OECD R&D Tax Incentives Database

General and country-specific notes

OECD time-series estimates of implied marginal R&D tax subsidy rates based on the B-index

There are several ways to measure the value and generosity of R&D tax provisions. The OECD-NESTI data collection on R&D tax incentives attempts to identify and address subtle differences in the tax treatment of R&D, the relevant tax benchmark and measurement approaches. National experts on science and technology indicators have collaborated with public finance and tax authorities to provide the most up-to-date and internationally comparable figures possible.

Estimates reported in this website exclude income-based incentives – preferential treatment of incomes from licensing or asset disposal attributable to R&D or patents – and incentives to taxpayers other than companies. Figures refer to incentives applied at a national level through corporate income taxes, employer social security contributions and withholding taxes for R&D personnel. Personal and consumption tax incentives are not included. While typically non-discretionary, some countries require pre-approval of R&D projects or accreditation by government agencies or third parties.

Estimates of the implied R&D tax subsidy rate

The tax subsidy rate is defined as 1 minus the B-index, a measure of the before-tax income needed by a “representative” firm to break even on USD 1 of R&D outlays (Warda, 2001). To provide a more accurate representation of different scenarios, B-indices are calculated for “representative” firms according to whether they can claim tax benefits against their tax liability in the reporting period (OECD, 2013). When credits or allowances are fully refundable, the B-index of a firm in such a position is identical to the profit scenario. Carry-forwards are modelled as discounted options to claim incentives in the future, assuming a constant annual probability of returning to profit of 50% and a nominal discount rate of 10%. Adjustments for ceilings on claimable R&D or tax relief are modelled whenever possible.

Marginal tax credit rates reflect the magnitude of marginal tax credit rates applicable to an extra unit of R&D spend across a segment of the business population (e.g. SMEs or large enterprises). Whenever caps and thresholds apply to eligible R&D expenditure or the amount of R&D tax relief, an attempt was made to compute weighted marginal tax credit (allowance) rates for SMEs and large firms, using available data

1 This database presents the 2022 edition of OECD time-series indicators of implied R&D tax subsidy rates for OECD member countries and eleven non-member economies (Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria People’s Republic of China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Malta, Romania, Russian Federation, and South Africa) over the period 2000-2022, drawing on data collected in the OECD-NESTI R&D tax incentive surveys from 2007 to 2022.
2 This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.
3 The Statistical data for Israel are supplied by an under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities or third party. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.
or proxy measures for the distribution of eligible R&D spending. For reasons such as thresholds, marginal subsidy rates will also differ from the average subsidy rate that is relevant for firms, especially multinationals, deciding whether to invest in discrete amounts of R&D in a given country. Different measures can be relevant for different types of R&D investment decisions: the average at the extensive margin (whether to invest in a country), the marginal one at the intensive margin (how much to invest within a country at the margin).

Territorial coverage of latest available edition:

- In response to Russia’s large-scale aggression against Ukraine, the OECD Council decided on 8 March 2022 to immediately suspend the participation of Russia and Belarus in OECD bodies. In view of this decision, the OECD suspended its solicitation of official statistics on R&D tax incentives from Russian authorities, leading to the absence of more recent statistics on R&D tax subsidy rates for this country in the OECD database, while previously compiled data are still available. In the case of Russia, the estimates of implied marginal R&D tax subsidy rates reported for 2022 draw on information collected through OECD desk based research and are not based on officially transmitted information.
- In the case of China, the estimates of implied marginal R&D tax subsidy rates reported for 2018 to 2022 in this OECD database draw on information collected through OECD desk based research and are not based on officially transmitted information.

General notes

- This is an experimental indicator, based on quantitative and qualitative information, representing a notional level of tax subsidy rate under different scenarios. It requires a number of assumptions and calculations specific to each country. International comparability may be limited.
- The tax subsidy rate is calculated as 1 minus the B-index, a measure of the before-tax income needed to break even on USD 1 of R&D outlays (Warda, 2001). It is based on responses from national finance/tax/innovation authorities and R&D statistical agencies to the OECD R&D tax incentive surveys varied out from 2007-2022 (biannually: 2007-2015, annually: 2015-2022) and also draws on other publicly available information.
- As a measure of the marginal cost of R&D to users, the B-index is estimated based on marginal, headline R&D tax credit (allowance) rates. Figures refer to “representative” firms in their class for which limitations (floors, thresholds, ceilings) on the amount of eligible expenditures or tax support are assumed not to be binding. The implied marginal tax subsidy rates, calculated based on headline R&D tax credit (allowance) rates, provide an upper bound value of the generosity of R&D tax incentives, not reflecting the effect of thresholds and ceilings that may limit the amount of qualifying R&D expenditure or value of R&D tax relief.
- Estimates allow for differences in the treatment of the various components of R&D expenditures: current (labour, other current) and capital (machinery and equipment, facilities/buildings) expenditures. A common 60:30:5:5 percentage distribution of labour, other current, machinery and equipment, and building expenditures is applied based on average estimates for OECD countries (www.oecd.org/sti/rds).

• Expenditures on capital assets used for R&D are depreciated over their useful life, using a straight-line or declining balance depreciation method, as applicable. Estimates of the net present value of provisions relating to R&D capital expenditures draw on information about the benchmark tax treatment of capital expenditures, as collected through the OECD-NESI questionnaire on R&D tax incentives, and the OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration questionnaire on the tax treatment of the creation, acquisition and use of knowledge capital. Estimates of tax subsidy rates are fairly robust to different choices of sources and methodologies because of the small weight of this component in eligible R&D expenditures.

• R&D tax allowances are deducted from taxable income, while R&D tax credits are applied against the corporate income tax payable; tax incentives redeemable against payroll withholding taxes or social security contributions reduce the labour costs to the firm.

• R&D tax benefits are taxable in Australia, Canada, Chile, Thailand, the United Kingdom (Above-the-line tax credit for large enterprises) and the United States. Exemptions of payroll withholding tax and social security contributions (Belgium, France, Netherlands, Hungary, Spain, Sweden and Türkiye) are effectively taxable as they reduce the amount of expenditure deductible from taxable income.

• The model focuses on tax relief from central government and excludes incentives related to personal income, value added, property taxes, as well as taxes on wealth and capital and other forms of direct government support (grants and subsidies). Some countries remove in part or in full R&D expenditures funded through grants. These differences have not been modelled in the calculations.

• The B-index for the profit scenario assumes that the “representative firm” generates a sufficiently large profit to achieve the incentive’s full potential benefit. An adjusted B-index is reported for a loss-making firm that is unable to claim tax benefits in the reporting period, using an adjusted effective tax rate that takes into account refundability and carry-forward provisions.

• Refunds are generally modelled as immediate and full payment of tax incentive claims unless excess claims are payable over time and require discounting. Carry-forwards are modelled as discounted options to claim the incentive in the future, assuming a constant annual probability of returning to profit of 50% and a nominal discount rate of 10%.

• For simplicity, loss-making firms are assumed to enjoy an infinite carry-forward of standard deductions of current R&D expenditures and depreciation expenses arising from the use of machinery, equipment and buildings in R&D, unless expenditures are refundable.

• The definitions of SMEs and large firms vary across countries and may also vary over time. In some countries, (e.g. Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United States), special tax incentive provisions are available for young innovative firms, start-ups and innovative SMEs, as a subgroup of the SME population. R&D tax subsidy rates are presented for large firms and SMEs. SME subgroup-specific B-indices are not included in the OECD R&D tax incentive database.

• Time-series B-index estimates are presented for Argentina (2018-22), Croatia (2000-02 and 2015-2022), Greece (2004-22), and Türkiye (2008-22) for some years only as insufficient detailed were available in order to carry out calculations for representative firms in the relevant categories.
throughout the 2000-22 period. For Thailand, estimates are available for 2000-2020, as the retroactive extension of the R&D tax allowance in 2022 is still pending government approval.

### Country-specific notes

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<td>Brazil</td>
<td><strong>R&amp;D tax incentives:</strong>&lt;br&gt;- 2006-2022: R&amp;D tax allowance. The R&amp;D tax allowance is modelled to apply only in the case of large companies. R&amp;D tax relief beneficiaries in Brazil must be included in the real profit regime (lucro real) to determine corporate and social security taxes. In the Brazilian economy, primarily large companies are</td>
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<td>Country</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
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<td><strong>2000-2022</strong>: Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&amp;ED) tax credit established by the federal government in Canada in 1986. For SMEs, estimates describe the position of Canadian-controlled private corporations (CCPCs) which are eligible for an enhanced, fully refundable tax credit rate of 35% up to an expenditure ceiling of CAD 3 million. <strong>2000-2013</strong>: Accelerated depreciation for R&amp;D capital assets</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>Colombia</td>
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</table>

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- The R&D tax allowance rate may increase from 60% up to 100% depending on the R&D staff growth and patent/cultivar registration: 70% for an increase of up to 5% in R&D staff; 80% for an increase of more than 5% in R&D staff; extra 20% deduction for qualifying costs incurred in developing a patent or cultivar (allowed when patent/cultivar is registered).
- It is assumed that the expenditure ceiling of CAD 3 million (CAD 2 million prior to 2008) is not binding.
- Provincial R&D tax incentives have not been modelled.
- Ceilings and floors are assumed to be non-binding.
- Ceiling on subcontracted R&D assumed to be non-binding.
the tax liability reduction (2016-22) are assumed not to be binding.

### Croatia

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2019-2022: R&D tax allowance (Ordinance on State Aid for Research and Development Projects (NN 9/2019), effective from 2 February 2019) available at a rate of 100% for basic research, 50% for industrial research, 25% for experimental development and 50% for feasibility studies. An enhanced rate of 37% is modelled, applying a common 6:30:64 distribution of business R&D expenditure (BERD) by orientation of R&D performance (basic research, applied research and experimental development) based on an average estimate for OECD countries for 2008-15 ([www.oecd.org/sti/rds](http://www.oecd.org/sti/rds)).

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.
- R&D Tax allowance (2003-06).

### Czech Republic

**R&D tax incentives:**

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- Expansion of qualifying expenses to include external services related to R&D provided by public R&D institutions (such as universities and research institutes), effective January 2014.

### Cyprus

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2022: Enhanced tax deduction for R&D expenses

### Denmark

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2018-2022: R&D tax allowance

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.

### Estonia

No R&D tax incentives during 2000-2022 period

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4 Footnote by Türkiye: The information in this document with reference to « Cyprus » relates to the southern part of the Island. There is no single authority representing both Turkish and Greek Cypriot people on the Island. Türkiye recognizes the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). Until a lasting and equitable solution is found within the context of United Nations, Türkiye shall preserve its position concerning the "Cyprus issue". Footnote by all the European Union Member States of the OECD and the European Union: The Republic of Cyprus is recognized by all members of the United Nations with the exception of Türkiye. The information in this document relates to the area under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.
### Finland

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2021-2022: R&D tax allowance for R&D-related research cooperation expenditures (2021-2027)

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.

### France

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2000-2022: Crédit d'Impôt Recherche (CIR). A tax credit rate of 30% applies to eligible R&D expenditures up to EUR 100 million (5% above this threshold). This threshold is assumed to be non-binding in the case of both SMEs and large companies.
- 2000-2022: Accelerated depreciation for R&D capital assets

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- Since 2006: The wages of researchers with a Ph.D. or equivalent degree and unlimited employment contract (young doctors) count twice for R&D tax credit purposes during the first 12 months following their first recruitment.
- Since 2008: Expenses incurred in work contracted to public-sector research bodies count double for research tax credit purposes.
- 2008-2012: The 30% rate is increased to 50% (first year) and 40% (second year) for firms claiming tax credit for the first time (reduced to 40% and 35% in 2011).
- SSC exemption for young innovative enterprises (JEIs) or young university enterprises (JEUs), available since 2004 and 2008 respectively.
- Ceilings on subcontracted R&D and R&D expenditure threshold for enhanced credit rate are assumed to be non-binding (CIR).
- 2022 : Crédit d’Impôt collaborations de recherche

### Germany

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2020-2022: Tax credit for R&D labour expenditures (“Forschungszulage”)  

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.

### Greece

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2004-2012: R&D tax allowance (incremental)
- 2013-2022: R&D tax allowance (volume-based)

### Hungary

**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2000-2022: R&D tax allowance
- 2013-2022: SSC exemption; weighted to account for share of R&D expenditure attributable to researchers vs. PhD students

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
• Collaboration agreements with higher education institutions, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences or research institutions established by them (300% R&D tax allowance rate).
• Development tax incentive for acquisitions of intangible assets, machinery and equipment and buildings used for R&D purposes.
• R&D tax credit in innovation contribution, 2004-11
• R&D tax allowance in innovation contribution, 2010-15
• R&D tax credit on wages of researchers (10%), 2005-14
• R&D tax credit on SSCs of R&D staff in enterprises recognized as a research facility (50%, mutually exclusive with SSC exemption), Exemption and R&D tax credit in Small Business Tax (KIVA) introduced in 2019
• Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding (SSC exemption).

Iceland  
**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2011-2022: R&D tax credit

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- Floor and ceilings on intramural and extramural (purchased or collaborative R&D) R&D expenditures are assumed to be non-binding.

Israel  
- No R&D tax incentives during 2000-2022 period

Ireland  
**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2004-2022: R&D tax credit (2004-14: incremental; 2015-19: volume-based); the incremental tax credit available in 2004-14 is modelled as a volume-based tax credit provided at a rate of as 25% (20% in 2004-2008), where by weights are applied that reflect the share of eligible R&D spending above the 2003 base year expenditure for SMEs and large firms in each year. These weights, based on Revenue Commissioner data, account for the amount of allowed R&D expenditure without reference to the base year criterion in 2012 (EUR 100k), 2013 (EUR 200k) and 2014 (EUR 300k). The first EUR spend on R&D qualified for the credit on a full volume basis up to these limits in 2012-14. A refund in three annual instalments is modelled.
- 2000-2019: Accelerated depreciation for R&D capital assets (incompatible in its use with the R&D tax credit from 2020 onwards)

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- An infinite carry-forward and a one-year carry back provision are not modelled.
- The ceiling on the amount of subcontracted R&D as a percentage of total qualifying R&D expenses is assumed to be non-binding.

Italy  
**R&D tax incentives:**
- 2015-2019: R&D tax credit (incremental). Base amount defined as average
R&D investment cost in the 2012 - 2014 period (modelled as three year average as an approximation).

- Since 2020: R&D tax credit (volume-based). Since 2020, R&D tax benefits are payable in three yearly instalments in both the profit and loss case.

Provisions/features not modelled:

- 2000-2014: R&D tax credits (fixed amount on qualified researchers, 60% R&D collaboration, abolished 2014), L.449/1997, and regional incentives
- 2007-2009: R&D tax credit (volume-based): an enhanced tax credit rate of 40% for R&D collaborations with universities or public research organisations
- 2011: An incremental R&D tax credit of 90% is established on an experimental basis for the tax years 2011-12 for R&D collaborations with universities or public research organisations. This rate is applicable to incremental R&D expenditures in excess of the average R&D investment over the 2008-2011 period
- 2012-2014: Volume-based tax credit of 35% for R&D wages (up to EUR 200k per year and enterprise). Firms are eligible if permanently hiring (i) PhD holders from an Italian or recognized foreign university and (ii) Master degree holders (technical or scientific subject) employed in R&D
- 2015-2016: R&D tax credit (incremental): an enhanced rate of 50% applies for (i) R&D collaborations with universities and public research institutions, (ii) innovative start-ups and (iii) research wages for highly qualified staff (with a Master or doctoral degree).
- 2019: R&D tax credit (incremental): an enhanced rate of 50% applies for (i) expenses incurred with respect to R&D contracts signed with universities, and research organizations as well as with independent innovative start-ups and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
- 2020-2021: Enhanced R&D tax credit rates for firms in the Southern region of Italy
- 2021-2022: Tax allowance for R&D expenses related to eligible intangible assets
- Ceilings and floors are assumed to be non-binding.

Japan | R&D tax incentives:
---|---
- 2000-2003: R&D tax credit- volume-based for SMEs at a rate of 10% and incremental for large and SMEs at a rate of 15%.
- 2003-2005: R&D tax credit (volume-based); for large firms, a volume-based credit rate of 10% is assumed (the rate varies between 10-12%), and for small firms, a 12% volume-based tax credit rate is adopted. R&D tax credit (incremental) still applies at a rate of 15%.
- 2006-2016: R&D tax credit (hybrid); for large firms, a volume-based credit rate of 10% is assumed (the rate varies between 8-10%), and for small firms, a 12% volume-based tax credit rate is adopted. The incremental tax credit rate that applies is reduced to 5% during the period.
- **2015-2016**: An enhanced tax credit rate of 5% is adopted conservatively for the incremental credit as a lower bound in the absence of information on the rate of R&D growth (increment) which determines the size of the incremental tax credit rate (capped at 30%).
- **2017-2021**: Until March 31, 2021, the volume-rate of relief can range from 12-17% for SMEs and from 6-14% for large firms. The rate of 14% and 17% was used for modelling large firms and SMEs respectively.
- **2022**: Until March 31, 2023, the volume-rate of relief can range from 12-17% for SMEs and from 2-14% for large firms. The rate of 14% and 17% was used for modelling large firms and SMEs respectively.

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- **2003-2014**: Special rates provisioned for collaborative R&D are not modelled.
- **2008-2022**: the more complex "high R&D intensity" tax credit (alternative to the incremental R&D tax credit until 2016)
- **2015-2022**: volume-based tax credit ("Open innovation activity-based R&D tax credit") for cooperative or subcontracted R&D with national R&D institutes and universities (30%), SMEs (20%, applicable since 2019), R&D venture corporations (25%) or other non-public corporations (20%
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.

**Korea**

**R&D tax incentives:**
- **2000-2022**: Hybrid tax credit for research and human resource development
  - for SMEs, the volume-based component is modelled.
  - for large companies, the incremental component is modelled from 2000-17 and volume-based component from 2018 to 2022.
- **2000-2022**: Tax credit for investment in research and test facilities, training facilities and facilities for commercializing new technology

**Provisions/features not modelled:**
- **2015-2022**: Positions of firms losing SME status (reduced volume-based rate of 15% for current R&D expenditure in the first three taxable years following loss of SME status and 10% in the subsequent two tax years)
- **2013-2022**: Positions of the so-called "high potential enterprises" (enhanced volume-based tax credit rate compared to large enterprises)
- **2010-2022**: the Growth Industry and Basic Technology tax credit (enhanced volume-based rate of 20% - 30% for large firms and HPE and 30% - 40% for SMEs - for R&D aimed at New Growth and Basic technologies - 235 technologies in 12 areas, incl. future cars, next generation electronic information devices, energy and environment)
- **2022**: the National Strategy Technology tax credit scheme (enhanced volume-based rate of 30% - 40% for large firms and HPE and 40% - 50% for SMEs - for R&D aimed at National Strategy Technologies.
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>2009-2003/2006-2022: R&amp;D tax credit (hybrid); operating expenditures qualify up to a level of 55% of R&amp;D wage expenditure (50% of the share of other current costs is assumed to qualify).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>2007-2022: Enhanced volume-based tax credit rates for start-ups (firms which have not yet completed two exercises and are not benefitting from the incremental rate set)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>2010-2022: R&amp;D tax allowance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
<td>2009-2022: R&amp;D tax allowance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovak Republic</td>
<td>2015-2022: R&amp;D tax allowance (hybrid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>R&amp;D Tax Incentives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provisions/features not modelled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>R&amp;D tax incentives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provisions/features not modelled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>No R&amp;D tax incentives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>R&amp;D tax incentives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provisions/features not modelled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United</td>
<td>R&amp;D tax incentives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OECD Better Policies for Better Lives

MEASURING R&D TAX INCENTIVES

http://oe.cd/rdtax
Kingdom

- 2013-2022: Research and Development Expenditure Credit (RDEC) for large enterprises (initially optional and fully replacing the large company tax allowance scheme in April 2016)

Provisions/features not modelled:
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.

United States

R&D tax incentives:

- 2000-2022: Regular research credit (RRC)
- 2006-2022: Alternative simplified credit (ASC)

A weighted average of the RRC, AIRC and ASC B-indices is calculated, using IRS SOI data on the credits’ respective shares in total qualified R&D expenditures each year as weights (2001 weights apply in 2000-01 and 2013 weights apply in 2013-20 as the most recent weight available). The calculation accounts for RRC claims subject to the excess base (20% marginal tax credit rate) and 50% current R&D expenditure limitation (10% marginal tax credit rate). Estimates model 20-year carry-forward provisions and a refund option for SMEs from 2016 onwards.

The modelling accounts for the capitalization of R&D resulting from the 2017 US tax reform (2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act). From 2022 onwards, R&D expenses are no longer expensed but capitalized and deducted over a five-year period. Legislation delaying the implementation of amortization has not been enacted yet.

Provisions/features not modelled:

- 2000-2022: Credit for basic research conducted in universities and certain non-profit research organisations
- 2005-2022: Credit for energy research
- A one-year carry back provision is not modelled.
- The bonus depreciation (partial to full expensing) available for machinery and equipment (2002-2004, 2008-2020) is not modelled. The B-Index estimate in 2020 remains effectively unchanged when this provision is modelled due to relatively small weight attached to M&E in the estimation.
- Ceilings are assumed to be non-binding.