

# Cancer Research Saves Lives



## Congress Must Increase Funding for NIH & NCI in FY27

Federal funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) represents the U.S. government at its best—saving lives, driving innovation, strengthening our medical workforce, and fueling economic growth. One Voice Against Cancer (OVAC) calls on Congress to continue its strong, bipartisan support for cancer research in the FY27 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.

### FOR FY27, OVAC RECOMMENDS

**NIH**

**\$51.3 billion**

(\$4.1 billion increase)

**NCI**

**\$7.99 billion**

(\$637 million increase)

**ARPA-H**

**\$1.5 billion**

(Same level as FY26)

**We're making progress...**

**18 MILLION+**

cancer survivors in the U.S.—the most ever

**33%**

decrease in the cancer death rate from 1991 to 2021, with 4.1 million fewer cancer deaths

**2 OUT OF 3**

patients live five years longer after diagnosis; 40 years ago, it was just 1 out of 2

**...But there's much more to do**  
*Cancer is still the nation's #2 killer*

**2.1 MILLION**

new cancer cases estimated in 2026

**626,000**

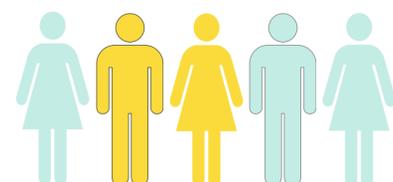
estimated cancer deaths in 2026

**1,715**

cancer deaths per day in 2026

In the U.S., the lifetime risk of developing cancer is:

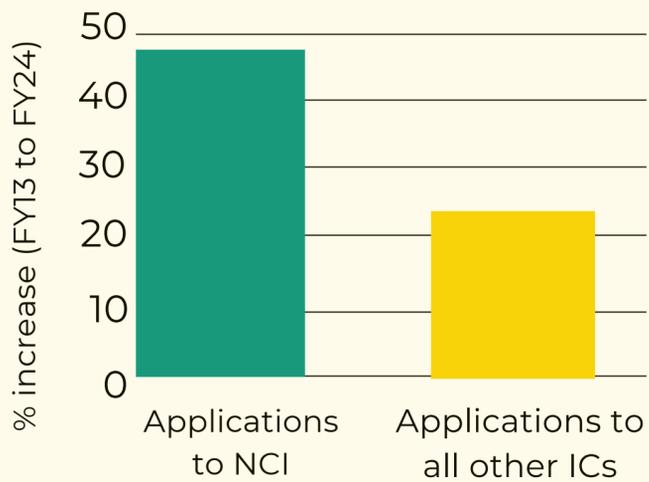
**2 OUT OF 5**



# Unmet Demand at NCI

Because of funding constraints, NCI can award fewer than 1 out of every 10 research applications

## NCI vs. All Other NIH Institutes and Centers



Between FY 2013 and FY 2024, the number of unique R01/R37 grant applications to NCI rose by 48%, compared to 23% at all other ICs.

Thanks to the incredible promise of cancer research, NCI receives more grant applications than any other Institute or Center at NIH, by far. The scientific demand is so great that, in FY25, NCI rejected more than 9 out of every 10 research applications, meaning that many promising proposals go unfunded. The only way to meet this demand is by boosting funding for NCI.

# NIH & NCI Funding Drives U.S. Economic Growth

Across all 50 states and D.C., NIH's budget provides almost:

**60,000**

Grants to researchers at more than

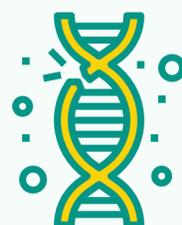
**2,700+**

Universities, hospitals, small businesses and other organizations.<sup>1</sup>

# How NIH & NCI Are Saving Lives

NIH- and NCI-funded research has contributed to countless discoveries that have improved human health around the world. Among the highlights, this research:

- Pioneered the development of immunotherapy, a treatment that helps a person's own immune system fight cancer
- Contributed to virtually every major breakthrough in cancer prevention, detection, treatment and cures over the past 50 years
- Proved that low-dose CT scans can cut mortality rates for lung cancer
- Identified harmful gene mutations associated with breast and ovarian cancer, and developed screening tests for them in patients
- Led to a vaccine for HPV, the leading cause of cervical cancer



**IN FY25, NIH GENERATED**

**\$94.2 BILLION**

in new economic activity nationwide

**SUPPORTED MORE THAN**

**390,860**

jobs

**PROVIDED**

**\$2.57** of economic activity for every **\$1** of research funding<sup>2</sup>

1. National Institutes of Health, Where Is the Money (<https://grants.nih.gov/new-to-nih>)

2. United for Medical Research ([www.unitedformedicalresearch.com](http://www.unitedformedicalresearch.com))