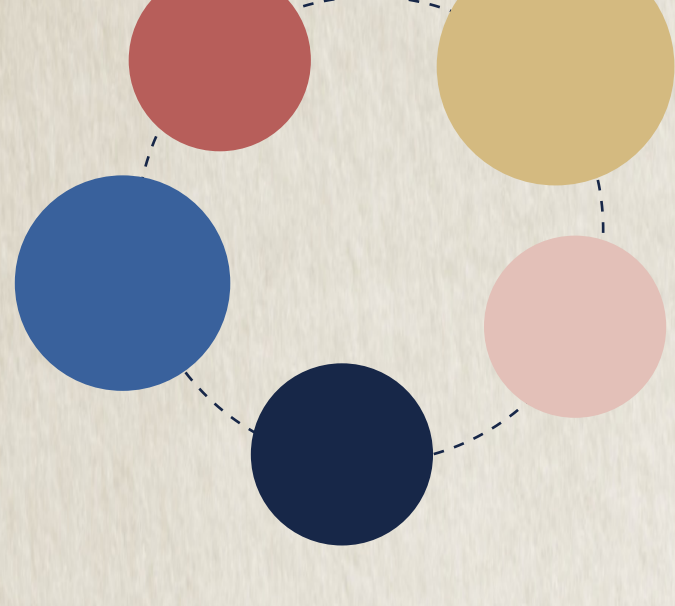


# Duplication & Cost Savings

A 2014 Overview

HIGHLIGHTS FROM GAO-14-343SP

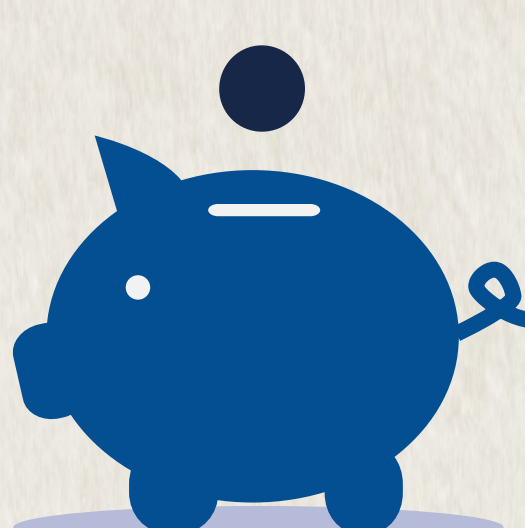


## IMPROVING GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS IS IMPORTANT.

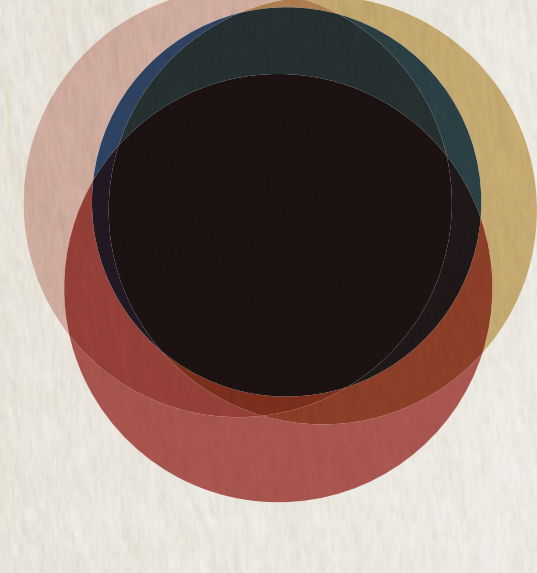
GAO's annual reports have identified approximately 440 opportunities to take action where federal programs or activities could be improved.

## DOING SO COULD SAVE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

Improving these activities can save time, effort, and money.



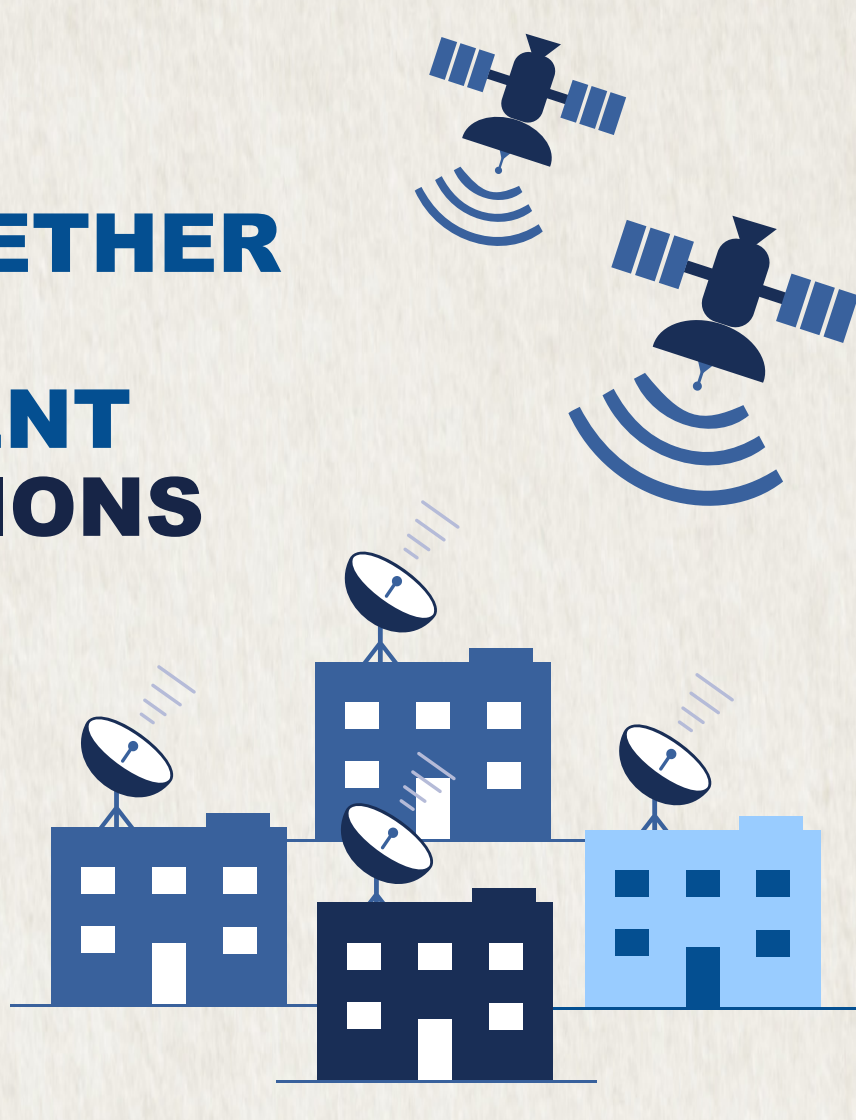
## DUPLICATION



Duplicative activities are essentially the same—but are being administered through different agencies or programs.

## DETERMINING WHETHER SHARED SYSTEMS ARE MOST EFFICIENT COULD SAVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

For example, at one Air Force base, the Department of Defense maintains eight separate satellite ground control systems that operate ten satellites. Separate systems may be more costly and may introduce inefficiencies to DOD's satellite control operations.



## OVERLAP

Overlapping activities are similar enough in scope and action that some of the same people may unintentionally benefit from all of them.



## TAXPAYERS COULD SAVE APPROXIMATELY \$1 BILLION OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS.

Currently, for example, some people receive disability payments from the Social Security Administration as well as unemployment benefits, administered by the Department of Labor and the states.



## FRAGMENTATION



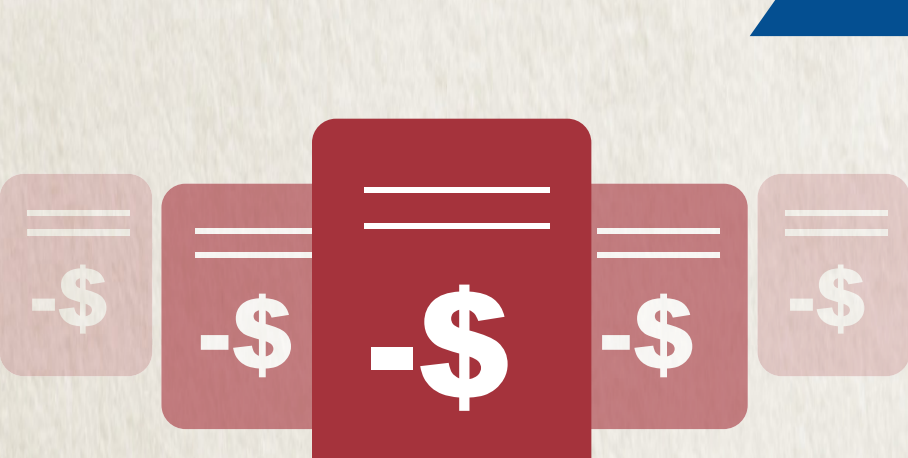
Fragmented activities are working toward different parts of the same goal, and are being inefficiently administered through different agencies or different parts of the same agency.

## THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COULD SAVE AS MUCH AS \$82 MILLION IN PROCUREMENT COSTS.

For example, in 2013 Congress passed legislation that restricts the ability of the military services to develop separate combat uniforms, from which the savings are expected to add up over time.



## COST SAVINGS



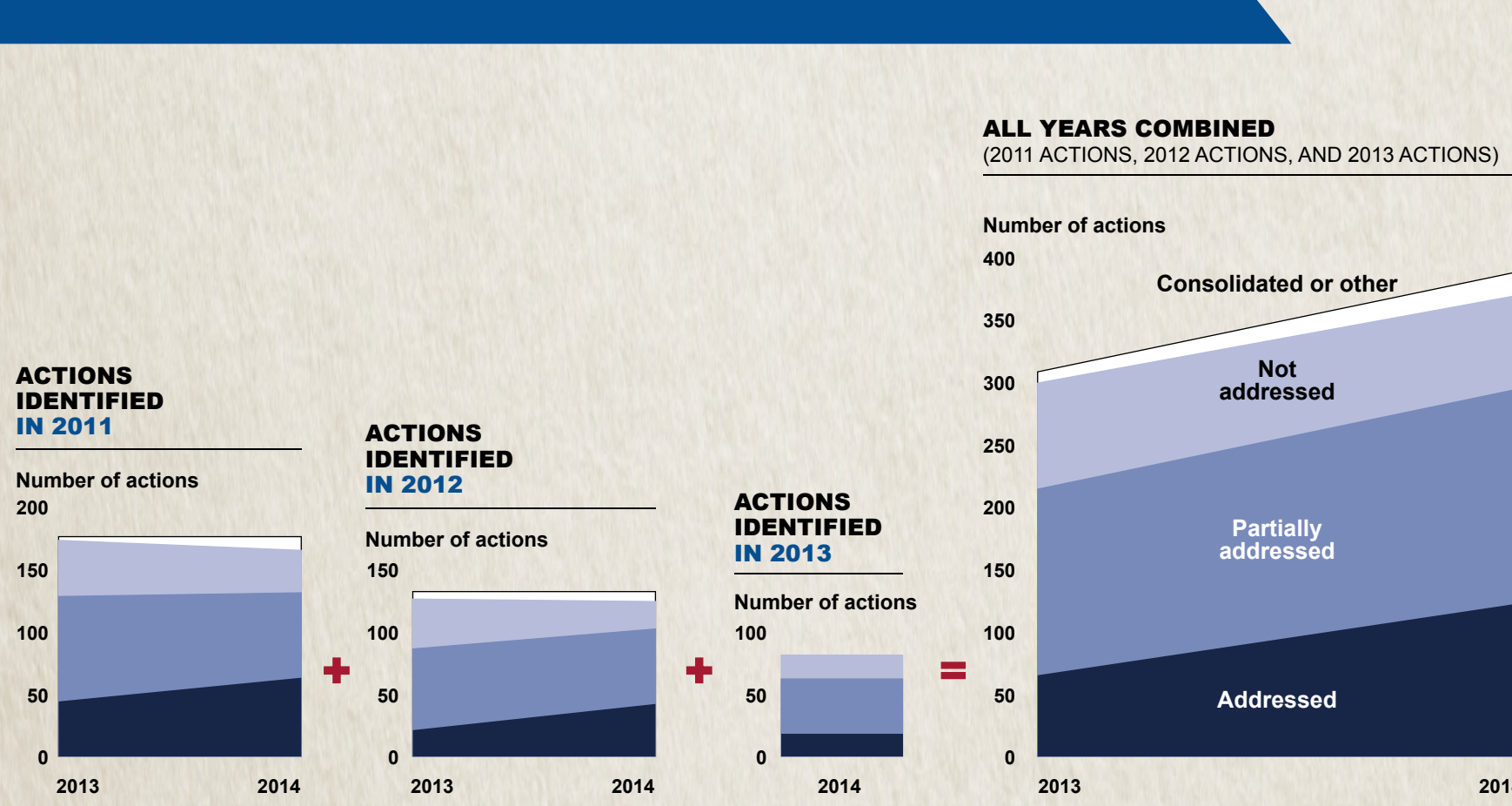
There are opportunities to cut costs and collect additional revenue if the government took actions to encourage payment.

## IRS COULD COLLECT SOME DELINQUENT FEDERAL TAXES—MORE THAN \$500 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS—IF CONGRESS TOOK ACTIONS TO ENCOURAGE PAYMENT.

For example, Congress could limit passport issuance for individuals with tax debt, or collect Medicaid provider payments to repay federal taxes.



## ACTIONS GAO HAS SUGGESTED OVER TIME



Source: GAO analysis.



**FIND OUT MORE IN THE DUPLICATION & COST SAVINGS SECTION OF GAO.GOV**

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION? Visit [GAO.GOV](http://GAO.GOV). Read the full report: GAO-14-343SP.