DIRECTORATE FOR GEOSCIENCES (GEO)

GEO Funding¹ (Dollars in Millions)

Change over	
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Percent	
-63.0%	
-75.1%	
-90.9%	
-47.7%	

¹ Not included in this display is funding for the Office of Polar Programs (OPP), a division within the Geosciences Directorate. Due to the nature of the activities funded by OPP, this division is provided a separate writeup in NSF's Congressional Budget Submission.

GEO invests in critical scientific research and infrastructure that drives discovery, enables technological innovation, and advances our understanding of the global environment. GEO studies the complex geologic, marine, atmospheric, and hydrologic processes that sustain life and support a thriving society. GEO supports vital research on understanding and predicting natural hazards such as earthquakes, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, and solar storms. Such knowledge improves preparedness, decision-making, and mitigation strategies. These investments are essential to our national security as they help save lives, protect property, and support economic growth.

In FY 2026, GEO will support the following priority investments:

- **Artificial Intelligence**: GEO will prioritize AI investments to advance the development and adoption of innovative methods to increase scientific understanding of the Earth Systems.
- Innovating the Future: GEO will support innovative research that advances the Nation's energy strategy and propels the bioeconomy and technology sectors into the future. GEO investments will help restore American dominance in critical minerals through research, new technology, and AI methods to improve mineral exploration as well as mining and processing efficiency and productivity. GEO will also support biotechnology research to spur innovation and advances in the marine and earth sciences.
- National Security Strategies: GEO will help to strengthen national security through critical mineral research and continued investment in the prediction of natural hazards, which safeguards stability, supports defense operations, and enables resilient strategies for a secure future. Research in natural hazards such as wildfires, earthquakes, and windstorms will improve the Nation's ability to respond to such occurrences, build our knowledge and understanding of disasters, including their interplay with the natural environment and built infrastructure. This work will inform the development of new technologies and systems to mitigate risks and manage the impacts of such disasters.