

TABLE 29

Federal obligations for basic research, by detailed field of science and engineering: FYs 2020–21

(Dollars in thousands)

Field	2020	2021 (preliminary)
All fields	41,546,622.0	41,231,293.0
Computer sciences and mathematics	2,524,467.8	2,591,082.9
Computer sciences	1,230,121.3	NA
Mathematics	503,789.4	NA
Other computer sciences and mathematics	790,557.2	NA
Engineering	2,897,912.5	2,871,339.3
Aeronautical engineering	70,357.1	NA
Astronautical engineering	14,899.7	NA
Chemical engineering	94,067.1	NA
Civil engineering	16,302.7	NA
Electrical engineering	205,349.7	NA
Mechanical engineering	115,557.7	NA
Metallurgy and materials engineering	281,055.0	NA
Other engineering	2,100,323.6	NA
Environmental sciences	3,166,938.1	2,743,587.2
Atmospheric sciences	562,676.7	NA
Geological sciences	261,839.1	NA
Oceanography	470,224.2	NA
Other environmental sciences	1,872,198.1	NA
Life sciences	20,804,842.8	20,887,076.7
Agricultural sciences	681,834.3	NA
Biological sciences (excluding environmental biology)	10,325,956.0	NA
Environmental biology	471,077.3	NA
Medical sciences	7,460,040.1	NA
Other life sciences	1,865,935.1	NA
Physical sciences	6,512,990.9	7,444,390.0
Astronomy	870,437.6	NA
Chemistry	754,054.9	NA
Physics	2,515,870.5	NA
Other physical sciences	2,372,627.9	NA
Psychology	1,611,672.7	1,637,872.4
Biological aspects	12,932.4	NA
Social aspects	11,799.8	NA
Other psychological sciences	1,586,940.5	NA
Social sciences	439,515.0	439,176.5
Anthropology	18,269.4	NA
Economics	38,879.2	NA
Political science	4,554.1	NA
Sociology	19,923.6	NA
Other social sciences	357,888.8	NA
Other sciences nec	3,588,282.2	2,616,767.9

NA = not available; data were not collected at that level for that fiscal year.

nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note(s):

Because of rounding, detail may not add to total. FYs 2020 and 2021 obligations include additional funding provided by supplemental COVID-19 related appropriations (e.g., Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security [CARES] Act).

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Federal Funds for Research and Development, FYs 2020–21.