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# **NASA Appropriations and Authorizations: A Fact Sheet**

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In the current fiscal environment, congressional deliberations about the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) often focus on the availability of funding. This fact sheet provides data on past and current NASA appropriations as well as proposed NASA appropriations for FY2016 and proposed authorizations of NASA appropriations for FY2016.

NASA issues of congressional interest are discussed further in CRS Report R43144, *NASA: Issues for Authorization, Appropriations, and Oversight in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress*. Additional information on appropriations legislation affecting NASA is provided in CRS Report R43509, *Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies: FY2015 Appropriations*, and similar reports for other years.<sup>1</sup>

**Table 1** shows appropriations for NASA from FY2010 through FY2015. The data for FY2010 through FY2014 include supplemental appropriations, rescissions, transfers, reprogramming, and, in the case of FY2013, sequestration. They are taken from NASA's congressional budget justifications for FY2012 through FY2016. Congressional budget justifications are available on the NASA website (<http://www.nasa.gov/news/budget/>) for the current year and for previous years back to FY2002. The table data for FY2015 are as enacted by the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235). For amounts not specified in that act, see pp. H9348-H9349 of the explanatory statement, published in the *Congressional Record* on December 11, 2014.

**Table 2** shows enacted appropriations for FY2015 (as above); the Administration's request for FY2016; and proposed authorizations of appropriations for FY2016 in two NASA authorization bills from the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress: the Senate bill S. 1317 (as reported on December 10, 2014); and the House minority bill H.R. 2616 (as introduced on July 8, 2013).<sup>2</sup>

**Figure 1** shows NASA's total annual budget authority from the agency's establishment in FY1958 to FY2015, in both current dollars and inflation-adjusted FY2015 dollars.

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<sup>1</sup> See, for example, CRS Report R43080, *Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies: FY2014 Appropriations*; CRS Report R42440, *Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies: FY2013 Appropriations*; CRS Report R41721, *Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies: FY2012 Appropriations*; CRS Report R41161, *Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies: FY2011 Appropriations*; and CRS Report R40644, *Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies: FY2010 Appropriations*.

<sup>2</sup> Amounts that these bills would have authorized for FY2014 and FY2015 are not shown. Two other NASA authorization bills in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress, H.R. 2687 (ordered reported on July 18, 2013) and H.R. 4412 (passed by the House on June 9, 2014) are not included in the table as they did not include authorizations for FY2016.

**Table I. NASA Appropriations, FY2010-FY2015**

(budget authority in \$ millions)

	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015
<b>Science</b>	<b>\$4,498</b>	<b>\$4,920</b>	<b>\$5,074</b>	<b>\$4,782</b>	<b>\$5,148</b>	<b>\$5,245</b>
Earth Science	1,439	1,722	1,761	1,659	1,825	1,773
Planetary Science	1,364	1,451	1,501	1,275	1,346	1,438
Astrophysics	647	631	648	617	678	685
James Webb Space Telescope	439	477	519	628	658	645
Heliophysics	608	639	645	603	641	662
Education	0	0	0	0	0	42
<b>Aeronautics</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>651</b>
<b>Space Technology</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>596</b>
<b>Exploration</b>	<b>3,626</b>	<b>3,821</b>	<b>3,707</b>	<b>3,706</b>	<b>4,113</b>	<b>4,357</b>
Exploration Systems Development	3,288	2,982	3,002	2,884	3,115	3,245
- Orion MPCV	—	1,196	1,200	1,114	1,197	1,194
- Space Launch System	—	1,536	1,497	1,415	1,600	1,700
- Exploration Ground Systems	—	250	305	355	318	351
Commercial Spaceflight	39	607	406	525	696	805
Exploration R&D	299	232	300	297	302	306
<b>Space Operations</b>	<b>6,142</b>	<b>5,146</b>	<b>4,184</b>	<b>3,725</b>	<b>3,774</b>	<b>3,828</b>
Space Shuttle	3,101	1,593	596	39	0	— <sup>a</sup>
International Space Station	2,313	2,714	2,790	2,776	2,964	— <sup>a</sup>
Space and Flight Support	728	840	798	910	810	— <sup>a</sup>
<b>Education</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>119</b>
Space Grant	46	46	39	37	40	40
EPSCoR	25	25	17	17	18	18
MUREP	31	29	30	28	30	32
Other	79	47	50	34	29	29
<b>Safety, Security, and Mission Support<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>3,018</b>	<b>2,956</b>	<b>2,994</b>	<b>2,711</b>	<b>2,793</b>	<b>2,759</b>
<b>Construction and EC&amp;R</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>661<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>522</b>	<b>419</b>
<b>Inspector General</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,724</b>	<b>18,448</b>	<b>17,770<sup>d</sup></b>	<b>16,879<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>17,647</b>	<b>18,010</b>

**Sources:** FY2010-FY2014 from NASA FY2012-FY2016 congressional budget justifications. FY2015 from P.L. 113-235 and pp. H9348-H9349 of the explanatory statement, *Congressional Record*, December 11, 2014.

**Notes:** Some totals may not add because of rounding. MPCV = Multipurpose Crew Vehicle. R&D = Research and Development. EPSCoR = Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research. MUREP = Minority University Research Education Program. EC&R = Environmental Compliance and Remediation.

- Not specified in P.L. 113-235 or the explanatory statement.
- Called Cross-Agency Support before FY2015.
- Includes \$14 million (after sequestration) of supplemental funding from the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (P.L. 113-2) that is not shown in the NASA FY2015 congressional budget justification.
- Includes rescission of \$1 million from prior-year accounts not shown in the table.

**Table 2. NASA Appropriations, FY2015-FY2016, and Authorizations, FY2016**  
(budget authority in \$ millions)

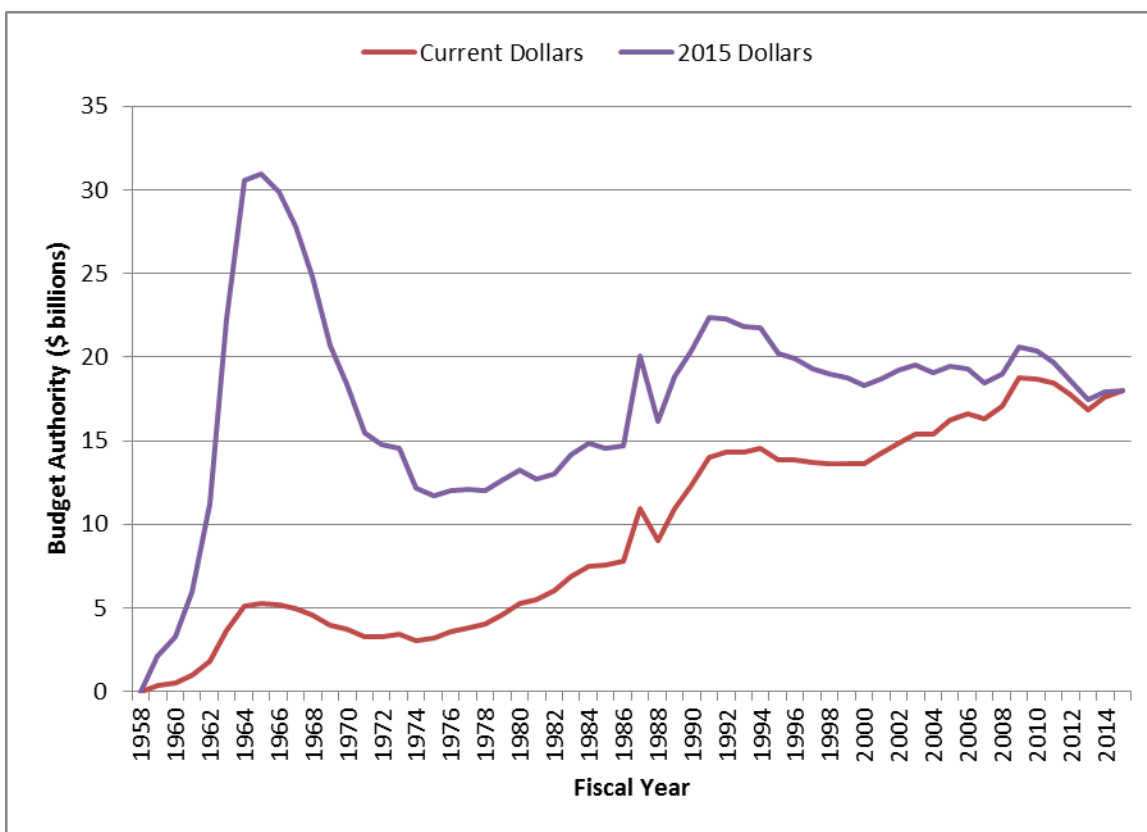
	Appropriations		Authorizations	
	FY2015	FY2016	FY2016	
	Enacted	Request	S. 1317 (113th)	H.R. 2616 (113th)
<b>Science</b>	<b>\$5,245</b>	<b>\$5,289</b>	<b>\$5,316</b>	<b>\$5,306</b>
Earth Science	1,773	1,947	1,872	1,849
Planetary Science	1,438	1,361	1,500	1,500
Astrophysics	685	709	687	700
James Webb Space Telescope	645	620	620	620
Heliophysics	662	651	637	637
Education	42	0	0	0
<b>Aeronautics</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>594</b>
<b>Space Technology</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>720</b>
<b>Exploration</b>	<b>4,357</b>	<b>4,506</b>	<b>4,660</b>	<b>4,534</b>
Exploration Systems Development	3,245	2,863	3,485	3,474
- Orion MPCV	1,194	1,096	1,250	1,260
- Space Launch System	1,700	1,357	1,800	1,800
- Exploration Ground Systems	351	410	435	414
Commercial Spaceflight	805	1,244	825	700
Exploration R&D	306	399	350	360
<b>Space Operations</b>	<b>3,828</b>	<b>4,004</b>	<b>4,010</b>	<b>4,133</b>
International Space Station	— <sup>a</sup>	3,106	3,196	3,320
Space and Flight Support	— <sup>a</sup>	898	814	814
<b>Education</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>136</b>
Space Grant	40	24	—	—
EPSCoR	18	9	—	—
MUREP	32	30	—	—
Other	29	26	—	—
<b>Safety, Security, and Mission Support</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>2,843</b>	<b>2,965</b>	<b>2,937</b>
<b>Construction &amp; EC&amp;R</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>471</b>
<b>Inspector General</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,010</b>	<b>18,529</b>	<b>18,831</b>	<b>18,868</b>

**Sources:** FY2015 enacted from P.L. 113-235 and pp. H9348-H9349 of the explanatory statement, *Congressional Record*, December 11, 2014. FY2016 request from NASA FY2016 congressional budget justification. Authorizations from S. 1317 as reported and H.R. 2616 as introduced.

**Notes:** Some totals may not add because of rounding. MPCV = Multipurpose Crew Vehicle. R&D = Research and Development. EPSCoR = Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research. MUREP = Minority University Research Education Program. EC&R = Environmental Compliance and Remediation.

a. Not specified in P.L. 113-235 or the explanatory statement.

**Figure I. NASA Funding, FY1958-FY2015**



**Source:** FY1958-FY2008 from National Aeronautics and Space Administration, *Aeronautics and Space Report of the President: Fiscal Year 2008 Activities*, <http://history.nasa.gov/presrep2008.pdf>, Table D-1A. FY2009-FY2013 from NASA congressional budget justifications, FY2011-FY2015. FY2014 from P.L. 113-76. FY2015 from P.L. 113-235. Current dollars deflated to FY2015 dollars using GDP (chained) price index from President’s budget for FY2015, Historical Table 10.1, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Historicals>.

**Note:** Transition quarter between FY1976 and FY1977 not shown.

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