

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Inspector General

At a Glance

Why We Published This Compendium

Section 5 of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), requires each inspector general to prepare semiannual reports for Congress, which must include "an identification of each significant recommendation described in previous semi-annual reports on which corrective action has not been completed."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Inspector General is publishing this compendium to analyze the open and unresolved recommendations listed in the semiannual report covering our work from October 1, 2021, through March 31, 2022. Our intention is to produce this compendium twice a year following each semiannual report publication.

Open recommendations are those that the EPA and the OIG agree on but for which the agreed-to corrective action has not been completed. This includes recommendations with corrective actions past due or due in the future. Unresolved recommendations are those for which the Agency and the OIG do not agree on the corrective action, the proposed corrective action completion date, or the completion of the corrective action.

Address inquiries to our public affairs office at (202) 566-2391 or OIG WEBCOMMENTS@epa.gov.

List of OIG Reports.

Compendium of Open and Unresolved Recommendations: Data as of March 31, 2022

What We Found

This compendium focuses on 175 recommendations (156 open and 19 unresolved) identified in Report No. <u>EPA-350-R-22-001</u>, *Semiannual Report to Congress: October 1, 2021–March 31, 2022*, issued May 2022. These recommendations represent \$29.70 million in potential monetary benefits. In this compendium, we also discuss:

- The breakdown of unresolved recommendations, including recommendations the Agency previously reported as closed.
- The relationship of open and unresolved recommendations to the EPA's fiscal year 2022 top management challenges, which we identify in OIG Report No. <u>22-N-0004</u>, *EPA's Fiscal Year 2022 Top Management Challenges*, issued November 12, 2021.
- 17 high-priority (open or unresolved) recommendations the OIG identified.
- The breakdown of open recommendations by program office and region.
- 103 open recommendations to improve human health and the environment and 53 recommendations to improve administrative and business functions.
- Open recommendations that are at least three years old, as well as corrective actions that are not scheduled to be completed within three years of report issuance.

From March 2017 through March 2022, the OIG issued 11 semiannual reports to Congress. These reports identified an average of 104 open recommendations and 18 unresolved recommendations to the EPA. The total potential monetary benefit was, on average, \$147.8 million for the recommendations.