

Public research policy (OECD Science, Technology and Industry Outlook 2012)

Public research, i.e. research primarily funded with public money and carried out by public research institutions (PRIs) and research universities, plays an extremely important role in innovation systems by ensuring the provision of new knowledge. Public-sector research is considerably smaller than business research and development (R&D) in the majority of OECD countries: government intramural expenditure on R&D was on average 0.29% of gross domestic product for the OECD area in 2009, and higher education expenditure on R&D was 0.44% (including a small percentage funded by business), while business expenditure on R&D stood at 1.69%.

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Knowledge Type: [Thematic report](#) [1]

Other Tag: [technology platforms](#) [2]

[government intramural expenditure on research and development](#) [3]

[institutional funding](#) [4]

[project funding](#) [5]

[higher education research](#) [6]

[private sector research and development](#) [7]

[innovation system](#) [8]

[national innovation systems](#) [9]

[block funding](#) [10]

[research infrastructure](#) [11]

[higher education expenditure in research and development](#) [12]

[competitive funding](#) [13]

Parent URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/sti_outlook-2012-en [14]

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Links

[1] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/knowledge-type/thematic-report-0>

[2] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/technology-platforms>

[3] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/government-intramural-expenditure-research-and-development>

[4] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/institutional-funding>

[5] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/project-funding>

[6] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/higher-education-research>

[7] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/private-sector-research-and-development>

[8] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/innovation-system>

[9] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/national-innovation-systems>

[10] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/block-funding>

[11] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/research-infrastructure>

[12] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/higher-education-expenditure-research-and-development>

[13] <https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/topic/competitive-funding>

[14] http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/sti_outlook-2012-en