U.S. National Science Foundation

ILLINOIS

FY 2023 Fast Facts

$356,535,000
Total NSF Awards to Illinois

$312,339,000
Invested in Fundamental Research in Illinois

$43,541,000
Invested in STEM Education in Illinois

$6,073,000
Invested in Illinois Businesses

Top NSF-funded Academic Institutions for FY 2023

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	University of Chicago	Northwestern University
$139,470,000	**$70,949,000**	**$62,425,000**

NSF By The Numbers

The U. S. National Science Foundation (NSF) is an $9.06 billion independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense. NSF's vital role is to support basic research and researchers who create knowledge that transforms the future.

DID YOU KNOW? NSF has funded the work of **261** Nobel Prize winners over 75 years.

$9.06B
FY 2024 Total Enacted

93%
Funds research, education and related activities

11K
Awards

1.9K
Institutions

353K
People

**Data represents FY 2023 Actuals unless otherwise indicated*

Expanding the Frontiers of Science

The NSF Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI) program seeks to stimulate human-centered fundamental and potentially transformative research that empowers America's infrastructure. Within many urban areas of the U.S., there has been historically poor investment in stormwater infrastructure, with unequal impacts among communities that vary in socioeconomic status. The result is growing disparities in water quality, reliability and infrastructure in these areas. Drawing from expertise in social science, hydrological modeling, environmental engineering and landscape architecture, an SAI project at the **Illinois Institute of Technology** improves public understanding, assesses stormwater infrastructure disparities and identifies viable policy options moving forward. This project utilizes two forms of citizen science — crowdsourced data collection for identifying stormwater flooding events and citizen-engaged hands-on water quality testing — to improve urban stormwater infrastructure management. Chicago is being used as the development site because of its vulnerability to flooding and its historically diverse socioeconomic communities.

STEM Education and Broadening Participation

The NSF Artificial Intelligence Research Institutes (AI Institutes) advance foundational AI research that promotes ethical and trustworthy AI systems and technologies, develops novel approaches to cybersecurity, contributes to innovative solutions to climate change, expands the understanding of the brain and leverages AI capabilities to enhance education and public health. The **Institute for Inclusive and Intelligent Technologies for Education (INVITE) at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** seeks to fundamentally reframe how educational technologies interact with learners by developing AI tools and approaches focusing on how children communicate science, technology, engineering and mathematics content, how they learn to persist through challenging work and how teachers support and promote noncognitive skill development. The resultant AI-based tools will be integrated into classrooms to empower teachers to support learners in more developmentally appropriate ways. This work will generate a rich set of data documenting learners' interactions with educational technologies, each other and teachers, allowing researchers to study learner growth over time. Research and outreach activities will draw from the INVITE K-12 partner network reaching up to 96,000 learners across 24 school districts and nonprofits spanning eight states.

Regional Innovation Engines

NSF Regional Innovation Engines (NSF Engines) represent one of the single largest broad investments in place-based research and development in the nation's history, uniquely placing science and technology leadership as the central driver for regional economic competitiveness. The **NSF Engine: Great Lakes Water Innovation Engine**, led by the nonprofit **Current Innovation NFP**, aims to discover, develop and deploy innovative key technologies that attract water-intensive manufacturers to the region, recover valuable energy and mineral resources from wastewater streams and foster workforce opportunities while maintaining environmental health. Additionally, an NSF Engines Development Award led by the **Illinois Innovation Network**, with **Governors State University** as the lead academic institution, is focused on transforming the transportation logistics system through automation and the deployment of autonomous drones and electric vehicles. The project is also identifying strategies for reskilling and upskilling individuals whose career paths are disrupted by automation.

NCSES

According to the NSF National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), which is housed in NSF, Illinois ranks 6th in the nation for science, engineering and health doctorate recipients. Visit Illinois's science and engineering state profile to learn more!

30.59% of **Illinois'** higher education degrees are concentrated in S&E fields.

4.71% of **Illinois'** workforce is employed in S&E occupations.

7.87% of **Illinois'** total employment is attributable to knowledge - and technology - intensive industries.

Learn More

CHIPS & SCIENCE – The CHIPS and Science Act's investments in the U.S. National Science Foundation will help the United States remain a global leader in innovation. Implementation of this legislation will be key to ensuring that ideas, talent and prosperity are unleashed across all corners of the nation. For more information, please visit the NSF CHIPS and Science website.

RESEARCH SECURITY – NSF is committed to safeguarding the integrity and security of science and engineering while also keeping fundamental research open and collaborative. NSF seeks to address an age of new threats and challenges through close work with our partners in academia, law enforcement, intelligence and other federal agencies. By fostering transparency, disclosure and other practices that reflect the values of research integrity, NSF is helping to lead the way in ensuring taxpayer-funded research remains secure. To learn more, please visit the NSF Research Security website.

CONNECT WITH NSF – For more information on NSF's impact in your state, please contact the NSF Office of Legislative and Public Affairs at congressionalteam@nsf.gov.