

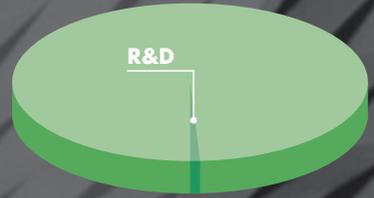
SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL SURVEY
OF RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL
DEVELOPMENT



GOVERNMENT
AT A GLANCE
2016/17

FACT SHEET NO. 15

IN THE 2016/17 SURVEY
0.82% OF **GDP**
WAS **SPENT** ON **R&D**



THE SIZE OF
SOUTH AFRICA'S
GDP IN 2016/17



R 4 350.314
BILLION

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

R 16.521 BILLION
IN 2006/07

R 35.693 BILLION
IN 2016/17

**GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN R&D
HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED, FROM**

R 0.845
BILLION
IN 2005/06



R 2.099
BILLION
IN 2016/17

**GOVERNMENT HAS REMAINED
THE LARGEST FUNDER OF R&D
KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION SINCE 2007/08**



46.0% OF TOTAL NATIONAL R&D INVESTMENT WAS FUNDED FROM GOVERNMENT SOURCES



HIGHER EDUCATION

56.1%

AND

SCIENCE COUNCILS

40.2%

ARE THE LARGEST RECIPIENTS OF GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR R&D IN 2016/17

ON AVERAGE, R&D STAFF IN GOVERNMENT ARE

RESEARCHERS (54.5%)

SUPPORTED BY

TECHNICIANS (17.5%)

AND OTHER

SUPPORT STAFF (28.0%)



MEDICAL & HEALTH SCIENCES
(29.3%)

SOCIAL SCIENCES
(25.7%)

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
(23.1%)

ATTRACTED THE LARGEST GOVERNMENT R&D INVESTMENT IN 2016/17

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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