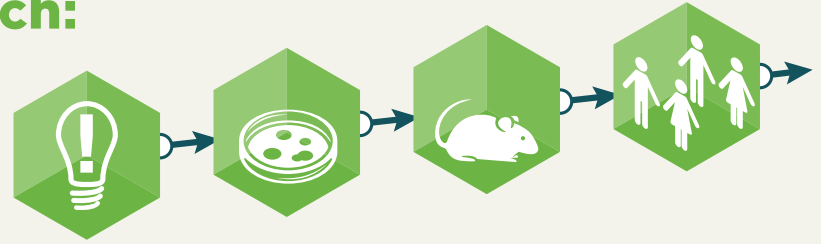






Decline in Research Funding Threatens Future Scientific Advancement

Early-stage or basic research: **the core** of future scientific advancement

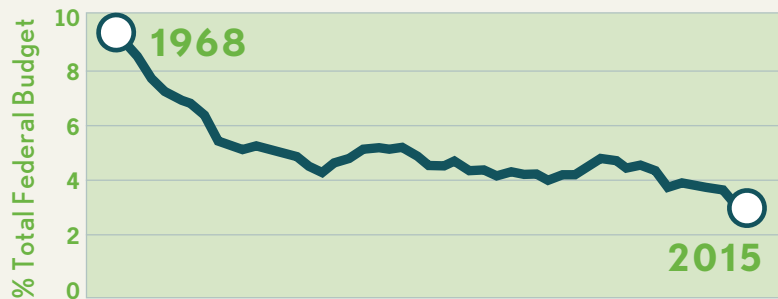


Basic science:

-  Increases **knowledge** and **understanding**
-  Provides basis for **future scientific breakthroughs**
-  Drives **economic growth** through **new technologies**¹
-  Is vital to finding **new treatments** and **cures**

However, Federal R&D funding as a percentage of total federal budget is **on the decline**¹

Federal R&D Outlays



Source: American Association for the Advancement of Science



As a result, many promising research projects are **short on funds**

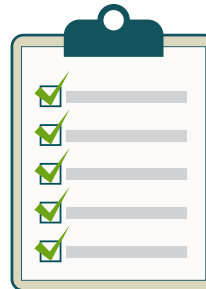
The National Institute of Aging



can fund only 6% of scientists applying for funding¹



National Institutes of Health (NIH) Survey²



Average Age at First R01 Equivalent Award:

42
PhD

44
MD/PhD

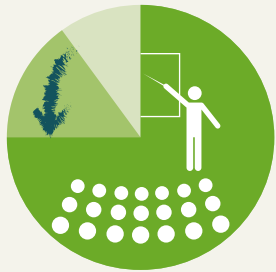


Funding in such a competitive landscape requires researchers to **obtain seed grants** to begin to prove the importance of their work

According to a recent survey of top researchers:



Nearly **50%** of researchers **abandon** an area of investigation “central” to lab’s mission due to lack or loss of funding¹



Fewer than **75%** of science and engineering doctorate holders employed in academe **hold full-time faculty positions**, down from 90% in the 1970s¹

Many talented scientists **leave the field altogether**, unable to secure funding to keep laboratories open and continue their careers.

So what can we do?



Contact your legislator and ask them to support increased basic R&D funding



Donate to a charity or foundation that supports early stage research



Share this information with a friend through social media or email



This information was provided by the **Brain Research Foundation**. To learn how you can support early stage research, visit www.thebrf.org.

¹ Basken P, Voosen P. “Strapped Scientists Abandon Research and Students.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. <http://chronicle.com/article/Strapped-Scientists-Abandon/144921/>. Published February 24, 2014. Accessed June 19, 2015.
² Rockey, Dr. Sally. “Our Commitment to Supporting the Next Generation.” NIH Extramural Nexus. National Institutes of Health, <https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2012/02/03/our-commitment-to-supporting-the-next-generation/>. Published February 3, 2012. Accessed September 3, 2015.