# Global online survey on fundamental research

*8 March 2018*

**Introduction**

We developed and ran a quantitative online survey to query researchers about their perceptions of, and experiences with, funding for fundamental research. An important aim of the survey was to provide an understanding of researcher's personal experiences and outlook on the research funding landscape. We had an excellent response to the survey, with over xxxx researchers completing it, suggesting that fundamental research funding is a high priority topic for researchers. Herein, we detail the survey questions and results.

**Methods**

Online Survey

The survey was open to researchers from all disciplines (e.g. science, social sciences, humanities, engineering, medicine) and career stages, with the proviso that they had some experience applying for research funding. The survey gathered detailed information in four major areas: 1) the types of research the scholars conduct (fundamental, use-inspired, applied), 2) the extent of external partnerships in their research, 3) their grant success rates, and 4) how important they perceive fundamental research is to the federal government and its future prospects in . The survey also enquired how each of these factors have changed over time for the researchers. Finally, the survey gathered basic information from each respondent about gender, discipline, career stage and the year their PhD was obtained. The full survey is provided in Appendix 2.

The online survey was open from the end of May through xxxxxxxx, and ran on the Fluid Surveys platform (fluidsurveys.com). Note that the survey was open to researchers from any country in the world because it is was run as part of a global survey through the Global Young Academy. To disseminate the survey to researchers, we gathered email addresses from university websites for as many faculty members as possible and emailed individual researchers directly. We also shared the survey broadly on social media, as well as through the Global Young Academy network, on scientific list serves, and through personal connections.

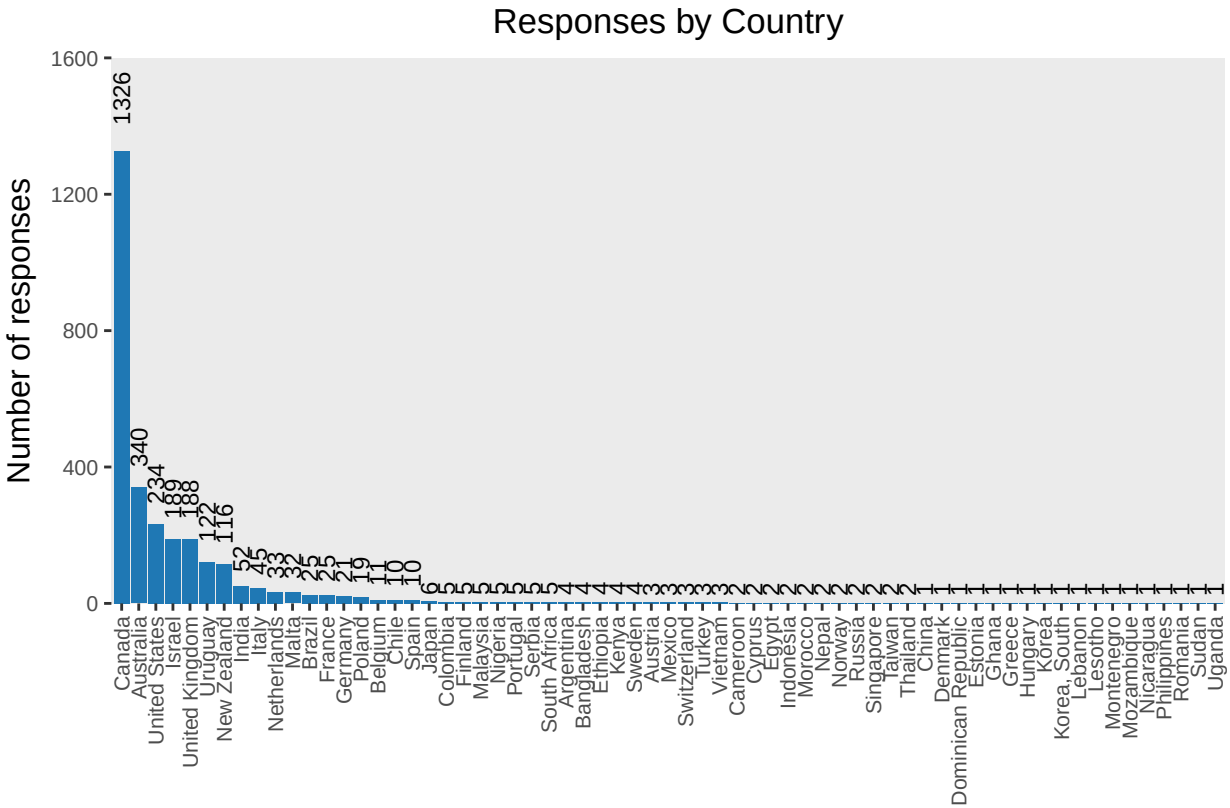
Survey Data Analysis

**Note that numbers not all the same because respondents did not always answer every question**

**Results**

In total, 2918 researchers completed the online survey. Of these, almost xxxxx were male (71%) and xxxxx were female (28%); xxxx proportion either did not input their gender or selected other. xxxx of the survey respondents (92%) were either senior academics (62%), defined as those researchers with more than ten years experience applying for research grants since completion of their PhD, or early career academics (30%) (Figure 4.1). xxxxx also came from post-doctoral researchers (6%), non-academic researchers (2%), or those who did not indicate their career stage (0.4%).

Researchers from many different disciplines were represented in the survey. 52 percent of responses came from either the natural or physical sciences (Figure 4.2). The remaining responses were spread amongst the medical and life sciences (23%), engineering (10%), interdisciplinary research (6%), and social sciences and humanities (8%).


Responses by Country
Number of responses
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1200
800
400
0
1326
340
234
189
188
122
116
52
45
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32
25
21
19
11
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Canada
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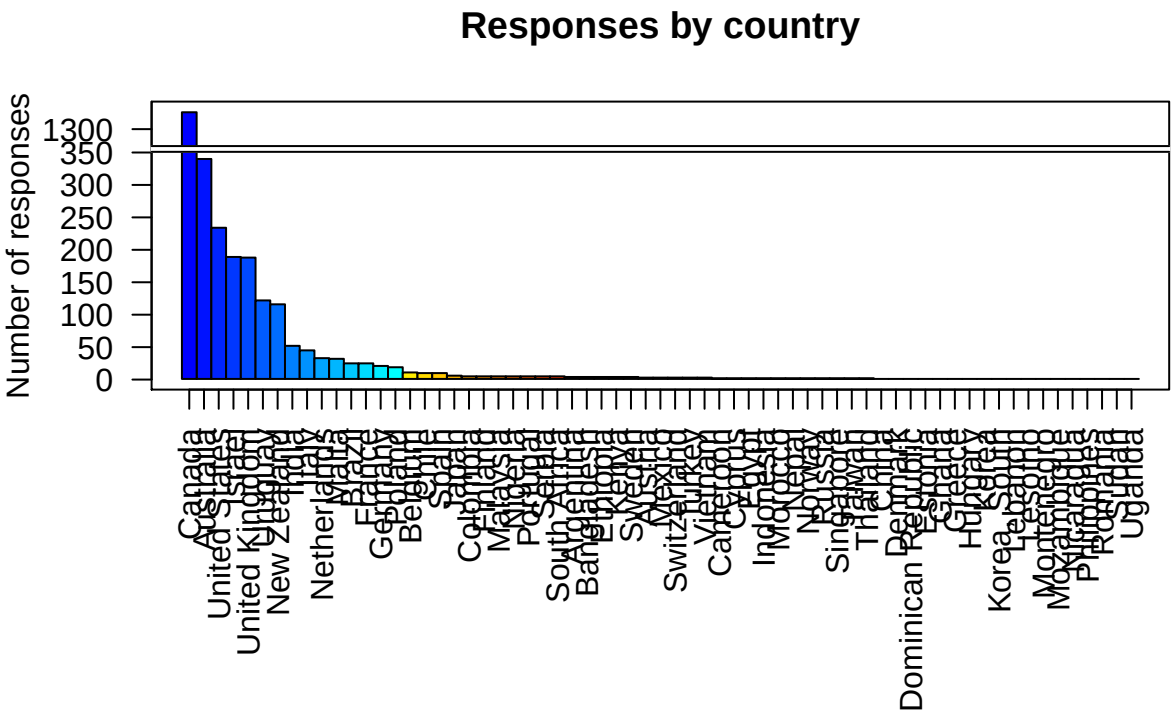
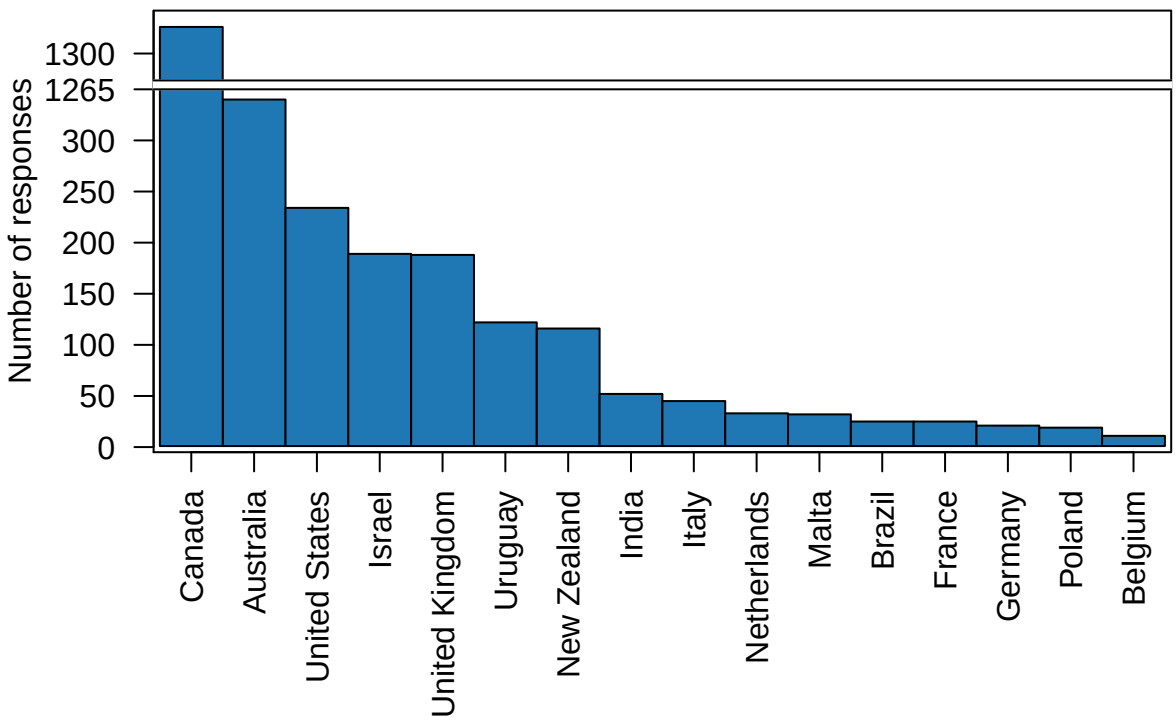
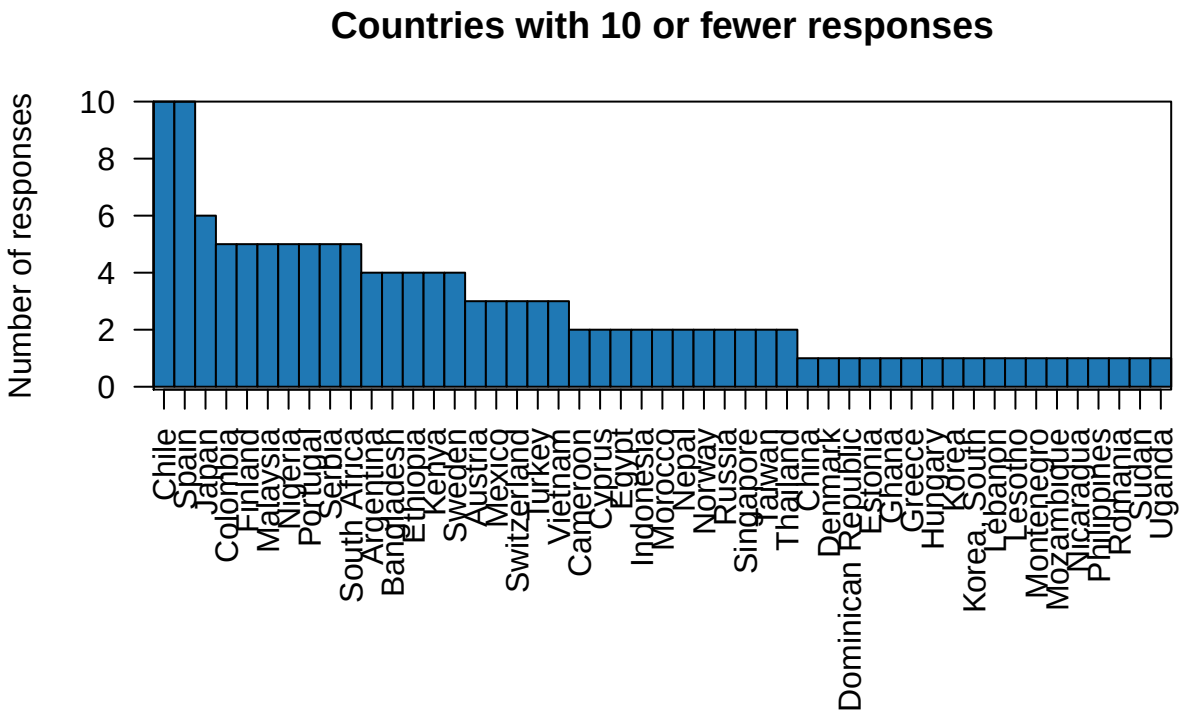
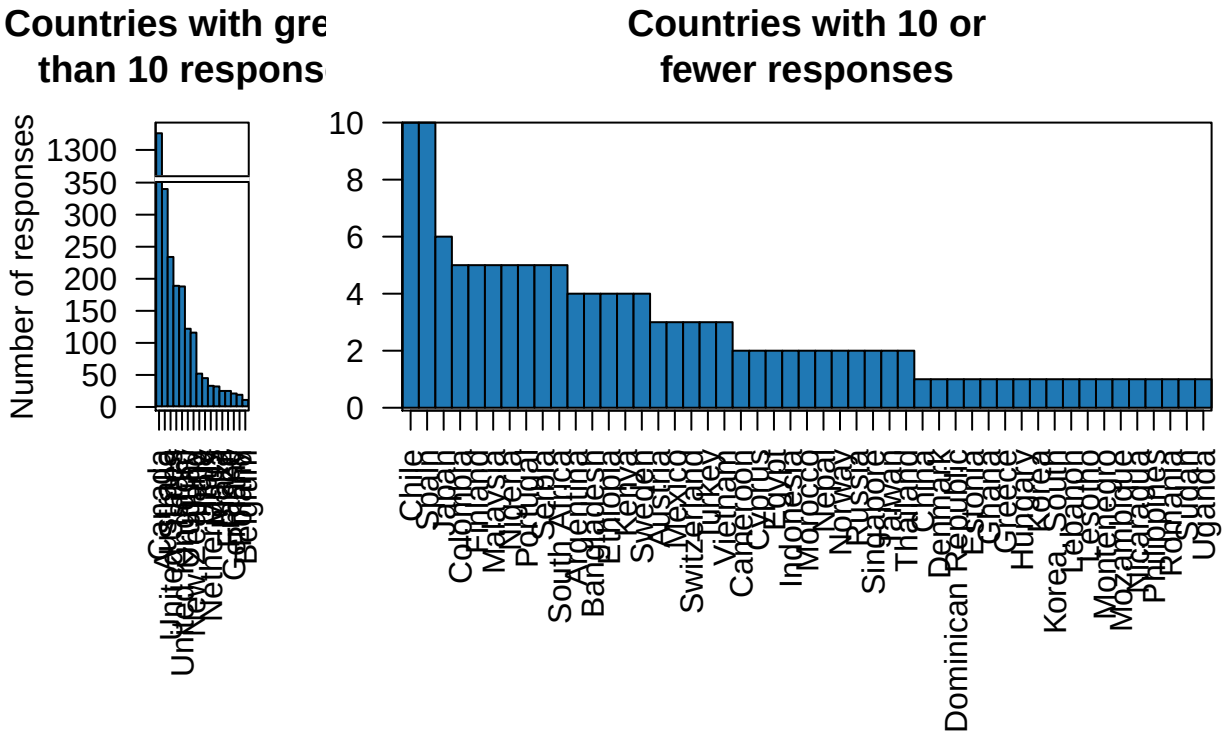
Israel
United Kingdom
Uruguay
New Zealand
India
Italy
Netherlands
Malta
Brazil
France
Germany
Poland
Belgium
Chile
Spain
Japan
Colombia
Finland
Malaysia
Nigeria
Portugal
Serbia
South Africa
Argentina
Bangladesh
Ethiopia
Kenya
Sweden
Austria
Mexico
Switzerland
Turkey
Vietnam
Cameroon
Cyprus
Egypt
Indonesia
Morocco
Nepal
Norway
Russia
Singapore
Taiwan
Thailand
China
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Estonia
Ghana
Greece
Hungary
Korea
Korea, South
Lebanon
Lesotho
Montenegro
Mozambique
Nicaragua
Philippines
Romania
Sudan
Uganda


Responses by country
Number of responses
1300
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Canada
United States
United Kingdom
New Zealand
Netherlands
Germany
Belgium
Spain
Malaysia
Poland
South Africa
Sweden
Mexico
Switzerland
Turkey
Vietnam
Cyprus
India
Norway
Russia
Singapore
Thailand
Dominican Republic
Hungary
Korea
Lebanon
Montenegro
Romania
Uganda


Countries with greater than 10 responses
Number of responses
1300
1265
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
Canada
Australia
United States
Israel
United Kingdom
Uruguay
New Zealand
India
Italy
Netherlands
Malta
Brazil
France
Germany
Poland
Belgium


Countries with 10 or fewer responses
Number of responses
0
2
4
6
8
10
Chile
Spain
Japan
Colombia
Finland
Malaysia
Nigeria
Portugal
Serbia
South Africa
Argentina
Bangladesh
Ethiopia
Kenya
Sweden
Austria
Mexico
Switzerland
Turkey
Vietnam
Cameroon
Cyprus
Egypt
Indonesia
Morocco
Nepal
Norway
Russia
Singapore
Taiwan
Thailand
China
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Estonia
Ghana
Greece
Hungary
Korea
South Korea
Lebanon
Lesotho
Montenegro
Mozambique
Nicaragua
Philippines
Romania
Sudan
Uganda


Countries with gre
than 10 respons
Countries with 10 or
fewer responses
Number of responses
1300
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
10
8
6
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2
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