



**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

**FFRDC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SURVEY**  
**FY 2020**

**Please submit your survey data by February 12, 2021.**

Your participation in this survey provides important information on the national level of R&D activity. The National Science Foundation (NSF) is authorized to collect this information under the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. Your organization's response is entirely voluntary.

Response to this survey is estimated to require 11 hours. If you wish to comment on the time required to complete this survey, please contact Suzanne H. Plimpton of NSF at (703) 292-7556, or e-mail [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov).

The Web address for submitting your data:

<http://www.ffrdcsurvey.org>

Or mail this form to:

ICF  
530 Gaither Road, Suite 500  
Rockville, MD 20850

**Questions?**

Technical support:

[Support@FFRDCsurvey.org](mailto:Support@FFRDCsurvey.org)  
(866) 936-9376

General survey questions:

Michael Gibbons  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation  
[mgibbons@nsf.gov](mailto:mgibbons@nsf.gov)  
(703) 292-4590

**Thank you for your participation.**

## What's New for FY 2020

### New Question

- There were no changes to this questionnaire from the FY 2019 version.

## Survey Definitions and Instructions

This survey collects data on research and development (R&D) activities at Federally Funded R&D Centers (FFRDCs). Please report R&D activities and expenditures for your organization’s **2020** fiscal year.

### Fiscal Year (FY)

Please report data for your organization’s 2020 fiscal year.

### Research and Development (R&D)

R&D activity is creative and systematic work undertaken in order to increase the stock of knowledge — including knowledge of humankind, culture, and society — and to devise new applications of available knowledge. R&D covers three activities defined below — basic research, applied research, and experimental development.

- **Basic research** is experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view.
- **Applied research** is original investigation undertaken in order to acquire new knowledge. It is directed primarily towards a specific, practical aim or objective.
- **Experimental development** is systematic work, drawing on knowledge gained from research and practical experience and producing additional knowledge, which is directed to producing new products or processes or to improving existing products or processes.

### R&D Expenditures

Please include all current operating expenditures for activities specifically organized to produce R&D outcomes. This includes basic research, applied research, and experimental development funded by external sponsors or separately budgeted and accounted for by your organization using internal funds.

R&D <i>includes</i> :	R&D does <i>not</i> include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sponsored research (including federal and nonfederal sponsors)</li> <li>• Indirect costs associated with R&amp;D projects</li> <li>• R&amp;D equipment and software</li> <li>• R&amp;D subcontract expenditures</li> <li>• Clinical trials</li> <li>• Research training grants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach or training programs</li> <li>• R&amp;D conducted by staff at outside institutions that is not accounted for in your financial records</li> <li>• Capital projects (i.e., construction or renovation of research facilities)</li> <li>• Routine testing</li> <li>• Non-R&amp;D program implementation or management</li> <li>• Policy development</li> </ul>

**Question 1. How much of your total expenditures for separately budgeted research and development (R&D) came from the following sources in FY 2020? (See definition of R&D on the previous page.)**

Report the **original source** of funds, when possible. For example, if you received **federal** funds from another organization, report that amount under “U.S. federal government.”

Please do not report capital construction costs.

<b>Source of funds</b>	<b>R&amp;D expenditures (Dollars in thousands) (for example, report \$25,342 as \$25)</b>
<p><b>a. U.S. federal government</b> Any agency of the United States government. Include federal funds passed through from another organization.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>b. State and local government</b> Any state, county, municipality, or other local government entity in the United States, including state health agencies.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>c. Business</b> Domestic or foreign for-profit organizations. (Report funds from a company’s nonprofit foundation in row d.)</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>d. Nonprofit organizations</b> Domestic or foreign nonprofit foundations and organizations, except universities and colleges. Funds from other universities and colleges should be reported in row e.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>e. All other sources</b> Other sources not reported above, such as funds from foreign governments, and foreign or U.S. universities.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>f. Total<sup>1</sup></b></p>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>

<sup>1</sup> Column totals are automatically generated on the Web survey.

**Question 2. Of the federally funded R&D expenditures reported in Question 1, row a, how much came from the following agencies?**

Report the agency that was the **original source** of funds, when possible.

A list of federal departments, agencies and subagencies is included as a link on the web survey question.

Funding agency	R&D expenditures (Dollars in thousands)
a. Department of Defense	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
b. Department of Energy	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
c. Department of Health and Human Services (including the National Institutes of Health)	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
d. Department of Homeland Security	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
e. Department of Transportation	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
f. National Aeronautics and Space Administration	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
g. National Science Foundation	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
h. Other federal agencies	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
i. <b>Total<sup>1</sup></b> (should match total from Question 1, row a)	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>

<sup>1</sup> Column totals are automatically generated on the Web survey.

**Question 3. Of the amount reported for Other federal sources in Question 2 (row h), which agencies funded this R&D and how much of the reported amount was from each agency?**

If your institution reported \$0 in Question 2, row h, skip this question and go to Question 4.

Use rows a–j to list up to 10 agencies that funded the largest R&D expenditures. Use row k to report any remaining amount.

Report the agency that was the original source of funds, when possible.

A list of federal departments, agencies and subagencies is included as a link on the web survey question.

Federal agencies (list up to 10)	R&D expenditures (Dollars in thousands)
a. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
b. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
c. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
d. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
e. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
f. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
g. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
h. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
i. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
j. <input style="width: 500px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
k. Other agencies included in Question 2, row h, but not listed above	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
l. <b>Total (should match Question 2, row h)<sup>1</sup></b>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>

<sup>1</sup> The column total is automatically generated on the Web survey.

**Question 4. What amounts of your FY 2020 R&D expenditures were for basic research, applied research, and experimental development?**

If possible, these categories defining the type of R&D should be coded at the individual project level by the principal investigator or project director. Estimates are acceptable if necessary.

See the table below this question for examples.

		R&D expenditures (Dollars in thousands)		
		(1) Federal	(2) Nonfederal	(3) Total <sup>1</sup>
<b>a. Basic research</b>	Experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view.	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>
<b>b. Applied research</b>	Original investigation undertaken in order to acquire new knowledge. It is directed primarily towards a specific, practical aim or objective.	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>
<b>c. Experimental development</b>	Systematic work, drawing on knowledge gained from research and practical experience and producing additional knowledge, which is directed to producing new products or processes or to improving existing products or processes.	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	\$ <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>
<b>d. Total<sup>1</sup></b>	Column 1 total should match Question 1, row a. Column 3 total should match Question 1, row f.	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>

<sup>1</sup> Row and column totals are automatically generated on the Web survey.

Examples		
Basic research	Applied research	Experimental development
A researcher is studying the properties of human blood to determine what affects coagulation.	A researcher is conducting research on how a new chicken pox vaccine affects blood coagulation.	A researcher is conducting clinical trials to test a newly developed chicken pox vaccine for young children.
A researcher is studying the properties of molecules under various heat and cold conditions.	A researcher is investigating the properties of particular substances under various heat and cold conditions with the objective of finding longer-lasting components for highway pavement.	A researcher is working with state transportation officials to conduct tests of a newly developed highway pavement under various types of heat and cold conditions.
A researcher is investigating the effect of different types of manipulatives on the way first graders learn mathematical strategy by changing manipulatives and then measuring what students have learned through standardized instruments.	A researcher is studying the implementation of a specific math curriculum to determine what teachers needed to know to implement the curriculum successfully.	A researcher is developing and testing software and support tools, based on fieldwork, to improve mathematics cognition for student special education.

**Question 5. Of the total R&D expenditures reported in Question 1, what were the amounts for the following types of costs?**

Please report only **direct costs** in rows a–e. **Indirect costs** should be reported in row f.

	<b>R&amp;D expenditures (Dollars in thousands)</b>
<b>Direct costs from all sources</b>	
<p><b>a. Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits</b>                      Include compensation for all R&amp;D personnel whether full-time or part-time, temporary or permanent. Include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits paid from internal funds and from external support.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>b. Software purchases</b>                      All payments for software. Include both purchases of software packages and license fees for systems.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>c. Equipment</b>                      Payments for movable equipment. Include ancillary costs such as delivery and setup.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>d. Subcontracts</b>                      Payments to subcontractors or subrecipients for services on R&amp;D projects.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>e. Other direct costs</b>                      Other costs that do not fit into one of the above categories, including (but not limited to) travel, computer usage fees, and supplies.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<b>Indirect costs</b>	
<p><b>f. Indirect costs</b>                      Include all indirect costs (overhead) associated with R&amp;D projects.</p>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
<p><b>g. Total<sup>1</sup></b>                      (should match total from Question 1, row f)</p>	\$ <u>TOTAL</u>

<sup>1</sup> Column totals are automatically generated on the Web survey.

**Question 6. What was the total executed operating budget of your FFRDC in FY 2020, excluding capital construction costs?**

(Dollars in thousands)

<b>Total operating budget</b>	\$ <input style="width: 100px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
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**Question 7. In what month did your institution's 2020 fiscal year end?**

**Primary Contact Information.** Please complete the contact information for the person responsible for the survey.

Name	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Job Title	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Institution name	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Office/Department	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Mailing address (line 1)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Mailing address (line 2)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
City, state, and ZIP Code	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Phone number	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>	E-mail address	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>

**Other Contact Information.** List individuals who should be copied on all e-mails about the survey or can create a login account. Job Title should include information about office/department as appropriate (e.g., Office of Finance Director).

**Other Contact 1**

Name	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Job Title	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Phone Number	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>	E-mail address	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>

**Other Contact 2**

Name	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Job Title	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Phone Number	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>	E-mail address	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>

**Other Contact 3**

Name	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Job Title	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
Phone Number	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>	E-mail address	<input style="width: 200px;" type="text"/>