

# **Standard-documentation Meta information**

**(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)**

on

## **Survey on research and experimental development (R&D) in the Higher Education Sector, in the Government Sector, in the Private non-profit Sector and the Institutes Sub-sector**

This documentation is valid for the reference period:  
**2002, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015**

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## Executive Summary

The survey on Research and experimental development (R&D) is a primary survey among approximately 2,000 Austrian R&D performing institutes in the higher education sector, the government sector, the private non-profit sector and in the institutes' sub-sector of the business enterprise sector, which has been carried out by Statistics Austria since 1967. Reference period is the previous calendar year. The survey is carried out as a census survey among all R&D performing institutes in the above-mentioned sectors. Due to the national R&D statistics regulation the surveyed institutions are obliged to report data. Besides data on R&D personnel, R&D expenditures as well as its funding, data on types of research and socio-economic objectives of the research activities are collected.

Aim of this statistics is the compilation of policy-relevant, input-oriented data on the performance of R&D in non-market producing institutions. As R&D, in economic theory as well as in economic policy, is considered a basis for economic growth and an increase of productivity, R&D relevant input and output data, but especially the gross domestic expenditures on R&D (GERD) – which are calculated from the results of the R&D statistical surveys and represent an important European “structural indicator” – are an indicator with significant importance, on a national as well as on EU level.

The results are merged with those of the Company R&D sub-sector to national totals and published. Analyses on the data collected in the framework of the R&D surveys are also used as a base for the annual R&D estimates, especially the annual R&D global estimate.

Coefficients which are derived from survey data are also used for the annual compilation of the Annex T of the Federal Finance Act in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance as the basis of the R&D share of specific budget lines of the federal budget. Additionally, for the annual estimate of the R&D funding of regional governments (“Länder”) results of the respective R&D survey are taken into account.

The methodological basis is the internationally used Frascati Manual of the OECD<sup>1</sup> which determines worldwide standards and guidelines referring to the surveys on research and experimental development (R&D). Research and experimental development (R&D) is defined as creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order 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. The element of novelty and originality (new findings, new knowledge, new knowledge system, new applications) is the most important criteria to distinguish R&D from other scientific activities.

According to the Frascati Manual four sectors of performance<sup>2</sup> are distinguished in the framework of R&D statistics:

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<sup>1</sup> The Measurement of Scientific and Technological Activities. Proposed Standard Practice for Surveys on Research and Experimental Development. Frascati Manual 2002. OECD, Paris 2002.

<sup>2</sup> It must be pointed out that the Higher Education Sector defined in the framework of R&D statistics is not a separate sector in National Accounts and the System of National Accounts (SNA).

### **Higher education sector**

Universities (including university clinics)  
Universities of Arts  
Austrian Academy of Sciences  
Universities of Applied Sciences („Fachhochschulen“)  
Private universities  
Danube University Krems  
University colleges of teacher education  
Other higher education sector  
Experimental institutes at schools of higher technical education

### **Business enterprise sector – Institutes sub-sector**

Especially members of the umbrella organisation for the research institutes of Austrian industry (ACR – Austrian Cooperative Research) as well as competence centres

### **Business Enterprise Sector – Company R&D sub-sector**

(measured in a separate survey)

### **Government sector**

R&D performing institutions of the

- Federal government
- Regional governments
- Local governments
- Professional chambers
- Social security institutions

Private non-profit institutions financed/controlled by the government sector

### **Private non-profit sector**

Private non-profit institutions with a mainly private, religious or other non-public status or under private law

Due to internationally harmonised methods and standards of the Frascati Manual the results of the R&D surveys are comparable with the results of previous surveys on research and development as well as regionally and internationally.

<b>R&amp;D survey in the higher education sector, government sector, private non-profit sector and in the institutes sub-sector – Main features</b>	
<b>Subject Matter</b>	Research activities (Human resource input for R&D, R&D expenditure, funding of R&D) of R&D performing institutions, except those surveyed in the framework of the R&D survey in the company R&D sub-sector
<b>Population</b>	R&D performing institutions in the higher education sector, government sector, private non-profit sector and institutes sub-sector (approx. 1,600 statistical units)
<b>Type of statistics</b>	Primary survey; supplemented by administrative data and estimates
<b>Data sources/Survey techniques</b>	Reports from R&D performing institutions Central university administrations Budget data from the federal government and the regional governments
<b>Reference period or due day</b>	Uneven calendar years (from the reference year 2007 onwards the EU rhythm of uneven reference years has been followed)
<b>Periodicity</b>	Every two years
<b>Survey participation (in case of a survey)</b>	Compulsory
<b>Main legal acts</b>	Verordnung der Bundesministerin für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Kultur, des Bundesministers für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie und des Bundesministers für Wirtschaft und Arbeit über Statistiken betreffend Forschung und experimentelle Entwicklung (F&E-Statistik-Verordnung) vom 29. August 2003, <a href="#">BGBl. II Nr. 396/2003</a> (national regulation)  <a href="#">Commission implementing regulation (EU) No 995/2012</a> of 26 October 2012 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of <a href="#">Decision No 1608/2003/EC</a> of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the production and development of Community statistics on science and technology
<b>Most detailed regional breakdown</b>	Regions
<b>Availability of results</b>	Final data: t + 18 months
<b>Other</b>	-