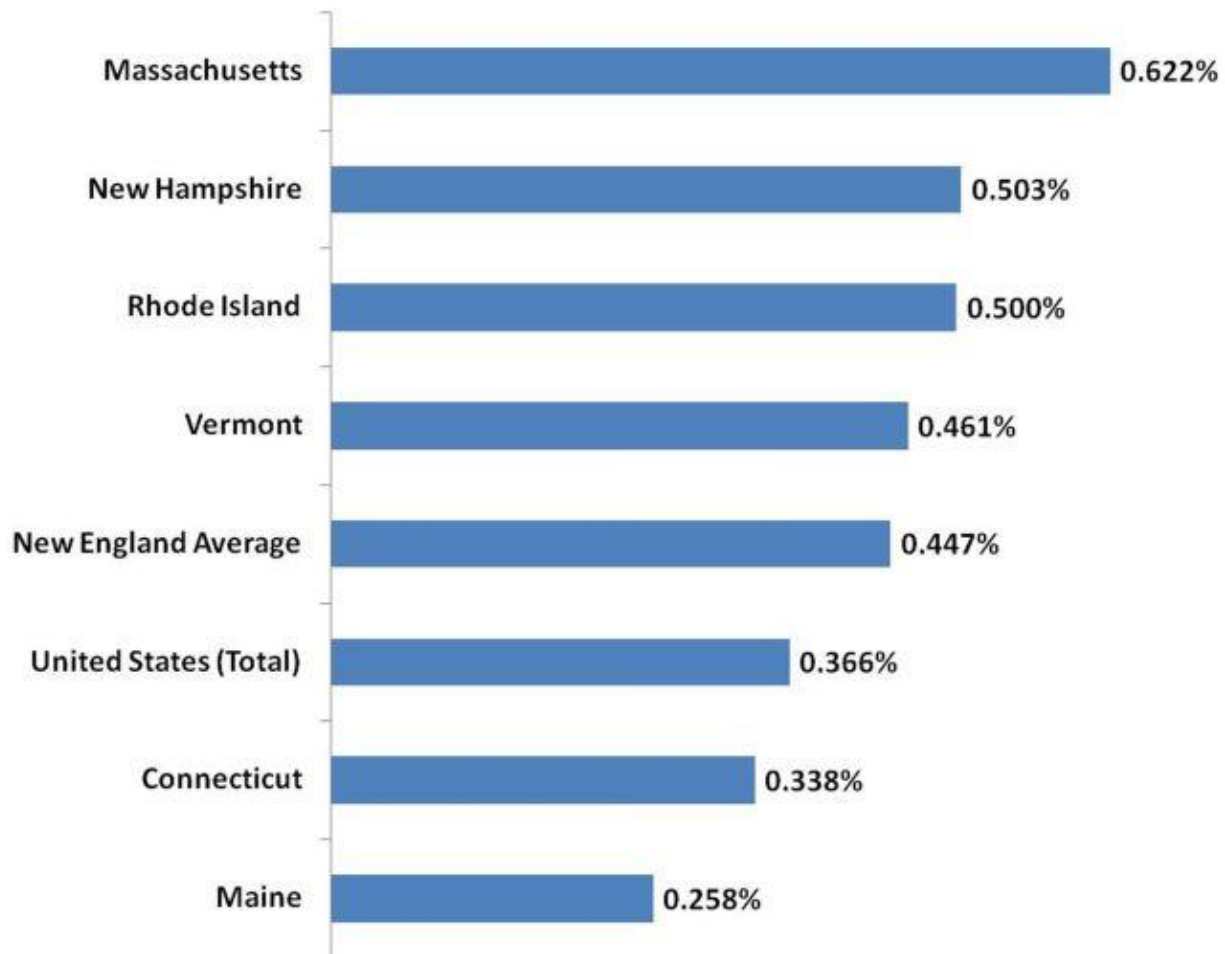


Featured Indicator No. 7

December 2009

Featured Indicator: Academic R&D as a percent of GSP by State - 2008



Looking at how much was spent on Research & Development at Universities and Colleges as a percent of Gross State Product, Maine ranked below all other New England states at 0.258% and also below the average of the U.S. States as a whole and the total average for all New England States. Half of the New England States (Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island) spent about twice or more on R&D as a percent of GSP compared to Maine.

Why This Is Significant

Universities and colleges are a major source of knowledge and research. In this knowledge-based economy, businesses increasingly seek to develop partnerships with research-oriented universities and colleges to develop and test innovative products and services. A healthy economy also benefits from knowledge workers that begin their advanced learning and research experiences at universities and colleges. This requires investments in R&D at universities and colleges. This indicator reflects the capacity of Maine universities and colleges to conduct R&D and contribute to knowledge-based economic development.

Sources

National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics. 2008. Academic Research and Development Expenditures: Fiscal Year 2007. Detailed Statistical Tables NSF 09-303. Arlington, VA. Available at <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf09303/>

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