

Preface

THIS ANALYSIS

Each year, the U.S. federal government devotes a notable portion of the federal budget to the support of research and development (R&D) activities. Virtually everyone agrees that these functions are critical in driving the nation's economy, as well as determining the personal health and quality of life of its citizens. Unfortunately, most of the currently available information on federally funded R&D activities is too aggregated to be of much use to policymakers or members of the public seeking to evaluate the federal R&D portfolio. The purpose of this report is to begin to remedy that situation.

To make this report as useful as possible to policymakers and the public, the R&D activities of the federal government are described by state. Only by taking this approach—that is, by walking the federal R&D portfolio from the specific locations of individual R&D performers to the national level—can the full scope and impact of federal R&D activities be appreciated. Furthermore, only by detailing federal R&D activities by state can it be demonstrated how absolutely every part of the nation is directly involved in and affected by this vital and enormous enterprise.

THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY INSTITUTE

Originally created by Congress in 1991 as the Critical Technologies Institute and renamed in 1998, the Science and Technology Policy Institute is a federally funded research and development center sponsored by the National Science Foundation and managed by RAND. The institute's mission is to help improve public policy by conducting objec-

tive, independent research and analysis on policy issues that involve science and technology. To this end, the institute

- supports the Office of Science and Technology Policy and other Executive Branch agencies, offices, and councils,
- helps science and technology decisionmakers understand the likely consequences of their decisions and choose among alternative policies, and
- helps improve understanding in both the public and private sectors of the ways in which science and technology can better serve national objectives.

Science and Technology Policy Institute research focuses on problems of science and technology policy that involve multiple agencies. In carrying out its mission, the institute consults broadly with representatives from private industry, institutions of higher education, and other nonprofit institutions.

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