

What's the Outlook for Research in FY 2010?

Overview of Key Budgets



February 20, 2010

The fiscal year 2010 numbers are in for the key budgets supported by the Task Force on American Innovation. These budgets are the primary sources for U.S. basic research in the physical sciences and engineering.

The budgets include:

1. The National Science Foundation
2. The Department of Energy Office of Science
3. Two components of the Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology: (a) Scientific & Technical Research and Services and (b) Construction of Research Facilities, collectively referred to as "NIST Core"
4. The Department of Defense basic research budgets (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Defense-wide)
5. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's science and aeronautics budgets

To make consistent year-by-year comparisons of research funding, the data below excludes Congressional earmarks and funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

AGENCY	FY 2010 APPROPRIATIONS	% CHANGE FROM FY 2009
1. NSF	\$6,873 million	6.2% increase
2. DOE Science	\$4,827 million	2.4% increase
3. NIST Core	\$615 million	2.5% increase
4. DOD Basic	\$1,722 million	5.5% increase
5. NASA Science & Aeronautics	\$5,000 million	0.1% decrease

The first three accounts above (NSF, DOE Science, and NIST Core) make up the bipartisan 10-year doubling plan. Collectively, those budgets rose 4.5 percent in FY 2010, less than the President's proposed 7.4 percent increase.

Examining at all five agencies together, the increase for FY 2010 is \$619 million, or 3.4 percent.

The President's FY 2011 budget proposes a 7.6 percent increase for the first three agencies, and a 12.5 percent increase across the five agencies. The Task Force will engage Congress as it considers funding for these agencies and monitor the status of these accounts through the appropriations process.