

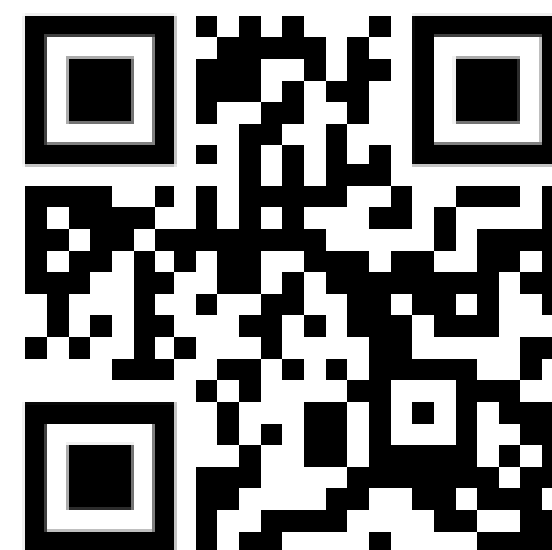
NASEM
Strategic Council
for Research
Excellence,
Integrity, and Trust

March 5, 2025



Federal Regulations Are Weighing Down
U.S. Researchers and Innovation

Matt Owens
President



www.cogr.edu



www.linkedin.com/company/cogr

501 (c) (3) nonprofit association of leading research-intensive universities and affiliated medical centers and nonprofit research institutes

228 Members in 48 States & DC

161 Carnegie Research I Institutions

84 Private Research
Institutions

144 Public Research
Institutions

22 Affiliated Academic Hospitals and
Research Institutes

\$54 Billion+ in combined
federal expenditures
(2023 NSF HERD Survey)

**96% of eligible
institutions among
top 100 & 84% of
eligible institutions
among the top 200
institutions are
COGR members
(as measured in
federal research
expenditures)**

30+ Hispanic Serving
Institutions (HSI)

1 Historically Black College
& University (HBCU)

1 Predominantly Black
Institution (PBI)



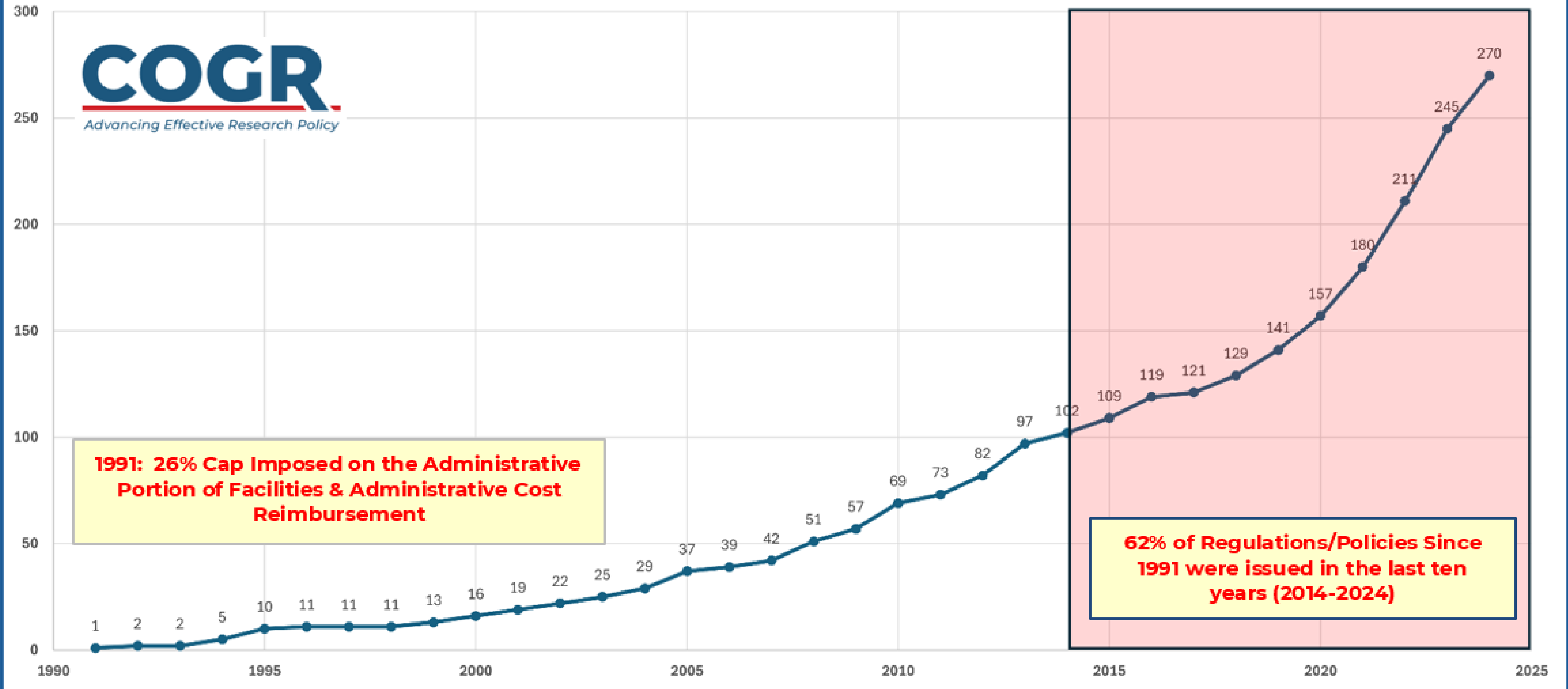
COGR is the national authority on federal policies and regulations affecting U.S. research institutions.

Mission Statement

To empower an unparalleled U.S. academic research ecosystem by advancing sound federal policies and regulations that are vital to U.S. science and innovation leadership and our nation's health, security, and prosperity.

Changes in Federal Requirements Since 1991

Regulations & Policies Adopted or Substantially Modified & Changes in Interpretation Affecting Federal Research. Cumulative Since 1991.



Regulatory Burden: Numerous Calls for Action

- Federal Research: Agencies Need to Enhance Policies to Address Foreign Influence GAO-21-130 <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-21-130> including recommendations across 5 agencies, to address non-financial COI per NSPM-33 (2020).
- Federal Demonstration Partnership [2018 Faculty Workload Survey](#) (2018).
- [Reforming Animal Research Regulations: Workshop Recommendations to Reduce Regulatory Burden](#) (2017)
- National Academies report [Optimizing the Nation's Investment in Academic Research](#) (2016)
- Government Accountability Office report [Federal Research Grants: Opportunities Remain for Agencies to Streamline Administrative Requirements](#) (2016)
- [21st Century Cures Act](#), section 2034, Reducing Administrative Burden for Researchers (2016)
- National Science Board report [Reducing Investigators' Administrative Workload for Federally Funded Research](#) (2014)
- Federal Demonstration Partnership [Faculty Workload Survey Reports](#) (2012)
- National Academies report [Research Universities and the Future of America](#) (2012)
- [NIH Initiative to Reduce Regulatory Burden](#) (1999)

COGR Recommendations to New Administration to Reduce Red Tape

- **Create a Central Mechanism to Streamline and Harmonize Research Regulations**
 - Establish the Research Policy Board
 - Establish a position within OSTP for an associate director for the academic research enterprise
- **Utilize Unified Frameworks to Regulate Key Aspects of Fundamental Research**
 - Institute an OSTP led cross-agency initiative to develop a unified regulatory framework to govern aspects of federally sponsored fundamental research
 - Examples: “Common Rule” and the “Uniform Grant Guidance”
- **Calibrate Research Regulations to Risk**
- **Streamline and Harmonize Specific Regulations**
 - Applications for federal research funding, Biosketches, Fixed-amount awards, and more



“Reducing red tape is an imperative that will help accelerate scientific discoveries and the pace of innovation. It is also part of a winning strategy for reinvigorating the Partnership and research institutions and their vital contributions to America’s security, health, and economic competitiveness.”

- COGR 1/29/25 letter to President Trump

COGR

Image credit: Microsoft Copilot