

## Research Expenditures at The University of Texas System – FY 2016-2021

The Office of Institutional Research and Analysis (OIRA) at the University of Texas System collects data on research expenditures for each institution within our system through the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Accountability System. This brief summarizes trends in total research expenditures for FY 2016-2021 and by funding source (federal, local, private, and state).

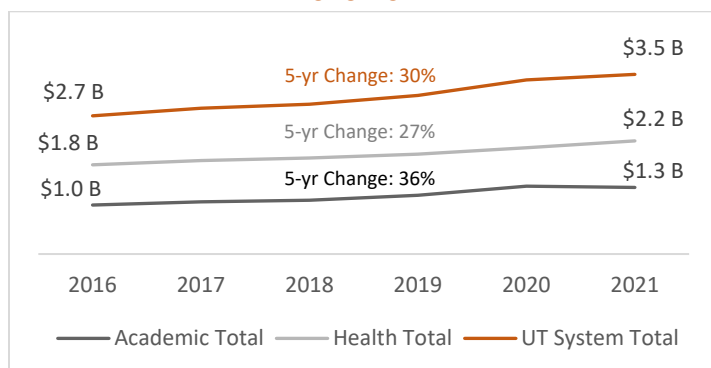
*Note: In 2021, UT Tyler merged with the UT Health Science Center at Tyler. FY 2016-2020 research expenditures were combined for both campuses to facilitate comparison. Data for UT Austin Dell Medical School and UT Rio Grande Valley Medical School are nested within their respective academic institutions. A portion of “state” expenditures includes institutions’ hospital patient income that is re-invested in the research enterprise.*

For more information, please visit the UT System Dashboard at <https://data.utsystem.edu/data-index/research-expenditures>.

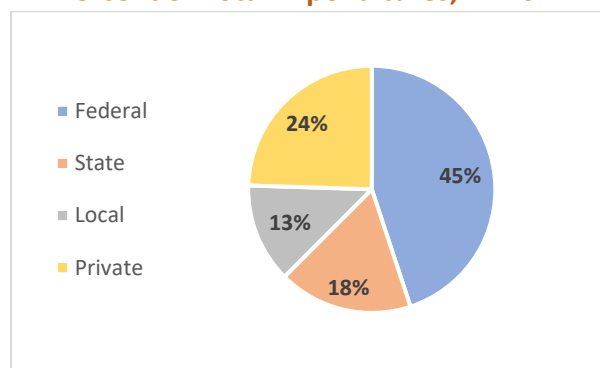
### KEY FINDINGS

- **Total research expenditures increased by 30% across all thirteen institutions from just over \$2.7 billion in FY 2016 to more than \$3.5 billion in FY 2021 (Exhibits 1, 3 – 7).** UT System total research expenditures increased by \$816 million (30%), health institution expenditures by \$471 million (27%), and academic institution expenditures by \$345 million (36%).
- **Research expenditures at health institutions account for almost two-thirds of total research expenditures across the UT System (Exhibits 1, 5 – 7).** Research at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center made up nearly 30% of total UT System expenditures on its own—and in FY 2021, MD Anderson reached a milestone of more than \$1 billion in total research expenditures.
- **The Emerging Research Universities (ERUs) in the UT System are UT Arlington, UT Dallas, UT El Paso, and UT San Antonio (Exhibit 4).** From FY 2016 to FY 2021, total research expenditures increased for ERUs by \$153.7 million, a 46% increase.
- **Total research expenditures increased by more than 20% at UT Health Science Center–San Antonio, UT Health Science Center–Houston, UT Southwestern Medical Center, and UT MD Anderson Cancer Center between FY 2016 and FY 2021 (Exhibits 4 – 7).** UT Southwestern research expenditures increased by \$123 million, and UT MD Anderson expenditures increased by \$234 million.
- **Federal sources make up 45% of total research expenditures across the UT System (Exhibit 2, Table 1).** Due to a \$409 million increase in federal sources, UT System's research expenditures increased from FY 2016 (43%) to 45%.

**Exhibit 1. Total UT System Research Expenditures  
FY 2016-2021**



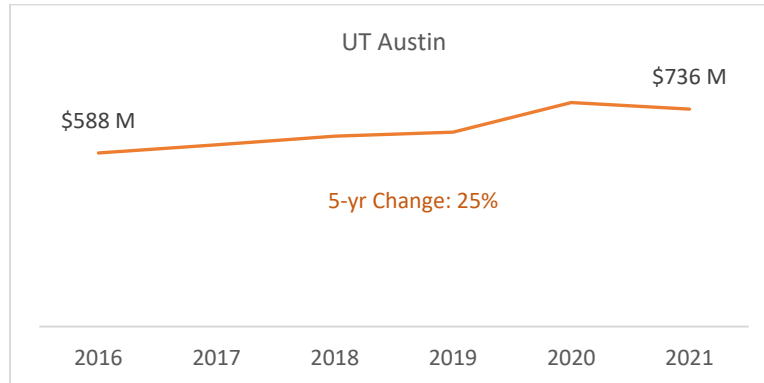
**Exhibit 2. Research Expenditure Sources as a  
Percent of Total Expenditures, FY 2021**



## UT AUSTIN

As the flagship academic institution of the UT System, UT Austin has significantly higher research expenditures compared to the other UT academic institutions. From FY 2016 to FY 2021, total research expenditures increased at UT Austin by \$148.6 million to \$736 million. A large portion of this increase occurred in FY 2020 when UT Austin reported a \$100 million increase in total research expenditures, mostly driven by an increase in federal research expenditures (\$80.4 million).

**Exhibit 3. Total UT Austin Research Expenditures, FY 2016-2021**



## EMERGING RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

Emerging Research Universities (ERUs), as designated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, are a set of institutions with growing research enterprises and an expanding focus on graduate students. The ERUs in the UT System are UT Arlington, UT Dallas, UT El Paso, and UT San Antonio. All four UT ERUs have a Basic Carnegie Classification of Doctoral University with Very High Research Activity. From FY 2016 to FY 2021, total research expenditures increased for ERUs by \$153.7 million, a 46% increase.

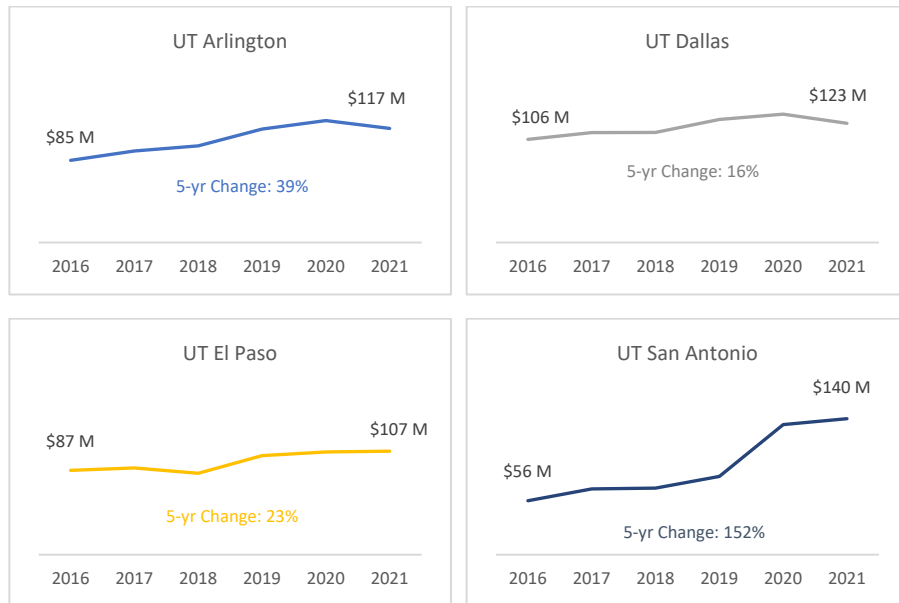
UT Arlington's research expenditures rose by \$32.8 million to \$117 million between FY 2016 and 2021, a 39% increase. The proportion of federal and local sources that make up total expenditures for UTA both increased over this time frame.

UT Dallas had \$123 million in total research expenditures in 2021, an increase of \$16.6 million from FY 2016. Much of this growth occurred from federal sources that made up one-third of total research expenditures in FY 2016 and increased to 47% in FY 2021.

UT El Paso research expenditures of \$19.7 million in FY 2016 increased by 23% to \$107 million in FY 2021. Total research expenditures from state sources increased from 22% in FY 2016 to 36% in FY 2021, while the proportion from federal, local, and private sources declined.

UT San Antonio experienced a 152% increase of \$140 million in total research expenditures between FY 2016 and FY 2021. This \$84.5 million gain included a \$53.3 million increase from FY 2019 to FY 2020, driven by higher state, local, and private research expenditures.

## Exhibit 4. Total Emerging Research University Research Expenditures, FY 2016-2021



## COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSITIES

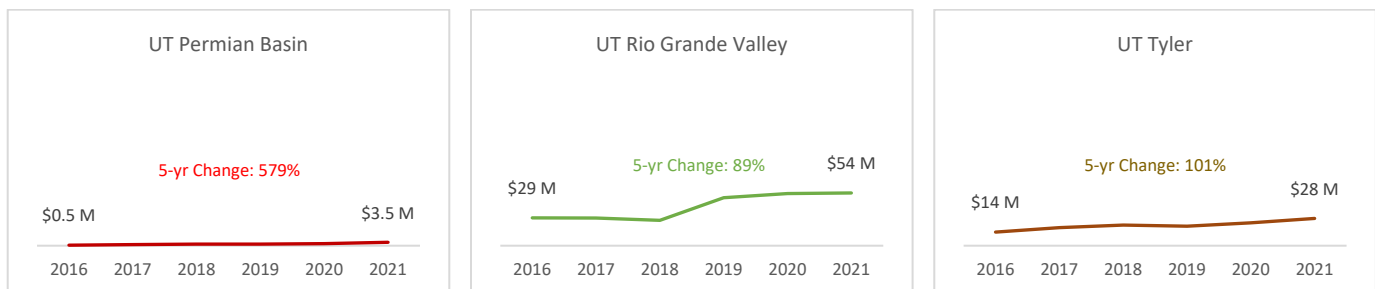
Comprehensive Universities (CUs) are institutions focused primarily on teaching and have smaller amounts of research expenditures. The CUs in the UT System are UT Permian Basin, UT Rio Grande Valley, and UT Tyler. From FY 2016 to FY 2021, total research expenditures increased for CUs by \$42.7 million, a 99% increase. Expenditures increased steadily from FY 2016 for the CUs, except for a larger-than-average increase of \$22.2 million in FY 2019, which was primarily driven by a large increase in local research expenditures at UT Rio Grande Valley that year.

UT Rio Grande Valley had an 89% (\$25.6 million) increase in research expenditures from FY 2016-2021, with the largest increase occurring in FY 2019 (\$23.3 million). The higher expenditures in FY 2019 were almost entirely from increased local sources.

In FY 2016, UT Permian Basin had a little more than \$516,000 in total research expenditures, and by FY 2021, it had \$3.5 million, a 579% increase. Much of this gain came from federal sources. Where only 29% of research expenditures in FY 2016 came from federal sources, they made up half in FY 2021.

UT Tyler's total research expenditures more than doubled from FY 2016-2021, reaching \$28 million. In 2021, UT Tyler merged with the UT Health Science Center at Tyler. The chart in Exhibit 5 combines the research expenditures from FY 2016-2021 for both campuses to facilitate comparison. Much of the research expenditure growth during this time frame came from UT Health Science Center at Tyler, with a \$13.1 million increase, while the academic campus increased by almost \$1 million.

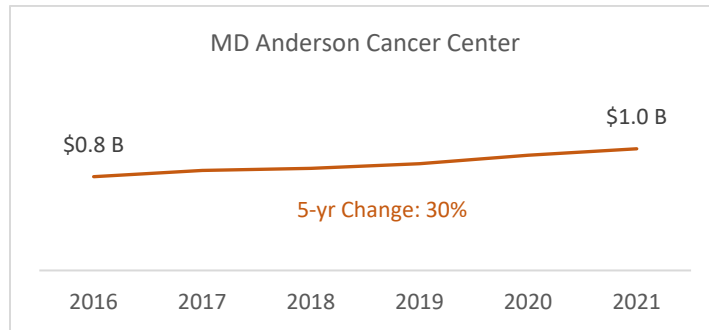
## Exhibit 5. Total Comprehensive University Expenditures, FY 2016-2021



# UT HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

UT MD Anderson Cancer Center has the highest research expenditures in the UT System, reaching a milestone in FY 2021 of more than \$1 billion. Between FY 2016-2021, research expenditures rose by 30%, an increase of \$234 million. While increases in research expenditures were steady throughout this time frame, in FY 2019 the proportion of local sources started to decline and the proportion from private sources increased.

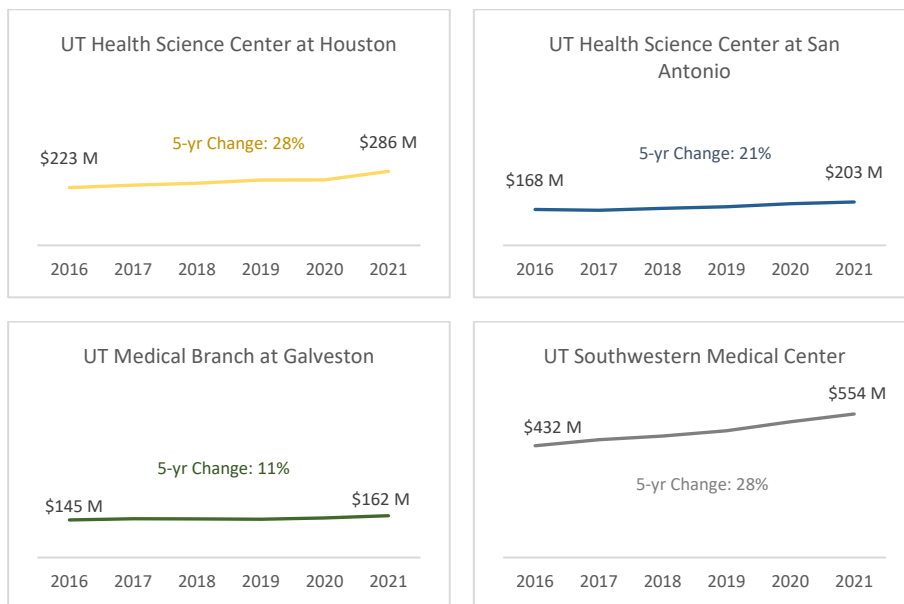
**Exhibit 6. Total MD Anderson Cancer Center Research Expenditures, FY 2016-2021**



The other health institutions in the UT System also experienced an increase in total research expenditures between FY 2016-2021 (Exhibit 7). UT Health Science Center–Houston and UT Southwestern Medical Center both had increases of 28% in this period. UT Southwestern’s expenditures increased by \$122.6 million, mostly from large increases from private sources beginning in FY 2019. UT HSC-Houston had an increase of \$62.8 million in research expenditures from FY 2016 to FY 2021.

UT Health Science Center at San Antonio had \$203.3 million in research expenditures in FY 2021, a 21% increase from FY 2016. There was a small decline in expenditures from federal sources from FY 2016-2021, but there was an increase in local and state sources. UT Medical Branch at Galveston increased research expenditures by \$16.4 million from FY 2016-2021, an 11% increase for a total of \$161.6 million in FY 2021. Most expenditures from UTMB Health come from federal sources, which increased from 69% of total expenditures in FY 2016 to 73% in FY 2021.

**Exhibit 7. Total Research Expenditures, by UT System Health Institutions, FY 2016-2021**



## SOURCES OF RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

Federal sources make up 45% (approximately \$1.6 billion) of total research expenditures across the UT System (Table 1). The proportion from federal sources in FY 2021 was up slightly from FY 2016, driven by a \$409 million increase in federal expenditures. Across the academic institutions, research expenditures from federal sources were \$712.8 million in FY 2021, 54% of total expenditures for that year. This was a small increase compared to the proportion in FY 2016 (53%). For health institutions, federal sources made up 39% of all research expenditures, \$875.7 million in FY 2021. It's worth noting that at all health institutions except UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, federal sources were closer to 50%.

Research expenditures from state sources make up 18% of total research expenditures across the UT System, a total of \$621.1 million. From FY 2016-2021, state sources increased by \$62.9 million for academic institutions and \$41.2 million for health institutions. UT Dallas and UT Rio Grande Valley both experienced decreases in state-funded research expenditures from FY 2016-2021.

Private sources accounted for almost a quarter of all research expenditures across the UT System in FY 2021. While private sources were only 15% of expenditures at academic institutions, they made up 30% of health institution expenditures. From FY 2016-2021, private sources grew by \$174.6 million at health institutions, reaching \$668.9 million in FY 2021. More than half of private sources at health institutions come from MD Anderson Cancer Center expenditures. Private sources in FY 2021 accounted for a smaller proportion of research expenditures from academic sources compared to FY 2016, but they still increased by \$20.1 million during that period. UT Arlington, UT Dallas, and UT El Paso all experienced a decline in expenditures from private sources from FY 2016-2021.

Research expenditures from local sources totaled \$460.2 million across the UT System in FY 2021. They represented 13% of research expenditures system-wide, 16% of expenditures at academic institutions, and 11% at health institutions. From FY 2016-2021 expenditures from local sources increased by \$59.4 million at academic institutions and by \$47.8 million at health institutions.

**Table 1. Research Expenditure Source as a Percent of Total Research Expenditures, FY 2021**

Dollar amounts for FY 2021 expenditures by source are marked in green when the percent increase from FY 2016 was greater than the percent increase in total research expenditures. Dollar amounts are marked in red when the dollar amount from the source declined by any amount since FY 2016.

| Institution            | Federal (FY 2021)      |            | Local (FY 2021)       |            | Private (FY 2021)     |            | State (FY 2021)       |            |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
|                        | \$                     | % of Total | \$                    | % of Total | \$                    | % of Total | \$                    | % of Total |
| UTA                    | \$ 46,277,261          | 39%        | \$ 43,150,093         | 37%        | \$ 9,903,213          | 8%         | \$ 18,082,247         | 15%        |
| UT Austin              | \$ 491,787,826         | 67%        | \$ 74,501,342         | 10%        | \$ 118,683,282        | 16%        | \$ 51,402,087         | 7%         |
| UTD                    | \$ 58,248,830          | 47%        | \$ 29,308,591         | 24%        | \$ 24,203,416         | 20%        | \$ 11,064,612         | 9%         |
| UTEP                   | \$ 45,849,015          | 43%        | \$ 11,849,836         | 11%        | \$ 10,741,290         | 10%        | \$ 38,154,138         | 36%        |
| UTPB                   | \$ 1,762,152           | 50%        | \$ 521,668            | 15%        | \$ 760,426            | 22%        | \$ 459,421            | 13%        |
| UTRGV                  | \$ 13,018,594          | 24%        | \$ 25,102,860         | 46%        | \$ 9,172,052          | 17%        | \$ 7,005,128          | 13%        |
| UTSA                   | \$ 42,951,983          | 31%        | \$ 25,286,813         | 18%        | \$ 17,650,610         | 13%        | \$ 54,175,957         | 39%        |
| UTT                    | \$ 12,891,693          | 46%        | \$ 2,115,643          | 8%         | \$ 6,024,467          | 21%        | \$ 7,037,466          | 25%        |
| <b>Academic Total</b>  | <b>\$ 712,787,354</b>  | <b>54%</b> | <b>\$ 211,836,846</b> | <b>16%</b> | <b>\$ 197,138,756</b> | <b>15%</b> | <b>\$ 187,381,056</b> | <b>14%</b> |
| UTHSC-H                | \$ 165,138,599         | 58%        | \$ 27,661,607         | 10%        | \$ 53,553,067         | 19%        | \$ 39,475,745         | 14%        |
| UTHSC-SA               | \$ 113,672,960         | 56%        | \$ 28,116,370         | 14%        | \$ 36,437,771         | 18%        | \$ 25,109,698         | 12%        |
| UTMB                   | \$ 118,123,367         | 73%        | \$ 15,313,683         | 9%         | \$ 20,395,935         | 13%        | \$ 7,740,008          | 5%         |
| MDACC                  | \$ 217,073,480         | 21%        | \$ 129,925,449        | 13%        | \$ 381,293,948        | 37%        | \$ 293,324,700        | 29%        |
| SWMC                   | \$ 261,693,498         | 47%        | \$ 47,330,243         | 9%         | \$ 177,251,190        | 32%        | \$ 68,106,541         | 12%        |
| <b>Health Total</b>    | <b>\$875,701,904</b>   | <b>39%</b> | <b>\$ 248,347,352</b> | <b>11%</b> | <b>\$ 668,931,911</b> | <b>30%</b> | <b>\$ 433,756,692</b> | <b>19%</b> |
| <b>UT System Total</b> | <b>\$1,588,489,258</b> | <b>45%</b> | <b>\$ 460,184,198</b> | <b>13%</b> | <b>\$ 866,070,667</b> | <b>24%</b> | <b>\$ 621,137,748</b> | <b>18%</b> |