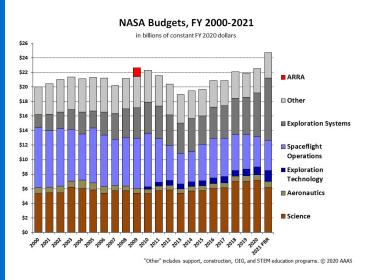


## **National Aeronautics & Space Administration**

to

or over 60 years, NASA has captivated the public with accomplishments that have revolutionized our understanding of space sciences, the life sciences, and aeronautics, and have led to new technologies that will enable space travel beyond low-Earth orbit and scientific discoveries.

AAU recommends at least \$819 million for the Aeronautics directorate in FY21. NASA-funded aeronautics research is integral to the nation's research enterprise having led to advances in the safety, capacity, and efficiency of the air transportation systems that we use on a daily basis.



Source: AAAS, 2020

AAU recommends that Space Technology remain an independent directorate and receive at least \$1.58 billion in FY21 appropriations. This directorate funds partnerships among the federal government, industry, and academia to stimulate the development of high risk/high payoff technologies needed by the agency to achieve current and future missions. Important programs include, Space Technology Research Grants, which fund "academic researchers — from graduate students to tenured faculty —

**AAU urges Congress** to provide at least \$7.25 billion for NASA's **Science Mission** Directorate in FY21

examine ideas and approaches that are critical to making science, space travel, and exploration more effective, affordable, and sustainable."

AAU recommends at least \$7.25 billion for the Science Mission Directorate (SMD) in FY21. This directorate includes Earth Science, Planetary Science, Astrophysics, Heliophysics. Since all four of these divisions play a vital role in NASA's SMD portfolio, a balanced funding approach is important - one division should not be increased at the expense of others.

AAU recommends continued funding for NASA's Office of STEM Engagement, which houses the Space Grant Fellowship program. For Space Grant, **AAU recommends at least \$52 million in FY21.** This program has enabled over 24,000 undergraduate and graduate students to receive scholarships, fellowships, and internships.

> AAU urges Congress to ensure that any return to the Moon and Mars includes strong support for all directorates of NASA, recognizing that robust Science, Aeronautics, and Space Technology are needed to ensure successful human space flight advancements.

