



**Association
of American
Universities**
Inquiry · Innovation · Impact

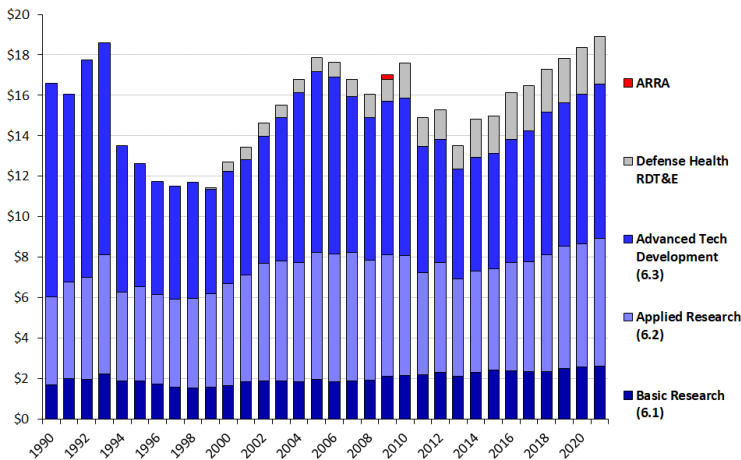
Department of Defense Research

Department of Defense (DOD)-funded basic research has contributed significantly to our nation’s economic and national security. DOD relies on technological innovation as a force multiplier, and cutting-edge advances have helped make our military the best-equipped and most effective in the world. Addressing complex military challenges requires the development of innovative technologies that result from sustained investments in basic research (6.1) performed at American universities.

AAU urges Congress to provide at least \$2.831 billion for DOD 6.1 basic research, \$3.712 billion for DARPA, and \$17.885 billion for DOD S&T in FY22

Consistent with recommendations from the National Defense Strategy Commission, AAU recommends Congress provide the following FY22 DOD funding levels by program element (PE):

DOD Science & Technology and Medical Research
billions of constant FY 2020 dollars



Source: DOD and appropriations documents and data. Medical Research is appropriated outside RDT&E funding title; appropriated as applied research pre-1999. © 2021 AAAS

Source: AAAS, 2021

Army Defense Research Sciences (PE 00601102A)	\$389,504,000
Army University Research Initiatives (PE 00601103A)	\$102,977,000
University & Industry Research Centers (PE 00601104A)	\$129,190,000
Navy University Research Initiatives (PE 00601103N)	\$153,505,000
Navy Defense Research Sciences (PE 00601153N)	\$519,383,000
Air Force Defense Research Sciences (PE 00601102F)	\$344,869,000
Air Force University Research Initiatives (PE 00601103F)	\$208,673,000
DTRA Basic Research Initiatives (PE 00601000BR)	\$15,494,000
Defense-Wide Basic Research Initiatives (PE 00601110D8Z)	\$80,099,000
National Defense Education Program (PE 00601120D8Z)	\$145,475,000

In addition to aiding the warfighter, DOD’s basic research programs maintain a domestic workforce of scientists and engineers through government-university partnerships. Research grants and contracts support cutting-edge research performed by renowned faculty and graduate students alike. The National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowships program also helps attract and retain top U.S. citizens for study in fields vital to addressing national security challenges.

Department of Defense basic and applied research underpins the innovative health treatments and technologies that help save lives on the battlefield and speed recovery from injuries.