

When the Various National Institutes of Health and National Centers and NIH Offices Were Established

(Pat McNees's timeline¹)

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*This list is based on information from the NIH Almanac and other sources.² Dates given indicate when an institute was actually established, not when it was authorized, which is often the preceding year. **Current institutes³ are in boldface.** Links to the various institutes can be found here: <http://www.nih.gov/icd/>*

The Institutes

(by date established)

Hygienic Laboratory, 1887, which became
National Microbiological Institute (included Divisions of Infectious Diseases, Tropical Diseases,
and Biologics Standards from National Institute of Health), 1948, which became
[National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases \(NIAID\)](#), 1955

National Institute of Health, 1930, which became
[National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#), 1948

[National Cancer Institute \(NCI\)](#), 1937

National Heart Institute, 1948, which became
National Heart and Lung Institute, 1969, which became
[National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute \(NHLBI\)](#), 1976

National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR), 1948, which became
[National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research \(NIDCR\)](#), 1988

Experimental Biology and Medicine Institute (included Divisions of Pharmacology and Chemistry of the
National Institute of Health), 1948, which became

National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases (NIAMD), 1950

National Institute of Arthritis, Metabolism, and Digestive Diseases (NIAMDD), 1972

National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIADDK), 1981
which split off and became two separate institutes:

[National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases \(NIAMS\)](#),
1986

[National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases \(NIDDK\)](#), 1986

National Institute of Mental Health, authorized 1946, established (funded) 1949

NIMH left NIH and became a separate bureau within the Public Health Service; joined Health
Services and Mental Health Administration (HSMHA) when it was formed, 1967

HSMHA abolished; NIMH came back to NIH briefly, 1973

¹ I prepared this when I was writing *Building Ten at Fifty: 50 Years of Clinical Research at the NIH Clinical Center*, to help myself keep track of what existed when. A selection from *Building Ten at Fifty* can be read here:

<http://clinicalcenter.nih.gov/about/news/anniver50/opening.shtml>

² NIH Almanac: http://www.nih.gov/about/almanac/historical/chronology_of_events.htm

A Short History of the NIH: <http://history.nih.gov/exhibits/history/index.html>

NIH Institutes, Centers, Offices (alphabetical order): <http://history.nih.gov/01docs/historical/2020c.htm>

³ Look here for a list of current institutes: <http://www.nih.gov/about/almanac/organization/index.htm>

Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) formed; NIMH became part of ADAMHA, 1974

NIMH research components rejoined NIH; NIMH services branches joined new agency: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); and NIMH rejoined NIH, resumed its original identity, with ADAMHA Reorganization Act, 1992 (which abolished ADAMHA)

[National Institute of Mental Health](#) (NIMH), resumed original identity, 1992

National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, 1950, split off and became

[National Eye Institute](#) (NEI), 1968 and

National Institute of Neurological Diseases, August 1968, which became

National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, October 1968

National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke, 1975, which split off and became

[National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke](#) (NINDS), 1988 and

[National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders](#) (NIDCD), 1988

[National Institute of Child Health and Human Development](#) (NICHD), 1962

Armed Forces Medical Library renamed National Library of Medicine, 1956

Joined NIH, 1968, becoming

[National Library of Medicine](#) (NLM), 1968

[National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences](#) (NIEHS), 1969

[National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse](#) (NIAAA), created as an independent federal agency, 1970

Became a part of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA), 1974

Resumed its original identity, through ADAMHA Reorganization Act, 1992

Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA), established in 1973, brought together existing and new groups, then was abolished in 1992, when those groups resumed their identities as:

[National Institute on Drug Abuse](#) (NIDA), 1992

[National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse](#) (NIAAA), 1974, which resumed being an independent institute in 1992

[National Institute of Mental Health](#), which resumed being an independent institute in 1992

[National Institute on Aging](#) (NIA), 1974

National Center for Nursing Research, 1986, which became

[National Institute for Nursing Research](#) (NINR), 1993

National Center for Human Genome Research, 1989, which became

[National Human Genome Research Institute](#) (NHGRI)⁴, 1997

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, 2000

⁴ <http://www.genome.gov/10001763>

The Centers

Division of Research Grants (office established to manage extramural grants), 1946, became
[Center for Scientific Review \(CSR\)](#), 1997

[NIH Clinical Center \(CC\)](#)⁵, 1953

Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center, dedication as, 1980

Mark O. Hatfield Clinical Research Center (CRC), completed 2004, opened to patients 2005

Division of Computer Research and Technology, 1964, became
[Center for Information Technology \(CIT\)](#), 1998

[John E. Fogarty International Center \(FIC\)](#), 1968

[National Center for Research Resources \(NCRR\)](#), 1990

Office of Alternative Medicine, 1992

[National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine \(NCCAM\)](#), 1998

Office of Research on Minority Health (ORMH), 1993

[National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities \(NCMHD\)](#), 2000

The Offices

Selected Components of the Office of the Director, NIH:

Office of AIDS Research (OAR), 1988

Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), 1990

Office of Rare Diseases Research (ORDR), 1993

Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS), 1994

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), 1995

⁵ <http://www.cc.nih.gov/ccc/crc/milestones.html>