



*Presentation before the Chief Financial Officers Council
General Services Administration Conference Center
Washington, DC – April 19, 2016*

DATA Act Oversight

The screenshot shows the USA SPENDING.GOV website. At the top left is the USA SPENDING.GOV logo with the tagline "An official website of the U.S. Government". To the right is a search bar with "Search Data by Keyword" and "Search Site" options, and a "Go" button. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: HOME, ABOUT, WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING, REFERENCES, DOWNLOAD CENTER, CONTACT US.

The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "WHAT IS USASPENDING.GOV?" and contains a paragraph explaining the website's purpose. Below this is a section titled "OVERVIEW OF AWARDS - FY 2015" which includes a bar chart showing the distribution of funding types:

Category	Value
Contracts	Funds Awarded: \$288,588
Grants	Number of Transactions: 1,720,560
Loans	
Other Financial Assistance*	

The right column is titled "AWARDS BY STATE - FY 2015" and features a map of the United States where states are shaded in various colors to represent the amount of awards. A legend below the map shows a color scale from 0B to 200B. Below the map is a "Text View of Awards by State" link.

At the bottom of the page, there are three sections: "SHORTCUTS" with links to FAQs, Data Archives, About the Data, Download Center, and Contact Us; "SEARCH FOR A RECIPIENT" with a "Recipient Name" input field and a "Go" button; and "See Awards in Your Neighborhood" with a "ZIP" input field and a "Go" button. To the right of these is a "SPENDING MAP" section with a magnifying glass icon over a map of the United States.

Presenters: Marla Freedman, Jim Lisle, and Bob Taylor on behalf of the Federal Audit Executive Council DATA Act Working Group



What We'll Talk About Today—

- ✓ DATA Act Overview
- ✓ Oversight Requirements
- ✓ IG Community DATA Act Working Group
- ✓ Addressing the IG Date Anomaly and Readiness Reviews
- ✓ Developing the IG Required Review Methodology
- ✓ Preparing for the IG Required Reviews
- ✓ Looking Beyond the First IG Review



DATA Act Overview

Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014

Purposes, in part:

- expand FFATA by disclosing direct Federal agency expenditures and linking Federal contract, loan, and grant spending information to programs of Federal agencies
- establish Government-wide data standards for financial data and provide consistent, reliable, and searchable Government-wide spending data that is displayed accurately on USASpending.gov (or a successor system)
- **improve the quality of data submitted to USASpending.gov by holding Federal agencies accountable for the completeness and accuracy of the data submitted**



Key Dates

- May 2015 – Treasury/OMB to Issue Guidance on Government-wide Financial Data Standards
- May 2017 – Treasury/OMB to Ensure Financial Data Is Posted on USASpending.gov (or a successor system)
- May 2018 – Treasury/OMB to Ensure Standards Are Applied to Data on USASpending.gov (or a successor system)



Oversight Requirements

Agency Inspectors General– 3 reviews

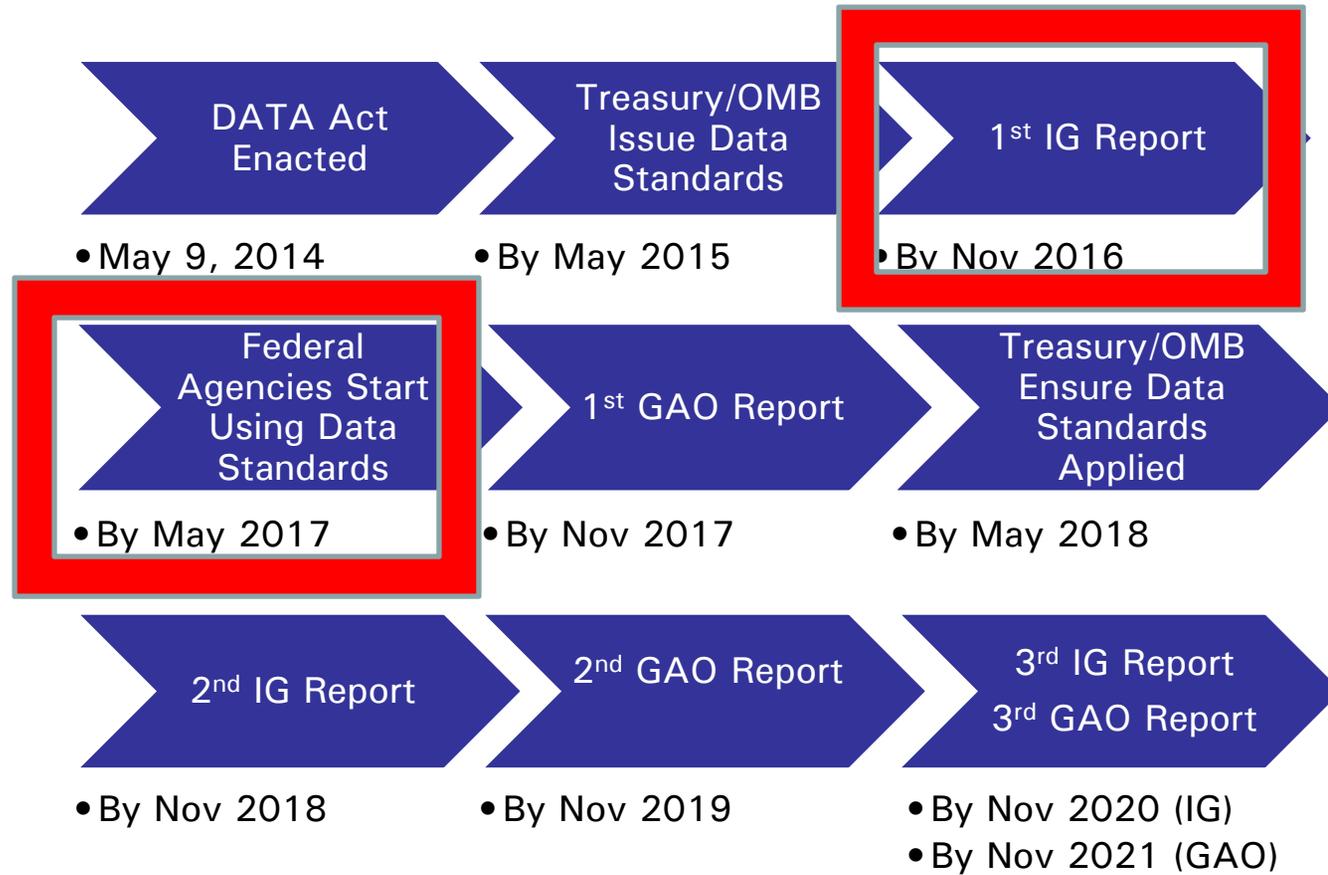
- *In consultation with GAO*, review a statistically valid sampling of the spending data submitted by the Federal agency
- Submit to Congress and make publically available, a report assessing
 - ✓ completeness, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of the data sampled
 - ✓ implementation and use of Data Standards by the Federal agency
- Reviews due November 2016, November 2018, November 2020



➤ **GAO – 3 Reviews**

- *After a review of IG reports*, submit to Congress and make publically available, a report assessing and comparing
 - ✓ data completeness, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of the data submitted by Federal agencies
 - ✓ implementation and use of Data Standards by Federal agencies

- Reviews due November 2017, November 2019, November 2021





IG Community DATA Act Working Group

➤ Mission

Assist the IG Community in understanding and meeting its DATA Act oversight requirements by (1) serving as a working level liaison with Treasury, (2) consulting with the Government Accountability Office, (3) developing a common review approach and methodology, and (4) coordinating key communications with other stakeholders.

➤ Stood up January 2015

➤ 82 members from 26 OIGs

➤ Accomplishments to date

- ✓ Established consultative protocol with GAO (e.g., meet monthly)

- ✓ Defined and communicated strategy for IG reporting anomaly

- ✓ Developed common methodology for “readiness reviews”

➤ Next steps

- ✓ Update common methodology for readiness reviews

- ✓ Develop common methodology for required reviews



Addressing the IG Date Anomaly and Readiness Reviews

- **CIGIE Letter to Congress (December 22, 2015)**
 - ✓ First agency IG report pushed back 1 year, to **November 2017**. Subsequent reports to follow in November 2019 and November 2021
 - ✓ Encourage IGs to perform DATA Act “readiness reviews”



➤ **Readiness review common methodology**

- ✓ Issued early December 2015
- ✓ Focus on agency implementation plan that was to be submitted to OMB in September 2015
 - 8-step DATA Act Playbook
- ✓ Consideration of shared services users and providers
- ✓ Progress towards planned milestones

➤ **11 Agencies have begun readiness reviews so far**



Developing the IG Required Review Methodology

- **Principal Working Group focus**
- **We are consulting with GAO**
- **Issues**
 - ✓ Treasury/OMB guidance and tools still a work-in-process
 - ✓ Reliance on management's internal controls
 - ✓ Leveraging financial audit test work
 - ✓ Statistical sampling approach
 - Transaction level testing and source documentation – how far do we need to go
 - Summary financial data testing



Preparing for the IG Required Reviews

- **IGs will be looking for:**
 - ✓ A description of the design, and documentation of the regular execution, of the control procedures and systems through which agency management gains assurance that the data submitted by the agency under the Act is complete, timely, accurate, and compliant with applicable data standards; and
 - ✓ A description of how systems and processes interact to provide an auditable record of the data submitted under the Act
 - ✓ In other words – document, document, document

- We encourage agencies to share information with their IG about plans and processes *as they are developed and implemented*



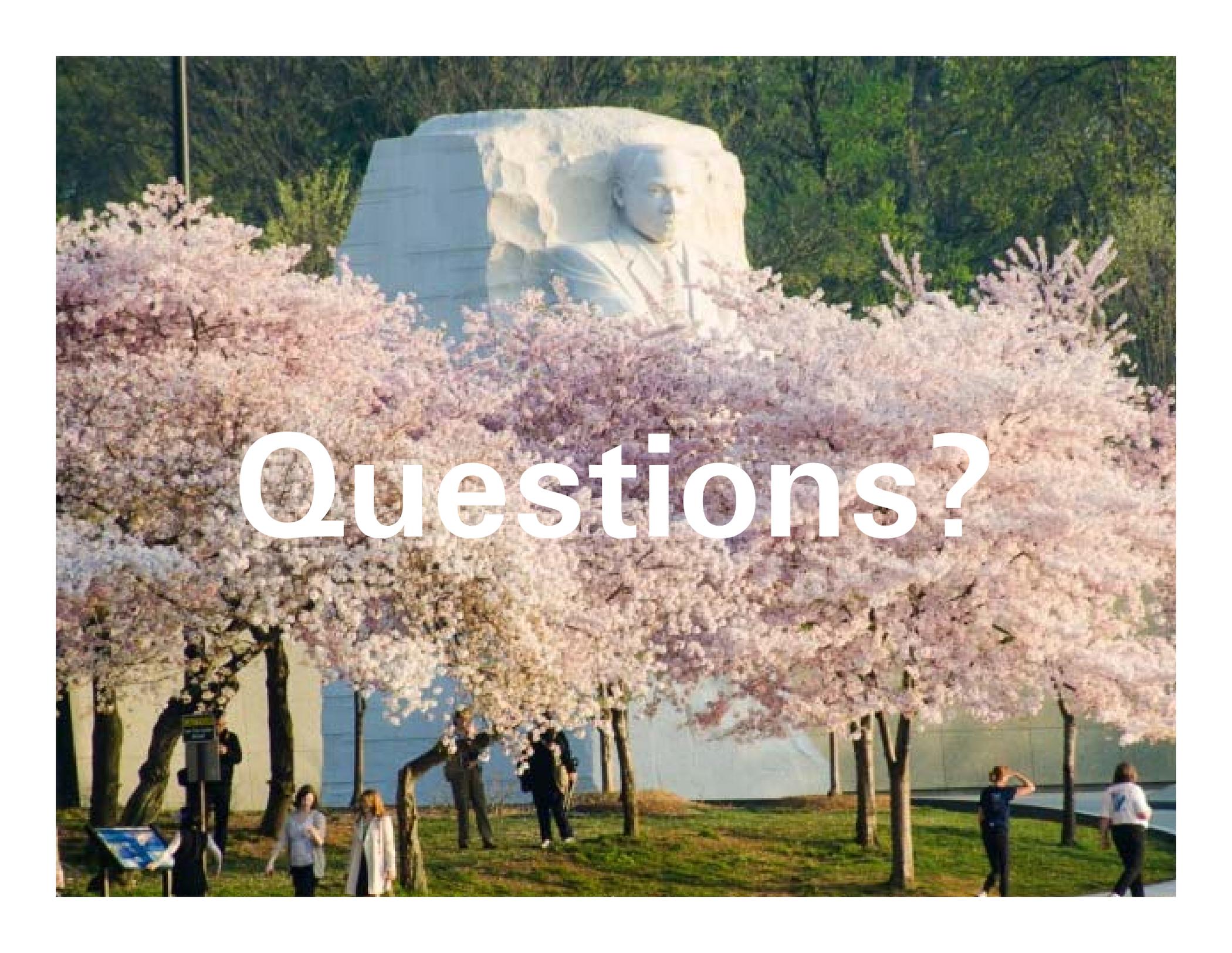
-
- Management, not the IGs, are responsible for completeness, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of spending data

How are you getting happy with your numbers?



Looking Beyond the First IG Review

- The DATA Act allows for the 2nd (November 2019) and 3rd (November 2021) required IG review to be part of the annual financial audit report
 - ✓ This approach, if elected by the IG, will likely entail amending contracts



Questions?