Colorado

The U.S. Bioscience Economy:

Advancing Innovation and Strengthening States and Regions

Colorado's bioscience industry is sizable and growing. State businesses employed 39,535 across 3,841 establishments in 2025. Industry employment increased by 3.4 percent from 2021 through 2025. Bioscience-related distribution, the state's largest bioscience subsector, grew by 16.8 percent and retains a specialized employment concentration with a location quotient of 1.24. Research, testing, and medical laboratories also contributed double-digit job growth, offsetting declines in other subsectors. Average annual bioscience wages were $137,991, 61 percent above the state's private sector average. State bioscience companies attracted $7.5 billion in venture capital investments from 2021 through 2025, positioning Colorado among the top quintile of states. State universities conducted $1.1 billion in bioscience-related R&D in FY 2024, and state institutions received $580.1 million in NIH funding in FY 2025.

BIOSCIENCE PERFORMANCE METRICS

Summary of State Performance in Selected Bioscience-related Metrics

METRIC		Colorado	United States	Quintile
Bioscience Industry, 2025	Bioscience Industry Employment	39,535	2,312,617	III
	Bioscience Industry Location Quotient	0.94	n/a	II
	Bioscience Industry Establishments	3,841	156,463	II
Academic Bioscience R&D Expenditures, FY 2024	Bioscience R&D ($ thousands)	$1,110,981	$68,902,940	II
	Bioscience Share of Total R&D	53%	63%	III
	Bioscience R&D Per Capita	$186	$203	III
NIH Funding, FY 2025	Funding ($ thousands)	$580,087	$36,741,235	II
	Funding Per Capita	$96	$107	II
Bioscience Venture Capital, 2021-25	Investments ($ millions)	$7,504.01	$297,644	I
Bioscience-Related Patents, 2021-25	Total Patents	4,234	138,607	II

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.

Colorado

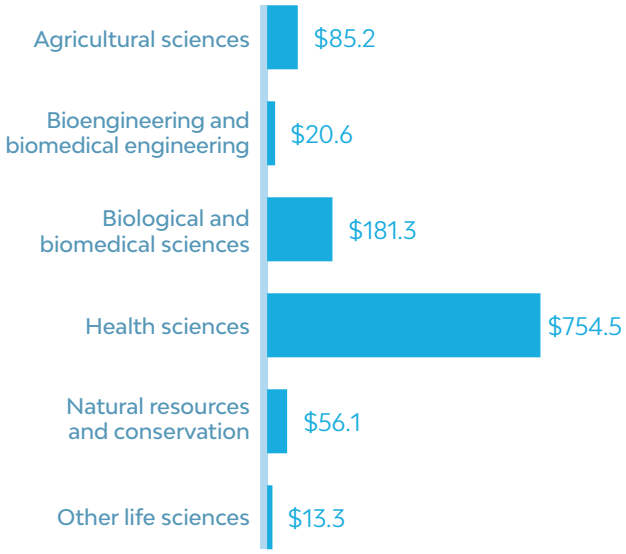
INDUSTRY SUBSECTOR		Colorado 2025	Colorado 2021–2025 Change	United States 2025	United States 2021–2025 Change
Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences	Establishments	25	-15.3%	2,158	10.7%
	Employment	322	-21.9%	71,331	2.2%
	Location Quotient	0.25		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$71,066	11.6%	$105,506	14.7%
Bioscience-Related Distribution	Establishments	2,074	4.7%	68,949	10.0%
	Employment	15,048	16.8%	667,651	10.7%
	Location Quotient	1.24		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$161,726	19.8%	$144,792	19.0%
Medical Devices and Equipment	Establishments	170	0.1%	13,595	24.6%
	Employment	8,265	-14.5%	430,363	1.9%
	Location Quotient	1.06		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$111,121	2.1%	$110,757	13.9%
Pharmaceuticals	Establishments	170	-28.6%	7,880	31.0%
	Employment	4,960	-11.4%	363,904	5.4%
	Location Quotient	0.75		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$94,578	0.9%	$146,506	16.3%
Research, Testing, and Medical Laboratories	Establishments	1,402	46.8%	63,881	37.0%
	Employment	10,941	13.2%	779,368	8.1%
	Location Quotient	0.77		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$147,293	25.9%	$167,555	13.7%
Total Bioscience Industry	Establishments	3,841	13.8%	156,463	22.1%
	Employment	39,535	3.4%	2,312,617	7.0%
	Location Quotient	0.94		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$137,991	17.9%	$145,188	16.0%
Total Private Sector	Establishments	246,430	9.0%	11,985,043	12.5%
	Employment	2,432,198	6.7%	133,872,972	8.5%
	Location Quotient	1.00		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$85,476	19.5%	$78,863	16.3%

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

BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN COLORADO

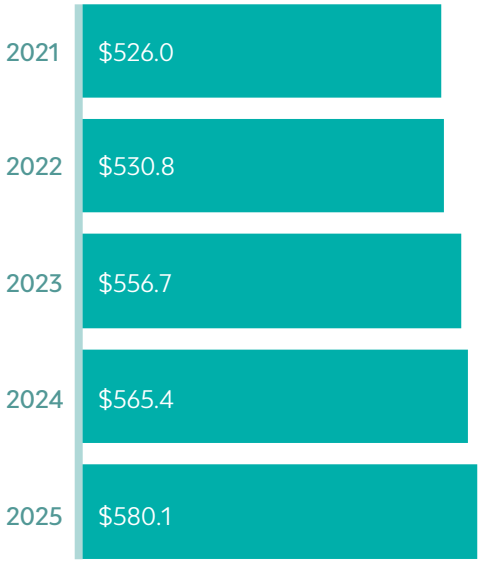
Bioscience Academic R&D Expenditures

$ Millions, FY 2024



NIH Awards

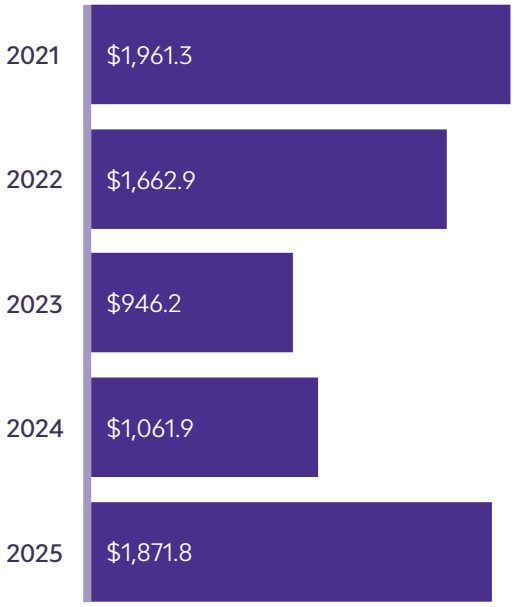
$ Millions, FY 2021-2025



BIOSCIENCE VENTURE CAPITAL IN COLORADO

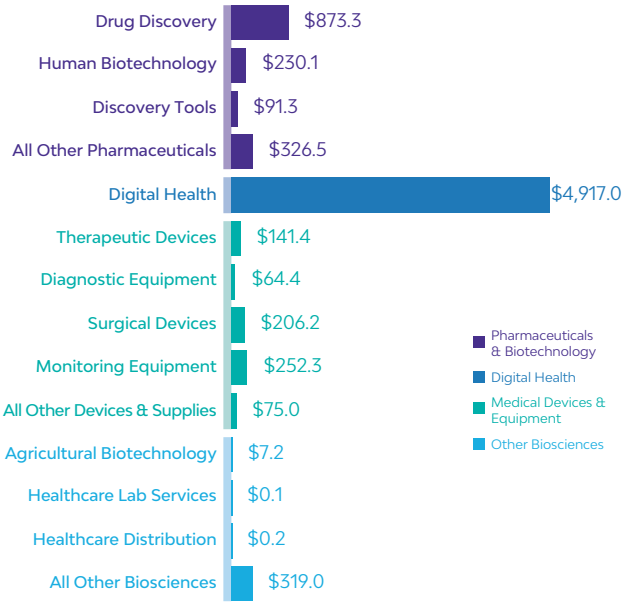
Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments

$ Millions, 2021-2025



Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments by Segment

$ Millions, 2021-2025

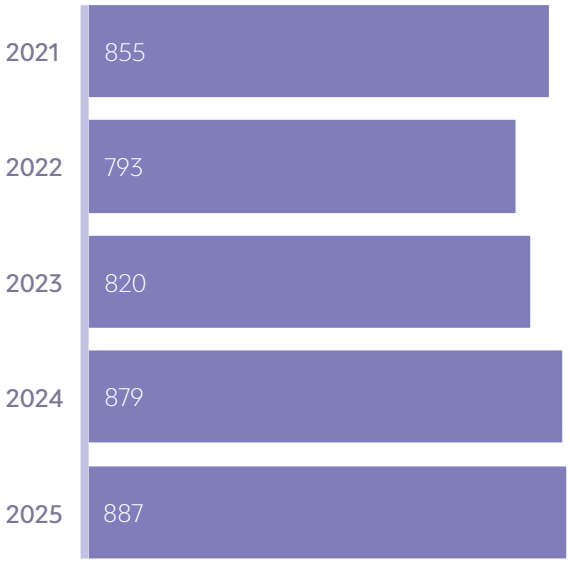


Colorado

BIOSCIENCE PATENTS IN COLORADO

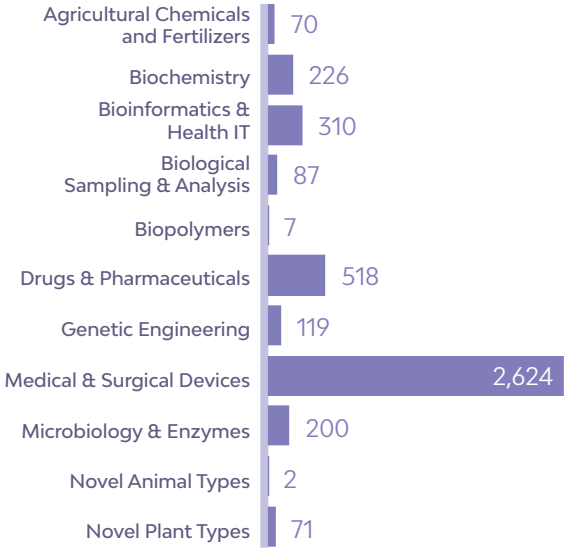
Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents

2021-2025



Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents by Segment

2021-2025



SOURCE NOTES

Employment, Establishments and Wages: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), enhanced by Lightcast (Datarun 2026.3).

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

NIH Funding: National Institutes of Health, NIH Awards via the NIH RePORT portal.

Venture Capital: PitchBook Data, Inc.

Patents: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office data from the Clarivate Derwent Patent Search patent analysis database.

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

TECONOMY PARTNERS LLC

Bio Biotechnology Innovation Organization

CSBA Council of State Bioscience Associations