



Science Coalition Organization Toolkit: Public Science Saves Lives, Protects Our Health and Builds Stronger Communities

Changing the Narrative of Public Science

The Trump administration's attack on federal science, including funding reductions and the loss of thousands of apolitical federal civil servants essential to public health, scientific research and the environment, has threatened the government's ability to serve our nation and communities effectively.

This campaign is designed to increase the public's understanding how public science makes our country healthier and safer and to demonstrate the effect of the funding and workforce cuts on cancer and biomedical research, food safety, environmental protection and natural resource management.

Together, let's share the transformative and lifesaving impact of public science programs, uplift our nonpartisan public servants who are our brightest problem-solvers and encourage the public to hold our government accountable to protect our health and to build stronger communities.

WHAT IS THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC SERVICE? WHY NOW?

The [Partnership for Public Service](#) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to building a better government and a stronger democracy. During the last year, the Partnership has [documented](#) the Trump administration's unprecedented disruption of the federal science community. While some of the 2025 cutbacks have been overturned by the courts or modified by Congress, there remain substantial reductions in funding, a serious loss of talent, [numerous leadership vacancies](#) across the government and the [politicization of decisions that go against expert recommendations](#) affecting science, public health and the environment – and all of us for years to come. The Partnership is tracking how the federal science landscape is changing and is striving to provide the public, the media and policymakers with reliable information to better understand the value of the federal scientific community and the risks ahead if the damage continues.

PUBLIC SCIENCE MESSAGES

1. Public servants working in science, health and the environment make our communities healthier, safer and stronger. They are our country's brightest problem-solvers who find solutions for our toughest health and environmental challenges. Federal



science employees put the public's health first above all else. They work to save lives, discover lifesaving medicines, ensure food safety, preserve public lands and natural resources, innovate to improve our quality of life and help build stronger, more resilient communities. When their jobs and programs are cut, the public suffers and progress on important research is halted. Federal scientists and other public servants provide nonpartisan expertise that our government needs, sustain continuity across administrations and honor their oath to serve the public good.

2. Federal cuts in public science threaten everyone's health and safety. When jobs, grants and entire programs are eliminated, the public feels its ripple effects such as greater food safety risks, decreased potential for the development of new medicines and lifesaving treatments and an increased chance of putting our environment and public lands at risk. The loss of public science is a loss in progress and disrupts an interconnected ecosystem that the nation relies on for safe food and medicine, innovative health treatments, clean air and water, accessible public lands and sustainable natural resource management. Cuts in public science drain resources that Americans have already paid for through taxes to keep themselves and their loved ones healthy and safe, and hurts the ability of communities to prepare for and recover from emergencies.

3. Every person and community benefits from public science. Science works for everyone and impacts nearly every facet of our lives. Science allows us to make informed choices about what we eat, how to care for sick family members and helps us prepare for emergencies. We are safer, stronger and healthier because of public investments in science. The United States government is the largest funder of medical research in the world, investing in research and university programs across the country. Investing in public science is the safest choice for America. Federal investments to advance scientific progress and discovery, protect public health and preserve our environment help stimulate the economy, spur innovation and position America as the best it can be. Every \$1 in medical research returns \$2.56 directly into the U.S. economy ([NIH 2024](#)). In one year, \$29 billion was injected into national economy from tourism in national parks and supported 340,000 jobs ([NPS 2024](#)).

SHARE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PUBLIC SCIENCE

- 1. Expose what is happening in public science by sharing stories of how halted programs and spending is impeding life-saving treatments, food inspections, conservation efforts, limiting our access to national parks, weakening farms and more:** Share the Partnership for Public Service's "[Unraveling of Public Science](#)" product. Add the information to your newsletter, use our [communications toolkit](#) or social media posts below to spotlight the damaging consequences of these cuts and why they matter to every person in every community.
- 2. Invite your members to explore the Partnership for Public Service's [Cost to Your Community](#)** product that connects the tangible impact of public science cuts on



individuals, organizations and our communities – and how they can take action to prevent further damage. Ask them to explore [this map](#) that shows specific examples in every congressional district and to search their zip code to see how vital programs may be threatened in their community. Ask them to share what they find and [contact their member of Congress](#) about the harm happening in their community. Invite your members to share their story of impact by [completing this form](#).

- 3. Share how your organization’s scientists, researchers and subject matter experts are advancing science to keep us all safe, strong and healthy.** Recognize these individuals and highlight their work through your communication channels and networks. Use any of our key public science messages above to connect federal scientists’ work to our daily lives. Share their success stories to help move people towards hope in this unprecedented time.

SUPPORT PUBLIC SCIENCE THROUGH ACTION

Below are quick, easy ways that you can share stories of harm and hope with your members. To deepen your engagement with the Partnership through social media collaborations, speaking engagements, event partnerships, please contact Kristen Byrne at kbyrne@ourpublicservice.org.

Newsletter Blurb:

STORIES WORTH SHARING: Science works for everyone, impacting nearly everything from public health and biomedical research to food safety and the weather. The past year has brought chaos to the federal scientific community – canceled grants, the loss of thousands of federal workers and halted programs that were saving lives, improving public health and protecting public lands and the environment. The impact is real and has been felt in every community. The [Partnership for Public Service](#) has mapped these damaging cuts across government and in every congressional district in its [Federal Harms Tracker](#), including right here in [*insert your state*]. Explore what is at stake for our health, food, energy, environment and more if we don’t protect public science.

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS:

Graphics: [Download all graphics here.](#)

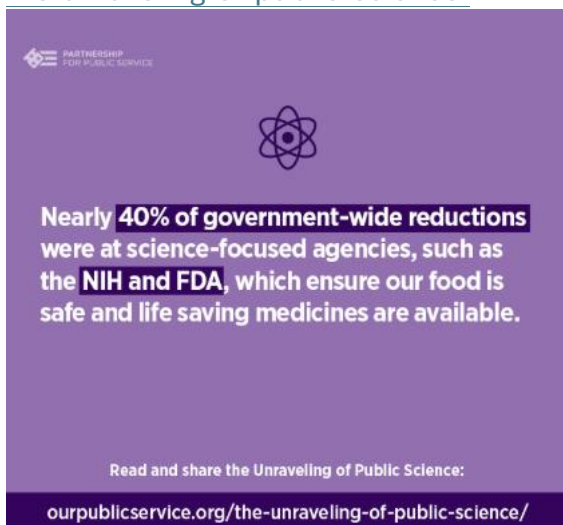
Social Media Post 1: The Partnership for Public Services’ Federal Harms Tracker Public servants working in science, health and environment make our communities healthier, safer and stronger. They help us make informed choices about what we eat, how to care for sick family members and prepare for emergencies. Explore how the past year has disrupted their work and what it means to your health and your community: <https://federalharmstracker.org>



Social Media Post 2: (Facebook and LinkedIn): **The Unraveling of Public Science in 2025**
Data doesn't lie. The Trump administration put thousands of American lives on the line by dismantling public science that lost nearly 95,000 federal employees and disrupted vital work, affecting cancer clinical trials, food inspections, weather forecasting and more. Get a glimpse of what is at stake for the federal scientific community by sector and geography in the Partnership for Public Service's "The Unraveling of Public Science: How one year dramatically changed the federal science landscape." For example, we saw:

- Government-wide reductions of nearly 40% at science-focused agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration, which conduct cutting-edge medical research and make sure life-saving medicines are available.
- A spending decrease of nearly 25% on project grants at science-focused agencies and on scientific research and development contracts government-wide.
- Damage to small businesses, veterans, farmers, wildfire response teams and more, impacting the health and safety of families today and tomorrow.

Read and share the Unraveling of Public Science: <https://federalharmstracker.org/the-unraveling-of-public-science/>



Social Media Post 3: (Facebook and LinkedIn): **The Cost of Public Science Cuts in Your Community**

Public science was pummeled in 2025. We lost more than 95,000 federal science employees who were working for the public good – those discovering the next cure, inspecting our food, making sure hospitals have critical health information, forecasting storms and so much more. Search your zip code to see what has changed for the families, veterans, farmers, emergency responders and businesses in your community.

<https://federalharmstracker.org/cost-to-your-community/>



Social Media post 4: (Facebook and LinkedIn): **The Cost of Public Science Cuts to Our Health and Economy**

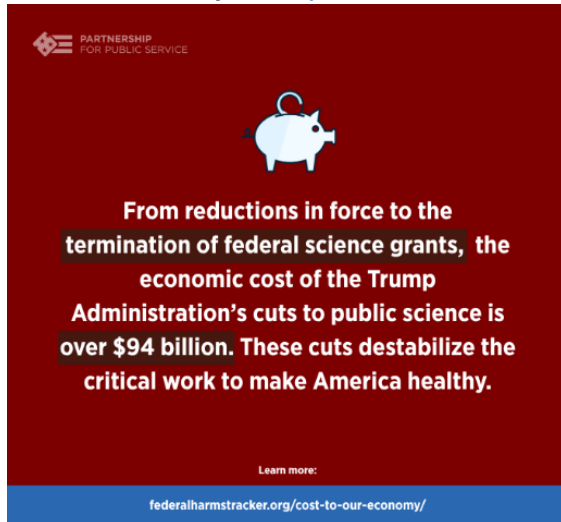
\$165 Billion. That’s the total economic cost from the Trump administration's actions on slashing federal personnel, funding and programs since January 2025. More than half of this economic loss – \$94 billion – is from terminated scientific grants at places like the NIH, EPA and CDC and other agencies which do critical work to keep America healthy, safe and strong. See which agencies were hit the hardest in the Partnership for Public Service's new data tool, The Cost to Our Economy at <https://federalharmstracker.org/cost-to-our-economy/>




\$94 Billion. That’s the total loss due to terminated federal science grants so far by the Trump administration’s spending cuts. These actions harm American taxpayers. We now

face unprecedented job loss, a broken pipeline of scientists, fewer medical breakthroughs and canceled programs that improve our quality of life, protect our parks and spur local economic growth.

Get a detailed breakdown of what the public science cuts has cost Americans in *The Cost to Our Economy* at <https://federalharmstracker.org/cost-to-our-economy/>.



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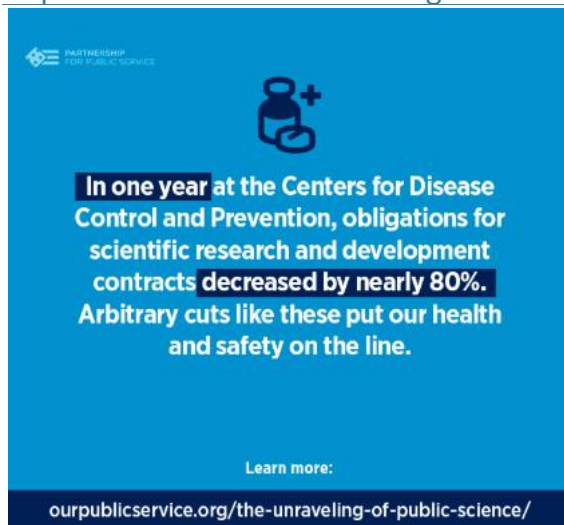
From reductions in force to the termination of federal science grants, the economic cost of the Trump Administration's cuts to public science is over \$94 billion. These cuts destabilize the critical work to make America healthy.

Learn more:
federalharmstracker.org/cost-to-our-economy/


Social media post 5: Biomedical research and public health

Cuts in public funding for life-saving biomedical research are preventing the ability of federal scientists to develop the next experimental treatment and cures for life-threatening diseases. In one year, nearly 40% of government-wide funding reductions were at science-focused agencies such as the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration. At the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, obligations for scientific research and development contracts decreased by nearly 80%. Arbitrary cuts like these put our health and safety on the line. Learn more:

<https://federalharmstracker.org/the-unraveling-of-public-science/>

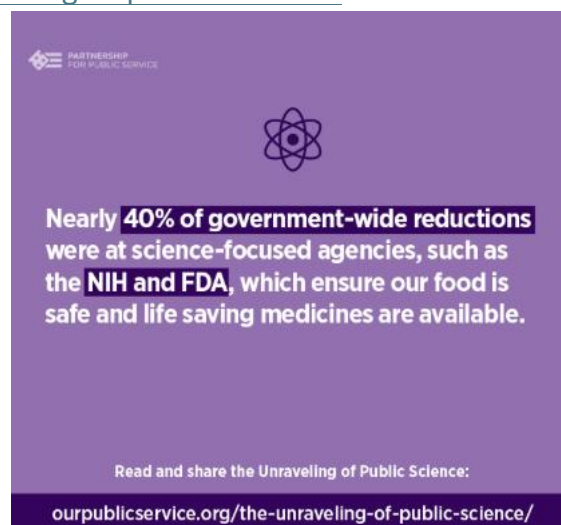


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In one year at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, obligations for scientific research and development contracts decreased by nearly 80%. Arbitrary cuts like these put our health and safety on the line.

Learn more:
ourpublicservice.org/the-unraveling-of-public-science/



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Nearly 40% of government-wide reductions were at science-focused agencies, such as the NIH and FDA, which ensure our food is safe and life saving medicines are available.

Read and share the *Unraveling of Public Science*:
ourpublicservice.org/the-unraveling-of-public-science/

Social media post 6: Food safety

What happened in 2025? In just one year, one in four employees at the Food and Drug Administration—the agency responsible for conducting food safety inspections and informing the public of recalls to help prevent food-borne illnesses—were driven out of their jobs. Over 11,000 people lost jobs across FDA, including those that ensured a stable food safety system. Learn more: federalharmstracker.org/the-unraveling-of-public-science/



Social media post 7: Public lands/Environment

From losing a quarter of permanent National Park Service staff to eliminating all new conservation efforts at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, our public lands and natural resources are threatened without sustained public funding. Read how cuts in public science are impacting the places we love and resources we rely on at federalharmstracker.org/the-unraveling-of-public-science/

