Iowa



The U.S. Bioscience Economy:

Advancing Innovation and Strengthening States and Regions

Iowa's bioscience industry is sizable and specialized in its employment concentration. The industry's employment base totaled 28,059 jobs across 1,967 business establishments in 2025. Industry employment increased by 5.8 percent from 2021. Iowa's bioscience economy continues to reflect its distinctive strengths in agricultural feedstock and industrial biosciences and bioscience-related distribution. Employment in the agricultural biosciences subsector is more than 12 times as concentrated as nationally, while distribution has a location quotient of 1.81. Four major subsectors contributed to the employment gains, including double-digit growth in pharmaceuticals. Annual bioscience wages averaged $103,707, 63 percent above Iowa's private sector average. State universities conducted $721.1 million in bioscience-related R&D in FY 2024, and institutions received $197.4 million in NIH funding in FY 2025. Venture capital investments in Iowa bioscience companies totaled $442.3 million from 2021 through 2025.

BIOSCIENCE PERFORMANCE METRICS

Summary of State Performance in Selected Bioscience-related Metrics

METRIC		Iowa	United States	Quintile
Bioscience Industry, 2025	Bioscience Industry Employment	28,059	2,312,617	III
	Bioscience Industry Location Quotient	1.24	n/a	II
	Bioscience Industry Establishments	1,967	156,463	III
Academic Bioscience R&D Expenditures, FY 2024	Bioscience R&D ($ thousands)	$721,060	$68,902,940	III
	Bioscience Share of Total R&D	65%	63%	II
	Bioscience R&D Per Capita	$223	$203	II
NIH Funding, FY 2025	Funding ($ thousands)	$197,423	$36,741,235	III
	Funding Per Capita	$61	$107	III
Bioscience Venture Capital, 2021-25	Investments ($ millions)	$442.31	$297,644	III
Bioscience-Related Patents, 2021-25	Total Patents	2,198	138,607	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.

Iowa

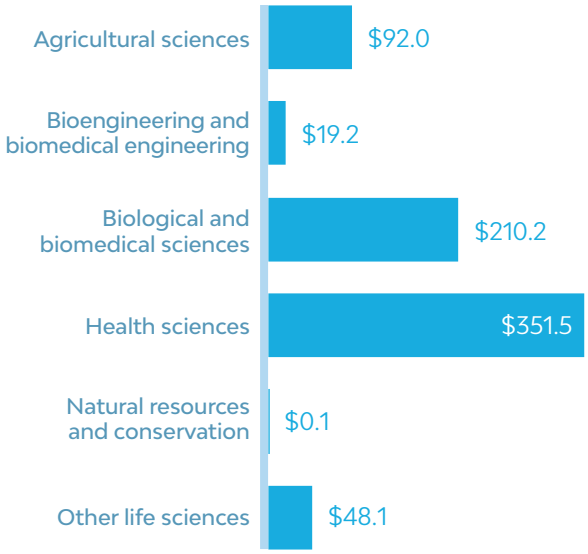
INDUSTRY SUBSECTOR		Iowa 2025	Iowa 2021–2025 Change	United States 2025	United States 2021–2025 Change
Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences	Establishments	127	-6.3%	2,158	10.7%
	Employment	8,514	6.2%	71,331	2.2%
	Location Quotient	12.21		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$99,293	16.7%	$105,506	14.7%
Bioscience-Related Distribution	Establishments	1,348	6.2%	68,949	10.0%
	Employment	11,795	6.0%	667,651	10.7%
	Location Quotient	1.81		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$112,972	18.6%	$144,792	19.0%
Medical Devices and Equipment	Establishments	69	0.7%	13,595	24.6%
	Employment	1,158	-12.7%	430,363	1.9%
	Location Quotient	0.28		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$77,056	19.9%	$110,757	13.9%
Pharmaceuticals	Establishments	66	33.8%	7,880	31.0%
	Employment	4,094	10.3%	363,904	5.4%
	Location Quotient	1.15		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$87,670	9.7%	$146,506	16.3%
Research, Testing, and Medical Laboratories	Establishments	357	21.0%	63,881	37.0%
	Employment	2,498	7.2%	779,368	8.1%
	Location Quotient	0.33		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$113,636	22.0%	$167,555	13.7%
Total Bioscience Industry	Establishments	1,967	8.2%	156,463	22.1%
	Employment	28,059	5.8%	2,312,617	7.0%
	Location Quotient	1.24		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$103,707	17.4%	$145,188	16.0%
Total Private Sector	Establishments	104,676	4.3%	11,985,043	12.5%
	Employment	1,308,220	3.1%	133,872,972	8.5%
	Location Quotient	1.00		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$63,653	17.5%	$78,863	16.3%

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

BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN IOWA

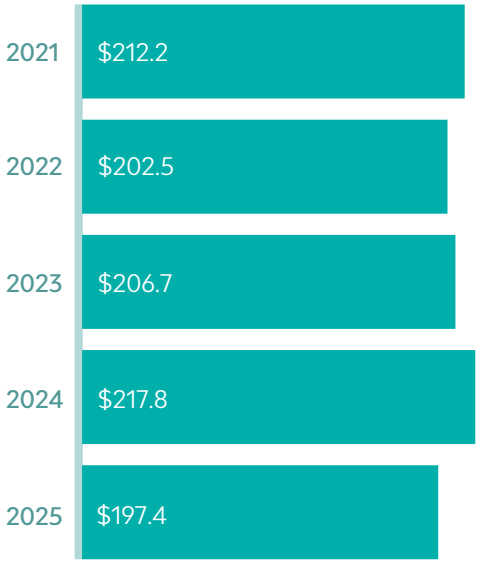
Bioscience Academic R&D Expenditures

$ Millions, FY 2024



NIH Awards

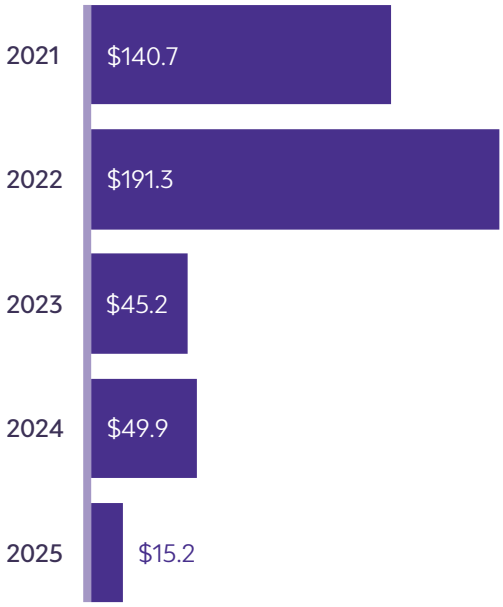
$ Millions, FY 2021-2025



BIOSCIENCE VENTURE CAPITAL IN IOWA

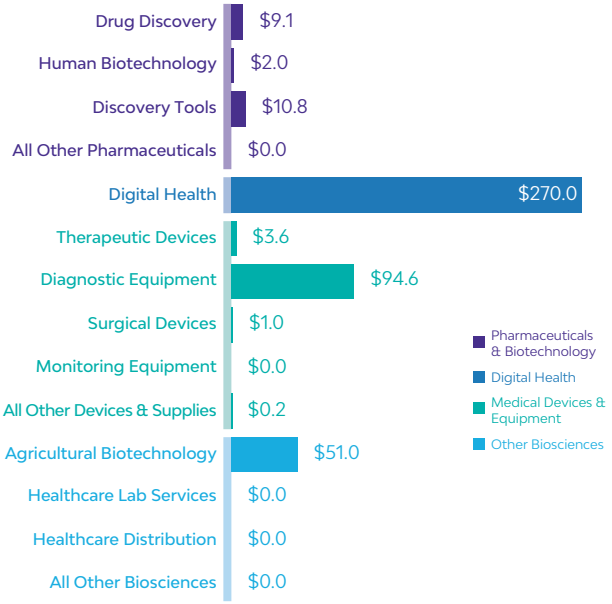
Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments

$ Millions, 2021-2025



Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments by Segment

$ Millions, 2021-2025

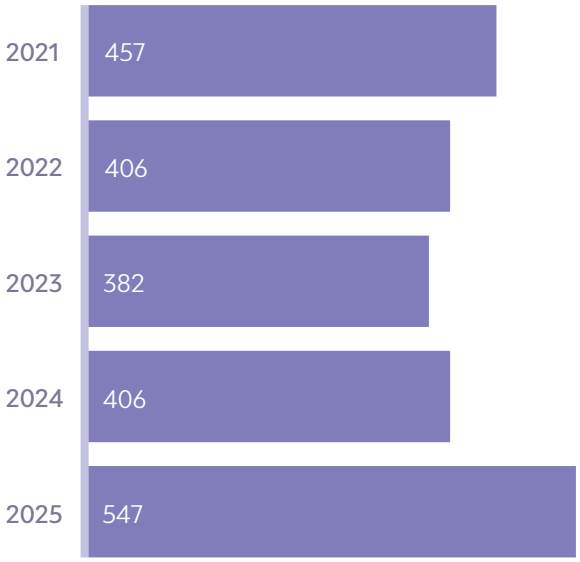


Iowa

BIOSCIENCE PATENTS IN IOWA

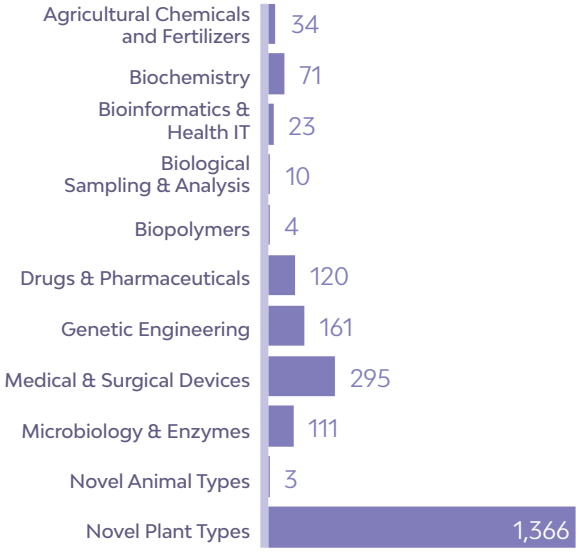
Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents

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