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MONTH IN REVIEW:  
MAY 2003

Reports, Testimony,  
Correspondence, and  
Other Publications



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## About the Month in Review

**The Month in Review is a comprehensive list of all reports, testimony, correspondence, and other publications issued by GAO during the previous month, grouped according to subject categories.**

**For information on specific reports, please contact appropriate GAO staff. GAO publishes the names of key contacts and their telephone numbers in each report.**

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# Month in Review: May 2003

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## Agriculture and Food

### **Agricultural Research: USDA's Outreach to Minority-Serving Institutions Could Improve Grant Competition**

[GAO-03-541](#), May 14, 2003 (33 pages).

### **Agriculture Conservation: USDA Needs to Better Ensure Protection of Highly Erodible Cropland and Wetlands**

[GAO-03-418](#), April 21, 2003 (105 pages).

### **School Lunch Program: Efforts Needed to Improve Nutrition and Encourage Healthy Eating**

[GAO-03-506](#), May 9, 2003 (36 pages).

### **School Meal Programs: Revenue and Expense Information from Selected States**

[GAO-03-569](#), May 9, 2003 (31 pages).

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## Business, Industry, and Consumers

### **Insurance Regulation: Preliminary Views on States' Oversight of Insurers' Market Behavior**

[GAO-03-738T](#), May 6, 2003 (12 pages).

### **Small Business Administration: Observations on the Disaster Loan Program**

[GAO-03-721T](#), May 1, 2003 (19 pages).

### **Telecommunications: Data Gathering Weaknesses In FCC's Survey Of Information on Factors Underlying Cable Rate Changes**

[GAO-03-742T](#), May 6, 2003 (12 pages).

### **Telecommunications: FCC Should Include Call Quality in Its Annual Report on Competition in Mobile Phone Services**

[GAO-03-501](#), April 28, 2003 (59 pages).

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**Decisions and  
Opinions**

**AAR Aircraft Services--Costs**

B-291670.6, May 12, 2003 (7 pages).

**AHNTECH, Inc.**

B-291998, April 29, 2003 (4 pages).

**CMC & Maintenance, Inc.**

B-292081, May 19, 2003 (3 pages).

**Dismas Charities, Inc.**

B-291868, April 23, 2003 (3 pages).

**Exelon Services Federal Group**

B-291934, April 23, 2003 (6 pages).

**FitNet International Corporation**

B-291986, May 19, 2003 (3 pages).

**Independence Construction, Inc.**

B-292052, May 19, 2003 (4 pages).

**Information Ventures, Inc.**

B-291952, May 14, 2003 (2 pages).

**InkiTiki Corporation**

B-291823.4, B-291823.5, May 16, 2003 (5 pages).

**KENROB & Associates, Inc.--Costs**

B-291573.7, April 25, 2003 (7 pages).

**Kellogg Brown & Root, Inc.**

B-291769, B-291769.2, March 24, 2003 (7 pages).

**LifeCare, Inc.**

B-291672, B-291672.2, February 20, 2003 (5 pages).

**Main Building Maintenance, Inc.**

B-291950, B-291950.2, May 15, 2003 (8 pages).

**Martin Electronics, Inc.--Costs**

B-291732.2, April 22, 2003 (9 pages).

**Specialty Marine, Inc.**

B-292053, May 19, 2003 (3 pages).

**Symplicity Corporation**

B-291902, April 29, 2003 (7 pages).

**TN-KY Contractors**

B-291997.2, May 5, 2003 (4 pages).

**Triune Associates**

B-292005, May 13, 2003 (3 pages).

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**Economic  
Development**

**FEMA Cerro Grande Claims: Payments Properly Processed, but  
Reported Payments Somewhat Overstated**

[GAO-03-623](#), May 8, 2003 (19 pages).

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## Education

### **Student Financial Aid: Monitoring Aid Greater Than Federally Defined Need Could Help Address Student Loan Indebtedness**

[GAO-03-508](#), April 30, 2003 (32 pages).

### **Title I: Characteristics of Tests Will Influence Expenses; Information Sharing May Help States Realize Efficiencies**

[GAO-03-389](#), May 8, 2003 (42 pages).

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## Energy

### **Department of Energy: External Regulation Savings in Safety and Health Activities at DOE Science Laboratories**

[GAO-03-633R](#), May 14, 2003 (31 pages).

### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission: Charges for Hydropower Projects' Use of Federal Lands Need to Be Reassessed**

[GAO-03-383](#), May 20, 2003 (154 pages).

### **Nuclear Nonproliferation: DOE Action Needed to Ensure Continued Recovery of Unwanted Sealed Radioactive Sources**

[GAO-03-483](#), April 15, 2003 (41 pages).

### **Nuclear Waste: Preliminary Observations on the Quality Assurance Program at the Yucca Mountain Repository**

[GAO-03-826T](#), May 28, 2003 (6 pages).

### **Radioactive Waste: DOE Has Acted to Address Delay in New Facility at Livermore Laboratory, but Challenges Remain**

[GAO-03-558](#), May 15, 2003 (20 pages).

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## Environmental Protection

### **Climate Change: Information on Three Air Pollutants' Climate Effects and Emissions Trends**

[GAO-03-25](#), April 28, 2003 (62 pages).

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**Environmental Protection: Federal Planning Requirements for Transportation and Air Quality Protection Could Potentially Be More Efficient and Better Linked**

[GAO-03-581](#), April 28, 2003 (60 pages).

**Great Lakes: An Overall Strategy and Indicators for Measuring Progress Are Needed to Better Achieve Restoration Goals**

[GAO-03-515](#), April 30, 2003 (90 pages).

**Hazardous Materials: EPA's Cleanup of Asbestos in Libby, Montana, and Related Actions to Address Asbestos-Contaminated Materials**

[GAO-03-469](#), April 14, 2003 (21 pages).

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**Federal Agency Major Rules**

**Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Light Truck Average Fuel Economy Standards Model Years 2005-2007**

[GAO-03-675R](#), April 28, 2003 (4 pages).

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**Financial Institutions**

**Follow-up Report on Matters Relating to Securities Arbitration**

[GAO-03-162R](#), April 11, 2003 (32 pages).

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**Financial Management**

**Audit Guide: Auditing and Investigating the Internal Control of Government Purchase Card Programs**

[GAO-03-678G](#), May 1, 2003 (77 pages).

**Business Modernization: Improvements Needed in Management of NASA's Integrated Financial Management Program**

[GAO-03-507](#), April 30, 2003 (73 pages).

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**Financial Audit: Congressional Award Foundation's Fiscal Years 2002 and 2001 Financial Statements**

[GAO-03-737](#), May 15, 2003 (17 pages).

**Financial Management: Challenges Remain in Addressing the Government's Improper Payments**

[GAO-03-750T](#), May 13, 2003 (10 pages).

**Internal Revenue Service: Status of Recommendations From Financial Audits and Related Financial Management Reports**

[GAO-03-665](#), May 29, 2003 (46 pages).

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**Government  
Operations**

**Campaign Finance Reform: Early Experiences of Two States That Offer Full Public Funding for Political Candidates**

[GAO-03-453](#), May 9, 2003 (144 pages).

**Contract Management: Reporting of Small Business Contract Awards Does Not Reflect Current Business Size**

[GAO-03-704T](#), May 7, 2003 (10 pages).

**District of Columbia: Performance Report Shows Continued Progress**

[GAO-03-693](#), May 15, 2003 (39 pages).

**Federal Pensions: DOL Oversight and Thrift Savings Plan Accountability**

[GAO-03-400](#), April 23, 2003 (17 pages).

**March 19 Hearing on Sourcing and Acquisition--Questions for the Record**

[GAO-03-771R](#), May 23, 2003 (5 pages).

**Posthearing Questions Related to Pay for Performance**

[GAO-03-793R](#), May 19, 2003 (6 pages).

**Posthearing Questions Related to Strategic Human Capital Management**

[GAO-03-779R](#), May 22, 2003 (11 pages).

**Program Evaluation: An Evaluation Culture and Collaborative Partnerships Help Build Agency Capacity**

[GAO-03-454](#), May 2, 2003 (29 pages).

**Regulatory Programs: Opportunities to Enhance Oversight of the Real Estate Appraisal Industry**

[GAO-03-404](#), May 14, 2003 (101 pages).

**Reporting of Small Business Contract Awards Does Not Reflect Current Business Size**

[GAO-03-776R](#), May 7, 2003 (2 pages).

**Telecommunications: GSA Needs to Improve Process for Awarding Task Orders for Local Service**

[GAO-03-369](#), April 4, 2003 (28 pages).

**U.S. Postal Service: Issues Associated with Anthrax Testing at the Wallingford Facility**

[GAO-03-787T](#), May 19, 2003 (26 pages).

**U.S. Postal Service: Key Postal Transformation Issues**

[GAO-03-812T](#), May 29, 2003 (34 pages).

**Use of Legislative Incentive for Performance-Based Contracting Unknown**

[GAO-03-674R](#), May 22, 2003 (6 pages).

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## Health

### **Federal Funds: Fiscal Year 2001 Expenditures by Selected Organizations Involved in Health-Related Activities**

[GAO-03-527R](#), May 16, 2003 (19 pages).

### **Medicare: Divided Authority for Policies on Coverage of Procedures and Devices Results in Inequities**

[GAO-03-175](#), April 11, 2003 (48 pages).

### **SARS Outbreak: Improvements to Public Health Capacity Are Needed for Responding to Bioterrorism and Emerging Infectious Diseases**

[GAO-03-769T](#), May 7, 2003 (20 pages).

### **Specialty Hospitals: Information on National Market Share, Physician Ownership, and Patients Served**

[GAO-03-683R](#), April 18, 2003 (18 pages).

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## Homeland Security

### **Combating Terrorism: Interagency Framework and Agency Programs to Address the Overseas Threat**

[GAO-03-165](#), May 23, 2003 (263 pages).

### **Counterfeit Documents Used to Enter the United States From Certain Western Hemisphere Countries Not Detected**

[GAO-03-713T](#), May 13, 2003 (4 pages).

### **Homeland Defense: Preliminary Observations on How Overseas and Domestic Missions Impact DOD Forces**

[GAO-03-677T](#), April 29, 2003 (15 pages).

### **Homeland Security: Information Sharing Responsibilities, Challenges, and Key Management Issues**

[GAO-03-715T](#), May 8, 2003 (49 pages).

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**Homeland Security: Justice Department's Project to Interview Aliens after September 11, 2001**

[GAO-03-459](#), April 11, 2003 (32 pages).

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**Income Security**

**Social Security: Issues Relating to Noncoverage of Public Employees**

[GAO-03-710T](#), May 1, 2003 (11 pages).

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**Information Management**

**Bureau of the Public Debt: Areas for Improvement in Computer Controls**

[GAO-03-524R](#), May 1, 2003 (3 pages).

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**International Affairs**

**Central and Southwest Asian Countries: Trends in U.S. Assistance and Key Economic, Governance, and Demographic Characteristics**

[GAO-03-634R](#), May 9, 2003 (22 pages).

**Foreign Assistance: USAID's Earthquake Recovery Program in El Salvador Has Made Progress, but Key Activities Are Behind Schedule**

[GAO-03-656](#), May 15, 2003 (38 pages).

**Free Trade Area of the Americas: Negotiations Progress, but Successful Ministerial Hinges on Intensified U.S. Preparations**

[GAO-03-560](#), April 11, 2003 (53 pages).

**Free Trade Area of the Americas: United States Faces Challenges as Co-Chair of Final Negotiating Phase and Host of November 2003 Ministerial**

[GAO-03-700T](#), May 13, 2003 (13 pages).

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**Global Health: Assessment of First Year Efforts of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria**

[GAO-03-755T](#), May 7, 2003 (10 pages).

**Global Health: Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria Has Advanced in Key Areas, but Difficult Challenges Remain**

[GAO-03-601](#), May 7, 2003 (69 pages).

**Humanitarian Assistance: Protecting Refugee Women and Girls Remains a Significant Challenge**

[GAO-03-663](#), May 23, 2003 (58 pages).

**NATO Enlargement: Reports Are Responsive to Senate Requirements, but Analysis of Financial Burdens Is Incomplete**

[GAO-03-722](#), May 5, 2003 (11 pages).

**Rebuilding Iraq**

[GAO-03-792R](#), May 15, 2003 (29 pages).

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**Justice and Law Enforcement**

**Federal Bankruptcy Judges: Weighted Case Filings as a Measure of Judges' Case-Related Workload**

[GAO-03-789T](#), May 22, 2003 (15 pages).

**Federal Judgeships: The General Accuracy of the Case-Related Workload Measures Used to Assess the Need for Additional District Court and Courts of Appeals Judgeships**

[GAO-03-788R](#), May 30, 2003 (26 pages).

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**National Defense**

**DOD Civilian Personnel: Improved Strategic Planning Needed to Help Ensure Viability of DOD's Civilian Industrial Workforce**

[GAO-03-472](#), April 30, 2003 (66 pages).

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**Defense Acquisitions: Assessments of Major Weapon Programs**

[GAO-03-476](#), May 15, 2003 (72 pages).

**Defense Budget: Tracking of Emergency Response Funds for the War on Terrorism**

[GAO-03-346](#), April 30, 2003 (25 pages).

**Defense Infrastructure: Changes in Funding Priorities and Management Processes Needed to Improve Condition and Reduce Costs of Guard and Reserve Facilities**

[GAO-03-516](#), May 15, 2003 (59 pages).

**Defense Inventory: Air Force Item Manager Views of Repair Parts Issues Consistent With Issues Reported in the Past**

[GAO-03-684R](#), May 21, 2003 (11 pages).

**Defense Trade: Report and Recommendations of the Defense Offsets Commission Still Pending**

[GAO-03-649](#), May 30, 2003 (7 pages).

**Defense Transformation: DOD's Proposed Civilian Personnel System and Governmentwide Human Capital Reform**

[GAO-03-741T](#), May 1, 2003 (10 pages).

**Human Capital: DOD's Civilian Personnel Strategic Management and the Proposed National Security Personnel System**

[GAO-03-493T](#), May 12, 2003 (17 pages).

**Information on Cancelled Integrated Flight Test-16 for Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Element**

[GAO-03-767R](#), May 8, 2003 (8 pages).

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**Military Readiness: DOD Needs a Clear and Defined Process for Setting Aircraft Availability Goals in the New Security Environment**

[GAO-03-300](#), April 7, 2003 (57 pages).

**Military Transformation: Army's Evaluation of Stryker and M-113A3 Infantry Carrier Vehicles Provided Sufficient Data for Statutorily Mandated Comparison**

[GAO-03-671](#), May 30, 2003 (29 pages).

**Missile Defense: Alternate Approaches to Space Tracking and Surveillance System Need to Be Considered**

[GAO-03-597](#), May 23, 2003 (33 pages).

**Spectrum Management in Defense Acquisitions**

[GAO-03-617R](#), April 30, 2003 (19 pages).

**Use of Value Engineering in Defense Acquisitions**

[GAO-03-590R](#), May 23, 2003 (32 pages).

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**Natural Resources**

**Agricultural Conservation: Survey Results on USDA's Implementation of Food Security Act Compliance Provisions**

[GAO-03-492SP](#), April 21, 2003.

**Forest Service: Information on Decisions Involving Fuels Reduction Activities**

[GAO-03-689R](#), May 14, 2003 (43 pages).

**Natural Resources: Status of Merchantable Material Contracting Pilot Program Authorized by the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000**

[GAO-03-596R](#), May 9, 2003 (5 pages).

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**Recreation Fees: Information on Forest Service Management of Revenue from the Fee Demonstration Program**

[GAO-03-470](#), April 25, 2003 (42 pages).

**Wildland Fires: Better Information Needed on Effectiveness of Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Treatments**

[GAO-03-430](#), April 4, 2003 (55 pages).

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**Social Services**

**Child Care: Recent State Policy Changes Affecting the Availability of Assistance for Low-Income Families**

[GAO-03-588](#), May 5, 2003 (43 pages).

**D.C. Child and Family Services: Key Issues Affecting the Management of Its Foster Care Cases**

[GAO-03-758T](#), May 16, 2003 (20 pages).

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**Special Publications**

**Forum on Key National Indicators: Assessing the Nation's Position and Progress**

[GAO-03-672SP](#), May 1, 2003 (66 pages).

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**Tax Policy and Administration**

**Compliance and Collections: Challenges for IRS in Reversing Trends and Implementing New Initiatives**

[GAO-03-732T](#), May 7, 2003 (22 pages).

**IRS Modernization: Continued Progress Necessary for Improving Service to Taxpayers and Ensuring Compliance**

[GAO-03-796T](#), May 20, 2003 (28 pages).

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**Internet Cigarette Sales: Limited Compliance and Enforcement of the Jenkins Act Result in Loss of State Tax Revenue**

[GAO-03-714T](#), May 1, 2003 (16 pages).

**Management Report: Improvements Needed in IRS's Internal Controls**

[GAO-03-562R](#), May 20, 2003 (22 pages).

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**Transportation**

**Federal-Aid Highways: Cost and Oversight of Major Highway and Bridge Projects--Issues and Options**

[GAO-03-764T](#), May 8, 2003 (14 pages).

**Highway Infrastructure: Perceptions of Stakeholders on Approaches to Reduce Highway Project Completion Time**

[GAO-03-398](#), April 9, 2003 (33 pages).

**Highway Safety: Better Guidance Could Improve Oversight of State Highway Safety Programs**

[GAO-03-474](#), April 21, 2003 (32 pages).

**Highway Safety: Factors Contributing to Traffic Crashes and NHTSA's Efforts to Address Them**

[GAO-03-730T](#), May 22, 2003 (17 pages).

**Highway Safety: Research Continues on a Variety of Factors That Contribute to Motor Vehicle Crashes**

[GAO-03-436](#), March 31, 2003 (50 pages).

**National Airspace System: Current Efforts and Proposed Changes to Improve Performance of FAA's Air Traffic Control System**

[GAO-03-542](#), May 30, 2003 (25 pages).

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**Rail Safety and Security: Some Actions Already Taken to Enhance Rail Security, but Risk-based Plan Needed**

[GAO-03-435](#), April 30, 2003 (75 pages).

**Reducing Congestion: Congestion Pricing Has Promise for Improving Use of Transportation Infrastructure**

[GAO-03-735T](#), May 6, 2003 (16 pages).

**Transportation Research: Actions Needed to Improve Coordination and Evaluation of Research**

[GAO-03-500](#), May 1, 2003 (41 pages).

**Transportation Security Research: Coordination Needed in Selecting and Implementing Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessments**

[GAO-03-502](#), May 1, 2003 (22 pages).

**Transportation-Disadvantaged Populations: Many Federal Programs Fund Transportation Services, but Obstacles to Coordination Persist**

[GAO-03-698T](#), May 1, 2003 (32 pages).

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**Veterans Affairs**

**Department of Veterans Affairs: Key Management Challenges in Health and Disability Programs**

[GAO-03-756T](#), May 8, 2003 (27 pages).

**VA Health Care: VA Increases Third-Party Collections as It Addresses Problems in Its Collections Operations**

[GAO-03-740T](#), May 7, 2003 (14 pages).

**VA Long-Term Care: Service Gaps and Facility Restrictions Limit Veterans' Access to Noninstitutional Care**

[GAO-03-487](#), May 9, 2003 (29 pages).

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**VA Long-Term Care: Veterans' Access to Noninstitutional Care Is Limited by Service Gaps and Facility Restrictions**

[GAO-03-815T](#), May 22, 2003 (13 pages).

**Veterans Benefits Administration: Better Collection and Analysis of Attrition Data Needed to Enhance Workforce Planning**

[GAO-03-491](#), April 28, 2003 (21 pages).

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