

TABLE 3

Federal budget authority for R&D and R&D plant as percentage of total budget authority, by budget function: FYs 2017–19

(Percent share)

Budget function	2017 actual	2018 preliminary ^a	2019 proposed ^b
All functions conducting R&D	3.1	3.1	2.7
National defense	8.8	8.9	9.1
Health	6.2	5.9	4.4
General science and basic research ^c	86.7	88.2	120.8
Space flight, research, and supporting activities	53.1	51.6	53.5
Energy ^d	60.1	74.0	-65.1
Natural resources and environment	5.7	6.2	5.3
Agriculture	16.2	10.7	9.3
Transportation	1.6	1.6	1.5
Veterans benefits and services	0.8	0.7	0.7
Commerce and housing credit ^d	-7.3	16.7	-27.3
Administration of justice	1.1	1.1	0.8
Education, training, employment, and social services	0.3	0.5	0.7
International affairs	0.4	0.4	0.3
Income security	*	*	*
Community and regional development	0.2	0.2	0.1
Medicare	*	*	*

* = value less than 0.05%.

^a The FY 2018 data are official estimates reflecting continuing resolution funding for FY 2018 and not the enacted omnibus spending bill for that year (Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, signed 23 March 2018). Most federal agencies did not prepare R&D estimates for FY 2018 based on the final spending figures in the omnibus.

^b Along with the regular budget request, the Administration issued an addendum adding \$75 billion to the total of nondefense spending in FY 2019, distributed among several agencies (but not all for increased R&D spending). These additional sums for R&D are reflected in some of the data above.

^c R&D and R&D plant budget authority in the General science and basic research function are greater than 100% in FY 2019 because the R&D and R&D plant figures include addendum funding, while the underlying figures for total budget authority do not.

^d Total budget authority in the Commerce and housing credit function and the Energy function are negative numbers (i.e., less than zero) in some years, due primarily to large offsetting collections and receipts leading to negative balances in the subfunctions for federal mortgage and credit programs and government-sponsored enterprise (e.g., Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac) purchase programs; repeal of the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program; and other policy proposals. This makes these functions' R&D and R&D plant as percentages of total budget authority difficult to interpret.

Note(s)

Total budget authority includes discretionary and mandatory budget authority, less offsets. Budget functions are ordered as under the table 1 stub entries for "R&D and R&D plant."

Source(s)

Agencies' submissions to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) per MAX Schedule C, agencies' budget justification documents, supplemental data obtained from agencies' budget offices, and Executive Office of the President, OMB, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2019, U.S. Government Printing Office (2018).