

News Release



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Research and Development

Expenditure on R&D in the General Government Sector 2004-2005: Further Indicators

Research on Social Sciences absorbed 36.7 per cent of total General Government expenditure on R&D in 2005.

This News Release provides further information to that presented in News Release 199/2006 concerning the results of a survey on Research and Development (R&D) activity of General Government for the years 2004 and 2005.

In both years, total R&D expenditure in the General Government sector was highest in the field of Social Sciences, with a share of almost 37 per cent of total expenditure. As shown in Table 1, all of this expenditure was effected by the Extra Budgetary Units (EBUs).

Table 2 splits the expenditure on R&D by sources of funds. For both years, the EBU sub-sector benefited from a broader inflow of funds compared to Central Government, which was exclusively financed by own funds. The most substantial source of funding for the EBU sub-sector was General University Funds. This funding accounted for 74 per cent and 65 per cent of total funding respectively for 2004 and 2005. There was an increase in foreign sources of funds in 2005, which accounted for 23 per cent of the total for the year ■

Theme:
Science and Technology

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Table 1. Total expenditure on R&D by major field of science

		Natural sciences	Engineering and Technology	Medical sciences	Agricultural sciences	Social sciences	Humanities	Not elsewhere classified	Total
		Lm 000s							
Central Government	2004	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
	2005	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	67
EBUs	2004	499	466	641	22	1,280	472	43	3,424
	2005	528	498	684	22	1,362	501	52	3,647
Total	2004	561	466	641	22	1,280	472	43	3,486
	2005	595	498	684	22	1,362	501	52	3,714

Table 2. Sources of funds

Sources of Funds	Central Government		EBUs		Total	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Lm 000s					
Local Funds	61	67	2,819	2,783	2,881	2,850
Business Enterprise	0	0	8	4	8	4
Direct Government	61	67	208	368	270	435
General University Funds	0	0	2,518	2,370	2,518	2,370
Higher Education	0	0	62	31	62	31
Private Non-Profit	0	0	24	10	24	10
Foreign Funds	0	0	605	864	605	864
Foreign Business Enterprises	0	0	70	23	70	23
Other National Governments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Higher Education	0	0	98	265	98	265
Private Non-Profit	0	0	0	5	0	5
European Commission	0	0	351	393	351	393
International Organisations	0	0	86	179	86	179
Total	61	67	3,424	3,647	3,486	3,714

Methodological Notes

Research and Development is defined as creative work undertaken on a systematic basis to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications.

An annual questionnaire was compiled and sent to all units making up the general government sector (168 units), out of which 150 responded. The total number of 168 units surveyed comprise all the Central Government Ministries and Departments (GDs), Extra Budgetary Units (EBUs), as well as the Local Councils (LCs).

From the population of 168 units, the overall response rate was of 89.29 per cent. The highest rate of response was observed from the Local Councils sub sector, with a rate of 94.12 per cent (or 64 units). The replies given by the Central Government sub sector stood at 86.54 per cent (or 45 units), while those from the Extra Budgetary Units represented a total of 85.42 per cent (or 41 units).

Since no R&D was carried out by any of the Local Councils, the data in this News Release refers only to the GDs and the EBU's.

The data in this release may be revised after the next survey.

Fields of Science and Technology and their sub-fields. The source of these definitions is the Frascati Manual, 2002 edition

1. Natural Sciences

- 1.1 Mathematical and computer sciences [mathematics and other allied fields: computer sciences and other allied subjects (software development only, hardware development should be classified in the engineering fields)]
- 1.2 Physical sciences (astronomy and space sciences physics, other allied subjects)
- 1.3 Chemical sciences (chemistry, other allied subjects)
- 1.4 Earth and related environmental sciences (geology, geophysics, mineralogy, physical geography and other geosciences, meteorology and other atmospheric sciences including climatic research, oceanography, vulcanology, palaeoecology, other allied sciences)
- 1.5 Biological sciences (biology, botany, bacteriology, microbiology, zoology, entomology, genetics, biochemistry, biophysics, other allied sciences, excluding clinical and veterinary sciences)

2. Engineering and Technology

- 2.1 Civil engineering (architecture engineering, building science and engineering, construction engineering, municipal and structural engineering and other allied subjects)
- 2.2 Electrical engineering, electronics [electrical engineering, electronics, communication engineering and systems, computer engineering (hardware only) and other allied subjects]
- 2.3 Other engineering sciences (such as chemical, aeronautical and space, mechanical, metallurgical and materials engineering, and their specialised subdivisions; forest products; applied sciences such as geodesy, industrial chemistry, etc. ; the science and technology of food production; specialised technologies of interdisciplinary fields, e.g. systems analysis, metallurgy, mining, textile technology and other allied subjects)

3. Medical Sciences

- 3.1 Basic medicine (anatomy, cytology, physiology, genetics, pharmacology, toxicology, immunology and immunohaematology, clinical chemistry, clinical microbiology, pathology)
- 3.2 Clinical medicine (anesthesiology, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, internal medicine, surgery, dentistry, neurology, psychiatry, radiology, therapeutics, otorhinolaryngology, ophthalmology)
- 3.3 Health sciences (public health services, social medicine, hygiene, nursing, epidemiology)

4. Agricultural Sciences

- 4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and allied sciences (agronomy, animal husbandry, fisheries, forestry, horticulture, other allied subjects)
- 4.2 Veterinary Services

5. Social Services

- 5.1 Psychology
- 5.2 Economics
- 5.3 Educational sciences (education and training and other allied subjects)
- 5.4 Other social sciences [anthropology (social and cultural) and ethnology, demography (human, economic and social), town and country planning, management, law, linguistics, political sciences, sociology, organisation and methods, miscellaneous social sciences and interdisciplinary and historical S&T activities relating to subjects in this group. Physical anthropology, physical geography and psychophysiology should normally be classified with the natural sciences]

6. Humanities

- 6.1 History (history, prehistory and history, together with auxiliary historical disciplines such as archaeology, numismatics, palaeography, genealogy, etc.)
- 6.2 Languages and literature (ancient and modern)
- 6.3 Other humanities [philosophy (including the history of science and technology), arts history of art, art criticism, painting, sculpture, musicology, dramatic art excluding artistic "research" of any kind, religion, theology, other fields and subjects pertaining to the humanities, methodological, historical and other S&T activities relating to the subjects in this group]