

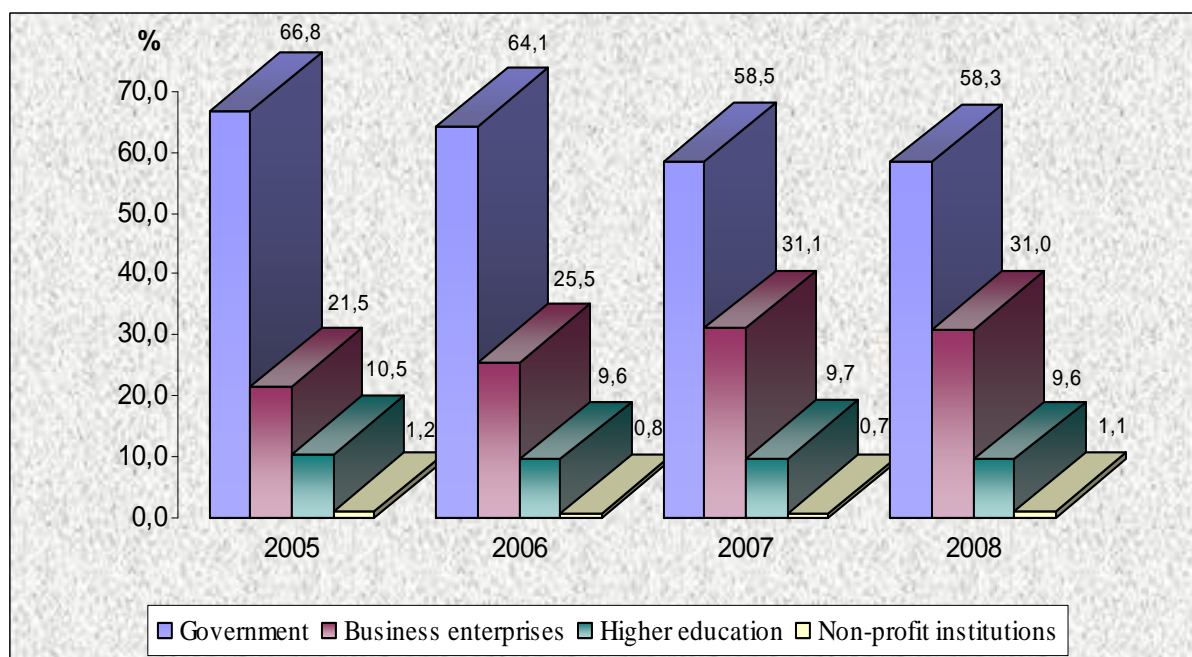
Research and development activity, 2008 ¹

Preliminary data

In 2008 the total amount of the expenditure on research and development activity (R&D) is 325.9 million BGN which increases by 19.3% in comparison with the previous year and the annual growth tendency retains for the period of 2001 - 2008.

In 2008 the share of government sector is the largest (58.3%). The government sector's research institutes and organizations have been set up the major part of the total R&D expenditure - 190.0 million BGN. The investments in scientific and technological development in business enterprise sector are 101.1 million BGN which form about one third (31.0%) of the total R&D expenditure in 2008. The disbursements on science in tertiary schools and university hospitals (31.3 million BGN) amount to 9.6% and respectively the non-profit organizations (3.4 million BGN) amount to 1.1% of total R&D expenditure.

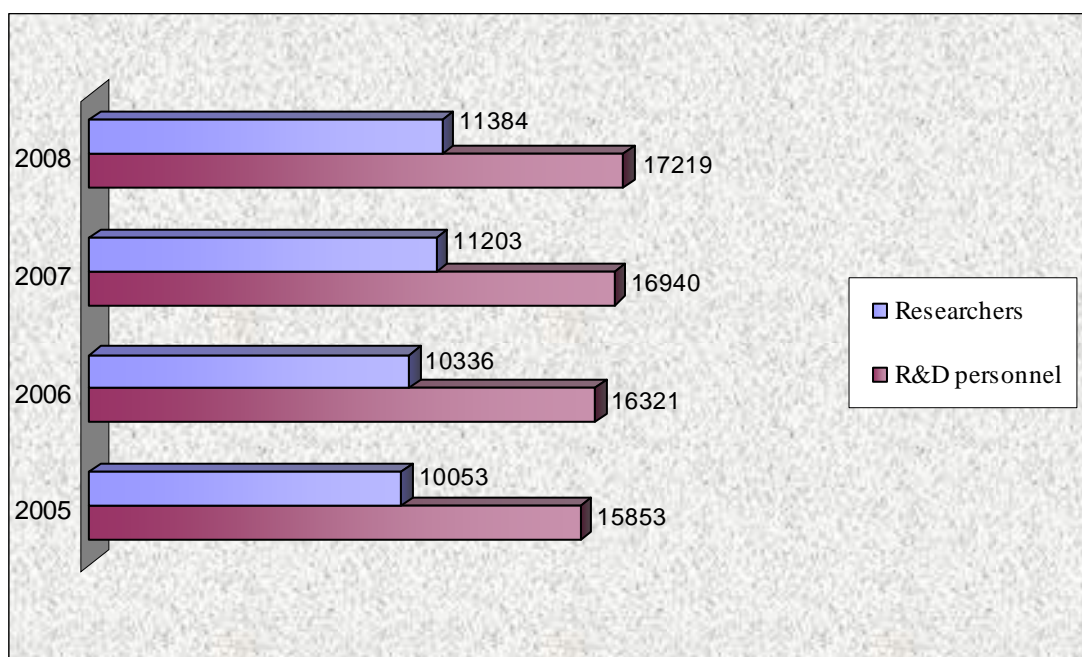
Structure of R&D expenditure by institutional sectors



In 2008 the personnel employed with research and development activity are 17 219 persons (in full-time equivalent) which is 1.6% higher than the previous year and over 8.6% of the attained level of this indicator in 2005.

In 2008 the researchers which are the most numerous and highly qualified category of scientific staff, count 11 384 persons in full-time equivalent or 66.1% of total R&D personnel.

R&D personnel and researchers (in full-time equivalent)



¹ Research and development activity (R&D) comprises any creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the volume of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this knowledge to devise new applications. R&D activity covers basic research, applied research and experimental development.

The indicator “R&D expenditure” is defined as all expenditures for R&D performed within a statistical unit, whatever the source of funds. The R&D expenditure comprises current costs and capital expenditure on R&D.

The indicator “R&D personnel” measures the human resources going directly into R&D activity, responsible for creation, application and dissemination of new knowledge. R&D personnel include all persons employed directly in R&D, as well as those providing direct services (R&D managers, administrators and clerical staff). R&D personnel comprise three categories - researchers, technicians and other personnel. Personnel in full-time equivalent (FTE) are calculated on the basis of working time spent on R&D activity during the reference year.

R&D expenditure and R&D personnel are distributed in four institutional sectors: business enterprise sector, government sector, higher education sector and private non-profit sector.