

# National Science Foundation Ice Core Facility (NSF-ICF)

## Quick Guide for the Media

**Facility Name:** National Science Foundation - Ice Core Facility

**Facility Name Abbreviation:** NSF-ICF

**Funded by:** U.S. National Science Foundation

**Operated by:** U.S. Geological Survey

**Main archive freezer temperature:**  $-36^{\circ}\text{C} = -32.8^{\circ}\text{F}$

**Exam room temperature:**  $-20^{\circ}\text{C} = -4^{\circ}\text{F}$

**Amount of ice stored:** 22,000 meters = 13.67 miles

**About the facility:** The facility was established in 1993 as the National Ice Core Laboratory (NICL) and renamed in 2018 to the National Science Foundation Ice Core Facility (NSF-ICF). NSF-ICF is located at the Denver Federal Center in Lakewood, Colorado, and is funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF). NSF-ICF is housed administratively within the U.S. Geological Survey, Core Science Systems Mission Area, which is responsible for all operational aspects of the facility. The facility's most important responsibility is for the safe and secure storage and curation of ice cores that are collected primarily by NSF-sponsored projects. The laboratory also provides the opportunity for scientists to examine ice cores without having to travel to remote field sites. The main archive freezer is held at a temperature of  $-36^{\circ}\text{C}$  (which is  $-32.8^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). A second room for examination of ice cores is held at  $-24^{\circ}\text{C}$  (which is  $-4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). The facility currently stores over 22,000 meters (which is 13.67 miles) of ice core collected from various locations in Antarctica, Greenland, and North America.

**Website:** <https://icecores.org>