

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

GERiT – German Research Institutions

► www.gerit.org/en

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 33,000 Projects Funded in 2018

In 2018, the DFG funded roughly 33,200 new and ongoing projects with a funding volume of €3.4 billion.

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 2018. A total of 17,100 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, 99 research collaborations were approved with a funding volume of €767.2 million. In 2018, a total of 847 research collaborations, encompassing 13,800 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 2018, approximately 22,500 written reviews were received from more than 15,300 reviewers. Of these, approx. 20 percent were from women. Approximately a third of all reviewers are based at research institutions outside Germany.

Current Projects by Programme 2018

	Number		Funding ¹⁾	
	Programmes	Projects	in € millions	% of total
Individual Grants Programmes		17 100	1 180.1	34.7
Research Grants		15 023	1 017.4	29.9
Research Fellowships		1 040	23.0	0.7
Emmy Noether Programme		353	83.9	2.5
Heisenberg Programme		394	26.8	0.8
Reinhart Koselleck Projects		54	11.2	0.3
Clinical Trials		43	15.8	0.5
Other ²⁾		193	2.1	0.1
Coordinated Programmes	847	13 828	1 393.9	40.9
DFG Research Centres	4	4	33.1	1.0
Collaborative Research Centres	283	5 592	760.1	22.3
Priority Programmes	113	3 543	229.0	6.7
Research Units	199	2 122	157.5	4.6
Research Training Groups ³⁾	248	2 567	214.3	6.3
Excellence Initiative / Excellence Strategy by the German Federal and State Governments	99	99	566.2	16.6
Infrastructure Funding		987	207.6	6.1
Research Instrumentation Infrastructure		368	125.2	3.7
Central Research Facilities		2	24.9	0.7
Scientific Library Services and Information Systems		617	57.5	1.7
Prizes, Other Funding		1 146	57.3	1.7
Prizes		110	30.6	0.9
International Scientific Contacts		1 016	22.6	0.7
Committees and Commissions		20	4.3	0.1
Total	946	33 160	3 405.3	100.0

¹⁾ These figures refer to funds approved for 2018 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, scientific networks, workshops for early career investigators and project academies.

³⁾ Number of projects: person-years of doctoral researchers funded in Research Training Groups.

Current Projects in Programmes to Promote Careers in Research and Academia 2018

	Humanities and Social Sciences	Life Sciences	Natural Sciences	Engineering Sciences	Total
Research Fellowships ¹⁾	91	560	256	44	951
Emmy Noether Programme	45	145	127	36	353
Heisenberg Programme	115	161	97	21	394
Temporary Positions for Principal Investigators	715	470	535	175	1 895

¹⁾ Not including return grants.

Research Funding Volumes¹⁾ by Area (in € millions)

	2016	2017	2018
Humanities and Social Sciences	468.0	480.4	529.7
Humanities	291.3	303.0	331.6
Social and Behavioural Sciences	176.8	177.4	198.1
Life Sciences	1 052.5	1 110.9	1 166.3
Biology	347.2	382.5	387.2
Medicine	662.7	684.7	736.5
Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine	42.5	43.8	42.5
Natural Sciences	664.8	714.1	759.9
Chemistry	187.8	203.9	206.9
Physics	267.9	278.9	300.4
Mathematics	75.7	84.1	89.8
Geosciences	133.4	147.3	162.7
Engineering Sciences	584.5	623.9	663.8
Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	145.1	145.9	161.8
Thermal Engineering / Process Engineering	81.2	91.2	98.9
Materials Science and Engineering	128.9	129.8	131.9
Computer Science, Systems and Electrical Engineering	198.7	216.2	225.0
Construction Engineering and Architecture	30.6	40.8	46.3
No Subject Classification	263.1	223.7	285.7
Total	3 032.8	3 153.0	3 405.3

¹⁾ 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)

	2016	2017	2018
Humanities and Social Sciences	36.5	35.4	36.7
Life Sciences	29.2	29.1	30.1
Natural Sciences	16.8	16.1	18.0
Engineering Sciences	11.0	10.1	12.0
Total	23.8	23.3	24.9