



National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

# Introduction & NSF Overview

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National Science Foundation  
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# Panelist

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# Ask Early, Ask Often!



# Topics Covered

- **Origins of NSF**
- **NSF Organization**
- **NSF Budget in the Federal Context**
- **NSF Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request**
- **Funding Trends**
- **Key Documents**
- **Questions**



# Origins of NSF



- **The Government should accept new responsibilities for promoting the flow of scientific knowledge and the development of scientific talent in our youth.”**  
– Science - The Endless Frontier, 1945
- **1947: Congress Approves, Truman Vetoes**
- **1950: Compromise Bill Approved & Signed by Truman**



# NSF Act of 1950

- **To promote the progress of science...”**
- **NSB (24) and 1 Director, appointed by the President**
- **Encourage & develop a national policy for the promotion of basic research and education in the math, physical, medical, biological, engineering and other sciences**
- **Initiate & support basic scientific research in the sciences**
- **Evaluate the science research programs undertaken by agencies of the Federal government**
- **Provide information for S&E policy formation**

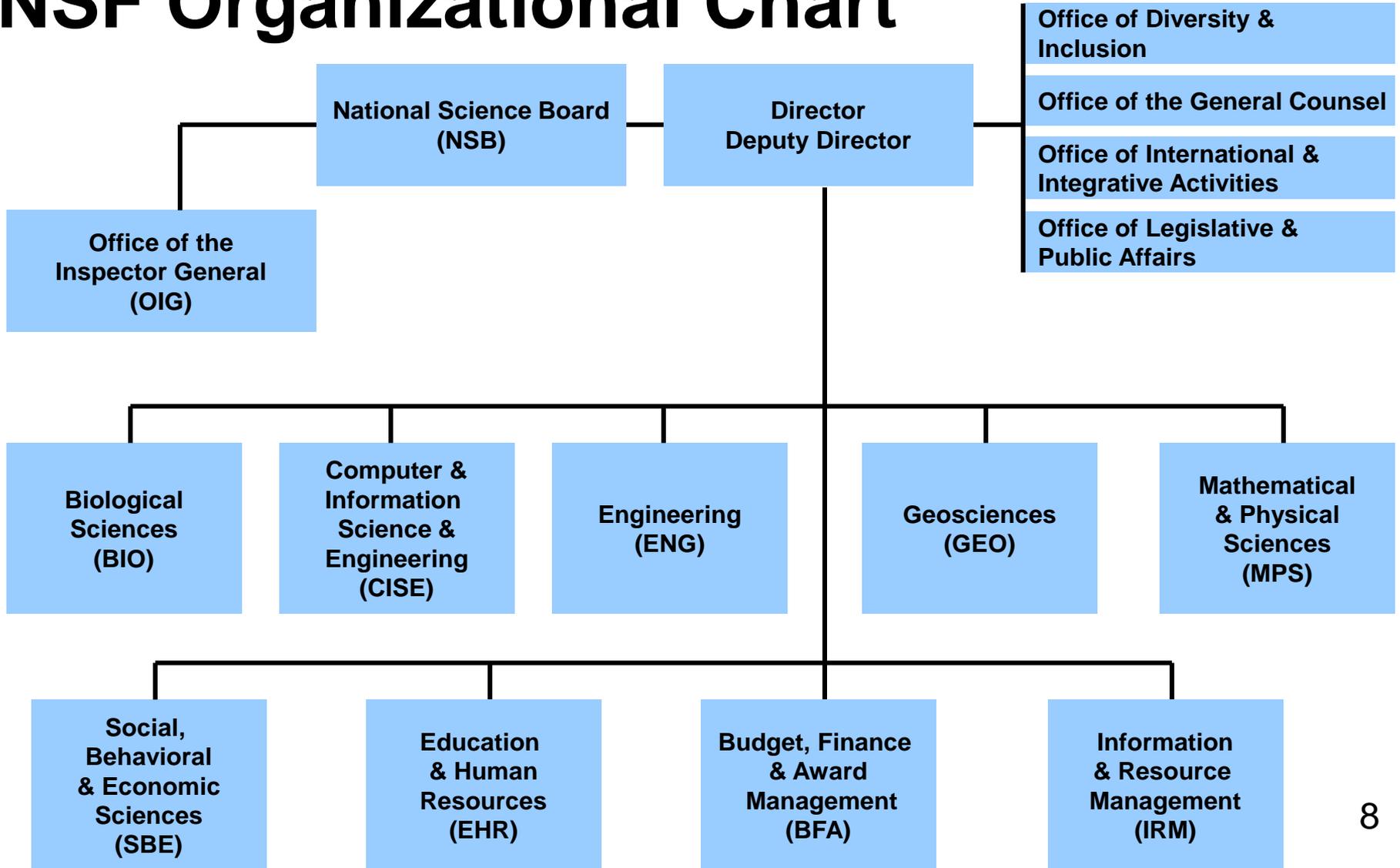


# NSF in a Nutshell

- **Independent Agency**
- **Supports basic research & education**
- **Uses grant mechanism**
- **Low overhead; highly automated**
- **Discipline-based structure**
- **Cross-disciplinary mechanisms**
- **Use of Rotators/IPAs**
- **National Science Board**



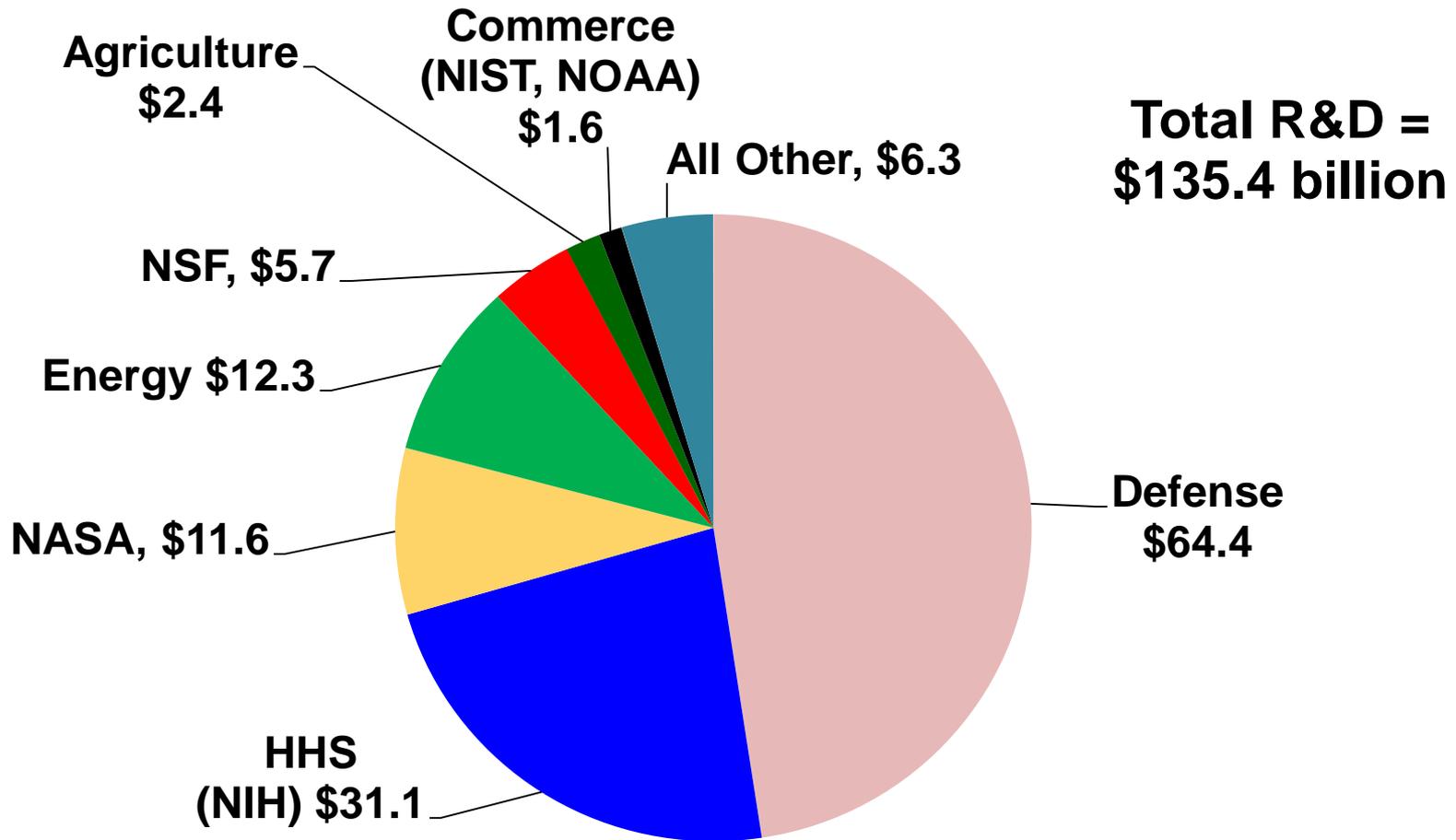
# NSF Organizational Chart





# FY 2015 Request: Total R&D by Agency

## Budget Authority in Billions of Dollars





# NSF Budget: FY 2014 and FY 2015

(dollars in millions)

	FY 2014 Plan	FY 2015 Request
Research & Related Activities	\$5,809	\$5,807
Education & Human Resources	847	890
Major Research Equipment & Facilities Construction	200	201
Agency Operations & Award Management	298	338
National Science Board	4	4
Office of Inspector General	14	14
<b>Total, NSF</b>	<b>\$7,172</b>	<b>\$7,255</b>
Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative	-	552



# NSF FY 2015 Budget Request

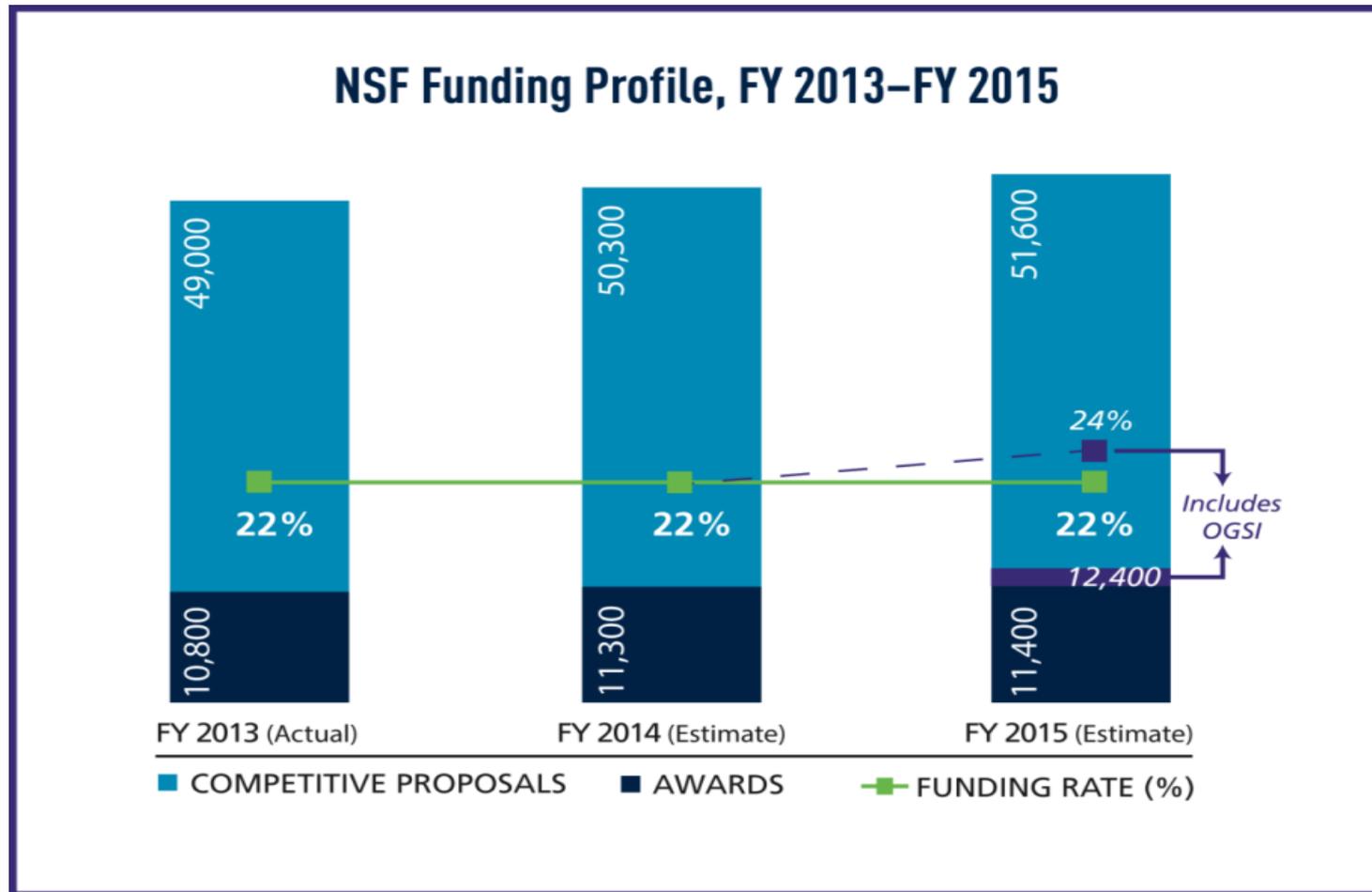
(dollars in millions)

	FY 2015 Request	FY 2015 House Bill	FY 2015 Senate Mark	FY 2015 House Bill over Request		FY 2015 Senate Mark over Request	
				Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Research & Related Activities	\$5,807	\$5,974	\$5,839	\$166	3%	\$31	1%
Education & Human Resources	890	876	890	-14	-2%	-	-
Major Research Equipment & Facilities Construction	201	201	201	-	-	-	-
Agency Operations & Award Management	338	325	307	-13	-4%	-31	-9%
National Science Board	4	4	4	-	-	-	-
Office of Inspector General	14	14	14	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, NSF</b>	<b>\$7,255</b>	<b>\$7,394</b>	<b>\$7,255</b>	<b>\$139</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Totals may not add due to rounding.



# NSF Funding Profile, FY 2013 - 2015





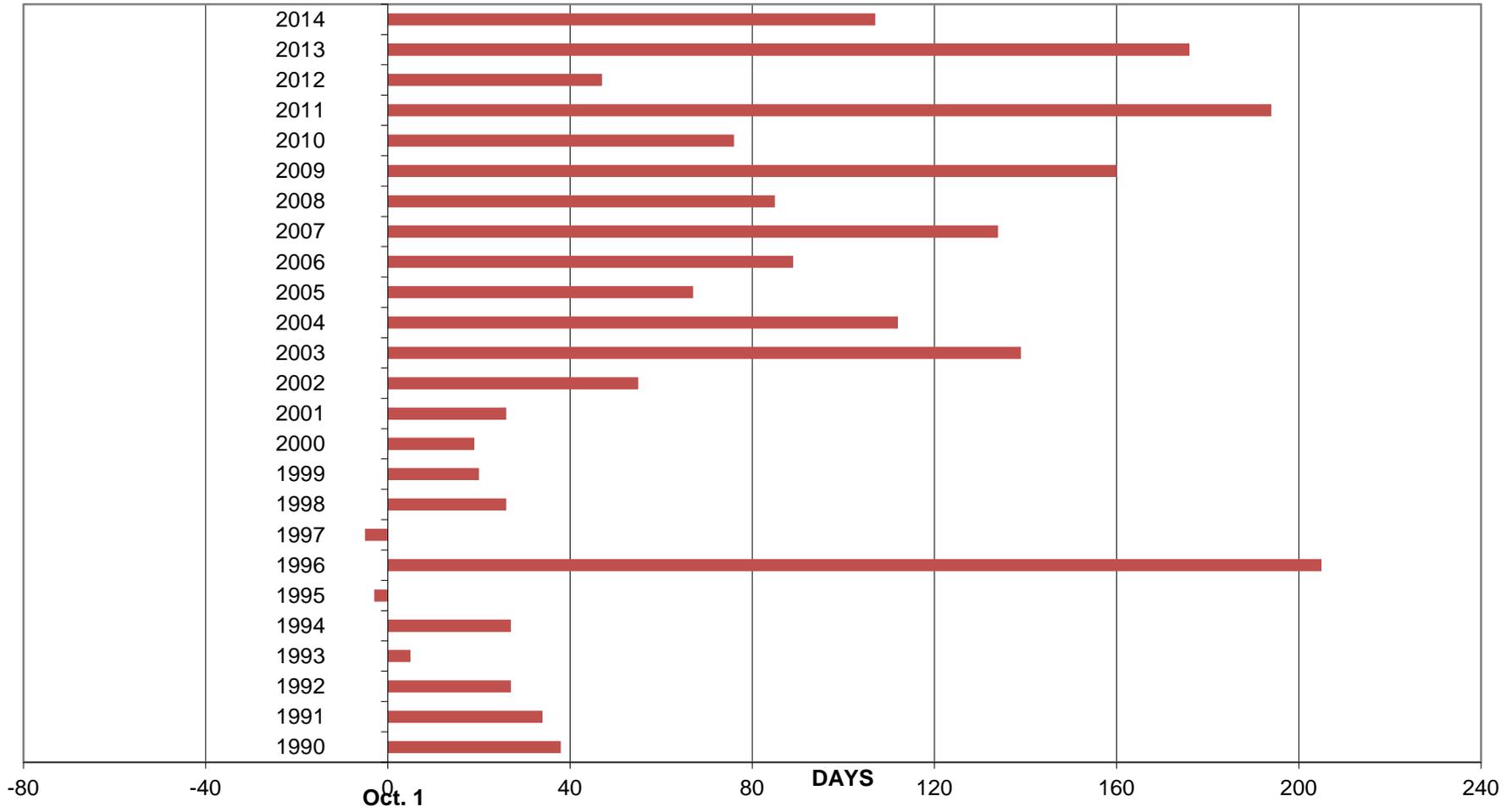
# What To Watch

- FY 2015 Congressional Action
- FY 2016 Planning



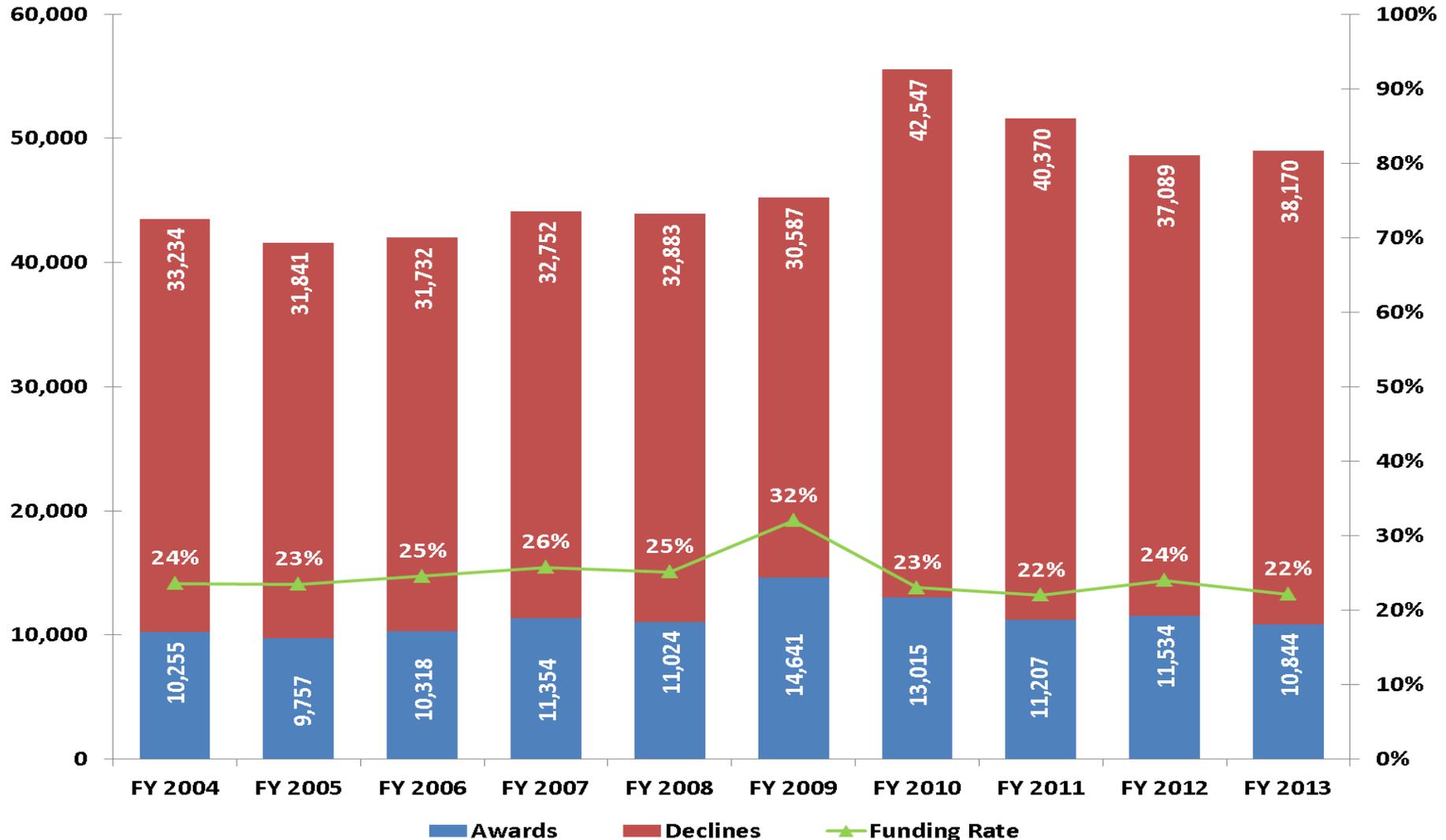
# Appropriations Drift - 1990 to 2014

NSF Appropriations Dates versus Start of Federal Fiscal Year Oct. 1



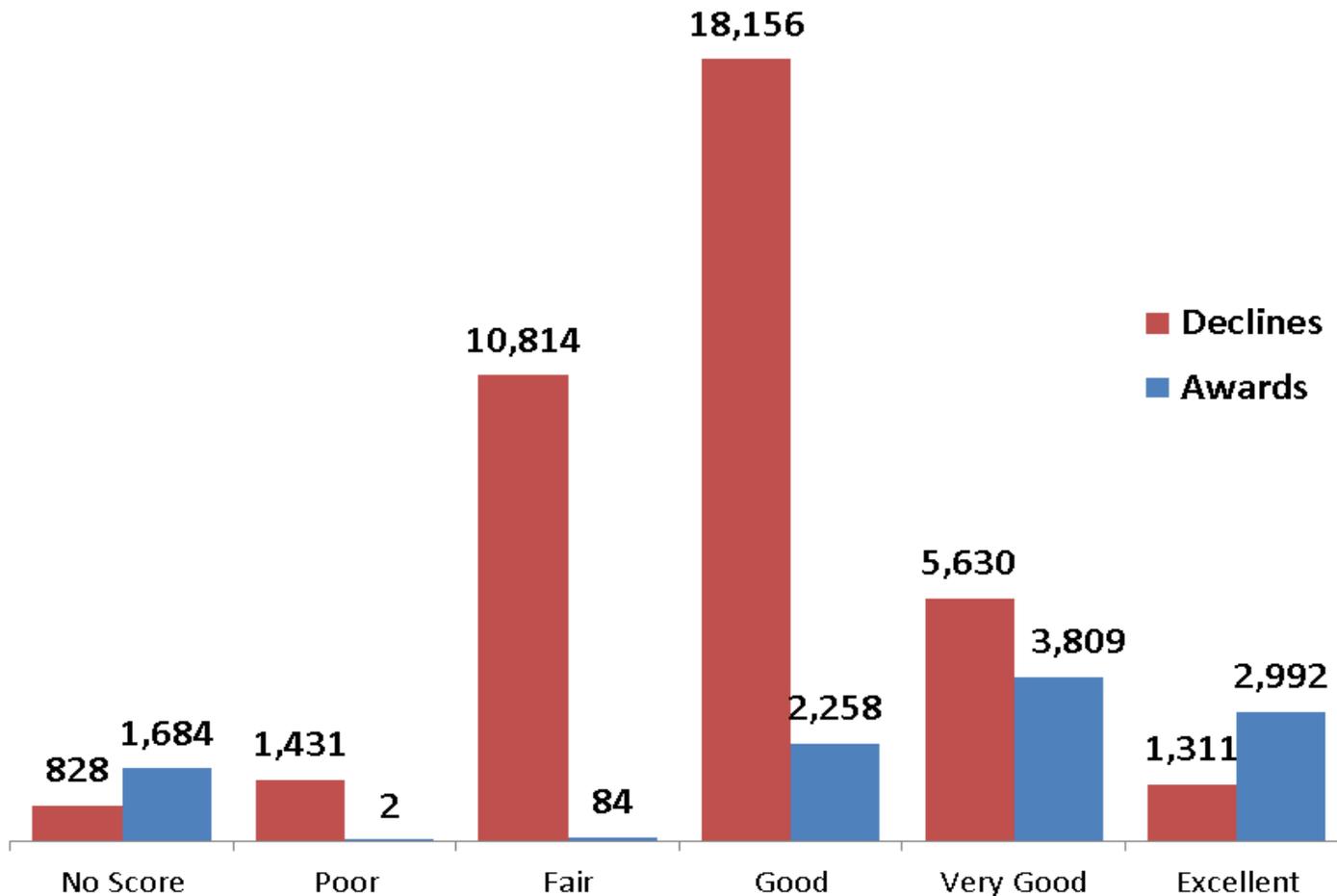


# NSF Competitive Awards, Declines & Funding Rates





# Distribution by Average Reviewer Ratings for Awards and Declines, FY 2013





# Key Documents

- **Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide**  
[www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=papp](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=papp)
- **Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request**  
[www.nsf.gov/about/budget/fy2015/index.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/about/budget/fy2015/index.jsp)
- **NSF Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2014-2018**  
[www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf14043](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf14043)
- **NSB Report on Merit Review**  
[www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsb1333](http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsb1333)



# For More Information

# Ask Early, Ask Often!

[nsf.gov/staff](https://www.nsf.gov/staff)

[nsf.gov/staff/orglist.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/staff/orglist.jsp)

[nsf.gov/about/career\\_opps/rotators/index.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps/rotators/index.jsp)