



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

STATISTICS, DOCUMENT

Research and development gross expenditure: 2022

Estimates of total expenditure on research and development (R&D) across different market sectors by UK country and English region for 2022.

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Contents

[Main points](#)

[Notes](#)

[Contact details](#)

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Main points

- An estimated total of £1.6 billion was spent on R&D in 2022 in Wales.
- R&D expenditure in Wales represented 2.3% of total UK R&D expenditure.
- Business enterprise R&D accounted for 60.1% of the total R&D expenditure in Wales, with higher education R&D accounting for 36.8%, and government R&D making up 2.8%.
- In a small region such as Wales, the level of R&D expenditure can be influenced greatly by a small number of major projects commencing or ending, meaning the time series can be volatile.

Notes

This release provides estimates of R&D performed in, and funded by, the following four sectors of the UK economy:

- business enterprise R&D (BERD)
- higher education R&D (HERD)
- government, including UK Research and Innovation R&D (GovERD)
- private non-profit organisations R&D (PNPRD)

These sectors' R&D data are known collectively as gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD).

In this statistical publication, R&D and related concepts follow internationally agreed standards defined by the **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**, as published in the Frascati Manual 2015.

These figures provide the current best estimate of R&D at the UK level, but there is more uncertainty in the estimates below the UK and performing sector level.

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The UK totals and performing sector level research and development (R&D) figures are designated as accredited official statistics, while the remaining figures (including Wales data) have official statistics designation.

For 2022, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) have a new sample for the BERD statistics that has increased the volume of data received and ensured that the BERD statistics now better reflect the level of R&D performed across the UK economy. Therefore, estimates from 2022 are not directly comparable with previous years except at the UK level.

Further information is available in the [ONS release](#).

The detailed dataset on StatsWales will be updated to include these new data as soon as possible.

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