

**NDSU Main Research Center  
Budget No. 640  
House Bill No. 1020**

	<b>FTE Positions</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
2023-25 legislative appropriation	358.47	\$60,018,189 <sup>1</sup>	\$159,376,314	\$219,394,503 <sup>3</sup>
2021-23 legislative appropriation	<u>334.56</u>	<u>55,088,232<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>67,189,956</u>	<u>122,278,188</u>
2023-25 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2021-23 appropriation	23.91	\$4,929,957	\$92,186,358	\$97,116,315

<sup>1</sup>This amount includes \$3,708,230 of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing general fund appropriation is \$56,309,959.

<sup>2</sup>This amount includes \$500,000 of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing general fund appropriation was \$54,588,232.

<sup>3</sup>This amount does not include any transfers of appropriation authority from the Office of Management and Budget funding pools for targeted market equity adjustments, retirement contribution increases, or new and vacant FTE positions.

**Item Description**

**Full-time equivalent changes** - The Legislative Assembly authorized 358.47 FTE positions for the Main Research Center for the 2023-25 biennium, an increase of 23.91 FTE positions from the 2021-23 biennium authorization of 334.56 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly added 1 FTE position for the big data initiative. In addition, 22.91 FTE positions were added pursuant to Section 8 of Senate Bill No. 2020 (2021), which authorized the State Board of Higher Education to adjust FTE positions at entities under its control. Section 10 of House Bill No. 1020 (2023) continues the authorization of the board to adjust positions at entities under its control during the 2023-25 biennium.

**Targeted market equity** - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$82.5 million, of which \$45.1 million is from the general fund, to the Office of Management and Budget for a targeted market equity pool to be distributed to state agencies.

**New and vacant FTE funding pool** - The Legislative Assembly reduced the 2023-25 biennium appropriation for the Main Research Center by \$5,559,202, including \$3,714,807 from the general fund and \$1,844,395 from other funds for the new and vacant FTE funding pool. The reduction included \$220,000 for new FTE positions and \$5,339,202 for estimated vacant salary savings.

**Transfer authority** - In Section 9 of House Bill No. 1020, the Legislative Assembly authorized the Director of the Main Research Center, with approval from the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education, and appropriate branch research center directors, to transfer appropriation authority within the Extension Service, Northern Crops Institute, branch research centers, and Main Research Center.

**Status/Result**

The agency filled the FTE position for the big data initiative in March 2024.

The Main Research Center received \$2,377,151, including \$1,816,346 from the general fund and \$560,805 from other funds, for targeted market equity increases. Equity increases were provided to 170 employees.

Through January 2024, the Main Research Center had not received any funding from the new and vacant FTE funding pool and had estimated vacant FTE position savings of \$2,312,982. The Main Research Center used \$1,955,934 of the savings for other purposes, including accrued leave payouts, incentive and location pay, extra temporary salary funding, extra overtime funding, and funding for graduate research assistants. The number of vacancies in the Main Research Center has ranged from 66 to 56 with an average monthly vacancy rate of 61.86 FTE positions.

To date there have been no transfers of appropriation authority within the Extension Service, Northern Crops Institute, branch research centers, and Main Research Center, and the agency does not anticipate making any transfers during the remainder of the 2023-25 biennium.

**One-time funding** - In House Bill No. 1020, the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$105,071,230 of one-time funding as follows:

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
Storage sheds		\$1,900,000	\$1,900,000
Deferred maintenance		500,000	500,000
Waldron Hall replacement project		97,000,000	97,000,000
Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project	\$1,700,000		1,700,000
Branch research centers capital projects inflation	2,008,230	925,000	2,933,230
Hettinger Research Extension Center land purchase		1,038,000	1,038,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,708,230</b>	<b>\$101,363,000</b>	<b>\$105,071,230</b>

**Capital projects carryover** - In Section 12 of House Bill No. 1020, the Legislative Assembly provided an exemption to allow unexpended 2021-23 biennium other funds for branch research center projects to continue and be spent during the 2023-25 biennium. In Section 13 of the bill, the Legislative Assembly provided an exemption to allow unexpended 2021-23 biennium federal funds derived from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund

The following is a summary of the status of the Main Research Center's one-time funding:

Storage sheds	The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$1.9 million from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF) to the Main Research Center for four storage sheds. As of April 2024, the sheds are in various stages of bidding.
Deferred maintenance	The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$500,000 from SIIF to the Main Research Center for deferred maintenance projects. The Main Research Center has allocated the funding as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$18,630 for hay panels at the Main Research Center.</li> <li>• \$215,000 for dairy parlor upgrades at the Main Research Center.</li> <li>• \$61,370 for a windbreak fence replacement project at the Main Research Center.</li> <li>• \$140,000 for greenhouse maintenance and repairs at the Main Research Center.</li> <li>• \$65,000 for greenhouse maintenance and repairs at the North Central Research Center.</li> </ul>
Waldron Hall replacement project	The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$97 million, including \$87 million from SIIF and \$10 million from other funds to the Main Research Center for the Waldron Hall replacement project. The final designs are being completed and construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2024 with an anticipated completion date in the summer of 2026.
Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project	The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$1.7 million from the general fund to the Main Research Center for the Nesson Valley Irrigation Research Site project. Bidding for the project was anticipated to open on April 25, 2024.
Branch research centers capital projects inflation	The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$2,933,230, including \$2,008,230 from the general fund and \$925,000 from other funds to the Main Research Center for various projects. See the <b>Capital projects carryover</b> section below for additional information.
Hettinger Research Extension Center land purchase	The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$1,038,000 from the federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund for the Main Research Center purchase of 611 acres of land for the Hettinger Research Extension Center. The land purchase was finalized in March 2024.

The following is a summary of the status of the Main Research Center's carryover funding:

Carrington Research Center	During the 2021-23 biennium, the Main Research Center was appropriated \$1,221,000, including \$775,000 from SIIF and \$446,000 from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund for livestock facilities at the Carrington Research Center. The Main Research Center continued the unexpended 2021-23 biennium
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for branch research center projects to continue and be spent during the 2023-25 biennium.

Central Grasslands Research Center	funding into the 2023-25 biennium. As of April 2024, the feedlot research support facility project is nearing completion. Bidding was anticipated to open for the feedlot pen expansion and bulk feed commodity storage structure projects on May 7, 2024.
Dickinson Research Center	During the 2021-23 biennium, the Main Research Center was appropriated \$2,163,000, including \$200,000 from SIIF and \$1,963,000 from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund for livestock facilities at the Central Grasslands Research Center. The Legislative Assembly also appropriated \$325,000 from SIIF for a director's residence at the Central Grasslands Research Center. As of April 2024, the livestock facility project is in progress with an anticipated completion date of spring 2025. Bids are under review for the director's residence project.
Hettinger Research Center	During the 2021-23 biennium, the Main Research Center was appropriated \$2.2 million from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund for livestock facilities at the Dickinson Research Center. As of April 2024, the agricultural laboratory and shop facility project is nearing completion.
Langdon Research Center	During the 2021-23 biennium, the Main Research Center was appropriated \$3.72 million, including \$300,000 from SIIF and \$3.42 million from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Main Research Center for one-time projects at the Hettinger Research Center, including a research support facility, sheep feed efficiency research facility, and livestock processing facilities. As of April 2024, the Hettinger Research Center facilities are all nearing completion.
	During the 2021-23 biennium, the Main Research Center was appropriated \$473,000 from SIIF for a greenhouse at the Langdon Research Center. As of April 2024, the contractor has been selected and the contract documents are being completed.