NEW MEXICO FACT SHEET

FY 2020 FAST FACTS

$59,651,000
Total NSF awards to New Mexico

$33,671,000
Invested in fundamental research in New Mexico

$25,979,000
Invested in STEM education in New Mexico

$823,000
Invested in New Mexico startups through NSF’s small business program

TOP NSF-FUNDED ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS FOR FY 2020

$29,484,000
University of New Mexico

$13,268,000
New Mexico State University

$3,991,000
Navajo Technical University

NSF BY THE NUMBERS

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an $8.5 billion independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense. NSF’s vital role is to support basic research and researchers who create knowledge that transforms the future.
NSF-FUNDED RESEARCH FIGHTING COVID-19

Congress provided NSF with funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 in the CARES Act of 2020 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. For more information on NSF’s COVID research, visit NSF’s award database and COVID funding reports.

COVID-19 RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT | Researchers at the University of New Mexico are creating moving visualizations of infection progress and immune response in different individuals over time. This model combines biological data and CT scans from infected individuals to explore how the initial distribution of the virus in the lungs, its spread, and immune system response affect the course of infection. Visualizing how the virus spreads within the lung and how T cells, the immune cells that respond to an infection, find and destroy infected lung cells will help scientists understand variation in immunological responses to the virus that causes COVID-19 and why some people clear the virus and why it is fatal to others.

STEM EDUCATION

STEM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT | NSF’s CyberCorps® Scholarship for Service program is a scholarship program designed to recruit and train the next generation of information technology professionals, industry control system security professionals and security managers to meet the needs of the cybersecurity mission for federal, state, local and tribal governments. All scholarship recipients must work after graduation for a federal, state, local, or tribal government organization in a position related to cybersecurity. The University of New Mexico’s CyberCorps Scholarship for Service in cybersecurity is graduating skilled cybersecurity professionals with strong leadership skills and a commitment to public service.

RESEARCH DRIVING WORKFORCE INNOVATION

FUTURE OF WORK | The University of New Mexico received a Civic Innovation Challenge planning award on a project supporting Native American Pueblo communities to design, build and implement their own low-cost, efficient wireless intelligent sensors, LEWIS, that will inform communities of trends and thresholds that can assist in managing wildfires and providing early warning when fires and floods occur. This project will develop a nationwide community of practice that shares ideas, designs and applications for resilience in tribal communities by co-developing capacity and decision-support tools. The Civic Innovation Challenge program is made possible through a partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to award teams of civic and academic partners $50,000 to support refinement of their civic concepts for ready-to-implement, research-based pilot projects.

EPSCoR

• COMPETITIVE RESEARCH | New Mexico is one of 28 U.S. states or territories under NSF’s Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). Over $5,180,000 in awards have been made to New Mexico academic institutions through EPSCoR in FY 2020. For more information, visit New Mexico’s EPSCoR state web page.

NCSES

• According to the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), 12% of Science, Engineering, and Health doctorates conferred in New Mexico are made in Federal R&D obligations. Visit New Mexico’s science and engineering state profile to learn more!

4.56% of New Mexico’s workforce are employed in S&E occupations.

8.18% of New Mexico’s industries with high science, engineering, and technology occupations.

LEARN MORE

• NSF70 – In 2020, NSF commemorated its 70th anniversary and the 75th anniversary of the publication of Science - the Endless Frontier. Watch the highlight video for NSF’s seven decades of funding the best and brightest ideas that have transformed our lives and established the U.S. as a science and technology leader.

• NSF FACT SHEETS – NSF provides fact sheets about the agency and its bold investments in basic research. These fact sheets profile NSF investments in research across all fields of science and engineering, including quantum, artificial intelligence, and advanced manufacturing, and the NSF-supported research and computing infrastructure powering the U.S. response to COVID-19.

• CONNECT WITH NSF – For more information on NSF’s impact in your state, please contact NSF’s Office of Legislative and Public Affairs at congressionalteam@nsf.gov.