

Long Gone Lake Wobegon?: The State of Investments in University of Minnesota Research

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Getting a handle on the changing amount and structure of R&D expenditures by the University of Minnesota is a crucial and informative first step in any cost-benefit assessment of the University's impact and is the primary focus of this report. Following the executive summary, the second in this series of four briefs places academic research done at the University of Minnesota in the context of the other activities of the University and identifies shifts in the sources of support and the composition of the research. Companion briefs put changes in academic research spending in Minnesota and at the University of Minnesota in a state-by-state and comparative institutional setting.

The evidence reveals a significant structural slowdown in the growth of spending in academic R&D in Minnesota, beginning in the early 1990s. Moreover, the amount and intensity of spending on academic R&D in the State of Minnesota is no longer "above average," and the University of Minnesota has lost considerable ground on a range of research spending metrics and is now lagging behind many of its peer groups of universities in other states.

Additional information on the impact of the University of Minnesota can be obtained from the recently released *Alumni Survey* available at <http://www1.umn.edu/urelate/survey/>.