The Australian Research Council

- The Australian Research Council (ARC) is an independent statutory agency within The Department of Education. The ARC’s main responsibilities are:
  - providing funding for research through the competitive funding schemes of the National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP);
  - providing policy advice on research matters to Government;
  - Evaluating research quality in Australia through the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) exercise;
  - and, together with the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), administering the Australian Research Integrity Committee (ARIC).
2014–15 Federal Budget (Approx. AU$415 billion)

Treasury omitted
Australian Government support for science, research and innovation 2014–15 ($9.2 billion)

- CSIRO: 8.11%
- DSTO: 4.44%
- ARC: 9.53%
- NHMRC: 10.12%
- Australian Government R&D: 7.50%
- Industry R&D Tax Measures: 26.44%
- Business R&D: 0.02%
- Business Innovation: 3.30%
- Energy and the Environment: 1.37%
- Rural: 3.30%
- CRCs: 1.63%
- Other Health: 0.63%
- Higher Education R&D: 0.47%
- Block Funding: 21.19%
- Other R&D: 1.95%
- Other R&D: 1.95%
ARC funding by institute 2010–2014
The ARC

National Competitive Grants Program
$883.9M in 2013-14

Discovery and Fellowships
$551.4 M

Linkage and Centres
$332.4 M

Evaluation and Policy

Excellence in Research for Australia
National Competitive Grants Program

**Discovery Projects**
- Laureate Fellowships
  - 5%
- Future Fellowships
  - 16%
- DECRA
  - 3%
- Discovery Indigenous

**Linkage Projects**
- Centres of Excellence
  - 7%
- Co-Funded & SRI
- ITRP
- Discovery Indigenous

**Discovery Projects**
- 41%

**Linkage Projects**
- 18%

5 year averages
NCGP and Peer Review

• Under larger schemes, such as Discovery Projects (DP) and the Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA), all five panels of the ARC College convene for selection meetings. In other schemes, such as Australian Laureate Fellowships and Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities schemes, a single interdisciplinary Selection Advisory Committee (SAC) may be utilised. SAC members may be ARC College members and/or other eminent researchers.

• The five panels are: Biological Sciences and Biotechnology (BSB), Engineering, Mathematics and Informatics (EMI), Humanities and Creative Arts (HCA), Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences (PCE), and Social Behavioural and Economic Sciences (SBE).
Research Opportunity

• The ARC is committed to ensuring all eligible researchers have fair access to competitive funding through the National Competitive Grants Program.

• The ARC considers that Research Opportunity comprises two separate elements:
  – Career experiences (relative to opportunity)
  – Career interruptions

• The new ROPE Statement (released Feb 2014) is online on the ROPE Statement page of the ARC website.
Proportion of proposals received in selected SBE disciplines (commencement year 2002 to 2014)

- Other SBE disciplines: 20%
- Economics (2d): 11%
- Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services (2d): 15%
- Education (2d): 13%
- PSYCHOLOGY: 18%
- SOCIOLOGY: 9%
- SOCIAL WORK: 1%
- POLITICAL SCIENCE: 7%
- POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION: 6%

Note—data on basis of FoR codes and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Total success rate (all schemes, 2002 to 2014) and number of proposals received in NCGP panels.
Total success rate all schemes, selected disciplines (commencement year 2002 to 2014)

Note – data on basis of original two and four digit codes for both two-digit and four-digit disciplines.
DP—Success and return rates
Which scheme is more important?

Selected disciplines

13 Years' Funding (2002 to 2014)

- Linkage - Projects
- Discovery - Projects
- ARC Future Fellowships
- ITRP - Hubs
- DECRA
- Linkage - Projects (APAI...)
- ITRP - Training Centres
- ARC Research Networks
- LIEF
- Linkage - International
- Discovery Indigenous
- Special Research Initiatives

3 Years' Funding (2012 to 2014)

- Discovery - Projects
- Linkage - Projects
- ITRP - Hubs
- DECRA
- ARC Future Fellowships
- ITRP - Training Centres
- LIEF
- Discovery - Projects
- DECRA
- ARC Future Fellowships
- Australian Laureate Fellowships
- Discovery - Projects
- Linkage - Projects
- Australian Laureate Fellowships
- Discovery - Projects
- Linkage - Projects
- Discovery Early Career Researcher

Note – data on basis of codes and those translated from  for both two-digit and -digit disciplines
Success rate in selected disciplines and schemes (commencement year 2002 to 2014)

Note—data on basis of original RFCD and FoR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Total success rate in Discovery Projects and Linkage Projects (commencement year 2002 to 2014)

Note—data on basis of original RFCD and FoR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines.
Discovery Projects (DP)—Number of proposals received, selected disciplines (commencement year 2002 to 2015)

Note—data on basis of RFCD and FoR codes for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Success rate (%) in DP, selected disciplines, commencement year 2002 to 2015

- COMMERCE (2D)
- ECONOMICS (2D)
- EDUCATION (2D)
- LAW
- POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
- POLITICAL SCIENCE
- PSYCHOLOGY
- SOCIAL WORK
- SOCIOLGY

Success rate (%) in DP vs Start year (2002 to 2015)
Number of proposals and Success rate (%) in DP
Number of proposals received and success rate (%), comparison LP and DP in Commerce and Economics

Note – data on basis of codes and those translated from for both two-digit and -digit disciplines.
ARC funding and number of projects funded in DP02 to DP15 and LP02 to LP14, for comparison

**Linkage Projects**

- Funding (dark gray)
- No Funded (light blue)

**Discovery Projects**

- Funding (dark gray)
- No Funded (light blue)

Note: Data is based on codes and those translated from two-digit and four-digit disciplines.
# Future Fellowships

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Last 13-years ARC total funding (2002 to 2014)
Selected schemes and disciplines

Note—data on basis of FoR codes and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Last 3-years ARC total funding (2012 to 2014), selected schemes and disciplines

Note—data on basis of FoR codes and those translated from RFCD for both two-digit and 4-digit disciplines
Proportion of Prof and A/Prof type of researchers (inc PI) on Discovery Projects proposals each year for comparison (not inc DECRA)
Average number of researchers (inc Partner Investigators) on each Discovery Projects proposal
Total number of ARC projects, Partner Orgs (PO) and ARC funding for Linkage Projects (2002 to 2014)
Average number of Partner Organisations on each Linkage Project

- Sociology
- Political Science
- Policy and Administration
- Education
- Economics
- Commerce, Management, Tourism and Services
Thank You