UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

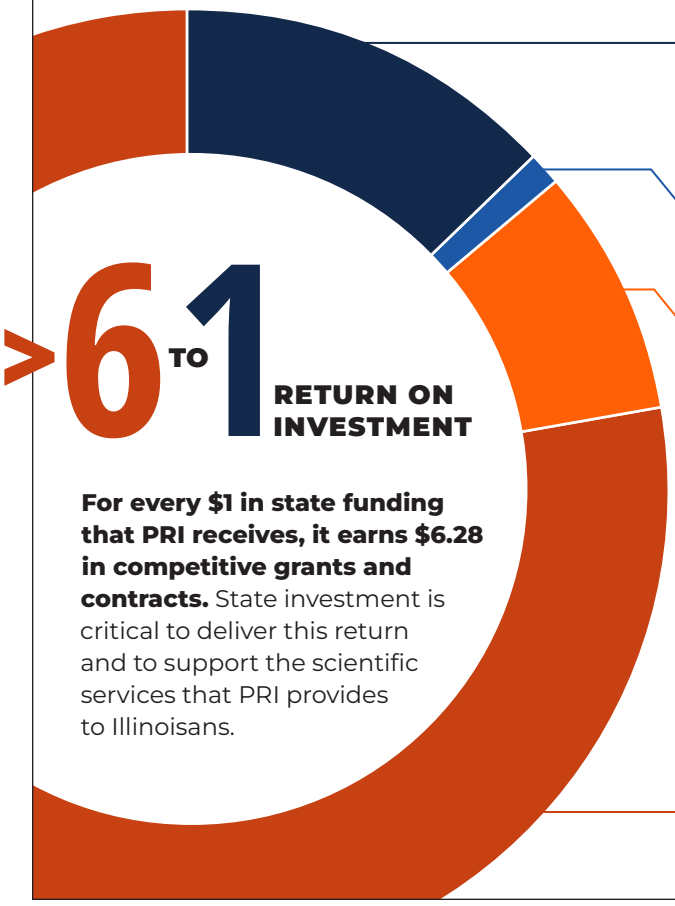
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

PRI CONDUCTS CRITICAL RESEARCH FOR A SOCIETY IN TRANSITION

PRI's wide range of scientific expertise gives it a unique ability to address the complex issues arising from extreme weather hazards, loss of wetlands, environmental changes (such as PFAS loading), and our transition to new forms of energy. PRI scientists provide expertise, data, and information; guide policy and planning efforts; create new technology; and offer education and training to benefit the people, economy, and environment of Illinois and beyond.

PRI IS HOME TO FIVE STATE SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS

Illinois Natural History Survey • Illinois State Archeological Survey
Illinois State Geological Survey • Illinois State Water Survey
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center



>6 TO 1 RETURN ON INVESTMENT

For every $1 in state funding that PRI receives, it earns $6.28 in competitive grants and contracts. State investment is critical to deliver this return and to support the scientific services that PRI provides to Illinoisans.

PRI STATE FUNDING

STATE GRF = $15,373,200

PRI fulfills a unique mission, described in state statutes, to provide scientific services to Illinois policymakers, government agencies, communities, and industries. **Because of this role, PRI is funded by a distinct line item in the state budget.**

SPECIAL STATE APPROPRIATIONS

The **Used Tire Management Fund ($400,000)** and **Emergency Public Health Fund ($300,000)** support PRI's medical entomology team, which conducts statewide surveillance of mosquitoes — vectors for viruses that infect both people and animals, such as West Nile, St. Louis encephalitis, La Crosse, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, Zika, and dengue.

The **Hazardous Waste Research Fund ($500,000)** supports projects that develop solutions for pollution prevention, waste management, groundwater protection, and other environmental issues.

INSTITUTIONAL (ICR) & SERVICE FUNDS/OTHER = $9,920,200*

GRANTS & CONTRACTS = $91,772,129*

* FY25 amount. Exact FY26 amount not yet available.

SOCIETY in TRANSITION

CLIMATE TRANSITION + ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

ENERGY TRANSITION

A SELECTION OF THE MANY TOPICS & ISSUES PRI STUDIES

HEALTH & HERITAGE

Disease prevention
- medical entomology (mosquito & tick vectors)
- zoonotic diseases
- One Health

Water supply & quality
- groundwater modeling
- advanced mapping

Emerging contaminants
- per- & polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
- pharmaceuticals & personal care products (PCPPs)
- microplastics

Hazards
- flooding
- mine subsidence

Cultural heritage study & preservation
- predictive modeling

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Energy
- grid infrastructure
- compute-energy-water nexus
- critical minerals
- carbon capture, storage, & removal
- geothermal/ thermogeology
- waste to energy/biofuels

Transportation infrastructure support
- archaeological, environmental, & species assessments

Agriculture
- pest species
- crop growing conditions

Outdoor recreation
- game species

RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS

Climate & weather
- extreme weather
- drought

Biodiversity loss
- rare, threatened, and endangered species
- biological collections

Invasive species
- bigheaded carp

Vital habitats
- wetlands & other aquatic systems
- forests & prairies

Coastal environments
- shoreline erosion

Scientific discovery

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Applied research & applications

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At-scale solutions

↕

Economic development

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State to global impact

WITH AN EMPHASIS ON:

ENGAGEMENT

Public & Tribal partnerships
Industrial/corporate partners
Heritage partnerships
Student internships & research opportunities
K-12 outreach

COMMUNITY IMPACT & RESILIENCE

Accessible data & information
Stress & vulnerability assessment
Cultural landscape preservation

Prairie Research Institute
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

For more information about PRI and its work, contact Marc Miller, Deputy Director, at 217-244-5207 or marcm4@illinois.edu.