



U-M RESEARCH AWARD AND EXPENDITURES REPORT
MARCH 2026

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This report summarizes the overall trends in grant and contract activity across all three campuses of the University of Michigan **through the seventh month of Fiscal Year 2026, which ended January 31.**

Total research expenditures through the seventh month of FY26 totaled \$1.24 billion, which is down 1.2% when compared to January 2025.

The number of research submissions through the seventh month of FY26 was down 2.1%, and the value of those submissions decreased 1.7% when compared to January 2025.

The number of new research awards from external sponsors during the seventh month of FY26 decreased 6.6%, and their value decreased 11.9% when compared to January 2025.

Arthur Lupia, Vice President for Research and Innovation

Shandra White, Associate Vice President for Research – Sponsored Projects

Jason Owen-Smith, Associate Vice President for Research – Institutional Capabilities and Research Intelligence



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Some highlights of this month's report include:

- A \$2.25M award from the Helmsley Charitable Trust supports gastroenterologist Allen Lee (Michigan Medicine Internal Medicine–Gastroenterology) and collaborators to [study](#) why many people with Crohn's disease still have symptoms even when their colonoscopies show no active inflammation. **Building on recent work that points to persistent microbial and metabolic changes in the gut as a likely driver of this “quiescent but symptomatic” state, the team will test whether targeting these pathways can provide more reliable treatment options for this large patient group.**
- A \$2.28M award from Courage Therapeutics supports neuroscientist Roger Cone (Life Sciences Institute / LSI-Admin) to [advance a new class of melanocortin-based drugs](#) that act directly on the brain's weight-regulation circuits. Cone, whose lab first showed how melanocortin receptors in the hypothalamus can flip between obesity and anorexia depending on how they're tuned, **is working with the U-M spinout to refine “Courage” peptides that may both boost existing GLP-1 weight-loss drugs and open options for people with genetic obesity or severe restrictive eating disorders, where today's treatments are thin or nonexistent.**
- A \$1.1M international network grant from the Fondation Leducq supports cardiologist and human geneticist Santhi Ganesh (U-M Medical School / Internal Medicine–Cardiology) through the [“Demystifying Fibromuscular Dysplasia”](#) consortium, ALIGN-FMD, which brings together clinicians, geneticists and patient partners across several countries. **Ganesh's team is working to untangle the genetic and vascular mechanisms behind fibromuscular dysplasia—a little-understood arterial disease that can cause strokes and heart attacks in otherwise healthy, often younger women—so doctors can move beyond guesswork toward clearer diagnosis, risk prediction and ultimately better treatments.**

Arthur Lupia, Vice President for Research and Innovation

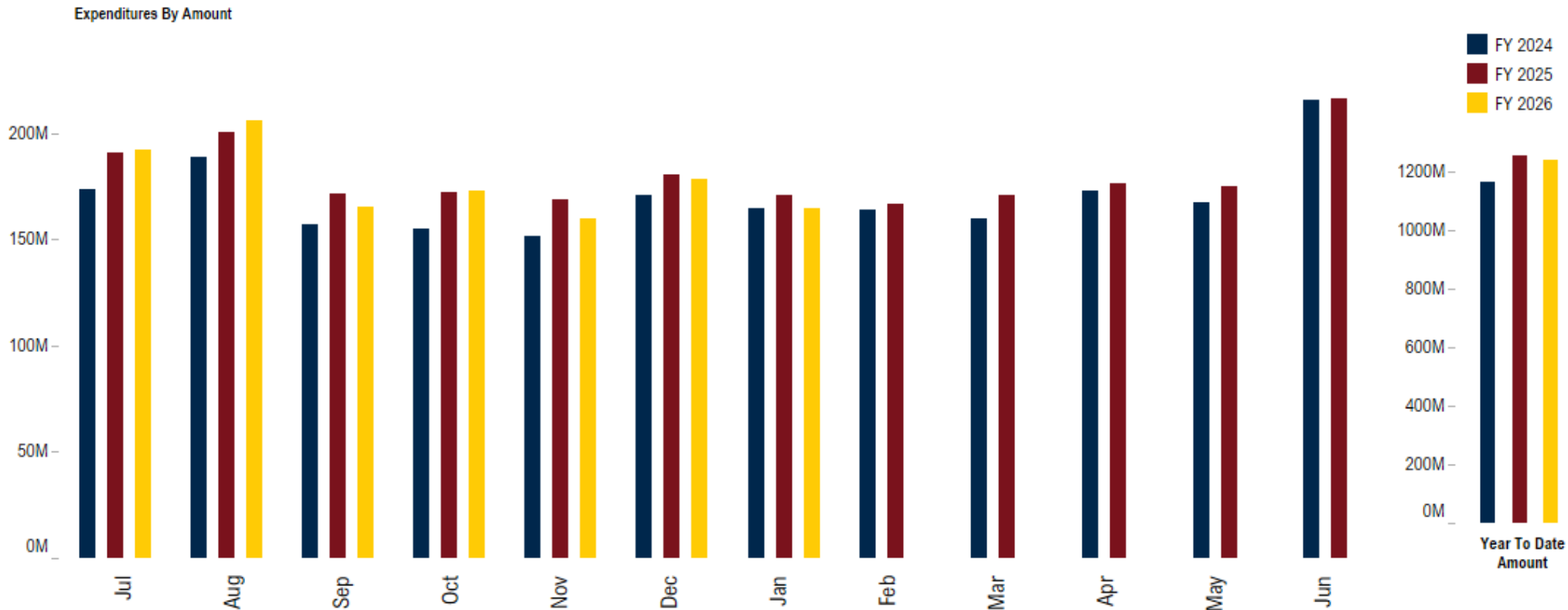
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Expenditures



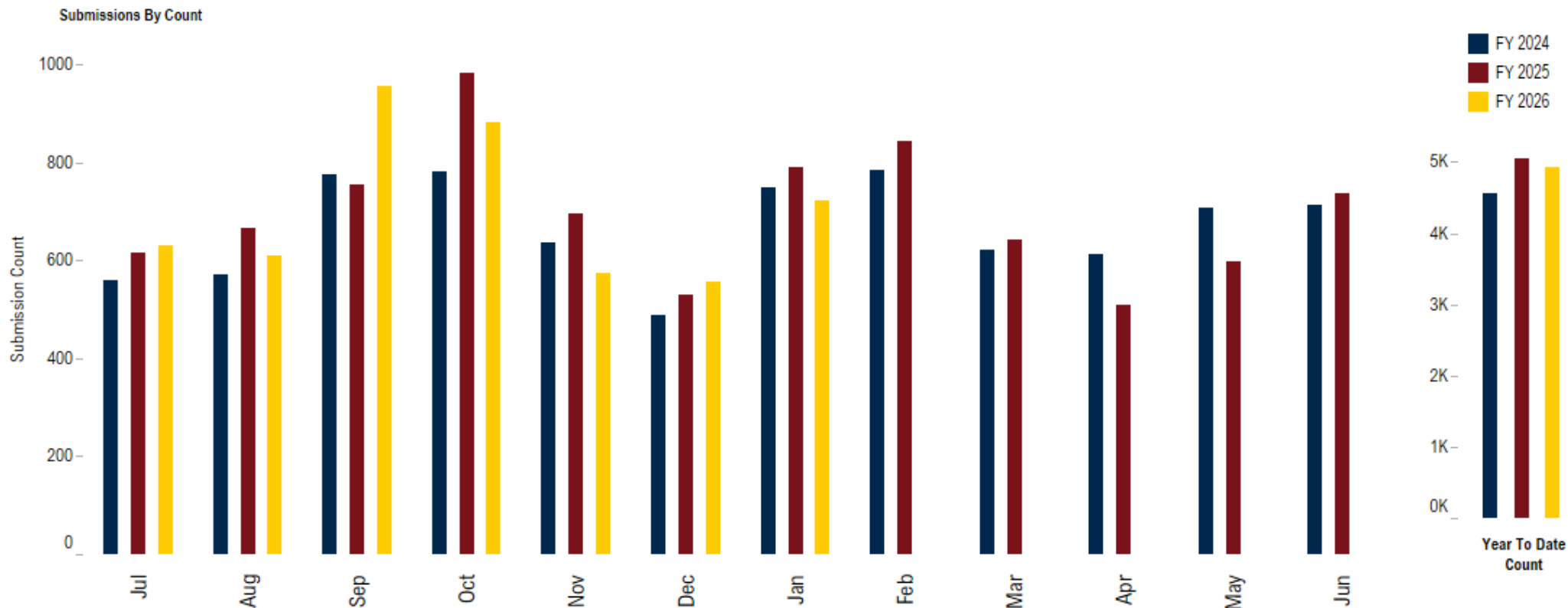
Year to Date

FY24: \$1,161,949,474

FY25: \$1,255,014,358

FY26: \$1,239,800,948

Submissions by Count



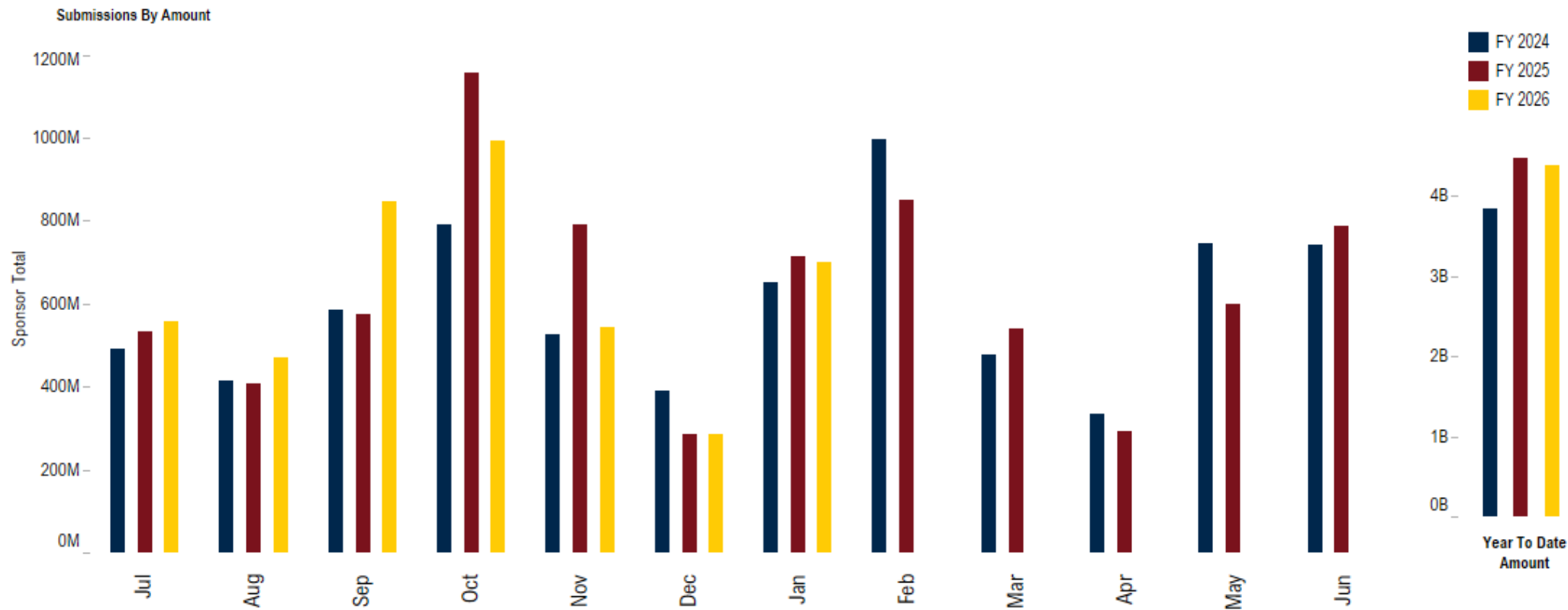
Year to Date

FY24: 4,565

FY25: 5,041

FY26: 4,936

Submissions by Amount



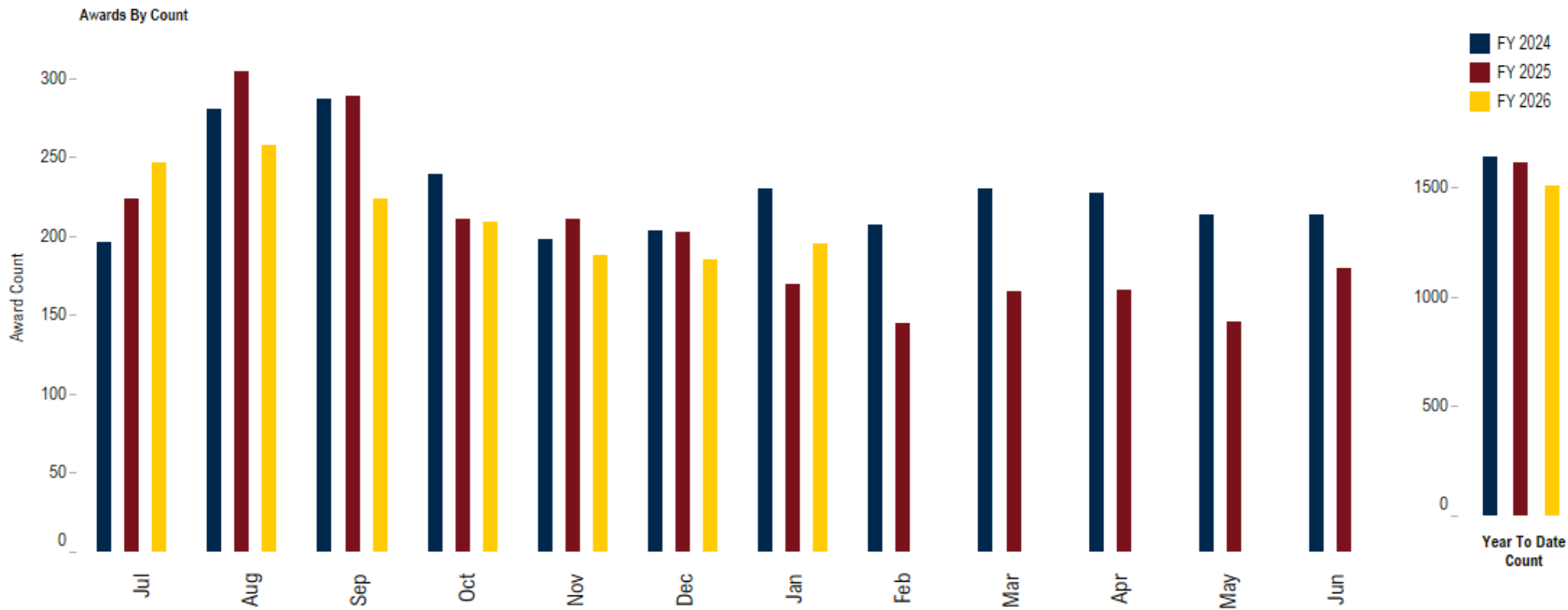
Year to Date

FY24: \$3,851,112,998

FY25: \$4,470,555,605

FY26: \$4,395,610,840

Awards by Count



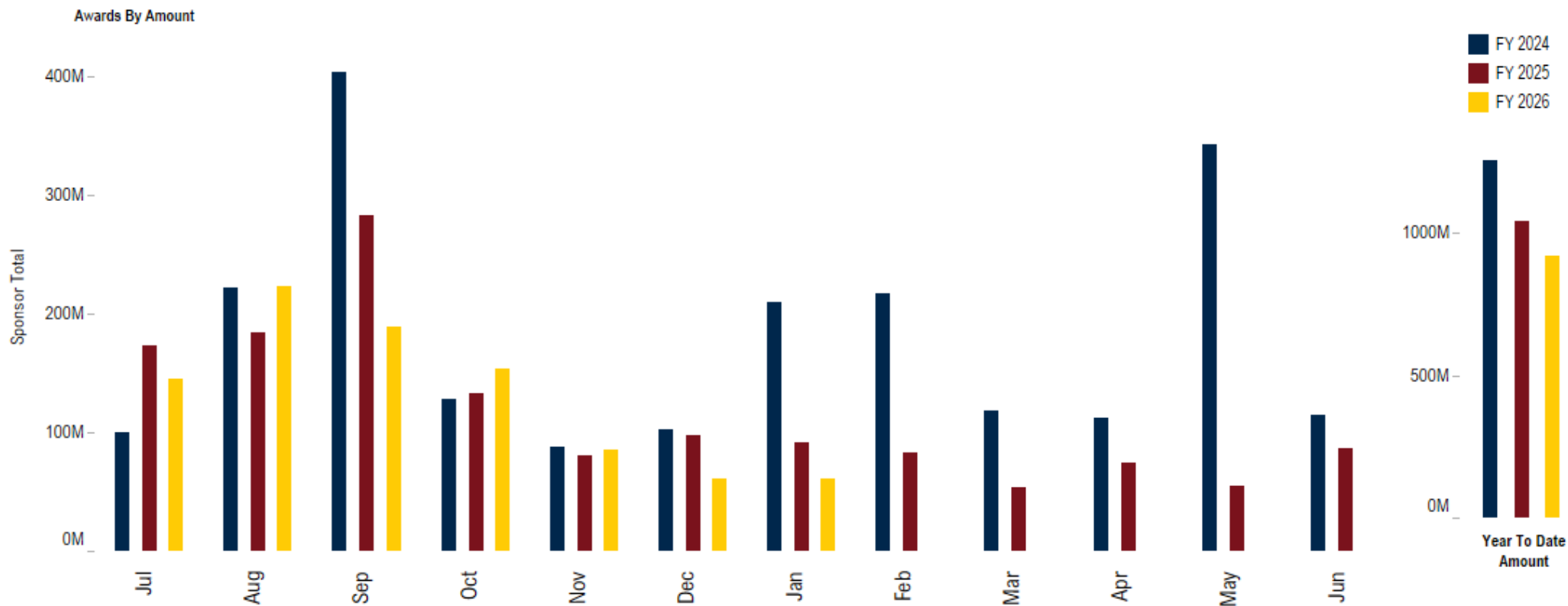
Year to Date

FY24: 1,635

FY25: 1,612

FY26: 1,506

Awards by Amount



Year to Date

FY24: \$1,254,062,218

FY25: \$1,043,334,906

FY26: \$918,776,428



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Top Monthly Awards

National Institutes of Health

Principal Investigator	Department	Award Title	Sponsor	Award Sponsor Total	Estimated Award Duration (years)
Todd, Peter	MM Neurology Department	Fragile X Premutations, Mechanisms and Modifiers	Health and Human Services, Department of-National Institutes of Health	\$7,904,413	5.0
Beamish, Jeffrey	MM Int Med-Nephrology	Mechanisms of epithelial cell state changes during kidney injury	Health and Human Services, Department of-National Institutes of Health	\$3,621,650	4.9
Hunter, Sandra	School of Kinesiology	Mechanisms of Fatigability and the Protective Effects of Exercise in People with Diabetes	Health and Human Services, Department of-National Institutes of Health	\$950,749	1.6

Department of Defense

Principal Investigator	Department	Award Title	Sponsor	Award Sponsor Total	Estimated Award Duration (years)
Pena-Francesch, Abdon	Materials Science & Engin.	Design of Zwitterionic Polymer Resins for Marine Biofouling Control	Defense, Department of-Navy, Department of the	\$655,298	3.0
Haji, Maha	Mechanical Engineering	3D printing under water (DARPA TRENTON)	Defense, Department of-Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency-Subcontracts	\$21,399	0.7



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Top Monthly Awards

Industry

Principal Investigator	Department	Award Title	Sponsor	Award Sponsor Total	Estimated Award Duration (years)
Sahai, Vaibhav	MM Int Med-Hematology/Oncology	A Phase 1, Open-label Study of VS-7375, a KRAS G12D (ON/OFF) Inhibitor, as Monotherapy and in Combination, in Patients with Advanced KRAS G12D Mutant Solid Tumors	Verastem, Inc.	\$2,596,020	5.0
Cone, Roger	Life Sciences Institute-Admin	Preclinical development and characterization of Courage melanocortin peptides	Courage Therapeutics, Inc.	\$2,282,420	2.0
Barmada, Sami	MM Neurology Department	A Phase 1B Open-Label, Multicenter, Dose Escalation Study to Assess the Safety, Tolerability and Pharmacodynamic Effects of a Single Dose of PBFT02 Delivered Into the Cisterna Magna (ICM) of Adult Subjects with Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) and Mutations in the Progranulin Gene (GRN)	Passage Bio, Inc.	\$1,701,672	7.1

Foundations

Principal Investigator	Department	Award Title	Sponsor	Award Sponsor Total	Estimated Award Duration (years)
Lee, Allen	MM Int Med-Gastroenterology	Symptom control in quiescent Crohn's Disease	Helmsley, The Leona M. and Harry B. Charitable	\$2,498,429	3.0
Ganesh, Santhi	MM Int Med-Cardiology	Demystifying Fibromuscular Dysplasia	Foundation Leducq	\$1,065,651	5.0
Giordano, Christopher	Flint Div of Student Affairs	The University of Michigan-Flint's (UMFlint) two year Student Basic Needs Advisory Council (SBNAC)	Kresge Foundation	\$300,000	2.0
Neumar, Robert	MM Emergency Medicine Research	Transcontinental Cardiac Arrest Experimental Network for Discovery (TRANSCEND)	Asmund S Laerdal Foundation Inc	\$300,000	3.0