

NIST Home > Public Affairs Office > NIST General Information

Select Language *
Powered by Google Translate

SHARE

NIST General Information

From the smart electric power grid and electronic health records to atomic clocks, advanced nanomaterials, and computer chips, innumerable products and services rely in some way on technology, measurement, and standards provided by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Founded in 1901, NIST is a non-regulatory federal agency within the [U.S. Department of Commerce](#). NIST's mission is to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life.

NIST carries out its mission through the following programs:

- the [NIST Laboratories](#), conducting world-class research, often in close collaboration with industry, that advances the nation's technology infrastructure and helps U.S. companies continually improve products and services;
- the [Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership](#), a nationwide network of local centers offering technical and business assistance to smaller manufacturers to help them create and retain jobs, increase profits, and save time and money; and
- the [Baldrige Performance Excellence Program](#), which promotes performance excellence among U.S. manufacturers, service companies, educational institutions, health care providers, and nonprofit organizations; conducts outreach programs; and manages the annual Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award which recognizes performance excellence and quality achievement;

NIST's FY 2014 resources total \$850.0 million in direct appropriations, an estimated \$47.3 million in service fees, and \$107.0 million from other agencies.

The agency operates in two locations: Gaithersburg, Md., (headquarters—234-hectare/578-acre campus) and Boulder, Colo., (84-hectare/208-acre campus). NIST employs about 3,000 scientists, engineers, technicians, and support and administrative personnel. NIST also hosts about 2,700 associates from academia, industry, and other government agencies, who collaborate with NIST staff and access user facilities. In addition, NIST partners more than 1,300 manufacturing specialists and staff at more than 400 MEP service locations around the country.

Our Organization

- [Advancing Innovation and Industrial Competitiveness](#)
- [Mission, Vision, Core Competencies, and Core Values](#)
- [Organizational Chart](#)
- [Fact Sheets](#)
- [Employment Information](#)
- [NIST Tours](#)
- [Office of Information Systems Management](#)
- [Office of Financial Resources Management](#)
- [Office of Human Resources Management](#)

What We Do

- [NIST: Did You Know ...](#)
- [For Kids](#)
- [NIST Educational Activities](#)
- [NIST Centennial](#)
- [NIST Image Gallery](#)
- [The Story of NIST -- online timeline of NIST's history from 1901 to the present](#)

Quotes, Speeches, Testimony

- [What Others Say About NIST](#)
- [Testimony by NIST/DOC officials to Congress](#)
- [Speeches by NIST Officials](#)

Impacts, FAQs, Links

- [NIST: Did You Know ...](#)
- [NIST Environmental Policy](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Links to Related Web Sites](#)
- [Freedom of Information Act procedures](#)

*this number was updated on 4/25/13

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is an agency of the [U.S. Department of Commerce](#).

[Privacy Policy](#) / [Security Notice](#) / [Accessibility Statement](#) / [Disclaimer](#) / [Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\)](#) / [Environmental Policy Statement](#) / [No Fear Act Policy](#) / [NIST Information Quality Standards](#) / [Scientific Integrity Summary](#)

Date created: December 24, 2008 | Last updated: May 12, 2015 Contact: [Webmaster](#)



Sign Up for NIST E-mail alerts: