



## RESEARCH FACTS FY 2020-2021

Funding research is a cornerstone of the American Heart Association's (AHA) lifesaving mission -- a pillar upon which the AHA was founded and a key to our future. The AHA is the largest not-for-profit funding source for cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease research next to the federal government.

- The AHA has invested \$4.9 billion in research since 1949.
- Current AHA-funded research projects total \$436.1 million and support 1,379 projects.
- In 2020-21, the association funded 598 new projects, totaling \$135.8 million.
- Last year 1,367 dedicated peer review volunteers evaluated 2,560 proposals for funding!
- Types of research and percent of funding over the past five years:



- Funding from the AHA helped launch the careers of many of this country's most prominent cardiovascular and brain scientists, including 14 Nobel prize winners.

### The Need for More is Evident

Each year, investigators from a wide array of disciplines look to the AHA to fund their ideas, but the available dollars simply aren't enough to support them all.

Due to the pandemic, in FY 2020-21, AHA research funding focused on strengthening the pipeline by supporting trainees and early career investigators and strategic topics of critical importance.

For these offerings, the AHA received 1,862 applications, totaling \$396.6 million, that we could not fund. This means scientific projects were shelved, limiting the next generation of investigators and deferring the knowledge that would have resulted from these studies.

For more information AHA research awards, please visit the [AHA Research self-service portal page](#)

General information may be found at <https://www.professional.heart.org/research>