



CANCER PREVENTION & RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

QUARTERLY SNAPSHOT

SPRING 2026

CPRIT BY-THE-NUMBERS

\$4.1 B

TOTAL DOLLARS
AWARDED

2,285

TOTAL AWARDS

43

TOTAL INSTITUTIONS
AWARDED

11.8 M

PREVENTION
SERVICES

77

TEXAS COMPANY
INVESTMENTS

13%

% PORTFOLIO DEDICATED TO
CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH

THIS MEETING

69

GRANTS
APPROVED

\$103 M

FUNDS
AWARDED

NEW GRANT ZOOM-IN

RP260901 ■ TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY ■ AUSTIN GRAYBEAL, PH.D.

BRIGHT: A mobile 3D imaging tool to predict breast density and encourage mammogram adherence

Since 2009, CPRIT has awarded research grants to more than 40 Texas institutions. At this meeting, that list grew to include Texas Christian University (TCU) in Fort Worth. The Oversight Committee approved a \$250,000 award to TCU and Dr. Austin Graybeal to develop a new tool to help encourage greater participation in mammograms. Breast cancer remains the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Texas women. Early detection saves lives, yet many women continue to delay mammogram screenings. BRIGHT (Breast cancer Risk Image-Generated Health Tool) is a new tool that uses mobile cameras to capture private, non-contact images at home, then uses validated AI models to analyze these images and predict breast density, a key risk factor in breast cancer. BRIGHT then provides personalized explanation of the results, why regular screening matters, and facilitates follow-up screening.

GRANT SPOTLIGHT ■ SKIN CANCER / MELANOMA

RR220054 ■ TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY ■ VANDERLEI BAGNATO, PH.D.

Recruitment of Dr. Vanderlei Bagnato to Texas A&M University

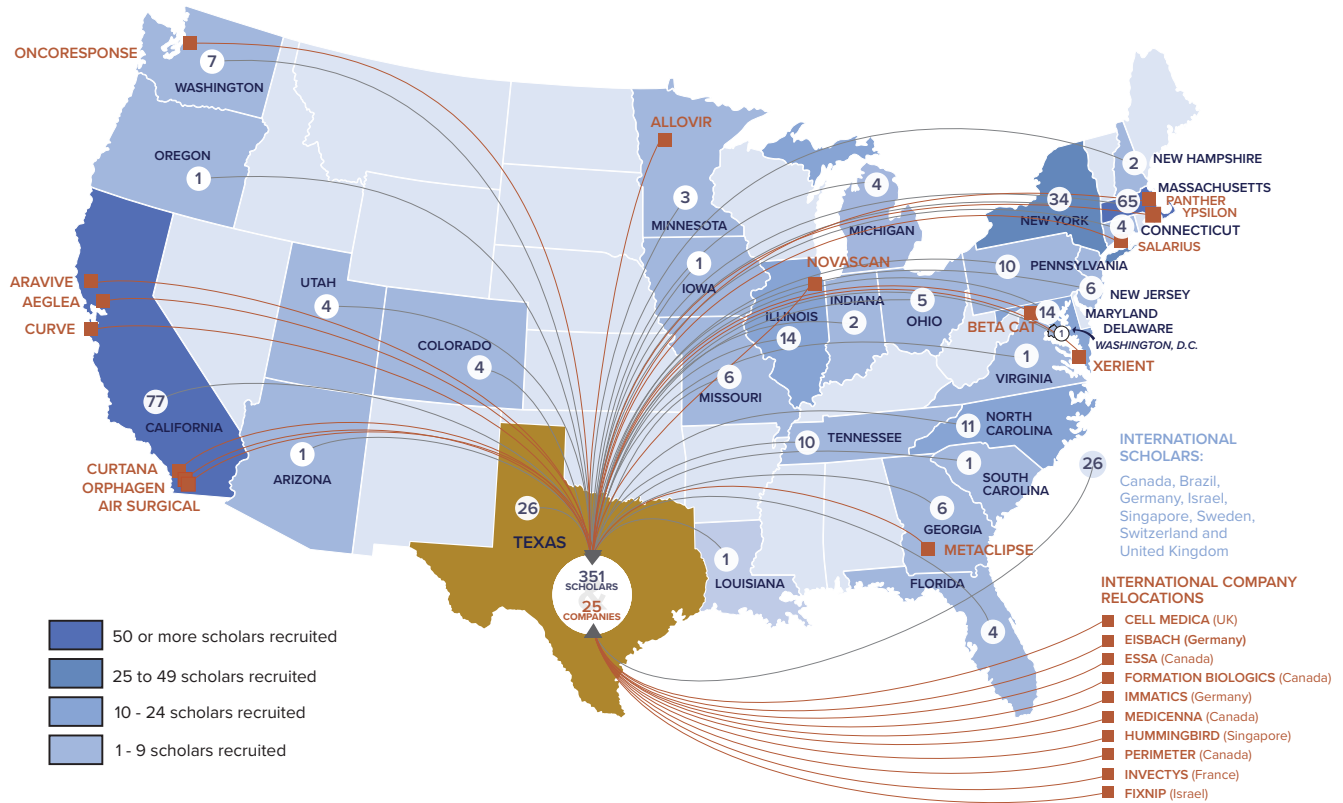
With melanoma on the rise in Texas, CPRIT continues to fund projects to fight this cancer. Dr. Vanderlei Bagnato is a world-renowned physicist and biomedical engineer leading groundbreaking research in biophotonics—or light-based therapies—for skin cancer treatment. He is heavily focused on optimizing Photodynamic Therapy (PDT) and Sonodynamic Therapy (SDT) to provide non-invasive, cost-effective, and highly efficient alternatives to traditional cancer surgeries. CPRIT awarded Texas A&M University approximately \$6 million in 2022 to bring Dr. Bagnato to Central Texas from Brazil. He is the first CPRIT Scholar from South America.

In his CPRIT-supported research, Dr. Bagnato is exploring the integration of PDT with ultrasound to treat both non-melanoma and melanoma skin cancers. Dr. Bagnato aims to optimize these techniques using advanced instrumentation and protocols tailored to Texas patients.



Scholars & Companies

CPRIT enabled the recruitment of 351 scholars and 25 companies to Texas from around the world



Prevention Services

CPRIT grants helped deliver 11.8 million prevention services to Texans in all 254 counties

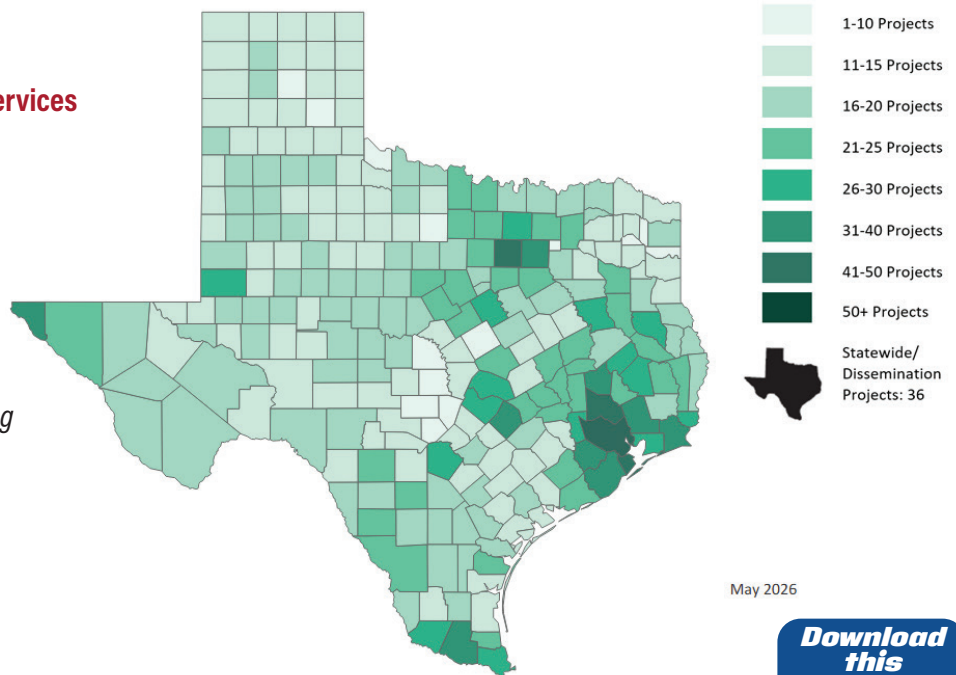
Including:

4.47 million Education & Training Services

2.96 million Navigation Services

4.39 million Clinical Services:

- ▷ Vaccinations
- ▷ Tobacco Cessation
- ▷ Screening: breast, cervical, colorectal, and lung
- ▷ Genetic testing and counseling
- ▷ Survivor care



May 2026

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