



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture



BIOENERGY, CLIMATE,
AND ENVIRONMENT

NIFA Organic Programs Update

FOOD PRODUCTION
AND SUSTAINABILITY

YOUTH, FAMILY,
AND COMMUNITY

FOOD SAFETY
AND NUTRITION

INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMS

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NOSB Meeting 4 -28-2021

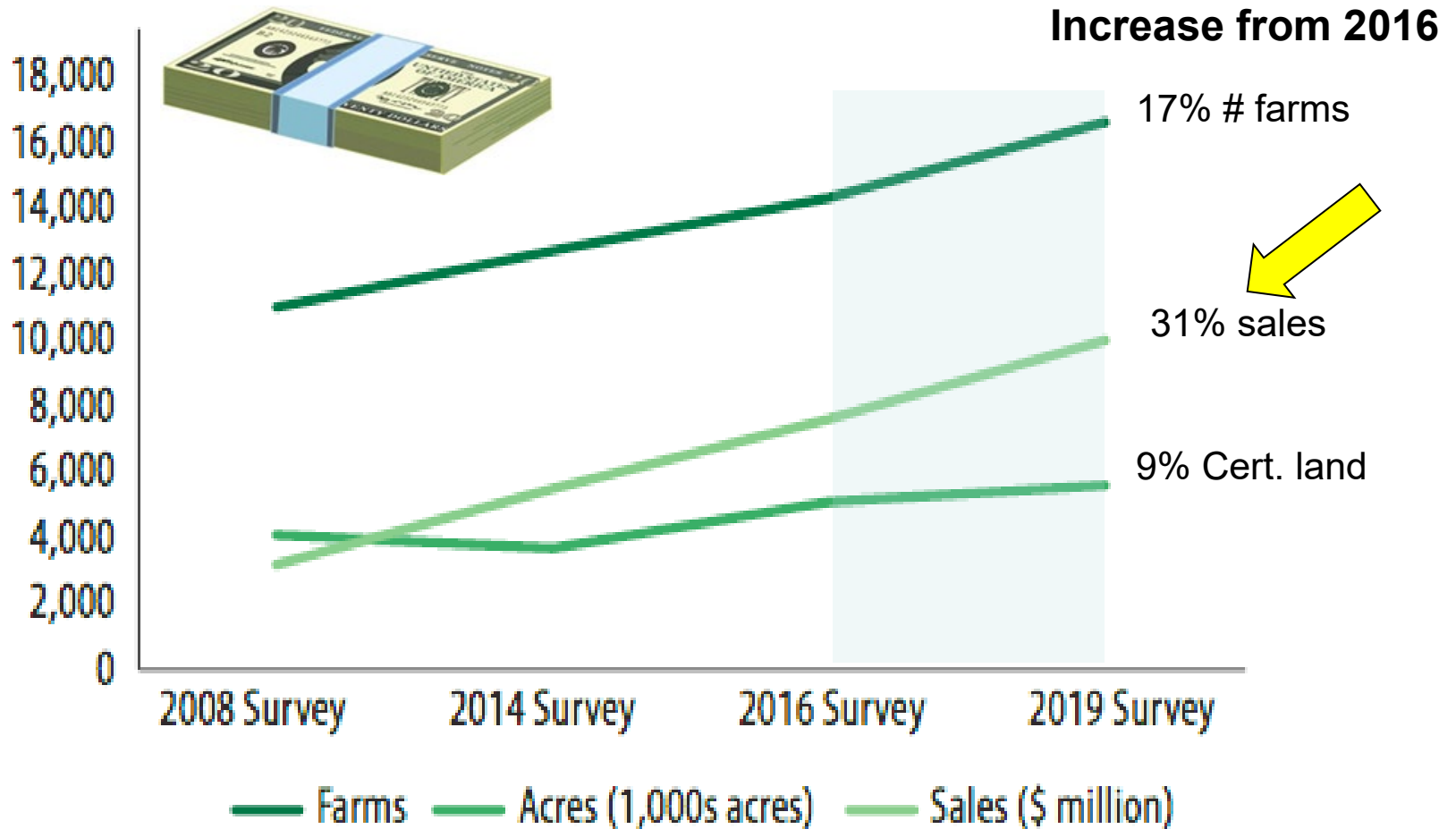
USDA

NIFA

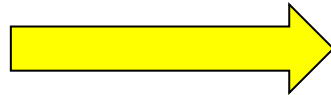
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Organic Farms, Acres, and Sales, 2008 to 2019

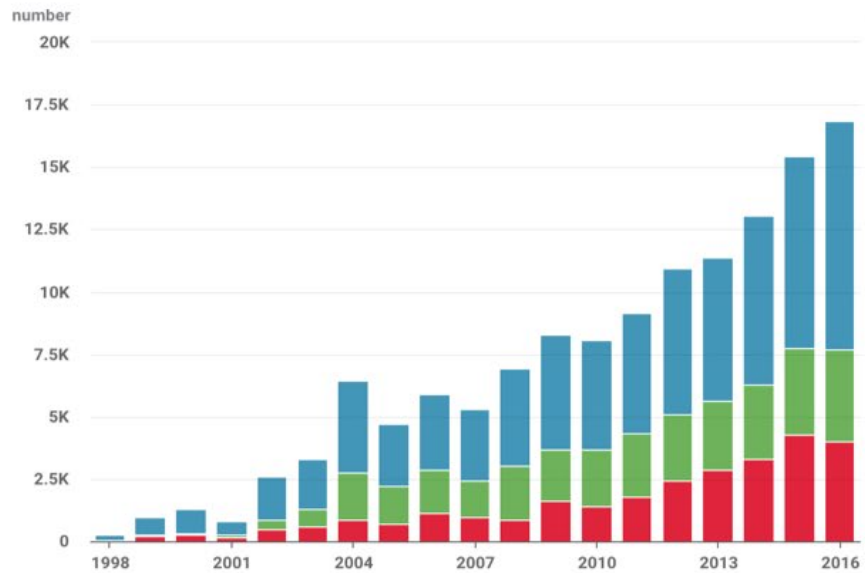


USDA NASS, 2019 Organic Survey (2017 Census of Agriculture)



Similar trends observed in Europe

Production and Processing Expansions Aid Organic Sector



Production Facilities - Europe

- Processed organic fruit and vegetables
- Processed organic meat and meat products
- Wine, organic

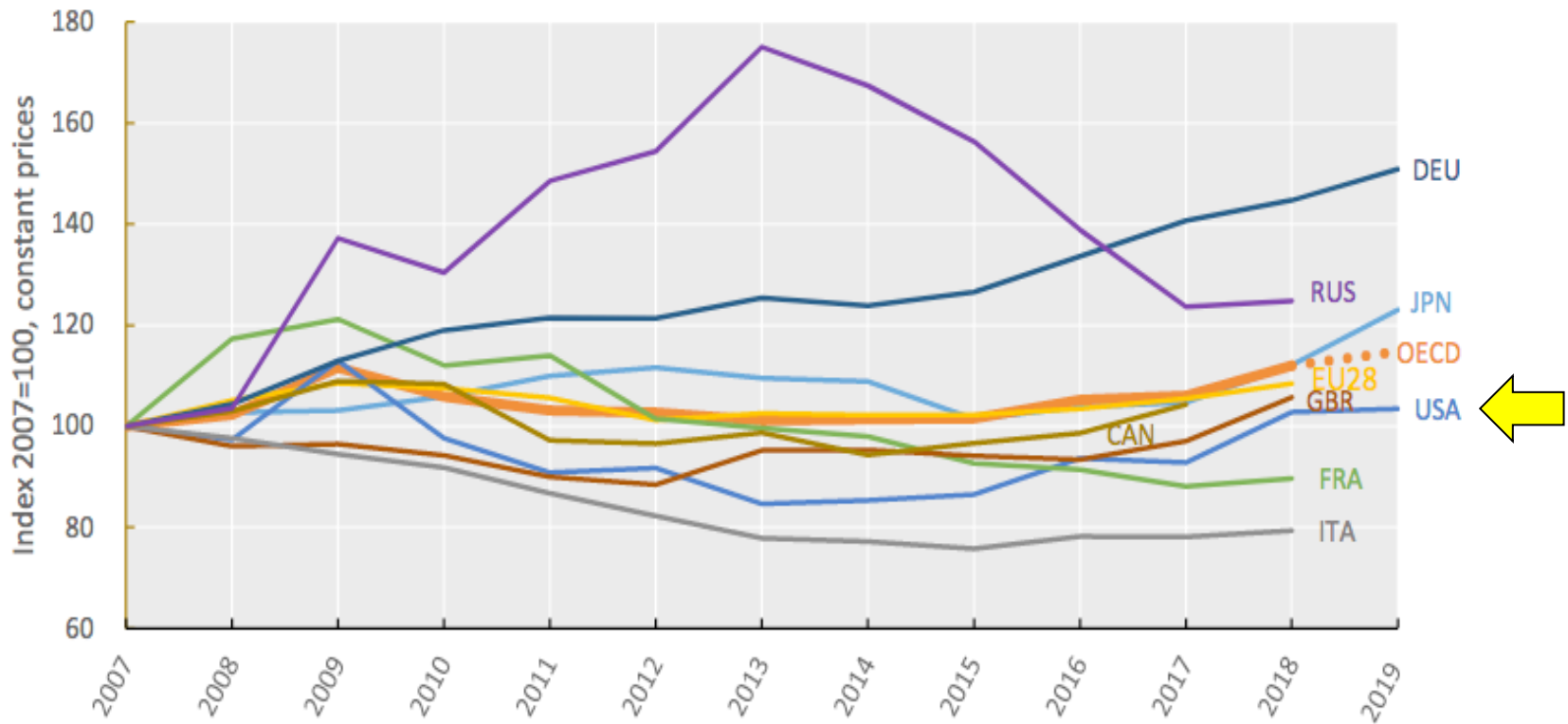
Registered Operators (Organic processors) - Europe

Data: EUROSTAT, Gro Intelligence

www.gro-intelligence.com

- **“Despite robust consumer demand, however, there is still limited research, education programs, and extension resources that support organic systems” (NSAC).**
 - *Limited investment in R&D*

Government R&D budget trends, selected economies, 2007-19





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The logo for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), featuring the letters "NIFA" in a large, white, sans-serif font against a background of stylized orange and yellow hills.

Strong investments in research and innovation is critical to the growth of the organic sector

Two USDA-NIFA programs have helped fill the gap by stimulating cutting-edge research to address critical challenges of the organic industry.

- *The Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI)*
- *The Organic Transitions (ORG)*

While the focus of this presentation is on these two programs, there are many other NIFA programs that fund organic agriculture projects.

- ***Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)***
- ***Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)***
- ***Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP)***
- ***Hatch program***



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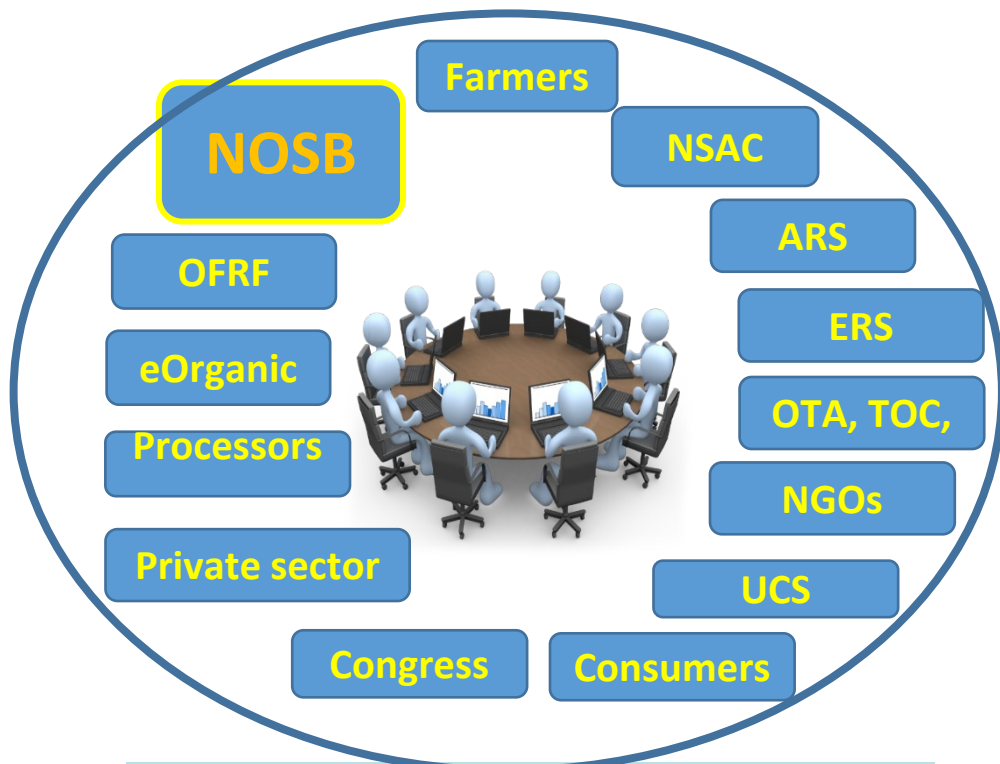
The logo for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), featuring the letters "NIFA" in a white, bold, sans-serif font. The background of the logo is a stylized landscape with rolling hills in shades of orange and yellow, and a dark silhouette of a mountain range in the background.

Many other USDA agencies make significant investments in organic agriculture either directly or through funding opportunities.

- ***Agriculture Research Service (ARS)***
- ***Economic Research Service (ERS)***
- ***Agriculture Marketing Service (AMS)***
- ***Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)***
- ***National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)***
- ***National Agricultural Library (NAL)***
-



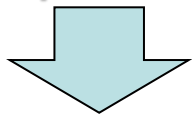
Challenges of the Organic Industry



True partnership in issue identification



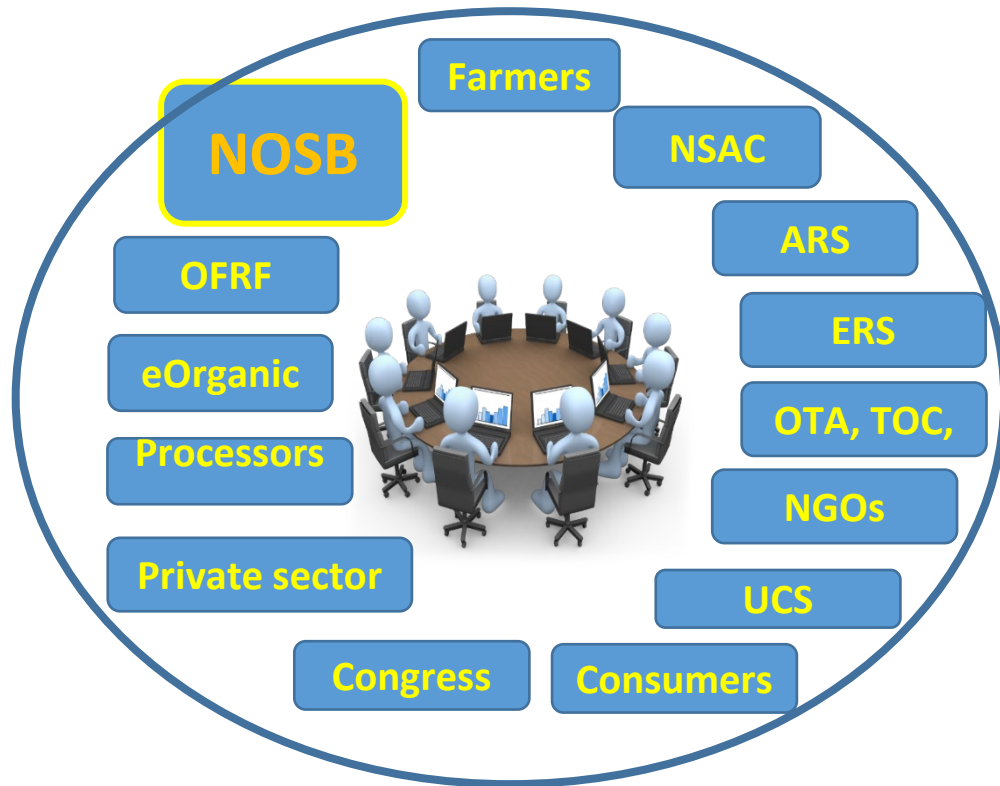
- *Farm bill*
- *National surveys*
- *Listening sessions*
- *Meetings*
- *White paper*
- *Inputs*



Issues span the entire supply chain from “farm to fork”



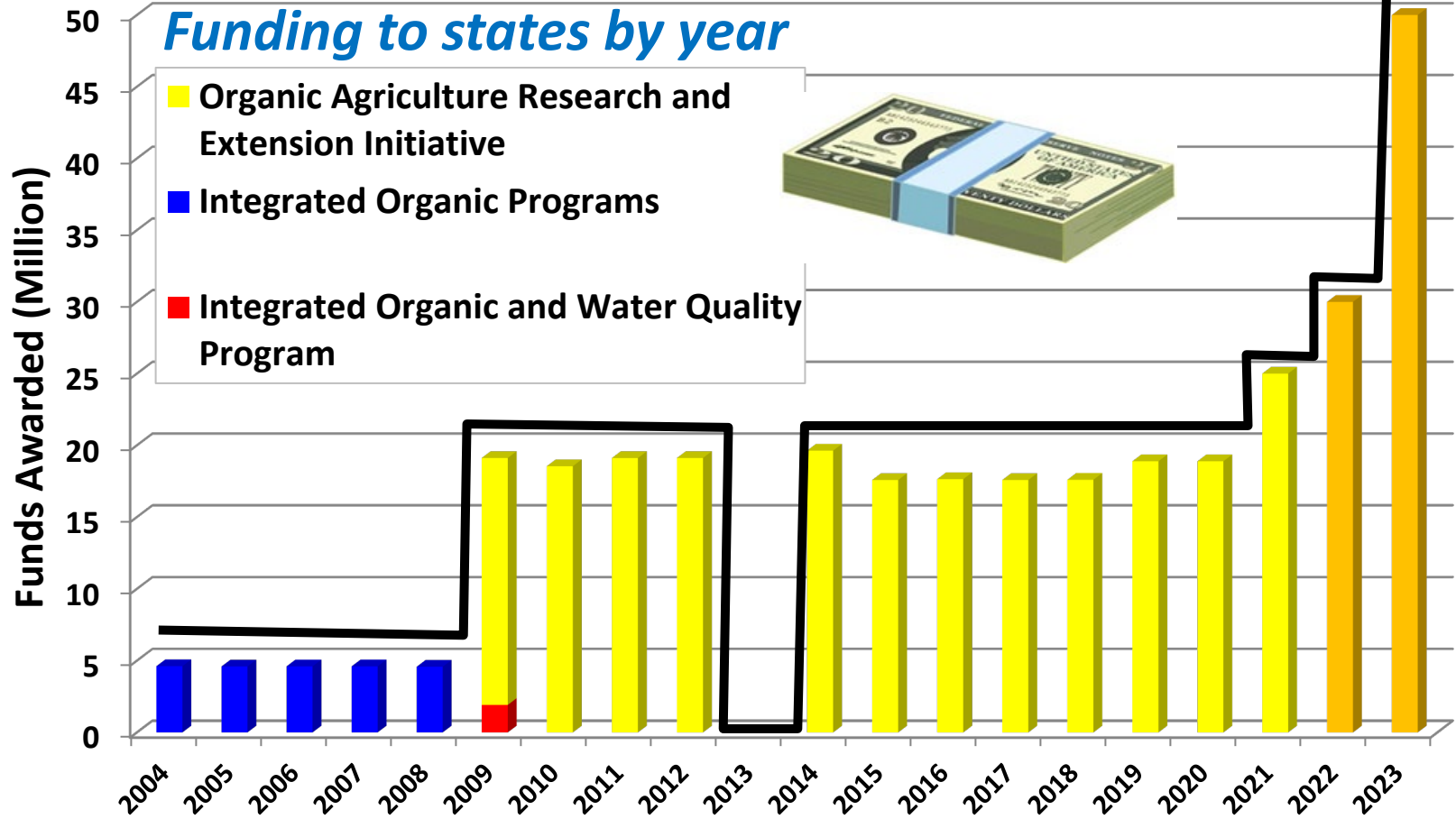
Action by the Industry



- *Issue identification*
- *Priority setting*
- *Work with USDA*
- *Work with congress*

Goal: Secure funding for Research, Education, and Extension

Action by Congress



OREI funding through multiple Farm Bills



Action by NIFA



- *Industry priorities translated into Request For Applications (RFA)*
- *Rigorous panel review process*
- *Scientific merit used for award selection*
- *Post-award management*



Action by NIFA

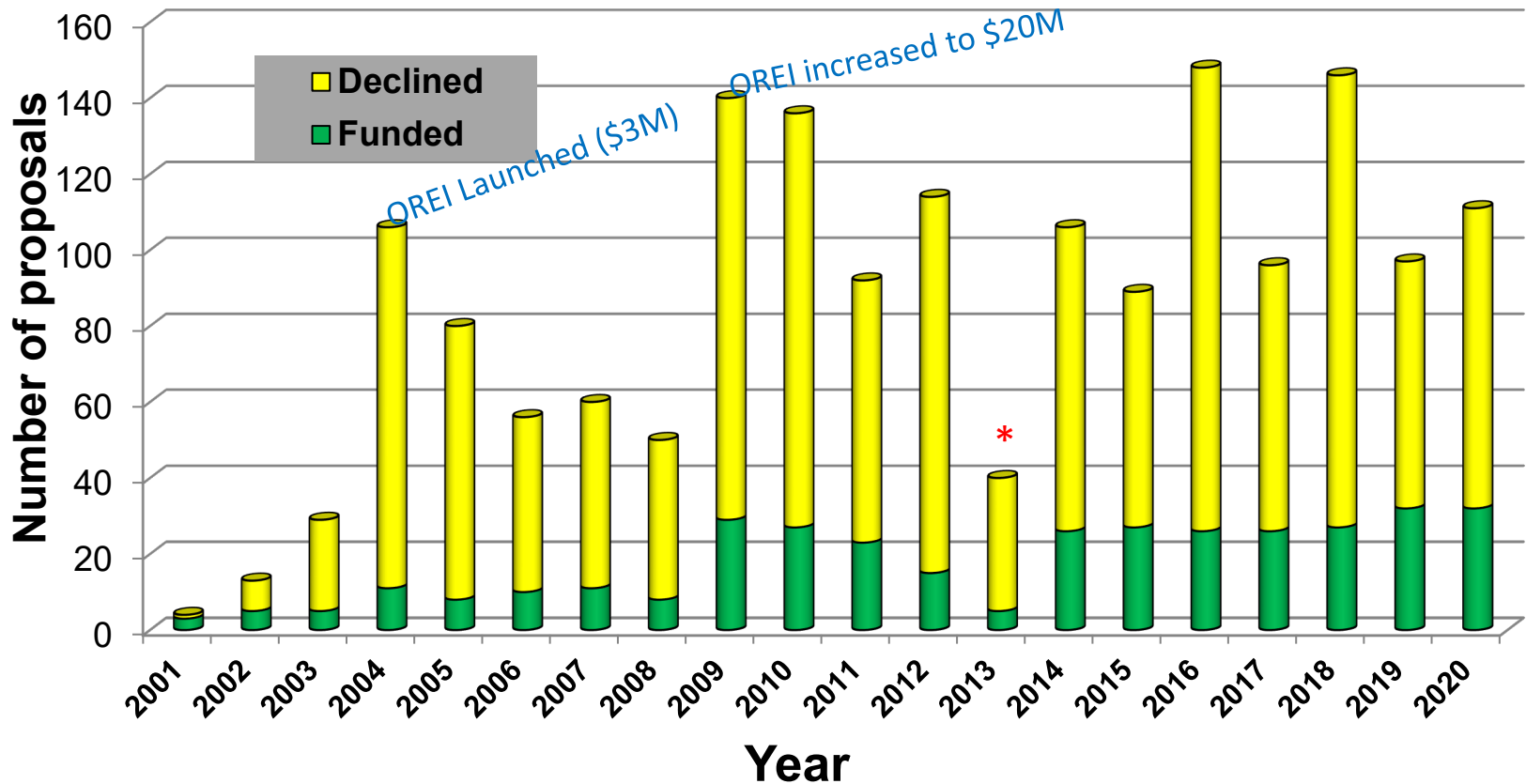


- *NOSB priorities are our priorities*
- *They are all included in our RFAs*
 - *Organic Transitions program*
 - *OREI program*
- ***Direct links are included in the RFAs***
- *They are used by applicants to establish project relevance*



ORG and OREI # of proposals by year

ORG and OREI proposals by year

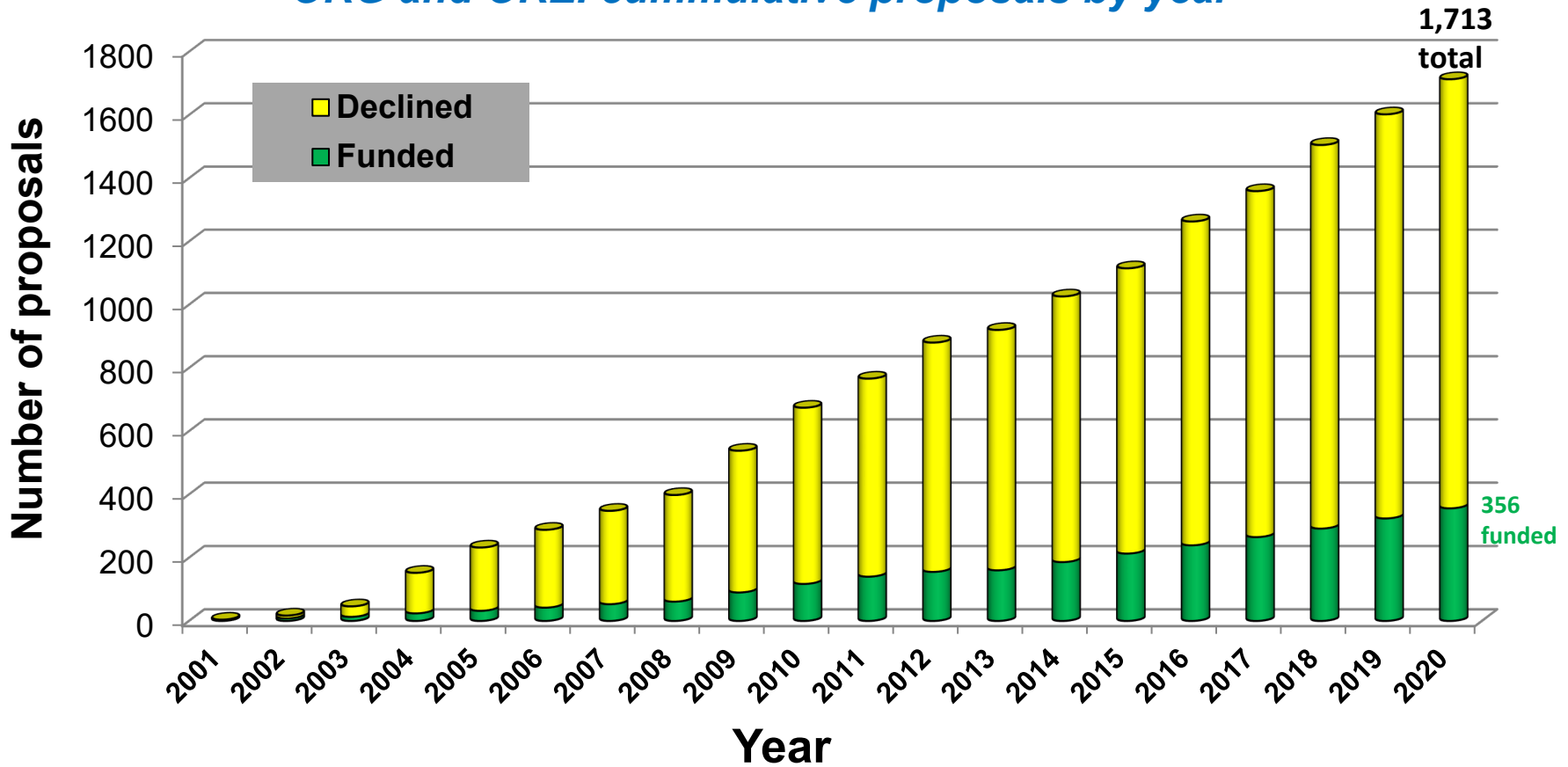


* OREI Not offered in 2013



ORG and OREI cumulative # of proposals by year

ORG and OREI cumulative proposals by year

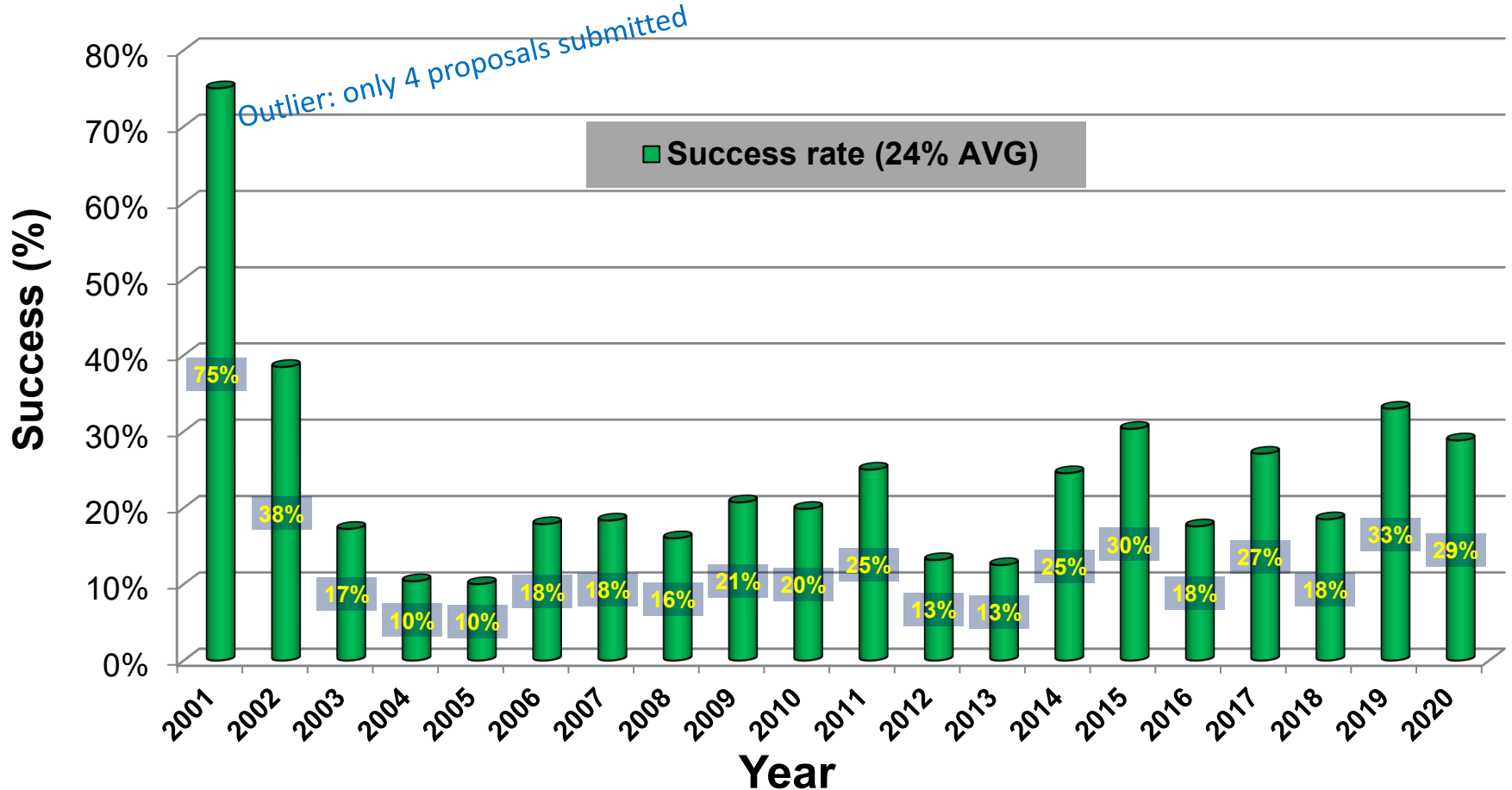


Note: Resubmissions included in the count



ORG and OREI Success Rate

ORG and OREI Success Rate



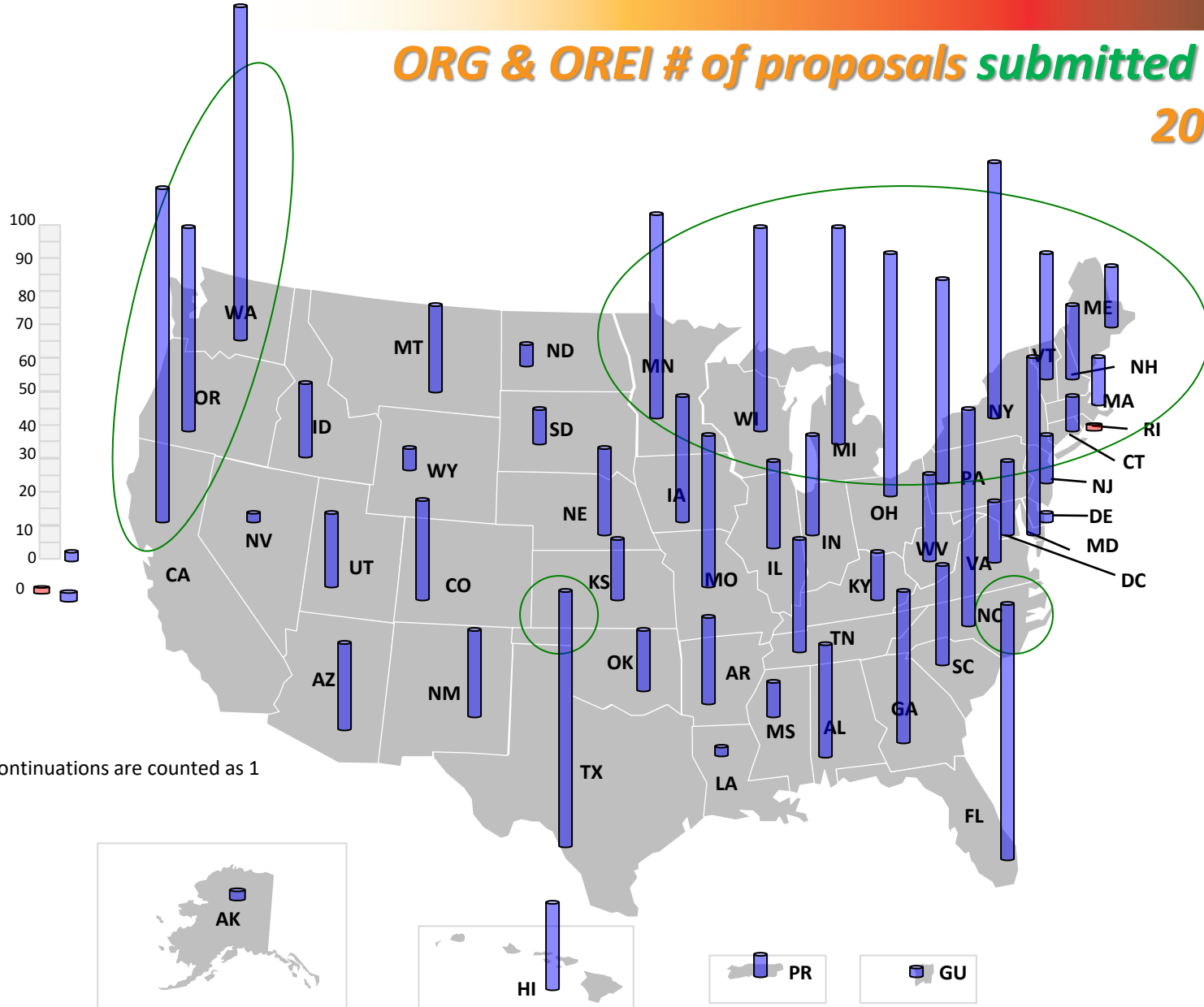


United States Department of Agriculture

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ORG & OREI # of proposals submitted by state 2001-2020



*Continuations are counted as 1

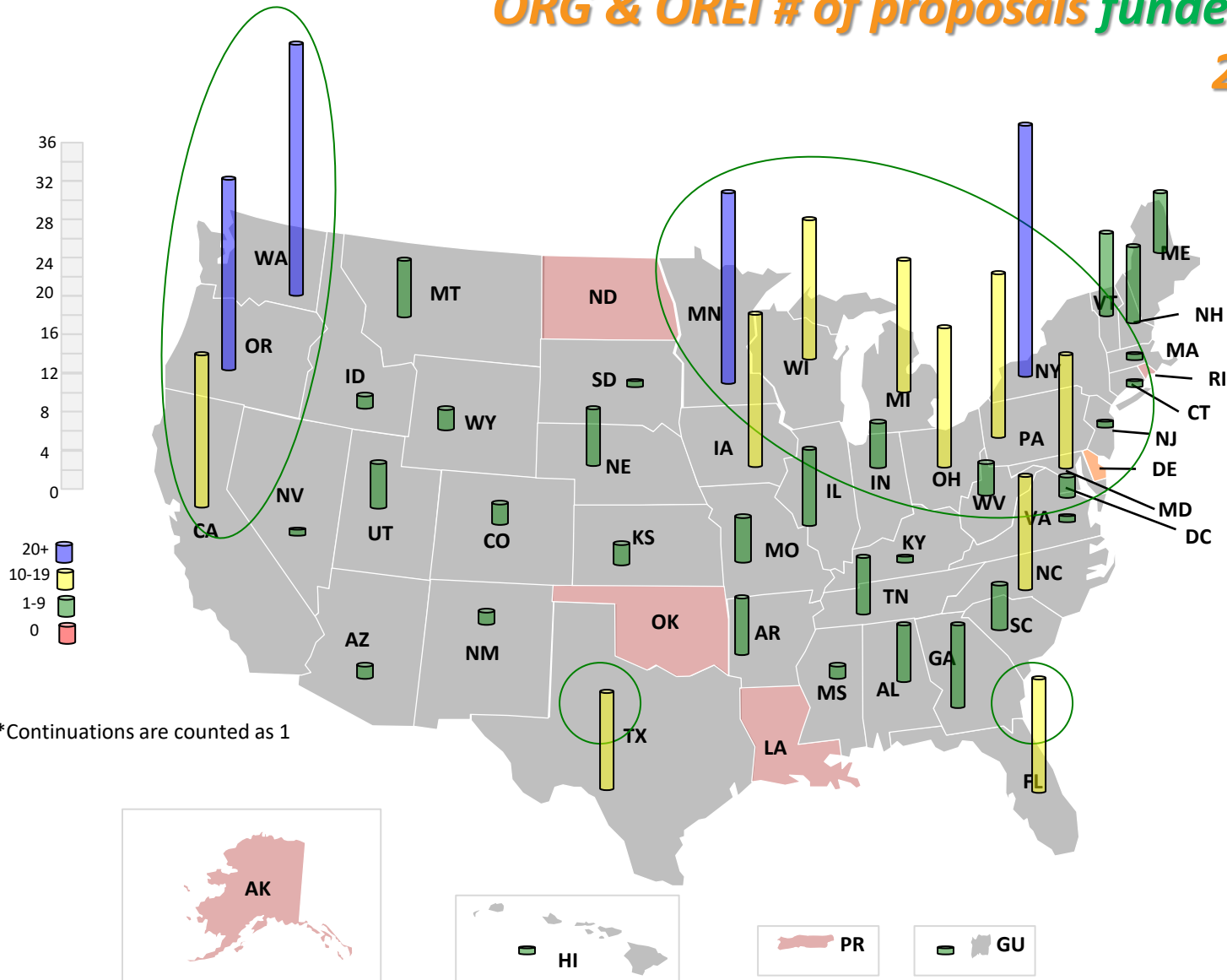


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ORG & OREI # of proposals funded by state 2001-2020

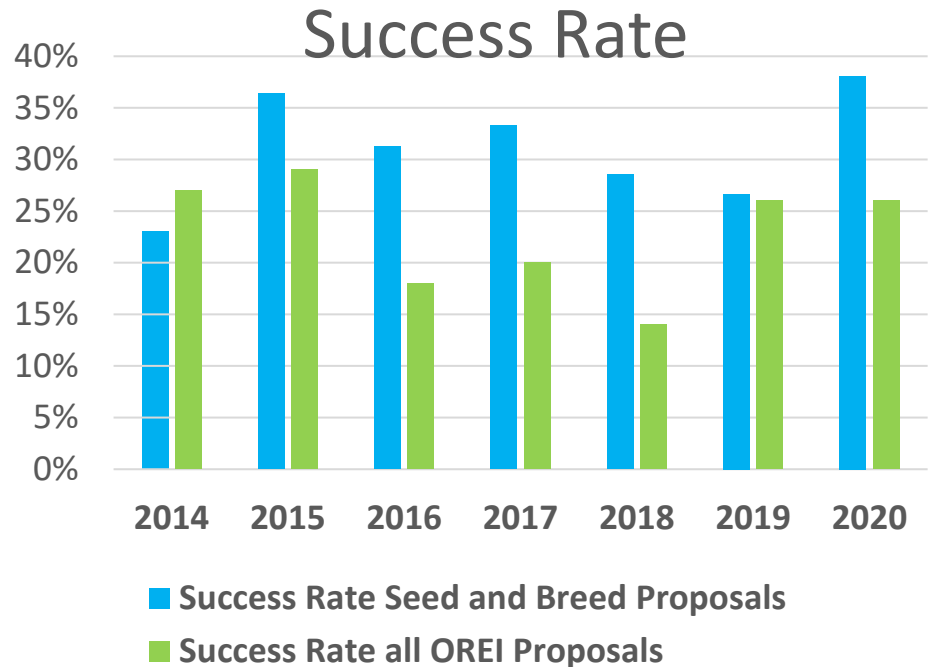
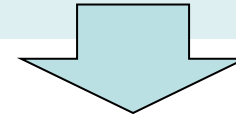


*Continuations are counted as 1

Good News!

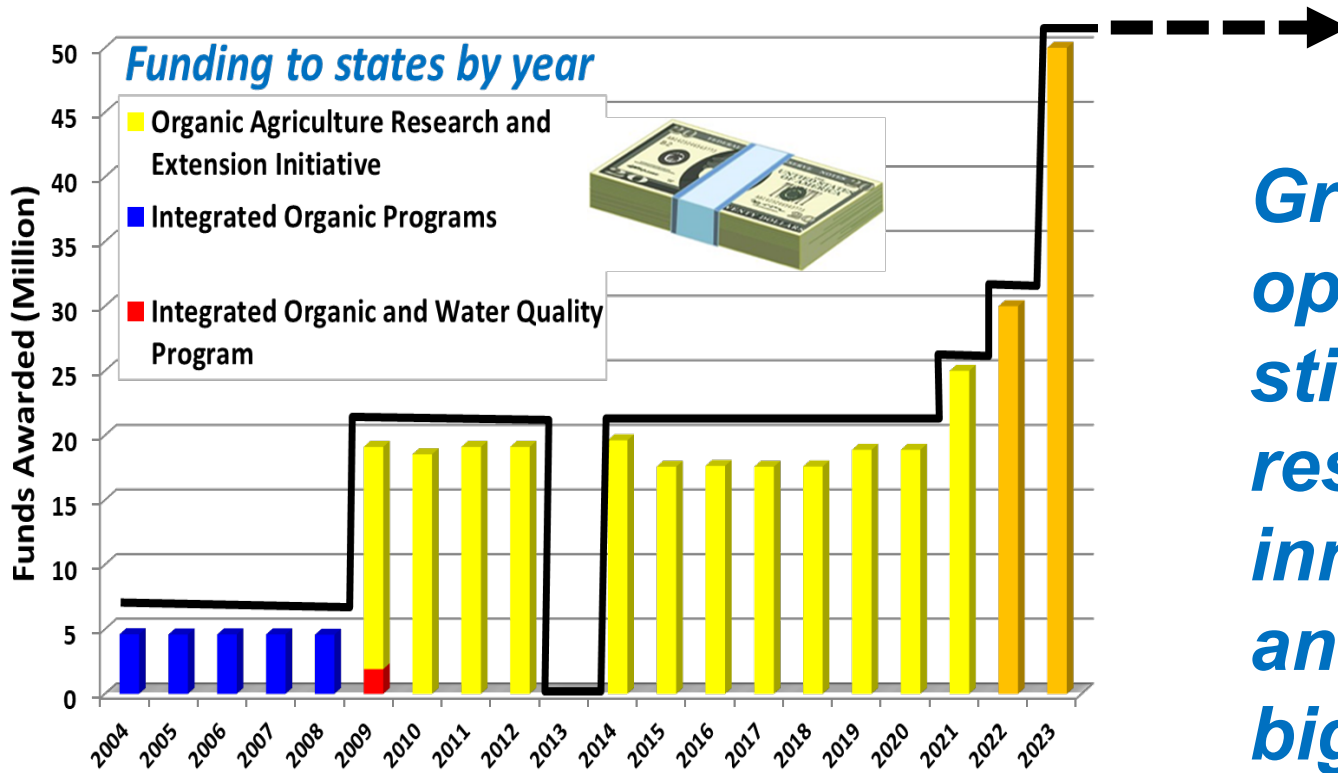
- **Funding has improved for:**
 - *Animal Systems Proposals*
 - *Small and Minority Serving Institutions (MSI)*
 - *Southern Region*

- **Success rate is up for**
 - *Seeds and Breeds proposals*





OREI budget increase is a big win for the industry

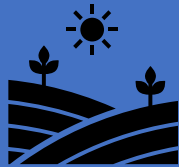


Great opportunity to stimulate research and innovation and to tackle big challenges



Future Perspective

01



Promote

- Promote Research and Innovation

02



Explore

- Explore New Extension Opportunities

03



Train

- Train the next Generation of Organic Farmers and Leaders

Future Perspective

- **Develop smart tools for use by farmers and processors**
 - Seeds, Natural substances etc.
- **Develop smart tools for enforcement agents to support “Organic Integrity”**
- **Better understand the human dimension of organic agriculture**
- **Make new knowledge available and accessible to farmers**
- **Etc.**





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