

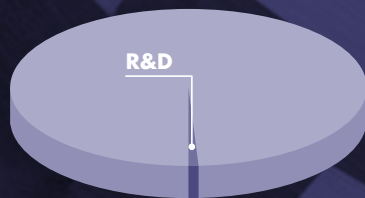
SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL
SURVEY OF RESEARCH
AND EXPERIMENTAL
DEVELOPMENT

HIGHER EDUCATION
at a glance **2015/16**

FACT SHEET NO. 6



IN THE 2015/16 SURVEY
0.80% OF GDP
WAS SPENT ON R&D



THE SIZE OF
SOUTH AFRICA'S
GDP IN 2015/16



R 4 049.760
BILLION

**GROSS EXPENDITURE ON
R&D (GERD) GREW FROM**

R 14.149 BILLION
IN 2005/06

R 32.337 BILLION
IN 2015/16

**PUBLIC SECTOR
CONTRIBUTION**

TO GERD REACHED
54.5% IN 2015/16,



OF WHICH
30.5% WAS
IN **HIGHER**
EDUCATION



HIGHER EDUCATION
R&D (HERD) SPEND IN 2015/16



R 9.877
BILLION

THE **PROPORTION OF NATIONAL R&D**
SPEND BY HIGHER EDUCATION
INSTITUTIONS (HEIS) INCREASED FROM



19.3% TO 30.5%
IN
2005/06 IN
2015/16

IN 2015/16 **HERD** WAS DEVOTED TO:

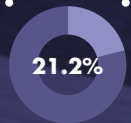
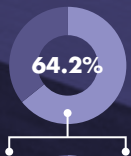
BASIC RESEARCH 55%



EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH 13%

APPLIED RESEARCH 32%

64.2% OF HERD WAS CONCENTRATED WITHIN **NATURAL SCIENCES, TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING** WITH **MEDICAL & HEALTH SCIENCES** CONTRIBUTING **21.2%**



THE REMAINING **35.8%** WAS SPENT ON **SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES** REFLECTING A **SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT** IN THESE **RESEARCH FIELDS**

64.1% OF ALL **R&D PERSONNEL** WERE LOCATED IN THE **HE SECTOR** IN 2015/16

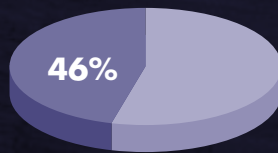


46.2%
STAFF

53.8%
POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS &
DOCTORAL STUDENTS

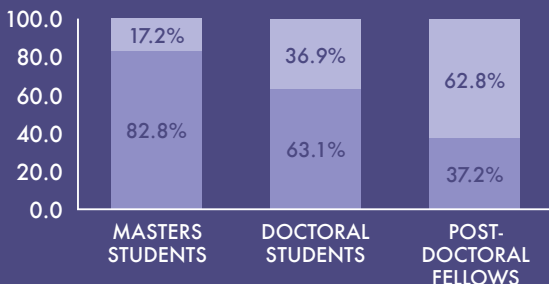
41 639 = ALL HE RESEARCHERS

THE SHARE OF **WOMEN RESEARCHERS** IN **HE SECTOR** ACCOUNTED FOR **46%** OF **RESEARCHERS** IN 2015/16



PROPORTION OF SA VS NON-SA STUDENT SPLIT:

■ SOUTH AFRICAN
■ NON-SOUTH AFRICAN



BEHIND THE NUMBERS

The annual South African National Survey of Research and Experimental Development is conducted by the Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), on behalf of the Department of Science and Technology (DST). R&D statistics are collected in terms of the Statistics Act No. 6 of 1999, and are quality assured by Statistics South Africa.

Data collected through the survey, and its historic data series, helps to inform decision-makers on investment planning, policy making, advocacy, and research in South Africa. Data streams also add to benchmarking and performance comparisons with our international counterparts.

Access previous survey reports:

<http://www.hsrc.ac.za/en/departments/CeSTii/reports-cestii>

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