



American Society of Human Genetics

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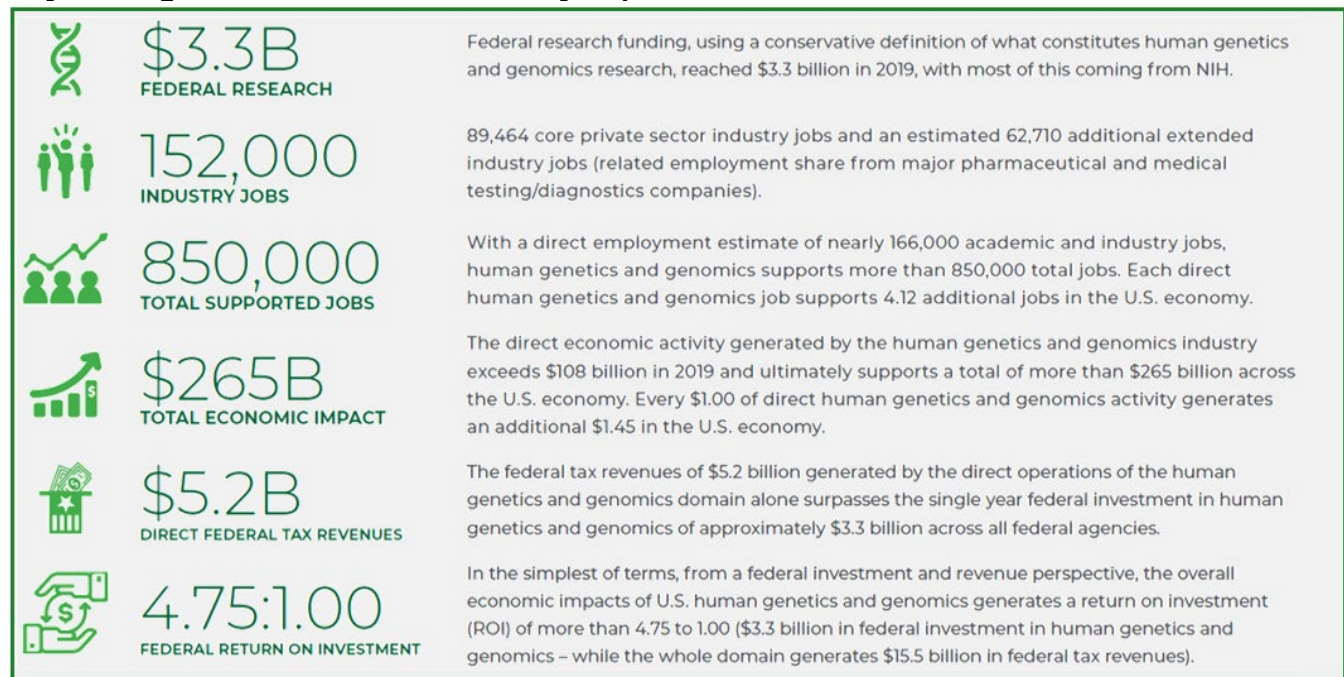
How to use the ASHG-TEconomy Report for Science Advocacy

Background Information

In support of [ASHG's Strategic Plan](#), the ASHG Board of Directors tasked the Government and Public Advocacy Committee (GPAC) with developing an action plan to increase awareness of, and support for, the value of genetics and genomics research among policymakers, and provide new resources for ASHG members to engage in advocacy. This [ASHG-commissioned report](#) on the economic and health impacts of genetics and genomics is part of the committee's Board-approved [Action Plan](#).

The GPAC led the project with contributions from ASHG leaders and other experts in the community through interviews to help define the scope of the report. Invitae and Regeneron provided additional funding support. Simon Tripp and Marty Grueber of TEconomy Partners, an economic development research firm, conducted the analysis. The authors employed IMPLAN, the standard economic impact model for the U.S. economy, in the study.

Key Findings from the ASHG-TEconomy Report



Using the Report for Advocacy

What policymakers need

- Policymakers in the U.S. Congress have many competing priorities, but always need information, anecdotes, accurate data, and local stories to help them stay informed about the states and districts that they represent. The local economy and the needs of their districts and states are always among the top priorities for policymakers.
- Policymakers need to hear from their constituents in order to understand the challenges they face and to make sound policy decisions on behalf of the people they represent.



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Speaking with policymakers about the report

- This report provides facts and figures that you can share with your policymakers. By combining with personal stories about your research and experience as a researcher, you can create a compelling advocacy narrative.
For example, you can pair the number of jobs created by investments in human genetics and genomics research with a story about how many jobs in the field are in your policymaker's state or district, or what a workday is like for someone like yourself with a job in genetics research. In this way, you can create a narrative that is real, personal, local, and meaningful to a policymaker.
- Sharing this report with your members of Congress is a way to start to build a trusted relationship.
The full report is an excellent resource for policymakers and their staff to have on-hand for more in-depth questions about human genetics and genomics when they arise. Successful advocacy is about building long-term relationships, and it is a major advocacy 'win' if you can become a trusted, go-to expert by your policymakers and their staff.

How to connect with your elected representatives in the U.S Congress

- Click [here](#) to let your elected representatives in the U.S. Congress know about the report.
- You can also call your representatives in Congress: [Find your representatives here](#)