

# DATA BRIEF

## Federal Academic S&E Obligations Showed Slight Decrease in FY 1993

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*Only DOD and NASA reported academic S&E increases that exceeded inflation.*

Federal obligations for academic science and engineering (S&E) activities totaled \$12.7 billion in fiscal year (FY) 1993, decreasing very slightly (one-tenth of 1 percent) from FY 1992, or by more than 2 percent after adjusting for inflation. This information is based on the most recent data from the National Science Foundation's (NSF's) Survey of Federal Support to Universities, Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions.

### Categories of Support

Academic S&E includes the following six funding categories: (1) research and development (R&D); (2) fellowships, traineeships, and training grants (FTTG); (3) R&D plant; (4) facilities and equipment for instruction; (5) general support for S&E; and (6) other S&E activities. The R&D portion, which represented \$6 of every \$7 of academic S&E, totaled \$10.9 billion in FY 1993, representing an increase of 0.7 percent in current dollars. Only two of the other five academic S&E categories (R&D plant and FTTG) showed increased levels of support, both increasing at rates higher than the 2.4-percent inflation rate. R&D plant funding rose by 26 percent in current dollars to a new high of \$258 million. Nearly all of the gain in R&D plant funding came from increases in Department of Energy (DOE) programs. FTTG obligations rose by 3 percent in current dollars, to \$525 million.

### Agency Sources

Of the six agencies responsible for the largest amounts of academic S&E obligations in FY 1993 (accounting for 95 percent of the Federal total), four (the Department of Defense (DOD), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), NSF, and the DOE) reported current-dollar increases (table 1). However, the only agencies that showed increases exceeding the rate of inflation were DOD and NASA (19 percent and 6 percent, respectively, in real

terms). More than five-sixths of the DOD increase and two-fifths of the NASA increase were for R&D programs. In current dollars, academic S&E funding from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) fell by 3 percent, and S&E funding declined by a fraction of 1 percent from the Department of Agriculture (USDA). Part of the decrease from HHS may have been related to reporting changes by the agency's Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration.

**Table 1. Federal academic S&E support, by agency: Fiscal years 1992-93**

Agency	[Millions of dollars]		[Percent change]	
	FY 1992	FY 1993	Current dollars	1987 dollars
Total.....	12,739	12,724	-0.1	-2.5
HHS.....	6,210	6,023	-3.0	-5.3
NSF.....	1,830	1,858	1.5	-0.9
DOD.....	1,510	1,834	21.5	18.6
USDA.....	942	941	-0.1	-2.5
NASA.....	680	737	8.4	5.9
DOE.....	705	715	1.4	-1.0
All other agencies...	862	615	-28.6	-30.3

SOURCE: NSF/SRS, Survey of Federal Support to Universities, Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions: FY 1993

### Electronic Dissemination

SRS data are available through the World Wide Web (<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/srs/start.htm>) and also through STIS, NSF's online Science and Technology Information System, described in NSF flyer 95-64, "Getting NSF Information and Publications." For a paper copy of the flyer, call 703-306-1130. For an electronic copy of the *STIS User's Guide*, send an e-mail with the phrase "get NSF9410.TXT" to [stisserv@nsf.gov](mailto:stisserv@nsf.gov). For NSF's Telephonic Device for the Deaf, dial 703-306-0090.

### University Shares

The Johns Hopkins University (including its Applied Physics Laboratory) was the top recipient of Federal academic S&E support (table 2), nearly all of it from DOD and HHS. The leading 20 universities, ranked by Federal agencies' academic S&E obligations, accounted for 36 percent of the FY 1993 S&E total. Eighteen of the top twenty academic S&E recipients in FY 1993 were also among the leading 20 in FY 1992. The new entrants were Duke University (now 19th) and the University of Texas at Austin (20th).

### User Notes

The Federal Support data presented in this Data Brief were obtained from the 15 Federal

agencies that provide virtually all academic R&D support and that participated in the FY 1993 Survey of Federal Support to Universities,

Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions. The survey also includes statistics on Federal support obligations by funding category, type of institution, S&E

discipline, institutional ranking, geographic distribution, and type of institutional control.

Selected data items for individual doctorate-granting institutions and schools with S&E departments that grant a master's degree are available on computer-generated Institutional Profiles. An Institutional Profile consists of data not only from this survey, but also from NSF's other two academic S&E surveys: the Survey of Scientific and Engineering Expenditures at Universities and Colleges and the Survey of Graduate Science and Engineering Students and Postdoctorates. Data from these surveys are also available via STIS (see "Electronic Dissemination," p.1) and the Computer-Aided Science Policy Analysis and Research (CASPAR) database system, a user-friendly tool on CD-ROM for retrieval and analyses of statistical data on academic S&E resources. For more information, please contact Richard J. Bennof, Project Manager, at the following address:

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**Table 2. Federal academic science & engineering (S&E) support to the top 20 universities: FY 1993**

[Millions of dollars]								
Rank	Institution	Total academic S&E	R&D	R&D plant	Facilities & equipment for instruction	Fellowships, traineeships, & training grants	General support for S&E	Other S&E activities
	Total, all institutions	12,723.6	10,940.1	258.4	32.2	524.8	66.1	902.0
1	Johns Hopkins University 1/...	701.1	543.9	--	--	16.3	0.2	140.7
2	University of Washington.....	279.8	246.0	0.9	0.1	13.5	1.2	18.1
3	MA Inst of Technology.....	276.3	251.8	6.8	0.1	10.0	0.4	7.1
4	Stanford University.....	267.7	249.6	2/	0.0	17.4	0.0	1.7
5	University of Michigan.....	233.9	214.6	0.6	0.2	12.2	0.3	5.9
6	U CA San Diego.....	217.4	204.1	0.3	0.0	8.6	2.5	1.9
7	Cornell University.....	216.6	174.2	16.5	0.1	8.2	--	17.6
8	U WI Madison.....	216.1	190.5	4.8	0.1	7.1	0.3	13.4
9	Pennsylvania State U.....	210.9	173.1	0.5	0.1	2.8	0.1	34.3
10	U CA Los Angeles.....	207.9	195.8	0.3	0.0	9.6	0.2	2.0
11	Columbia U City New York.....	205.8	194.9	2.0	0.0	7.2	0.3	1.3
12	University of PA.....	200.6	186.0	0.6	0.1	11.1	0.5	2.4
13	University of Minnesota.....	194.6	168.7	0.5	0.2	8.3	0.2	16.8
14	Harvard University.....	187.9	169.2	0.3	0.0	16.8	0.1	1.6
15	U CA San Francisco.....	187.6	175.4	0.1	0.0	11.3	0.3	0.5
16	Yale University.....	182.4	169.2	2.2	0.0	9.6	--	1.4
17	U CA Berkeley.....	162.4	133.2	0.4	--	10.8	0.1	17.8
18	University of Colorado.....	157.8	145.5	0.6	0.1	8.0	2.8	0.8
19	Duke University.....	148.5	138.8	0.7	0.1	6.4	0.4	2.0
20	U TX Austin.....	146.7	117.2	0.2	0.0	3.7	0.7	24.9
	Total, top 20 institutions.....	4,602.0	4,041.6	37.4	1.1	198.9	10.7	312.2

KEY: "--" = Less than \$50,000

1/ Includes funding for the Applied Physics Laboratory

2/ Funds deobligated for R&D plant exceeded the amount obligated in FY 1993.

SOURCE: NSF/SRS, Survey of Federal Support to Universities, Colleges, and Nonprofit Institutions: FY 1993

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