

TABLE S5B-1

**Current fund expenditures for research equipment at academic institutions, by R&D field: FYs 2004–18**

(Millions of current dollars, millions of constant 2012 dollars, and percent distribution)

| Field   | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 | FY 2010 | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 | FY 2016 | FY 2017 | FY 2018 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Current \$millions  |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| All fields  | 1,895   | 1,880   | 1,826   | 1,824   | 1,874   | 1,947   | 2,148   | 2,256   | 2,040   | 2,255   | 2,037   | 2,120   | 2,170   | 2,191   | 2,146   |
| Science   | 1,501   | 1,441   | 1,383   | 1,395   | 1,439   | 1,472   | 1,603   | 1,627   | 1,430   | 1,547   | 1,337   | 1,504   | 1,520   | 1,538   | 1,510   |
| Computer and information sciences                         | 105     | 72      | 70      | 75      | 80      | 90      | 65      | 91      | 73      | 273     | 70      | 88      | 97      | 103     | 90      |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences     | 126     | 123     | 123     | 136     | 144     | 126     | 151     | 115     | 121     | 116     | 116     | 126     | 111     | 107     | 95      |
| Atmospheric science and meteorology                       | 20      | 26      | 34      | 31      | 27      | 17      | 24      | 21      | 20      | 18      | 22      | 20      | 21      | 26      | 17      |
| Geological and earth sciences                             | 43      | 44      | 35      | 36      | 39      | 47      | 52      | 47      | 53      | 47      | 52      | 50      | 42      | 34      | 40      |
| Ocean sciences and marine sciences                        | 41      | 40      | 44      | 62      | 70      | 52      | 58      | 32      | 29      | 39      | 32      | 46      | 39      | 37      | 33      |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences nec | 22      | 13      | 10      | 7       | 9       | 11      | 17      | 15      | 19      | 12      | 10      | 11      | 9       | 10      | 6       |
| Life sciences   | 836     | 826     | 752     | 737     | 796     | 786     | 908     | 928     | 817     | 747     | 736     | 818     | 845     | 849     | 875     |
| Agricultural sciences                                     | 79      | 72      | 75      | 79      | 103     | 81      | 81      | 74      | 85      | 79      | 84      | 90      | 89      | 77      | 79      |
| Biological and biomedical sciences                        | 348     | 326     | 302     | 272     | 303     | 299     | 396     | 393     | 334     | 313     | 310     | 332     | 365     | 384     | 394     |
| Health sciences   | 376     | 378     | 337     | 340     | 355     | 367     | 390     | 413     | 358     | 317     | 297     | 324     | 338     | 335     | 358     |
| Natural resources and conservation                        | na      | 11      | 11      | 14      |
| Life sciences nec   | 34      | 50      | 37      | 46      | 35      | 40      | 42      | 47      | 39      | 39      | 45      | 71      | 42      | 43      | 30      |
| Mathematics and statistics                                | 8       | 9       | 9       | 9       | 9       | 9       | 8       | 7       | 7       | 7       | 6       | 6       | 9       | 7       | 9       |
| Physical sciences   | 339     | 325     | 329     | 310     | 302     | 333     | 364     | 380     | 331     | 329     | 344     | 398     | 389     | 402     | 384     |
| Astronomy and astrophysics                                | 25      | 23      | 20      | 29      | 27      | 29      | 24      | 26      | 28      | 20      | 26      | 54      | 36      | 40      | 31      |
| Chemistry   | 118     | 113     | 122     | 113     | 114     | 136     | 162     | 156     | 133     | 118     | 119     | 120     | 125     | 121     | 121     |
| Materials science   | na      | 10      | 15      | 17      |
| Physics   | 160     | 159     | 153     | 143     | 136     | 149     | 154     | 180     | 156     | 166     | 185     | 206     | 203     | 209     | 191     |
| Physical sciences nec                                     | 36      | 30      | 34      | 25      | 25      | 20      | 24      | 18      | 14      | 25      | 14      | 17      | 16      | 17      | 23      |
| Psychology  | 18      | 15      | 18      | 14      | 15      | 24      | 17      | 17      | 21      | 14      | 16      | 14      | 15      | 16      | 16      |
| Social sciences   | 16      | 19      | 14      | 20      | 22      | 26      | 15      | 16      | 11      | 12      | 11      | 10      | 12      | 14      | 13      |
| Anthropology  | na      | 1       | 2       | 2       |
| Economics   | 2       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 2       | 1       | 3       | 2       | 4       | 3       | 3       | 3       |
| Political science and government                          | 2       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 0       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       |
| Sociology, demography, and population studies             | 2       | 3       | 2       | 3       | 2       | 5       | 2       | 2       | 1       | 2       | 2       | 3       | 2       | 2       | 1       |
| Social sciences nec                                       | 9       | 12      | 8       | 15      | 16      | 18      | 10      | 10      | 7       | 7       | 7       | 4       | 4       | 6       | 6       |
| Sciences nec  | 54      | 53      | 67      | 95      | 71      | 76      | 76      | 74      | 50      | 49      | 39      | 45      | 42      | 41      | 27      |
| Engineering   | 394     | 439     | 443     | 428     | 435     | 475     | 511     | 572     | 552     | 663     | 654     | 564     | 611     | 612     | 594     |
| Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical                | 21      | 20      | 22      | 22      | 34      | 27      | 35      | 34      | 33      | 35      | 29      | 35      | 44      | 38      | 31      |
| Bioengineering and biomedical                             | 19      | 29      | 25      | 27      | 28      | 32      | 40      | 53      | 45      | 47      | 37      | 44      | 53      | 53      | 67      |
| Chemical  | 55      | 37      | 39      | 37      | 39      | 48      | 53      | 56      | 54      | 59      | 47      | 46      | 46      | 44      | 42      |
| Civil   | 34      | 29      | 27      | 29      | 32      | 35      | 38      | 51      | 42      | 61      | 33      | 31      | 31      | 32      | 33      |
| Electrical, electronic, and communications                | 81      | 91      | 94      | 92      | 88      | 98      | 114     | 139     | 136     | 161     | 113     | 120     | 113     | 130     | 126     |

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(Millions of current dollars, millions of constant 2012 dollars, and percent distribution)

| Field   | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 | FY 2009 | FY 2010 | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 | FY 2016 | FY 2017 | FY 2018 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Industrial and manufacturing                              | na      | 7       | 12      | 24      |
| Mechanical  | 55      | 76      | 84      | 75      | 76      | 77      | 100     | 85      | 84      | 110     | 75      | 77      | 72      | 80      | 86      |
| Metallurgical and materials                               | 38      | 51      | 54      | 54      | 52      | 58      | 51      | 52      | 60      | 63      | 242     | 116     | 50      | 51      | 51      |
| Engineering nec   | 91      | 106     | 98      | 92      | 85      | 101     | 81      | 101     | 98      | 128     | 78      | 96      | 195     | 172     | 135     |
| Non-S&E   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 35      | 57      | 59      | 45      | 46      | 51      | 39      | 40      | 42      |
| Business management and business administration           | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 8       | 6       | 6       | 7       | 4       | 11      | 4       | 4       | 6       |
| Communication and communications technologies             | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 8       | 12      | 13      | 2       | 1       | 5       | 5       | 6       | 4       |
| Education   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 7       | 11      | 7       | 6       | 7       | 6       | 8       | 8       | 6       |
| Humanities  | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 2       | 2       | 2       | 3       | 3       | 4       | 3       | 7       | 6       |
| Law   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 1       | 0       |
| Social work   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 0       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Visual and performing arts                                | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 1       |
| Non-S&E nec   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 9       | 25      | 28      | 25      | 28      | 23      | 17      | 13      | 17      |
| 2012 constant \$millions                                  |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| All fields  | 2,235   | 2,150   | 2,028   | 1,972   | 1,988   | 2,049   | 2,235   | 2,299   | 2,040   | 2,216   | 1,965   | 2,025   | 2,051   | 2,033   | 1,943   |
| Science   | 1,770   | 1,648   | 1,535   | 1,509   | 1,526   | 1,549   | 1,668   | 1,658   | 1,430   | 1,520   | 1,290   | 1,437   | 1,437   | 1,427   | 1,367   |
| Computer and information sciences                         | 124     | 82      | 78      | 81      | 85      | 95      | 67      | 92      | 73      | 268     | 68      | 84      | 91      | 95      | 81      |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences     | 148     | 141     | 137     | 147     | 153     | 133     | 158     | 117     | 121     | 114     | 112     | 121     | 105     | 99      | 86      |
| Atmospheric science and meteorology                       | 24      | 30      | 38      | 33      | 28      | 18      | 25      | 21      | 20      | 18      | 22      | 19      | 20      | 24      | 15      |
| Geological and earth sciences                             | 51      | 51      | 39      | 39      | 41      | 49      | 54      | 48      | 53      | 46      | 50      | 48      | 40      | 31      | 36      |
| Ocean sciences and marine sciences                        | 48      | 46      | 49      | 67      | 74      | 55      | 60      | 33      | 29      | 38      | 31      | 44      | 37      | 35      | 30      |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences nec | 25      | 15      | 11      | 7       | 9       | 11      | 18      | 16      | 19      | 12      | 9       | 11      | 9       | 9       | 5       |
| Life sciences   | 987     | 944     | 835     | 796     | 844     | 828     | 945     | 946     | 817     | 734     | 710     | 781     | 799     | 788     | 792     |
| Agricultural sciences                                     | 93      | 82      | 84      | 85      | 109     | 86      | 84      | 75      | 85      | 78      | 81      | 86      | 84      | 71      | 72      |
| Biological and biomedical sciences                        | 410     | 373     | 335     | 295     | 322     | 315     | 412     | 401     | 334     | 307     | 299     | 317     | 345     | 356     | 357     |
| Health sciences   | 444     | 432     | 375     | 367     | 377     | 386     | 405     | 421     | 358     | 311     | 286     | 309     | 320     | 310     | 324     |
| Natural resources and conservation                        | na      | 10      | 10      | 12      |
| Life sciences nec   | 40      | 57      | 41      | 49      | 37      | 42      | 44      | 48      | 39      | 38      | 43      | 68      | 40      | 40      | 27      |
| Mathematics and statistics                                | 10      | 10      | 10      | 10      | 9       | 10      | 8       | 7       | 7       | 7       | 6       | 5       | 9       | 7       | 8       |
| Physical sciences   | 399     | 372     | 366     | 336     | 321     | 351     | 379     | 387     | 331     | 323     | 332     | 380     | 367     | 373     | 348     |
| Astronomy and astrophysics                                | 29      | 26      | 22      | 32      | 29      | 31      | 25      | 26      | 28      | 19      | 25      | 52      | 34      | 37      | 28      |
| Chemistry   | 139     | 129     | 135     | 122     | 121     | 143     | 169     | 159     | 133     | 116     | 115     | 115     | 118     | 113     | 109     |
| Materials science   | na      | 9       | 14      | 16      |
| Physics   | 189     | 182     | 170     | 154     | 144     | 157     | 160     | 183     | 156     | 164     | 178     | 197     | 192     | 194     | 173     |
| Physical sciences nec                                     | 43      | 34      | 38      | 27      | 26      | 21      | 25      | 18      | 14      | 25      | 14      | 16      | 15      | 16      | 21      |
| Psychology  | 21      | 17      | 20      | 15      | 16      | 26      | 17      | 17      | 21      | 13      | 15      | 13      | 14      | 15      | 15      |

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|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Social sciences   | 18      | 21      | 15      | 22      | 23      | 27      | 15      | 16      | 11      | 12      | 11      | 10      | 11      | 13      | 12      |
| Anthropology  | na      | 1       | 2       | 2       |
| Economics   | 2       | 3       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 2       | 1       | 3       | 2       | 2       | 4       | 3       | 3       |
| Political science and government                          | 2       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 0       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       |
| Sociology, demography, and population studies             | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 2       | 5       | 2       | 2       | 1       | 2       | 2       | 3       | 2       | 1       | 1       |
| Social sciences nec                                       | 11      | 14      | 9       | 16      | 17      | 19      | 11      | 11      | 7       | 7       | 6       | 4       | 4       | 6       | 5       |
| Sciences nec  | 63      | 61      | 75      | 103     | 75      | 79      | 79      | 75      | 50      | 48      | 37      | 43      | 40      | 38      | 24      |
| Engineering   | 465     | 502     | 492     | 463     | 462     | 500     | 531     | 583     | 552     | 652     | 631     | 539     | 577     | 568     | 538     |
| Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical                | 25      | 23      | 25      | 24      | 36      | 28      | 36      | 35      | 33      | 35      | 28      | 33      | 41      | 35      | 28      |
| Bioengineering and biomedical                             | 22      | 33      | 28      | 29      | 30      | 33      | 41      | 54      | 45      | 46      | 36      | 42      | 50      | 49      | 61      |
| Chemical  | 65      | 43      | 43      | 40      | 41      | 50      | 55      | 58      | 54      | 58      | 46      | 44      | 44      | 41      | 38      |
| Civil   | 40      | 33      | 30      | 31      | 34      | 37      | 39      | 51      | 42      | 60      | 32      | 29      | 30      | 30      | 30      |
| Electrical, electronic, and communications                | 96      | 104     | 105     | 100     | 94      | 103     | 119     | 142     | 136     | 158     | 109     | 115     | 106     | 120     | 114     |
| Industrial and manufacturing                              | na      | 7       | 11      | 21      |
| Mechanical  | 65      | 87      | 93      | 81      | 80      | 81      | 104     | 87      | 84      | 108     | 72      | 74      | 68      | 74      | 78      |
| Metallurgical and materials                               | 45      | 58      | 60      | 59      | 55      | 61      | 53      | 53      | 60      | 62      | 234     | 111     | 48      | 47      | 46      |
| Engineering nec   | 107     | 121     | 109     | 99      | 90      | 106     | 84      | 103     | 98      | 126     | 75      | 91      | 184     | 160     | 122     |
| Non-S&E   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 36      | 59      | 59      | 44      | 44      | 49      | 36      | 37      | 38      |
| Business management and business administration           | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 8       | 6       | 6       | 7       | 4       | 11      | 4       | 4       | 5       |
| Communication and communications technologies             | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 8       | 12      | 13      | 2       | 1       | 5       | 4       | 5       | 4       |
| Education   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 7       | 11      | 7       | 6       | 7       | 6       | 7       | 7       | 6       |
| Humanities  | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 2       | 2       | 2       | 3       | 3       | 4       | 3       | 7       | 6       |
| Law   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 1       | 0       |
| Social work   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 0       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Visual and performing arts                                | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 2       | 2       | 1       | 1       |
| Non-S&E nec   | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 10      | 26      | 28      | 25      | 27      | 22      | 16      | 12      | 16      |
| Percent distribution                                      |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| All fields  | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 100.0   |
| Science   | 79.2    | 76.6    | 75.7    | 76.5    | 76.8    | 75.6    | 74.6    | 72.1    | 70.1    | 68.6    | 65.6    | 71.0    | 70.1    | 70.2    | 70.4    |
| Computer and information sciences                         | 5.5     | 3.8     | 3.9     | 4.1     | 4.3     | 4.6     | 3.0     | 4.0     | 3.6     | 12.1    | 3.4     | 4.1     | 4.5     | 4.7     | 4.2     |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences     | 6.6     | 6.5     | 6.8     | 7.4     | 7.7     | 6.5     | 7.0     | 5.1     | 5.9     | 5.2     | 5.7     | 6.0     | 5.1     | 4.9     | 4.5     |
| Atmospheric science and meteorology                       | 1.1     | 1.4     | 1.9     | 1.7     | 1.4     | 0.9     | 1.1     | 0.9     | 1.0     | 0.8     | 1.1     | 0.9     | 1.0     | 1.2     | 0.8     |
| Geological and earth sciences                             | 2.3     | 2.4     | 1.9     | 2.0     | 2.1     | 2.4     | 2.4     | 2.1     | 2.6     | 2.1     | 2.5     | 2.3     | 1.9     | 1.5     | 1.9     |
| Ocean sciences and marine sciences                        | 2.2     | 2.1     | 2.4     | 3.4     | 3.7     | 2.7     | 2.7     | 1.4     | 1.4     | 1.7     | 1.6     | 2.2     | 1.8     | 1.7     | 1.5     |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences nec | 1.1     | 0.7     | 0.5     | 0.4     | 0.5     | 0.6     | 0.8     | 0.7     | 0.9     | 0.5     | 0.5     | 0.5     | 0.4     | 0.5     | 0.3     |
| Life sciences   | 44.1    | 43.9    | 41.2    | 40.4    | 42.5    | 40.4    | 42.3    | 41.1    | 40.0    | 33.1    | 36.1    | 38.6    | 38.9    | 38.8    | 40.8    |

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|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Social work                | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.0     |
| Visual and performing arts | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 0.0     | 0.0     | 0.1     | 0.1     | 0.1     | 0.1     | 0.1     | 0.1     | 0.1     |
| Non-S&E nec                | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | na      | 0.4     | 1.1     | 1.4     | 1.1     | 1.4     | 1.1     | 0.8     | 0.6     | 0.8     |

na = not applicable; separate data for natural resources and conservation, materials science, anthropology, and industrial and manufacturing engineering were not collected before FY 2016, and capitalized equipment expenditures in non-S&amp;E fields were not collected before FY 2010.

nec = not elsewhere classified.

**Note(s)**

Gross domestic product deflators come from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and are available at <https://www.bea.gov/national>, accessed August 2019. Because of rising capitalization thresholds, the dollar threshold for inclusion in the equipment category has changed over time. Generally, university equipment that costs less than \$5,000 would be classified under the cost category of "supplies." Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

**Source(s)**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation, Survey of R&D Expenditures at Universities and Colleges, and Higher Education Research and Development Survey (HERD).

*Science and Engineering Indicators*