

Initial Email to Survey Participants

Dear <survey participant>:

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has engaged the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce (BEA) to conduct a brief survey of recipients of NIH research and development awards. The data requested will be used to update the expenditure weights needed to compute the Biomedical Research and Development Price Index (BRDPI).

As you may know, the BRDPI is an index of prices paid for the labor, supplies, equipment, and other inputs required to perform the biomedical research the NIH supports in its intramural laboratories and through its awards to extramural organizations. The index is needed for planning future NIH programs, and for developing and justifying the annual NIH budget request to Congress. For example, annual changes in the BRDPI approximate how much the total NIH budget should be increased to compensate for price increases and sustain the level of research effort supported during the previous year.

The online form represents our best effort to limit the burden of this survey. It requests only information that is absolutely necessary to accomplish our goal of producing accurate and reliable estimates of the BRDPI. The BRDPI, and some supporting details and analyses, will be published.

Please provide the information requested on expenditures made by your institution and reimbursed by NIH during your 2005 fiscal year. Please submit your responses to the survey provided below by **November 15, 2006**. If you have questions about this survey, please contact Dr. Steven Payson at 202-606-9788 (email: steven.payson@bea.gov).

Your participation is very important for maintaining the accuracy and credibility of the BRDPI, and your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lana Skirboll
Director, Office of Science Policy
The National Institutes of Health

To take the survey, go to:
<https://www.bea.gov/brdpi>



Welcome Bureau of Economic Analysis - Robert! Please read the following below and click continue.

Dear Robert Kornfeld:

Thank you for your assistance with responding to the brief survey conducted by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce (BEA) on behalf of the NIH. The data requested will be used to update the expenditure weights needed to compute the Biomedical Research and Development Price Index (BRDPI).

As outlined in the email request to your institution, the BRDPI is an index of prices paid for the labor, supplies, equipment, and other inputs required to perform the biomedical research the NIH supports in its intramural laboratories and through its awards to extramural organizations. The index is needed for planning future NIH programs, and for developing and justifying the annual NIH budget request to Congress. For example, annual changes in the BRDPI approximate how much the total NIH budget should be increased to compensate for price increases and sustain the level of research effort supported during the previous year.

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The collection and use of this information complies with all applicable information quality guidelines, i.e., those of the Office of Management and Budget, Department of Commerce, and BEA.

The information provided by the respondents will be held confidential and be used for exclusively statistical purposes. This pledge of confidentiality is made under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA). Section 512 (on Limitations on Use and Disclosure of Data and Information) of the Act, provides that "data or information acquired by an agency under a pledge of confidentiality and for exclusively statistical purposes shall be used by officers, employees, or agents of the agency under a pledge of confidentiality for exclusively statistical purposes shall not be disclosed by an agency in identifiable form, for any use other than an exclusively statistical purpose, except with the informed consent of the respondent."

Responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form to anyone other than employees or agents of BEA without your consent. By law, each employee as well as each agent is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both if he or she makes public ANY identifiable information that you report about your business or institution.

Please provide the information requested on expenditures made by your institution and reimbursed by NIH during your 2005 fiscal year. (See the [survey glossary](#) on this website.) Please submit your responses to the survey provided below by November 15, 2006. If you have questions about this survey, please contact Dr. Steven Payson at 202-606-9788 or by email at Steven.Payson@bea.gov.

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The National Institutes of Health



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Office of Science Policy & Planning

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Sincerely,

Dr. Lana Skirboll, Director, Office of Science Policy
The National Institutes of Health





Welcome Bureau of Economic Analysis - Robert! Please make your selection below.

Survey Steps: ?

Step 1: Survey

(Select the desired survey you wish to take if one is not already selected for you.)

Survey of the Expenditure-Components of NIH Awards

Step 2: Fiscal Year

(Select the desired fiscal year survey to take. By default, the most recent and current one will be selected for you. Otherwise you may select another to review previous surveys you may or may not have submitted.)

2005 ▾

Step 3: Reporting Period

(Here you may decide to report a survey based on a preferred federal fiscal year timeframe or you may select one that your institution uses. By default, the preferred is selected unless you had previously set an institutional reporting period here before. If your using the institutional reporting period option, that period will be recorded each time you make changes here.)

Federal Fiscal Year 2005 - (preferred)
October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005

Institutional defined period (2005)

Start: (mm/dd/yyyy)

End: (mm/dd/yyyy)

[Take Survey](#)

Profile Editors:

Institutional Information: ?

Username: rkornfeld
Contact: Robert Kornfeld
Contact Title:
Organization: Bureau of Economic Analysis - Robert
Address:
Email:
Phone:
Fax:

[Edit Institution](#)

Filer Information: ?

Contact: bob
Contact Title: me
Address: here
Email: usa
Phone:
Fax:

[Edit Filer](#)

Administrator Options: ?

[Admin](#)

NOTE: Hover your mouse cursor over the ? icon to learn more about that particular box menu.

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Logged In: rkornfeld

[Main](#) [Cover Letter](#) [Survey Glossary](#) [Logout](#)

Please complete the survey below.

Fiscal Year 2005 (October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005)

Cutoff Date: 11/15/2006 12:00 AM

Last Submission: 9/7/2006 4:08 PM

* Note: Please omit the use of commas in your dollar values.

OMB No. 0608-0069 Approval expires 03/31/2008

Survey of the Expenditure-Components of NIH Awards

EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES		EXPENDITURES IN DOLLARS REIMBURSED BY THE NIH
1.	Total Expenditures	<input type="text"/>
2.	Total Facilities and Administration Costs	<input type="text"/>
3.	Total Direct Costs	<input type="text"/>
The following expenditure categories are components of total direct costs. Provide the information on major expenditure categories even if you cannot provide the information on the sub-categories. <u>Do not include</u> in the individual categories any expenditure you charged to facilities and administration costs.		
4.	Total Compensation and Benefits	<input type="text"/>
4.1	Salaries and wages	<input type="text"/>
4.2	Fringe benefits	<input type="text"/>
5.	Total Expenditures on Contractual Services	<input type="text"/>
5.1	Consultant costs	<input type="text"/>
5.2	Consortium/contractual costs	<input type="text"/>
6.	Travel Costs	<input type="text"/>
7.	Total Expenditures on Supplies, Equipment, etc.	<input type="text"/>
7.1	Supplies	<input type="text"/>
7.2	Total Equipment	<input type="text"/>
7.2.a	Equipment other than computer hardware	<input type="text"/>
7.2.b	Computer hardware	<input type="text"/>
7.3	Other Expenses	<input type="text"/>
7.3.a	Patient care	<input type="text"/>
7.3.b	Maintenance, Repairs, Alterations, Renovations, and Installations	<input type="text"/>
7.3.c	Miscellaneous expenses	<input type="text"/>
8.	Fee/profit (if any; applies to contracts only)	<input type="text"/>

*** You may click on certain line stubs for additional information.**

[Submit Survey](#)

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BRDPI Survey of Expenditures

GLOSSARY

Alterations and Renovations:

The costs of maintenance, repairs, alterations, renovations, and installations including constructing, painting, removal or installation of partitions, shielding, or repair of air conditioning. The installation of fixed equipment (e.g., casework, fume hoods, large autoclaves, biological safety cabinets, etc.) should also be included. Do not include other furnishings and movable equipment. Those should be included under *equipment purchases* below.

Consortium/Contractual Costs:

These costs arise from consortium or contractual agreements between the grantee and other organizations. A consortium agreement is a collaborative arrangement in support of a research project in which some portion of the programmatic activity is carried out through a formalized agreement between the grantee and one or more other organizations that are separate legal entities that are administratively independent of the grantee. A contract is usually a written agreement between a grantee and a third party to acquire support services (e.g., laboratory testing of biological materials, clinical services, data processing, etc.) or routine goods or services. These costs may include facilities and administration costs requested by the third party or organization even though they are charged against project direct costs by the grantee.

Computer Hardware:

All computer hardware of the kind expected to be purchased by the general public for a variety of purposes. This includes but is not limited to electronic computers, personal or portable computers, workstations, laptops, computer servers; and computer peripherals, such as storage devices, printers, monitors, input/output devices and terminals, and similar electronic products. Do not include specialized scientific instruments, even if it is known to contain computer components. Include scientific instruments under equipment, and software under miscellaneous expenses.

Consultant Costs:

Payments to consultants charged to project direct costs and through NIH award funds. Consultants are individuals or firms that provide professional advice or services on the basis of a written agreement for a fee. These individuals are not normally employees of the organization receiving the services.

Direct Costs:

Costs that can be specifically identified with a particular project or activity or that can be directly assigned to the project or activity relatively easily and with a high degree of accuracy. Do not include direct costs not reimbursed by the NIH, e.g., from third parties in the form of matching or cost-sharing arrangements. (OMB Circular A-21 Section D on Direct Costs includes a description on "Application to sponsored agreements" under Section D.2).

Equipment:

Included are nonexpendable, tangible personal properties having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the organization for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000. The unamortized portion of any equipment written off as a result of a change in capitalization levels may be recovered by continuing to claim the otherwise allowable use allowances or depreciation on the equipment, or by amortizing the amount to be written off over a period of years negotiated with the cognizant agency. Do not include use charges. (Also, see *other expenses and maintenance, repairs, alterations, renovations, and installations.*)

Equipment other than computer hardware:

Included are purchases of tangible non-expendable property, *other than computer hardware purchases*, that have a useful life of more than 1 year and an acquisition cost per unit that equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization threshold established by the organization or \$5,000. Do not include use charges. Do not include software here, which should be included instead under miscellaneous expenses.

Facilities and Administration Costs:

From OMB Circular A-21, Section E.1. These are costs for common or joint objectives and therefore cannot be identified readily and specifically with a particular sponsored project, an instructional activity, or any other institutional activity.

OMB Circular A-21, Section F.1 defines "facilities" as depreciation and use allowances, interest on debt associated with certain buildings, equipment and capital improvements, operation and maintenance expenses, and library expenses. "Administration" is defined as general administration and general expenses, departmental administration, sponsored projects administration, student administration and services, and all other types of expenditures not listed specifically under one of the subcategories of Facilities (including cross allocations from other pools).

Do not include facilities and administration costs of consortium/contractual partners. Similarly, do not include facilities and administration costs not reimbursed by the NIH, e.g., from third parties in the form of matching or cost-sharing arrangements.

Fee/profit:

The amount, in addition to actual, allowable costs that is normally paid by the NIH to a for-profit organization under a contractual arrangement.

Fringe Benefits:

Fringe benefits charged to direct costs and reimbursed by the NIH.

Matching or Cost Sharing:

The value of third-party in-kind contributions and the portion of the costs of a federally assisted project or program not borne by the Federal Government. Matching or cost sharing may be required by law, regulation, or administrative decision of an NIH Institute or Center. Costs used to satisfy matching or cost sharing requirements are subject to the same policies governing allowability as other costs under the approved budget.

Miscellaneous Expenses:

Any direct costs not included in the remaining categories. Examples of expenditures that might be included in this category are: computer software; rentals and leases; equipment rental and maintenance; animal maintenance costs; patient travel costs; donor fees; publication costs; service contracts; and tuition remissions in lieu of salary. Do not include facilities and administration costs or consortium/contractual costs.

Patient Care Costs:

These are the costs of routine and ancillary services provided by hospitals to individuals participating in research programs on either an inpatient or an outpatient basis. Routine services are the regular room services, minor medical and surgical supplies, and the use of equipment and facilities for which a separate charge is not customarily made. Ancillary services are those special services for which charges are customarily made in addition to the routine services, e.g., x-ray, operating room, laboratory, pharmacy, blood bank, and pathology. The costs of these services normally are assigned to specific projects through the application of patient care rates. Do not include the following: (a) otherwise allowable costs, such as patient travel or subsistence allowances, consulting physician fees, or any other direct payments; (b) costs of ancillary tests performed in outside facilities on a fee-for-service basis; (c) data management or statistical analysis of clinical research results.

Salaries:

Salaries and wages charged to direct costs and reimbursed by the NIH based on the effort devoted to the project.

Salary Cap:

The maximum annual salary rate, exclusive of fringe benefits and facilities and administration costs, that the NIH will pay for any single individual under an NIH award. The salary cap is not constant and changes over time. The salary cap for "Executive Level 1" positions, for example, is \$175,700 from January-December 2004, \$180,100 from January-December 2005, and \$183,500 from January-December 2006. The salary cap assumes a full-time, 12-month workload. Thus, to determine if the salary cap might apply to any individual, his or her institutional base salary for the time period in question must be converted to a full-time, 12-month basis. For instance, the salary of a person on a half-time appointment must be doubled to determine whether the salary cap is binding. In addition, the limitation is prorated to the level of effort (percentage of time) requested for the research project. Thus, based on the above-mentioned limits, the maximum level of compensation that can be charged for an individual in an Executive Level I position who is devoting, for example, 10 percent of his or her time to an NIH grant, is \$18,010 in calendar year 2005 and \$18,350 in calendar year 2006. For further details and other examples of how the salary cap might apply, see the NIH Guide: SALARY LIMITATION ON GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND CONTRACTS (Notice: NOT-OD-06-031, released January 12, 2006) at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-031.html>.

Supplies:

Purchases of medical, scientific, and laboratory supplies (e.g., glassware, chemicals, radioisotopes, etc.). Also included are purchases of research animals for the research project. Any other supplies charged to project direct costs should also be counted in this category.

Travel Costs:

Direct costs of travel and associated board and lodging and other expenses.

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Office of Science Policy & Planning

You have signed out. To sign in, please enter your username and password.

Sign In:

Username:	<input type="text"/>
Password:	<input type="password"/>
<input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	

If you are having technical problems or accessibility issues, please send an email to brdpi@bea.gov.

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