

DFG Facts and Figures

► www.dfg.de/facts-figures

DFG Annual Report

► www.dfg.de/annual_report

DFG Funding Atlas

► www.dfg.de/fundingatlas

DFG German Project Information System (GEPRIS)

► gepris.dfg.de/en

Research Explorer – The German Research Directory

► www.dfg.de/en/rex

The DFG

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) is the central, independent research funding organisation in Germany. It promotes the advancement of science and the humanities by funding research projects, research centres and networks, and facilitating cooperation among researchers. In organisational terms, the DFG is an association under private law with 96 member organisations.

Over 32,000 Projects Funded in 2017

In 2017, the DFG funded just under 32,500 new and ongoing projects with a funding volume of €3.2 billion.

The individual grants programmes enable researchers to conduct projects with clearly defined topics and durations and offer support to early career researchers. These programmes accounted for 35 percent of the DFG's total funding in 2017. Over 16,500 new and ongoing projects were funded during the reporting period.

In the coordinated programmes, which promote cooperation and structural innovation by encouraging national and international collaboration, 102 research collaborations were approved with a funding volume of €766.1 million. In 2017, a total of 840 research collaborations, encompassing 13,700 individual projects, were supported.

Scientific Review

The scientific review of proposals is an integral part of the DFG's funding process. Assessments by peer reviewers form the basis for subsequent funding decisions. In 2017, approximately 22,500 written reviews were received from more than 14,900 reviewers. Of these, approx. 19 percent were from women. Approximately a third of all reviewers are based at research institutions outside Germany.

Current Projects by Programme				
	Number		Funding ¹⁾	
	Programmes	Projects	in € millions	% of total
Individual Grants Programme		16,517	1,095.3	34.7
Research Grants ²⁾		14,677	944.8	30.0
Research Fellowships		1,010	22.4	0.7
Emmy Noether-Programme		351	79.6	2.5
Heisenberg-Programme		387	24.5	0.8
Reinhart Koselleck-Projects		50	9.9	0.3
Clinical Trials		42	14.0	0.4
Coordinated Programmes	840	13,757	1,334.6	42.3
DFG Research Centres	4	4	26.6	0.8
Collaborative Research Centres	283	5,544	716.8	22.7
Priority Programmes	107	3,501	221.0	7.0
Research Units	205	2,167	165.5	5.2
Research Training Groups ³⁾	241	2,541	204.7	6.5
Excellence Initiative by the German Federal and State Governments	99	99	438.3	13.9
Infrastructure Funding		906	230.2	7.3
Major Research Instrumentation ⁴⁾		350	153.9	4.9
Central Research Facilities		2	24.1	0.8
Scientific Library Services and Information Systems		554	52.3	1.7
Prizes, Other Funding		1,202	54.7	1.7
Prizes		98	28.1	0.9
International Scientific Contacts		1,078	23.2	0.7
Committees and Commissions		26	3.4	0.1
Total	939	32,481	3,153.0	100.0

¹⁾ These figures refer to funds approved for 2017 including programme allowances for indirect project costs. Differences within the table and in relation to other tables and diagrams are due to rounding.

²⁾ Including, among others, publication allowances, individual instrumentation grants, core facilities, workshops for early career investigators, project academies, and scientific networks.

³⁾ Number of projects; person-years of doctoral researchers funded in Research Training Groups. The funding amount includes completion funding for doctoral researchers in Research Training Groups that ended during the reporting year.

⁴⁾ DFG approvals, excluding funding provided by federal states, including funding for individual instruments.

Current Projects in Programmes to Promote Careers in Research and Academia					
	Humanities and Social Sciences	Life Sciences	Natural Sciences	Engineering Sciences	Total
Research Fellowships ¹⁾	77	550	247	48	922
Emmy Noether Programme	37	145	129	40	351
Heisenberg Fellowships	91	76	63	14	244
Heisenberg Professorships	24	82	24	13	143
Temporary Positions for Principal Investigators	644	454	487	178	1,763

¹⁾ Not including return grants.

Research Funding Volumes by Area (in € millions)			
	2015	2016	2017
Humanities and Social Sciences	434.0	468.0	480.4
Humanities	273.3	291.3	303.0
Social and Behavioural Sciences	160.7	176.8	177.4
Life Sciences	979.6	1,052.5	1,110.9
Biology	330.4	347.2	382.5
Medicine	608.1	662.7	684.7
Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine	41.1	42.5	43.8
Natural Sciences	612.3	664.8	714.1
Chemistry	171.0	187.8	203.9
Physics	257.2	267.9	278.9
Mathematics	68.8	75.7	84.1
Geosciences	115.3	133.4	147.3
Engineering Sciences	547.9	584.5	623.9
Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	145.5	145.1	145.9
Thermal Engineering / Process Engineering	77.5	81.2	91.2
Materials Science and Engineering	115.3	128.9	129.8
Computer Science, Systems and Electrical Engineering	181.1	198.7	216.2
Construction Engineering and Architecture	28.5	30.6	40.8
Interdisciplinary research	266.3	263.1	223.7
Total	2,840.1	3,032.8	3,153.0

Based on: All DFG programmes, including programme allowances for indirect project costs. Differences within the table and in relation to other tables and diagrams are due to rounding.

Participation of Women in New Proposals Decided Upon in the Individual Grants Programmes (as a % of the total volume of funding awards)			
	2015	2016	2017
Humanities and Social Sciences	33.5	36.5	35.4
Life Sciences	28.4	29.2	29.1
Natural Sciences	16.0	16.8	16.1
Engineering Sciences	10.1	11.0	10.1
Total	22.9	23.8	23.3