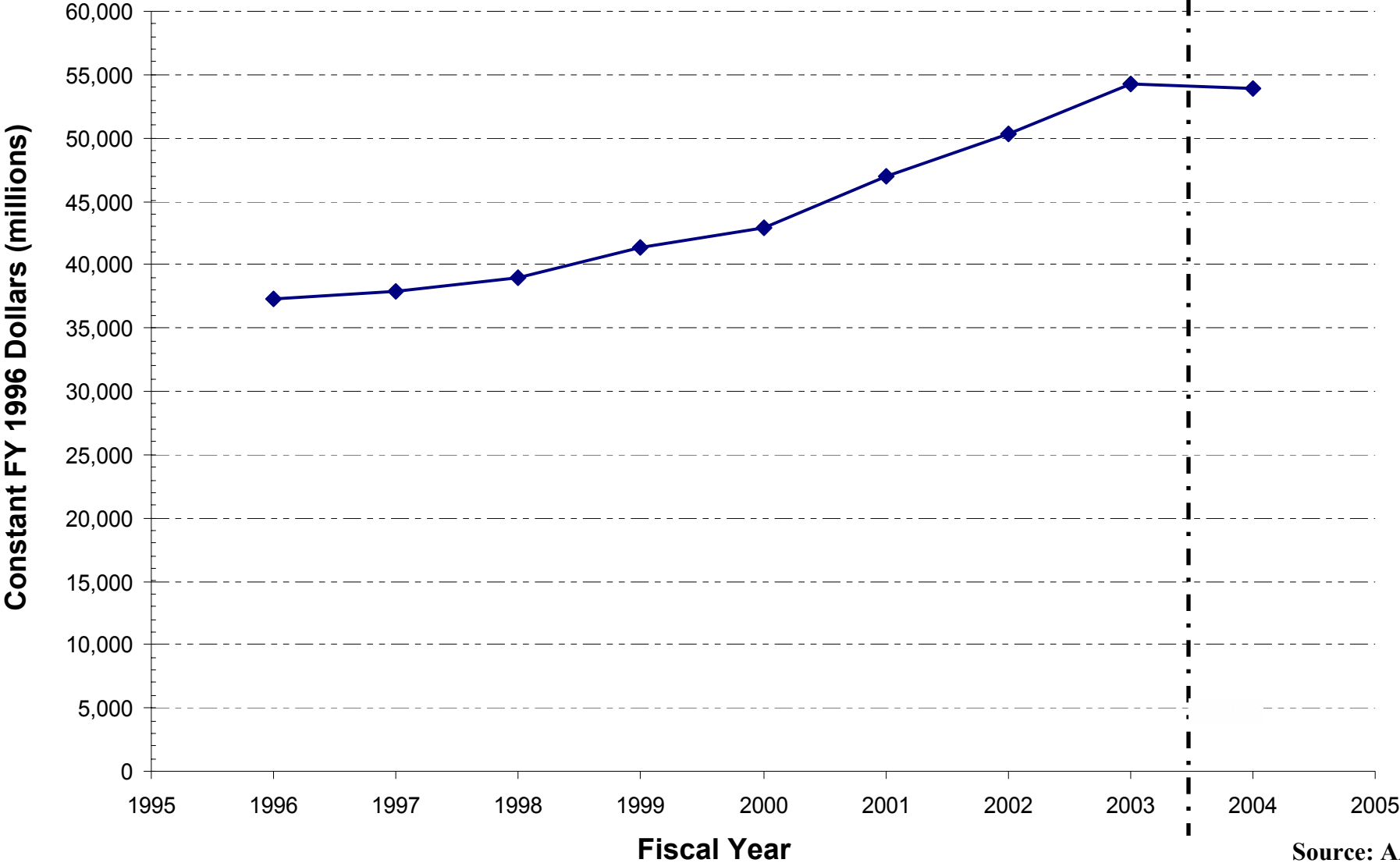


Why a USGS Coalition?

**Presentation to the
Renewable Natural Resources Foundation
September 16, 2003**

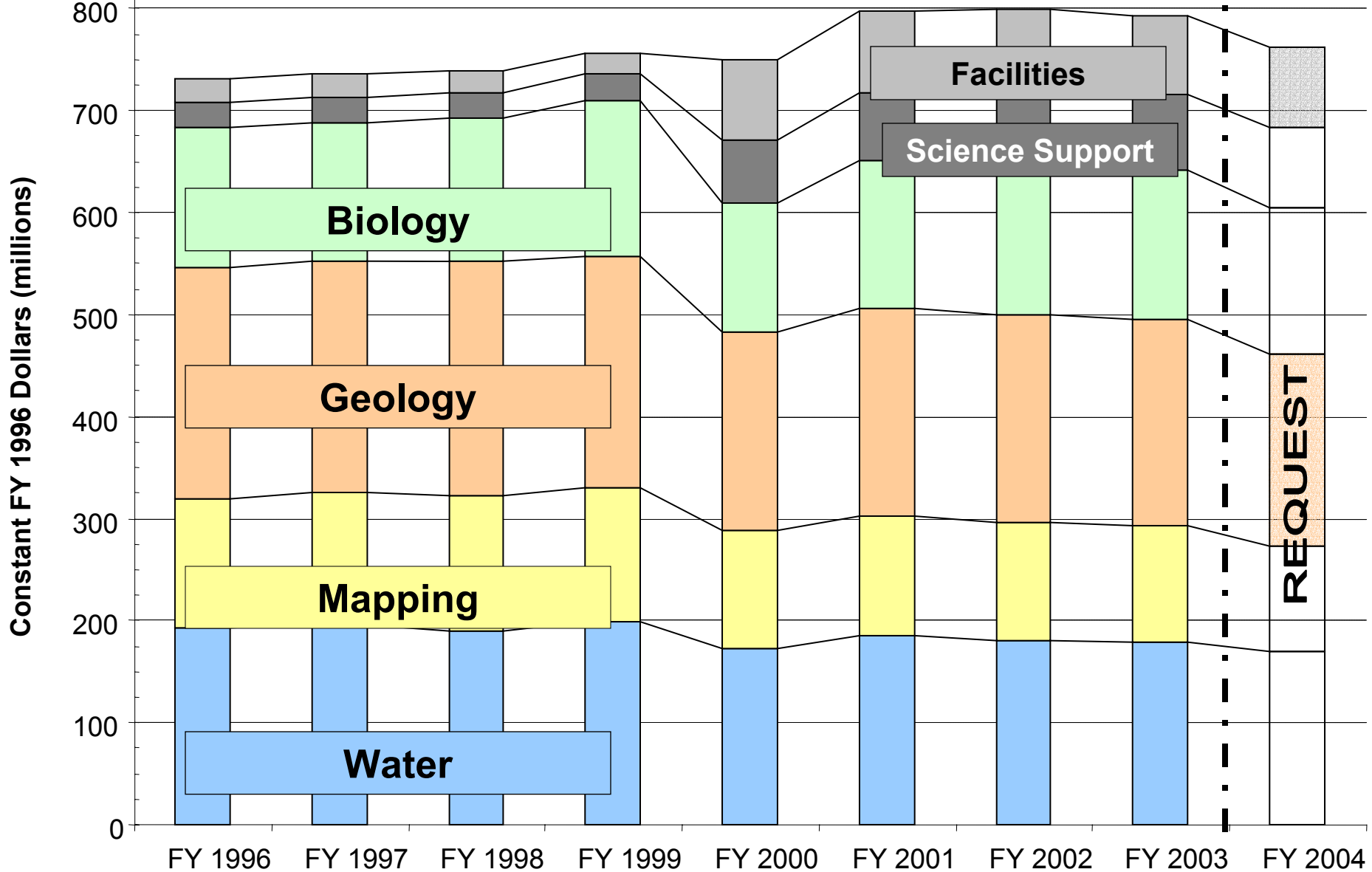
Total Federal R&D Funding in Constant Dollars

FY 1996 – FY 2004



USGS Funding in Constant Dollars

FY 1996 – FY 2004



USGS in the President's Fiscal Year 2004 Request

- **Total Request (\$895.5 million, down 2.6% from the FY 2003 enacted level)**
 - **Biological Resources Division down 0.6%**
 - **Geologic Division down 4.7%**
 - **National Mapping Division down 9.6%**
 - **Water Resources Division down 3.4%**

FY 2003 House Interior Appropriations Report Language

For the third year in a row the Committee has restored a number of high-priority research programs that were proposed for reduction or elimination by the Office of Management and Budget during the budget process.

Officials at the Office of Management and Budget seemingly believe that the Department of the Interior no longer needs science on which to base natural resource policy decisions.

This is not the position of the Congress as articulated in previous Interior bills, nor is it the position of the National Academy of Sciences which has provided recommendations on a program by program basis detailing the need to expand not eliminate the very programs that the Office of Management and Budget has targeted as unnecessary. **The Committee strongly urges the Department and OMB to continue to fund these critical science programs in the base budget in future years.**

House Report 107-564

Science agency coalitions

- Coalition for National Science Funding
- Coalition for National Security Research
- Energy Science Coalition
- Science-Engineering-Technology Work Group
- The Science Coalition
- Research!America

Coalition Activities

- Sign-on letters
- Visits
- Congressional exhibitions
- Awards
- Information sharing



Coalition for National Science Funding



The Science Coalition

USGS Coalition Mission Statement

The USGS Coalition is an alliance of organizations united by a commitment to the continued vitality of the unique combination of biological, geological, hydrological and mapping programs of the U.S. Geological Survey. The USGS provides independent, high-quality data, information, research support and assessments needed by federal, state, local and tribal policymakers, resource and emergency managers, engineers and planners, researchers and educators and the public. The Coalition supports increased federal investment in USGS programs that underpin responsible natural resource stewardship, improve resilience to natural and human-induced hazards, and contribute to the long-term health, security and prosperity of the nation.

Coalition Organizations

American Congress on Surveying and Mapping
American Fisheries Society
American Geological Institute
American Geophysical Union
American Institute of Biological Sciences
American Institute of Professional Geologists
American Society for Photogrammetry &
Remote Sensing
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Civil Engineers
American Water Resources Association
Association of American Geographers
Association of Ecosystem Research Centers
Association of Engineering Geologists
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Association of State Floodplain Managers
Council of Science Editors
Crop Science Society of America
Earthquake Engineering Research Institute
Ecological Society of America
Geological Society of America
Geo-Institute of ASCE
Geoscience Information Society
The Groundwater Foundation
International Association of Emergency
Managers
Interstate Council on Water Policy

Kansas Geological Survey
Natl. Assn. of State Universities & Land Grant
Colleges
Natl. Assn. of University Fisheries & Wildlife
Programs
National Council for Science and the
Environment
National Flood Determination Association
National Geographic Society
National Ground Water Association
National Institutes for Water Resources
Natural Science Collections Alliance
NatureServe
North American Benthological Society
OhioView
Ornithological Council
Phycological Society of America
Seismological Society of America
Society of Economic Geologists
Society of Environmental Toxicology &
Chemistry — North America
Soil Science Society of America
Universities' Council on Water Resources
University Consortium for Geographic Info.
Science
Western States Seismic Policy Council
The Wildlife Society

USGS Coalition: Addressing a Funding Shortfall

"One-pager" -- Coalition Calling Card

The **USGS Coalition** is an alliance of organizations united by a commitment to the continued vitality of the unique combination of biological, geological, hydrological and mapping programs of the U.S. Geological Survey. The USGS provides independent, high-quality data, information, research support and assessments needed by federal, state, local and tribal policymakers, resource and emergency managers, engineers and planners, researchers and educators and the public. The Coalition supports increased federal investment in USGS programs that underpin responsible natural resource stewardship, improve resilience to natural and human-induced hazards, and contribute to the long-term health, security and prosperity of the nation.

Established by Congress as a branch of the Department of the Interior in 1879, **the USGS today has a truly national mission** that extends beyond the boundaries of the nation's public lands to encompass the homes of all citizens through natural hazards monitoring, drinking-water studies, biological and geological resource assessments, and other activities. The USGS has nearly 400 offices, located across the nation in every state. To aid in its interdisciplinary investigations, the USGS works with over 2,000 federal, state, local, and private agencies.

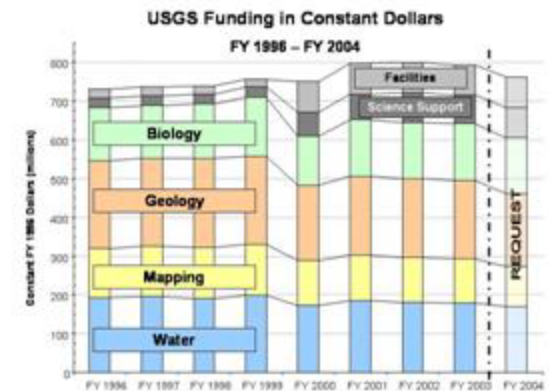
Funding Shortfall

During the past eight years, total federal spending for non-defense research and development has risen by nearly half from \$37 billion to almost \$55 billion in constant dollars. By contrast, **funding for the USGS has been nearly flat**, as can be seen in the accompanying chart. Even this flat funding for the Survey reflects the restoration by Congress of proposed budget cuts.

In language accompanying last year's spending bill, the House Appropriations Committee strongly urged the Administration **"to continue to fund these critical science programs** in the base budget in future years." For its part, the Senate Appropriations Committee urged the Administration "to bear in mind the expressed public support across the United States for the Survey's programs."

The need for science in support of public policy decision-making has never been greater. USGS scientists and engineers produce knowledge and geospatial and other types of data that support water, energy and mineral resource management, wildlife and ecosystem management, and protection and prevention measures for natural disasters.

In order to meet the tremendous needs of the future, **more investment is needed.** That investment should be used to strengthen USGS partnerships, improve monitoring networks, produce high-quality digital geospatial data and deliver the best possible science to address societal problems and inform decision makers.



Sign-on Letter to House-Senate Conferees for FY 2004 Interior Appropriations

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We thank you for your strong support of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in H.R. 2691, restoring proposed cuts and providing additional resources over the previous year. We urge you to maintain the \$935.7 million level in the upcoming conference with the Senate. We further encourage you to support an additional increase that will help USGS meet the tremendous need for science in support of public policy decision-making.

We appreciate the report language emphasizing the importance of USGS programs and recognizing the need to support cooperative initiatives. More investment is needed to strengthen USGS partnerships, improve monitoring networks, produce high-quality digital geospatial data and deliver the best possible science to address societally important problems.

FY 2005 Budget Statement

What's the bang for 1 billion bucks?

- **Strengthen partnership programs**
- **Expand and enhance monitoring networks**
- **Invest in place-based information**
- **Support Department of the Interior science needs**

Strengthen partnership programs

- Streamgange network
- National Map
- Regional earthquake networks
- BRD and WRD co-op programs
- Water resource research institutes
- Geologic mapping
- Expanded university partnership programs in mineral resources and other areas.

FY 2004 House Interior Appropriations Report Language

The Department [of the Interior] has placed a high-priority on both cooperative programs and programs that are outsourced to the private sector. For the most part, the programs that are being proposed for reduction or elimination in fiscal year 2004 are the very programs that meet these criteria. More than any other Bureau in the Department, the Survey has been a leader in the development of cooperative programs and outsourcing its activities. The Committee believes that Bureaus that are successful in implementing these policies should be rewarded and not penalized.

House Report 108-195

Expand and enhance monitoring networks

- Advanced National Seismic System
- National Water Quality Assessment
- Streamgauge network
- Volcano and landslide monitoring,
- GAP program in BRD

Invest in Place-Based Information

- National Biological Information Infrastructure
- National Map
- Energy and mineral resource assessments
- NAWQA

Support Department of the Interior Science Needs

- This theme reflects the budget-constrained tension between the USGS's need to provide science to support the land and resource management decisions of its sister bureaus and the importance of fulfilling its national mission

Priorities *Appear* to Align Well With USGS Science Plans

- NAWQA
- Water availability
- Advanced National Seismic System
- Volcanoes and landslides
- National Map
- LANDSAT data continuity mission
- Status and trends in biology (NAWQA for plants & animals)
- Department of the Interior science
- Fire response and mitigation (primarily satellite monitoring)
- Gateway to Earth geospatial information clearinghouse
- Rehabilitation of existing facilities
- Rent (part of uncontrollable costs)

Learn more at www.usgscoalition.org

USGS Coalition Homepage - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address <http://www.usgscoalition.org> Go Links >>



USGS Coalition

[Coalition Members](#) [Web Resources](#) [Coalition Documents](#) [Appropriations Update](#)

Mission

The USGS geological, research su planners, re responsible security and

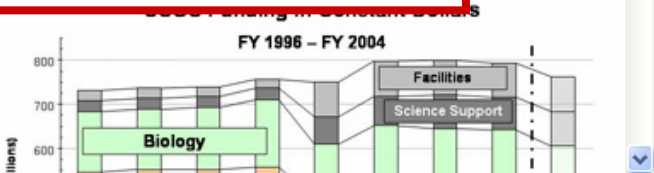
- **List of coalition organizations**
- **One-pager text and graphics**
- **Acrobat (PDF) file of one-pager**
- **Links to National Research Council reports**
- **Appropriations update**

biological, information, engineers and underpin health,

Address

Established

USGS today has a truly national mission that extends beyond the boundaries of the nation's public lands to encompass the homes of all citizens through natural hazards monitoring, drinking-water studies, biological and geological resource assessments, and other activities. The USGS has nearly 400 offices, located across the nation in every state. To aid in its interdisciplinary investigations, the USGS works with over 2,000



Fiscal Year	Biology	Science Support	Facilities
1996	~650	~100	~100
1997	~680	~100	~100
1998	~700	~100	~100
1999	~720	~100	~100
2000	~750	~100	~100
2001	~780	~100	~100
2002	~800	~100	~100
2003	~820	~100	~100
2004	~850	~100	~100

Internet