North Dakota



The U.S. Bioscience Economy:

Advancing Innovation and Strengthening States and Regions

North Dakota's modest-sized bioscience industry is growing rapidly. Its bioscience businesses accounted for 5,213 jobs across 721 establishments in 2025. Employment increased by 21.9 percent from 2021 through 2025, more than three times the national rate. North Dakota's bioscience industry combines rapid employment growth with established strengths in agricultural biosciences and bioscience-related distribution. Four major subsectors added jobs, including pharmaceuticals, which more than doubled its employment from a smaller base. The agricultural feedstock and industrial biosciences subsector retains a specialized concentration with a location quotient of 3.58, while distribution, the largest subsector, has a location quotient of 1.61. Annual bioscience wages averaged $94,299, 37 percent above North Dakota's private sector average. Bioscience-related academic R&D expenditures totaled $166.5 million in FY 2024, and state institutions received $19.9 million in NIH funding in FY 2025.

BIOSCIENCE PERFORMANCE METRICS

Summary of State Performance in Selected Bioscience-related Metrics

METRIC		North Dakota	United States	Quintile
Bioscience Industry, 2025	Bioscience Industry Employment	5,213	2,312,617	V
	Bioscience Industry Location Quotient	0.85	n/a	III
	Bioscience Industry Establishments	721	156,463	V
Academic Bioscience R&D Expenditures, FY 2024	Bioscience R&D ($ thousands)	$166,522	$68,902,940	V
	Bioscience Share of Total R&D	45%	63%	V
	Bioscience R&D Per Capita	$210	$203	II
NIH Funding, FY 2025	Funding ($ thousands)	$19,889	$36,741,235	V
	Funding Per Capita	$25	$107	V
Bioscience Venture Capital, 2021-25	Investments ($ millions)	$89.63	$297,644	V
Bioscience-Related Patents, 2021-25	Total Patents	141	138,607	V

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.

North Dakota

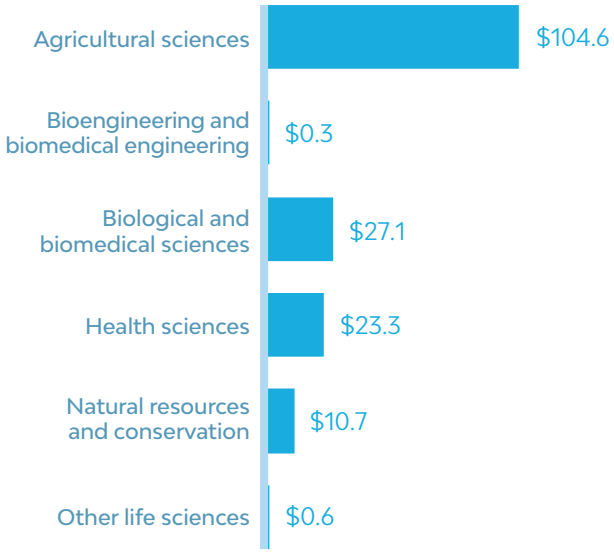
INDUSTRY SUBSECTOR		North Dakota 2025	North Dakota 2021–2025 Change	United States 2025	United States 2021–2025 Change
Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences	Establishments	19	44.2%	2,158	10.7%
	Employment	676	23.8%	71,331	2.2%
	Location Quotient	3.58		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$88,030	17.5%	$105,506	14.7%
Bioscience-Related Distribution	Establishments	553	16.7%	68,949	10.0%
	Employment	2,848	13.0%	667,651	10.7%
	Location Quotient	1.61		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$101,130	16.8%	$144,792	19.0%
Medical Devices and Equipment	Establishments	19	40.0%	13,595	24.6%
	Employment	210	102.3%	430,363	1.9%
	Location Quotient	0.18		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$83,555	25.8%	$110,757	13.9%
Pharmaceuticals	Establishments	11	18.4%	7,880	31.0%
	Employment	909	113.1%	363,904	5.4%
	Location Quotient	0.94		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$82,884	-1.4%	$146,506	16.3%
Research, Testing, and Medical Laboratories	Establishments	119	30.2%	63,881	37.0%
	Employment	571	-16.3%	779,368	8.1%
	Location Quotient	0.28		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$89,757	0.9%	$167,555	13.7%
Total Bioscience Industry	Establishments	721	19.9%	156,463	22.1%
	Employment	5,213	21.9%	2,312,617	7.0%
	Location Quotient	0.85		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$94,299	11.3%	$145,188	16.0%
Total Private Sector	Establishments	34,325	11.6%	11,985,043	12.5%
	Employment	353,988	7.6%	133,872,972	8.5%
	Location Quotient	1.00		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$68,981	19.7%	$78,863	16.3%

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

BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN NORTH DAKOTA

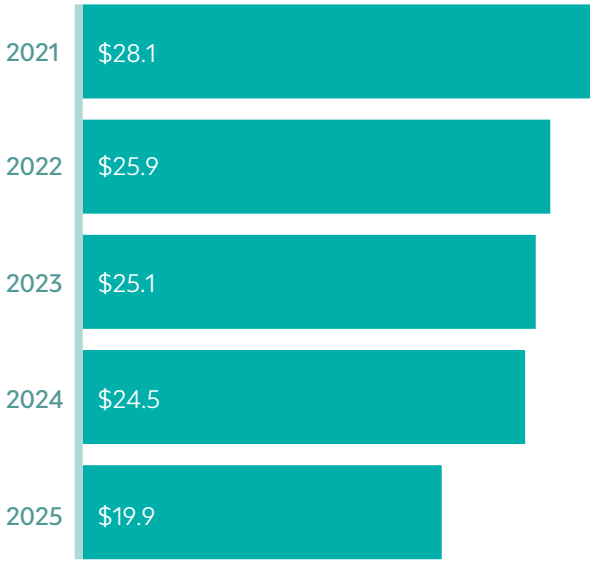
Bioscience Academic R&D Expenditures

$ Millions, FY 2024



NIH Awards

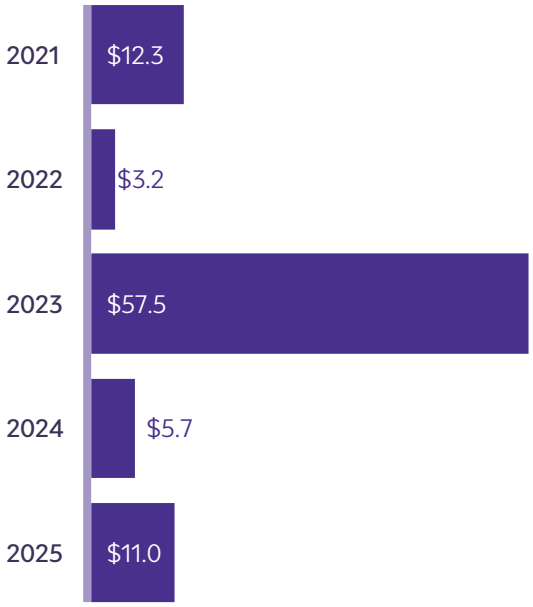
$ Millions, FY 2021-2025



BIOSCIENCE VENTURE CAPITAL IN NORTH DAKOTA

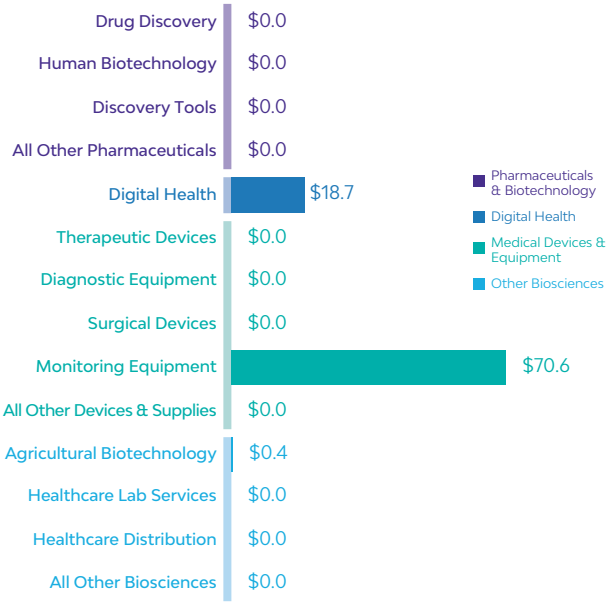
Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments

$ Millions, 2021-2025



Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments by Segment

$ Millions, 2021-2025

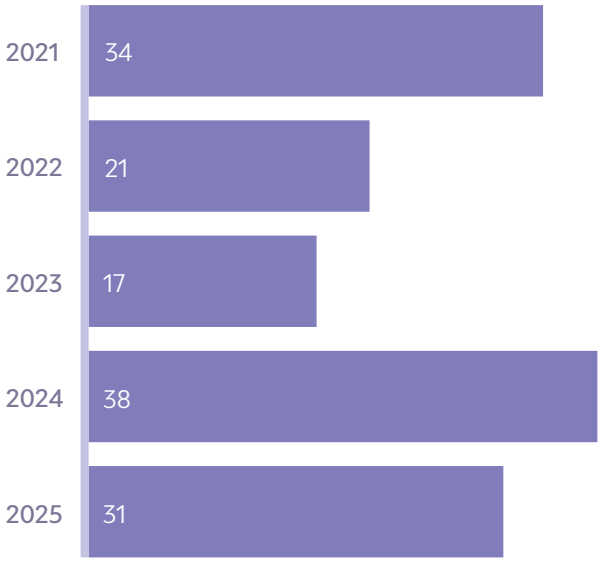


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BIOSCIENCE PATENTS IN NORTH DAKOTA

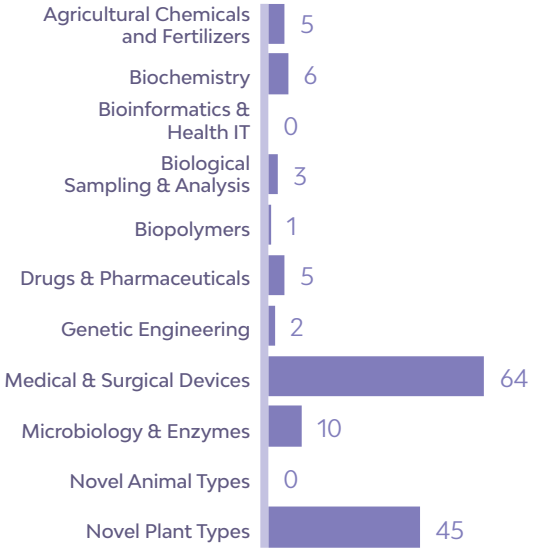
Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents

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