

Table 86. Federal obligations for basic research, by performer: FYs 1967–2025

(Dollars in millions)

Fiscal year	Total	Intramural		Extramural				
				United States and U.S. territories				Non-U.S. performers
		Federal agencies ^a	FFRDCs	Businesses	Higher education ^b	Nonprofit organizations	State and local governments	
1967	1,846	435	242	181	857	105	4	22
1968	1,841	432	258	195	835	93	12	15
1969	1,945	532	253	185	864	85	13	13
1970	1,926	558	270	185	808	80	14	10
1971	1,980	565	259	167	879	85	17	8
1972	2,187	597	294	151	1,021	96	16	11
1973	2,232	608	272	176	1,048	98	16	13
1974	2,388	696	261	124	1,145	127	17	18
1975	2,588	734	319	119	1,261	128	14	14
1976	2,767	786	353	131	1,342	126	13	17
1977	3,259	914	383	208	1,555	163	16	20
1978	3,699	1,029	428	248	1,759	193	17	25
1979	4,193	1,089	467	277	2,080	240	20	20
1980	4,674	1,182	515	325	2,320	280	24	28
1981	5,041	1,302	572	293	2,503	313	27	31
1982	5,482	1,466	613	271	2,727	356	24	25
1983	6,260	1,690	695	293	3,112	410	32	28
1984	7,067	1,861	768	378	3,531	474	28	28
1985	7,819	1,923	859	380	4,039	556	31	31
1986	8,153	2,019	855	512	4,132	572	31	33
1987	8,942	2,046	1,040	467	4,666	658	38	29
1988	9,474	2,050	1,141	597	4,868	729	43	46
1989	10,602	2,313	1,364	773	5,221	839	44	47
1990	11,286	2,295	1,533	887	5,548	924	50	48
1991	12,171	2,392	1,651	950	6,064	1,015	49	49
1992	12,490	2,338	1,707	920	6,332	1,097	42	54
1993	13,399	2,662	1,718	896	6,834	1,165	72	53
1994	13,523	2,498	1,648	1,110	6,992	1,133	75	68
1995	13,877	2,694	1,754	1,214	6,944	1,148	79	45
1996	14,464	2,677	1,870	1,109	7,443	1,235	80	50
1997	14,942	2,688	1,983	1,167	7,696	1,290	68	50
1998	15,613	2,919	2,091	1,119	7,952	1,398	85	50
1999	17,444	3,255	2,234	1,083	9,107	1,650	61	53
2000	19,570	3,622	2,367	1,357	10,057	1,985	76	107
2001	21,958	4,194	2,478	917	11,792	2,442	72	64
2002	23,668	4,460	2,608	1,232	12,668	2,532	72	97
2003	24,751	4,662	2,723	1,280	13,152	2,704	85	146
2004	26,121	4,672	2,905	1,969	13,399	2,746	198	232
2005	27,140	4,773	2,962	2,051	13,990	2,914	236	215
2006	26,585	4,764	3,073	1,859	13,658	2,867	153	211
2007	26,866	4,572	3,214	1,736	14,220	2,794	101	228
2008	27,154	4,768	2,975	1,545	14,646	2,935	76	209
2009	32,879	5,530	3,702	1,632	18,230	3,487	94	205
2010	31,795	5,191	3,602	1,747	17,403	3,530	103	219
2011	29,314	4,870	3,595	1,726	15,771	3,067	76	209
2012	30,959	5,579	4,081	2,155	15,730	3,123	80	210
2013	29,779	5,217	4,302	2,052	14,950	3,000	66	192
2014	31,588	5,669	4,360	2,516	15,655	3,125	78	185
2015	31,527	5,814	4,628	2,537	15,296	2,986	61	207
2016	32,293	6,121	4,710	2,447	15,551	3,179	81	204

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2017	33,271	6,116	4,994	2,692	15,847	3,359	66	197
2018	36,195	6,689	5,269	2,787	17,503	3,658	87	203
2019	40,017	7,240	6,454	3,637	18,627	3,725	86	250
2020	41,547	7,688	5,923	3,147	20,128	4,326	114	221
2021	42,266	6,523	5,805	3,785	21,441	3,948	533	232
2022	45,414	7,841	6,731	3,858	22,260	3,982	544	199
2023	46,981	7,914	6,858	4,163	23,778	3,913	117	238
2024	47,494	10,069	6,622	4,668	22,047	3,791	111	185
2025 (preliminary)	45,361	7,832	8,076	4,316	21,073	3,775	106	183

FFRDC = federally funded research and development center.

^a Federal agencies' activities cover costs associated with the administration of federal R&D performance and R&D procurements from nonfederal performers by federal personnel, transfers of funds to other federal agencies for purposes related to R&D, and actual federal performance.

^b Higher education includes both public and private institutions as well as University Affiliated Research Centers.

Note(s):

Because of rounding, detail may not add to total. FFRDC funding over the years may be affected by the creation of new FFRDCs and the phasing out of other FFRDCs. For details, see the notes in the Master Government List of Federally Funded R&D Centers at <https://nces.nsf.gov/resource/master-gov-lists-ffrdc#ffrdc>. The federal fiscal year cycle changed for FY 1977, from 1 July–30 June to the current 1 October–30 September cycle; no data were collected for the 3-month transition period of July–September 1976. FYs 2009 and 2010 obligations include additional funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. FYs 2020, 2021, and 2022 obligations include additional funding provided by supplemental COVID-19 pandemic-related appropriations (e.g., Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security [CARES] Act). As of volume 71 (FYs 2021–22), FFRDCs are classified as intramural R&D performers, whereas they were extramural in previous volumes; therefore, data are not directly comparable across volumes. Past years in the trend tables have been adjusted to reflect the current classification of FFRDCs.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development.