

TABLE 1. Federal obligations for research and development, by character of work, and for R&D plant: FYs 1951–2012  
(Dollars in thousands)

Fiscal year	Total	Total R&D	Basic research	Applied research	Development	R&D plant
1951	1,851,571.0	1,521,527.0	NA	NA	NA	330,044.0
1952	2,216,848.0	1,909,665.0	120,945.0	NA	NA	307,183.0
1953	2,167,456.0	1,919,543.0	115,997.0	NA	NA	247,913.0
1954	1,918,046.0	1,761,840.0	116,033.0	NA	NA	156,206.0
1955	2,251,894.0	2,044,593.0	130,068.0	NA	NA	207,301.0
1956	3,266,903.0	2,988,203.0	206,441.0	645,506.0	2,136,256.0	278,700.0
1957	4,389,237.0	3,932,001.0	262,348.0	662,199.0	3,007,454.0	457,236.0
1958	4,906,015.0	4,569,722.0	334,543.0	744,264.0	3,490,915.0	336,293.0
1959	7,122,610.0	6,693,510.0	465,981.0	874,272.0	5,353,257.0	429,100.0
1960	8,080,015.0	7,551,746.0	590,374.0	1,282,135.0	5,679,237.0	528,269.0
1961	9,607,023.0	9,058,623.0	814,513.0	1,663,431.0	6,580,679.0	548,400.0
1962	11,069,059.0	10,289,947.0	986,314.0	2,018,481.0	7,285,152.0	779,112.0
1963	13,662,879.0	12,494,611.0	1,151,753.0	2,356,150.0	8,986,708.0	1,168,268.0
1964	15,323,870.0	14,225,354.0	1,303,000.0	2,571,452.0	10,350,902.0	1,098,516.0
1965	15,745,852.0	14,614,249.0	1,435,469.0	2,811,761.0	10,367,019.0	1,131,603.0
1966	16,178,640.0	15,320,334.0	1,579,181.0	3,081,066.0	10,660,087.0	858,306.0
1967	17,149,186.0	16,529,099.0	1,845,847.0	2,785,543.0	11,897,709.0	620,087.0
1968	16,525,038.0	15,921,208.0	1,840,562.0	2,940,500.0	11,140,146.0	603,830.0
1969	16,309,900.0	15,640,888.0	1,944,773.0	2,700,117.0	10,995,998.0	669,012.0
1970	15,863,385.0	15,338,937.0	1,925,908.0	2,974,890.0	10,438,139.0	524,448.0
1971	16,153,756.0	15,542,512.0	1,980,141.0	3,143,030.0	10,419,341.0	611,244.0
1972	17,097,951.0	16,495,895.0	2,186,937.0	3,360,759.0	10,948,199.0	602,056.0
1973	17,574,486.0	16,800,153.0	2,232,006.0	3,349,423.0	11,218,724.0	774,333.0
1974	18,176,457.0	17,410,128.0	2,387,681.0	3,787,559.0	11,234,888.0	766,329.0
1975	19,859,548.0	19,038,818.0	2,588,427.0	4,141,281.0	12,309,110.0	820,730.0
1976	21,616,382.0	20,779,658.0	2,767,454.0	4,851,878.0	13,160,326.0	836,724.0
1977	24,817,577.0	23,450,377.0	3,258,640.0	5,255,475.0	14,936,262.0	1,367,200.0
1978	27,140,849.0	25,845,137.0	3,698,604.0	5,908,154.0	16,238,379.0	1,295,712.0
1979	29,620,597.0	28,145,142.0	4,192,665.0	6,342,340.0	17,610,137.0	1,475,455.0
1980	31,386,095.0	29,830,432.0	4,674,156.0	6,923,222.0	18,233,054.0	1,555,663.0
1981	34,589,634.0	33,103,924.0	5,041,295.0	7,171,485.0	20,891,144.0	1,485,710.0
1982	37,822,363.0	36,432,589.0	5,481,605.0	7,540,580.0	23,410,404.0	1,389,774.0
1983	40,009,032.0	38,711,537.0	6,260,131.0	7,993,394.0	24,458,012.0	1,297,495.0
1984	44,012,149.0	42,224,865.0	7,067,359.0	7,911,414.0	27,246,092.0	1,787,284.0
1985	50,180,369.0	48,359,565.0	7,818,682.0	8,314,739.0	32,226,144.0	1,820,804.0
1986	52,951,181.0	51,412,364.0	8,153,076.0	8,349,123.0	34,910,165.0	1,538,817.0
1987	57,099,656.0	55,253,693.0	8,942,425.0	8,998,096.0	37,313,172.0	1,845,963.0
1988	58,826,512.0	56,769,425.0	9,473,618.0	9,176,527.0	38,119,280.0	2,057,087.0
1989	63,571,605.0	61,406,484.0	10,602,011.0	10,163,520.0	40,640,953.0	2,165,121.0
1990	65,831,189.0	63,559,471.0	11,285,593.0	10,336,771.0	41,937,107.0	2,271,718.0
1991	64,147,951.0	61,295,152.0	12,170,794.0	11,797,583.0	37,326,775.0	2,852,799.0
1992	68,577,184.0	65,592,590.0	12,489,864.0	12,000,734.0	41,101,992.0	2,984,594.0
1993	70,414,697.0	67,314,025.0	13,399,121.0	13,491,376.0	40,423,528.0	3,100,672.0
1994	69,450,776.0	67,235,390.0	13,523,476.0	13,887,733.0	39,824,181.0	2,215,386.0
1995	70,442,935.0	68,186,798.0	13,877,031.0	14,557,365.0	39,752,402.0	2,256,137.0
1996	69,399,164.0	67,653,047.0	14,464,035.0	13,795,729.0	39,393,283.0	1,746,117.0
1997	71,753,430.0	69,826,779.0	14,941,892.0	14,423,397.0	40,461,490.0	1,926,651.0
1998	73,913,988.0	72,100,724.0	15,613,012.0	15,309,257.0	41,178,455.0	1,813,264.0
1999	77,386,368.0	75,340,622.0	17,443,653.0	16,083,861.0	41,813,108.0	2,045,746.0
2000	80,403,169.0	75,910,322.0	19,569,849.0	18,900,781.0	37,439,692.0	4,492,847.0
2001	88,562,348.0	84,492,520.0	21,958,136.0	22,755,600.0	39,778,784.0	4,069,828.0
2002	98,013,347.0	93,708,604.0	23,668,345.0	24,338,366.0	45,701,893.0	4,304,743.0
2003	107,793,778.0	103,527,260.0	24,751,441.0	26,320,402.0	52,455,417.0	4,266,518.0
2004	116,068,604.0	112,074,452.0	26,120,663.0	27,237,148.0	58,716,641.0	3,994,152.0
2005	122,618,991.0	118,847,864.0	27,140,335.0	26,597,910.0	65,109,619.0	3,771,127.0

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(Dollars in thousands)

Fiscal year	Total	Total R&D	Basic research	Applied research	Development	R&D plant
2006	123,854,731.0	121,729,949.0	26,584,592.0	26,951,058.0	68,194,299.0	2,124,782.0
2007	129,431,246.0	127,262,861.0	26,865,786.0	27,227,779.0	73,169,296.0	2,168,385.0
2008	129,049,527.0	127,105,666.0	27,153,966.0	26,739,712.0	73,211,988.0	1,943,861.0
2009	144,760,519.0 r	141,092,506.0	32,873,118.0	30,821,205.0	77,398,183.0	3,668,012.0 r
2010	146,967,799.9	140,354,521.1	31,795,342.2	31,932,631.1	76,626,547.9	6,613,278.8
2011 (preliminary)	136,418,050.7	132,140,635.8	29,060,799.6	29,105,931.9	73,973,904.3	4,277,414.8
2012 (preliminary)	135,834,413.2	130,952,396.5	30,664,782.9	30,047,539.8	70,240,073.8	4,882,016.7

NA = not available; data were not collected at this level of detail. r = data significantly revised; replaces previously published value.

NOTES: Because of rounding, detail may not add to total. From FY 2000 through FY 2007, Department of the Air Force (AF) did not report Budget Authority (BA) 6.7 Operational Systems Development data because agency misunderstood reporting requirements. During volume 57 (FYs 2007–09) data collection cycle, AF edited prior-year data from FY 2000 to FY 2007 to include BA 6.7 Operational Systems Development data.

In FY 2000 National Institutes of Health reclassified all its development activities as research. In FY 2000 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) reclassified Space Station as physical asset, reclassified Space Station Research as equipment, and transferred funding for program from R&D to R&D plant. In FY 2006 NASA reclassified as operational costs funding for Space Operations, Hubble Space Telescope, Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, and James Webb Space Telescope previously reported as R&D plant. In FY 2010 NASA resumed reporting International Space Station obligations as R&D plant.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development.