

TABLE 56

Federal obligations for 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	31,637,052.5	33,578,471.6
Computer sciences and mathematics	1,630,520.6	1,693,423.7
Computer sciences	1,213,364.0	NA
Mathematics	348,429.3	NA
Other computer sciences and mathematics	68,727.3	NA
Engineering	3,014,313.7	3,245,369.3
Aeronautical engineering	136,418.7	NA
Astronautical engineering	16,063.8	NA
Chemical engineering	87,583.0	NA
Civil engineering	9,524.5	NA
Electrical engineering	209,891.9	NA
Mechanical engineering	107,575.6	NA
Metallurgy and materials engineering	363,432.7	NA
Other engineering	2,083,823.4	NA
Environmental sciences	1,330,355.6	1,355,897.9
Atmospheric sciences	151,831.0	NA
Geological sciences	156,827.3	NA
Oceanography	425,152.5	NA
Other environmental sciences	596,544.8	NA
Life sciences	20,025,580.1	21,309,231.4
Agricultural sciences	421,659.6	NA
Biological sciences (excluding environmental biology)	10,700,183.4	NA
Environmental biology	334,826.9	NA
Medical sciences	6,518,794.8	NA
Other life sciences	2,050,115.4	NA
Physical sciences	2,198,843.0	2,309,536.1
Astronomy	209,738.8	NA
Chemistry	521,424.8	NA
Physics	852,739.6	NA
Other physical sciences	614,939.7	NA
Psychology	1,613,264.7	1,725,393.7
Biological aspects	15,011.4	NA
Social aspects	12,825.9	NA
Other psychological sciences	1,585,427.4	NA
Social sciences	377,091.2	406,531.9
Anthropology	19,765.8	NA
Economics	83,407.6	NA
Political science	10,281.0	NA
Sociology	31,205.3	NA
Other social sciences	232,431.6	NA
Other sciences nec	1,447,083.6	1,533,087.5

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 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.