



# TY@N

THIS YEAR @ NASA

# 2021



1  
00:00:04,150 --> 00:00:01,350

[Music]

2  
00:00:06,309 --> 00:00:04,160

in 2021 we touched down on mars then

3  
00:00:08,230 --> 00:00:06,319

reached new heights on the red planet we

4  
00:00:10,629 --> 00:00:08,240

also made progress preparing for a

5  
00:00:13,110 --> 00:00:10,639

flight test around the moon and we had a

6  
00:00:15,589 --> 00:00:13,120

very busy year in low earth orbit

7  
00:00:17,510 --> 00:00:15,599

exploring other deep space destinations

8  
00:00:19,990 --> 00:00:17,520

addressing climate change here on our

9  
00:00:22,550 --> 00:00:20,000

home planet testing technologies for

10  
00:00:24,390 --> 00:00:22,560

next generation aircraft and much more

11  
00:00:27,750 --> 00:00:24,400

here's a look back at those and other

12  
00:00:29,429 --> 00:00:27,760

things we did this year at nasa

13  
00:00:32,069 --> 00:00:29,439

there were plenty of developments in

14

00:00:34,470 --> 00:00:32,079

2021 with existing and future missions

15

00:00:35,990 --> 00:00:34,480

designed to explore our solar system and

16

00:00:39,830 --> 00:00:36,000

beyond

17

00:00:44,310 --> 00:00:41,990

the perseverance rover landed on mars in

18

00:00:46,470 --> 00:00:44,320

february and later collected its first

19

00:00:48,549 --> 00:00:46,480

rock core sample which could be

20

00:00:49,990 --> 00:00:48,559

retrieved and returned to earth by a

21

00:00:51,990 --> 00:00:50,000

future mission

22

00:00:54,069 --> 00:00:52,000

while the ingenuity helicopter a

23

00:00:56,069 --> 00:00:54,079

technology demonstration on that mission

24

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:56,079

became the first aircraft to make a

25

00:00:59,029 --> 00:00:58,000

powered controlled flight on another

26

00:01:01,110 --> 00:00:59,039

planet

27

00:01:02,950 --> 00:01:01,120

we completed testing of the james webb

28

00:01:05,350 --> 00:01:02,960

space telescope and sent it to its

29

00:01:07,109 --> 00:01:05,360

launch site in french guiana the wide

30

00:01:09,109 --> 00:01:07,119

array of science missions we sent to

31

00:01:11,670 --> 00:01:09,119

space included the first mission to

32

00:01:13,990 --> 00:01:11,680

study the polarization of x-rays the

33

00:01:17,190 --> 00:01:14,000

first spacecraft to visit jupiter's

34

00:01:19,429 --> 00:01:17,200

trojan asteroids and our first planetary

35

00:01:21,830 --> 00:01:19,439

defense test mission

36

00:01:24,149 --> 00:01:21,840

our chandra x-ray observatory may have

37

00:01:26,310 --> 00:01:24,159

detected signs of a planet crossing in

38

00:01:28,230 --> 00:01:26,320

front of a star outside of our milky way

39

00:01:30,390 --> 00:01:28,240

galaxy for the first time

40

00:01:32,550 --> 00:01:30,400

while our parker solar probe provided

41

00:01:35,590 --> 00:01:32,560

surprising views of venus during a close

42

00:01:38,310 --> 00:01:35,600

flyby and became the first spacecraft in

43

00:01:40,230 --> 00:01:38,320

history to touch the sun flying through

44

00:01:42,469 --> 00:01:40,240

and sampling the environment in the

45

00:01:45,030 --> 00:01:42,479

sun's upper atmosphere and the

46

00:01:47,749 --> 00:01:45,040

transiting exoplanet survey satellite or

47

00:01:50,389 --> 00:01:47,759

tess helped discover a trio of hot

48

00:01:53,510 --> 00:01:50,399

worlds larger than earth orbiting a much

49

00:01:55,830 --> 00:01:53,520

younger version of our sun

50

00:01:58,310 --> 00:01:55,840

some new but familiar faces took on

51  
00:02:00,469 --> 00:01:58,320  
leadership roles at the agency

52  
00:02:02,550 --> 00:02:00,479  
the biden harris administration chose

53  
00:02:04,870 --> 00:02:02,560  
former senator and space shuttle payload

54  
00:02:06,789 --> 00:02:04,880  
specialist bill nelson and former

55  
00:02:09,109 --> 00:02:06,799  
astronaut and space shuttle commander

56  
00:02:11,270 --> 00:02:09,119  
pam melroy as nasa's newest

57  
00:02:13,110 --> 00:02:11,280  
administrator and deputy administrator

58  
00:02:15,670 --> 00:02:13,120  
respectively

59  
00:02:17,670 --> 00:02:15,680  
some of our work in 2021 reflected the

60  
00:02:19,750 --> 00:02:17,680  
biden-harris administration's commitment

61  
00:02:22,470 --> 00:02:19,760  
to addressing climate change and its

62  
00:02:24,630 --> 00:02:22,480  
effect on our home planet something nasa

63  
00:02:26,390 --> 00:02:24,640

is uniquely positioned to do

64

00:02:28,710 --> 00:02:26,400

we announced our earth system

65

00:02:31,190 --> 00:02:28,720

observatory a new set of missions to

66

00:02:33,589 --> 00:02:31,200

help guide efforts related to climate

67

00:02:35,990 --> 00:02:33,599

change disaster mitigation fighting

68

00:02:40,150 --> 00:02:36,000

forest fires and improving real-time

69

00:02:42,949 --> 00:02:40,160

agricultural processes and liftoff

70

00:02:45,430 --> 00:02:42,959

liftoff of an atlas 5 rocket and landsat

71

00:02:48,470 --> 00:02:45,440

9. we partnered with a u.s geological

72

00:02:50,869 --> 00:02:48,480

survey to launch the landsat 9 satellite

73

00:02:53,190 --> 00:02:50,879

built to continue the program's 50-year

74

00:02:55,030 --> 00:02:53,200

track record of monitoring the planet's

75

00:02:57,030 --> 00:02:55,040

changing landscapes

76

00:02:59,509 --> 00:02:57,040

several weeks later vice president

77

00:03:02,710 --> 00:02:59,519

kamala harris visited the agency as we

78

00:03:04,949 --> 00:03:02,720

unveiled the satellite's first images

79

00:03:07,430 --> 00:03:04,959

nasa conducted and participated in a

80

00:03:10,149 --> 00:03:07,440

series of climate change studies related

81

00:03:12,790 --> 00:03:10,159

to high tide floods and earth's energy

82

00:03:15,030 --> 00:03:12,800

imbalance and energy budget

83

00:03:16,949 --> 00:03:15,040

this animation as part of a global

84

00:03:19,110 --> 00:03:16,959

response to climate change we

85

00:03:21,270 --> 00:03:19,120

participated in the u.n climate change

86

00:03:23,030 --> 00:03:21,280

conference we captured data with a

87

00:03:25,110 --> 00:03:23,040

specialized instrument on the space

88

00:03:26,789 --> 00:03:25,120

station to help fight forest fires in

89

00:03:29,110 --> 00:03:26,799

the western u.s

90

00:03:31,270 --> 00:03:29,120

we also coordinated with researchers to

91

00:03:33,670 --> 00:03:31,280

develop dashboards on the spread and

92

00:03:35,750 --> 00:03:33,680

effects of the covet 19 pandemic

93

00:03:38,309 --> 00:03:35,760

including tracking any changes to

94

00:03:40,470 --> 00:03:38,319

worldwide air pollution

95

00:03:43,589 --> 00:03:40,480

and we launched an online platform

96

00:03:46,470 --> 00:03:43,599

called open et to help farmers and water

97

00:03:48,710 --> 00:03:46,480

managers in 17 western u.s states

98

00:03:51,509 --> 00:03:48,720

accelerate improvements and innovations

99

00:03:53,830 --> 00:03:51,519

in water management

100

00:03:55,670 --> 00:03:53,840

2021 was the busiest year for human

101  
00:03:58,309 --> 00:03:55,680  
space flight at the international space

102  
00:04:00,309 --> 00:03:58,319  
station in a decade it also marked the

103  
00:04:02,869 --> 00:04:00,319  
start of the 21st straight year of

104  
00:04:05,190 --> 00:04:02,879  
humans living and working in space

105  
00:04:06,789 --> 00:04:05,200  
the splashdown of our spacex crew one

106  
00:04:09,030 --> 00:04:06,799  
mission marked the completion of the

107  
00:04:11,270 --> 00:04:09,040  
first operational commercial crew flight

108  
00:04:13,509 --> 00:04:11,280  
to the station and the first nighttime

109  
00:04:20,870 --> 00:04:13,519  
splashdown of a u.s crude spacecraft

110  
00:04:25,189 --> 00:04:23,510  
our spacex crew 2 mission followed that

111  
00:04:27,430 --> 00:04:25,199  
it was the first commercial crew mission

112  
00:04:31,270 --> 00:04:27,440  
to fly two international partners and

113  
00:04:33,990 --> 00:04:31,280

spent a record 199 days in space

114

00:04:35,830 --> 00:04:34,000

and in november nasa's spacex crew 3

115

00:04:38,070 --> 00:04:35,840

mission arrived at the space station for

116

00:04:39,270 --> 00:04:38,080

a planned six-month scientific research

117

00:04:41,670 --> 00:04:39,280

mission

118

00:04:43,909 --> 00:04:41,680

astronauts and cosmonauts completed 13

119

00:04:47,030 --> 00:04:43,919

spacewalks outside the space station the

120

00:04:49,189 --> 00:04:47,040

most in a year since 2010.

121

00:04:51,990 --> 00:04:49,199

with no slowdown to human space flight

122

00:04:54,310 --> 00:04:52,000

in sight we introduced 10 new astronaut

123

00:04:56,230 --> 00:04:54,320

candidates in early december

124

00:04:58,230 --> 00:04:56,240

we also accepted applications for the

125

00:05:00,870 --> 00:04:58,240

next class of flight directors and

126  
00:05:02,870 --> 00:05:00,880  
announced plans for the agency's first

127  
00:05:05,909 --> 00:05:02,880  
two private astronaut missions to the

128  
00:05:07,670 --> 00:05:05,919  
international space station

129  
00:05:09,510 --> 00:05:07,680  
cargo missions flown to the space

130  
00:05:12,310 --> 00:05:09,520  
station by our commercial partners

131  
00:05:15,110 --> 00:05:12,320  
delivered more than 33 000 pounds of

132  
00:05:17,270 --> 00:05:15,120  
science tools and critical supplies and

133  
00:05:19,029 --> 00:05:17,280  
returned thousands of pounds of research

134  
00:05:20,710 --> 00:05:19,039  
and equipment to earth

135  
00:05:22,870 --> 00:05:20,720  
and we signed agreements with three

136  
00:05:25,510 --> 00:05:22,880  
companies to develop early concepts of

137  
00:05:28,150 --> 00:05:25,520  
commercial destinations as part of our

138  
00:05:32,790 --> 00:05:28,160

efforts to enable a robust american-led

139

00:05:37,430 --> 00:05:35,350

we made significant progress in 2021

140

00:05:40,150 --> 00:05:37,440

preparing for the artemis one integrated

141

00:05:42,070 --> 00:05:40,160

flight test around the moon next year

142

00:05:43,749 --> 00:05:42,080

engineers at our kennedy space center

143

00:05:45,990 --> 00:05:43,759

finished installing and testing

144

00:05:48,310 --> 00:05:46,000

components and systems for the orion

145

00:05:50,310 --> 00:05:48,320

spacecraft to make sure it is ready for

146

00:05:52,390 --> 00:05:50,320

artemis one

147

00:05:54,150 --> 00:05:52,400

meanwhile teams at our stennis space

148

00:05:56,629 --> 00:05:54,160

center completed the eight part green

149

00:06:00,070 --> 00:05:56,639

run test campaign with the space launch

150

00:06:02,469 --> 00:06:00,080

system or sls rockets core stage

151

00:06:04,629 --> 00:06:02,479

there was also work in 2021 toward

152

00:06:07,110 --> 00:06:04,639

future artemis missions to the moon with

153

00:06:09,749 --> 00:06:07,120

astronauts we delivered a key piece of

154

00:06:11,670 --> 00:06:09,759

artemis ii flight hardware to florida

155

00:06:13,990 --> 00:06:11,680

completed the welding of another major

156

00:06:16,309 --> 00:06:14,000

piece of hardware for the mission

157

00:06:19,189 --> 00:06:16,319

and conducted a series of water impact

158

00:06:21,270 --> 00:06:19,199

testing with a test version of orion we

159

00:06:22,950 --> 00:06:21,280

partnered with spacex to continue

160

00:06:25,350 --> 00:06:22,960

development of the first commercial

161

00:06:27,029 --> 00:06:25,360

human lunar lander through artemis we

162

00:06:29,350 --> 00:06:27,039

planned to land the first woman and

163

00:06:31,110 --> 00:06:29,360

first person of color on the moon

164

00:06:33,029 --> 00:06:31,120

working with commercial partners we

165

00:06:34,790 --> 00:06:33,039

completed the first propulsion system

166

00:06:37,350 --> 00:06:34,800

ground tests with the power and

167

00:06:40,070 --> 00:06:37,360

propulsion element for gateway also

168

00:06:42,469 --> 00:06:40,080

japan became the third nation to support

169

00:06:44,870 --> 00:06:42,479

development of the lunar outpost

170

00:06:47,510 --> 00:06:44,880

and the lunar landing site for our viper

171

00:06:49,510 --> 00:06:47,520

robotic rover was selected a region just

172

00:06:51,909 --> 00:06:49,520

outside the western edge of nobile

173

00:06:53,670 --> 00:06:51,919

crater at the moon's south pole

174

00:06:56,150 --> 00:06:53,680

viper will be delivered to the moon in

175

00:06:58,710 --> 00:06:56,160

2023 through our commercial lunar

176  
00:07:01,990 --> 00:06:58,720  
payload services initiative or eclipse

177  
00:07:04,710 --> 00:07:02,000  
part of artemis

178  
00:07:07,029 --> 00:07:04,720  
we advanced space technology in 2021

179  
00:07:11,029 --> 00:07:07,039  
with new concepts to help drive space

180  
00:07:12,870 --> 00:07:11,039  
exploration and benefit life on earth

181  
00:07:15,029 --> 00:07:12,880  
our laser communications relay

182  
00:07:17,990 --> 00:07:15,039  
demonstration was launched to highlight

183  
00:07:19,749 --> 00:07:18,000  
the next era of space communications we

184  
00:07:22,070 --> 00:07:19,759  
teamed with the department of energy to

185  
00:07:24,390 --> 00:07:22,080  
advance nuclear spacecraft propulsion

186  
00:07:26,309 --> 00:07:24,400  
technologies and fission surface power

187  
00:07:28,710 --> 00:07:26,319  
concepts to boost future space

188  
00:07:30,469 --> 00:07:28,720

exploration an onboard suite of

189

00:07:33,270 --> 00:07:30,479

cutting-edge technology helped the

190

00:07:35,589 --> 00:07:33,280

perseverance rover land safely on mars

191

00:07:37,670 --> 00:07:35,599

provide its first weather report and

192

00:07:38,950 --> 00:07:37,680

produce oxygen on the red planet for the

193

00:07:41,189 --> 00:07:38,960

first time

194

00:07:43,270 --> 00:07:41,199

and our deep space atomic clock

195

00:07:47,830 --> 00:07:43,280

concluded a successful two-year mission

196

00:07:49,909 --> 00:07:47,840

to advance precise time keeping in space

197

00:07:52,070 --> 00:07:49,919

we continued our aeronautics research

198

00:07:54,550 --> 00:07:52,080

efforts this year to validate unique

199

00:07:57,029 --> 00:07:54,560

airframe design technologies for more

200

00:07:59,189 --> 00:07:57,039

quiet safe and efficient flight on next

201  
00:08:01,110 --> 00:07:59,199  
generation aircraft

202  
00:08:03,909 --> 00:08:01,120  
we reached several milestones in

203  
00:08:06,309 --> 00:08:03,919  
assembly of our x-59 quiet supersonic

204  
00:08:08,390 --> 00:08:06,319  
technology aircraft and removed the

205  
00:08:10,469 --> 00:08:08,400  
experimental airplane from its external

206  
00:08:12,550 --> 00:08:10,479  
construction supports

207  
00:08:15,670 --> 00:08:12,560  
meanwhile we completed high voltage

208  
00:08:17,189 --> 00:08:15,680  
testing on our all-electric x-57 maxwell

209  
00:08:19,270 --> 00:08:17,199  
aircraft

210  
00:08:21,430 --> 00:08:19,280  
we conducted wind tunnel testing with a

211  
00:08:23,430 --> 00:08:21,440  
full-scale concept x-plane the

212  
00:08:25,589 --> 00:08:23,440  
centerpiece of a national partnership

213  
00:08:28,390 --> 00:08:25,599

with industry academia and other

214

00:08:31,110 --> 00:08:28,400

agencies to achieve net zero emissions

215

00:08:33,350 --> 00:08:31,120

in aviation by 2050.

216

00:08:35,909 --> 00:08:33,360

we wrapped up our airspace technology

217

00:08:38,149 --> 00:08:35,919

demonstration 2 project after six years

218

00:08:40,230 --> 00:08:38,159

of successful research into reducing

219

00:08:43,110 --> 00:08:40,240

flight delays streamlining airport

220

00:08:44,870 --> 00:08:43,120

operations and curbing emissions

221

00:08:46,710 --> 00:08:44,880

we conducted flight tests with an

222

00:08:48,630 --> 00:08:46,720

all-electric vertical takeoff and

223

00:08:51,030 --> 00:08:48,640

landing aircraft to collect data

224

00:08:53,430 --> 00:08:51,040

critical to our advanced air mobility

225

00:08:56,150 --> 00:08:53,440

national campaign

226

00:08:58,150 --> 00:08:56,160

and a wildfire management workshop nasa

227

00:09:00,470 --> 00:08:58,160

hosted demonstrated how emergency

228

00:09:04,550 --> 00:09:00,480

responders can fight fires more safely

229

00:09:06,230 --> 00:09:04,560

and effectively using nasa technology

230

00:09:08,790 --> 00:09:06,240

we launched our mission equity

231

00:09:10,230 --> 00:09:08,800

initiative in 2021 as part of a federal

232

00:09:11,750 --> 00:09:10,240

government effort to support

233

00:09:14,470 --> 00:09:11,760

historically underserved and

234

00:09:16,470 --> 00:09:14,480

underrepresented communities

235

00:09:19,430 --> 00:09:16,480

our headquarters building in washington

236

00:09:22,389 --> 00:09:19,440

was named after mary w jackson the first

237

00:09:24,230 --> 00:09:22,399

african-american female engineer at nasa

238

00:09:26,310 --> 00:09:24,240

she was part of a group of women whose

239

00:09:28,230 --> 00:09:26,320

work was critical to sending the first

240

00:09:30,630 --> 00:09:28,240

americans to space

241

00:09:32,870 --> 00:09:30,640

and students who are deaf blind hearing

242

00:09:34,870 --> 00:09:32,880

and visually impaired connected with

243

00:09:36,870 --> 00:09:34,880

astronauts aboard the space station

244

00:09:40,389 --> 00:09:36,880

during an in-flight event to promote

245

00:09:45,509 --> 00:09:42,310

there were plenty of opportunities in

246

00:09:47,750 --> 00:09:45,519

2021 for students to engage in nasa stem

247

00:09:50,070 --> 00:09:47,760

related activities

248

00:09:52,310 --> 00:09:50,080

nasa collaborated with future engineers

249

00:09:55,269 --> 00:09:52,320

to create the artemis moonpod essay

250

00:09:56,870 --> 00:09:55,279

contest in which nearly 14 000 students

251

00:09:58,550 --> 00:09:56,880

from every state in the country

252

00:10:00,710 --> 00:09:58,560

participated

253

00:10:02,949 --> 00:10:00,720

our mission to mars student challenge

254

00:10:05,990 --> 00:10:02,959

demonstrated how science math and

255

00:10:08,389 --> 00:10:06,000

creativity are used to design build

256

00:10:10,870 --> 00:10:08,399

launch and land a mars mission we

257

00:10:13,110 --> 00:10:10,880

published first woman the agency's first

258

00:10:15,030 --> 00:10:13,120

digital interactive graphic novel in

259

00:10:17,110 --> 00:10:15,040

english and spanish

260

00:10:19,110 --> 00:10:17,120

student teams designed and launched

261

00:10:21,430 --> 00:10:19,120

climate remote sensing and space

262

00:10:24,389 --> 00:10:21,440

exploration experiments on suborbital

263

00:10:26,310 --> 00:10:24,399

rockets and high altitude balloons

264

00:10:28,710 --> 00:10:26,320

and the agency awarded funding to

265

00:10:31,670 --> 00:10:28,720

minority serving institutions to study

266

00:10:34,069 --> 00:10:31,680

our home planet develop space technology

267

00:10:36,730 --> 00:10:34,079

and expand participation in science

268

00:10:38,069 --> 00:10:36,740

technology engineering and math fields

269

00:10:40,310 --> 00:10:38,079

[Music]

270

00:10:42,870 --> 00:10:40,320

when all is said and done the underlying

271

00:10:44,710 --> 00:10:42,880

reason we do what we do from advancing

272

00:10:46,790 --> 00:10:44,720

space exploration to making

273

00:10:49,110 --> 00:10:46,800

groundbreaking scientific and technical

274

00:10:51,350 --> 00:10:49,120

discoveries to monitoring the health of

275

00:10:54,230 --> 00:10:51,360

our planet to developing innovative

276

00:10:55,990 --> 00:10:54,240

modes of transportation is to benefit

277

00:10:57,590 --> 00:10:56,000

you

278

00:11:01,030 --> 00:10:57,600

those are some of the highlights from

279

00:11:04,310 --> 00:11:01,040

what nasa did in 2021 for more details

280

00:11:06,389 --> 00:11:04,320

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00:11:08,949 --> 00:11:06,399

thanks for watching please have a safe

282

00:11:10,710 --> 00:11:08,959

healthy and happy holiday season and we