

Appendix

2007 NSF Proposer Survey

Frequency Results to All Survey Items

Arlington, VA
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This document is confidential and is intended solely for the use and information of the client to whom it is addressed.



2007 NSF Proposer Survey - Introduction

Thank you for your participation. This survey is designed to help NSF understand the factors that influence the number of NSF proposal submissions and the impact of NSF success rates. Your responses will help NSF leverage this understanding to improve its service to the proposer community.

There will be no individual attribution to any survey response. Booz Allen Hamilton, the survey administrator, has exclusive access to all survey data and will maintain the anonymity of all respondents. A summary of the results of this survey will be posted on NSF's Web site soon after the survey's conclusion.

PLEASE NOTE:

- The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.
- When answering survey questions, refer to your most recent research proposal submission. (Research proposals include those that propose to conduct a specific scientific study; they do not include requests for workshops or travel funds.)

To continue, enter the same email address your survey invitation came to. Please be exact; the field is case-sensitive.

Email address: _____



2007 NSF Proposer Survey - Results

Question 1:

Which of the following describes you? (Please check all that apply)

A. I've submitted a proposal to NSF during the past 3 years.

B. I've served as a proposal reviewer for NSF during the past 3 years.

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Respondents who have only submitted a proposal to NSF during the past three years (A only)	10,011	41.1%
Respondents who have both submitted a proposal to NSF and served as a proposal reviewer during the past three years (A and B)	13,900	57.0%
Respondents who indicated that they have not submitted a proposal to NSF during the past three years but have served as a proposal reviewer* (B only)	467	1.9%
Total	24,378	100%

Question 2:

Have you served as a reviewer for NSF and/or on an NSF panel review during the past 12 months?*

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	10,055	70.1%
No	4,290	29.9%
Total	14,345	100%

* The survey population was defined by those who had submitted a research proposal to NSF in the past three fiscal years (FY2004, FY2005, and FY2006). Although NSF data showed that all respondents fit this criterion, a small percentage of respondents (1.9 %) indicated that they had not submitted in the past three years

** Only respondents who indicated they have served as a proposal reviewer in Question 1 proceeded to Question 2. All others skipped to Question 23



NSF is interested in several aspects of your review workload

Question 3:

How many reviews have you done in the past 12 months from NSF:

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
1-3	6,326	63.64%
4-6	1,331	13.39%
7-10	924	9.30%
11-15	708	7.12%
16-20	356	3.58%
21-30	168	1.69%
31-40	58	0.58%
Over 40	69	0.69%
Total	9,940	100.00%

Question 4:

How many reviews have you done in the past 12 months from Other Sources:

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
1-3	3,625	50.06%
4-6	1,536	21.21%
7-10	785	10.84%
11-15	509	7.03%
16-20	303	4.18%
21-30	211	2.91%
31-40	92	1.27%
Over 40	181	2.50%
Total	7,242	100.00%

* Only respondents who said "Yes" to Question 2 proceeded to Question 3 and 4. All others skipped to Question 5



NSF is interested in several aspects of your review workload

Question 5:

During the past 12 months, have you declined to:
Review NSF proposal(s)

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	2,541	17.9%
No	10,938	77.2%
I'm Not Sure	685	4.8%
Total	14,164	100%

Question 6:

During the past 12 months, have you declined to: Serve
on an NSF panel

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	2,274	16.3%
No	11,413	81.9%
I'm Not Sure	255	1.8%
Total	13,942	100%

* Of those who answered "No" or "I'm Not Sure" to Question 5, 1220 responded "Yes" to Question 6, totaling 3761 number of respondents who indicated declining NSF's request to review. This equals 26% of the 14367 total number of respondents who identified themselves as reviewers.



NSF is interested in several aspects of your review workload

Question 7 - 13:

To what extent did the following factors influence your decision to decline NSF's review request?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 7: Lack of interest	2,926 (69.8%)	709 (16.9%)	353 (8.4%)	129 (3.1%)	77 (1.8%)	4,194 (100%)
Question 8: Lack of time	588 (12.6%)	316 (6.8%)	639 (13.7%)	3,069 (65.7%)	60 (1.3%)	4,672 (100%)
Question 9: Increasing review requests	1,216 (27.9%)	853 (19.6%)	1,173 (26.9%)	1,043 (23.9%)	76 (1.7%)	4,361 (100%)
Question 10: Competing professional pressures	941 (21.2%)	477 (10.8%)	1,084 (24.5%)	1,840 (41.5%)	89 (2.0%)	4,431 (100%)
Question 11: Dissatisfaction with the proposal review process(es) involved	3,048 (71.4%)	567 (13.3%)	327 (7.7%)	234 (5.5%)	91 (2.1%)	4,267 (100%)
Question 12: Increasing engagements with other agencies	2,459 (57.5%)	864 (20.3%)	589 (13.8%)	263 (6.2%)	97 (2.3%)	4,263 (100%)
Question 13: Conflict of interest	2,946 (67.5%)	448 (10.3%)	219 (5.0%)	644 (14.8%)	105 (2.4%)	4,362 (100%)



NSF is interested in several aspects of your review workload

Question 14:

In general, how has your own reviewer workload (including reviews done for funding agencies, journals, and your institution) changed during the past 3 years?

Greatly Decreased	Somewhat Decreased	Stayed About the Same	Somewhat Increased	Greatly Increased	Not Applicable	Total
102 (0.7%)	453 (3.2%)	3,534 (24.6%)	5,539 (38.6%)	4,508 (31.4%)	207 (1.4%)	14,343 (100%)

Question 15 - 17:

How has this change in your own reviewer workload affected the following: The time you are able to devote to each review

	Greatly Decreased	Somewhat Decreased	Stayed About the Same	Somewhat Increased	Greatly Increased	Total
Question 15: The time you are able to devote to each review	318 (3.0%)	3,483 (33.0%)	5,844 (55.4%)	720 (6.8%)	186 (1.8%)	10,551 (100%)
Question 16: The thoroughness you provide to each review	108 (1.0%)	2,309 (22.0%)	7,312 (69.6%)	658 (6.3%)	124 (1.2%)	10,511 (100%)
Question 17: The overall quality of each of your reviews	56 (0.5%)	1,680 (16.1%)	7,657 (73.2%)	910 (8.7%)	154 (1.5%)	10,457 (100%)



NSF is interested in several aspects of your review workload

For the following two questions*, please use this definition:

TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH is research driven by ideas that stand a reasonable chance of radically changing our understanding of an important existing scientific concept or leading to the creation of a new paradigm or field of science. Such research also is characterized by its challenge to current understanding or its pathway to new frontiers.

Question 18:

Of the NSF research proposals you've reviewed during the past 3 years, what percentage have constituted transformative research?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Less than 10%	8,764	61.5%
10 – 25%	3,296	23.1%
26 – 50%	872	6.1%
51 – 75%	307	2.2%
76 – 100%	159	1.1%
I'm not sure how to identify transformative research	854	6.0%
Total	14,252	100.00%

Note: This definition corresponds to Question 18 through Question 22. These questions were grouped in the online survey and appeared as two questions, but have been separated for purposes of analysis.



NSF is interested in several aspects of your review workload

Question 19 - 22:

In thinking about the NSF research proposals you reviewed during the past 3 years, to what extent did the following occur?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	Not Applicable	Total
Question 19: The NSF program(s) involved welcomed transformative research.	837 (6.0%)	2,904 (20.8%)	4,532 (32.5%)	3,056 (21.9%)	2,633 (18.9%)	13,962 (100.0%)
Question 20: The panel(s) on which I served welcomed transformative research.	526 (3.8%)	1,896 (13.7%)	2,930 (21.2%)	1,936 (14.0%)	6,547 (47.3%)	13,835 (100.0%)
Question 21: I recommended transformative research proposals for funding.	569 (4.1%)	1,116 (8.0%)	3,919 (28.1%)	4,208 (30.1%)	4,149 (29.7%)	13,961 (100.0%)
Question 22: Other reviewers on my panel(s) recommended transformative research proposals for funding.	447 (3.2%)	2,012 (14.6%)	2,946 (21.4%)	1,395 (10.1%)	6,984 (50.7%)	13,784 (100.0%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 23 - 26:

Beyond the goal of making contributions to your area of science, to what extent do the following factors motivate you to submit research proposals to any funding source?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 23: Building/maintaining a grant record for academic tenure and/or promotion	4,511 (18.8%)	4,027 (16.8%)	6,204 (25.8%)	9,226 (38.4%)	60 (0.2%)	24,028 (100%)
Question 24: Contributing to the institution's research status/reputation	2,911 (12.1%)	5,830 (24.4%)	8,414 (34.9%)	6,877 (28.5%)	86 (0.4%)	24,118 (100%)
Question 25: Supplementing or paying my own salary	4,045 (16.8%)	6,279 (26.0%)	7,253 (30.1%)	6,473 (26.8%)	61 (0.3%)	24,111 (100%)
Question 26: Building/maintaining a research infrastructure (i.e., students, lab space, etc.)	1,246 (5.2%)	2,165 (9.0%)	5,348 (22.1%)	15,333 (63.5%)	71 (0.3%)	24,163 (100%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

For all references to success rates in this survey, please use the following definition: NSF currently defines success rate as the number of awards granted in a given year divided by the number of proposals reviewed that year.

Question 28 - 39:

To what extent do you consider the following factors in your decision to submit proposals to a PARTICULAR funding agency, including NSF?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 28: My expected success rate	1,676 (6.9%)	4,151 (17.2%)	9,987 (41.3%)	8,198 (33.6%)	187 (0.3%)	24,199 (100%)
Question 29: Knowledge about the budget for that competition	3,544 (14.7%)	6,991 (29.0%)	9,591 (39.8%)	3,598 (14.9%)	350 (1.5%)	24,074 (100%)
Question 30: Prestige/reputation of that agency	4,307 (17.8%)	5,698 (23.6%)	7,722 (32.0%)	6,269 (26.0%)	157 (0.7%)	24,153 (100%)
Question 31: My own record of award(s) from that agency	3,620 (15.0%)	4,929 (20.5%)	9,147 (38.0%)	6,023 (25.0%)	353 (1.5%)	24,072 (100%)
Question 32: Agency support of basic research	990 (4.1%)	2,067 (8.6%)	6,584 (27.3%)	14,268 (59.1%)	250 (1.0%)	24,159 (100%)
Question 33: Need for continued funding for my area of research	933 (3.9%)	1,811 (7.5%)	6,115 (25.3%)	14,853 (61.5%)	423 (1.8%)	24,135 (100%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 28 – 39 (cont):

To what extent do you consider the following factors in your decision to submit proposals to a PARTICULAR funding agency, including NSF?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 34: Discontinued funding from other source(s)	10,171 (42.6%)	5,995 (25.1%)	4,267 (17.9%)	2,234 (9.4%)	1,186 (5.0%)	23,853 (100%)
Question 35: New funding opportunities closely related to my area of research	2,544 (10.6%)	3,226 (13.4%)	6,941 (28.9%)	10,954 (45.5%)	391 (1.6%)	24,056 (100%)
Question 36: Fair merit review process	2,147 (8.9%)	3,925 (16.2%)	8,705 (36.0%)	8,771 (36.3%)	607 (2.5%)	24,155 (100%)
Question 37: Size of the award budget	2,032 (8.4%)	5,713 (23.7%)	11,230 (46.6%)	4,945 (20.5%)	173 (0.7%)	24,093 (100%)
Question 38: Length of time for the award	2,352 (9.8%)	5,620 (23.3%)	10,839 (44.9%)	5,142 (21.3%)	167 (0.7%)	24,120 (100%)
Question 39: Relationship with agency/program personnel	7,561 (31.4%)	6,932 (28.8%)	6,507 (27.0%)	2,661 (11.0%)	425 (1.8%)	24,086 (100%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 40:

Reflecting on your most recent proposal submitted to NSF, what do you think the success rate was for the program you submitted to?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
5% or Less	3,435	14.3%
6 -10%	8,332	34.6%
11-20%	6,393	26.5%
21-30%	2,593	10.8%
31-40%	635	2.6%
Over 40%	320	1.3%
I'm Not Sure	2,394	9.9%
Total	24,102	100.0%



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

In the following two questions*, annual award size refers to the total amount including both direct and indirect costs.

Question 41:

In your experience, how satisfied are you with the following:- NSF annual award size

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Very Dissatisfied	1,802	7.4%
Dissatisfied	4,911	20.3%
Neutral	5,704	23.5%
Satisfied	8,630	35.6%
Very Satisfied	2,216	9.1%
I'm Not Sure	980	4.0%
Total	24,243	100.0%

Question 42:

In your experience, how satisfied are you with the following:- NSF award durations

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Very Dissatisfied	623	2.6%
Dissatisfied	2,389	9.9%
Neutral	5,708	23.7%
Satisfied	11,164	46.4%
Very Satisfied	3,204	13.3%
I'm Not Sure	980	4.1%
Total	24,068	100.0%

Note: This definition corresponds to Question 41 through Question 43. These questions were grouped in the online survey and appeared as two questions, but have been separated for the purposes of analysis.



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 43:

Thinking about your most recent NSF proposal, what do you think is an acceptable annual award size?

Please give your opinion regardless of whether your proposal was awarded at a different level or declined.

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Under \$50K	794	3.3%
\$50K - \$100K	3,575	14.9%
\$101K - \$150K	6,866	28.7%
\$151K - \$250K	6,114	25.5%
\$251K - \$500K	4,428	18.5%
\$501K - \$1M	1,597	6.7%
\$1.1M - \$1.5M	276	1.2%
\$1.6M - \$2M	113	0.5%
Over \$2M	172	0.7%
Total	23,935	100.0%

Question 44:

Thinking about your most recent NSF proposal, what do you think is an acceptable award duration?

Please give your opinion regardless of whether your proposal was awarded at a different duration or declined.

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Less Than 1 Year	109	0.5%
Between 1 and 2 Years	1,443	6.0%
Between 2 and 4 Years	16,667	69.5%
Between 4 and 6 Years	5,654	23.6%
Between 6 and 8 Years	62	0.3%
Between 8 and 10 Years	28	0.1%
More than 10 Years	20	0.1%
Total	23,983	100.0%



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 45 – 52:

To what extent did the following factors influence your decision to submit to NSF during the past 3 years?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 45: Decreased funding available from other sources	10,506 (43.7%)	5,640 (23.5%)	4,778 (19.9%)	2,800 (11.7%)	308 (1.3%)	24,032 (100%)
Question 46: Better chance of funding at NSF than other agencies	9,719 (40.4%)	4,991 (20.7%)	5,016 (20.8%)	3,950 (16.4%)	385 (1.6%)	24,061 (100%)
Question 47: Pressure to obtain grants for tenure and/or promotion	8,991 (37.4%)	4,780 (19.9%)	4,712 (19.6%)	5,405 (22.5%)	156 (0.6%)	24,044 (100%)
Question 48: Pressure to build and maintain research facilities, centers or programs	4,870 (20.3%)	4,390 (18.3%)	6,797 (28.3%)	7,862 (32.7%)	130 (0.5%)	24,049 (100%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 45 – 52 (cont):

To what extent did the following factors influence your decision to submit to NSF during the past 3 years?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 49: NSF is the major source of funding for my area of research	2,439 (10.1%)	3,484 (14.4%)	6,288 (26.0)	11,820 (48.9%)	147 (0.6%)	24,178 (100%)
Question 50: Increased NSF budget in my area of research	14,533 (60.6%)	4,637 (19.3%)	2,509 (10.5%)	921 (3.8%)	1,373 (5.7%)	23,973 (100%)
Question 51: Interesting and relevant new funding opportunities	7,892 (32.8%)	5,182 (21.6%)	6,053 (25.2%)	4,379 (18.2%)	529 (2.2%)	24,035 (100%)
Question 52: Encouragement from NSF program managers	12,465 (52.0%)	5,212 (21.8%)	4,079 (17.0%)	1,751 (7.3%)	456 (1.9%)	23,963 (100%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 53:

Over the next five years, I view NSF as the prime source of potential funding for the following percentage of my research:

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Less than 10%	3,630	15.0%
10 – 25%	4,193	17.4%
26 – 50%	5,488	22.7%
51 – 75%	5,861	24.3%
76 – 100%	4,986	20.6%
Total	24,158	100.0%



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 54 - 57: How often have you:

	Never	Seldom	Frequently	Total
Question 54: Submitted the same proposal simultaneously to NSF and other funding agencies	16,716 (68.9%)	5,950 (24.5%)	1,611 (6.6%)	24,277 (100%)
Question 55: After an NSF proposal has been declined, submitted a revised version of that NSF proposal to the same NSF program/division	6,325 (26.1%)	7,479 (30.9%)	10,427 (43.0%)	24,231 (100%)
Question 56: After an NSF proposal has been declined, submitted a revised version of that NSF proposal to other NSF programs/divisions	15,899 (65.7%)	6,956 (28.7%)	1,361 (5.6%)	24,216 (100%)
Question 57: Submitted a proposal to NSF that was declined by another agency	18,732 (77.5%)	4,625 (19.1%)	816 (3.4%)	24,173 (100%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 58:

How do you perceive the level of competition for research grants in your area of research at NSF compared to other federal agencies?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Less intense at NSF than at other federal agencies	656	2.8%
The same at NSF as at other federal agencies	8,557	36.0%
More intense at NSF than at other federal agencies	14,528	61.2%
Total	23,741	100.0%

Question 59:

In general, what is the minimum expected success rate at which you would consider applying to NSF?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
5%	1,278	5.3%
10%	5,761	23.7%
20%	5,998	24.7%
30%	2,682	11.0%
40%	792	3.3%
Not Applicable - I would always consider applying	7,770	32.0%
Total	24,281	100.0%



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

For the following three questions*, please use this definition:

TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH is research driven by ideas that stand a reasonable chance of radically changing our understanding of an important existing scientific concept or leading to the creation of a new paradigm or field of science. Such research also is characterized by its challenge to current understanding or its pathway to new frontiers.

Question 60:

In the past 3 years, what percentage of the research proposals that you submitted to NSF constituted transformative research?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Less than 10%	5,819	24.2%
10-25%	3,484	14.5%
26-50%	3,741	15.6%
51-75%	3,127	13.0%
76-100%	5,299	22.0%
I'm not sure how to identify transformative research	2,578	10.7%
Total	24,048	100.0%

Note: This definition corresponds to Question 60 through Question 65. These questions were grouped in the online survey and appeared as three questions, but have been separated for purposes of analysis.



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 61-64:

In thinking about the NSF research proposals that you've submitted during the past 3 years, to what extent do you believe the following?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 61: I feel that NSF welcomes transformative research proposals.	1,413 (5.9%)	5,133 (21.4%)	8,072 (33.6%)	5,538 (23.0%)	3,878 (16.1%)	24,034 (100%)
Question 62: The program(s) to which I submitted welcome transformative research proposals.	1,722 (7.2%)	5,129 (21.4%)	7,569 (31.6%)	5,149 (21.5%)	4,404 (18.4%)	23,973 (100%)
Question 63: The program(s) to which I submitted tend to fund transformative research proposals	2,058 (8.6%)	6,483 (27.1%)	6,148 (25.7%)	3,110 (13.0%)	6,156 (25.7%)	23,955 (100%)
Question 64: NSF tends to fund transformative research proposals.	1,420 (5.9%)	6,415 (26.9%)	6,860 (28.7%)	3,284 (13.7%)	5,909 (24.7%)	23,888 (100%)



NSF is interested in the factors that influence your decision to seek funding from NSF or other sources

Question 65:

Where are you most likely to seek funding for a transformative research idea?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
NSF	10,830	45.1%
Other Federal Agencies (DOD, HHS, NASA, etc.)	3,017	12.6%
My Institution	1,219	5.1%
State or Local Government	127	0.5%
Private Foundations	1,739	7.2%
Industry	393	1.6%
Combination of Multiple Funding Sources	4,596	19.1%
Other	218	0.9%
Not Applicable	1,890	7.9%
Total	24,029	100.0%



NSF would like to know how funding decisions impact proposers

Question 66 - 69:

Based on your experience with NSF, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 66: All proposers are treated fairly.	1,695 (7.0%)	4,351 (17.9%)	10,071 (41.5%)	6,901 (28.4%)	1,242 (5.1%)	24,260 (100%)
Question 67: Reviews are thorough and technically sound.	1,327 (5.5%)	5,833 (24.1%)	12,910 (53.2%)	3,881 (16.0%)	295 (1.2%)	24,246 (100%)
Question 68: The merit review process provides feedback that will improve my proposal.	2,051 (8.5%)	6,834 (28.2%)	10,103 (41.7%)	5,068 (20.9%)	199 (0.8%)	24,255 (100%)
Question 69: The merit review process provides feedback that increases my likelihood of success.	3,432 (14.2%)	8,166 (33.8%)	8,270 (34.2%)	3,642 (15.1%)	682 (2.8%)	24,192 (100%)



NSF would like to know how funding decisions impact proposers

Question 70 - 73:

To what extent does a decline of one of your NSF proposals...

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 70: Improve your understanding of the proposal process	4,478 (18.5%)	8,908 (36.8%)	8,271 (34.2%)	1,850 (7.6%)	692 (2.9%)	24,199 (100%)
Question 71: Encourage you to revise and resubmit the proposal	4,165 (17.2%)	8,060 (33.3%)	8,489 (35.1%)	2,755 (11.4%)	701 (2.9%)	24,170 (100%)
Question 72: Influence you to submit to another funding agency	5,803 (24.1%)	7,617 (31.6%)	6,976 (28.9%)	2,509 (10.4%)	1,214 (5.0%)	24,119 (100%)
Question 73: Negatively impact your career	4,938 (20.5%)	7,259 (30.1%)	6,572 (27.2%)	4,239 (17.6%)	1,126 (4.7%)	24,134 (100%)



NSF would like to know how funding decisions impact proposers

Question 74 - 76:

In general, after how many declines of a revised project would you...

	1-3	4-6	7-9	10 or more	Total
Question 74: Stop submitting the project to any agency	16,048 (67.3%)	6,328 (26.5%)	563 (2.4%)	925 (3.9%)	23,864 (100%)
Question 75: Stop submitting the project anywhere within NSF	18,228 (76.6%)	4,269 (18.0%)	450 (1.9%)	834 (3.5%)	23,781 (100%)
Question 76: Stop submitting the project to a particular NSF program	20,170 (84.9%)	2,835 (11.9%)	219 (0.9%)	536 (2.3%)	23,760 (100%)



Some NSF funding opportunities require submission of pre-proposals. NSF would like to understand proposer views of pre-proposals

Question 77:

Have you ever been required to submit a pre-proposal to NSF under a particular funding opportunity?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	8,480	35.0%
No	14,504	59.9%
I'm Not Sure	1,249	5.2%
Total	24,233	100.0%



Some NSF funding opportunities require submission of pre-proposals. NSF would like to understand proposer views of pre-proposals

Question 78 - 81:

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements: NSF pre-proposals...

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable	Total
Question 78: Decrease the time I spend preparing full NSF proposals	922 (3.9%)	2,485 (10.5%)	3,400 (14.4%)	5,416 (23.0%)	2,705 (11.5%)	8,635 (36.6%)	23,563 (100%)
Question 79: Decrease the resources required to prepare full NSF proposals	965 (4.1%)	3,181 (13.5%)	4,247 (18.1%)	4,475 (19.0%)	2,021 (8.6%)	8,613 (36.6%)	23,502 (100%)
Question 80: Help me increase the quality of my full NSF proposal	722 (3.1%)	2,241 (9.5%)	4,844 (20.6%)	5,277 (22.5%)	1,790 (7.6%)	8,631 (36.7%)	23,505 (100%)
Question 81: Increase my chances of obtaining NSF funding	1,011 (4.3%)	2,601 (11.1%)	6,389 (27.2%)	3,436 (14.6%)	1,310 (5.6%)	8,711 (37.1%)	23,458 (100%)



NSF has limited proposal submissions from some institutions. NSF would like to know what perception, if any, proposers have around this practice.

Question 82:

During the past 12 months, did NSF limit the number of proposal submissions for any funding opportunity from your institution?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	8,573	35.2%
No	4,237	17.4%
I Don't Know	11,567	47.5%
Total	24,377	100.0%



NSF has limited proposal submissions from some institutions. NSF would like to know what perception, if any, proposers have around this practice.

Question 83 - 87:

As you think about NSF's limitation on the number of proposal submissions from your institution, please indicate the type of impact (if any) this limitation has made in the following areas:

	Negative Impact	No Impact	Positive Impact	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 83: Overall quality of the proposals submitted	1,494 (17.5%)	3,031 (35.6%)	2,372 (27.9%)	1,617 (19.0%)	8,514 (100%)
Question 84: Transformative nature of the proposals submitted	2,181 (25.7%)	3,388 (39.9%)	854 (10.1%)	2,073 (24.4%)	8,496 (100%)
Question 85: Fair representation of my area of research in the proposals sub	3,849 (45.4%)	2,723 (32.1%)	517 (6.1%)	1,382 (16.3%)	8,471 (100%)
Question 86: My motivation to seek NSF funding	3,447 (40.6%)	4,140 (48.7%)	374 (4.4%)	534 (6.3%)	8,495 (100%)
Question 87: My motivation to seek funding from other agencies	208 (2.5%)	5,233 (61.7%)	2,231 (26.3%)	812 (9.6%)	8,484 (100%)

* Only respondents who answered "Yes" to Question 82 proceeded to Question 83. All others skipped to Question 88.



NSF would like your feedback on your proposal experience with NSF

Question 88:

Did NSF provide quality feedback regarding why your most recent proposal was funded or not funded?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	16,229	67.0%
No	7,412	30.6%
Not Applicable	566	2.3%
Total	24,207	100.0%

Question 89 - 92:

Did NSF provide quality feedback regarding why your most recent proposal was funded or not funded?

	Low Quality	Medium Quality	High Quality	Not Applicable	Total
Question 89: Reviews	4,877 (20.1%)	13,105 (54.1%)	5,670 (23.4%)	570 (2.4%)	24,222 (100%)
Question 90: Panel Summary	5,687 (23.5%)	11,336 (46.9%)	5,161 (21.4%)	1,975 (8.2%)	24,159 (100%)
Question 91: Background information on the outcomes of the competition	9,982 (41.5%)	7,818 (32.5%)	2,765 (11.5%)	3,517 (14.6%)	24,082 (100%)
Question 92: Program Officer Comments	6,229 (25.9%)	7,995 (33.2%)	5,976 (24.8%)	3,885 (16.1%)	24,085 (100%)



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

If you have applied to other agencies, list up to 5 of the most recent proposals you submitted to other agencies during the last 3 years.

Proposal #1: Question 94

Question 93:
Have you applied for awards or grants from federal institutions other than the National Science Foundation?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	18,645	76.5%
No	5,732	23.5%
Total	24,377	100.0%

Agency or Sponsor	Frequency	Percent (%)
Dept of Agriculture	1,031	6.2%
Dept of Commerce (NIST, NOAA, etc.)	638	3.8%
Dept of Defense (DARPA, etc.)	3,054	18.2%
Dept of Education	581	3.5%
Dept of Energy	2,178	13.0%
Dept of Interior	264	1.6%
Dept of Transportation	155	0.9%
Dept of Veterans Affairs	4	0.0%
EPA	442	2.6%
HHS (NIH, CDC, etc.)	4,581	27.3%
Industry	263	1.6%
NASA	1,927	11.5%
Other (please specify)	1,178	7.0%
Private Foundation	459	2.7%
Total	16,755	100.0%

* Only respondents who answered "Yes" to Question 93 proceeded to Question 94. All others skipped to Question 114.



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #1: Question 96

Submission Type	Frequency	Percent (%)
New Submission	13,540	90.3%
Other	682	4.5%
Revised NSF submission	776	5.2%
Total	14,998	100.0%

Proposal #1: Question 97

Result	Frequency	Percent (%)
Declined	4,890	34.2%
Funded	7,105	49.6%
Other	111	0.8%
Pending Decision	2,103	14.7%
Withdrawn	104	0.7%
Total	14,313	100.0%

* Responses to Question 95 "Please Specify Other Source" has been omitted from this report.



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #2: Question 98

Agency or Sponsor	Frequency	Percent (%)
Dept of Agriculture	651	5.5%
Dept of Commerce (NIST, NOAA, etc.)	493	4.2%
Dept of Defense (DARPA, etc.)	1,939	16.3%
Dept of Education	273	2.3%
Dept of Energy	1,289	10.9%
Dept of Interior	234	2.0%
Dept of Transportation	103	0.9%
Dept of Veterans Affairs	8	0.1%
EPA	350	3.0%
HHS (NIH, CDC, etc.)	2,043	17.2%
Industry	749	6.3%
NASA	1,254	10.6%
Other (please specify)	1,218	10.3%
Private Foundation	1,260	10.6%
Total	11,864	100.0%



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #2: Question 100

Submission Type	Frequency	Percent (%)
New Submission	9,153	85.8%
Other	726	6.8%
Revised NSF submission	788	7.4%
Total	10,667	100.0%

Proposal #2: Question 101

Result	Frequency	Percent (%)
Declined	3,688	36.1%
Funded	4,938	48.3%
Other	65	0.6%
Pending Decision	1,468	14.4%
Withdrawn	69	0.7%
Total	10,228	100.0%

* Responses to Question 99 "Please Specify Other Source" has been omitted from this report.



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #3: Question 102

Agency or Sponsor	Frequency	Percent (%)
Dept of Agriculture	344	4.6%
Dept of Commerce (NIST, NOAA, etc.)	312	4.2%
Dept of Defense (DARPA, etc.)	1,010	13.6%
Dept of Education	124	1.7%
Dept of Energy	532	7.2%
Dept of Interior	140	1.9%
Dept of Transportation	70	0.9%
Dept of Veterans Affairs	8	0.1%
EPA	227	3.1%
HHS (NIH, CDC, etc.)	1,026	13.8%
Industry	854	11.5%
NASA	705	9.5%
Other (please specify)	965	13.0%
Private Foundation	1,095	14.8%
Total	7,412	100.0%



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #3: Question 104

Submission Type	Frequency	Percent (%)
New Submission	5,910	87.6%
Other	420	6.2%
Revised NSF submission	416	6.2%
Total	6,746	100.0%

Proposal #3: Question 105

Result	Frequency	Percent (%)
Declined	2,321	35.6%
Funded	3,206	49.1%
Other	25	0.4%
Pending Decision	931	14.3%
Withdrawn	40	0.6%
Total	6,523	100.0%

* Responses to Question 103 "Please Specify Other Source" has been omitted from this report.



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #4: Question 106

Agency or Sponsor	Frequency	Percent (%)
Dept of Agriculture	160	3.9%
Dept of Commerce (NIST, NOAA, etc.)	159	3.9%
Dept of Defense (DARPA, etc.)	560	13.7%
Dept of Education	46	1.1%
Dept of Energy	253	6.2%
Dept of Interior	72	1.8%
Dept of Transportation	54	1.3%
Dept of Veterans Affairs	7	0.2%
EPA	110	2.7%
HHS (NIH, CDC, etc.)	542	13.2%
Industry	564	13.7%
NASA	365	8.9%
Other (please specify)	604	14.7%
Private Foundation	606	14.8%
Total	4,102	100.0%



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #4: Question 108

Submission Type	Frequency	Percent (%)
New Submission	3,296	87.3%
Other	247	6.5%
Revised NSF submission	231	6.1%
Total	3,774	100.0%

Proposal #4: Question 109

Result	Frequency	Percent (%)
Declined	1,367	36.9%
Funded	1,778	48.0%
Other	18	0.5%
Pending Decision	528	14.2%
Withdrawn	15	0.4%
Total	3,706	100.0%

* Responses to Question 107 "Please Specify Other Source" has been omitted from this report.



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #5: Question 110

Agency or Sponsor	Frequency	Percent (%)
Dept of Agriculture	79	3.3%
Dept of Commerce (NIST, NOAA, etc.)	85	3.5%
Dept of Defense (DARPA, etc.)	352	14.6%
Dept of Education	30	1.2%
Dept of Energy	140	5.8%
Dept of Interior	41	1.7%
Dept of Transportation	31	1.3%
Dept of Veterans Affairs	2	0.1%
EPA	48	2.0%
HHS (NIH, CDC, etc.)	330	13.7%
Industry	315	13.1%
NASA	225	9.4%
Other (please specify)	380	15.8%
Private Foundation	348	14.5%
Total	2,406	100.0%



Information about proposer interactions with other funding sources

Proposal #5: Question 112

Submission Type	Frequency	Percent (%)
New Submission	1,945	87.5%
Other	156	7.0%
Revised NSF submission	121	5.4%
Total	2,222	100.0%

Proposal #5: Question 113

Result	Frequency	Percent (%)
Declined	809	37.0%
Funded	1,020	46.6%
Other	8	0.4%
Pending Decision	338	15.4%
Withdrawn	14	0.6%
Total	2,189	100.0%

* Responses to Question 111 "Please Specify Other Source" has been omitted from this report.



NSF would like your feedback on your proposal experience with NSF

Question 114:

Compared to other agencies' proposal submission systems, how much effort does it take to use NSF systems (i.e., FastLane) to submit proposals?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
It All Depends...	1,904	7.9%
Less Effort	8,401	34.9%
Nearly the Same Effort	7,464	31.0%
More Effort	3,003	12.5%
Not Applicable	3,316	13.8%
Total	24,088	100.0%



NSF would like your feedback on your proposal experience with NSF

**Question 115 - 117:
To what extent does FastLane make the resubmission process...**

	To No Extent	To a Small Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Great Extent	I'm Not Sure	Total
Question 115: Faster	1,648 (6.8%)	2,077 (8.6%)	7,082 (29.4%)	10,172 (42.2%)	3,149 (13.1%)	24,128 (100%)
Question 116: Clearer	2,038 (8.6%)	2,634 (11.2%)	7,058 (29.9%)	8,647 (36.6%)	3,232 (13.7%)	23,609 (100%)
Question 117: Easier	1,991 (8.5%)	2,527 (10.7%)	6,649 (28.2%)	9,259 (39.3%)	3,129 (13.3%)	23,555 (100%)



NSF would like your feedback on your proposal experience with NSF

Question 118 - 123:

For the following questions, please refer to your most recent NSF proposal experience. How satisfied were you with...

	Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	N/A / Did Not Experience	Total
Question 118: The ease of use of the FastLane application for developing and submitting a proposal to NSF?	302 (1.2%)	919 (3.8%)	1,857 (7.7%)	7,747 (32.0%)	13,029 (53.8%)	366 (1.5%)	24,220 (100%)
Question 119: The quality of the information NSF provided during the proposal submission process? (i.e., FastLane, FAQs, web site content)	269 (1.1%)	950 (3.9%)	2,979 (12.3%)	9,154 (37.8%)	10,282 (42.5%)	558 (2.3%)	24,192 (100%)
Question 120: The timeliness of the decision to award or not award funding?	2,145 (8.9%)	4,987 (20.6%)	4,959 (20.5%)	7,849 (32.4%)	3,993 (16.5%)	291 (1.2%)	24,224 (100%)
Question 121: The fairness of the proposal review?	2,488 (10.3%)	4,195 (17.3%)	4,850 (20.0%)	7,294 (30.1%)	4,858 (20.1%)	519 (2.1%)	24,204 (100%)
Question 122: The quality of the proposal review?	2,716 (11.2%)	4,527 (18.7%)	4,275 (17.7%)	7,937 (32.8%)	4,192 (17.3%)	539 (2.2%)	24,186 (100%)
Question 123: Your interaction with NSF staff?	1,078 (4.5%)	1,683 (7.0%)	4,189 (17.4%)	5,524 (23.0%)	9,113 (37.9%)	2,465 (10.2%)	24,052 (100%)



NSF would like your feedback on your proposal experience with NSF

Question 124:

Overall, how satisfied were you with NSF's proposal submission and review processes?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Very Dissatisfied	1,597	6.6%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	3,417	14.1%
Neutral	3,270	13.5%
Somewhat Satisfied	10,254	42.2%
Very Satisfied	5,677	23.4%
I'm Not Sure	62	0.3%
Total	24,277	100.0%

Question 125:

Did NSF clearly communicate the criteria for how your proposal would be evaluated?

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	18,365	76.4%
No	5,683	23.6%
Total	24,048	100.0%

