legislation.

Peer reviews of DOT OIG

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) conducted a CIGIE peer review of our Office of Auditing and Evaluation in effect for the year ended September 30, 2024. TIGTA concluded that the audit organization's system of quality control was suitably designed and complied with to provide DOT OIG with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards and legal and regulatory requirements in all material respects. Accordingly, TIGTA provided a "pass" rating and did not make any recommendations. The report was released on March 28, 2025.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) OIG conducted a CIGIE peer review of our Office of Investigations in fiscal year 2024. EPA OIG concluded that the system of internal safeguards and management procedures used for our investigative operations complied with the quality standards established by CIGIE and other applicable guidelines and statutes and did not make any recommendations. The report was released on September 13, 2024.

These reports are available on our website at <https://www.oig.dot.gov/about-oig/peer-review>.

Outstanding peer review recommendations addressed to DOT OIG

DOT OIG does not have any outstanding peer review recommendations that have not been implemented.

Peer reviews conducted by DOT OIG

DOT OIG did not conduct a CIGIE peer review during this reporting period.

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Reporting Requirements

Index of reporting requirements under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended

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5(a)(1)	Significant problems, abuses, and deficiencies	3, 12
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5(a)(6)	Management decisions made on previously issued audits	15
5(a)(7)	Compliance with Federal Financial Management Improvement Act	15
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5(a)(11)	Statistical table of investigative reports and referrals	5–8
5(a)(12)	Investigative reporting metrics	8
5(a)(13)	Substantiated misconduct of senior Government employees	10
5(a)(14)	Instances of whistleblower retaliation	8
5(a)(15)	Interference with DOT OIG independence	15
5(a)(16)	Closed but undisclosed audits and investigations of senior Government employees	10

Acronym Glossary

Acronym	Definition
CDL	commercial driver's license
CIGIE	Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency
DBE	disadvantaged business enterprise
DOJ	U.S. Department of Justice
DOT	U.S. or State Department of Transportation
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FMCSA	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
FMVSS	Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
FY	fiscal year
GLS	Great Lakes Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
Hazmat	hazardous material
MARAD	Maritime Administration
MBE	minority business enterprise
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NTSB	National Transportation Safety Board
OCIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
OIG	Office of Inspector General
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OST	Office of the Secretary of Transportation

Acronym	Definition
PHMSA	Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
STB	Surface Transportation Board
TIGTA	Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration

