

# Georgia's Innovation Economy

The Bayh-Dole Act of 1980 enables universities to retain intellectual property rights to discoveries made with federal funding, spurring an explosion of innovation in the life sciences.

Academic technology transfer contributed **\$1.9 trillion** to U.S. industrial output from 1996-2020. The benefits of this innovation often stay local — **68% of university-licensed life science startups** remain within 60 miles of their founding university.

## The Life Sciences Sector in GA<sup>1</sup>



**\$22.1B**  
total economic impact



**76,021**  
jobs supported statewide



**+14%**  
increase in life science employment  
over last decade



**\$1.3B+**  
in state vendor spending

## Georgia Universities - By The Numbers<sup>2</sup>



**\$22.7B**  
in federal research  
Investment



**16,000**  
invention  
disclosures



**3,299**  
patents  
issued



**492**  
start-ups launched



**3,378**  
IP licenses

## What's at Stake

Misguided policies like **Most Favored Nation (MFN) policy** threaten to import foreign price controls that would undermine innovation in Georgia and risk **dismantling** the ecosystem that produces life-saving treatments.



<sup>1</sup> The Bayh-Dole Act's Role in Stimulating University-Led Regional Economic Growth, June 16, 2025; We Work For Health, In the States

<sup>2</sup> The Bayh-Dole Act's Role in Stimulating University-Led Regional Economic Growth, June 16, 2025



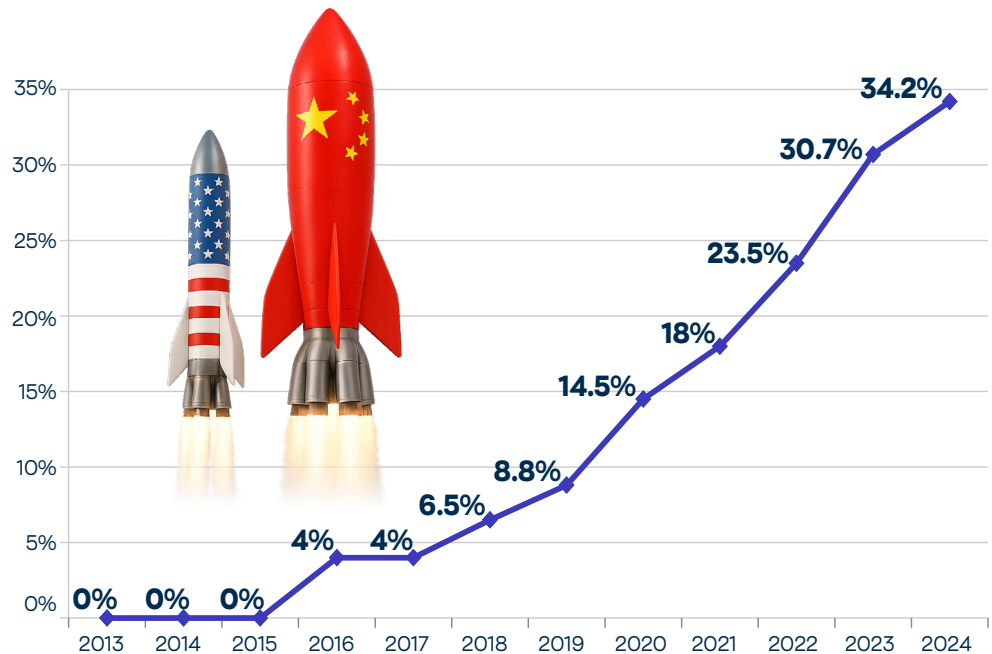
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## China on the Rise<sup>3</sup>

China recently surpassed the U.S. in the annual number of clinical trials, the latest sign of it closing in on America's leadership in the life sciences.

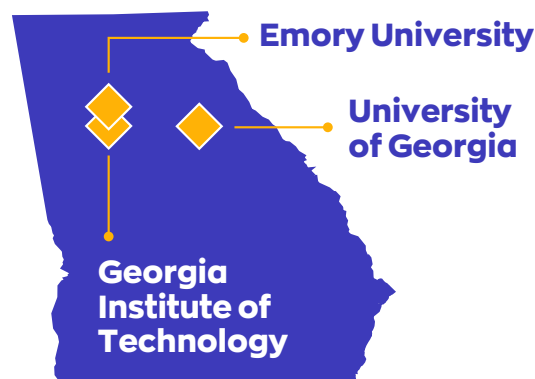
In 2014, **no China universities** were in the top 100 of the Academic Ranking of World Universities. The country had **13 such schools** last year — 34.2% of the United States' total (38).

Number of top 100 universities in China relative to the United States



**Georgia's innovation leadership depends on smart policy choices that make university-industry collaboration possible.**

## Anchor Universities Driving Growth



<sup>3</sup> China Surpasses US for Annual Number of Clinical Trials, Feb. 12, 2025;  
China is Rapidly Becoming a Leading Innovator in Advanced Industries, Sept. 2024