



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.

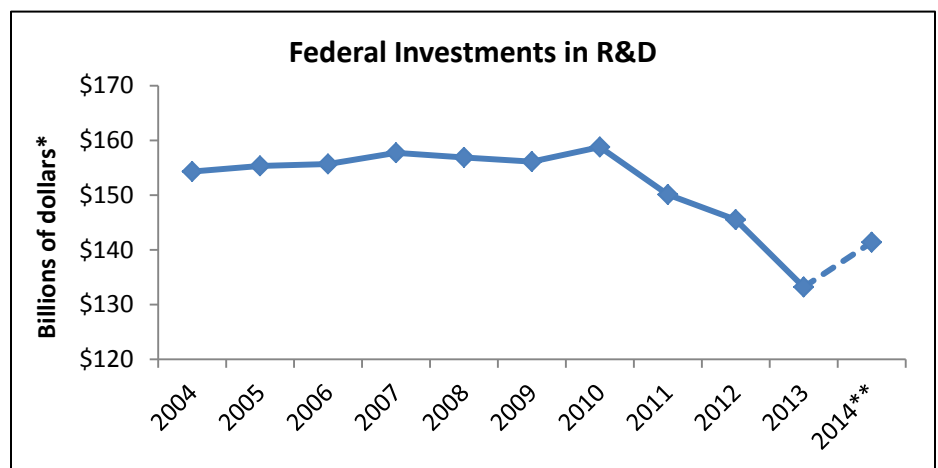
Federal funding for R&D accounts for less than one-third of total R&D funding in the U.S. Despite this modest share of total funding, federal R&D is critical to our nation's science, technology and innovation enterprise. Federal R&D funding largely goes toward basic research – research that is required 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 2013 dollars.

** data from 2014 AAAS R&D Report



We urge Congress to support strong federal investments in research funding in FY 2014



FY 2014 Budget Numbers for Research Funding Agencies

Agency - Program	FY12 Final	FY13 Final	FY13 Sequest.*	FY13 Pres.	House FY14	Senate FY14
USDA – AFRI	\$264 million	\$290 million	\$275 million	\$383 million	\$291 million	\$316 million
USDA – ARS	\$1.095 billion	\$1.13 billion	\$1.019 billion	\$1.124 billion	\$1.074 billion	\$1.123 billion
NSF	\$7.033 billion	\$7.25 billion	\$6.88 billion	\$7.6 billion	\$7.0 billion	\$7.4 billion
DOE – Off. of Science	\$4.93 billion	\$4.88 billion	\$4.62 billion	\$5.15 billion	\$4.65 billion	\$5.15 billion

* In FY13, the across-the-board budget cuts, known as sequestration, cut ~5% from all non-defense discretionary spending.

For FY14, we support the Senate appropriations bills:

- \$316 million for AFRI
- \$1.12 billion for ARS
- \$7.4 billion for NSF
- \$5.15 billion for DOE – Office of Science