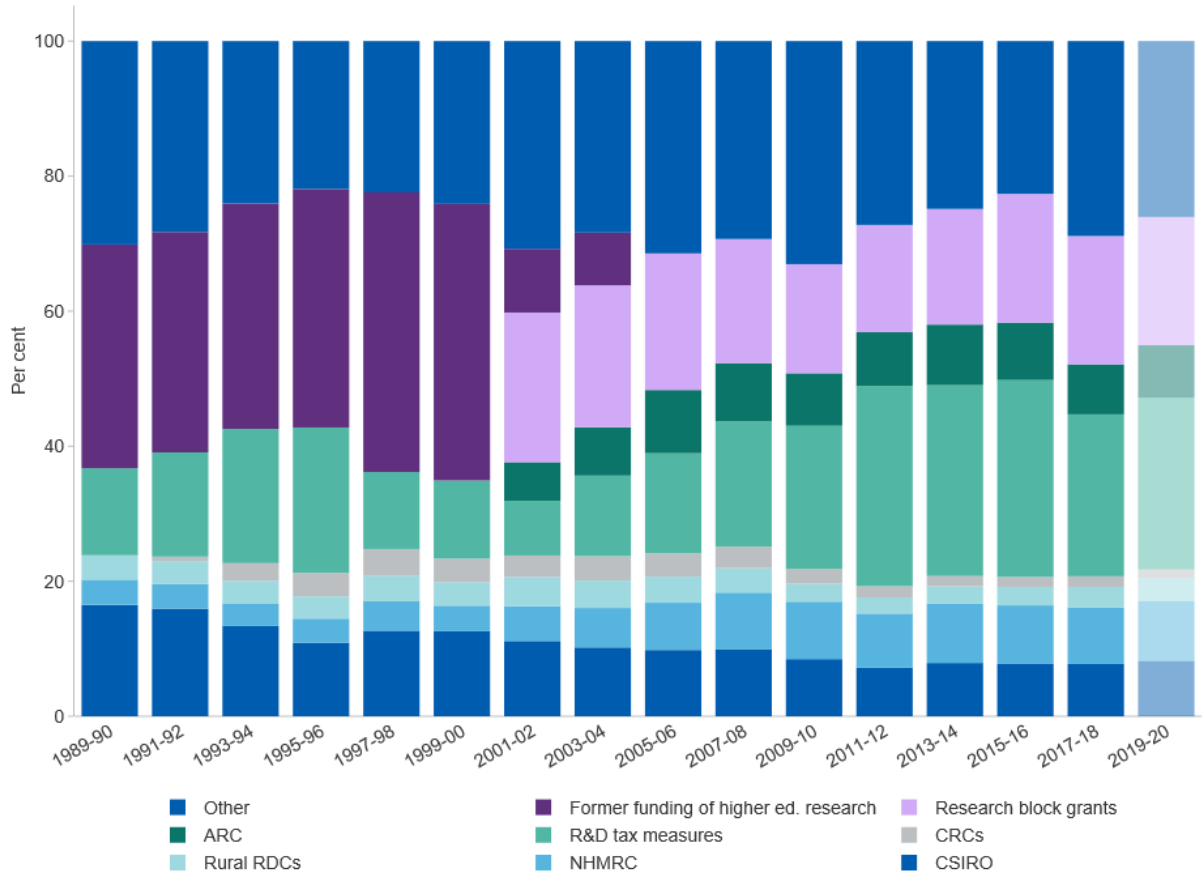


3.2.6 Australian Government investment in R&D by major programs

Seven programs make up roughly three-quarters of total Australian Government investment in R&D. The share of funding for the *Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)* has declined from 28.8 per cent of total 1981–82 to 8.0 per cent in 2020–21. By contrast, following the introduction of industry *R&D tax measures*, the share of this group of programs expanded from 9.7 per cent in 1985–86 to a peak of 29.9 per cent in 2012–13. At present, these measures represent the second largest component of total Australian Government R&D funding and are estimated to account for 21.5 per cent in 2020–21. *Research block grants* make up the largest share at 24.9 per cent in the same year. (Note: The 2019–20 data is a budget estimate and will be revised as actual data becomes available. From 2000–01 the *Former funding of higher ed. research* was replaced by a new funding regime, introducing new key elements such as competitive *Research block grants* and Australian Research Council (*ARC*) funding.)¹

Figure: Australian Government investment in R&D, by major programmes, per cent, latest 2020–21



¹ Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, *Science Research and Innovation (SRI) Budget Tables* (<https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/science-research-and-innovation-sri-budget-tables>)