District of Columbia



The U.S. Bioscience Economy:

Advancing Innovation and Strengthening States and Regions

Bioscience firms in Washington, D.C. accounted for 3,709 jobs across 745 establishments in 2025. Industry employment grew by 9.8 percent since 2021, ahead of the national rate. Washington, D.C.'s bioscience economy is centered on the research, testing, and medical laboratories subsector, which accounts for 78 percent of industry employment. Research and laboratory activities contributed to the gains, alongside growth in bioscience-related distribution. Annual bioscience wages averaged $205,117, 66 percent higher than the District's private sector average. Local universities conducted $498.4 million in bioscience-related R&D in FY 2024, and institutions received $207.6 million in NIH funding in FY 2025. Relative to its population, the District ranks among the top quintile in bioscience-related academic R&D expenditures and remains among the top quintile in NIH funding per capita.

BIOSCIENCE PERFORMANCE METRICS

Summary of State Performance in Selected Bioscience-related Metrics

METRIC		District of Columbia	United States	Quintile
Bioscience Industry, 2025	Bioscience Industry Employment	3,709	2,312,617	V
	Bioscience Industry Location Quotient	0.42	n/a	V
	Bioscience Industry Establishments	745	156,463	V
Academic Bioscience R&D Expenditures, FY 2024	Bioscience R&D ($ thousands)	$498,383	$68,902,940	III
	Bioscience Share of Total R&D	60%	63%	III
	Bioscience R&D Per Capita	$721	$203	I
NIH Funding, FY 2025	Funding ($ thousands)	$207,600	$36,741,235	III
	Funding Per Capita	$299	$107	I
Bioscience Venture Capital, 2021-25	Investments ($ millions)	$358.19	$297,644	IV
Bioscience-Related Patents, 2021-25	Total Patents	523	138,607	IV

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.

District of Columbia

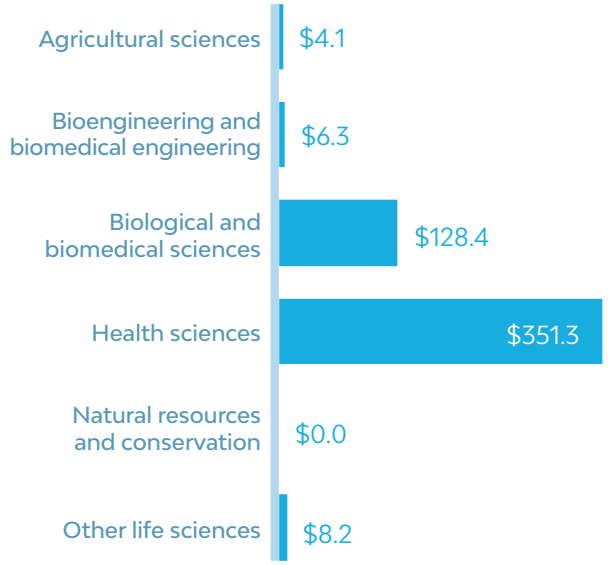
INDUSTRY SUBSECTOR		District of Columbia 2025	District of Columbia 2021–2025 Change	United States 2025	United States 2021–2025 Change
Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences	Establishments	0	-100.0%	2,158	10.7%
	Employment	0	-100.0%	71,331	2.2%
	Location Quotient			n/a	
	Average Annual Wage			$105,506	14.7%
Bioscience-Related Distribution	Establishments	234	22.0%	68,949	10.0%
	Employment	682	30.1%	667,651	10.7%
	Location Quotient	0.27		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$331,108	20.5%	$144,792	19.0%
Medical Devices and Equipment	Establishments	14	-5.2%	13,595	24.6%
	Employment	15	-37.7%	430,363	1.9%
	Location Quotient	0.01		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$203,256	21.6%	$110,757	13.9%
Pharmaceuticals	Establishments	21	13.9%	7,880	31.0%
	Employment	113	2.6%	363,904	5.4%
	Location Quotient	0.08		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$316,111	-12.6%	$146,506	16.3%
Research, Testing, and Medical Laboratories	Establishments	477	84.2%	63,881	37.0%
	Employment	2,899	6.6%	779,368	8.1%
	Location Quotient	0.97		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$171,162	29.8%	$167,555	13.7%
Total Bioscience Industry	Establishments	745	53.9%	156,463	22.1%
	Employment	3,709	9.8%	2,312,617	7.0%
	Location Quotient	0.42		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$205,117	26.8%	$145,188	16.0%
Total Private Sector	Establishments	50,934	15.8%	11,985,043	12.5%
	Employment	515,126	6.1%	133,872,972	8.5%
	Location Quotient	1.00		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$123,766	14.4%	$78,863	16.3%

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

BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

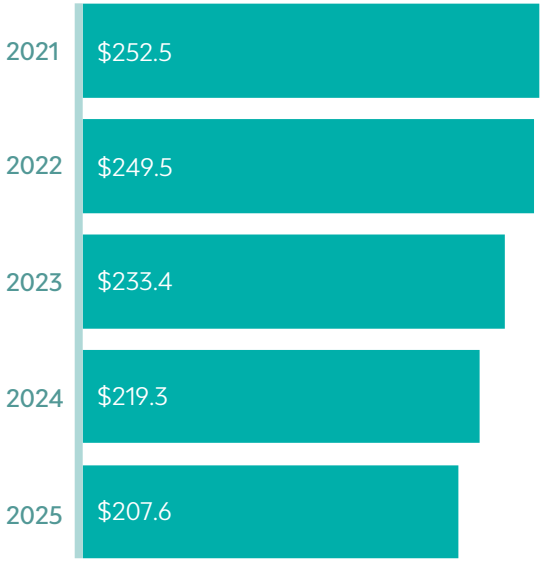
Bioscience Academic R&D Expenditures

$ Millions, FY 2024



NIH Awards

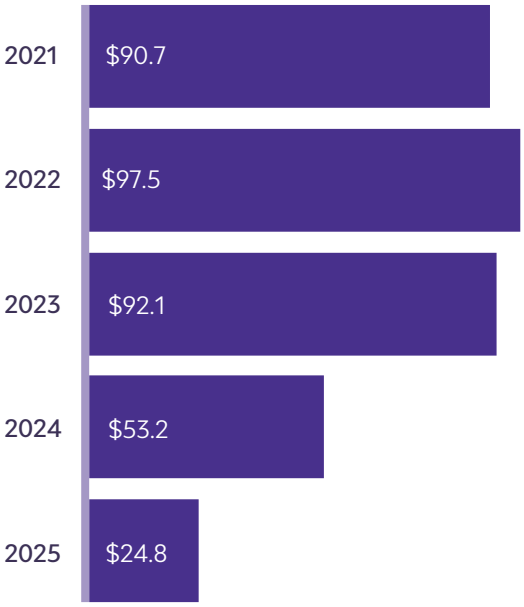
$ Millions, FY 2021-2025



BIOSCIENCE VENTURE CAPITAL IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

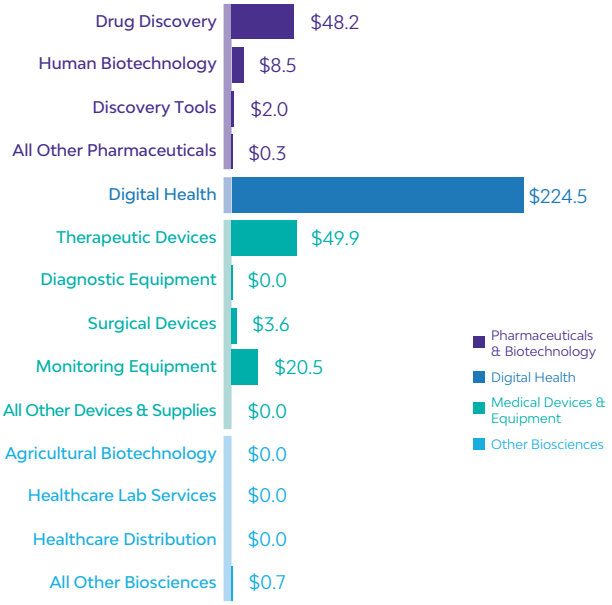
Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments

$ Millions, 2021-2025



Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments by Segment

$ Millions, 2021-2025

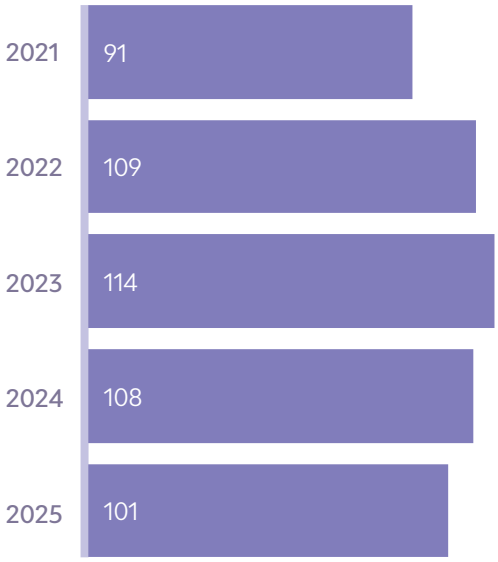


District of Columbia

BIOSCIENCE PATENTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

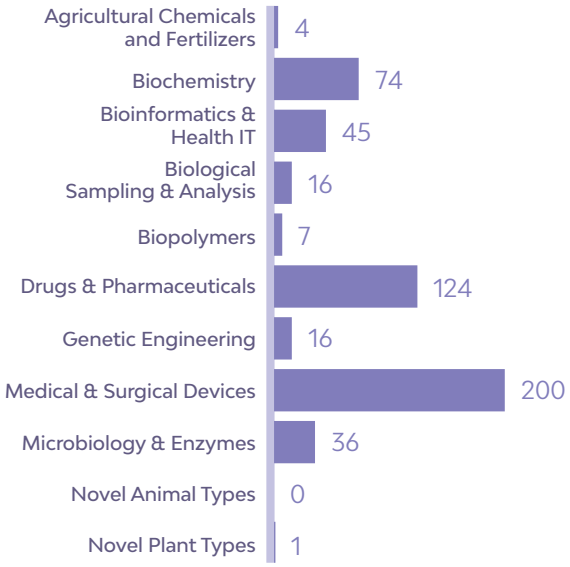
Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents

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