

TABLE 76

**Federal obligations for applied research performed at universities and colleges for selected agencies, by detailed field of science and engineering: FYs 2020–21**

(Dollars in thousands)

Field	2020	2021 (preliminary)
All fields	14,547,530.9	13,978,525.9
Computer sciences and mathematics	539,638.4	521,567.3
Computer sciences	416,890.5	NA
Mathematics	110,844.3	NA
Other computer sciences and mathematics	11,903.6	NA
Engineering	1,586,160.4	1,504,949.1
Aeronautical engineering	74,347.9	NA
Astronautical engineering	12,327.6	NA
Chemical engineering	155,471.6	NA
Civil engineering	1,956.7	NA
Electrical engineering	89,358.3	NA
Mechanical engineering	24,202.9	NA
Metallurgy and materials engineering	48,347.0	NA
Other engineering	1,180,148.4	NA
Environmental sciences	260,513.9	256,956.4
Atmospheric sciences	6,647.4	NA
Geological sciences	770.2	NA
Oceanography	58,100.4	NA
Other environmental sciences	194,995.9	NA
Life sciences	10,394,747.2	9,989,049.1
Agricultural sciences	183,182.5	NA
Biological sciences (excluding environmental biology)	5,252,118.5	NA
Environmental biology	102,153.5	NA
Medical sciences	3,737,151.3	NA
Other life sciences	1,120,141.3	NA
Physical sciences	138,566.6	122,122.3
Astronomy	0.0	NA
Chemistry	79,627.4	NA
Physics	39,166.9	NA
Other physical sciences	19,772.3	NA
Psychology	933,018.7	893,126.9
Biological aspects	40.0	NA
Social aspects	3,021.1	NA
Other psychological sciences	929,957.6	NA
Social sciences	143,102.7	137,906.2
Anthropology	36.1	NA
Economics	23,637.6	NA
Political science	0.0	NA
Sociology	7,394.5	NA
Other social sciences	112,034.5	NA
Other sciences nec	551,783.0	552,848.7

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. Applied research obligations of these seven agencies represented more than 94% of total federal basic 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):**

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