



**Chandra X-ray  
Observatory Center**

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**The Eagle Nebula (M16):** A nearby star-forming region about 5,700 light years from Earth.  
(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/SAO; Optical: NASA/STScI)

**Caption:** Using Chandra, researchers detected over 1,700 X-ray sources in the field of the Eagle Nebula. Two thirds of these sources are likely young stars located in the Nebula, and some of them are seen in this small field of view around the Pillars of Creation. This new composite image combines X-ray data from Chandra and Hubble Space Telescope optical data. The optical image shows the Pillars and a few stars that appear as pink dots. The Chandra data reveal X-rays from young stars, where low, medium, and high-energy X-rays have been colored red, green, and blue

**Scale:** The image is about 2.5 arcmin (5.13 light years) across.

*Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image*

*CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory*

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