



TABLE 8-3

Federal laboratory technology transfer activity indicators, by selected agencies: FYs 2006, 2009, 2012, 2014

(Number of activities)

| Fiscal year | Technology transfer activity | All federal laboratories | DOD | HHS | DOE | NASA | USDA | DOC | DHS |
|-------------|---|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| 2014 | Invention disclosures and patenting | | | | | | | | |
| | Inventions disclosed | 5,103 | 963 | 351 | 1,588 | 1,683 | 117 | 47 | 36 |
| | Patent applications | 2,609 | 916 | 216 | 1,144 | 146 | 119 | 25 | 5 |
| | Patents issued | 1,931 | 670 | 335 | 693 | 117 | 83 | 18 | 3 |
| | Licensing | | | | | | | | |
| | All licenses, total active in the fiscal year | 20,822 | 527 | 1,555 | 5,861 | 2,381 | 414 | 41 | 10,313 |
| | Invention licenses | 3,956 | 425 | 1,186 | 1,560 | 253 | 363 | 41 | 2 |
| | Other intellectual property licenses | 16,866 | 102 | 369 | 4,301 | 2,128 | 51 | 0 | 10,311 |
| | Collaborative relationships for R&D | | | | | | | | |
| | CRADAs, total active in the fiscal year | 9,180 | 2,762 | 532 | 704 | 0 | 267 | 2,359 | 158 |
| | Traditional CRADAs | 4,891 | 2,281 | 378 | 704 | 0 | 193 | 206 | 121 |
| | Other collaborative R&D relationships | 27,182 | 581 | 154 | 0 | 6,058 | 17,005 | 3,031 | 31 |
| 2012 | Invention disclosures and patenting | | | | | | | | |
| | Inventions disclosed | 5,350 | 1,078 | 352 | 1,661 | 1,642 | 160 | 52 | 40 |
| | Patent applications | 2,361 | 1,013 | 233 | 780 | 131 | 122 | 21 | 10 |
| | Patents issued | 2,228 | 1,048 | 453 | 483 | 129 | 69 | 3 | 0 |
| | Licensing | | | | | | | | |
| | All licenses, total active in the fiscal year | 11,452 | 520 | 1,465 | 5,328 | 3,013 | 384 | 41 | 523 |
| | Invention licenses | 3,882 | 432 | 1,090 | 1,428 | 284 | 341 | 41 | 0 |
| | Other intellectual property licenses | 7,660 | 88 | 375 | 3,900 | 2,729 | 43 | 0 | 523 |
| | Collaborative relationships for R&D | | | | | | | | |
| | CRADAs, total active in the fiscal year | 8,307 | 2,400 | 377 | 742 | 0 | 274 | 2,410 | 94 |
| | Traditional CRADAs | 4,292 | 1,328 | 245 | 742 | 0 | 211 | 153 | 89 |



| Fiscal year | Technology transfer activity | All federal laboratories | DOD | HHS | DOE | NASA | USDA | DOC | DHS |
|-------------|---|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-----|
| | Other collaborative R&D relationships | 24,717 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,749 | 15,878 | 2,782 | 11 |
| 2009 | Invention disclosures and patenting | | | | | | | | |
| | Inventions disclosed | 4,452 | 831 | 389 | 1,439 | 1,412 | 143 | 41 | 32 |
| | Patent applications | 1,957 | 690 | 156 | 775 | 141 | 123 | 20 | 2 |
| | Patents issued | 1,319 | 404 | 397 | 363 | 93 | 24 | 7 | 2 |
| | Licensing | | | | | | | | |
| | All licenses, total active in the fiscal year | 12,598 | 432 | 1,584 | 5,742 | 4,181 | 330 | 40 | 63 |
| | Invention licenses | 3,854 | 386 | 1,304 | 1,452 | 146 | 302 | 40 | 45 |
| | Other intellectual property licenses | 8,744 | 46 | 280 | 4,290 | 4,035 | 28 | 0 | 18 |
| | Collaborative relationships for R&D | | | | | | | | |
| | CRADAs, total active in the fiscal year | 7,756 | 2,870 | 457 | 744 | 1 | 259 | 2,397 | 23 |
| | Traditional CRADAs | 4,296 | 2,247 | 284 | 744 | 1 | 207 | 101 | 22 |
| | Other collaborative R&D relationships | 17,649 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4,507 | 10,306 | 2,828 | 5 |
| 2006 | Invention disclosures and patenting | | | | | | | | |
| | Inventions disclosed | 5,193 | 1,056 | 442 | 1,694 | 1,749 | 105 | 14 | NA |
| | Patent applications | 1,912 | 691 | 166 | 726 | 142 | 83 | 5 | NA |
| | Patents issued | 1,284 | 472 | 164 | 438 | 85 | 39 | 7 | NA |
| | Licensing | | | | | | | | |
| | All licenses, total active in the fiscal year | 10,186 | 444 | 1,535 | 5,916 | 2,856 | 332 | 111 | NA |
| | Invention licenses | 4,163 | 438 | 1,213 | 1,420 | 308 | 332 | 111 | NA |
| | Other intellectual property licenses | 6,023 | 6 | 322 | 4,496 | 2,548 | 0 | 0 | NA |
| | Collaborative relationships for R&D | | | | | | | | |
| | CRADAs, total active in the fiscal year | 7,268 | 2,999 | 164 | 631 | 1 | 195 | 3,008 | NA |
| | Traditional CRADAs | 3,666 | 2,424 | 92 | 631 | 1 | 163 | 149 | NA |
| | Other collaborative R&D relationships | 9,738 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,275 | 3,477 | 2,114 | NA |



NA = not available.

CRADA = Cooperative R&D Agreement; DHS = Department of Homeland Security; DOC = Department of Commerce; DOD = Department of Defense; DOE = Department of Energy; HHS = Department of Health and Human Services; NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration; USDA = Department of Agriculture.

Note(s)

The table includes seven federal departments and agencies that reported R&D obligations at or above \$1 billion in FY 2014. (The National Science Foundation was also in this group, but its corresponding data were not available.) Other federal agencies not listed but included in the All federal laboratories totals are the Department of the Interior, Department of Transportation, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Environmental Protection Agency. Invention licenses refer to inventions that are patented or could be patented. Other intellectual property refers to intellectual property protected through mechanisms other than a patent (e.g., copyright). CRADAs refers to all agreements executed under CRADA authority (15 U.S.C. 3710a). Traditional CRADAs are collaborative R&D partnerships between a federal laboratory and one or more nonfederal organizations. Federal agencies have varying authorities for other kinds of collaborative R&D relationships.

Source(s)

National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce, *Federal Laboratory Technology Transfer, Fiscal Year 2014: Summary Report to the President and the Congress* (2016), https://www.nist.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2016/10/26/fy2014_federal_tech_transfer_report.pdf. See Appendix Table 4-30.

Science and Engineering Indicators 2018