



South Carolina

The U.S. Bioscience Industry: Fostering Innovation
and Driving America's Economy Forward

South Carolina's bioscience industry has experienced strong employment growth since 2018, increasing by nearly 22 percent and reaching 19,418 jobs in 2021, with firms operating 1,918 business establishments across the state. South Carolina has a high, above-average employment concentration in the pharmaceuticals subsector of the industry. NIH awards to South Carolina institutions have steadily risen in recent years and by 2021 totaled \$226 million. State universities spent \$462 million on R&D activities in bioscience-related fields, which comprises 71 percent of all academic R&D in science and engineering fields. This concentration of bioscience academic R&D expenditures is well above the national average.

Bioscience Performance Metrics

Summary of State Performance in Selected Bioscience-related Metrics

Metric	South Carolina	United States	Quintile
Bioscience Industry, 2021			
Bioscience Industry Employment	19,418	2,135,704	III
Bioscience Industry Location Quotient	0.64	n/a	IV
Bioscience Industry Establishments	1,918	127,389	III
Academic Bioscience R&D Expenditures, FY 2020			
Bioscience R&D (\$ thousands)	\$462,193	\$51,108,737	III
Bioscience Share of Total R&D	71%	63%	I
Bioscience R&D Per Capita	\$90	\$154	IV
NIH Funding, FY 2021			
Funding (\$ thousands)	\$226,214	\$34,751,109	III
Funding Per Capita	\$44	\$105	IV
Bioscience Venture Capital Investments, 2018-21 (\$ millions)			
	\$119.10	\$197,674.54	IV
Bioscience-Related Patents, 2018-21			
	704	153,072	III

State ranking figures for bioscience performance metrics are calculated as quintiles, where I = top quintile, III = middle quintile, and V = bottom quintile. For source notes, see end of State Profile.

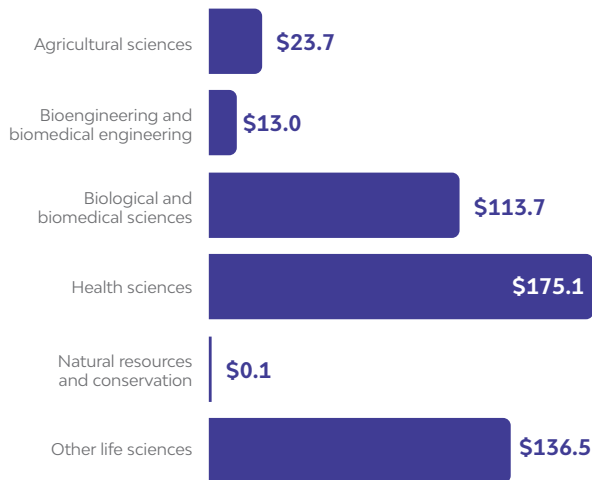
Industry Subsector		South Carolina		United States	
		2021	2018–2021 Change	2021	2018–2021 Change
Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences	Establishments	31	9.8%	1,948	10.0%
	Employment	369	-7.3%	69,573	1.9%
	<i>Location Quotient</i>	0.37		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	\$76,415	19.6%	\$91,989	13.1%
Bioscience-Related Distribution	Establishments	680	10.6%	62,697	14.7%
	Employment	5,074	14.8%	602,589	6.6%
	<i>Location Quotient</i>	0.59		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	\$100,257	16.0%	\$121,606	15.0%
Medical Devices and Equipment	Establishments	218	34.9%	10,268	17.4%
	Employment	3,972	1.8%	398,847	5.5%
	<i>Location Quotient</i>	0.70		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	\$78,311	20.0%	\$98,481	8.7%
Pharmaceuticals	Establishments	155	49.8%	5,973	34.7%
	Employment	5,600	39.4%	344,839	11.9%
	<i>Location Quotient</i>	1.15		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	\$67,600	5.8%	\$126,153	10.3%
Research, Testing, and Medical Laboratories	Establishments	835	29.4%	46,503	34.5%
	Employment	4,402	36.0%	719,856	19.3%
	<i>Location Quotient</i>	0.43		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	\$89,888	28.8%	\$147,396	22.0%
Total Bioscience Industry	Establishments	1,918	23.5%	127,389	22.3%
	Employment	19,418	21.5%	2,135,704	11.0%
	<i>Location Quotient</i>	0.64		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	\$83,546	16.6%	\$125,750	16.4%
Total Private Sector	Establishments	148,131	15.4%	10,665,643	9.3%
	Employment	1,746,893	0.2%	123,376,557	-1.5%
	<i>Location Quotient</i>	1.00		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	\$51,850	17.7%	\$67,826	18.9%

Note: U.S. employment metrics include Puerto Rico.

Bioscience Research in South Carolina

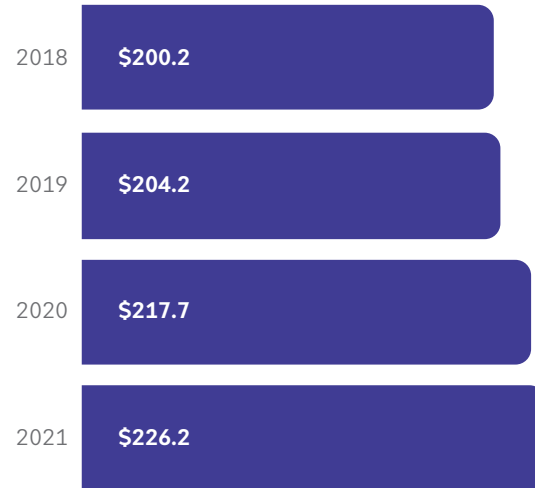
Bioscience Academic R&D Expenditures

\$ Millions, FY 2020



NIH Awards

\$ Millions, FY 2018-2021



Bioscience Venture Capital in South Carolina

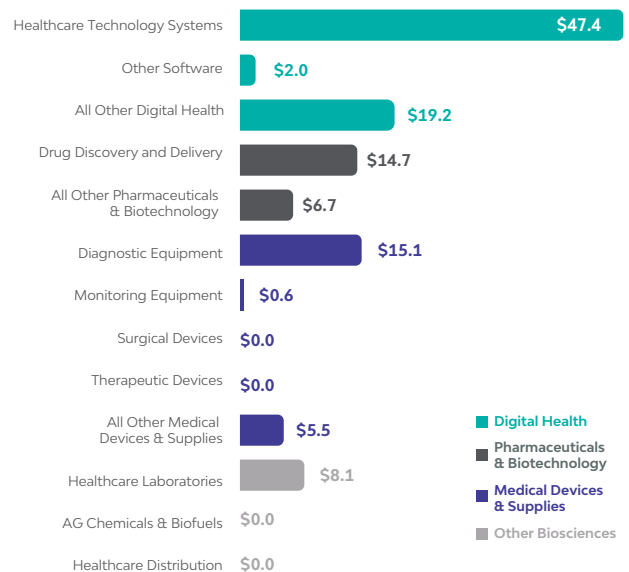
Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments

\$ Millions, 2018-2021



Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments by Segment

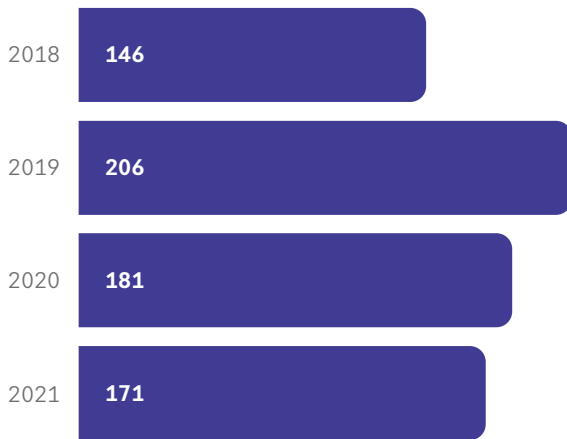
\$ Millions, 2018-2021



Bioscience Patents in South Carolina

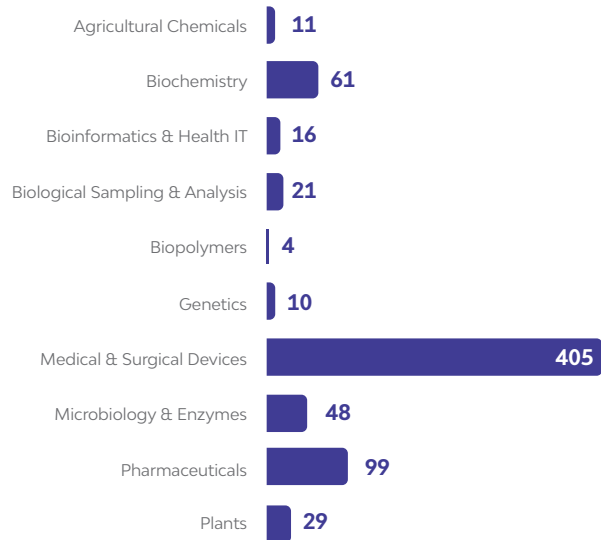
Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents

2018-2021



Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents by Segment

2018-2021



Source Notes

Employment, Establishments and Wages: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), enhanced by Lightcast (Datarun 2022.3).

Academic R&D Expenditures: National Science Foundation (NSF), Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey.

NIH Funding: National Institutes of Health, NIH Awards by Location & Organization (summary information within RePORT database).

Venture Capital: PitchBook Data, Inc.

Patents: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office data from Clarivate Analytics’ Derwent Innovation patent analysis database.

For a more detailed discussion of the data and methodology used, please see the Appendix to the full national report.