All IRIS Member Universities Vendor Profile Report

About this report: The Vendor Profile Report examines All IRIS Member Universities' impact on vendors and subcontractors that provide research-related goods and services. This report uses data provided by All IRIS Member Universities to IRIS to explore how direct purchases and subawards made on federal and non-federal research awards supported a variety of businesses and industries. Payments to individuals or to businesses outside the United States were excluded.

The **Vendor Profile** page summarizes total spending and the number of establishments supported nationally, in-state, and among small businesses, and tracks how these figures change over time. The **Industry Revenue Analysis** page highlights the distribution of spending by industry. The **Methodology** page provides details on the data and report production process.

Highlights

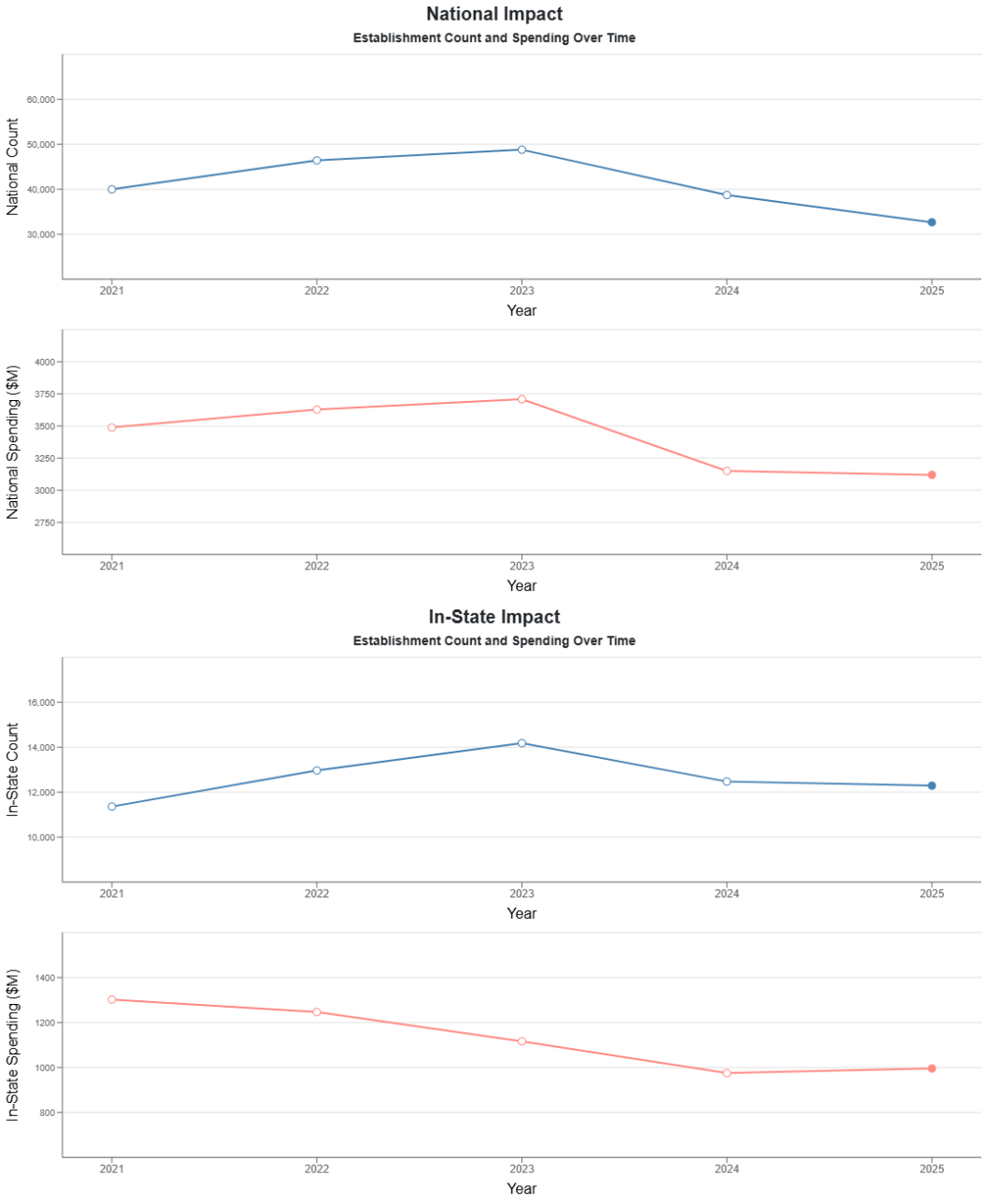
All IRIS Member Universities spent $17.09B in research funding with establishments in the United States between fiscal years 2021 - 2025.

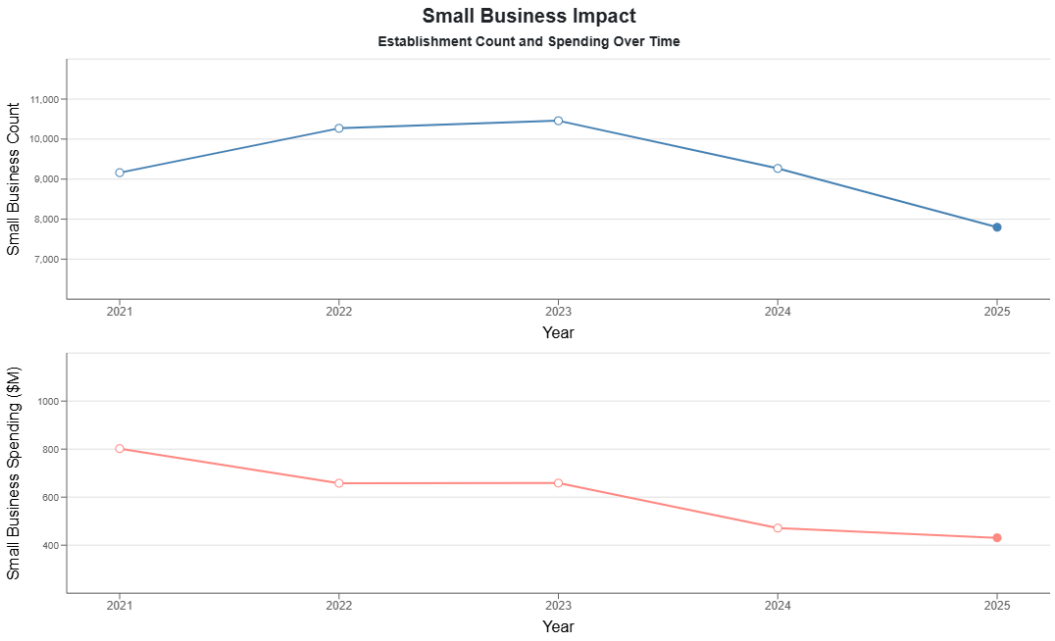
Vendor Impact FY 2021 - 2025

- 124,961 vendors and subcontractors received $17.09B
- 34,622 in-state vendors and subcontractors received $5.63B
- 23,535 small businesses received $3.02B

Vendor Impact FY 2025

- 32,658 vendors and subcontractors received $3.12B
- 12,289 in-state vendors and subcontractors received $995.59M
- 7,797 small businesses received $430.85M



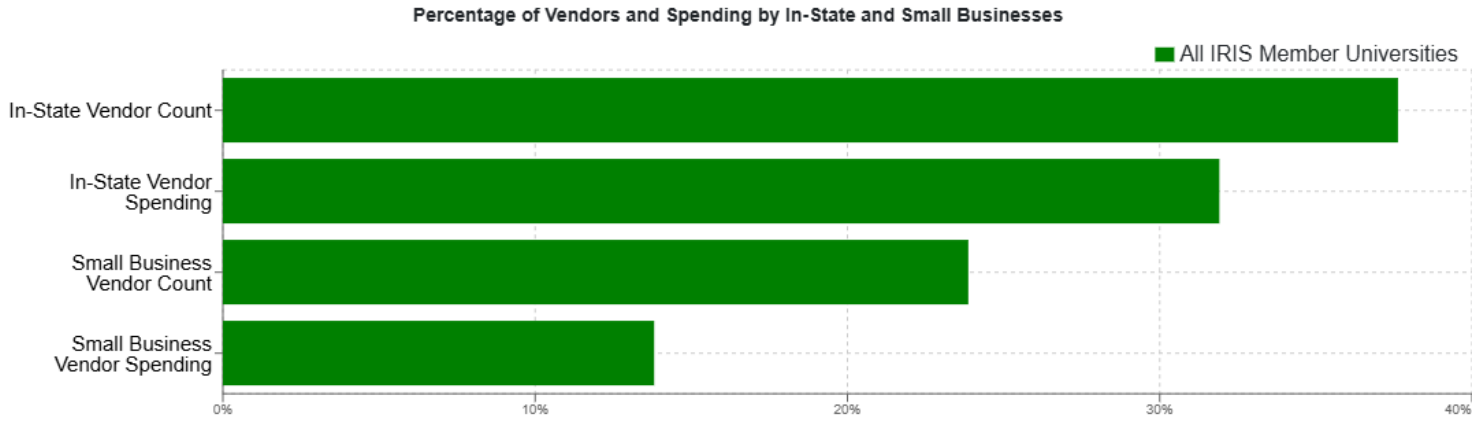


IRIS Member Benchmarking

This chart shows the percentages of spending totals and vendor types.

FY 2025 Highlights

At All IRIS Member Universities, 37.63% of vendors and 31.91% of total research spending were in-state. Small businesses made up 23.87% of vendors and received 13.81% of spending.



Industry Revenue Analysis

IRIS INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON INNOVATION & SCIENCE

This page classifies All IRIS Member Universities' research-related spending from fiscal years 2021-2025 into primary industries, based on the revenue vendors and subcontractors generate in those sectors. **IRIS identified the primary industries for 56,020 vendors and subcontractors, accounting for $12.94B of spending, using business directory data.**

Since many establishments operate across multiple industries, this approach highlights the industries where research-related spending has the greatest economic impact. This page also reports the share of research spending directed to in-state and to small businesses within each industry. Spending totals are expressed in constant 2025 dollars. Some additional spending data is not displayed because it could not be classified into industries; see the methodology for additional information.

Highlights

- The top five industries receiving research spending from All IRIS Member Universities between 2021 and 2025, as measured by individual business revenue, were:
  - Health Care and Social Assistance
  - Educational Services
  - Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
  - Manufacturing
  - Wholesale Trade
- In the Health Care and Social Assistance industry, research spending included $1.57B spent with 3614 in-state businesses and $854.63M with 3255 small businesses

Industry NAICS Title	Total Funds Received (-)
Health Care and Social Assistance	$3.03B
Educational Services	$2.5B
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	$1.76B
Manufacturing	$1.24B
Wholesale Trade	$832.09M
Other Services (except Public Administration)	$658.62M
Retail Trade	$435.04M
Construction	$241.65M
Information	$238.71M
Public Administration	$228.76M
Finance and Insurance	$219.19M
Administrative and Support And Waste Management And Remediation Services	$183.22M
Real Estate and Rental And Leasing	$118.08M
Accommodation and Food Services	$113.31M
Transportation and Warehousing	$105.54M
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	$82.5M
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	$27.54M
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil And Gas Extraction	$18.31M
Utilities	$5.21M
Management of Companies and Enterprises	$3.31M

Vendor Profile Report Methodology

Details on how the reports are created, what they show, and the process of matching different datasets

Introduction

The IRIS Vendor Profile Report demonstrates the economic impact of universities' research spending by describing the industries, geographic areas, and types of businesses that receive contracts and subawards for goods and services through research grants. The report shows the dollars of research funding spent; the number and types of establishments receiving funding, including national, in-state, and small businesses; and whether these figures change from year to year. Data include both federal and non-federal research expenditures.

This includes data from IRIS member universities that have reported the relevant data for FY 2021-2025. Due to variations in data availability, some years may not include data from all IRIS members: Arizona State University, Boston University, Emory University, Georgia Tech, Michigan State University, Michigan Technological University, New York University, Ohio State University, Pennsylvania State University, Princeton University, Rutgers University, Stony Brook University, Texas A&M University, Texas State University, University of California - Riverside, University of Kansas, University of Kentucky, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri, University of North Texas, University of Pittsburgh, University of Texas at Arlington, University of Texas at Dallas, University of Texas at San Antonio, University of Utah, University of Wisconsin, Utah State University, Wayne State University.

How to understand the results

The Vendor Profile Tab

This section provides an overview of the economic impacts of research spending by showing direct expenditures to internal university units and outside vendors and subcontractors. This section shows such spending at the national level, as well as with vendors classified as in-state and small businesses.

Yearly spending, including both vendor spending and subawards, is included on the line graphs for the last five fiscal years for which your university has sent complete data. Research spending and establishments are displayed separately for national, in-state, and small businesses. The bar chart shows how the distribution of your university's research expenditures with in-state and small businesses compares with all other IRIS universities in the selected year.

The Industry Revenue Analysis Tab

The sunburst display shows industry spending as represented by the vendors' NAICS codes, over the most recent five fiscal years of complete university data (see below for a description of NAICS codes). In this visualization, NAICS codes are assigned to organizations based on the NAICS of the establishment(s) with the largest revenue. You can view spending by NAICS industry sector, sub-sector, or group. Some additional spending is not displayed in this tab because it could not be matched with NAICS codes. Please see the Data Matching section for more details.

How the reports are created

Building the vendor report is a multi-step process that begins with the vendor and subawardee name and address information submitted by universities.

Data Cleaning

IRIS removes names of individual people, standardizes business names and addresses to correct common data entry errors, and generates a unique list of vendor and subawardee records. Quality checks ensure valid disambiguated names, reasonable transaction dates, and that vendors are located in the United States. All spending metrics are expressed in real 2025 dollars.

Entity Resolution

Vendors and subawardees are grouped based on name similarity and geographic proximity. A single canonical vendor or subawardee name is assigned to all the vendors within each group using string similarity and payment volume. A single canonical location is also assigned within each group. This ensures consistent identification and counts of unique vendors and subawardees despite minor name variations.

Data Matching

To classify vendors by industry and business size, IRIS matches standardized vendor records to internal business directory data. Matches were limited to vendors within the same ZIP code, and name similarity was evaluated using the Jaro-Winkler method. If multiple candidates exceeded the similarity threshold, the one with the highest score was selected. To improve match coverage, IRIS supplements existing matches with an enhanced process that uses H3 spatial indexing, company name similarity, and large language model (LLM) validation to identify additional matches while minimizing false positives. Matched directory records provide industry classification (see NAICS code section below), annual revenue, and employee counts. This information is used to identify small businesses and classify vendor spending by industry. To determine whether a vendor is a small business, the measures of annual revenue and number of employees are compared to the cutpoints/standards per NAICS code that are published by the U.S. Small Business Administration (sba.gov/document/support-table-size-standards).

Summary of Vendor Coverage and Match Results

For this report, metrics are based on data All IRIS member universities submitted as of 2026-05-19. Of 359,802 unique vendors and subawardees, 92.5% or 332,761 were in the U.S., accounting for 93.0% or $18.16B of All IRIS member universities' spending. Of that U.S. based spending, 94.0% or $17.07B went to 125,027 organizations rather than individual people. Name and address-based matching linked 45% or 56,020 of these U.S. organizations, accounting for 76% ($12.94B) of spending, to IRIS business directory data.

NAICS Codes

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is a system for classifying establishments (individual business locations). For this report, NAICS codes are used to classify businesses according to the types of economic production in which they participate. The codes are organized into broad industry sectors and more specific groupings. The first two digits of a NAICS code represent general categories of economic activities. Nested within the two-digit codes, a third digit represents the subsector, and within that, a fourth digit represents the industry group. IRIS matches payments to vendors and subawardees at the four-digit NAICS level. For this report, we use the 2022 NAICS codes. A small number of industry records contained legacy NAICS codes, so equivalent 2017 NAICS codes were used when necessary to ensure complete coverage of spending across industry subsectors. The codes are revised every five years. The retail and publishing sectors saw some of the most significant changes in the latest revision. A summary of the differences between the 2022 and 2017 codes can be found on the Bureau of Labor Statistics website (https://www.bls.gov/sae/additional-resources/details-on-the-conversion-to-the-2022-north-american-industry-classification-system-naics-from-2017-naics.htm).

LIMITATIONS

Only vendors and subawardees with U.S. addresses are included in this report. This is done to ensure a consistent basis across all metrics, since some metrics, such as NAICS codes, cannot be applied to spending in other countries.

A vendor address in administrative records may be an out-of-state billing address rather than the address of a local establishment that provided a service. To the extent that this occurs, local spending will be underestimated because the spending will be attributed to the out-of-state billing address.

We continue to work to improve the quality of matching and data production in order to address these limitations.

Payments to individual people were not included in this report. The data underlying this report represent research funding from federal and non-federal sources. You may download the underlying data by clicking the “Download Data” link at the top and bottom of the report. The report can be shared by clicking the “Share Report” link at the top of the report.

CITATION

Vendor Profile Report, Institute for Research on Innovation and Science (IRIS), September 2026