

# CANCER RESEARCH IS SAVING LIVES



The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) thank Congress for the substantial investment made in medical research over the last eight years, including a **\$2.5 billion increase in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023**. To continue our progress against cancer and other diseases, we urge Congress to:

- **Prioritize funding for medical research by providing \$50.924 billion (a \$3.645 billion increase) for the NIH in FY 2024.** Fulfilling this request would enable continued, real growth above inflation for medical research and supporting promising science in all areas.
- **Provide at least \$9.988 billion (a \$2.6 billion increase) for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in FY 2024.** This request is supported by the NCI director's Professional Judgment Budget.

## Cancer: A Costly Disease

- Cancer is the second most common cause of death in the United States.<sup>1</sup>
- Nearly 1,700 people in the U.S. died each day from cancer in 2023.<sup>2</sup>
- Approximately 40 percent of people will develop cancer in their lifetime.<sup>3</sup>
- Thanks to cancer research we are making significant progress, and the cancer mortality rate has fallen by 33 percent since 1991<sup>4</sup>.

## NIH Research: A Wise Investment that Pays Dividends for Patients and the Public

- NIH funding contributed to every one of the 365 new drugs approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration between 2010 and 2019, including 126 first in class products to treat a wide range of diseases.<sup>5</sup>

## NIH Research: Creates Jobs and Spurs Economic Growth

- NIH funding supports nearly 568,585 jobs at cancer centers, universities, medical schools, medical centers, teaching hospitals, small businesses, and research institutions across every state and generates over \$96.84 billion in economic activity.<sup>6</sup>

## NIH Research: The Reason the United States Leads the World in the Life Sciences

- Robust, sustained, and predictable increases for the NIH are critical to maintain U.S. leadership in biomedical research and continue attracting the brightest scientists to the field. The NIH is the envy of countries around the world that are now increasing their own investments in science and medicine.

<sup>1</sup> CDC/NCHS. National Vital Statistics System. Mortality in the United States, 2021 (<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/deaths.htm>).

<sup>2</sup> American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2023. (<https://acsjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.21763>).

<sup>3</sup> American Cancer Society. Lifetime Risk of Developing or Dying from Cancer. (<https://www.cancer.org/healthy/cancer-causes/general-info/lifetime-probability-of-developing-or-dying-from-cancer.html>)

<sup>4</sup> National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information. US cancer death rate falls 33% since 1991, partly due to advances in treatment, early detection and less smoking, report says <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/search/research-news/17988/>

<sup>5</sup> Cleary et al. Contribution of NIH funding to new drug approvals 2010–2019. Wp 133 Revised 2021 0719 Cleary Jackson Ledley.

<sup>6</sup> United for Medical Research. NIH's Role in Sustaining the U.S. Economy: 2023 Update. (<https://unitedformedicalresearch.org/reports/nihs-role-in-sustaining-the-u-s-economy/>)