

MaRS Discovery District — Toronto's Innovation Hub and Its 2024 Reckoning

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Quality score: 38/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Founded in 2001, MaRS grew into a 1,400-venture Toronto hub with \$2.4B in portfolio capital raised (2020) — but by 2024 non-government revenue had fallen 65% since 2019, forcing layoffs and a reset: a caution on innovation-agency funding.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	0/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	0/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[MaRS Discovery District](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[The Globe and Mail: MaRS slashes top ranks as government-funded innovation agency looks to reset mandate](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

[Wikipedia: MaRS Discovery District](#) — accessed 2026-07-23

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