

Attachment G

TOOLS

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DATA PRODUCTS

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Purpose

The Survey of State Government R&D is the only source for comprehensive, uniform statistics regarding the extent of R&D activity performed and funded by departments and agencies in each of the nation's 50 state governments, the government of the District of Columbia, and the government of Puerto Rico. State governments play an important role in advancing knowledge—notably through their support of academic research—and in promoting science- and technology-based economic development. They also undertake their own research in support of government functions over which states have influence and responsibility, such as those related to transportation, health, and the environment.

Coverage

Includes State government departments, agencies, commissions, public authorities, institutions, and other entities that operate separately or somewhat autonomously from the central state government but where the state government maintains administrative or fiscal control over their activities.

Content

Data include expenditures by performer, source of funding, and type of R&D (e.g., basic research.) The scope of the collection includes amounts for all science and engineering outlays, including social science research. R&D capital expenditures, such as research lab construction and the purchase of buildings. Key variables of interest are: State government department or agency expenditures; Internal performers: External performers (academic institutions, companies and individuals, others); Basic research; Source of funds (federal, state, other); Type of R&D (agriculture, energy, environment and natural resources, health, transportation, other); and Capital outlays for state government R&D facilities.

Frequency

Annual. The Census Bureau has been the data collection agent for the National Science Foundation for this survey since fiscal year 2006. Reported data are for fiscal years; collection begins approximately eight months after the fiscal year ends, and continues for approximately eight months.

Methods

Data collected under the Survey of State Government R&D is subject to automated data correction procedures using a combination of logical edits incorporated into the Web-based survey instrument and telephone and e-mail follow-up with survey respondents by NSF and Census Bureau staffs for any other data anomalies. All state and national totals are aggregates of reported state agency data.

Products

The National Science Foundation will release detailed reports.

Uses

NSF sponsors surveys of R&D activities of Federal and State agencies, higher education institutions, and private industries. The results of these surveys provide a consistent information base for government officials, state government officials and policy makers, industry professionals, and researchers to use in formulating public policy and planning in science and technology. These surveys allow for the analysis of current and historical trends in research and development in the U.S., as well as comparisons with other countries.