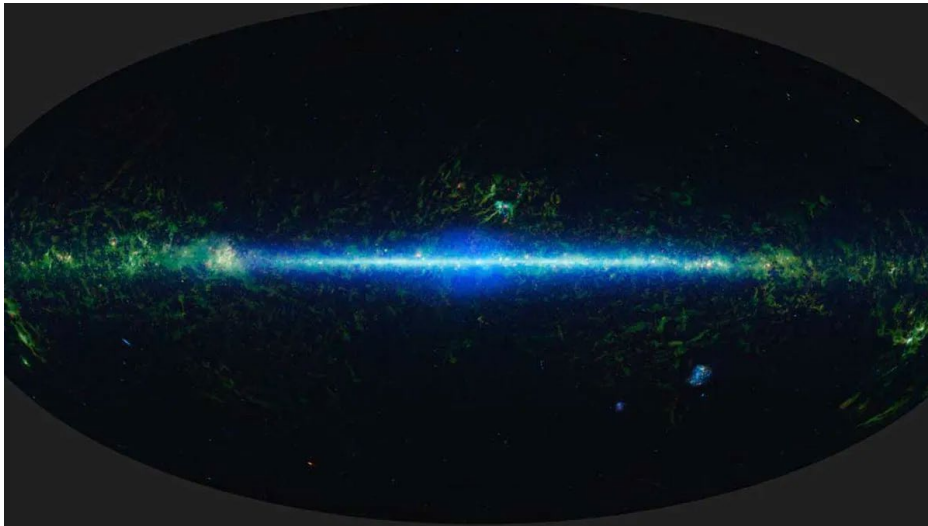


14 December



(Picture credits: *NASA/JPL-Caltech/UCLA*)

NEO-Wise launch anniversary (2009)

Space agency/country: NASA
Mission: *NEO-Wise*

The *NEO-Wise* mission is an extension of NASA's *WISE* (Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer) project, which was launched in 2009. The mission's main aim was to study objects outside our solar system. Upon completion of the mission, however, the satellite was still operational and fully functioning. Therefore, in 2013 NASA's Planetary Science Division decided to maneuver it into low-Earth orbit to study comets and asteroids orbiting the Sun. The spacecraft takes a scan of the entire sky every six months. During its fifteen years of activities, the *NEO-Wise* mission has contributed many discoveries, the most important being *Comet NEOWISE*, which was discovered in 2020.

For more information:

<https://science.nasa.gov/mission/neowise>

<https://www.space.com/nasa-neowise-stunning-timelapse-video-decade-universe>