



# U.S. Geological Survey

## Mission

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) provides actionable science to decision makers about energy and mineral resources, natural hazards, and water resources using state-of-the-art science, tools, and technology. USGS also provides authoritative mapping and characterization of the Earth's land and water features.

## Budget Overview

The 2026 Budget request for USGS is \$891.6 million. The request emphasizes science supporting energy and mineral independence and security, hazard monitoring, and support of decision making by resource managers and policy makers. The Budget invests in science to understand the distribution of domestic critical minerals essential to American prosperity and security. The USGS Budget supports nationwide networks of streamgages and earthquake sensors and maintains the operation of Landsats 8 and 9.

### *Geology, Energy, and Minerals Programs*

USGS conducts research, mapping, and supply chain analysis of energy and mineral resources, including the economic and environmental effects of extracting and using those resources. The Nation depends on energy resources to power homes and businesses and mineral resources to manufacture products ranging from consumer electronics, energy, and defense technologies to the emerging technologies of tomorrow.



Taking a water sample in Green River.

USGS Photo.

The 2026 Budget provides funding for USGS to fully support the Administration's goal to unleash American Energy and restore American Mineral Dominance, as outlined in Executive Order (EO) 14154, *Unleashing American Energy*, and EO 14241, *Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production*. The Budget funds data collection and research on a wide variety of nonfuel mineral resources, focusing on critical minerals important to the economic stability and national security of the United States.

### *Natural Hazards Programs*

USGS provides information and tools to prepare for and respond to hazards such as volcanoes, earthquakes, coastal storms, solar flares, and landslides to enable greater resilience and reduce potential fatalities, injuries, property damage, and other social and economic effects. The Budget maintains Earthquake Hazards funding for core national earthquake monitoring and reporting capabilities and includes funding to operate sites in the Global Seismographic Network and the

- USGS was founded by an Act of Congress in 1879.
- In Fiscal Year 2026, USGS will protect human health and safety by operating more than 3,400 earthquake sensors and by monitoring approximately 170 volcanoes and more than 11,800 streamgages for advanced flood warnings in the United States.
- USGS operates the Earthquake Notification Service, which delivers text message notifications of earthquakes with a magnitude of 6.0 or greater, providing valuable warnings sometimes minutes ahead of shaking.
- The USGS Earth Mapping Resources Initiative (Earth MRI) is transforming the Nation's mapping of the surface and subsurface. Since the launch of Earth MRI in 2019, USGS has partnered with more than 40 States and more than tripled coverage of the high-resolution data needed to assess the Nation's critical mineral resources.

Landslide Hazards Program that supports post-fire debris-flow assessments and early warning and landslide research. Along the Nation's coasts and in marine areas, USGS also monitors hazards such as submarine landslides.

#### *Water Resources Programs*

The 2026 Budget supports programs that work with more than 1,800 partners to monitor, model, assess, and deliver information on a wide range of water resources conditions and issues, including water quantity, quality, use, and overall availability. These programs collect and deliver hydrologic data, model

and analyze hydrologic systems, and assess status and future scenarios of water availability for the Nation. The request maintains support for USGS streamgages and provides the capacity to improve models and assessments of water quantity, quality, and use with an emphasis on artificial intelligence and machine-learning approaches.

#### *Core Science Systems Programs*

The Core Science Systems programs provide the Nation with access to science, information, data, imagery, and geospatial frameworks to improve natural resource management, support



USGS scientists en route to collect fish for the Columbia River Contaminants and Habitat Study.

USGS Photo.





A USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory geologist takes video of the Kilauea eruption.

USGS Photo.

infrastructure planning, and prepare for and respond to natural hazards. The Science Synthesis, Analysis, and Research Program provides high-performance computing and supercomputing systems and data storage to provide timely and accurate Earth systems modeling for drought, weather, land management, wildland fires, landslides, and volcanoes. The Budget supports the operation of Landsats 8 and 9 ground and flight operations and provides funding to maintain data production activities. The Budget restructures the Landsat Next mission. USGS will be working with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to identify more affordable ways to maintain the continuity of Landsat data, which are used by natural resource managers, States, and industry.

#### *Science Support and Facilities Programs*

The 2026 Budget includes funding for USGS science and administrative leadership and support. It also

includes resources needed to operate and maintain USGS offices, laboratories, and other facilities.

#### **Organizational and Workforce Restructure**

The Budget advances Energy and Mineral Dominance through a reorganization that moves geologic data and mapping and offshore energy and mineral activities into a newly named Geology, Energy & Minerals mission area. It also eliminates the Ecosystems mission area, including grants to universities and other work that is duplicative of non-Federal research programs and other bureaus and supports social agendas (e.g., climate change research) so that the bureau can focus on higher priority energy and minerals activities. The 2026 Budget also supports the Administration's goal to streamline government and will continue efforts to unify and optimize administrative services across the Department to increase effectiveness and efficiency for the benefit of American taxpayers.

## SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS

(dollar amounts in thousands)

### Comparison of 2026 Request with 2025 CR

	2025 CR <sup>1/</sup>	2026 Request
Current, without Supplementals		
Surveys, Investigations, and Research .....	1,450,197	891,560
Total, Current, without Supplementals .....	1,450,197	891,560
Current, 2026 Supplementals		
Surveys, Investigations, and Research		
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58) .....		64,000
Transfer to OIG (P.L. 117-58) .....		-320
Total, Current, 2026 Supplementals .....		63,680

<sup>1/</sup> Resource levels included are estimates. The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

### APPROPRIATION: Surveys, Investigations, and Research

	2024 Actual	2025 Notional <sup>1/</sup>	2026 Request
Ecosystems .....	[299,377]	292,877	0
Geology, Energy, and Minerals			
Geology, Energy, and Mineral Resources			
Mineral Resources .....	68,729	[75,404]	[69,904]
Energy Resources .....	32,364	[34,699]	[36,935]
Subtotal, Geology, Energy, and Minerals .....	[101,093]	155,337	137,073
Natural Hazards .....	[198,636]	196,126	136,526
Water Resources .....	[288,772]	288,772	223,818
Core Science Systems			
National Land Imaging Program			
Satellite Operations .....	[95,334]	[95,334]	[81,599]
Subtotal, Core Science Systems .....	[273,221]	227,987	165,041
Science Support .....	[105,000]	105,000	80,000
Facilities			
Facilities Maintenance, Modernization, and Restoration Program .....	[74,840]	[74,840]	[54,844]
Subtotal, Facilities .....	[184,098]	184,098	149,102
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	1,455,434	1,450,197	891,560

<sup>1/</sup> Resource levels included are estimates. The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.