We evaluated the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) enterprise-wide security program for Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information intelligence systems. Pursuant to the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014, we reviewed the Department’s security program, and system security controls for the enterprise-wide intelligence system. Since our FY 2018 evaluation, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis has continued to provide effective oversight of the department-wide intelligence system and has implemented programs to monitor ongoing security practices.

We determined that DHS’ information security program for Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information intelligence systems is effective this year as the Department achieved “Level 4 – Managed and Measurable” in three of five cybersecurity functions, based on current reporting instructions for intelligence systems. However, we identified deficiencies in DHS’ patch management process. In addition, the United States Coast Guard could not ensure all of its intelligence users received the required security awareness training.

We made one recommendation to the Office of Intelligence and Analysis and one recommendation to the United States Coast Guard to address the deficiencies identified. DHS concurred with both recommendations. We conducted our fieldwork between May and November 2019.