

The NSF Economics Program

Society of Government Economists

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Introduction

- Economics at NSF
- How we work
- Our achievements
- Looking to the future



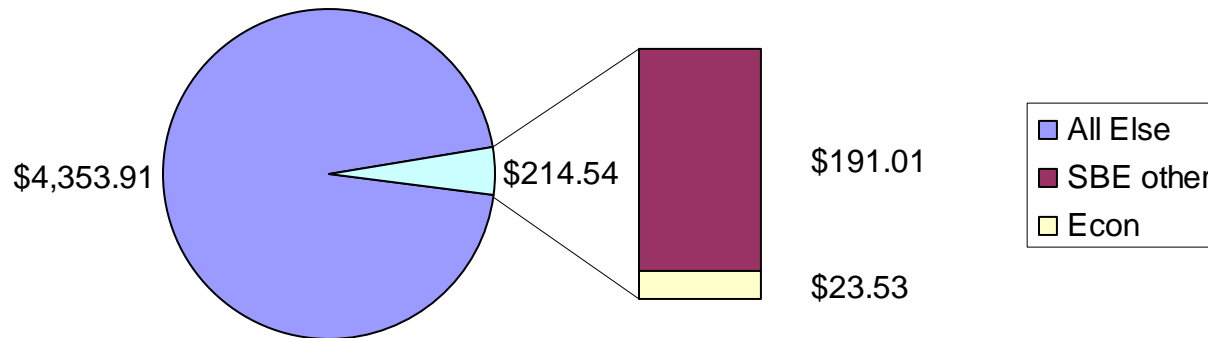
NSF: An Independent Agency

- “Promote progress of science, advance national health, prosperity and welfare” by funding all fields of fundamental science and engineering, except medicine.
- FY 08 budget: \$6.06 billion
- Global leader in how to fund basic research



How Big is the Economics Program?

FY 2007 Actual (\$Millions)



Merit Review Process

- Proposal Submitted
- External Review
 - Intellectual merit
 - Broader impact
- Program Directors decide whether to recommend funding at specific amount.

Selected Achievements

- 39 winners of the Nobel Prize
- NSF grantees provide policy leadership
- Early funding for transformative ideas
 - Experimental economics
 - Auction design
- Broad scope
 - Kidney exchange
 - Social networks and educational outcomes

Funding Infrastructure

- The Panel Study of Income Dynamics
- Luxembourg Income Study
- Penn World Tables
- Census Research Data Centers (start-up funding)



Next Generation of American Economists

- Variety of AEA programs to encourage broader participation in economics
- Graduate Research Fellowships and Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Awards
- Research assistance on faculty projects



Challenges and Opportunities

- Making administrative data more accessible for researchers.
- New research methods.
- Interdisciplinary research to meet national needs.
- Higher costs
- Issues with higher education funding.



How Can We Partner?

- Use nsf.gov to find out about NSF awards.
- Partner with us to fund specific projects.
- Let us know when an NSF awardee is providing testimony etc.

