



# Understanding the Real Costs of Federally-Funded Research

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# Resources

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DIRECT FUNDING + FACILITIES

&

ADMINISTRATIVE  
COSTS



# ASU Graphic

## Putting the Federal Research Dollar to Work for Advancing Research, Economic Development & Competitiveness

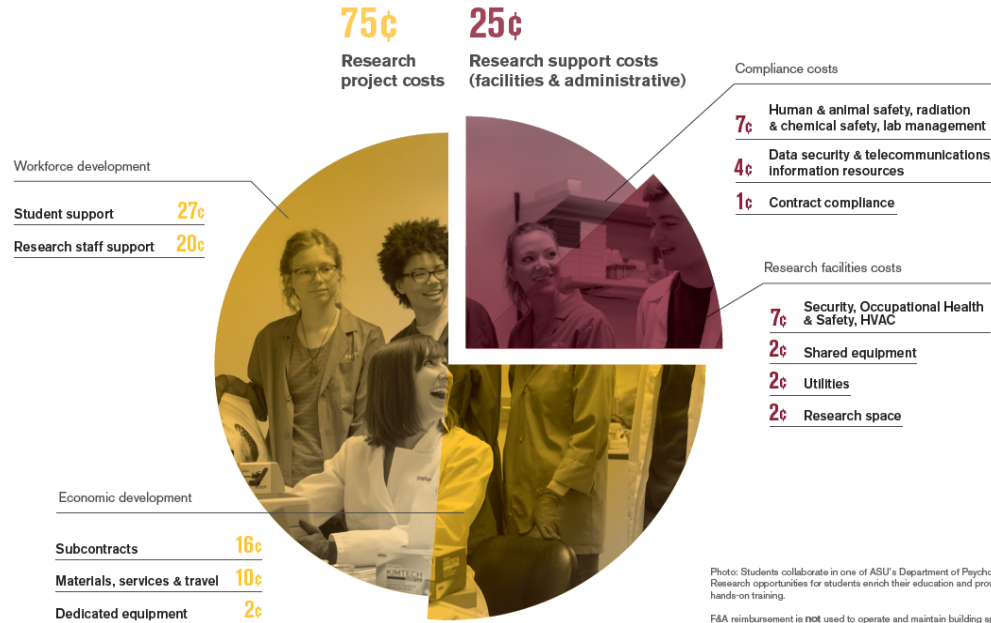


Photo: Students collaborate in one of ASU's Department of Psychology labs. Research opportunities for students enrich their education and provide hands-on training.

F&A reimbursement is NOT used to operate and maintain building space that isn't used directly for research, such as classrooms or lobbies.

Produced by ASU Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development.  
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# Costs of Federally Sponsored Research

The total cost of federally sponsored research includes a combination of both direct and facilities and administrative (F&A) costs. Both types of expenditures are key an institution's ability to conduct cutting-edge research. F&A consists of the construction and maintenance costs of laboratories and high-tech facilities; energy and utility expenses; and safety, security, and other government-mandated expenses. These costs are real and research cannot be conducted without them.



**Direct costs** - These expenses solely cover research and include lab supplies and equipment; salaries and stipends for researchers and graduate students; and travel costs for conducting and sharing research

Personnel in support of research, including security, financial, administrative, technical, maintenance, and janitorial staff

Radiation and chemical safety, including safety training and hazardous waste disposal

Secure data storage, internet, telecommunications, and high-speed data processing

Utilities - ventilation, heat, air conditioning, water, and lighting

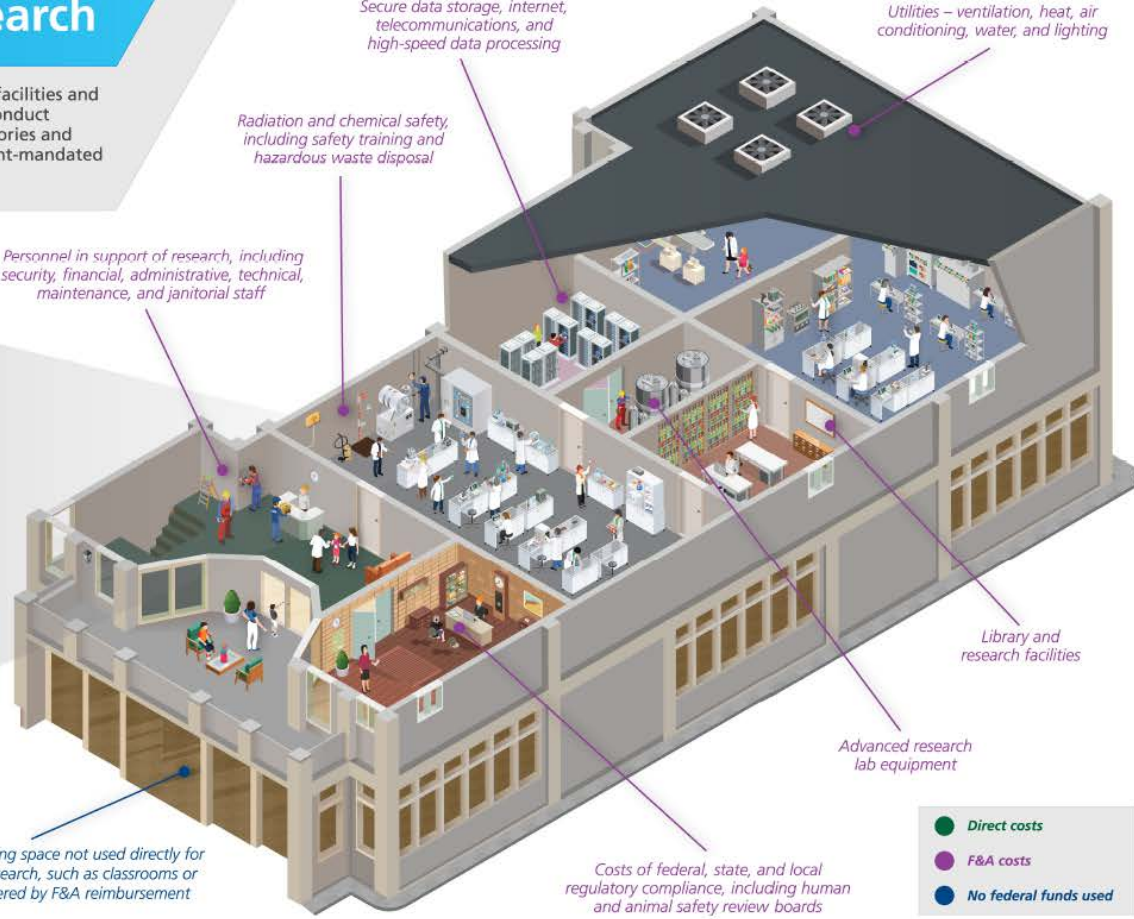
Upkeep of any building space not used directly for federally-funded research, such as classrooms or lobbies, is **not** covered by F&A reimbursement

Library and research facilities

Advanced research lab equipment

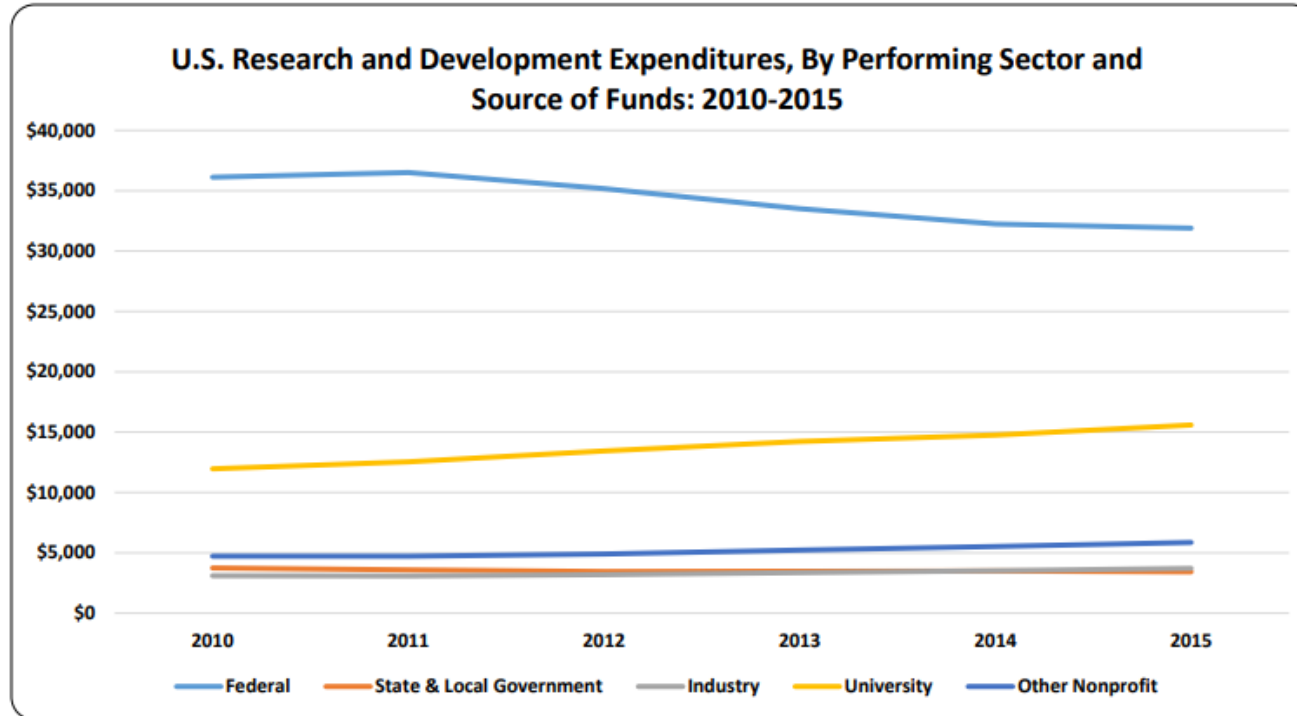
Costs of federal, state, and local regulatory compliance, including human and animal safety review boards

- Direct costs
- F&A costs
- No federal funds used



# US R&D Expenditures

Figure 3



Source: NSF, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics 2017, National Patterns of R&D Resources: 2014–15 Data Update