University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
RESEARCH FACTS & FIGURES

6th
top-ranked university in the United States for federal research, totaling $721M annually
// HERD Survey, 2019

1.15 BILLION
UNC research projects directly addressing the health, education, or well-being of NO citizens, in 2020
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020

$5
For each dollar of state funding, research centers & institutes attract $5 from external sources
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020

60%
UNC-Chapel Hill performs more than half of all UNO System research
// HERD Survey, 2019

ECONOMIC IMPACT
$2.6 BILLION
total annual North Carolina economic impact of UNC research and UNO startup companies
// EMSI, 2013

258 NC BUSINESSES
spun out of research at UNC, creating 9,770 jobs in North Carolina and generating nearly $14 billion in annual revenues
// UNC OCED, 2020

6,000 NC BUSINESSES
in 95 North Carolina counties are supported by $93 million in annual purchases by UNC Research
// UNC Research, 2020

10,325 NC EMPLOYERS
from 81 counties throughout the state are employed by UNC Research, with a $379 million annual payroll
// UNC Research, 2020

EXCEPTIONALISM
1 of only 9 public US institutions in the Top 25 for all measures of excellence
// CMUP, 2019

21st most cited university in the world
// CWUR, 2019

21 faculty in the National Academy of Medicine
// National Academy of Medicine, 2020

12 faculty elected to the National Academy of Sciences
// National Academy of Sciences, 2020

2 Nobel Laureates
// Royal Swedish Academy of Science

150+ faculty at UNC are members of the National Academies & prestigious learned societies
// UNC Research, 2020

12th most cited university in the world
// CWUR, 2019

2 Nobel Laureates
// Royal Swedish Academy of Science

21st most cited university in the world
// CWUR, 2019

RESEARCH COLLABORATION
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020

$651 million in multi-investigator projects

$509 million in multi-department projects

$357 million in multi-school projects

A trusted partner for research, UNC ranks
7th in the nation for R&D
received as a sub-recipient from other universities
// HERD Survey, 2019

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH
Nearly 1,250 postdoctoral fellows
// UNC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, 2018

20th in the nation for the total number of postdoctoral fellows
// GSS Survey, 2019

18th “Best Place to Work” as a postdoc
// The Scientist Magazine, 2013

RESEARCH FACTS & FIGURES
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
6th
Top-ranked university in the United States for federal research, totaling $721 million annually
// HERD Survey, 2019

1.15 BILLION
UNC research projects directly addressing the health, education, or well-being of NO citizens, in 2020
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020

$5
For each dollar of state funding, research centers & institutes attract $5 from external sources
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020

60%
UNC-Chapel Hill performs more than half of all UNO System research
// HERD Survey, 2019

ECONOMIC IMPACT
$2.6 BILLION
Total annual North Carolina economic impact of UNC research and UNO startup companies
// EMSI, 2013

258 NC BUSINESSES
Spun out of research at UNC, creating 9,770 jobs in North Carolina and generating nearly $14 billion in annual revenues
// UNC OCED, 2020

6,000 NC BUSINESSES
In 95 North Carolina counties are supported by $93 million in annual purchases by UNC Research
// UNC Research, 2020

10,325 NC EMPLOYERS
From 81 counties throughout the state are employed by UNC Research, with a $379 million annual payroll
// UNC Research, 2020

EXCEPTIONALISM
1 of only 9 public US institutions in the Top 25 for all measures of excellence
// CMUP, 2019

21st most cited university in the world
// CWUR, 2019

21 faculty in the National Academy of Medicine
// National Academy of Medicine, 2020

12 faculty elected to the National Academy of Sciences
// National Academy of Sciences, 2020

2 Nobel Laureates
// Royal Swedish Academy of Science

21st most cited university in the world
// CWUR, 2019

2 Nobel Laureates
// Royal Swedish Academy of Science

21st most cited university in the world
// CWUR, 2019

RESEARCH COLLABORATION
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020

$651 million in multi-investigator projects

$509 million in multi-department projects

$357 million in multi-school projects

A trusted partner for research, UNC ranks
7th in the nation for R&D
received as a sub-recipient from other universities
// HERD Survey, 2019

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH
Nearly 1,250 postdoctoral fellows
// UNC Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, 2018

20th in the nation for the total number of postdoctoral fellows
// GSS Survey, 2019

18th “Best Place to Work” as a postdoc
// The Scientist Magazine, 2013

NATIONAL RANKINGS AND RESEARCH EXPENDITURES BY FIELD
// HERD Survey, 2019

11th life sciences research, $847M
3rd social sciences research, $108M
27th biological and biomedical sciences research, $166M
7th health sciences research, $881M
18th chemistry research, $24M
1st psychology research, $47M
14th biomedical engineering research, $25M jointly with NCSU
3rd social work research, $15M

FEDERAL INVESTMENT
6th in the US for federally funded health sciences research
// HERD Survey, 2019
The NIH is UNC’s largest federal funder, awarding more than $523M in 2020
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020
3rd among the nation’s Schools of Public Health for NIH funding
// BRIMR, 2020
1st in the nation for federally funded social and behavioral science research and development
// ODSRA, 2021

COMMERCIALIZATION
3,456 inventions have been disclosed at UNC
// UNC OCED, 2020
945 US patents have been awarded to UNC
// UNC OCED, 2021
Technology created at UNC has generated $82 million in income for the university, funding the development of new technologies and incubation of startups
// UNC OCED, 2019
UNO spin-out businesses generate $1.6 billion in added income (GSP) to NC annually – the equivalent of 15,000 additional NC jobs
// EMSI, 2013

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS
18th in the US for privately sponsored clinical trials
// HERD Survey, 2019
22nd in industry-sponsored life sciences research in the US
// HERD Survey, 2019
36th for industry-sponsored R&D among the nation’s private and public institutions
// HERD Survey, 2019
$38 million in annual clinical trials research
// HERD Survey, 2019
$69 million in annual R&D from private industry sponsors
// UNC RAMSeS, 2020

(April 2021)