

Standard-documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Annual R&D estimates

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Executive Summary

The goal of the annual estimates of statistics on research and experimental development (R&D) is to analyse the funding of research in Austria and to estimate the domestic gross expenditures on R&D (GERD) for the current year, based on up-to-date documents and information, such as budget data and economic forecasts (“funder-based reporting”).

The annual R&D estimates comprise the following sub-projects:

- Contribution to the compilation of the Detailed table Allocation of R&D-relevant funds of the federal government (Federal Finance Act 2020, part a and part b“ – abbreviated for simplicity by DTARD, formerly Annex T of the Auxiliary Document for the Federal Finances Act)
- R&D-relevant analyses of the federal budget based on the data in the DTARD by socio-economic objectives, sectors of performance, type of funding (institutional funding, project funding) and transnational coordinated R&D. Furthermore, basic funding for universities (GUF – General University Fund) is analysed by field of research.
- Estimate of the R&D expenditure of the regional governments (“Länder“)
- Analyses of the federal research database
- Global estimate on the funding of the Austrian gross domestic expenditures on R&D (GERD)

While in the framework of R&D surveys the R&D performing institutions are asked (“performer-based surveys“; “funder-based reporting“) in order to – amongst others – compile total R&D expenditures in Austria, the focus of the annual R&D estimates lies on the funding of research (“funder-based reporting“). Just as for the R&D census surveys, also for the annual estimates the methodological base is the internationally valid Frascati Manual of the OECD¹.

Research and experimental development (R&D) comprise creative and systematic work undertaken in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of humankind, culture and society, and to devise new applications of available knowledge.

In the various chapters of the federal budget, research-relevant expenditures of the federal government are appropriated and allocated. In the DTARD, the R&D-relevant expenditures (appropriations and outlays) are displayed in a tabular presentation, broken down by budget chapters. The DTARD is compiled by the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF). The selection of the relevant budget lines and/or sub-chapters as well as the determination of the R&D content of each budget line is done in close co-operation between the federal ministries concerned, the Federal Ministry of Finance and Statistics Austria. The DTARD is divided into two parts; part a) includes payments of contributions to international organisations which have research and research funding as (one) aim, and part b), which comprises the domestic expenditures of the federal government for research and research funding.

The formal structure of the DTARD corresponds to the presentation of the federal budget in the so-called “Teilhefte“, i.e. budget data in total for three years are presented (two years appropriations, one year outlays), broken down by budget lines. R&D coefficients, which are disclosed as whole-number percentages in a tabular presentation – when there is a direct relationship with empirical data of the R&D surveys –, are checked after the availability of the latest R&D survey results and, if necessary, proposed for revision and updated.

In analogy to the DTARD of the federal government, regional governments report R&D-relevant budget data of the regions (“Länder“) to Statistics Austria annually. The total of this data collection is entered into the global R&D estimate as the funding share of regional governments of the total Austrian research expenditure. The reports of the regional governments are also

¹) OECD (2015), Frascati Manual 2015: Guidelines for Collecting and Reporting Data on Research and Experimental Development, The Measurement of Scientific, Technological and Innovation Activities, OECD Publishing, Paris.

used as an important information source for preparing and conducting the regular R&D census surveys. Based on the results of the R&D surveys proposals for revisions are developed and reported back to the regional governments.

Annual analyses of the federal research data base comprise breakdowns of paid out funds of the individual federal ministries by socio-economic objectives, fields of research and grant recipients. The evaluation of the grant data does not only yield important information for identifying potential survey units for the R&D surveys, but also relevant data for plausibility checks in the framework of the R&D surveys.

The global estimate of the Austrian gross domestic expenditure on R&D is in principle carried out once a year (usually in April). In line with the world-wide (OECD, EU) valid Frascati Manual, and therefore guaranteeing international comparability, the expected funding of the expenditure on research and development carried out in Austria is presented. According to these definitions and standards funding from abroad for R&D performed in Austria is included, Austrian payments for R&D carried out abroad, on the contrary, is excluded.

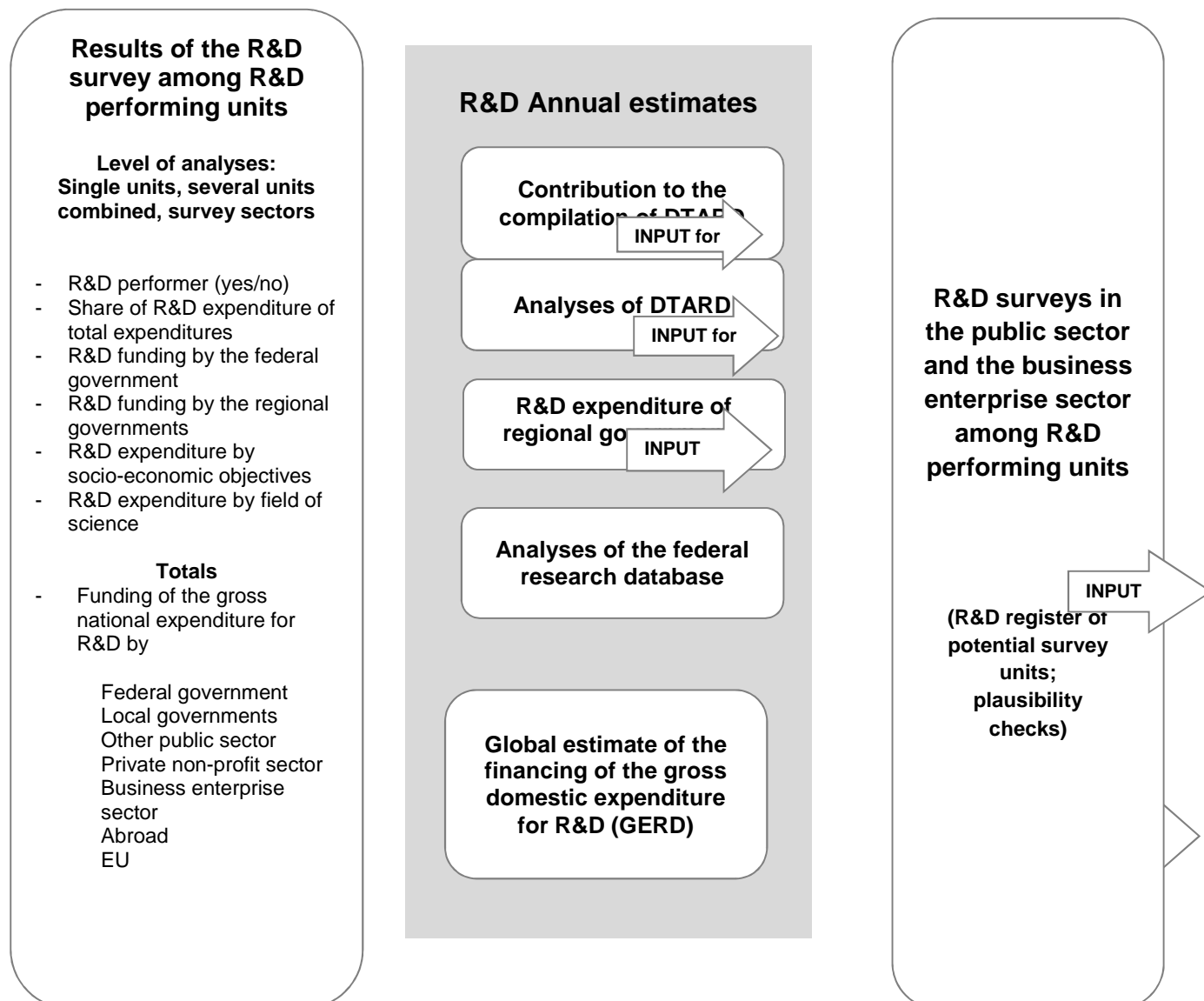
There is also a political relevance for the “research intensity“, which is used as an important indicator for international purposes and shows the share of domestic R&D expenditure in the nominal gross domestic product (GDP); it is regularly calculated in the framework of the global estimate and updated.

For the respective current calendar year, the expected R&D funding shares from the federal government, the regional governments, business enterprise sector, abroad and other financing sectors (other public sector and private non-profit sector) are estimated. The values of previous years are revised, depending on the availability of more up-to-date information (e.g. final instead of provisional budget data, revised GDP values and up-to-date economic forecast data).

The R&D global estimate has been published annually in the national Research and Technology Report since the beginning of the 1980s, together with the DTARD analyses and analyses of the federal research data base. Data of the DTARD, broken down by socio-economic objectives, are also reported in the framework of the compulsory data delivery to Eurostat, and the OECD².

²) “Government Budget Allocations for R&D“.

System of the Austrian R&D statistics



Annual R&D estimates – Main features	
Subject Matter	Annual secondary statistical analyses of the research budgets of the federal and the regional governments; analyses of the federal research database; compilation of the annual global estimate on the funding of the Austrian gross domestic expenditure on R&D
Population	Gross domestic expenditure for research and experimental development (R&D) in Austria; research grants and contracts of the federal government and the regional governments
Type of statistics	Secondary statistics
Data sources/Survey techniques	Budget documents of the federal government and the regional governments Federal research database National and international economic forecasts Detailed results of the national R&D surveys Annual reports and progress reports from research funding institutions (e.g. FWF, FFG) and R&D performing institutions and organisations (ÖAW, Ludwig Boltzmann Societies)
Reference period or due day	Analyses of the “Detailed table Allocation of R&D-relevant funds of the federal government (Federal Finance Act 2020, part a and part b” (DTARD): current year, 2 previous years Estimates of R&D expenditures of the regional governments: current year, 2 previous years Analyses of the federal research database: previous year R&D global estimate: current year, previous years (revisions)
Periodicity	Annual
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Does not apply
Main legal acts	National: F&E-Statistik-Verordnung (BGBl. II Nr. 396/2003) EU: Commission implementing regulation (EU) No 995/2012
Most detailed regional breakdown	Regions (Estimate of the R&D expenditures of the regional governments; otherwise: Austria)
Availability of results	Annually in April
Other	-