Figure RD-16

Federal obligations for R&D and R&D plant, total and for selected agencies: FYs 2008–21

DOC = Department of Commerce; DOD = Department of Defense; DOE = Department of Energy; DOT = Department of Transportation; HHS = Department of Health and Human Services; NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration; NSF = National Science Foundation; USDA = Department of Agriculture; VA = Department of Veterans Affairs.
Note(s):
The agencies included in this chart all had annual R&D obligations of $1 billion or more in FY 2020 and together account for the vast majority of the R&D and R&D plant total. 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 DOD’s Operational Systems Development (Budget Activity 7) is no longer included as development. Accordingly, the federal R&D obligations totals shown above 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):

Science and Engineering Indicators