



Support Strong Federal Research Investments

Why is federal funding for research so important?

Science and technology are universally recognized as key drivers of economic growth, improved human health and increased quality of life. Economists have estimated more than half of economic growth over the past several decades is due to technological progress.

The United States has consistently been the world leader in technology and innovation, due to, in large part, its strong investments in R&D. Maintaining a robust science, research and innovation ecosystem is critical to our global competitiveness.

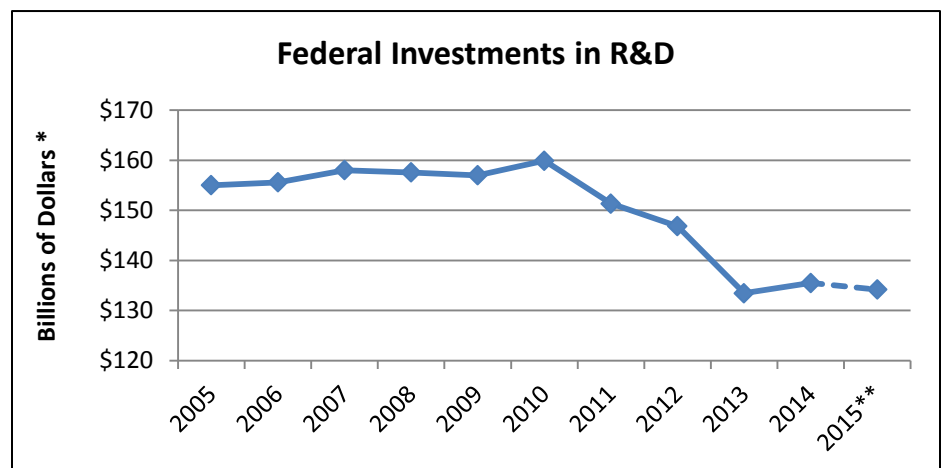
Federal funding for R&D accounts for less than one-third of total R&D funding in the U.S. Despite this modest share of total funding, federal R&D is critical to our nation's science, technology and innovation enterprise. Federal R&D funding largely goes toward basic research – research that is required to develop the fundamental knowledge base upon which all applied R&D depends.

Federal agencies support nearly 60 percent of research performed at U.S. colleges and universities. Not only does this work help drive discoveries that can lead to game-changing innovations, it also serves to help educate the next generation of scientists and engineers.

Over the past decade, federal R&D funding in the U.S. has remained flat and recently, even decreased. This disturbing trend puts at risk America's place as the global leader in science, technology and innovation.

* budget in constant 2014 dollars.

** data from 2014 AAAS R&D Report



We urge Congress to support strong federal investments in research funding in FY 2015



FY 2015 Budget Numbers for Research Funding Agencies

Agency - Program	FY13 Final	FY14 Final	FY15 President's Request	House FY15 (Proposed)	Senate FY15 (Proposed)
<i>USDA – AFRI</i>	\$276 million	\$316 million	\$325 million	\$325 million	\$325 million
<i>USDA – ARS</i>	\$1.02 billion	\$1.12 billion	\$1.10 billion	\$1.12 billion	\$1.14 billion
<i>NSF</i>	\$6.90 billion	\$7.17 billion	\$7.26 billion	\$7.41 billion	\$7.26 billion
<i>DOE – SC</i>	\$4.68 billion	\$5.07 billion	\$5.11 billion	\$5.07 billion	\$5.09 billion

For FY15, we support:

- \$325 million for AFRI
- \$1.14 billion for ARS
- \$7.41 billion for NSF
- \$5.09 billion for DOE – Office of Science