



# NASA

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was created under President Dwight Eisenhower largely in response to the Soviet launching of Sputnik in 1957. It was organized around the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), which had been created by Congress in 1915. NASA is an independent agency of the U.S. Federal Government responsible for the civilian space program, as well as aeronautics and space research.

There are many figures that have and continue to contribute to the success of NASA. However, there is a remarkable story regarding hidden figures, black women mathematicians, who served as the brains behind one of the greatest

operations in history, the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit. This impossible mission was made possible through reimagining the possible, which restored our nation's confidence by turning the space race and changing the world. If you have not seen the movie, check out *Hidden Figures* to see how Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson and key leaders in NASA reimagined the possible.





At its 20 centers and facilities across the country – and the only National Laboratory in space – NASA studies Earth, including its climate, our Sun, and our solar system and beyond. The agency has a diverse workforce of just under 18,000 civil servants, and works with many more U.S. contractors, academia, and international and commercial partners to explore, discover, and expand knowledge for the benefit of humanity. With a Fiscal Year 2021 budget of \$23.2 billion, NASA supported more than 312,000 jobs across the U.S.

The John F. Kennedy Space Center located on Merritt Island, Florida, is one of NASA’s ten field centers. It is a premier multi-user spaceport with more than 90 private-sector partners and nearly 250 partnership agreements. Although Kennedy is NASA’s main launch site, the center is also home to facilities that research and develop innovative solutions for working and living on the surfaces of the Moon and other bodies in our solar system. A must-see site for reimagining the possible!

