



BRIEFLY...

DOL CONTINUES TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARD COMPLIANCE WITH THE GEOSPATIAL DATA ACT OF 2018

WHY WE DID THE AUDIT

The Geospatial Data Act of 2018 (GDA) was signed into law on October 5, 2018, to foster efficient management of geospatial data, technologies, and infrastructure through enhanced coordination among federal, state, local, and tribal governments, along with the private sector and academia. According to the GDA, the Inspectors General must complete an audit every 2 years regarding their agencies' progress toward implementing GDA requirements.

To address this mandatory audit requirement, we performed an audit to answer the following question:

To what extent has the Department of Labor (DOL) fulfilled the requirements of the GDA to date?

We assessed the status of DOL's implementation efforts by conducting interviews and analyzing evidence provided.

WHAT WE FOUND

DOL made progress in addressing the 13 specific GDA requirements; however, more remains to be done. Of the 13 requirements, we determined DOL initiated action and made progress on 6 of the requirements, completed or met 5, and made no progress to date on the remaining 2.

In the following table, the red hexagon ● means no progress or requirements not met, the yellow triangle ▲ means limited progress or requirements partially met, and the green star ★ means requirements met.

Table: OIG Assessment of DOL's Implementation of GDA Requirements

Requirement	2020	2022	2024
1. Strategy	▲	●	▲
2. Support Data Sharing	●	●	▲
3. Promote Data Integration	●	●	★
4. Agency Record Schedules	●	●	●
5. Allocation of Resources	▲	●	●
6. Use Data Standards	●	●	▲
7. Coordination and Partnerships	★	★	★
8. Promote Application of Geospatial Data Assets	●	●	★
9. Protection of Privacy and Confidentiality	●	●	▲
10. Declassified Data	★	★	★
11. Non-Duplication of Data	▲	●	▲
12. Ensuring High-Quality Data	●	●	▲
13. Appointment of Contact	★	★	★

Source: OIG analysis from our Fiscal Year 2020, 2022, and 2024 geospatial audits

DOL's progress in addressing GDA requirements has been impaired by multiple factors. Although DOL has a geospatial data strategy, the policy was not adequately disseminated to agencies. Many agencies remained unaware there was a policy, and some did not understand their roles, responsibilities, and obligations. Furthermore, DOL had an incomplete and inaccurate geospatial data inventory. DOL also had no plans for long-term funding or allocations for geospatial projects or to purchase data quality standards. Finally, DOL continued to be hindered by lead agencies' delays in providing data standards and regulations needed by covered agencies.

WHAT WE RECOMMENDED

We made three recommendations to improve DOL's compliance with the GDA. We recommended the Chief Data Officer (CDO) create a documented process to improve data accuracy and quality, provide training to agencies, and create a plan to acquire sufficient funding for GDA work. The CDO agreed with our recommendations.

READ THE FULL REPORT

For more information, go to:

<https://www.oig.dol.gov/public/reports/oa/2025/23-25-001-01-001.pdf>.