NASA Knowledge Map

www.nasa.gov/about/sites/index.html

AMES RESEARCH CENTER
Moffett Field, CA

1,224 civil servants | 1,521 contractors

Focuses on information technology

Engages in wind tunnel development and operation

Uses supercomputing and advanced computer-based modeling

Explores artificial intelligence

DRYDEN FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER
Edwards, CA

424 civil servants | 520 contractors

Focuses on atmospheric flight operations

Supports development and operations for the Shuttle

Enhances competitiveness in the U.S. aerospace industry

JET PROPULSION LABORATORY
Pasadena, CA

5,225 employees

Focuses on deep space systems

Designs and operates spacecraft to explore the Solar System

Supports research in automated spacecraft operations and related computer science

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
Houston, TX

2,748 civil servants | 12,282 contractors

Focuses on human operations in space

Serves as shuttle mission control and operations planning

Conducts studies of lunar samples returned by the Apollo program

ASK Magazine *would like to extend special thanks to Stephen Chesley in the Office of Human Capital Management for his assistance.*

GLENN RESEARCH CENTER
Cleveland, OH

1,628 civil servants | 1,744 contractors

Focuses on turbomachinery

Conducts combustion research

Prepares chemical and electric rocket propulsion

GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER
Greenbelt, MD

2,846 civil servants | 4,400 contractors

Focuses on scientific research

Manages and operates the Hubble Space Telescope

Directs development of the Earth Observing System

NASA HEADQUARTERS
Washington, DC

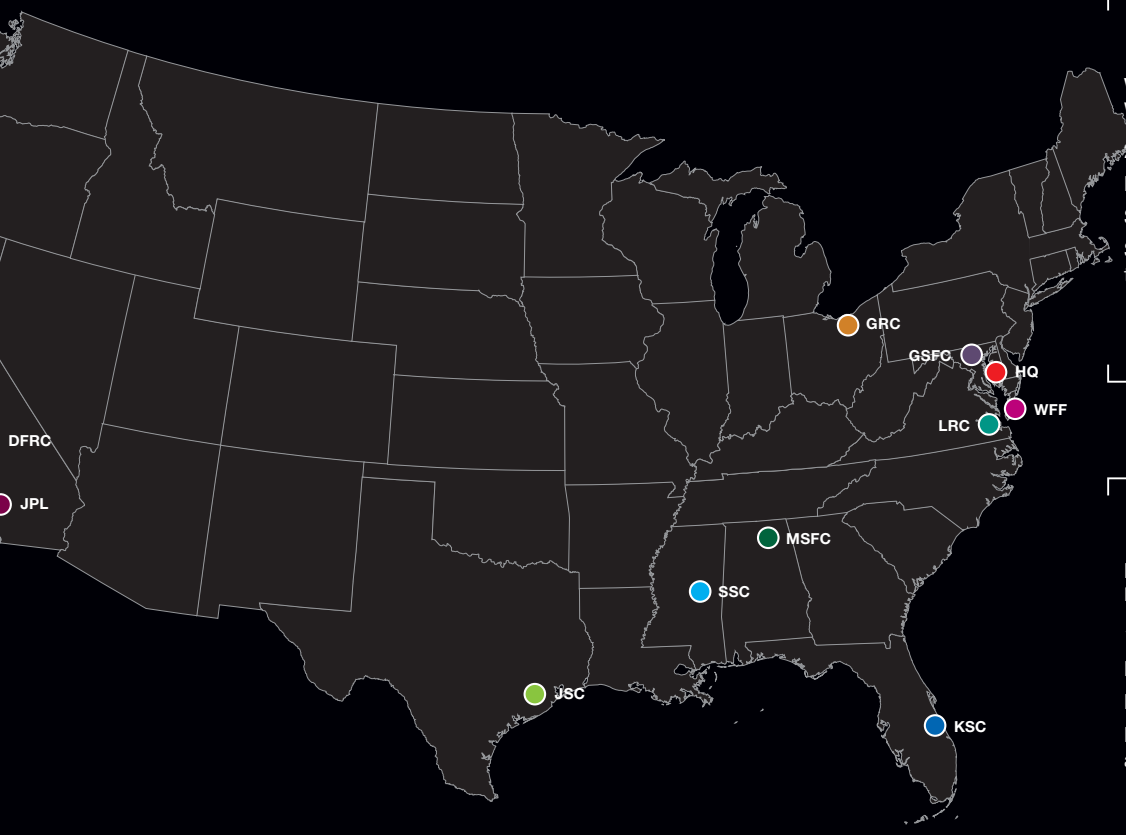
1,500 civil servants | 752 contractors

Headquarters has authority for all NASA-related entities/projects

Interacts with Administration and Congress

Serves as focal point for accountability, communication, and liaison for external entities

Provides agency leadership through budget integration, policies and procedures



WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY
Wallops Island, VA

255 civil servants | 529 contractors

Focuses on suborbital research programs

Serves as rocket launch site

Sends scientific research balloons into the Earth's upper atmosphere

LANGLEY RESEARCH CENTER
Hampton, VA

1,906 civil servants | 1,557 contractors

Focuses on aeronautical flight research

Explores hypersonic flight

Examines advanced composite materials and their nondestructive testing

STENNIS SPACE CENTER
SSC, MS

254 civil servants | 1,258 contractors

Focuses on rocket propulsion testing

Maintains and operates a range of test-firing stands

Issues grants for land-use planning and other Earth remote-sensing data

MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER
Huntsville, AL

2,391 civil servants | 3,554 contractors

Focuses on space propulsion

Develops pressurized living and working modules for the International Space Station

Preparing to lead development of new generation of reusable launch vehicles

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER
KSC, FL

1,793 civil servants | 10,708 contractors

Focuses on launch and cargo processing systems

Develops and maintains the Shuttle launch pads and control center

Provides primary landing site for the Shuttle

NASA Knowledge Map

In a meeting at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, *ASK Magazine's* new editorial team met with the Academy of Program/Project and Engineering Leadership's (APPEL) Knowledge Sharing Project Manager, Tina Chindgren, and Director, Dr. Ed Hoffman. During discussion and planning, we confessed that it was challenging for newcomers to take in the **breadth** and **depth** of NASA's research. It occurred to us that even many NASA veterans might benefit from a clear, concise overview of what happens where in the organization. We decided to create an explanatory picture of NASA centers that offers an easy way to grasp the **range** and **location** of NASA activities. APPEL partnered with Hirshorn Zuckerman Design Group to produce this NASA Knowledge Map, which we present here for your use. ● Mapping knowledge is a relatively new concept, gaining currency along with growing recognition of the importance of developing and coordinating organizational knowledge. A knowledge map is meant to present complex details in a visual format that helps people more easily see what an organization "knows." It can be especially useful at showing **geographic location, relationships, and relative size**—information that is hard to communicate economically and effectively in words alone. Visualizing knowledge can aid understanding of an organization's many practices and how they fit into the larger network of knowledge. ● We consider this map to be a work in progress, and we welcome your suggestions for changes and additions that might make it more useful (keeping in mind that simplicity is one of the hallmarks of a good knowledge map). You may find our contact information at the end of this magazine on the "*ASK* Interactive" page.

NASA Core Values

SAFETY

NASA's constant attention to safety is the cornerstone upon which we build mission success. We are committed, individually and as a team, to protecting the safety and health of the public, our team members, and those assets that the nation entrusts to us.

TEAMWORK

NASA's most powerful tool for achieving mission success is a multidisciplinary team of competent people. The Agency will build high-performing teams that are committed to continuous learning, trust, and openness to innovation and new ideas.

INTEGRITY

NASA is committed to an environment of trust, built upon honesty, ethical behavior, respect, and candor. Building trust through ethical conduct as individuals and as an organization is a necessary component of mission success.

MISSION SUCCESS

NASA's reason for being is to conduct successful space missions on behalf of this nation. We undertake missions to explore, discover, and learn. And we believe that mission success is the natural consequence of an uncompromising commitment to safety, teamwork, and integrity.

Source: Strategic Management and Governance Handbook, NPD 1000.0 (Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief Engineer, August 2005).