

# The NCI Research Projects Grants (RPG) Budget and Beyond

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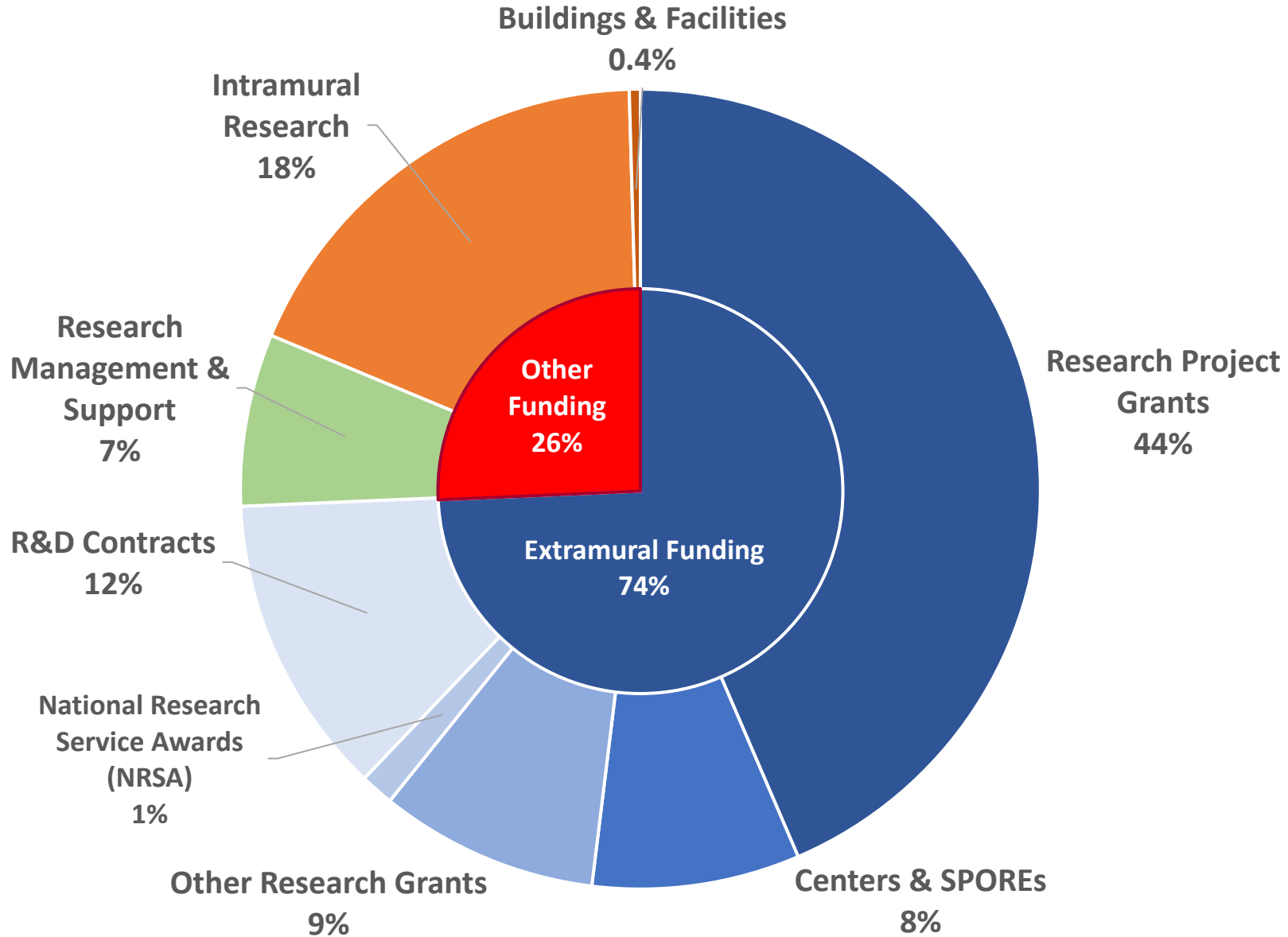
# Thanks to...

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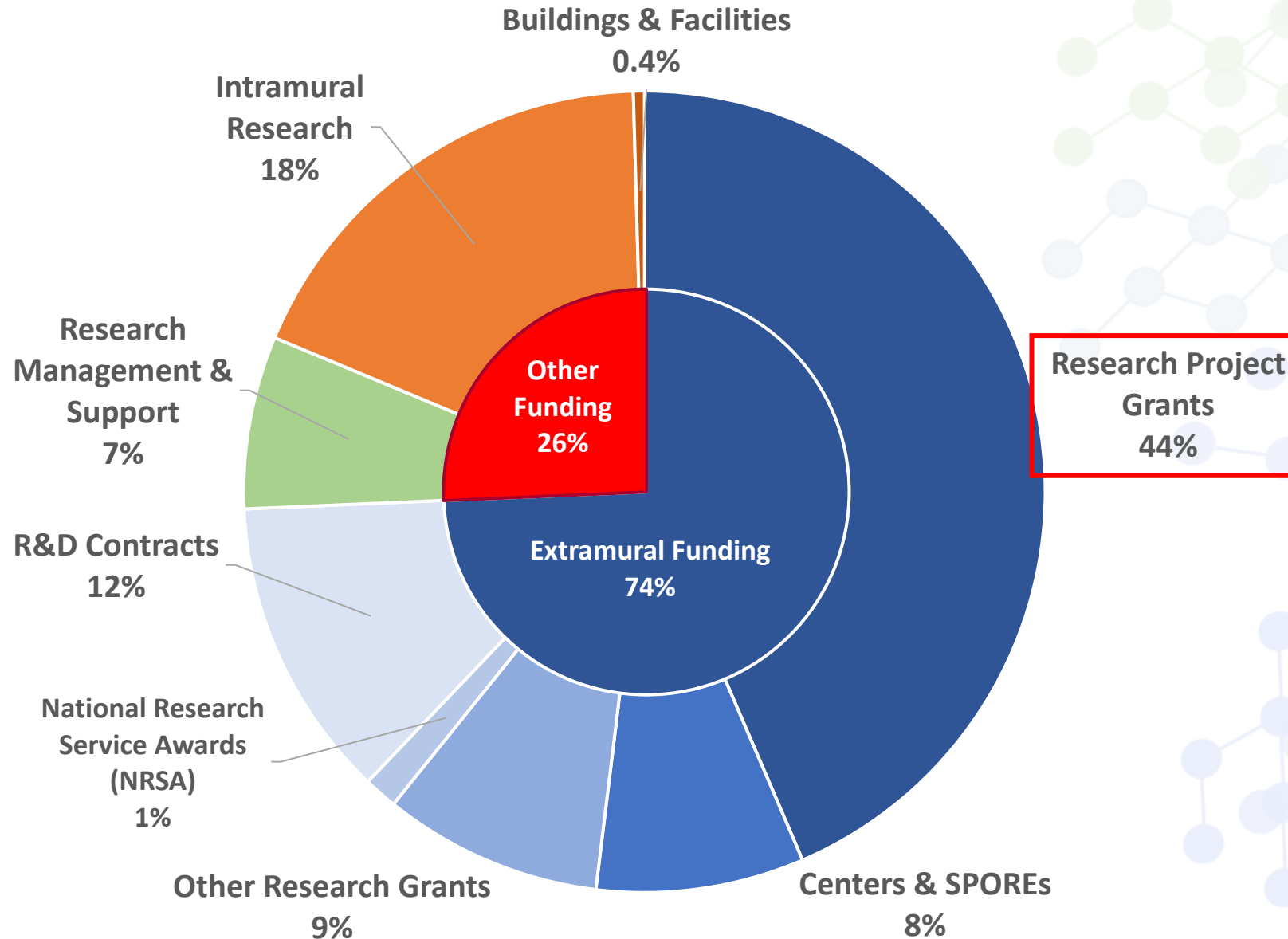
# Topics

- Distribution of appropriated NCI budget (FY22)
- RPG trends over the past decade
- RPG considerations: Focus on FY23

# How does NCI spend its money?

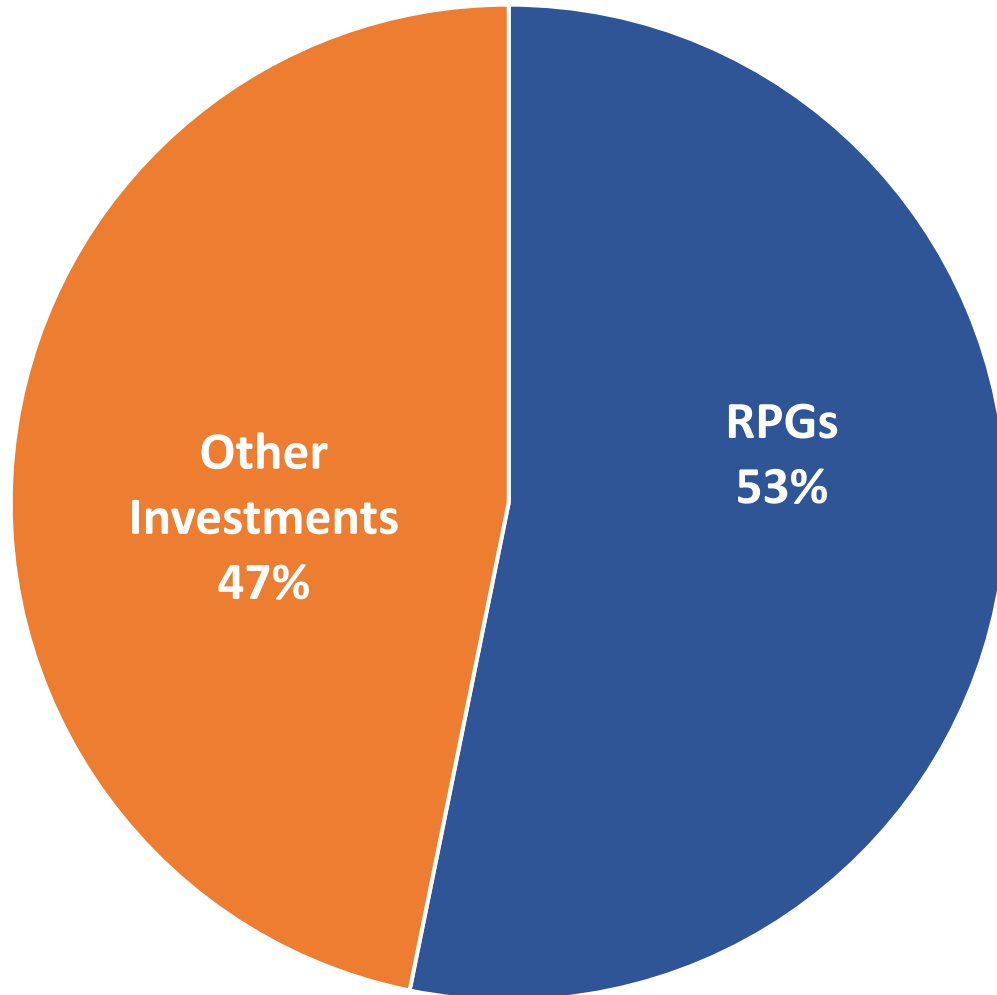


# How does NCI spend its money? Based on FY22 actuals and excludes Cancer Moonshot



- NCI supports a lot of research and other activities that are outside the RPG pool
- A few non-RPG activities: Cancer center support grants, SPORES, training

# NCI budget increased ~\$1,072 M 2018-2022; distribution of the increase between RPGs and non-RPGs\*



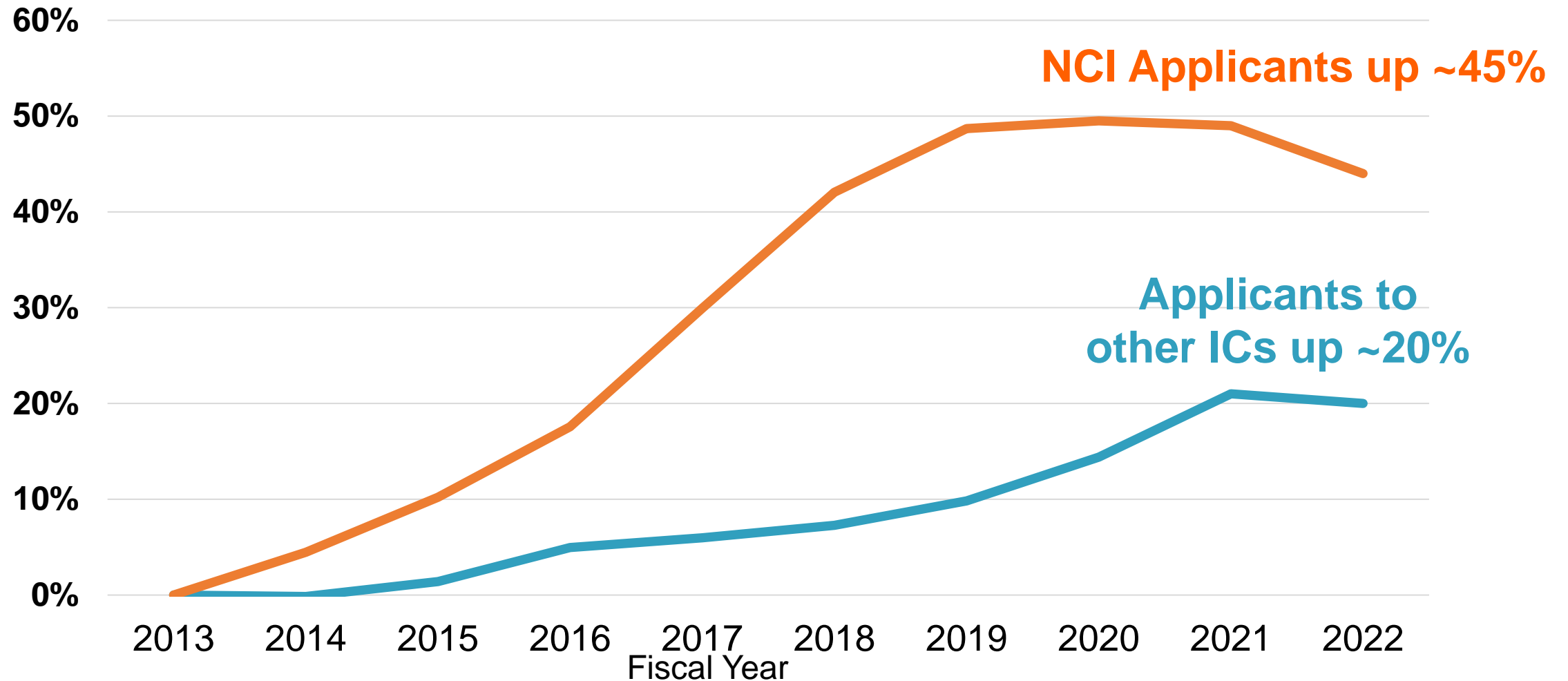
- The RPG portion of NCI's total budget increased from ~41% to ~44% between 2018 and 2022
- The RPG percentage is projected to increase further in 2023

# RPG pool trends



# Increase in Unique NCI R01/R37 Applicants

Data include all MPI/PIs

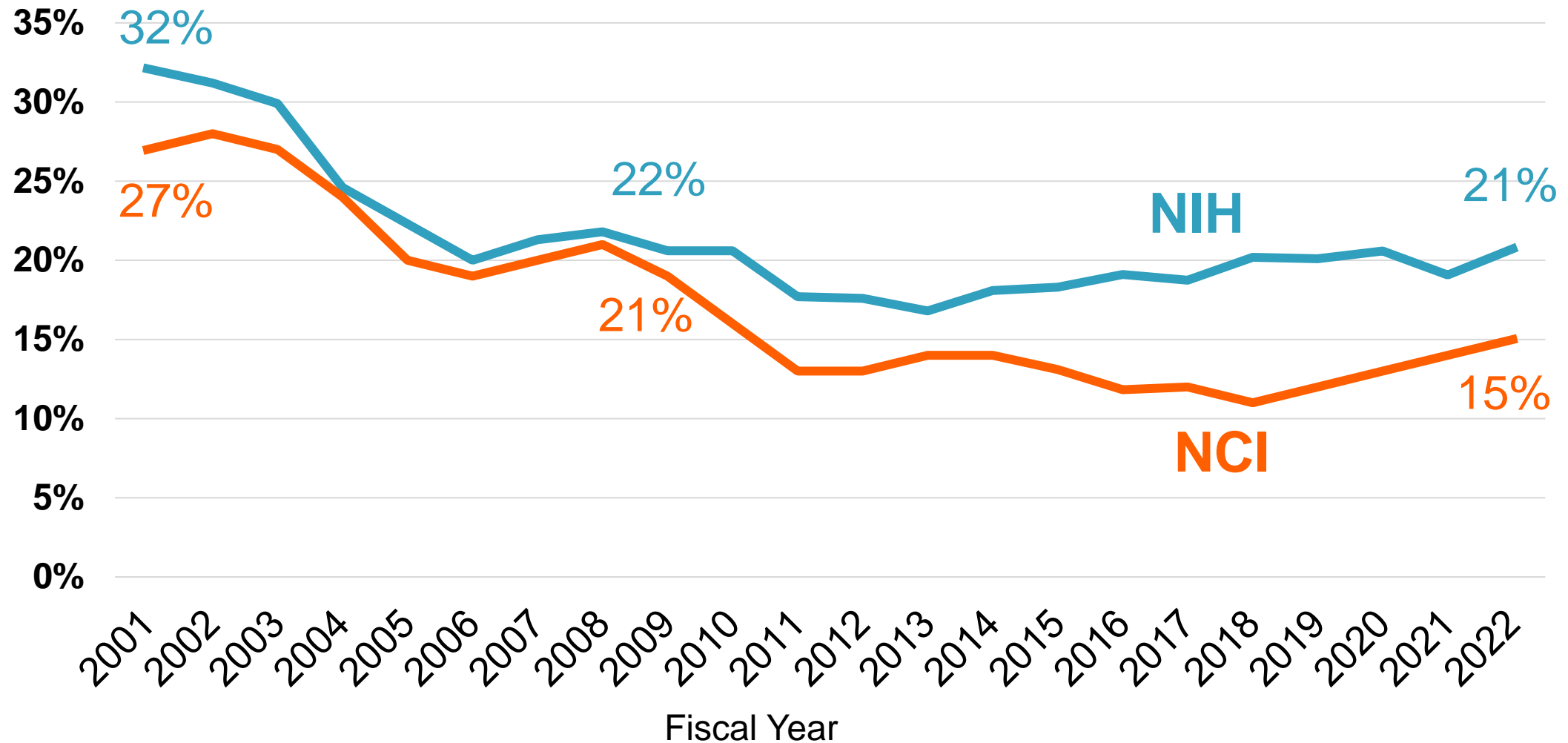


Sources: IMPACII analysis of PIs of R01/R37 applications (type 1, 2, 9)



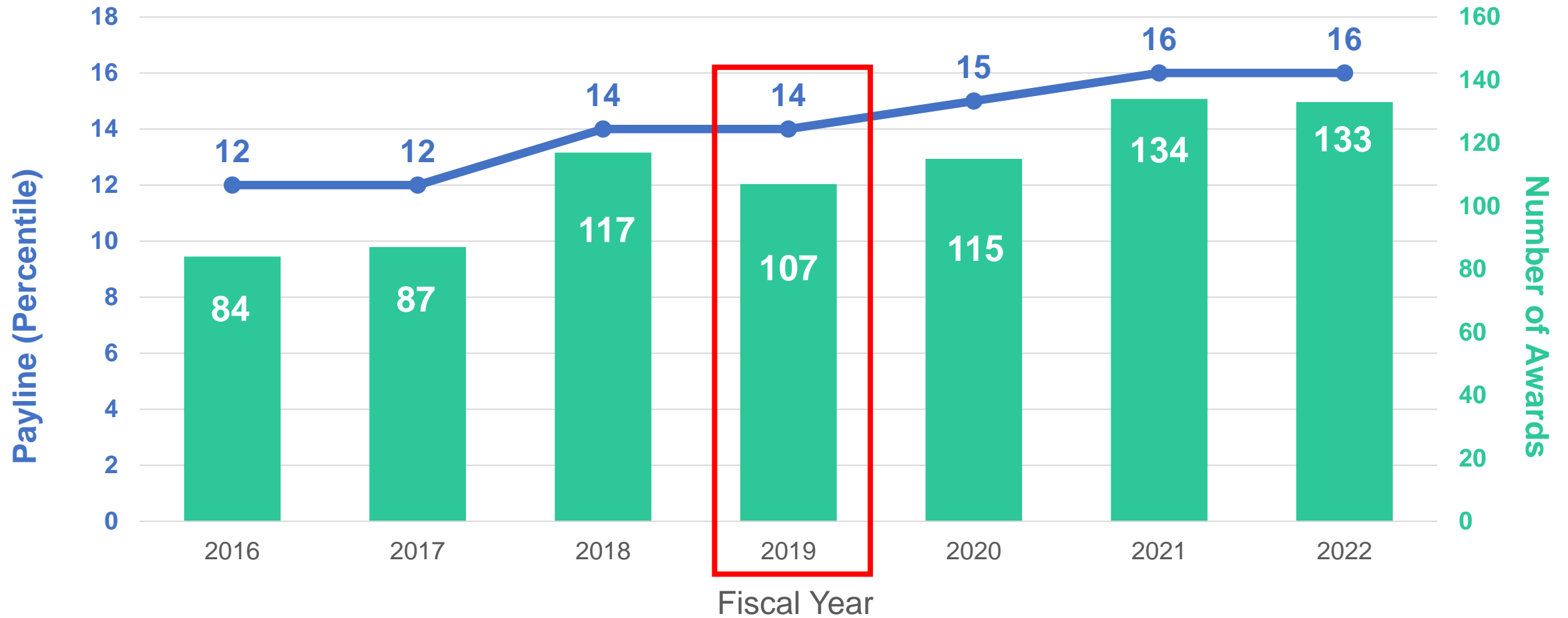
# Success Rates for NIH & NCI Grant Applications

Data include all RPGs, including SBIR/STTR



Sources: NIH Data Book <http://report.nih.gov/nihdatabook/index.aspx> and supplemental tables available in RePORT.

# Early-Stage Investigators (ESI): R01/R37 payline, awards\* 2016 – 2022

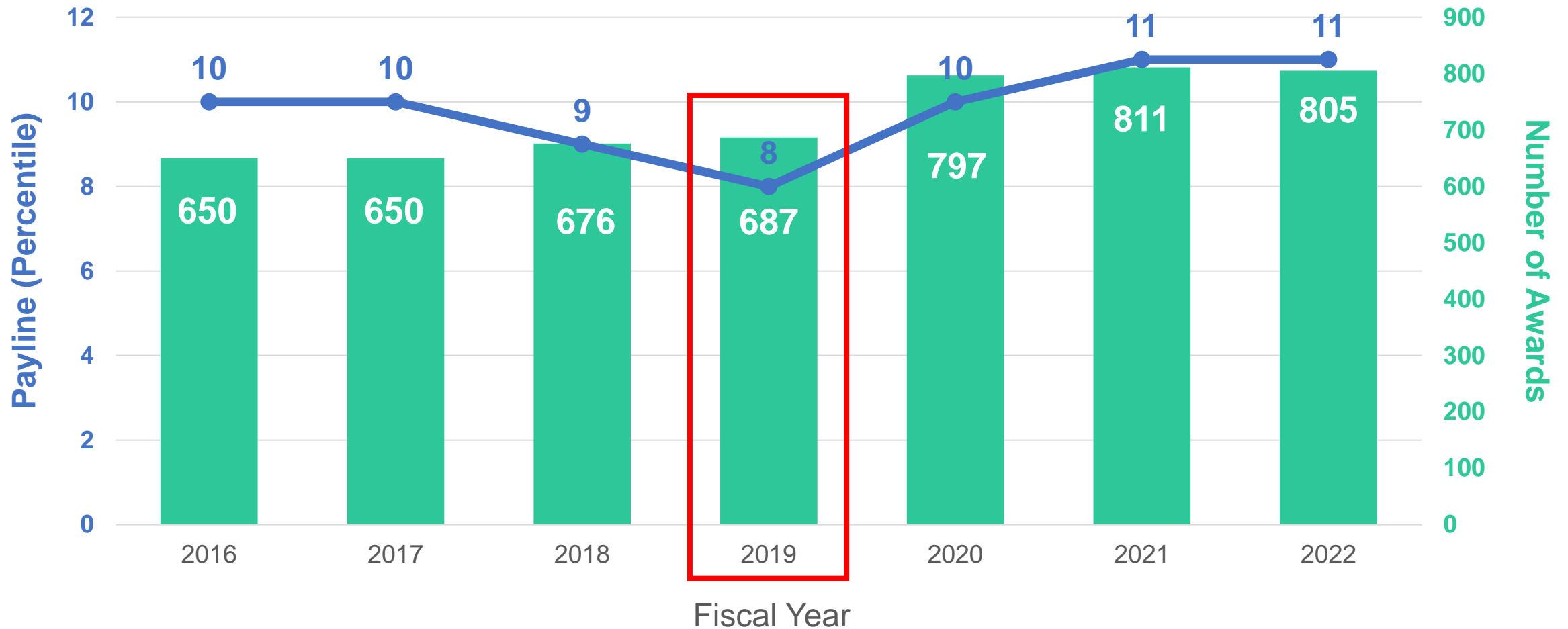


\*Unsolicited Applications

2016-2021 from <https://gsspubssl.nci.nih.gov/blog/articles>

2022 from NCI Office of Extramural Finance & Information Analysis

# Established Investigators: R01 **payline**, **awards\*** 2016 - 2022



*\*Unsolicited Applications*

2016-2021 from <https://gsspubssl.nci.nih.gov/blog/articles>

2022 from NCI Office of Extramural Finance & Information Analysis

# Considerations for FY23



# NCI Research Project Grants (RPG) Funding Policy for FY 2023

Competing Grants		Non-Competing Grants
TYPE	PAYLINE	
<b>R01</b> Grants for Established and New Investigators	<b>12th Percentile</b>	Will be funded at the <b>98%</b> of the committed level
<b>R01</b> Grants for Early-Stage Investigators (ESIs)	<b>17th Percentile</b>	<b>Exempt from 2% reduction:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>NRSAs</i></li> <li>• <i>Career</i></li> <li>• <i>Cancer &amp; Continuing Education</i></li> <li>• <i>Training</i></li> <li>• <i>P30 Cancer Centers</i></li> <li>• <i>AIDS related grants</i></li> <li>• <i>Conference</i></li> <li>• <i>R00, R03, R50</i></li> <li>• <i>SBIR/STTR awards</i></li> </ul>
<b>R21</b> Exploratory Grants	<b>9th Percentile</b>	

# Some RPG pool funding categories & priorities

- Each year, there are two overall investment categories within the RPG pool
  - 1) Competing (new) awards; 2) Non-competing (out-year) awards
- To prioritize funding more new awards, NCI generally funds only the first year of the awards when they are made
  - Almost all awards are for >1 year; the average length is ~5 years

# Funding competing and non-competing RPG awards

- **Two main funding sources**
  - Turnover of funds from non-competing RPG awards completed in the prior year
  - Addition of funds from the NCI appropriation, if turnover dollars are insufficient
- **The dollars derived from completed awards are lower than what is needed;** three factors account for this shortfall
  - *Number of completed awards:* smaller than number of competing awards
  - *Inflation:* the average cost of each competing award will be higher than average cost of each completed award
  - *Out-year costs of multiyear awards*
- Therefore NCI increases its annual investment in the RPG pool

# Funding non-competing RPG awards at <100% of commitment level

- NCI considers this option only when funds from turnover of completed awards plus funds from NCI appropriation are insufficient
- In these situations, the overall issue is whether to prioritize making more awards, i.e., having a higher payline, or to prioritize funding non-competing grants at 100% commitment
- NCI usually prioritizes funding more competing awards



## Some dollar considerations

- Total RPG pool = \$2.924 billion at end of FY22
- R01/R37 = ~61% of total RPG pool
- Each new/competing payline percentile = ~\$33 million
- Each non-competing percent = ~\$21 million

# Summary

- NCI has prioritized RPG funding
  - >\$550 million has been added to RPG pool 2018-2022
  - A similar rate of increase is projected for 2023
- A considerable amount of extramural research funded by NCI is outside the RPG pool
  - NCI has not neglected the other parts of its research portfolio



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