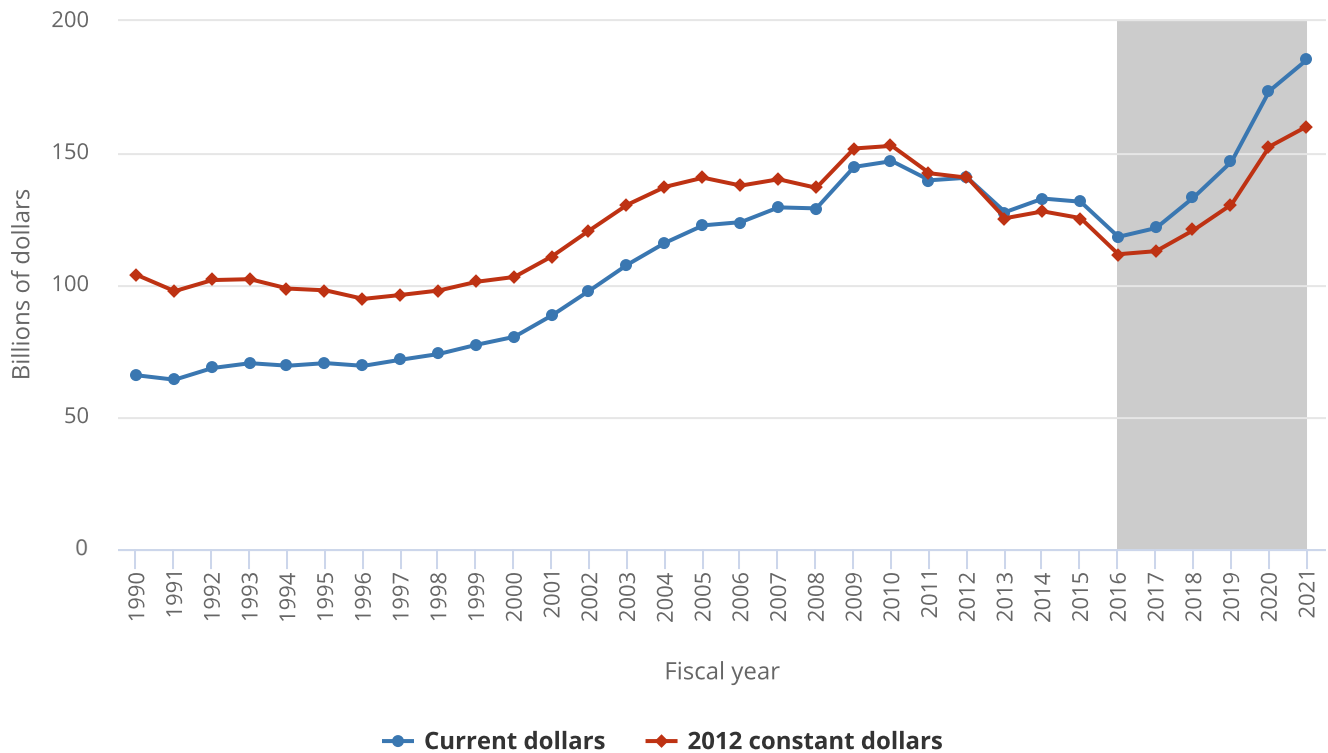


Figure RD-15

Federal obligations for R&D and R&D plant, current and constant dollars: FYs 1990–2021

**Note(s):**

The data for FY 2021 are preliminary and may later be revised. Data for FYs 2009 and 2010 include obligations from the additional federal R&D funding appropriated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Beginning in FY 2016, agency reports of obligations for R&D incorporated the Office of Management and Budget's narrowed definition of *development* (Circular A-11, Section 84). This change in definition applies to all agencies, but the main impact has been that Department of Defense's (DOD's) Operational Systems Development (Budget Activity 7) is no longer included as development. DOD Operational Systems Development was about \$24.6 billion in FY 2016 and \$26.0 billion in FY 2017. Accordingly, the federal obligations totals for FYs 2016–21 (shaded in the graphic) are not directly comparable with those for FY 2015 and earlier years. The data for FYs 2020 and 2021 include the additional funding provided by supplemental COVID-19 related appropriations in these years.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development, Volume 70, FYs 2020–21.

Science and Engineering Indicators