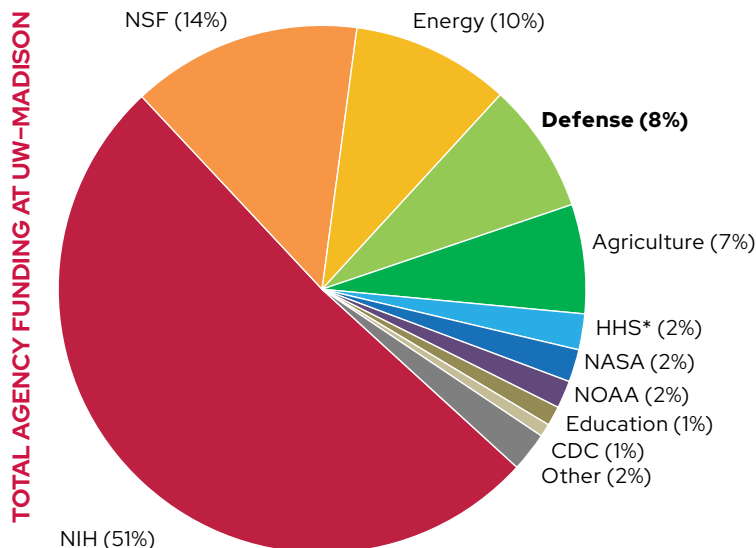




DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

UW-MADISON: RANKED #6 NATIONALLY WITH \$1.73 BILLION IN ANNUAL RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

Through the Science and Technology account, the Office of Naval Research, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and other research funding, the Department of Defense (DoD) invests in UW-Madison research that advances our national security.



\$67.4 million

**DoD research awards to
UW-Madison in 2023-24**

\$816.8 million

**federal research awards to
UW-Madison in 2023-24**

DOD FUNDING IN ACTION AT UW-MADISON

Breaking ground on better detection and prevention of traumatic brain injuries *PANTHER Program*

Based in the UW-Madison Department of Mechanical Engineering and funded through the U.S. Office of Naval Research, a collaborative initiative spanning academia, industry and federal agencies is pursuing new strategies for preventing and better detecting concussions and other traumatic brain injuries. Formed in 2017, the PANTHER research initiative has made progress in identifying new ways to diagnose brain injuries without obvious symptoms. The initiative has also produced a lightweight, ultra-shock-absorbing foam made from carbon nanotubes that could lead to helmets that better protect athletes and military personnel from strong blows. In 2025, researchers got the chance to collect valuable data at a Technology Operational Experimentation Exercise in which Marines provided direct feedback on a helmet with an embedded sensor system.

WHY UNIVERSITY RESEARCH MATTERS

DoD-supported research and activities at UW-Madison address health and safety needs for military personnel, advance solutions to climate change impacts that threaten national security and foster scientific and technological advances that ensure cutting edge military capabilities. The university is part of an innovation ecosystem that works with DoD to create strategic opportunities and tactical options, all while preparing the next generation of science, technology, engineering and mathematics experts.

APRIL 2025



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