

Research and development In Italy

Year 2012

In 2012, in current price terms, Italy's gross domestic expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) was 20.5 billion euro. It increased by 3.5% compared to 2011. In constant price terms, it increased by 1.9%.

GERD represented 1.26% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), updated according to the new system of national accounts (ESA 2010). There was an increase compared to 2011 (1.21%).

In current price terms business enterprise expenditure on R&D (BERD) increased by 2.6%, accounting for 54.2% of total R&D spent in 2012. Government's expenditure on R&D grew by 14.6% (14.8% of total R&D spent in 2012). R&D expenditure in the higher education sector recorded an increase by 1.4% (28.0%). The private no profit sector decreased by 8.4% (3.0%).

Compared to 2011, current expenditure on intramural R&D rose in all geographical areas. In the North-West area it was +1.8% and in the North-East +6.3%. In 2012 these two areas accounted for 60.6% of GERD. Increases were also recorded in Central Italy (+2.3%) and in the South and Islands area (+5.3%).

In 2012, the number of public and private employees involved in R&D activities (measured in terms of "full-time equivalent units") amounted to 240,179 units; it increased by 5.3% compared to 2011.

R&D personnel increased in business enterprises (+6.8%), public institutions (+4.7%), private no profit institutions (+3.8%), the higher education sector (+3.4%).

The number of researchers (in terms of full-time equivalents) was 110,695 units, a 4.3% increase compared to 2011.

Provisional data for 2013 showed a decrease in GERD both in current terms (-1.5% compared to 2012) and a decrease of 2.9% in constant price terms.

Provisional data for 2014 showed a decrease of 1.9% in public institutions and an increase of 1.4% in BERD (not available forecast data for the universities).

The Italy's Government support for R&D activities, measured by the Government budget appropriations or outlay for R&D (GBAORD), amounting to 8.3 billion euro for 2013 (initial forecasts of expenditure), were down compared to the forecast expenditure settled in 2012 (8.8 billion euro).

TABLE. R&D INDICATORS. Year 2012

INTRAMURAL EXPENDITURE FOR R&D (MILLION EURO)		
Expenditure intramural for R&D	20,502,485	
% of intramural expenditure R&D on GDP	1.26%	
INTRAMURAL EXPENDITURE BY INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR (MILLION EURO)		
Business Enterprises	11,107,205	
Universities	5,747,760	
Public Institutions	3,040,406	
Private no Profit Institutions	607,114	

R&D PERSONNEL BY INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR (FULL TIME EQUIVALENT UNIT)

TOTAL		
Business Enterprises	120,161.7	
Universities	76,207.4	
Public Institutions	37,850.9	
Private no Profit Institutions	5,959.2	
Total	240,179.2	

R&D PERSONNEL BY INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR (FULL TIME EQUIVALENT UNIT) RESEARCHES

Business Enterprises	41,066.5
Universities	45,223.0
Public Institutions	20,499.2
Private no Profit Institutions	3,906.1
Total	110,694.8

For more details please refer to the Italian version

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