Illinois



The U.S. Bioscience Economy:

Advancing Innovation and Strengthening States and Regions

Illinois' large bioscience industry has grown its employment base by 12.0 percent since 2021. Industry employment totaled 102,368 jobs across 4,943 business establishments in 2025. Illinois' bioscience industry draws on varied strengths in agricultural biosciences, pharmaceuticals, and distribution. Each of these subsectors has a specialized employment concentration, with location quotients of 3.43, 1.70, and 1.21, respectively. Medical devices and equipment contributed the largest employment gain, expanding by 64.3 percent. Annual bioscience wages averaged $153,865, 90 percent above the state's private sector average. Bioscience-related R&D expenditures at Illinois universities totaled $2.3 billion in FY 2024, and state institutions received nearly $1.3 billion in NIH funding in FY 2025. Venture capital investments in bioscience companies totaled $6.5 billion from 2021 through 2025, while Illinois inventors were affiliated with 4,778 bioscience-related patents during this same period.

BIOSCIENCE PERFORMANCE METRICS

Summary of State Performance in Selected Bioscience-related Metrics

METRIC		Illinois	United States	Quintile
Bioscience Industry, 2025	Bioscience Industry Employment	102,368	2,312,617	I
	Bioscience Industry Location Quotient	1.13	n/a	II
	Bioscience Industry Establishments	4,943	156,463	I
Academic Bioscience R&D Expenditures, FY 2024	Bioscience R&D ($ thousands)	$2,318,501	$68,902,940	I
	Bioscience Share of Total R&D	64%	63%	III
	Bioscience R&D Per Capita	$183	$203	III
NIH Funding, FY 2025	Funding ($ thousands)	$1,257,707	$36,741,235	I
	Funding Per Capita	$99	$107	II
Bioscience Venture Capital, 2021-25	Investments ($ millions)	$6,513.87	$297,644	I
Bioscience-Related Patents, 2021-25	Total Patents	4,778	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.

Illinois

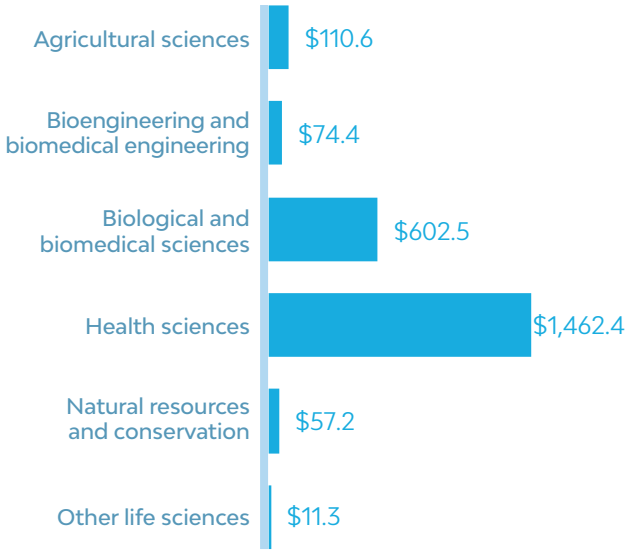
INDUSTRY SUBSECTOR		Illinois 2025	Illinois 2021–2025 Change	United States 2025	United States 2021–2025 Change
Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences	Establishments	109	6.6%	2,158	10.7%
	Employment	9,594	6.1%	71,331	2.2%
	Location Quotient	3.43		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$130,230	8.8%	$105,506	14.7%
Bioscience-Related Distribution	Establishments	2,126	0.1%	68,949	10.0%
	Employment	31,652	3.7%	667,651	10.7%
	Location Quotient	1.21		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$139,718	1.8%	$144,792	19.0%
Medical Devices and Equipment	Establishments	760	19.6%	13,595	24.6%
	Employment	19,320	64.3%	430,363	1.9%
	Location Quotient	1.15		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$122,407	9.3%	$110,757	13.9%
Pharmaceuticals	Establishments	399	30.0%	7,880	31.0%
	Employment	24,257	8.3%	363,904	5.4%
	Location Quotient	1.70		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$215,651	16.4%	$146,506	16.3%
Research, Testing, and Medical Laboratories	Establishments	1,550	37.6%	63,881	37.0%
	Employment	17,544	-0.5%	779,368	8.1%
	Location Quotient	0.57		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$141,531	14.3%	$167,555	13.7%
Total Bioscience Industry	Establishments	4,943	15.1%	156,463	22.1%
	Employment	102,368	12.0%	2,312,617	7.0%
	Location Quotient	1.13		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$153,865	8.8%	$145,188	16.0%
Total Private Sector	Establishments	371,553	-1.8%	11,985,043	12.5%
	Employment	5,242,642	6.0%	133,872,972	8.5%
	Location Quotient	1.00		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$81,152	14.2%	$78,863	16.3%

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

BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN ILLINOIS

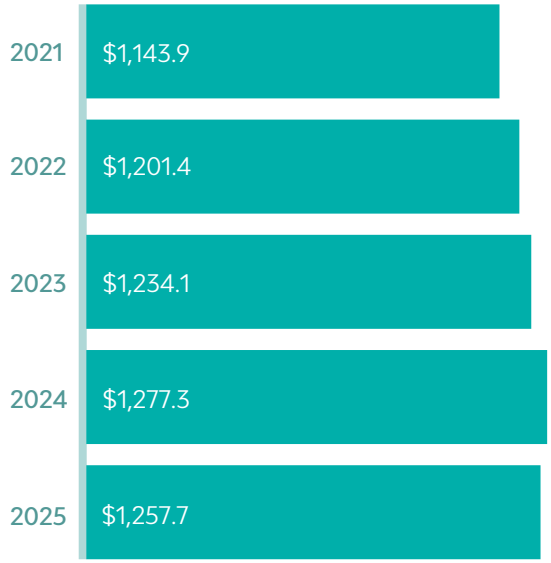
Bioscience Academic R&D Expenditures

$ Millions, FY 2024



NIH Awards

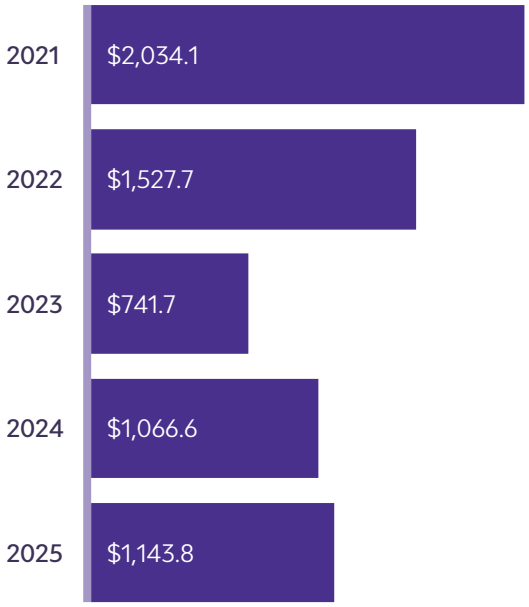
$ Millions, FY 2021-2025



BIOSCIENCE VENTURE CAPITAL IN ILLINOIS

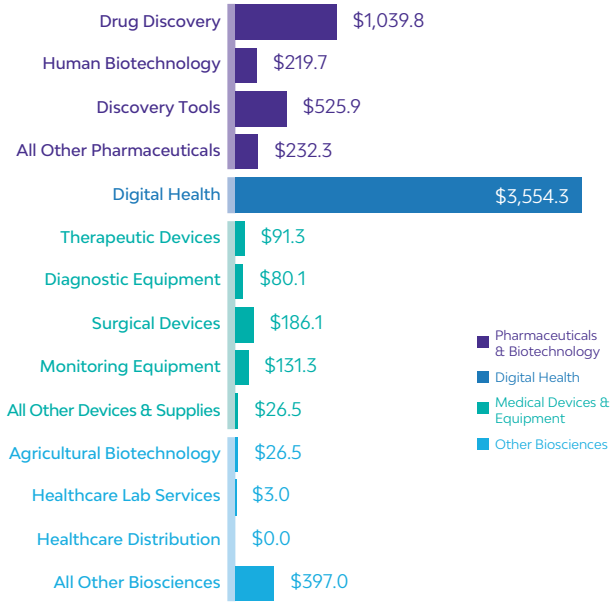
Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments

$ Millions, 2021-2025



Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments by Segment

$ Millions, 2021-2025

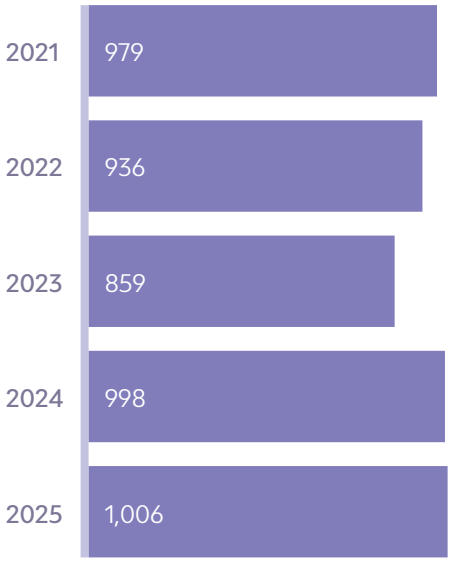


Illinois

BIOSCIENCE PATENTS IN ILLINOIS

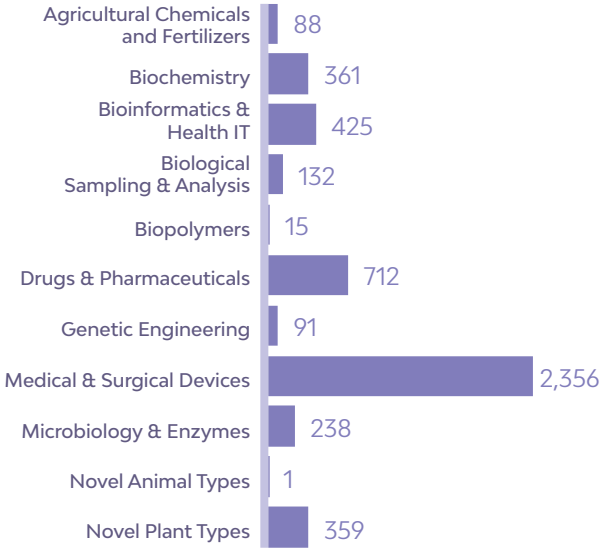
Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents

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