Table 3. Higher education R&D expenditures, by FY 2024 total, source of funds, and R&D field: FY 2025

(Millions of dollars)

Field	Total 2024 R&D expenditures	Total 2025 R&D expenditures	% change FYs 2024–25	Source of funds, 2025					
				Federal government	State and local government	Institution funds	Business	Nonprofit organizations	All other sources
All R&D fields	117,502	124,273	5.8	67,362	6,885	32,589	6,383	7,154	3,900
Science	90,647	94,879	4.7	51,978	4,926	24,088	4,915	5,891	3,082
Computer and information sciences	3,960	4,256	7.5	2,753	110	953	189	121	130
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	4,411	4,573	3.7	2,957	332	910	92	192	89
Atmospheric science and meteorology	737	777	5.4	610	23	109	9	16	11
Geological and earth sciences	1,690	1,739	2.9	1,064	116	410	49	60	40
Ocean sciences and marine sciences	1,501	1,529	1.9	945	153	289	21	89	33
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences nec	484	527	8.9	338	41	102	14	27	6
Life sciences	66,738	69,604	4.3	37,412	3,818	17,238	4,318	4,479	2,341
Agricultural sciences	4,805	5,078	5.7	1,800	1,204	1,585	163	170	157
Biological and biomedical sciences	20,732	21,298	2.7	12,643	704	5,135	835	1,426	554
Health sciences	38,467	40,354	4.9	21,626	1,571	9,645	3,252	2,737	1,523
Natural resources and conservation	1,121	1,250	11.5	565	209	356	20	59	40
Life sciences nec	1,614	1,625	0.7	778	130	516	48	87	66
Mathematics and statistics	1,166	1,324	13.6	839	44	357	12	58	14
Physical sciences	7,459	7,719	3.5	4,979	168	1,838	208	305	221
Astronomy and astrophysics	1,079	1,065	-1.3	689	7	179	4	64	121
Chemistry	2,520	2,515	-0.2	1,494	79	688	85	118	51
Materials science	349	375	7.5	235	11	104	15	6	4
Physics	3,108	3,331	7.2	2,347	51	732	59	105	38
Physical sciences nec	403	434	7.7	214	20	135	46	12	7
Psychology	1,732	1,853	7.0	1,074	84	550	11	110	24
Social sciences	3,913	4,176	6.7	1,412	285	1,658	54	564	202
Anthropology	179	189	5.6	62	4	100	2	14	7
Economics	781	798	2.2	229	60	314	14	133	48
Political science and government	601	644	7.2	129	27	320	4	114	50
Sociology, demography, and population studies	771	834	8.2	363	51	277	13	110	19
Social sciences nec	1,581	1,711	8.2	629	143	647	21	193	78
Sciences nec	1,268	1,373	8.3	552	84	583	31	62	61

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(Millions of dollars)

Field	Total 2024 R&D expenditures	Total 2025 R&D expenditures	% change FYs 2024–25	Source of funds, 2025					
				Federal government	State and local government	Institution funds	Business	Nonprofit organizations	All other sources
Engineering	19,275	21,222	10.1	13,408	1,341	4,137	1,289	548	500
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	2,054	2,234	8.8	1,750	52	227	179	9	18
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	2,082	2,255	8.3	1,422	87	480	73	160	34
Chemical engineering	1,409	1,484	5.3	873	55	344	115	65	32
Civil engineering	2,097	2,248	7.2	1,087	388	559	100	68	46
Electrical, electronic, and communications engineering	4,416	4,945	12.0	3,642	130	795	181	92	105
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	748	812	8.6	566	47	149	31	10	9
Mechanical engineering	2,575	2,796	8.6	1,899	100	506	200	47	44
Metallurgical and materials engineering	1,141	1,234	8.2	816	55	227	77	32	27
Engineering nec	2,753	3,214	16.7	1,354	427	849	333	66	185
Non-S&E	7,579	8,172	7.8	1,977	619	4,364	179	715	318
Business management and business administration	1,356	1,538	13.4	130	79	1,138	42	62	88
Communication and communications technologies	265	283	6.8	63	14	154	7	32	12
Education	2,219	2,277	2.6	995	225	723	53	242	38
Humanities	930	993	6.8	67	30	714	18	115	48
Law	445	445	0.0	47	42	246	7	71	32
Social work	461	451	-2.2	199	67	134	3	42	5
Visual and performing arts	308	331	7.5	22	12	263	2	23	10
Non-S&E nec	1,596	1,854	16.2	454	149	993	48	127	84

nec = not elsewhere classified; S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):
This table includes only institutions reporting $1 million or more in total R&D expenditures in FY 2024. Institutions reporting less than $1 million in total R&D expenditures in FY 2024 completed a shorter version of the survey form in FY 2025, and that form did not collect R&D expenditures by source and detailed field. Total expenditures from institutions reporting less than $1 million in R&D in FY 2025 was $151 million.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Higher Education Research and Development Survey.