NETWORKING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Research and Development Funding in the President's FY 2005 Budget

The President's 2005 Budget provides $2.0 billion for the Networking and Information Technology R&D (NITRD) Program, increasing the Administration's investment in this already sizeable program by almost 14 percent since 2001. Networking and information technologies enable advances in other fields and provide capabilities that are utilized by virtually every sector of the economy, generating not only new products and tools but also significant improvements in productivity. By coordinating key research efforts and related activities, the NITRD agencies leverage resources to make broader advances in computing and networking than any single agency could attain.

Networking and Information Technology R&D Budget Authority ($ million)

Department/Agency	2001 Actual	2005 Request	Dollar Change: 2001 to 2005	Percent Change: 2001 to 2005
National Science Foundation	636	761	125	20
Health and Human Services[1]	277	371	94	34
Energy	326	354	28	9
NASA[2]	177	259	82	46
Defense	310	226	-84	-27
Commerce	38	33	-5	-13
Environmental Protection Agency	4	4	0	0
TOTAL	**1,768**	**2,008**	**240**	**14**

Seven federal agencies participate in the NITRD program. The National Science Foundation continues to have the largest share of federal NITRD funding, reflecting the broad mission of NSF in supporting fundamental research across all disciplines of science and engineering as well as its leadership role in coordinating NITRD activities.

Other agencies' NITRD funding serves to advance networking and information technology relevant to the mission of the agency and in doing so help support progress towards some of the Nation's highest priorities, including defense and homeland security. For example, improved hardware and software components, including remote-sensing, telemetry, and secure wireless networking technologies are enabling improved remote command and control for equipment such as unmanned aerial vehicles. In another example, research on the incorporation of microsensors into wireless networks has implications not only for battlefield reconnaissance but also for environmental monitoring, and may also be used to improve the tools that first responders depend upon for communication in the field.

High-end computing (HEC) continues to be a major focus within the NITRD program. For instance, funding for high-end computing within the Department of Energy's Office of Science has increased over 60 percent, from $73 million in FY 2001 to $118 million in this year's request. In FY 2003, agencies with responsibilities for high-end computing formed the High End Computing Revitalization Task Force (HECRTF) and have worked to develop an interagency R&D roadmap for high-end computing core technologies, a federal high-end computing capacity and accessibility improvement plan, and recommendations relating to federal procurement of high-end computing systems. The NITRD interagency working group continues to leverage the work of the HECRTF in improving interagency coordination of high-end computing.

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[1] Includes funds from offsetting collections for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
[2] NASA has modified how it accounts for costs since 2001; the numbers in this table are not fully comparable.