



**Chandra X-ray
Observatory Center**

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NGC 6357: NGC 6357: A star formation region about 5,500 light years from Earth.
(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/PSU/L.Townsley et al; Optical: UKIRT; Infrared: NASA/JPL-Caltech)

Caption: This composite image captures the star formation region called NGC 6357 located within the Milky Way galaxy. X-rays from Chandra and ROSAT (purple) reveal hundreds of point sources, which are the young stars in NGC 6357, as well as diffuse X-ray emission from hot gas. These have been combined with infrared data from Spitzer (orange) and optical data from the SuperCosmos survey (blue) to complete this spectacular cosmic vista.

Scale: Image is about 44 arcmin (70 light years)

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory
