South Dakota



The U.S. Bioscience Economy:

Advancing Innovation and Strengthening States and Regions

South Dakota's bioscience industry is modestly sized but diverse in its strengths. Bioscience businesses accounted for 7,305 jobs across 826 establishments in 2025. South Dakota's bioscience industry retains a diverse set of specializations despite its relatively modest size. Agricultural feedstock and industrial biosciences, distribution, and medical devices and equipment each have specialized employment concentrations, with location quotients of 4.62, 1.96, and 1.49, respectively. Overall employment remained close to its 2021 level, declining by 0.8 percent, as gains in agricultural biosciences and distribution largely offset losses in medical devices and research, testing, and medical labs. Average annual bioscience wages were $96,355, 58 percent above South Dakota's private sector average. State universities conducted $84.6 million in bioscience-related R&D in FY 2024, while South Dakota institutions received $28.8 million in NIH funding in FY 2025.

BIOSCIENCE PERFORMANCE METRICS

Summary of State Performance in Selected Bioscience-related Metrics

METRIC		South Dakota	United States	Quintile
Bioscience Industry, 2025	Bioscience Industry Employment	7,305	2,312,617	IV
	Bioscience Industry Location Quotient	1.10	n/a	II
	Bioscience Industry Establishments	826	156,463	V
Academic Bioscience R&D Expenditures, FY 2024	Bioscience R&D ($ thousands)	$84,591	$68,902,940	V
	Bioscience Share of Total R&D	62%	63%	III
	Bioscience R&D Per Capita	$91	$203	V
NIH Funding, FY 2025	Funding ($ thousands)	$28,843	$36,741,235	V
	Funding Per Capita	$31	$107	V
Bioscience Venture Capital, 2021-25	Investments ($ millions)	$44.51	$297,644	V
Bioscience-Related Patents, 2021-25	Total Patents	259	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.

South Dakota

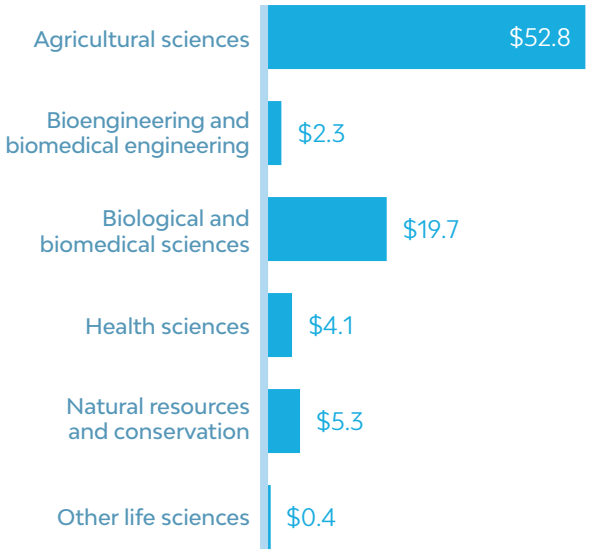
INDUSTRY SUBSECTOR		South Dakota 2025	South Dakota 2021–2025 Change	United States 2025	United States 2021–2025 Change
Agricultural Feedstock and Industrial Biosciences	Establishments	26	2.0%	2,158	10.7%
	Employment	946	15.5%	71,331	2.2%
	Location Quotient	4.62		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$87,975	18.3%	$105,506	14.7%
Bioscience-Related Distribution	Establishments	651	11.5%	68,949	10.0%
	Employment	3,746	7.6%	667,651	10.7%
	Location Quotient	1.96		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$104,409	21.7%	$144,792	19.0%
Medical Devices and Equipment	Establishments	14	0.0%	13,595	24.6%
	Employment	1,839	-18.4%	430,363	1.9%
	Location Quotient	1.49		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$83,497	18.0%	$110,757	13.9%
Pharmaceuticals	Establishments	3	-18.8%	7,880	31.0%
	Employment	57	61.6%	363,904	5.4%
	Location Quotient	0.05		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$78,944	0.6%	$146,506	16.3%
Research, Testing, and Medical Laboratories	Establishments	132	40.3%	63,881	37.0%
	Employment	718	-7.4%	779,368	8.1%
	Location Quotient	0.32		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$99,691	17.0%	$167,555	13.7%
Total Bioscience Industry	Establishments	826	14.6%	156,463	22.1%
	Employment	7,305	-0.8%	2,312,617	7.0%
	Location Quotient	1.10		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$96,355	20.7%	$145,188	16.0%
Total Private Sector	Establishments	38,496	12.9%	11,985,043	12.5%
	Employment	383,868	7.6%	133,872,972	8.5%
	Location Quotient	1.00		n/a	
	Average Annual Wage	$61,034	17.9%	$78,863	16.3%

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

BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN SOUTH DAKOTA

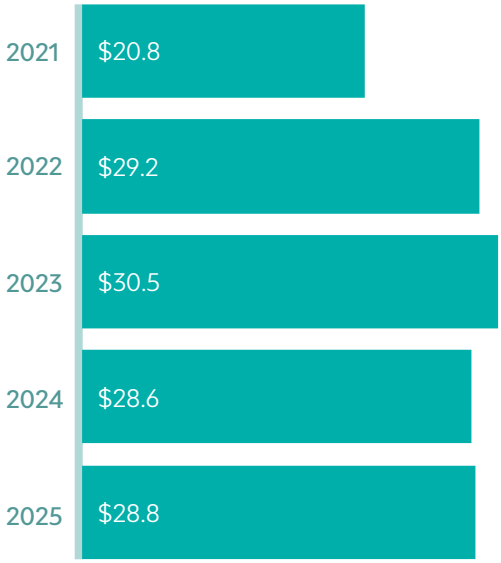
Bioscience Academic R&D Expenditures

$ Millions, FY 2024



NIH Awards

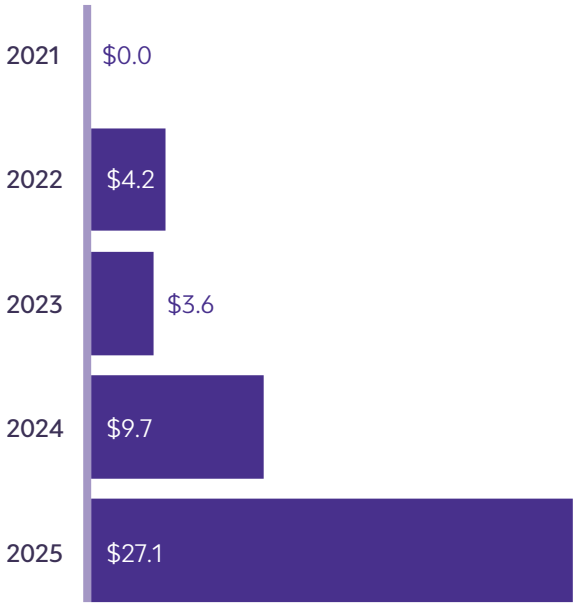
$ Millions, FY 2021-2025



BIOSCIENCE VENTURE CAPITAL IN SOUTH DAKOTA

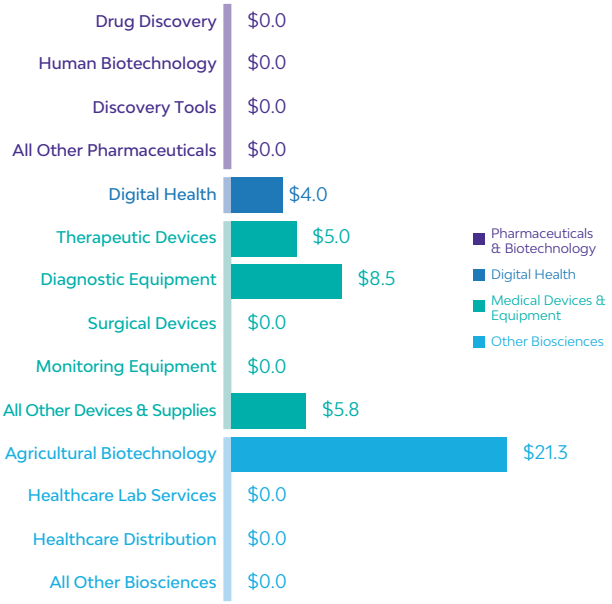
Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments

$ Millions, 2021-2025



Bioscience-Related Venture Capital Investments by Segment

$ Millions, 2021-2025

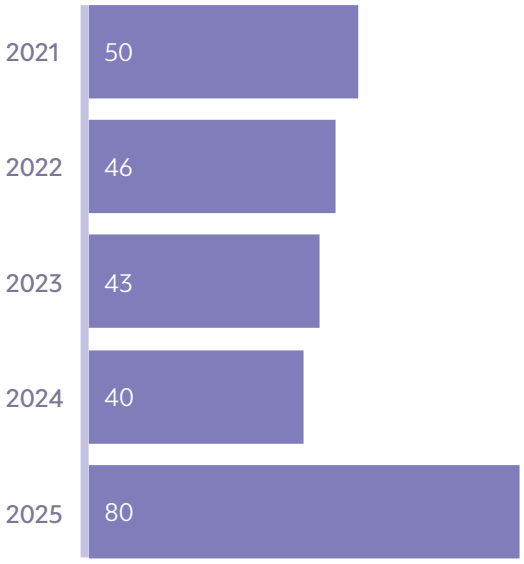


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BIOSCIENCE PATENTS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

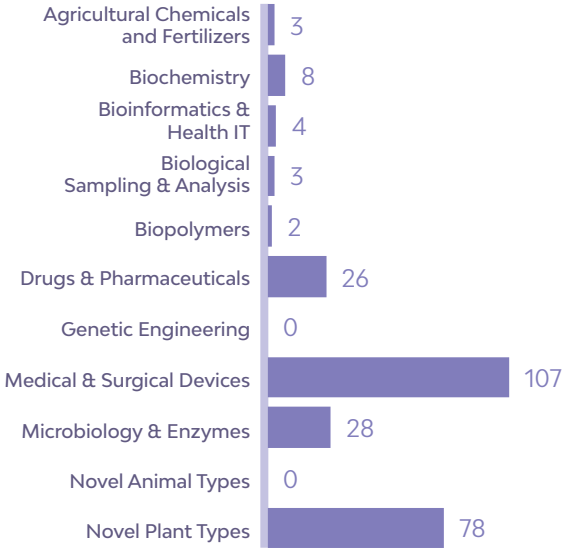
Bioscience-Related U.S. Patents

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