

Federal investment in food and agricultural research is needed to spur scientific breakthroughs, keep pace with our global competitors, modernize facilities, and ensure nutrition security.

Funding cuts result in the loss of scientific expertise and will limit our ability to address urgent societal challenges.

### The promise of food and agricultural research:



**Ensure our role as a leader in agricultural innovation.**



**Strengthen national security and competitiveness.**



**Improve resilience, sustainability, and productivity.**



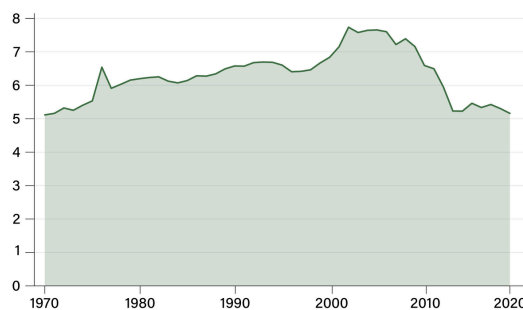
**Stimulate the economy.**



**Enhance food and nutrition security.**

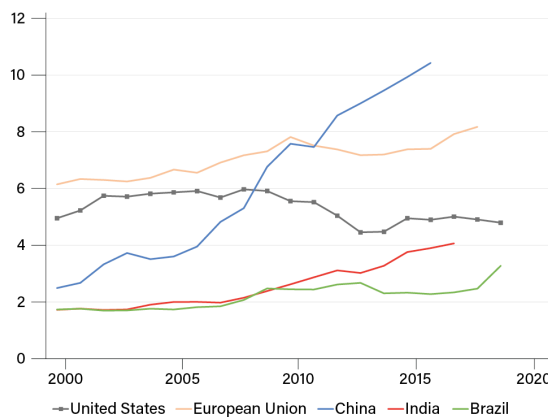
# Food and Agricultural Research Supports U.S. Competitiveness and National Security

- According to USDA, every \$1 invested in public agricultural R&D from 1900-2011 generated on average \$20 in benefits to the U.S. economy.
- Past innovations have increased food production by 300% since the 1940s. But today, gains in productivity are in deep decline. Declining R&D investment is directly tied to declining productivity.
- Crumbling research facilities and equipment is driving top tier talent to better funded disciplines. The number of agricultural scientists has dropped by nearly 30% since the early 2000s.
- There are more positions available for recent college graduates with degrees related to food, agriculture, and natural resources than there are graduates to fill them.



U.S. funding peaked in 2002 and has declined by 1/3 since, hitting the lowest levels since 1970.

Source: USDA ERS, inflation-adjusted 2019 dollars, billions



Meanwhile, China's funding has grown to more than \$10 billion – double what the U.S. spends.

Source: USDA ERS, inflation-adjusted 2015 dollars, billions

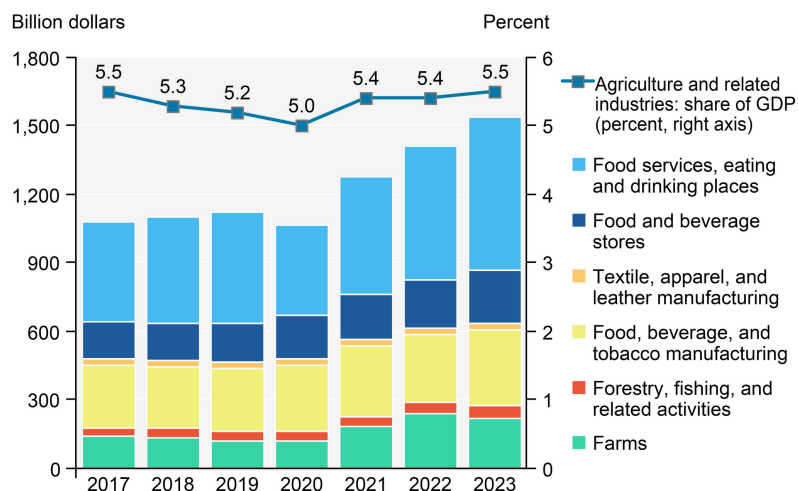


National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research



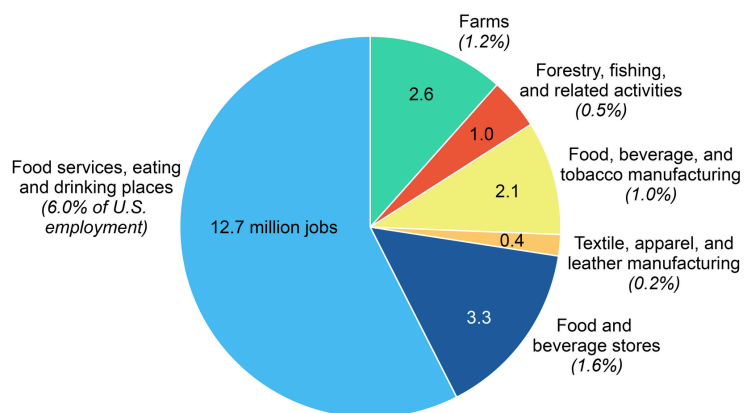
The National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based, and customer-led coalition that brings together food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and natural resource stakeholders to serve as a forum and unified voice supporting increased federal investment in USDA Research, Education, and Economics.

## Innovation is needed to ensure U.S. agriculture continues to serve a vital role in our economy and is competitive globally, which requires federal investment.



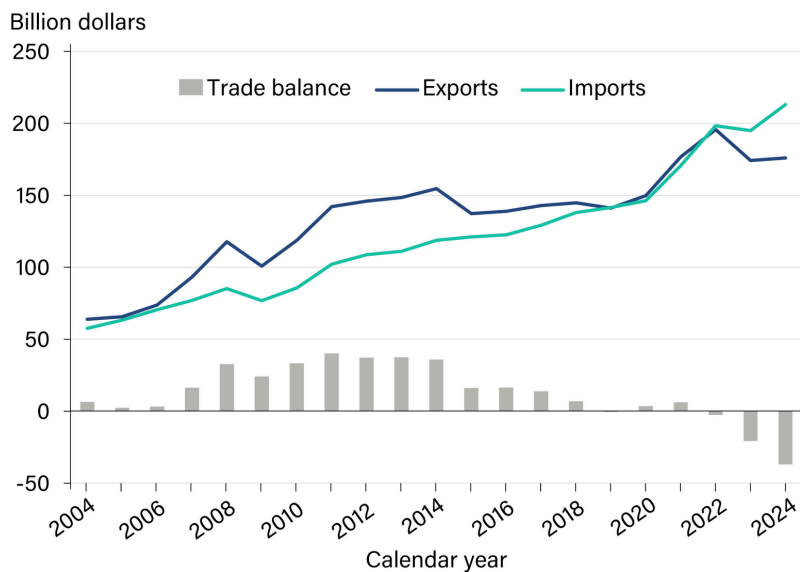
Source: USDA ERS using U.S. Department of Commerce data

- The food and agriculture industry contributes more than \$1 trillion to the U.S. GDP.
- Today, the output from farms accounts for .8% of the overall U.S. GDP while also providing inputs to other sectors that contribute added value to the economy.
- Research is needed to ensure farming is able to keep up with other sectors and meet demand for food, fuel, and fiber.



Source: USDA ERS using 2023 U.S. Department of Commerce data

- In 2022, 22.1 million full- and part-time jobs were related to the agricultural and food sectors, accounting for 10.4% of total U.S. employment.
- Research supports productivity and economic growth, creating a favorable environment for job creation.



Source: USDA ERS using U.S. Department of Commerce data adjusted for inflation

- The U.S. agricultural trade balance was positive for nearly 60 years until 2019, when it shifted to a deficit.
- Research is a tool that helps farmers compete in global markets and return the U.S. to being a net agriculture exporter.