# RESEARCH FUNDING

# **EPSRC** funding over time

In the four years to 2018/19, annual EPSRC total funding increased at a 6% real-terms CAGR. During this time, annual mathematical sciences funding increased at a 2% realterms CAGR, in line with the UKRI average.<sup>1</sup>

After the Covid pandemic, annual EPSRC total funding was cut significantly, with a sharp drop from £769m in 2018/19 to £642m in 2020/21. The cut in mathematical sciences funding was from £39m to £31m.

### In 2020, the new Government announced an additional £300m in EPSRC mathematical sciences funding, to be deployed over five years.

The chart below shows a spike in annual EPSRC mathematical sciences funding from £31m in 2020/21 to £43m in 2021/22.

However, the Government later reneged on its commitment, having allocated only £126m of the £300m.

# Trends in annual real-terms EPSRC funding (£m)



# Current EPSRC mathematical sciences funding commitments, by research area

5% of EPSRC's current £4.9bn portfolio is for mathematical sciences. Within this, the highest funded research areas are statistics and applied probability (13%), geometry and topology (10%) and mathematical analysis (10%).<sup>2</sup>

383
264
304.
318.9
317.0
264.0
204.4
192.0
179.4
166.1
153.4
91.2
70.0
57.7
44.1
41.1
12.3
12.0
2.4

24.7	
<b>23.3</b>	
16.1	
12.3	
12.2	
11.0	
10.2	
7.6	
7.2	
7.1	
7.1	
0.1	
7	71.

#### Funding commitments (£m)

EDI and people <sup>3</sup>
UKRI⁴
Physical sciences
Energy and decarbonisation
Information and communication technologies
Manufacturing and the circular economy
Engineering
Healthcare technologies
Mathematical sciences
Business engagement
Research infrastructure
Quantum technologies
Institutes
Impact
Non-theme specific
Digital economy
Regional engagement
International
Digital security and resilience
Global uncertainties
Living with environmental change

Statistics and applied probability

Mathematical analysis

Geometry and topology

Logic and combinatorics

Numerical analysis

Mathematical physics

Mathematical biology

Continuum mechanics

**Operational research** 

Non-linear systems

Mathematical aspects of operational research

Number theory

Other<sup>®</sup>

Algebra

Ivianuiaciu





## Funding commitments (£m)



# Current EPSRC mathematical sciences funding commitments, by institution



Note: '40+' bar accounts for 20 universities with either a REF ranking below 39 or no REF ranking in 2021.

## **Current EPSRC mathematical** sciences funding by geography

EPSRC funding for mathematical sciences is nationwide, but is concentrated in London, the East of England, the South West and Scotland.<sup>6</sup>





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EPRSC mathematical sciences funding is highly correlated with REF rankings in the subject. Over 50% of current funding goes to five HEIs (REF rank #1, #2, #3, #4, #6). The remaining funding is split between a further 34 HEIs.