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APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, [\$32,000,000] \$34,000,000, together with not to exceed [\$82,665,000] \$86,400,000, to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund: *Provided*, That \$2,000,000 shall remain available until expended for information technology modernization, including related hardware and software infrastructure and equipment, and for administrative expenses directly associated with information technology modernization.

In addition, an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the total provided in this appropriation may be transferred from the “Limitation on Administrative Expenses”, Social Security Administration, to be merged with this account, to be available for the time and purposes for which this account is available: *Provided*, That notice of such transfers shall be transmitted promptly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 15 days in advance of any transfer. (*Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.*)

GENERAL STATEMENT

OVERVIEW

The Social Security Administration (SSA) Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) [strategic plan](#), including the SSA OIG mission, vision, and strategic goals, forms the foundation for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Budget. The FY 2024 Budget includes \$120.4 million for SSA OIG direct appropriations, which represents an increase of \$5.7 million over the FY 2023 enacted level of \$114.7 million and includes \$2 million to remain available until expended for information technology (IT) modernization.

SSA OIG's mission is to serve the public through independent oversight of SSA's programs and operations. SSA OIG accomplishes this mission by conducting independent audits, evaluations, and investigations; searching for and reporting systemic weaknesses in SSA's programs and operations; and providing recommendations for program, operations, and management improvements. SSA OIG's vision is to drive meaningful change to protect taxpayer dollars. The mission and vision, together, emphasize SSA OIG's role as public servants and agents of positive change. In FY 2022, SSA OIG identified \$15 in returns to the government for every \$1 in appropriations.

The FY 2024 Budget will allow SSA OIG to perform its core mission of auditing and investigating SSA programs and operations, while also building its data analytics capabilities, increasing data-driven decision-making, investing in information technology and automation tools, and building and strengthening its workforce. These improvements will lead to a more innovative, nimble, and responsive organization.

The FY 2024 Budget will increase SSA OIG's productivity and impact through the addition of 26 FTEs over the FY 2023 enacted level. Based on an average from the last three fiscal years, each additional investigative FTE could potentially result in an estimated 24 additional cases closed and almost \$1 million in additional monetary accomplishments. For every additional audit FTE, SSA OIG could produce up to 1 additional audit report. Over the past three years, an SSA OIG audit on average, has identified about \$33 million in questioned costs and about \$28 million in funds put to better use.

The FY 2024 Budget includes an estimated \$1.1 million in Interagency Agreements with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, the U.S. General Services Administration, the U.S. Department of Treasury's Treasury Executive Institute, and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to obtain specialized services from those agencies to support workforce development, specialized training, and operational enhancements.

In FY 2024, SSA OIG will contribute an estimated \$473,600¹ to the Council of the

¹ Estimate reflects the increase in CIGIE's funding assessment from 0.36% to .40% starting in FY 2024. This percentage is applied against SSA OIG's direct appropriations excluding no-year funding dedicated to IT Modernization.

Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), an annual amount determined by CIGIE. CIGIE is an independent entity established within the Executive Branch to address integrity, economy, and effectiveness issues that transcend individual Government agencies and aid in the establishment of a professional, well-trained, and highly skilled workforce in the Offices of Inspectors General.

In addition to the request for \$120.4 million for direct base appropriations, the FY 2024 Budget requests SSA transfer \$19.1 million from SSA's Limitation on Administrative Expenses (LAE) program integrity allocation adjustment to the SSA OIG for the cost of leading the jointly operated anti-fraud Cooperative Disability Investigations (CDI) Program. This funding level represents an increase of \$4 million over the FY 2023 enacted level of \$15.1 million. The CDI Program helps ensure that only eligible people continue to receive benefits for both Federal and state programs through jointly-operated CDI units that are staffed by personnel from SSA, SSA OIG, state Disability Determination Services (DDS), and state and local law enforcement agencies.

The FY 2024 Budget continues SSA OIG's efforts to rebuild its capacity by providing an increase in base resources and the LAE transfer. Prior to FY 2019, SSA OIG prioritized expanding the CDI Program by assigning existing investigative personnel to the program, at the expense of other non-CDI investigative work. Since 2019, SSA OIG has received annual transfers from the LAE account to support CDI Program costs.

SSA OIG remains committed to the success of the CDI Program by increasing oversight and improving operations through dedicated leadership and management. SSA OIG implemented a new organizational structure to establish dedicated management over the CDI Program investigative and operational efforts, including a Senior Executive Service position to provide national oversight of the CDI Program. This reorganization expanded the CDI Division into three new CDI Field Divisions and will increase SSA OIG employees supporting the program from 41 in 2021 to 73 in 2023. In FY 2022, SSA OIG began using the transfer from the allocation adjustment to support CDI program operating costs, consistent with how SSA fully funds its CDI program costs from dedicated program integrity funds.

STRATEGIC GOALS

SSA OIG has consistently delivered valuable oversight information to SSA, the U.S. Congress, other stakeholders, and the public. SSA OIG’s work has led to changes in legislation, regulation, policy, and operations. As workloads increase and evolve, SSA OIG will continue to provide products that drive meaningful change.

SSA OIG’s strategic plan forms the foundation for the FY 2024 Budget. SSA OIG’s strategic goals, which are part of the strategic plan, are:

- Strategic Goal 1: Deliver solutions to promote positive change
- Strategic Goal 2: Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs and operations
- Strategic Goal 3: Optimize operations
- Strategic Goal 4: Strengthen our workforce

SSA OIG monitors its progress in meeting its mission and strategic goals through performance measures. The following table contains SSA OIG’s Performance Measures with the associated FY 2022 results and FY 2023 targets.

Table 4.1 – OIG Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY 2022 Target	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Target
Improve rates of criminal charges, civil complaints, and CMP initiations*	N/A	N/A	TBD
Review and take action on 90% of hotline allegations within 5 days of receipt	85%	94%	90%
Substantially complete investigative fieldwork on 75% of social security program fraud investigations within 180 days	75%	77% to date	75%
Exceed the 3-year trailing average return-on-investment as reported by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency	18-to-1	15-to-1	20-to-1
Work with SSA to ensure 80% of the recommendations we made within the last 4 fiscal years, which SSA agreed to implement, have been resolved	80%	87%	80%
Ensure that 75% of audits are issued within one year from the entrance conference	75%	45%	75%

**This is a new measure established in FY 2022. Due in part to the duration of criminal investigations, we are continuing data collection to establish a baseline and methodology.*

Strategic Goal 1: Deliver solutions to promote positive change

SSA OIG's first strategic goal is to deliver solutions to promote positive change. This goal aligns with SSA OIG's vision to drive meaningful change to protect taxpayer dollars. To meet this goal, SSA OIG will prioritize initiatives in four key areas: expanded oversight responsibilities, education and outreach, impactful audits, and complex and large-scale fraud investigations.

Expanded Oversight Responsibilities

SSA OIG has significantly expanded oversight responsibilities in areas related to the government's response to the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic, and Social Security-related government imposter scams.

Disrupting Fraud Schemes Targeting the Government's Response to the Pandemic

Given that Social Security number (SSN) misuse, including identity theft, is a common thread in many pandemic-related fraud cases, SSA OIG continues to play an important role in combating pandemic-related fraud.

As of January 2023, SSA OIG was participating in 21 Pandemic fraud workgroups and collaborating with other Federal law enforcement entities on more than 74 joint pandemic-related fraud investigations. These include SSN misuse investigations involving pandemic-related fraud schemes pertaining to Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits and business loans. The fraud workgroups allow for OIGs to access to shared datasets, identify emerging fraud risks, strengthen partnerships, and increase collaboration.

Since the outset of the pandemic, SSA OIG has received over 31,740 fraud allegations referencing pandemic-related relief programs and funds. In FY 2023, SSA OIG anticipates expending \$2.3 million on pandemic-related investigative workloads and audits. In FY 2024, SSA OIG will continue investigating pandemic-related fraud schemes and assisting with associated prosecution efforts.

Investigating Social Security-Related Government Imposter Scams

SSA OIG plays an important part in disrupting Social Security-related government imposter scams through investigative, enforcement, and educational efforts.¹ These scams are widespread throughout the United States. The calls are commonly robocalls initiated overseas, but they appear to originate from within the United States and, more maliciously, often "spoof" caller identification from a government or law enforcement agency.² Callers may ask for personal information, demand payment, or make threats. These scams occur primarily via telephone, but

¹ Social Security-related government imposter scams refer to in-person phone calls, robocalls, texts, emails, or mailings that use a false premise involving a Social Security number, account, or benefits to convince potential victims to provide personally identifiable information or money.

² Requirements under the *Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence (TRACED) Act*, may hamper scammers' ability to "spoof" caller-ID numbers, as calls will require an authentication certificate. While effective on spoofing, many scammers can still acquire legitimate U.S.-based telephone numbers to pass malicious call traffic. Changes within the telecom industry are ongoing and evolving. SSA OIG closely tracks these changes.

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may also occur via email, text, or U.S. mail. In FY 2022, SSA OIG received nearly 67,000 allegations related to these Social Security-related government imposter scams.

SSA OIG has taken a multi-pronged approach to stem this fraudulent activity. In FY 2023, SSA OIG expects to dedicate an estimated \$2.9 million to combatting imposter scams, including funding for human capital resources and allegations management. With the FY 2024 Budget, SSA OIG will continue to commit staff to analyze imposter scam allegations, develop investigative leads, and deploy effective investigative strategies to combat these fraud schemes.

The FY 2024 Budget will allow SSA OIG to better anticipate, recognize, and efficiently mitigate new and emerging fraud schemes, including those related to Pandemic relief and government imposter scams.

Education and Outreach

Disrupting Social Security-Related Government Imposter Scams

In 2022, Social Security-related scams remained the top government imposter scam reported to the [Federal Trade Commission](#). In FY 2024, SSA OIG will continue its comprehensive outreach campaign to protect taxpayers from government imposter scams. This campaign raises public awareness of recurring and emerging scam tactics and encourages the public to report Social Security-related scam activity to [SSA OIG's public website](#).

In FY 2020, SSA OIG and SSA established National Slam the Scam Day. National Slam the Scam Day brings together Federal, state, and local government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private companies to encourage the public to hang up or ignore criminals impersonating government employees. To maximize exposure, Slam the Scam efforts include strategic outreach and partnerships utilizing social media; digital, print, radio, and television.

In FY 2022, SSA OIG Tweets earned more than 84,000 impressions (or number of views) during National Consumer Protection Week, and more than 29.8 million people followed the hashtag #SlamTheScam. SSA OIG posts on Facebook received more than 55,000 views and resulted in more than 3.1 million #SlamTheScam followers.

The Slam the Scam message received coverage from more than 60 news media outlets on multiple platforms, including online and print, radio, and television. SSA and SSA OIG collaborated with major retailers to provide scam awareness information in retail outlets across the country. Walmart displayed "Slam the Scam" slides on customer service screens at 3,691 stores, and CVS broadcasted SSA's public service announcement in 8,000 stores. These efforts generated coverage online and through print materials viewed by an estimated audience of 14.3 million people.

Slam the Scam Day received congressional engagement. The U.S. Senate unanimously passed S.Res.543 designating March 10, 2022, as National Slam the Scam Day, and 20 U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate members shared Slam the Scam messages through press releases and social media. Other participants included Federal, state, and local government

agencies, private companies, and nonprofit organizations that amplified the Slam the Scam message through press releases, social media, blog posts, email messages, and, in some cases, print material.¹ The SSA OIG hosted this event again on March 9, 2023 and plans to do so again in March 2024.

Protecting the Public from Misleading Communications

SSA OIG is responsible for enforcing Section 1140 of the *Social Security Act*, which, in part, protects consumers from misleading SSA-related communications. Section 1140 prohibits the use of SSA words (e.g., Social Security Administration), acronyms (e.g., SSA), products (e.g., *my Social Security*), symbols (e.g., SSA's official emblem), and other SSA-related images (e.g., Social Security card) in communications to convey a false association with or authorization by SSA.

In FY 2022, SSA OIG launched an outreach program to the State Attorney General offices and other Federal agencies, including the Federal Trade Commission and Federal Communications Commission to enhance ongoing enforcement actions and deter future violations. In FY 2023, SSA OIG will present at the International Telecommunications Week conference on May 14-17, 2023, as part of continued efforts to increase the telecommunications industry's awareness about Section 1140's applicability and the implications of violation. During the presentation, SSA OIG will also discuss and encourage public and private sector cooperation regarding consumer protection efforts focused on combating Social Security-related fraud scams. In FY 2024, SSA OIG will continue outreach to the telecommunications industry via similar conference appearances and presentations.

Further, SSA OIG is increasing Section 1140 education through direct communication with all SSA employees via a video on-demand training module developed in partnership with SSA. This video, slated for release by the end of FY 2023, will educate SSA employees about how to identify possible violations of Section 1140 and report them to SSA OIG. Providing agency employees resources related to Section 1140 will help SSA OIG to vigorously enforce the statute and protect the American public from SSA-related fraudsters. In FY 2024, SSA OIG will continue to create educational opportunities for SSA employees via presentations and other outreach.

Protecting Whistleblower Rights

The *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended, directs Inspectors General to designate a Whistleblower Protection Coordinator to educate agency staff about prohibitions against retaliation against employees who have made, or are contemplating making, a protected disclosure. The coordinator also informs employees about the rights and remedies available if retaliated against for making protected disclosures.

For several years running, SSA OIG has developed and expanded a Whistleblower Protection Coordinator training program to educate the SSA workforce on whistleblower rights and

¹ The SSA OIG team that coordinated the third annual Slam the Scam Day received a 2022 Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Award for protecting the public and upholding the integrity of SSA.

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protections. For example, in FYs 2021 and 2022, SSA OIG significantly increased whistleblower education through direct communication to all agency employees in SSA and SSA OIG. In FY 2021, SSA OIG developed a robust training program for all new employees to ensure the workforce thoroughly understands whistleblower protections. In FY 2022, SSA OIG continued to implement this multifaceted education plan capitalizing on several mediums to deliver the message.

In August 2022, through collaboration and partnership with SSA, the team developed and released a two-part educational video, educating approximately 60,000 SSA and SSA OIG employees and 8,000 contractors about the OIG, whistleblower rights and remedies, and the functions of the Whistleblower Protection Coordinator. The team also produced a tri-fold pamphlet for distribution to SSA and SSA OIG employees and contractors, created virtual posters for display on SSA Headquarters Television, and developed posters for display in SSA and SSA OIG offices, all describing whistleblower rights and protections.

In FY 2023, SSA OIG is continuing to expand its whistleblower education program by developing a multi-stage training program, improving the visibility of the OIG Whistleblower Protection Coordinator website through collaboration with SSA, facilitating a whistleblower education community event, and beginning development of a new-employee orientation video introducing new employees to the Whistleblower Protection Coordinator program.

SSA OIG will continue that important work in FY 2024. In FY 2024, SSA OIG plans to provide hands-on training to SSA's over 60,000 employee workforce in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. SSA OIG is also increasing its educational outreach for contractors, grantees, and subgrantees.

Impactful Audits

In FY 2022, SSA OIG issued 44 audits that identified over \$1.3 billion in questioned costs and over \$250 million in funds that could have been put to better use. Contributing to those totals were the reports: [*Work Review Determinations for Disabled Beneficiaries*](#), [*Incorrect OASDI Benefit Payment Computations that Resulted in Overpayments*](#), and [*Deceased Beneficiaries in Suspended Payment Status*](#).

In the audit report, [*Work Review Determinations for Disabled Beneficiaries*](#), SSA OIG found SSA's controls did not ensure work review determinations were accurate and supportable. SSA OIG estimated SSA made errors on work review determinations for more than 31,000 beneficiaries, which resulted in over \$553 million in questionable benefit payments. Of this amount, \$548.6 million was attributed to overpayments. The report included five recommendations for SSA, including taking corrective action on the errors identified; incorporating controls and increased functionality in the system that will replace eWork; providing employees refresher training to properly monitor accurate completion of manual updates while increased automation efforts are pending; and updating policy and forms with clearer, specific instructions. SSA agreed with all the recommendations.

Since October 1, 2020, SSA OIG has completed five audits identifying underpayments or potential underpayments to vulnerable populations such as child beneficiaries, widows, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients, and surviving spouses. Potential underpayments identified in these reports totaled over \$304 million. SSA OIG has additional ongoing work that focuses on services provided to vulnerable populations, including SSI-related work.

SSA OIG continues to focus on customer service issues at SSA to promote positive change. SSA OIG auditors are reviewing the quality of service provided by SSA's National 800-number and customer wait times in SSA field offices and card centers during the Pandemic. SSA OIG is also responding to a May 2022 congressional request to answer a series of questions related to recent SSA telephone service disruptions. Further, in September 2022, SSA OIG issued a report identifying problems with [SSA's Human Capital Planning](#) that ultimately impact customer service.

In addition, SSA OIG remains concerned as Federal information systems—and the information they hold—are increasingly becoming targets of cyber-attacks. SSA must implement a strong information security program to detect and prevent intrusions. Prior SSA OIG audit work¹ has revealed serious concerns with the security of SSA's information systems. Additionally, SSA OIG plays a vital role in helping to ensure the Agency's IT investments are made wisely, and in keeping the Agency, the Congress, and the American public informed.

To ensure SSA OIG is positioned to provide timely, effective oversight of SSA's information security efforts in this ever-changing environment, staff must have the necessary knowledge and skills. Through the FY 2024 Budget, SSA OIG plans to invest in ongoing training for information technology audit staff to keep abreast of advances in technology, new vulnerabilities, and emerging threats. SSA OIG also plans to work with a contractor to assess the effectiveness of SSA's information security policies, procedures, and practices on a representative subset of the Agency's information systems, as required for *Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014* (FISMA) oversight.

To facilitate improved delivery and impact of our audit products, in addition to the audit guidelines developed collaboratively with SSA in FY 2020 to ensure access to agency information and cooperation from agency staff, the Office of Audit continues to engage proactively with SSA, consistent with OMB guidance set forth in OMB Memorandum M-22-04, *Promoting Accountability through Cooperation Among Agencies and Inspectors General*, issued in December 2021.

Through the FY 2024 Budget, SSA OIG will continue to take a balanced approach in its audit work across the [SSA OIG-identified management challenges](#).

¹ See the following reports: [Summary of the Audit of the Social Security Administration's Information Security Program and Practices for Fiscal Year 2022](#); [The Social Security Administration's Information Security Program and Practices for Fiscal Year 2021](#); [Security of the Social Security Administration's Disability Case Processing System](#); [The Social Security Administration's Implementation of iPaySSA](#); [The Social Security Administration's Controls Over Malware Introduced by Email Phishing](#); [The Social Security Administration's Controls Over Malicious Software and Data Exfiltration](#); and [Security of the Social Security Administration's Cloud Environment](#).

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Complex and Large-Scale Fraud Investigations

In recent years, SSA OIG has devoted substantial resources to large-scale investigations, including third-party facilitator fraud, e-Services fraud, and fraud schemes, such as Social Security-related and government imposter scams, that target vulnerable populations.

For example, a widespread SSA imposter scam investigation initiated in May 2021 resulted in the discovery of a multi-level money laundering conspiracy tied to an India-based call center and national and international money laundering rings. The investigation was initiated through New Jersey local law enforcement and its investigation related to an elderly woman who reported a \$700,000 loss from SSA-related imposter fraud. SSA OIG then expanded the investigation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, which led to the discovery of numerous victims who lost large sums of money through the same scheme, which laundered victim proceeds through multiple shell companies and brokerage accounts. These joint efforts led to the indictment of 10 subjects and approximately \$1.6 million seized in victim proceeds to date.

Also, in May 2020, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) OIG alerted SSA OIG about a telephone impersonation scheme where callers from India-based call centers impersonated Federal agents and SSA employees using spoofed DHS phone numbers and informed prospective victims that a legal action had been taken against their SSN. Callers threatened victims with deportation and forfeiture of their assets and provided SSA seals and logos as well as images of U.S. Treasury checks to legitimize the scam phone calls. The joint efforts between SSA OIG, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas, Transnational Elder Fraud Strike Force and other law enforcement agencies resulted in the indictment of 12 subjects and the identification of over 200 victims who mailed in excess of 400 cash packages after being victimized by these schemes. The aggregate losses incurred by these victims exceeds \$10 million.

In FY 2022, SSA OIG's investigative achievements include over \$179 million in monetary accomplishments, 7,363 cases closed, and 2,641 investigative reports issued.

With the FY 2024 Budget, SSA OIG will continue to conduct complex and large-scale investigations, develop and leverage partnerships and collaborations to accomplish investigative priorities, and invest in and enhance its technology and IT capabilities to permit more effective investigative efforts.

Strategic Goal 2: Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs and operations

SSA OIG's second strategic goal is to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in SSA programs and operations, a goal that aligns directly with the core mission of SSA OIG. SSA OIG is responsible for protecting the integrity and efficiency of SSA's administration of approximately \$1 trillion in benefit payments annually to more than 70 million people.

Ensuring Stewardship of SSA Programs

During FY 2022, SSA OIG issued 44 audit reports with recommendations to improve SSA's programs and operations. During that same time, investigations conducted by SSA OIG resulted in 537 criminal convictions and contributed to over \$179 million in monetary accomplishments, which includes court-ordered restitution, recoveries, settlements, judgments, fines, civil and administrative actions, and estimated savings resulting from investigations. Overall, in FY 2022, SSA OIG identified \$15 in returns to the government for every \$1 it received through its appropriation.

The FY 2024 Budget will permit SSA OIG to continue to focus on stewardship by completing audits that ensure the correct person is paid and benefit payments are accurate. These efforts will include performing data matches with states and third parties to identify payments made to individuals who are not eligible for benefits; reviewing SSA's adjustment of benefits for beneficiaries who work and may no longer meet the definition of disability; and evaluating manual processes to identify the root cause of errors and challenges SSA faces in resolving overpayments to SSI recipients.

SSA OIG's core audit oversight efforts revolve around [SSA's most significant management challenges](#). SSA OIG annually identifies these challenges based on congressional mandates, audits, and investigative work. One such challenge was the pandemic, which changed SSA's operations and the manner in which it served its customers.

The U.S. Congress passed legislation to mitigate the impact of the Pandemic on the American public, which included additional mandates for SSA. In FY 2022, SSA OIG issued reports about SSA's [telephone services](#), [mail processing](#), the [safety of SSA employees and visitors](#), [workload statistics](#), [Disability Determination Services workload statistics](#), [enumeration services](#), and the [use of video and telephone hearings during the pandemic](#). Other audit work focused on other aspects of SSA's response to the pandemic, including a review of SSA's reopening of claims it denied due to the applicants' receipt or retention of COVID-19 assistance.¹

SSA continues to face challenges with pending disability hearings and related processing times, and the COVID-19 pandemic renewed challenges with pending disability claims and continuing disability reviews. SSA OIG issued a report on [SSA's Challenges and Successes in Obtaining Data to Determine Eligibility and Payment Amounts](#) to review SSA's efforts to implement new incoming data exchanges to reduce its reliance on beneficiaries' self-reporting information that could affect their eligibility and payment amounts. SSA OIG reported that while SSA has made progress implementing data exchanges to reduce its reliance on beneficiaries self-reporting information, it still has work to do. While some of the challenges SSA encounters when entering into data exchanges are beyond its control, SSA could improve its process by implementing a centralized system for administering data exchanges and consider pursuing legislative changes to obtain the data it needs.

¹ The SSA OIG team that conducted these audits received a 2022 Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) Award for its effectiveness and efficiency that allowed SSA to take immediate action addressing issues impacting the way the public interacted with the agency.

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As mentioned, SSA is responsible for issuing approximately \$1 trillion in benefit payments annually. Given the amounts involved, even the slightest error in the overall payment process can result in millions of dollars in over- or underpayments. In its FY 2022 Agency Financial Report, SSA estimated it made approximately \$7.4 billion in improper payments in FY 2021. Of those, \$6 billion were overpayments and \$1.4 billion were underpayments. Recent SSA OIG audit work identified some of the sources of such improper payments. For example, in a [June of 2021 report](#), we estimated that SSA overpaid approximately 1,846 widows \$28.7 million because employees made computational errors on these complex cases. In a [May 2022 report](#), we estimated SSA employees could have avoided approximately 73,000 OASDI overpayments totaling more than \$368 million resulting from incorrect benefit computations.

Detecting and Preventing Social Security Disability Fraud Through Investigations

The CDI Program is an important anti-fraud initiative that combats fraud within Social Security disability programs. The CDI Program accomplishes its mission by reviewing questionable disability claims and investigating cases of suspected disability fraud to stop payment before it occurs, or as soon as fraud is suspected.

Each CDI unit consists of an SSA OIG special agent who serves as a team leader, and personnel from SSA, state DDS, and state or local law enforcement partners. CDI units combine Federal and state resources and expertise to benefit not only Social Security programs, but also other Federal and state programs, such as food and nutrition assistance, housing assistance, Medicare, and Medicaid.

The *Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015* (BBA), mandated CDI coverage to all 50 states and U.S. territories by October 2022. SSA OIG and SSA worked in conjunction with state and local partners to complete CDI coverage in accordance with the BBA by the end of FY 2022. Today, 50 CDI units cover all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and all U.S. territories.

Since inception of the CDI Program, CDI investigations have contributed to a projected savings to taxpayers of more than \$7 billion. Accomplishments of the CDI Program include the following:

- October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022
 - Disability claims denied or ceased = 1,029
 - Projected savings for SSA programs = \$65,963,545
 - Projected savings for non-SSA programs = \$85,918,896

- October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021
 - Disability claims denied or ceased = 1,078
 - Projected savings for SSA programs = \$86,018,721
 - Projected savings for non-SSA programs = \$76,500,094

The FY 2024 Budget will permit SSA OIG to continue its collaborative efforts with SSA and DDSs to improve the process of referrals to the CDI units, increase the quality of CDI referrals, and maintain efficient and effective nationwide coverage of the CDI Program.

The *Inspector General Empowerment Act* (IGEA) includes a provision that exempts certain computer matching activities, when conducted by IGs, from the requirements of the *Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act* (CMPPA). SSA OIG utilizes and plans to expand the use of IGEA authorities to obtain data that identifies potential fraud in SSA's programs. For example, SSA OIG has initiated a study with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to identify disability beneficiaries who are not utilizing Medicare benefits.

Legal Oversight: Enforcing the Social Security Act

SSA OIG works continuously to combat Section 1140 violations involving websites, emails, telephone solicitations, U.S. mail, radio, television and Internet broadcasts, app stores, and social media platforms. SSA OIG educates businesses and individuals regarding these violations, assists them in taking corrective action, and ensures further misuse does not occur. For example, in FY 2021, SSA OIG engaged with Meta (Facebook and Instagram). In FYs 2022 and 2023, SSA OIG continued to engage with Meta as well as LinkedIn, Microsoft, and Twitter to collaboratively and proactively combat imposter social media accounts and pages that are pretending to be affiliated with SSA.

Since FY 2021, SSA OIG has partnered with various State Attorneys General in a robust campaign to combat Section 1140 violations stemming from SSA-related telephone scams. In FY 2024, SSA OIG will continue to expand Section 1140 outreach and enforcement efforts and will increase partnerships with state and Federal agencies to combat Social Security related scams. SSA OIG will also perform additional reviews of possible Section 1140 violations on social media.

Strategic Goal 3: Optimize operations

SSA OIG's third strategic goal is to optimize operations through six key initiatives: (1) intergovernmental collaboration; (2) cost-saving efforts; (3) impact-driven initiatives; (4) cybersecurity; (5) modernizing SSA OIG information technology systems; and, (6) data analytics.

Intergovernmental Collaboration

To leverage collective experience and resources across government, SSA OIG collaborates with other governmental entities to promote economy and efficiency in investigations. Recently, for example, SSA OIG collaborated with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Civil Division, and other Federal law enforcement agencies on investigations related to imposter scams and elder justice initiatives. SSA OIG also participates in numerous committees, subcommittees, and workgroups under the auspices of CIGIE, including the Investigations, Technology, and Audit committees. SSA OIG will continue to strategically and proactively pursue new partnerships and collaborations in FY 2024.

In addition, SSA OIG proactively shares data, information, and best practices with partner organizations to support a government-wide approach to combating fraud. Examples include

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sharing information collected via the SSA OIG online imposter scam complaint form with the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel Network and sharing reports of pandemic-related UI fraud with the U.S. Department of Labor OIG. These efforts provide hundreds of law enforcement agencies access to collected allegations data.

SSA OIG also collaborates with state and local entities. In addition to partnering in the CDI program, OIG assists State Attorneys General with combating imposter scam robocalls and has partnered with three Attorneys General. For example, in January 2022, SSA OIG partnered with the State of North Carolina Attorney General, which filed a civil complaint against a Texas-based telecommunications "gateway" carrier that passed millions of suspected scam calls to North Carolina residents. The company is alleged to have knowingly allowed domestic and international scammers to route scam calls to millions of customers via the U.S. telephone network.

Pandemic Task Force Participation

In response to the Pandemic, the U.S. Government issued billions of dollars through relief programs, many of which are targeted by schemes intended to defraud. These schemes often involve identity theft or the misuse of an SSA and, therefore, implicate SSA OIG oversight jurisdiction and authority. As of January 2023, SSA OIG participated in 21 COVID-19 fraud workgroups, including the Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force and COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement Task Force, both led by the U.S. Department of Justice. SSA OIG also collaborates with other Federal law enforcement entities on joint investigations of schemes targeting the government's response to the Pandemic, including unemployment insurance fraud and Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) fraud.

For example, in June 2022, a joint PPP investigation into a dual resident of New York and Florida led to the conviction and restitution of \$4.5 million payable to nine financial institutions. SSA OIG worked with other Federal law enforcement agencies to gather evidence of the alleged scheme to submit fraudulent information to lenders, including the number of employees, the Federal tax returns for his purported businesses, and the payroll documentation. The individual then misused the funds by transferring the funds to brokerage accounts from which he placed more than approximately \$3 million in losing stock trades.

In April 2022, an Economic Injury Disaster loan and PPP loan investigation led to the conviction of a Maryland man and restitution of \$305,854 to the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The investigation, conducted jointly with Federal law enforcement agencies, revealed a scheme where an individual used his non-profit organization and provided false information regarding the number of employees, monthly payroll cost, and gross revenue to the SBA to obtain loans from both programs.

Online Portal Abuse Workgroup

In May 2021, SSA OIG created an OIG community workgroup to collaborate and share information with other OIG partners on schemes that target Federal agency online customer service portals, after notification from SSA that it detected substantial anomalous cyber activity

targeting its *my Social Security* application. This workgroup includes many different partners, such as the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation, the Department of Education OIG, Department of Labor OIG, Department of Interior OIG, and Postal Service OIG. Through the workgroup, SSA OIG community partners reported similar patterns of behavior and activities affecting their respective agency customer service portals. The collaborative workgroup has brought together information technology, audit, cybersecurity, investigative, analytical, and legal experts to focus on portal abuses. The continued collaboration and data-sharing initiatives will stimulate community-wide mitigation against these abuses and increase awareness on the perpetual use of technology to carry out complex fraud schemes.

Cost-saving Efforts

SSA OIG is committed to maximizing its resources through several cost-saving efforts, including analyzing options to consolidate and co-locate office space to reduce its overall footprint. SSA OIG is analyzing future office space needs. We are also reimagining our future workplace through providing more flexible employee work schedules and more remote work opportunities than existed prior to the pandemic.

SSA OIG is also centralizing several budgetary and operational efforts to improve organizational efficiency. Those efforts involve streamlining budget formulation and execution, including procurements, acquisitions, and agreements. On the operational side, SSA OIG is consolidating processes for facility management along with expenses such as landline and furniture purchases.

SSA OIG is pursuing these cost-saving efforts with the focus of being good stewards of taxpayer dollars, and it has incorporated these savings into the FY 2024 Budget Request.

Impact-driven Initiatives

SSA OIG continually seeks opportunities to increase operational efficiency and effectiveness. The following SSA OIG initiatives serve as examples, ongoing and continuing in FY 2024, that will have a significant positive impact on the organization's efforts to carry out its mission.

CDI Program Innovations

SSA OIG continuously strives to advance and enhance the CDI Program by identifying and implementing innovative strategies to ensure investigative coverage of the full scope of SSA's disability programs. In conjunction with SSA, SSA OIG has implemented "CDI Hubs" where existing CDI units conduct investigations in more than one state. This eliminates the need for additional office space and results in significant cost savings. SSA and SSA OIG are also harnessing the skillsets and institutional knowledge of reemployed annuitants to serve as CDI investigators in areas where SSA OIG has had difficulty securing a state or local law enforcement partner.

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Special Reviews and Professional Responsibility

In FY 2020, SSA OIG established a dedicated office to improve SSA OIG's oversight of SSA's programs and operations, in addition to fulfilling SSA OIG's statutory duties related to whistleblower protection. The workload of this dedicated office encompasses projects that do not fit squarely within the current SSA OIG structure and can be more effectively handled by a multidisciplinary staff. Examples include sensitive, high-profile, and complex investigations and special reviews involving (1) whistleblower retaliation primarily against employees of SSA, contractors, and grantees; (2) procurement and contract fraud; (3) serious and often sensitive and complex misconduct and mismanagement allegations involving senior-level SSA employees; (4) allegations of misconduct involving OIG employees; (5) referrals from Agency Ethics officials; and (6) matters of significant public or congressional concern, as well as systemic and recurring management challenges at SSA.

Since its creation in FY 2020, the Office of Special Reviews and Professional Responsibility has seen its inventory of sensitive, high-profile matters increase. SSA OIG anticipates this trend will continue as awareness of the office's existence and efforts increase, the office begins to perform proactive special reviews and continues its outreach, and the office complies with President Biden's Executive Order on *Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety*.

Cybersecurity

Realizing the importance of collaboration in cybersecurity efforts, SSA OIG formed an OIG Cybersecurity Workgroup based on recommendations from an internal research initiative. The mission of the SSA OIG Cybersecurity Workgroup is to ensure timely, efficient, and effective cross-component coordination regarding cybersecurity-related issues, analyses, work products, incidents, or other relevant items. Through this workgroup, SSA OIG collaborates on ways it can improve its cyber posture without overlapping agency efforts. SSA OIG also uses the workgroup to remain current on cybersecurity initiatives and changes in policy to ensure SSA OIG is in compliance.

As cyber threats continue to emerge, it is imperative SSA OIG continues to expand its oversight of cybersecurity initiatives from SSA and others across government that impact SSA. In addition, to be compliant with Federal regulation changes, and to adhere to the May 2021 Executive Order on Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity, notably the move to zero trust architecture, SSA OIG must continue to enhance the security posture of its enterprise applications and develop staff skillsets. SSA OIG is a contributing member of the SSA Insider Threat Hub, providing valuable cyber and investigative expertise during inquiries of mutual interest. These contributions have aided SSA in developing and resolving matters related to detected cyber anomalies. SSA OIG also leverages partnerships with external agencies, such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, for coordination on cyber matters of mutual interest. The FY 2024 Budget Request supports SSA OIG investments in employee training to continue to develop cybersecurity skills that will enhance SSA OIG's cybersecurity control capabilities and benefit ongoing collaborative efforts.

Modernizing SSA OIG Information Technology Systems

To keep pace with current IT trends and technologies necessary to support efficient and effective SSA OIG audit and investigative functions, SSA OIG requires specialized IT staff to handle IT support and services, systems development and infrastructure maintenance, information security and compliance, and cybersecurity. Currently, an SSA OIG IT staff of approximately 45 employees supports SSA OIG IT functions nationwide. SSA OIG requires IT professionals, trained and skilled in these areas, to support current and future workloads.

SSA OIG oversees an investigative case management system to support SSA OIG's investigative processes and workloads. Since the initial release of a new case management system in FY 2021, SSA OIG IT has continued to provide application support, complete maintenance activities, migrate data, and incorporate new functionality. The success of SSA OIG's mission hinges in large part on the continued operability of its investigative case management system. To ensure system availability, the FY 2024 Budget Request includes funding for continued application maintenance and the ability to add or modify functionality to meet organizational needs.

Additionally, many of SSA OIG's administrative applications operate on a platform that is nearing end-of-life. In FY 2023, SSA OIG began efforts to modernize its human resources, budget, and property management administrative applications to meet organizational requirements and priorities. SSA OIG will continue to modernize these critical administrative applications with new databases and business-process management tools, to reduce manual processes and create efficiencies.

For FY 2024, SSA OIG will continue to leverage industry innovations to modernize the critical applications necessary to support SSA OIG audit and investigative functions. Through a multi-year IT modernization plan, SSA OIG plans to deliver modern business-process platforms that improve SSA OIG's ability to respond to changing user needs rapidly and at a manageable cost. SSA OIG will continue to streamline and improve its allegation-triage process by refining intelligent automation functionality in its investigative case management system. Providing specialized training is critical to ensuring SSA OIG has the technical acumen to modernize critical applications, and the FY 2024 Budget Request supports these efforts. SSA OIG intends to pursue enhanced data sharing and collaboration with other IGs, as well as improving internal abilities to make data-driven decisions.

Data Analytics

SSA OIG's data analytics program continues to identify ways to improve operational efficiency, refine strategic decision-making, and maximize the organizational impact of data. This program is made possible by accessing SSA's vast and diverse datasets, as well as collaborating with private, public, and governmental entities. Access to internal, SSA, and third-party data sources allows SSA OIG to work toward establishing targets of suspected large-scale Social Security fraud, flag vulnerabilities in Social Security's systems for audit review, and prioritize allegations and potential audits to ensure alignment with SSA OIG strategic goals and optimize resource allocation. Through the deployment of several reporting tools, SSA OIG is leveraging data

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analytics to enhance management information related to the status and progress of investigations, audits, employee training, and property management. The deployment of enterprise-wide applications planned for later this fiscal year will automate existing operational efforts to reduce the cost of essential operating functions and expedite the detection of fraudulent activity.

For FY 2023 and beyond, additional initiatives at SSA OIG will aim to improve employee productivity by optimizing staffing levels across SSA OIG, increase the impact of initiatives internally and with government partners, and maximize return on investment. Additional training will provide analysts with a broader spectrum of tools as SSA OIG advances its analytic capabilities and builds capacity.

Strategic Goal 4: Strengthen our workforce

SSA OIG's fourth strategic goal is focused on strengthening our workforce and improving diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility within SSA OIG. SSA OIG is committed to building an innovative and agile organization by attracting, developing, and retaining a high-performing, inclusive, and diverse workforce and providing them the resources to maximize their individual potential and improve operational excellence.

To help meet this strategic goal, in FY 2023, SSA OIG established a new component, the Office of Workforce Performance and Development, whose primary areas of focus are training and professional development, performance management and recognition, DEIA activities, and employee engagement. Among the component's first initiatives is the development of a 12-month new-employee onboarding program, which will focus on SSA OIG's organizational overview, DEIA values and principles, career planning and mapping, and mentoring and coaching. The component is also creating a DEIA strategic plan and establishing an intercomponent cross-training program that permits employees to develop skills outside of their work unit. The FY 2024 Budget Request will support this new component and these initiatives.

Employee Training and Recognition

SSA OIG is committed to employee professional development, knowledge transfer, and succession planning to enhance employee skills and develop a workforce capable of responding to future demands. SSA OIG leadership empowers its managers to consider and approve job-specific trainings that will increase employee knowledge, skills, and abilities and help them carry out their assigned roles and responsibilities.

SSA OIG in FY 2022 established its Professional Development Program (PDP) to enhance employee development, support workforce and succession planning, and further the SSA OIG mission. The PDP is composed of a three-person executive panel, and it considers and approves OIG employee development opportunities in the areas of leadership, management, and other mission-critical competencies. The PDP operates with the goal of facilitating and providing a consistent and equitable process for all employees to be considered for these developmental opportunities. In FY 2022, the PDP approved more than 75 SSA OIG employees to participate in leadership and management trainings and programs through entities such as the Partnership for Public Service Excellence in Government Fellows Program, the CIGIE Leadership and Mission Support Academy, and OPM's Federal Executive Institute. SSA OIG plans to continue

utilizing the PDP to evaluate and approve requests for leadership development opportunities in FY 2024.

Also in FY 2022, SSA OIG entered into an agreement with the Department of Treasury's Treasury Executive Institute (TEI), which provides SSA OIG employees, GS-14 and above, online access to numerous courses and programs to enhance employees' technical proficiency and career development. SSA OIG plans to continue the agreement with TEI in FY 2024.

Through an agreement with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), all SSA OIG leaders receive 360-degree assessments, affording them an opportunity to receive meaningful, actionable feedback from their supervisor, peers, direct reports, and other colleagues.

The FY 2024 Budget Request includes almost \$1 million to provide the training programs outlined above, which are only a subset of the many employee development programs and trainings offered to the SSA OIG workforce.

Finally, SSA OIG enthusiastically recognizes employees' achievements, in accordance with previous [OMB and OPM guidance](#) that "strategic awards and recognition programs add value to organizations and support the retention of high-performing employees and those with mission-critical skillsets." In FY 2024, SSA OIG plans to issue upwards of \$1.2 million in employee performance and special act awards. SSA OIG also manages an annual employee recognition program, to include non-monetary awards, such as Inspector General Awards and Peer Awards.

Specialized Recruiting, Hiring, and Retention

SSA OIG has several unique recruitment, hiring, and retention requirements created by a geographically dispersed workforce and critical mission responsibilities. SSA OIG is charged with recruiting and retaining talent in a hybrid mix of staff in headquarters and regional locations.

SSA OIG also faces immediate succession planning challenges. As of January 2023, 96 SSA OIG employees, or 19 percent of the workforce, is retirement-eligible. Of those, the majority (57) are criminal investigators. An additional 20 percent of the workforce will become retirement-eligible in the next five years.

To prepare for these upcoming retirements and as part of a broader strategic staffing plan, in FY 2022, SSA OIG recruited a total of 51 employees across all its components, including 22 criminal investigators across the country, and is currently onboarding a number of new employees as a result of recruitment.

SSA OIG seeks to leverage opportunities to be as efficient as possible with recruiting and will continue those efforts. For example, SSA OIG utilizes job announcements that can satisfy a number of hiring requirements. The organization has also engaged with OPM to develop customized competency assessments to identify and hire qualified candidates for criminal investigator positions across the country.

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Additionally, SSA OIG recently established new career ladder positions with full performance to the GS-13 level, for both its criminal investigators and its auditors. This change provides current SSA OIG employees a defined career development path, and it will assist SSA OIG in attracting emerging talent and developing staff in-house, so they can grow within and support SSA OIG over time.

In FY 2022, SSA OIG revitalized recruitment materials including the physical materials SSA OIG staff uses at recruiting events such as banners, tabletop posters, flyers, and brochures. SSA OIG's careers webpage was revised to include a listing of careers and job descriptions for the range of jobs available with the organization. SSA OIG also plans to develop recruitment videos to expand outreach efforts into different media.

Finally, as a large portion of work has shifted to a virtual environment and workers increasingly can be selective with where and when they want to work, SSA OIG has made significant efforts to afford a number of workplace flexibilities and remote work options to employees. In FY 2022, SSA OIG offered maximum flexible work schedules to all eligible employees and developed a remote work agreement to give eligible employees the ability to work remotely, with management approval. The SSA OIG employee remote work agreement went into effect in FY 2023 and will be recertified annually.

Diversity and Inclusion

On June 25, 2021, President Biden issued Executive Order 14035: *Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) in the Federal Workforce*. This executive order seeks to create a Government-wide initiative to promote DEIA.

In FY 2022, SSA OIG established its own DEIA Council to strengthen the organization's ability to recruit, hire, develop, promote, and retain talent and remove barriers to equal opportunity. In its first year, the DEIA Council organized SSA OIG attendance at 10 career fairs and 20 virtual information sessions; conducted four in-person recruitment presentations across the country; contributed to SSA OIG attendance at 10 other special interest conference/events; partnered with the Office of the Chief Strategy Officer to update SSA OIG recruitment materials; worked with human resources staff to develop a recruitment strategy to attract and retain a diverse, talented SSA OIG workforce; identified potential DEIA training courses to share with the SSA OIG workforce; and created commemorative content for a number of observances to include in the SSA OIG employee newsletter.

In FY 2023, SSA OIG established a DEIA Officer position to coordinate ongoing SSA OIG DEIA efforts and expand on other initiatives, to include outreach and reporting; allocate resources to increase its number of Pathways Interns and Recent Graduate positions; pursue improvements to the hiring process to hire the best qualified candidate(s); expand training and professional development; and expand employee engagement to identify successes and remediate challenges. These efforts will be an important part of the workload of the newly established Office of Workforce Performance and Development in FY 2024 and beyond.

BUDGETARY RESOURCES

The SSA OIG annual appropriation consists of appropriations from both the general fund and the trust funds. The President’s Budget for FY 2024 consists of \$34,000,000 appropriated from the general fund, and \$86,400,000, which will be transferred and expended as authorized by Section 201(g) (1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund. The table below displays budget authority, split by type of funding, and obligations.

Table 4.2 — OIG Budget Authority and Amounts Available for Obligation

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Estimate	FY 2024 President's Budget	FY23 to FY24 Change
FTE	479	511	537	26
General Fund Appropriation	\$30,900,000	\$32,000,000	\$34,000,000	\$1,600,000
Trust Fund Appropriation	\$77,765,000	\$82,665,000	\$86,400,000	\$4,135,000
Subtotal:¹	\$108,665,000	\$114,665,000	\$120,400,000	\$5,735,000
Transfer Authority ²	\$94,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
No-Year Carryover (IT Mod)	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$1,079,352	(\$920,648)
Program Integrity Transfer ³	\$12,100,000	\$15,100,000	\$19,100,000	\$4,000,000
Program Integrity Carryover ⁴	\$1,418,298	\$1,017,641	\$0 ⁵	(\$1,017,641)
Total Authority:	\$122,277,298	\$132,782,641	\$140,579,352	\$7,796,711
Total Obligation ⁶	\$118,607,602	\$131,703,300	\$139,503,000	\$7,796,711
Unobligated balance lapsing	\$652,055	\$0	\$0	\$0

¹ Of the amount, \$2,000,000 is available for IT Modernization in each of the years.

² In FY 2022, SSA-OIG provided consultation services for the performance of SSA contract audits of State DDSs, and SSA reimburses SSA-OIG for these services through an annual transfer.

³ P.L. 117-103 allowed SSA to transfer \$12,100,000 in FY 2022 from the LAE account to the OIG for the costs associated with jointly operated CDI units. P.L. 117-328 continues this transfer in FY 2023 of up to \$15,100,000 and the FY 2024 Budget requests a \$19,100,000 transfer.

⁴ SSA OIG’s PI allocation adjustment is an 18-month account. The carryover represents the unobligated funds that will be obligated within the first six months of the following fiscal year.

⁵ SSA OIG does not estimate any carryover from FY 2023 into FY 2024.

⁶ Total Obligations for IT Modernization include \$0 in FY 2022, \$2,921,000 in FY 2023 and \$2,003,000 in FY 2024 with the remaining \$1,076,000 carrying over into FY 2025. The FY 2022 appropriations bill was the first to provide the OIG with dedicated IT Modernization funding. For the remainder of FY 2022, the OIG prioritized the development of a comprehensive IT Modernization Plan, but needed additional time to work through contracts and obligate the funds.

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Table 4.3 — Explanation of OIG Budget Changes

	FY 2023		FY 2024		Change	
	WYs (FTEs)	Obligations	WYs (FTEs)	Obligations	WYs (FTEs)	Obligations
<u>BUILT-IN INCREASES</u>						
Payroll Expenses	511	\$113,108,200	511	\$113,108,200	-	\$0
<i>Change in base payroll expenses related to career ladder promotions and within-grade increases</i>	-	-	-	\$4,667,100	-	\$4,667,100
<i>Change in base expenses for employee benefits including health benefits and new employees hired under the Federal Retirement Employees System</i>	-	-	-	\$1,926,200	-	\$1,926,200
Non-Payroll Costs - All other built-in non-payroll changes, travel management support and equipment	-	\$13,950,100	-	\$9,456,500	-	(\$4,493,600)
Rent	-	\$4,645,000	-	\$4,645,000	-	
Subtotal, Built-in increases	511	\$131,703,300	511	\$133,803,000	-	\$2,099,700
<u>PROGRAM INCREASES</u>						
Payroll Increase						
- Net Increase in OIG WYs	-	-	26	\$6,032,000	26	\$6,032,000
Subtotal, Program Increases	-	-	26	\$6,032,000	26	\$6,032,000
Total Increases	511	\$131,703,300	537	\$139,835,000	26	\$8,131,700

	FY 2023		FY 2024		Change	
	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources	WYs (FTEs)	Budgetary Resources
<u>BUILT-IN DECREASES</u>		-		-	-	-
Base Payroll Expenses—						
Decrease in all other payroll costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Payroll Costs						
Rent				(\$332,000)		(\$332,000)
Subtotal, Built-in decreases	0	0	0	(\$332,000)	0	(\$332,000)
<u>PROGRAM DECREASES</u>						
Decrease in costs for training, other support, services, and supplies	-	-	0	-	-	-
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Decreases	0	\$0	0	(\$332,000)	0	(\$332,000)
Net Change	511	\$131,703,300	537	\$139,503,000	26	\$7,799,700

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Table 4.4 — Budget Resources by Object				
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY23 to FY24 Change
Full-time permanent	\$66,325,281	\$77,448,098	\$88,762,856	\$11,314,758
Other than full-time permanent	\$464,256	\$485,612	\$510,864	\$25,252
Other compensation	\$1,375,735	\$1,242,000	\$1,254,420	\$12,420
Subtotal, Personnel Compensation	\$68,165,272	\$79,175,710	\$90,528,140	\$11,352,430
Civilian personnel benefits	\$31,464,720	\$33,932,450	\$35,205,360	\$1,272,910
Total, Compensation and Benefits	\$99,629,992	\$113,108,160	\$125,733,500	\$12,625,340
Travel	\$1,780,800	\$2,173,000	\$2,062,000	(\$111,000)
Transportation of things	\$54,130	\$54,000	\$55,000	\$1,000
Rental payments to GSA	\$4,079,000	\$4,145,000	\$3,813,000	(\$332,000)
Rental payments to others	\$66,000	\$119,000	\$105,000	(\$14,000)
Communications, utilities, and others	\$385,000	\$300,000	\$306,000	\$6,000
Printing and reproduction	\$690	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$2,000
Other services	\$6,486,700	\$5,856,840	\$4,737,500	(\$1,119,340)
Supplies and materials	\$195,520	\$235,000	\$130,000	(\$105,000)
Equipment	\$5,977,770	\$5,711,000	\$2,558,000	(\$3,153,000)
Insurance Claims	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Adjustments	(\$48,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budgetary Resources	\$118,607,602¹	\$131,703,000	\$139,503,000	\$7,800,000

Table 4.5 — FTE Employment and WYs			
	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Estimate	FY 2024 Estimate
FTE	479	511	537
Overtime / Lump Sum Leave	3	3	3
Total:	482	514	540

¹ Total includes the \$94,000 transferred to SSA-OIG for consultation services on the performance of SSA contract audits of State DDSs in FY 2022.

Table 4.6 —Average Grade and Salary	
	FY 2022 Actual
Average ES	\$189,100
Average GS	13
Average GS Salary	\$125,000

APPROPRIATION HISTORY

The table below displays the President’s budget request, amounts passed by the House and Senate, and the actual amount appropriated for the period FY 2014 to FY 2023.

Table 4.7—Appropriation History Table

Fiscal Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Committee Passed	Senate Committee Passed	Enacted Appropriation
General Funds	\$30,000,000	---	\$29,689,000	\$28,829,000
Trust Funds	\$75,733,000	---	\$74,972,000	\$73,249,000
2014 Total	\$105,733,000	---	\$104,670,000 ¹	\$102,078,000²
General Funds	\$29,000,000	\$28,829,000		\$29,000,000
Trust Funds	\$75,622,000	\$74,249,000		\$74,350,000
2015 Total	\$104,622,000	\$103,078,000 ³		\$103,350,000⁴
General Funds	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$28,829,000	\$29,787,000
Trust Funds	\$78,795,000	\$78,795,000	\$74,521,000	\$75,713,000
2016 Total	\$109,795,000	\$108,795,000 ⁵	\$103,350,000 ⁶	\$105,500,000⁷
General Funds	\$31,000,000	\$29,787,000	\$29,829,000	\$29,787,000
Trust Funds	\$81,000,000	\$75,713,000	\$75,713,000	\$75,713,000
2017 Total	\$112,000,000	\$105,500,000 ⁸	\$105,500,000 ⁹	\$105,500,000¹⁰
General Funds	\$30,000,000	\$29,796,270	\$29,796,270	\$30,000,000
Trust Funds	\$75,500,000	\$74,987,280	\$74,987,280	\$75,500,000
2018 Total	\$105,500,000	\$104,783,550 ¹¹	\$104,783,550 ¹²	\$105,500,000¹³
General Funds	\$30,000,000	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000
Trust Funds	\$75,500,000	\$77,500,000	\$75,500,000	\$75,500,000
2019 Total	\$105,500,000	\$108,500,000 ¹⁴	\$105,500,000 ¹⁵	\$105,500,000¹⁶
General Funds	\$30,000,000	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000
Trust Funds	\$75,500,000	\$77,500,000	\$75,500,000	\$75,500,000
2020 Total	\$105,500,000	\$108,500,000 ¹⁷	\$105,500,000 ¹⁸	\$105,500,000¹⁹
General Funds	\$33,000,000	\$31,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000
Trust Funds	\$83,000,000	\$75,500,000	\$75,500,000	\$75,500,000
2021 Total	\$116,000,000	\$108,500,000 ²⁰	\$105,500,000 ²¹	\$105,500,000²²
General Funds	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$30,900,000
Trust Funds	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$77,765,000
2022 Total	\$112,000,000	\$112,000,000 ²³	\$112,000,000 ²⁴	\$108,665,000²⁵
General Funds	\$33,000,000	\$33,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$32,000,000
Trust Funds	\$84,500,000	\$84,500,000	\$82,665,000	\$82,665,000
2023 Total	\$117,500,000	\$117,500,000 ²⁶	\$114,665,000 ²⁷	\$114,665,000²⁸
General Funds	\$34,000,000			
Trust Funds	\$86,400,000			
2024 Total	\$120,400,000			

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¹ S. 1284.

² Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76).

³ H.R. 5464.

⁴ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235).

⁵ H.R. 3020

⁶ S. 1695.

⁷ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114-113).

⁸ H.R. 5926.

⁹ S. 3040.

¹⁰ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-31).

¹¹ Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-56). Funding includes a rescission of 0.6791% of FY 2017 appropriation. The \$30,000,000 in general funds and \$75,500,000 in trust funds included in the language for this account for FY 2018 were reduced by \$415,284 and \$301,166 respectively, in accordance with P.L. 115-56.

¹² Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-56). Funding includes a rescission of 0.6791 percent of FY 2017 appropriation. The \$30,000,000 in general funds and \$75,500,000 in trust funds included in the language for this account for FY 2018 were reduced by \$415,284 and \$301,166 respectively, in accordance with P.L. 115-56.

¹³ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-56).

¹⁴ H.R. 6157.

¹⁵ H.R. 6157.

¹⁶ Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 115-245).

¹⁷ H.R. 1865.

¹⁸ H.R. 1865.

¹⁹ Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94).

²⁰ H.R. 133.

²¹ H.R. 133.

²² Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260).

²³ H.R. 4502

²⁴ H.R. 4502

²⁵ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103).

²⁶ H.R. 2617.

²⁷ H.R. 2617.

²⁸ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117- 328).