Government R&D funding in the state budget 2020, final data

Government R&D funding in the state budget for 2020

The funding of research and development activities for 2020 has become revised in relation to the preliminary figures. According to Statistics Finland, a total of EUR 2,286.6 million was budgeted for research and development in the state budget for 2020, which is considerably less than indicated in the preliminary data. The preliminary budget funding for 2020 published in February (25 February 2021) included total funding for disruptive circumstances caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, but funding for disruptive circumstances has been removed from the final R&D funding data, because the potential share of actual R&D funding cannot be reliably estimated from this funding for business development.

According to the funding organisations, the majority of R&D funding was directed at universities’ R&D activities. Business Finland’s research and development funding was approximately EUR 575.6 million in the budget for 2020. The research appropriations of the Academy of Finland were EUR 524.8 million in 2020. Examined by socioeconomic objective, the majority of funding was targeted not only at universities’ research and development activities and general advancement of science, but also at the promotion of industrial production and technology, which is mainly financed by Business Finland and VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. Most of general advancement of science involves research funding for the Academy of Finland.
Compared to 2019, government R&D funding grew in all organisations with the exception of university hospitals. Examined by socioeconomic objective, growth was greatest in addition to the largest objective categories in research activity related to environmental protection, which includes research on the identification, origin and reasons for various environmental problems. In total, government R&D funding grows by around EUR 278 million from 2019 to 2020.

The revised figures for 2020 can be found in the database tables.
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