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**Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology**

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## **BUDGET CUTS REDUCE BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH**

Deep cuts to the fiscal year (FY) 2013 budget for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will halt many efforts to find new cures and slow the progress of others. NIH-funded biomedical research improves health, reduces human suffering, and protects the nation against new and emerging health threats. Because of the scale, scope, and time required, it is not the kind of investment that private industry could afford to undertake on its own. The loss of \$1.7 billion—mandated by the Budget Control Act of 2011—came on top of several years of flat funding and severely diminishes NIH's capacity to support critical research. Data from the NIH web site compiled by FASEB demonstrate the effect of the cuts:

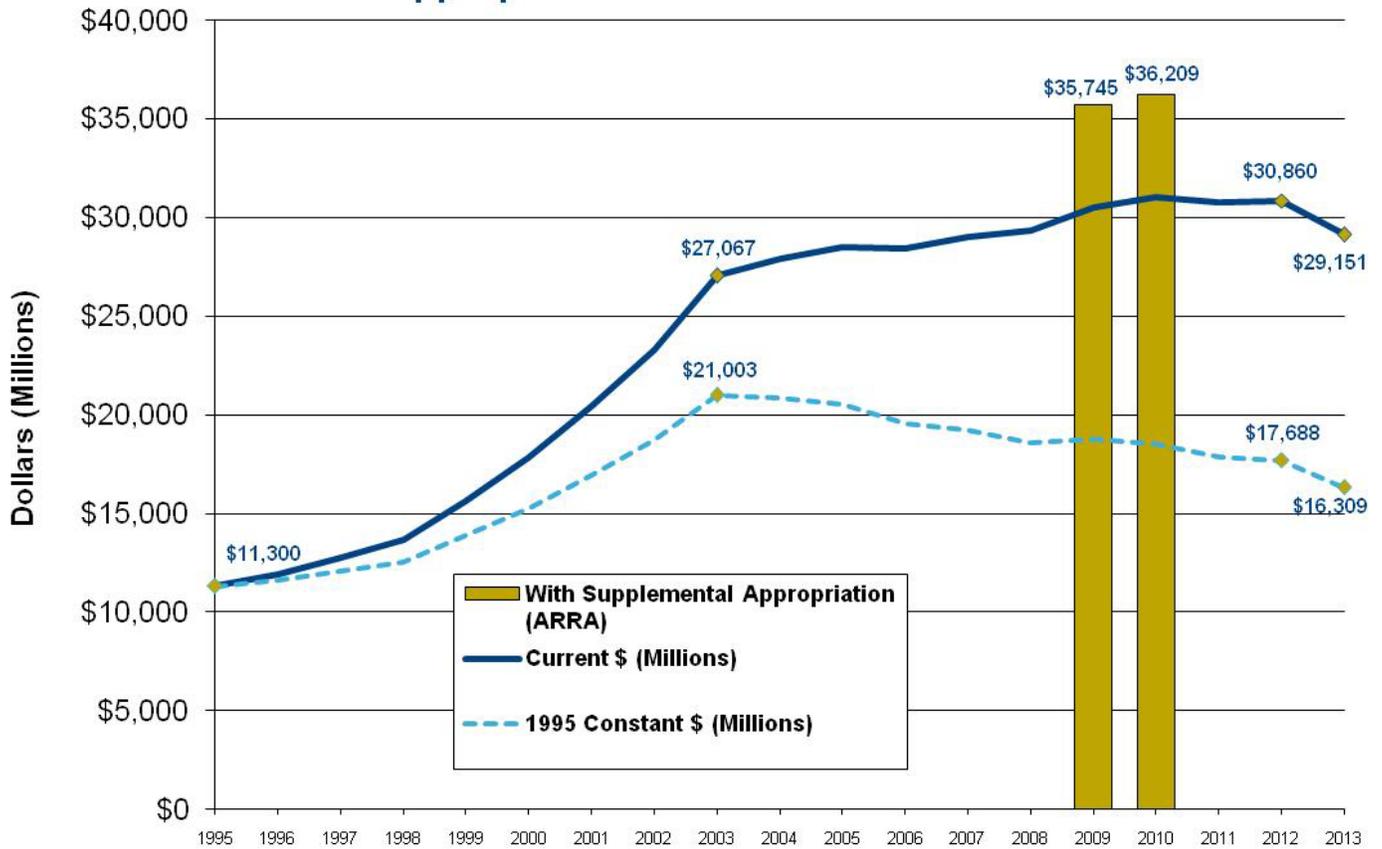
- In constant dollars (adjusted for inflation), the NIH budget in FY 2013 budget is 22 percent (4.7 billion) less than it was in FY 2003 and is at its lowest level since FY 2000 (Figure 1, NIH Appropriation in Current and Constant Dollars)
- The number of competing research project grants (RPGs) funded by NIH has also fallen sharply since 2003. In FY 2013, NIH estimates that it will make 8,232 RPG awards, 2,110 (20.3 percent) less than in 2003 (Figure 2, Number of Competing Awards)
- The number of competing R01 equivalent grants, the primary mechanism for supporting investigator-initiated research, awarded each year fell by 27 percent between 2003 and 2012 (Figure 2, Number of Competing Awards). With sequestration cuts, the number of new R01 awards will plummet even more sharply in 2013.

Additional information about NIH research funding may be found on the FASEB web site.

We are sacrificing our investment in research. This new, unprecedented cut in the NIH budget—occurring during a decade of contraction—will terminate critical projects, reduce the number of new, innovative projects, force the closure of laboratories across the country, and cost thousands of highly-trained researchers their jobs. Losses to the biomedical workforce, including many young, early-career scientists and clinician researchers, will have lasting ramifications. **FASEB urges Congress to restore the cuts and sustain the federal investment in NIH with a FY 2014, appropriation of at least \$32 billion.**

**Figure 1**

### NIH Appropriation in Current and Constant Dollars



**Figure 2**

### Number of Competing Awards (With Breakout of First-time R01)

