

TABLE 66

Federal obligations for basic research performed at universities and colleges for selected agencies, by detailed field of science and engineering: FYs 2019–20

(Dollars in thousands)

Field	2019	2020 (preliminary)
All fields	18,559,376.1	19,564,280.8
Computer sciences and mathematics	1,245,400.4	1,268,154.2
Computer sciences	871,785.0	NA
Mathematics	319,780.6	NA
Other computer sciences and mathematics	53,834.8	NA
Engineering	1,665,537.0	1,712,355.2
Aeronautical engineering	49,996.4	NA
Astronautical engineering	3,995.0	NA
Chemical engineering	59,208.3	NA
Civil engineering	7,564.8	NA
Electrical engineering	129,031.4	NA
Mechanical engineering	68,223.2	NA
Metallurgy and materials engineering	293,421.9	NA
Other engineering	1,054,095.8	NA
Environmental sciences	1,120,422.5	1,143,585.2
Atmospheric sciences	146,686.3	NA
Geological sciences	156,543.7	NA
Oceanography	388,637.5	NA
Other environmental sciences	428,555.1	NA
Life sciences	10,480,308.5	11,185,886.6
Agricultural sciences	167,634.7	NA
Biological sciences (excluding environmental biology)	5,763,358.7	NA
Environmental biology	232,734.8	NA
Medical sciences	3,293,161.7	NA
Other life sciences	1,023,418.5	NA
Physical sciences	2,080,811.6	2,113,696.4
Astronomy	208,675.7	NA
Chemistry	454,985.6	NA
Physics	822,093.8	NA
Other physical sciences	595,056.5	NA
Psychology	853,894.4	922,785.6
Biological aspects	15,011.4	NA
Social aspects	9,260.2	NA
Other psychological sciences	829,622.9	NA
Social sciences	261,289.2	278,863.8
Anthropology	19,729.7	NA
Economics	37,568.7	NA
Political science	10,281.0	NA
Sociology	16,154.8	NA
Other social sciences	177,555.1	NA
Other sciences nec	851,712.3	938,953.7

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. Basic research obligations of these seven agencies represented more than 99% of total federal basic research obligations to universities and colleges in FYs 2019–20. FY 2020 preliminary data do not include obligations from 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 2019–20.