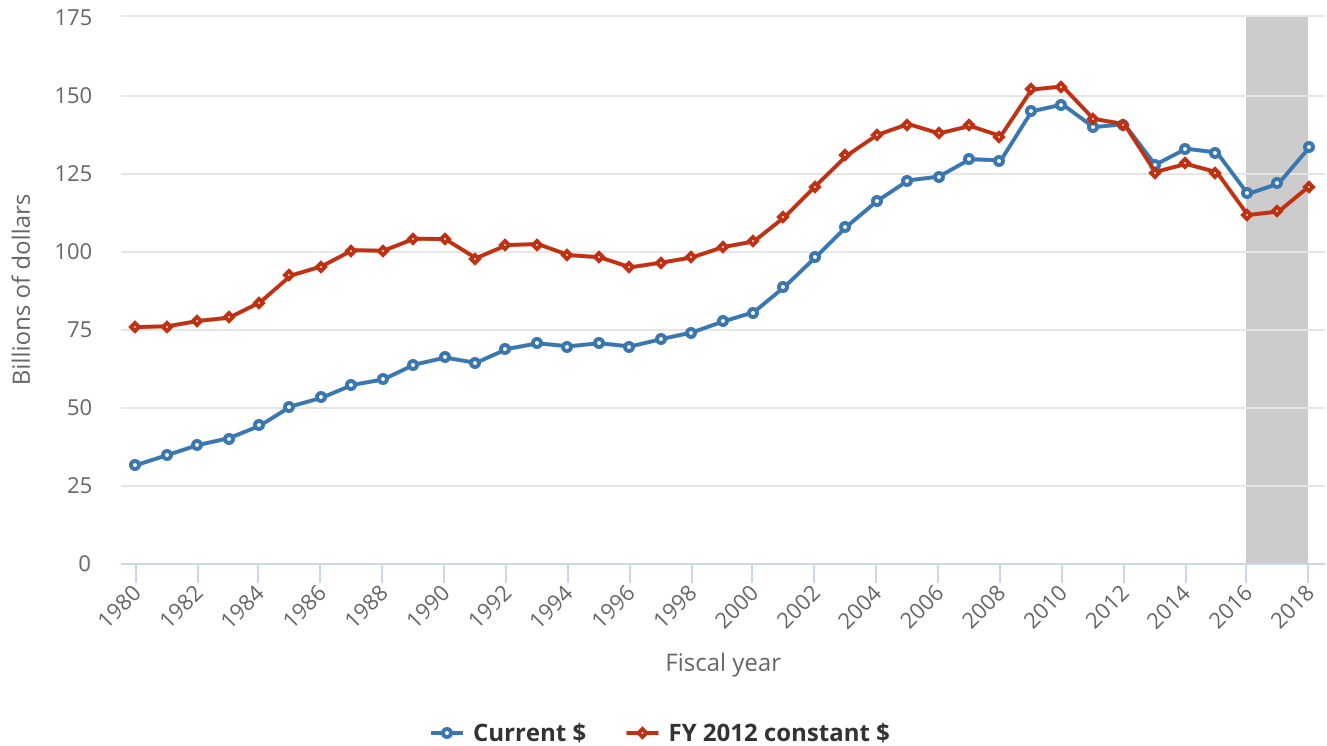


FIGURE 4-9

Federal obligations for R&D and R&D plant, current versus constant dollars: FYs 1980–2018



Note(s)

Data for FYs 2009 and 2010 include obligations from the additional federal R&D funding appropriated by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Beginning in FY 2016 (and continuing in subsequent years), agency reports of obligations for R&D reflect the application of a definition for development that is narrowed to "experimental development." This revision was introduced to align federal R&D budget formulation consistent with the Office of Management and Budget's Circular A-11, Section 84. This change in definition applies to all agencies, but the predominant impact is that the Department of Defense's (DOD's) Operational Systems Development (Budget Activity 7) is no longer included as development. DOD Operational Systems Development was about \$24.6 billion in FY 2016, \$26.0 billion in FY 2017, and \$26.7 billion in FY 2018. Accordingly, the federal R&D obligations totals listed above for FYs 2016–18 (shaded in the graphic) are not directly comparable with those for FY 2015 and earlier years.

Source(s)

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development, FYs 2018–19 (Volume 68).