TABLE 56
Federal obligations for research performed at universities and colleges for selected agencies, by detailed field of science and engineering: FYs 2020–21
(Dollars in thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021 (preliminary)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All fields</td>
<td>34,618,983.6</td>
<td>33,453,041.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer sciences and mathematics</td>
<td>1,911,534.3</td>
<td>1,880,338.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer sciences</td>
<td>1,341,780.5</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>507,878.6</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other computer sciences and mathematics</td>
<td>61,875.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>3,377,909.6</td>
<td>3,301,000.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aeronautical engineering</td>
<td>123,050.8</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astronautical engineering</td>
<td>14,567.6</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical engineering</td>
<td>228,631.9</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil engineering</td>
<td>9,796.7</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical engineering</td>
<td>242,088.6</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical engineering</td>
<td>99,032.7</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metallurgy and materials engineering</td>
<td>264,222.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other engineering</td>
<td>2,396,519.1</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental sciences</td>
<td>1,436,331.5</td>
<td>1,319,992.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atmospheric sciences</td>
<td>186,043.7</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geological sciences</td>
<td>177,217.5</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceanography</td>
<td>471,741.4</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other environmental sciences</td>
<td>601,328.8</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life sciences</td>
<td>21,665,684.0</td>
<td>21,214,977.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural sciences</td>
<td>373,128.4</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological sciences (excluding environmental biology)</td>
<td>11,295,277.3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental biology</td>
<td>338,145.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical sciences</td>
<td>7,451,064.4</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other life sciences</td>
<td>2,208,068.9</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical sciences</td>
<td>2,404,712.6</td>
<td>1,734,666.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>174,279.3</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>563,612.4</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>793,315.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other physical sciences</td>
<td>873,505.9</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>1,935,726.2</td>
<td>1,917,826.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological aspects</td>
<td>12,788.5</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social aspects</td>
<td>14,206.7</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other psychological sciences</td>
<td>1,908,731.0</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social sciences</td>
<td>450,586.5</td>
<td>447,985.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>17,274.0</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>47,682.1</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political science</td>
<td>4,554.1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>20,712.1</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other social sciences</td>
<td>360,364.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sciences nec</td>
<td>1,436,498.9</td>
<td>1,636,254.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. Seven agencies are required to report data for this section of the survey: the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, and Homeland Security; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and the National Science Foundation. Research obligations of these seven agencies represented more than 97% of total federal research obligations to universities and colleges in FYs 2020–21. 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):