

Issue: Cyber Security R&D Funding

Position: The 2002 Cyber Security Research and Development act (P.L. 107-305) authorized nearly \$900 million in long-term cyber security R&D at the National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology. CRA remains concerned that the President's current budget request continues to underfund this critical area of research at both NSF and NIST, as well as at the Department of Homeland Security.

- Information technology systems underpin key industries such as telecommunications and financial services, and also play a vital role in the smooth functioning of critical infrastructures and services, such as transportation systems, the electric power grid, and emergency response capabilities.

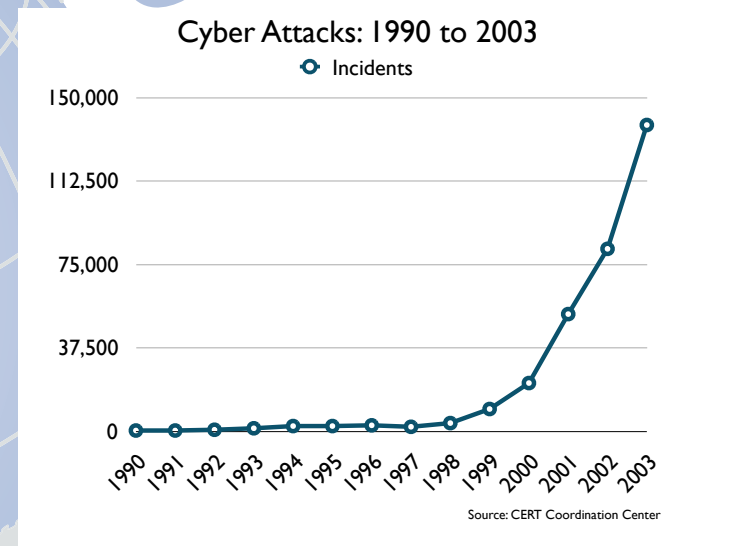
- Over 137,000 individual cyber attacks were reported in 2004.

- Out of a science and technology budget of over \$800 million in FY 2004, the Department of Homeland Security targeted only \$18 million on cyber security research and development.

- CRA remains especially concerned at the \$22 million cut to NIST's FY 2004 appropriation, which will result in a substantial halt to the agency's cyber security efforts -- including the agency's work to aid other federal agencies defend themselves from cyber attack.

- CRA is pleased that NSF has undertaken a Cyber Trust program aimed at bolster the agency's investment in long-term cyber security research. We support continued funding for this effort.

- While it is important that DHS efforts to improve US cyber security in the short term by focusing on technologies with very short time-to-deployments, we feel it is in the long-range interest of the US to allow DHS to focus some effort on fundamental, long-term cybersecurity R&D.



“As a nation, we are not focusing sufficiently on this very real threat.”

-Dr. Rita Colwell, former Director, NSF

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