



# Citizen Science

**Citizen Science  
Program  
Indicators**

**2019-2025**



# Planning & Evaluation

In 2025, the Citizen Science Program developed key indicators for each Program goal to support evaluation of progress, identify opportunities for improvement, and measure the Program's on-going impact.

These indicators were developed with input from advisory panels and the Council and will be monitored annually.

The indicators presented below cover the time period from 2019 – 2025.

# Citizen Science Program Goals

## GOAL 1

**Design, implement, and sustain a program framework** to guide the development of projects that support fishery management decision making.

## GOAL 2

Facilitate the development of **individual projects** to **address** specific **research priorities**.

## GOAL 3

Ensure that **data** collected by projects are **accessible, robust, and fit for purpose**.

## GOAL 4

Foster mutual **learning, collaboration, and** program **engagement**.



**Citizen  
Science**

# Program Indicators

## GOAL 1: PROGRAM

1. Diverse perspectives advising Program
2. Program seen as resource or example for others

## GOAL 2: PROJECT

3. Number of projects
4. Diversity of research priorities addressed through projects
5. Diversity of FMPs addressed through projects
6. Proposal submissions by or in collaboration with Program
7. External funding to support Program & project activities

## GOAL 3: DATA

8. Data considered for use in assessment & management
9. Projects inform future research

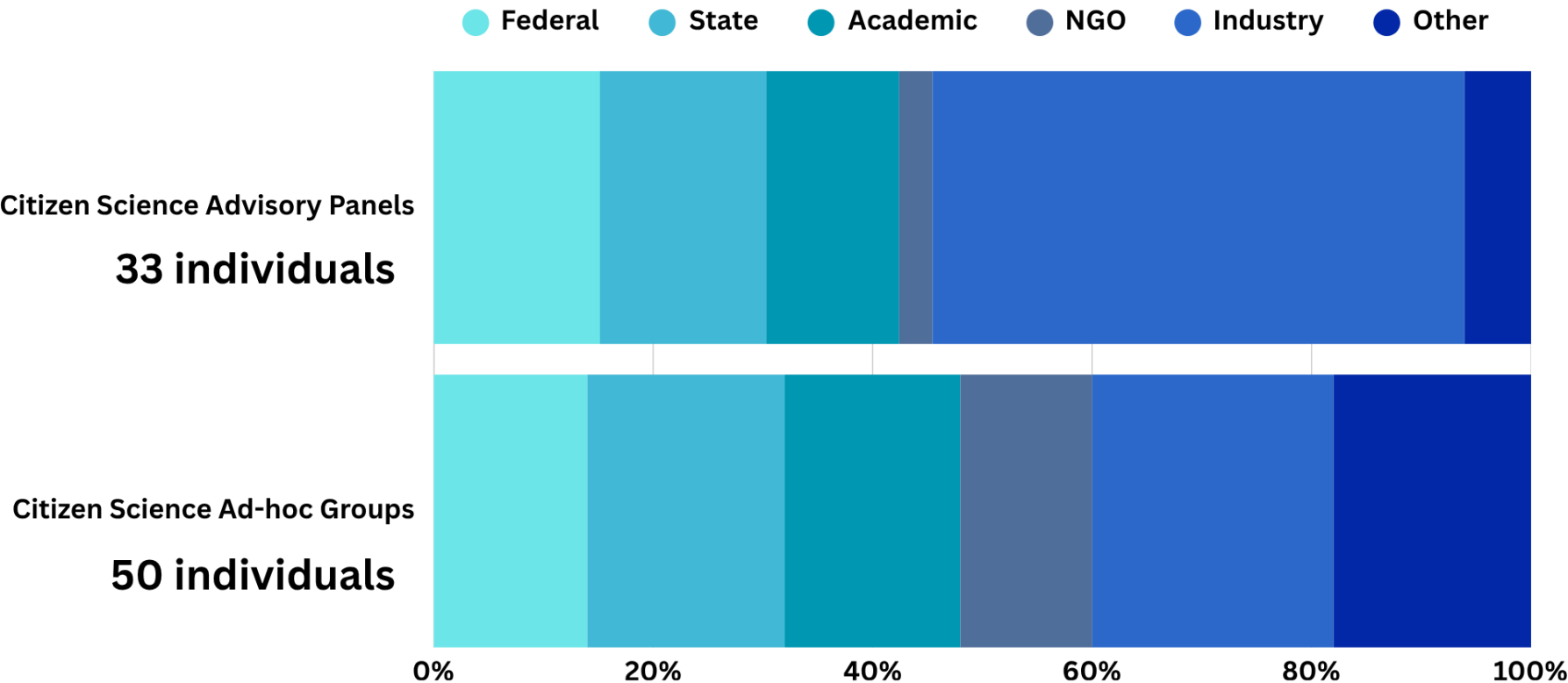
## GOAL 4: COLLABORATION & ENGAGEMENT

10. Number of volunteers
11. Diversity of ways volunteers can engage with Program
12. Number and diversity of partners contributing to Program
13. Number and diversity of outreach activities
14. Online Reach

# GOAL 1

*Indicator #1*  
Diverse  
perspectives  
advising Program

Number of people that have served on Advisory Groups for the Citizen Science Program by organization type, 2017-2025



# GOAL 1

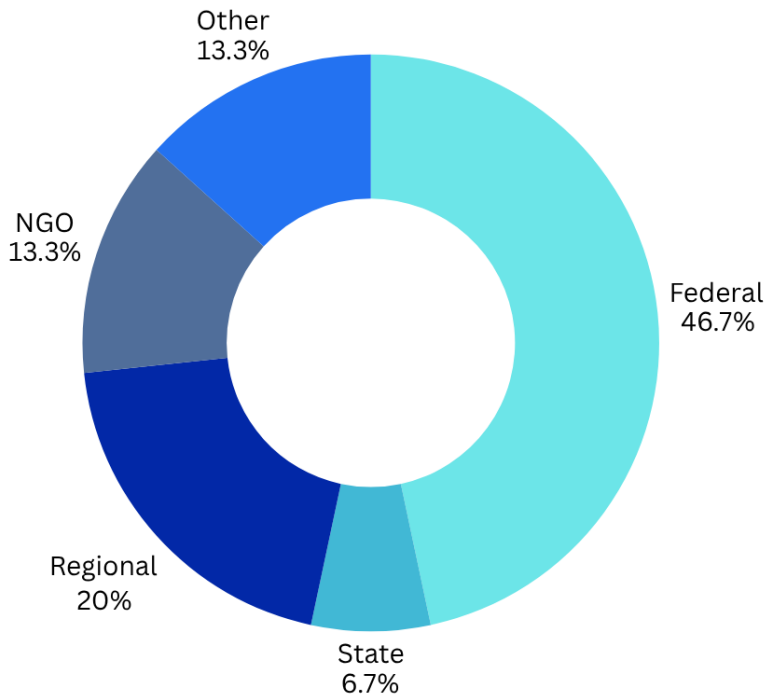
## Indicator #2

Program seen as a resource or example for others

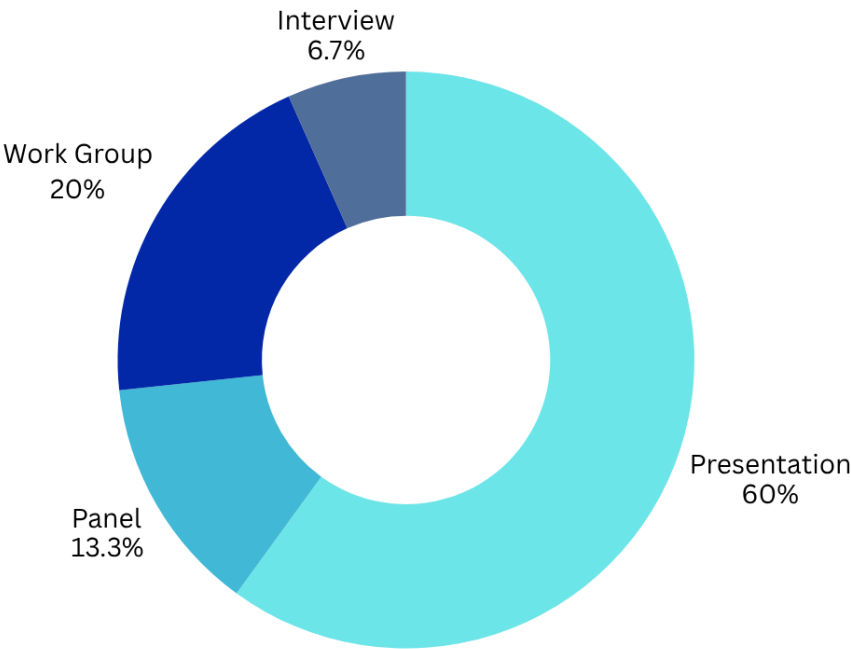
### Invitations to share information on the CitSci Program & projects

15 Total Invitations

Invited By



Activity Type



# GOAL 2

Indicator #3  
Number of projects

Indicator #4  
Diversity of research priorities addressed through projects

Indicator #5  
Diversity of FMPs addressed through projects

## Projects developed by or in collaboration with CitSci Program

3 completed projects



Development of SciFish mobile app

Dolphin Wahoo Participatory Workshops led by NOAA



Program Evaluation: Bonney & Sweeney Tookes et al.

3 ongoing projects



Addressing 3 different research needs

Discard Information

Historic Fishing Photos

Data limited species

Filling data gaps across 3 Fishery Management Plans



Snapper Grouper



Coastal Migratory Pelagics



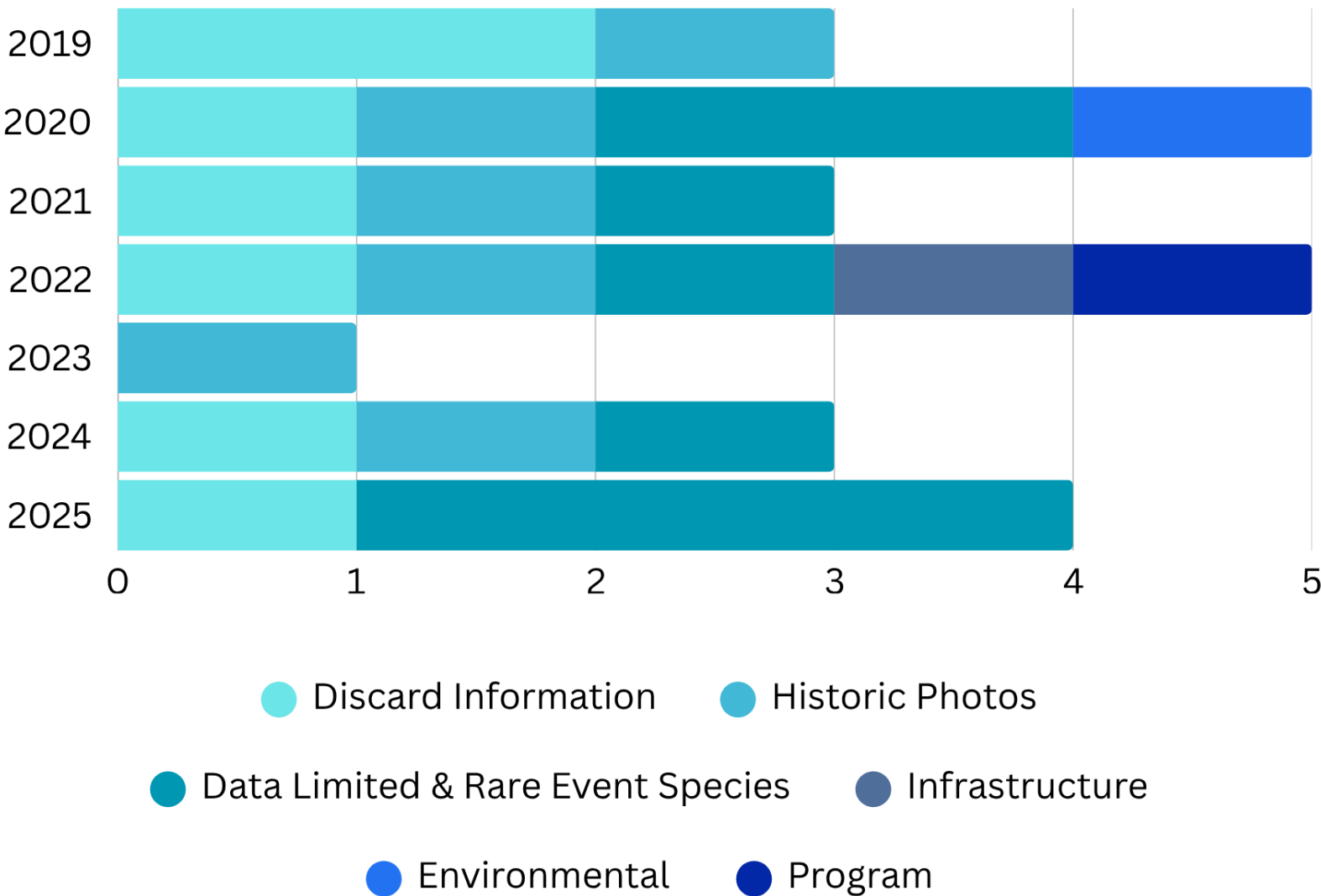
Dolphin Wahoo



# GOAL 2

Indicator #6  
Proposal submission  
by or in collaboration  
with Program

Number of proposal submissions by or in collaboration with the CitSci Program by research priority

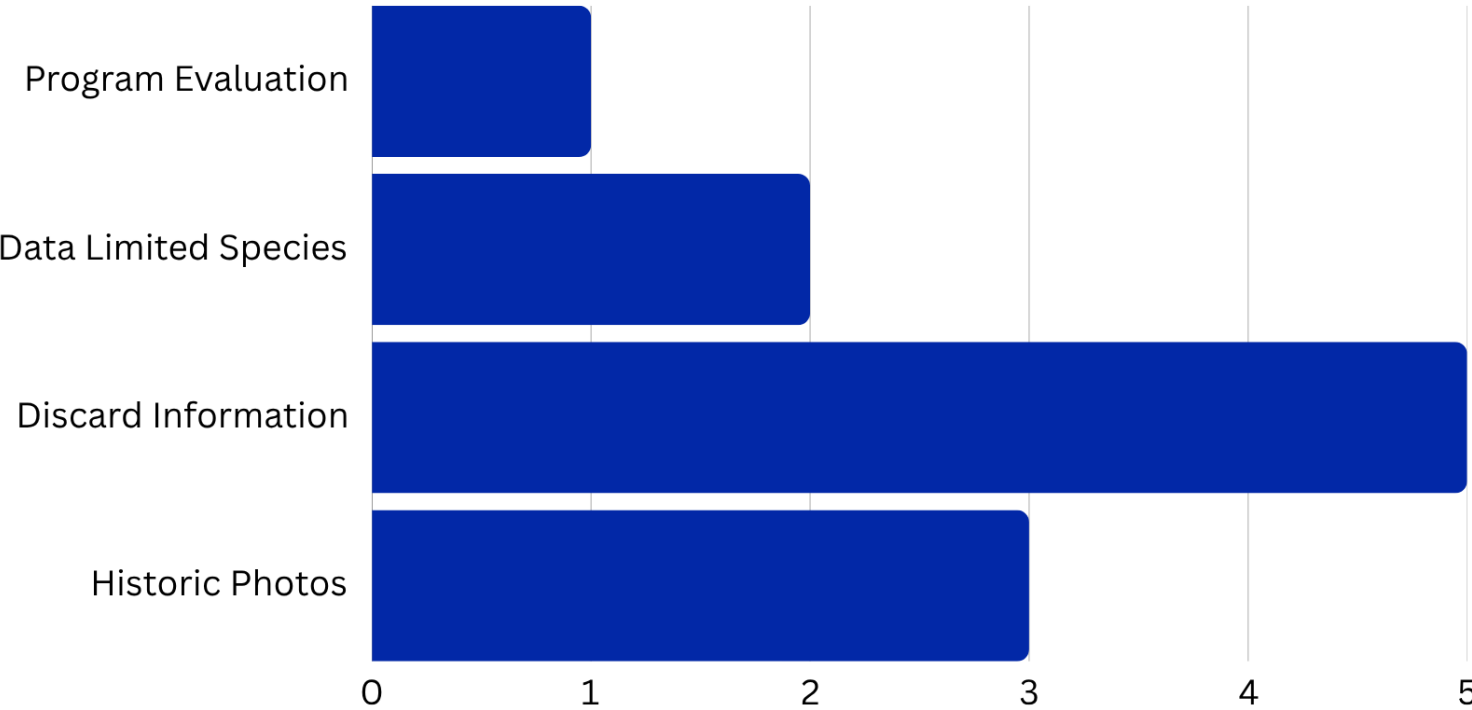




# GOAL 2

*Indicator #7*  
External funding to support Program and project activities

Number of external grants CitSci Program has received by research priority, 2019-2025



Plus: 2024 MOU finalized with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission which provides more flexibility in opportunities to fund the Program and projects

# GOAL 3

Indicator #8  
Projects considered  
for use in  
assessment or  
management

Indicator #9  
Projects inform  
future research

|                                                                                                | <div>SEDAR 68<br/>South Atlantic Scamp<br/>Spring 2020</div> <div></div> <div>Recommended<br/>for use<br/>Research<br/>recommendations</div> | <div>SEDAR 90<br/>South Atlantic Red Snapper<br/>April 2025</div> <div></div> <div>Recommended<br/>for use<br/>Research<br/>recommendations</div> | <div>SEDAR 94<br/>Florida Hogfish<br/>August 2025</div> <div></div> <div>Recommended<br/>for use<br/>Research<br/>recommendations</div> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div></div>   | <div>✕* ✓</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <div>✓ ✓</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <div>Not applicable</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <div></div>   | <div>Not applicable</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <div>✓ ✓</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <div>Not applicable</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <div></div> | <div>Not applicable</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <div>Not applicable</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <div>+** ✓</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

\*SAFMC Release started in June 2019, so limited data were available from the project. Although the data weren't recommended for use in the assessment, SEDAR 68 Data Panelists found the info useful when interpreting trends in other data sources.

\*\* An index with combined data from NMFS' Roving Visual Census Survey and REEF's Volunteer Fish Survey Project (outside citizen science project) were recommended for use in a sensitivity run.

**GOAL 4**

*Indicator #10*  
Number of  
volunteers

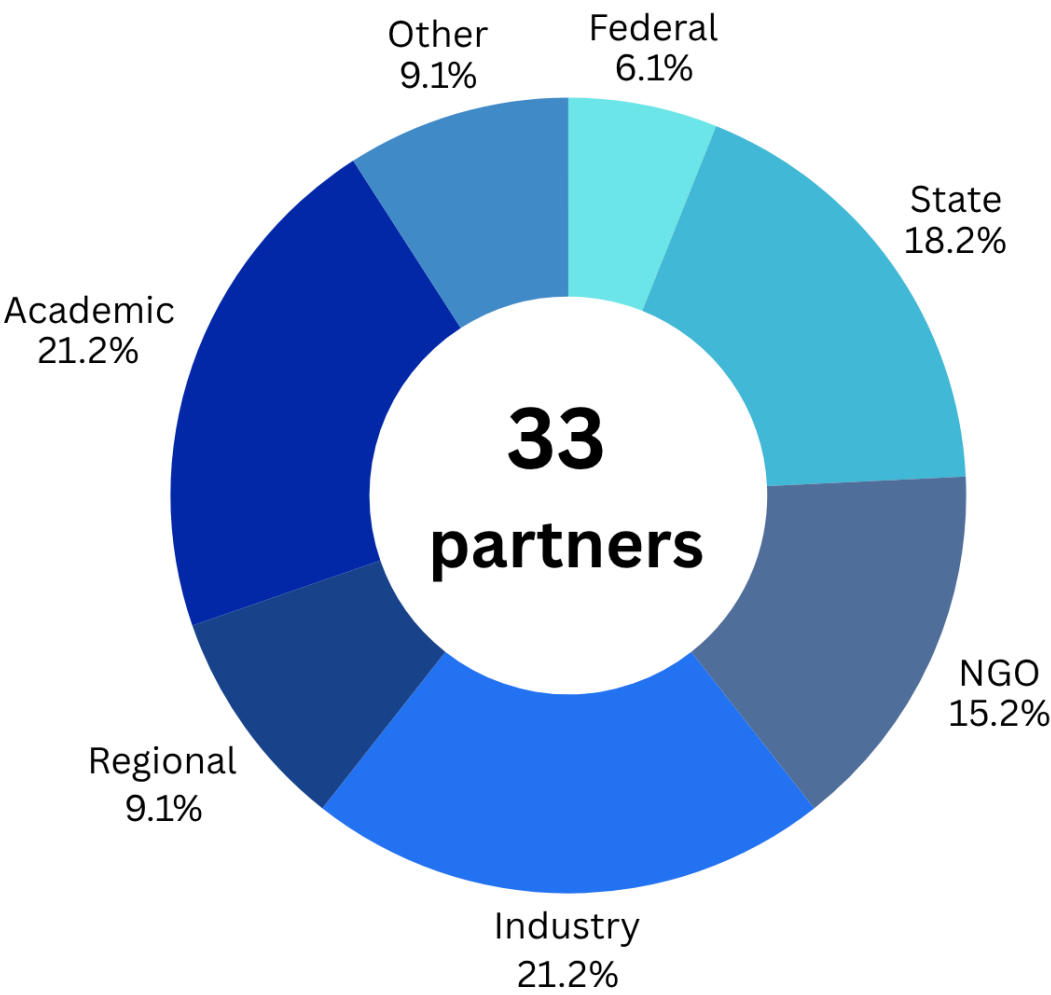
*Indicator #11*  
Diversity of ways  
volunteers can  
engage with  
Program



**GOAL 4**

*Indicator #12*  
Number and  
diversity of partners  
contributing to  
Program

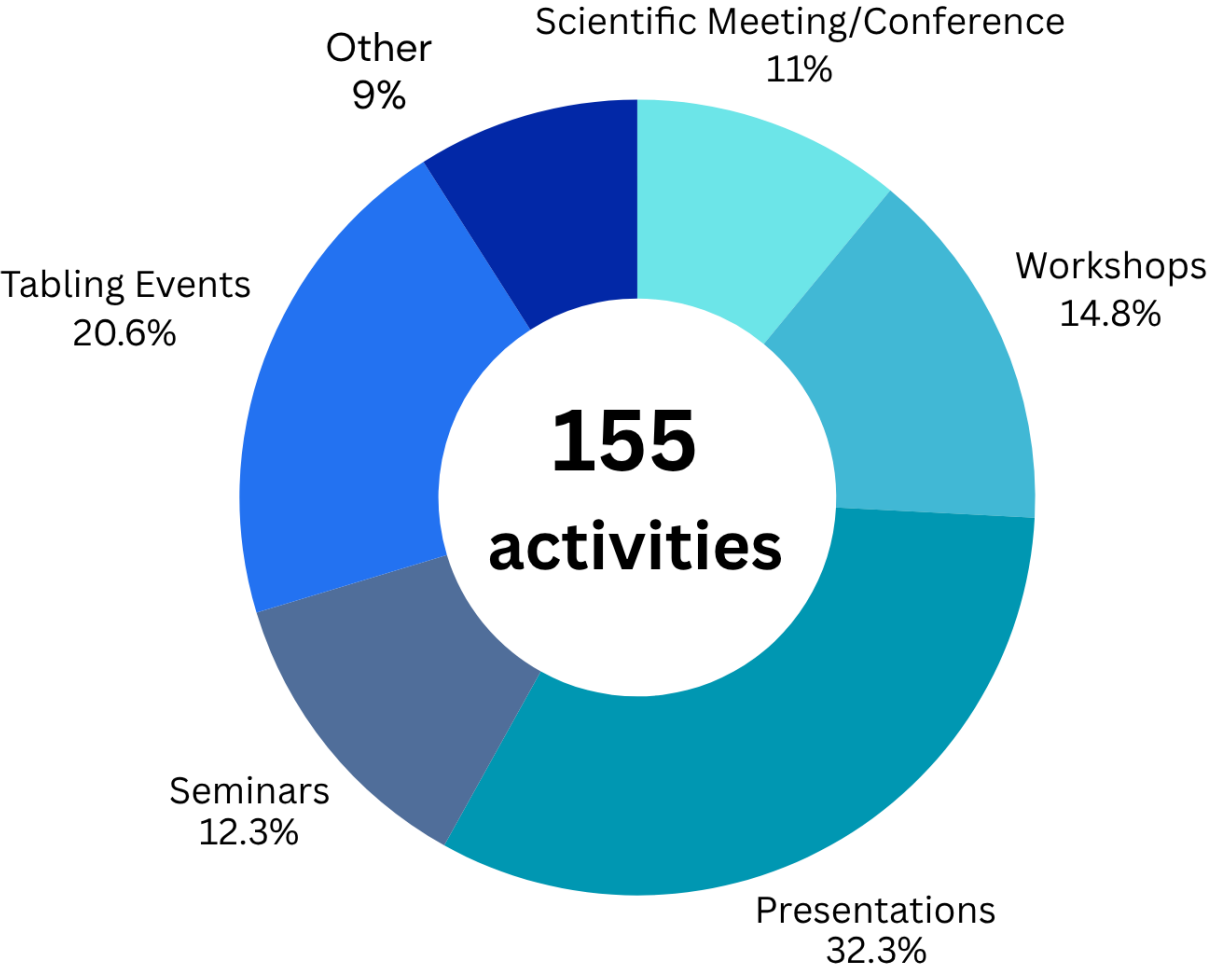
**Citizen Science Program partnerships by organization type,  
2019 - 2025**



**GOAL 4**

*Indicator #13*  
Number and  
diversity of  
outreach activities

**Outreach activities by CitSci Program  
and collaborators, 2019 - 2025**



GOAL 4

Indicator #14  
Online Reach



Webpage views

July 1, 2023 - Nov 11, 2025

| Web Page                               | Number of Views |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| CitSci Program                         | 2,115           |
| CitSci Program Development & Resources | 395             |
| SAFMC Release                          | 4,670           |
| FISHstory                              | 1,699           |
| SMILE                                  | 360             |



QR code scans

Nov 2023 - Nov 11, 2025

| QR Code             | Total Scans / Unique Scans |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| CitSci Program      | 28 / 28                    |
| SAFMC Release       | 295 / 271                  |
| FISHstory           | 8 / 8                      |
| Project idea Portal | 22 / 22                    |



Social media analytics

July 1, 2023 - April 15, 2025

| Metric: Platform                | Post                                                  | Number              |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Top reach: Facebook             | FISHstory March 1, 2024                               | 2.8k reach          |
| Top likes & reactions: Facebook | FISHstory July 5, 2024<br>SAFMC Release Sept 1, 2024  | 26 like & reactions |
| Top comments: Facebook          | FISHstory March 1, 2024<br>SAFMC Release Aug 30, 2024 | 20 comments         |
| Top shares: Instagram           | SAFMC Release June 21, 2024                           | 7 shares            |