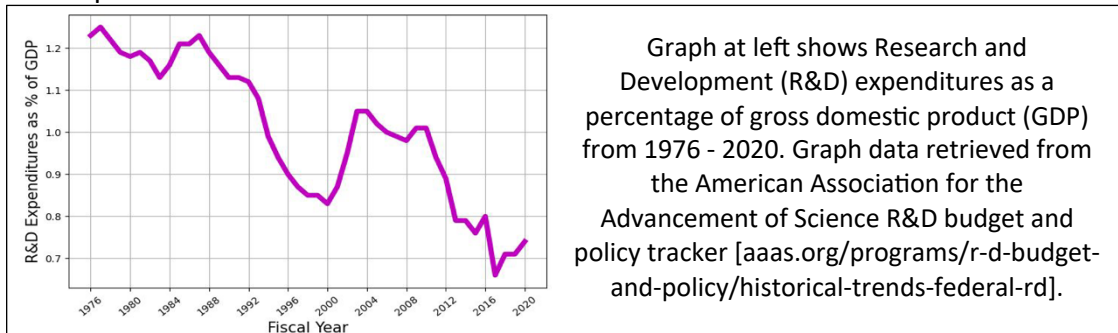


June 2024

Dear Policymakers:

The American Astronomical Society (AAS) Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS) **urges Congress to adequately fund NASA and NSF so that these agencies can support a balanced, coordinated, and world-leading planetary science program** that advances top scientific community priorities.

- The NASA proposed mission selection process and subsequent funding stability should not be a source of uncertainty, and ensuring that selected missions proceed as planned is a top community priority with broader implications for workforce retention.
- An increased NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD) budget would enable NEO Surveyor to launch without delay, as well as the continued support for activities of the Planetary Defense Coordination Office.
- Curiosity-driven research is vital to innovation and economic growth in the U.S. For example, in FY19 NASA efforts generated more than \$64 billion in economic output in all 50 states from a budget of \$21.5 billion. However, the U.S. has seen a 35% decrease in R&D expenditure relative to our GDP over the last three decades.



APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST			
Account	FY24 enacted	FY 2025	
		PBR	AAS Ask
NASA	\$24.9	\$25.4	—
SMD	\$7.3	\$7.6	\$9.0
PSD	\$2.7	\$2.7	\$3.4
NSF	\$9.1	\$10.2	\$11.9

All values are given in billions of USD.

To ensure that the U.S. remains a global leader in innovation, we ask that Congress fund sustained, robust growth for the science agencies, including top line increases for NASA SMD, including its Planetary Science Division (PSD), and the NSF to maintain a balanced mission portfolio and maximize return on prior investments.