• NASA budget decreased after Apollo

• NASA budget has been flat (relative to inflation) over past decade
President’s Vision
To inspire, promote technological advancements, and improve the quality of life for Americans

Bipartisan Congressional Support for Vision
House and Senate provide unanimous consent
in 2005 Authorization Act for NASA

House: Unanimous voice vote Dec. 17, 2005
Senate: Unanimous consent Dec. 22, 2005

Implications of Data

• NASA’s budget is not the cause of rising deficits.

• Indeed, one can argue that investments in NASA have enhanced the nation’s technological base and, thus, enhanced our economic base.

• NASA’s budget should not be raided to fix deficits caused by other programs.

• Indeed, one can argue that the current NASA budget is embarrassingly small. Our nation’s entire investment is about the same as the bonus pool of a single company (as illustrated in the next slide).
November 10, 2009: Estimated budget pool $21B

January 21, 2010: Trimmed budget pool to $16.2B

NASA and NIH Budget Comparison
Fiscal Year 1969–Present

Goldman Sachs’ bonus pool equivalent to the entire budget for NASA

Goldman Sachs
Dec 10, 2009: Estimated budget pool $21B
Jan 21, 2010: Trimmed budget pool to $16.2B

NIH

NASA


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