Worldwide, there has been a concomitant rise in research expenditure, the number of researchers and scientific publications.

Global expenditure on research and development progressed faster (+30.5%) than the global economy (+20.1%) between 2007 and 2013.

A drop in public commitment to research in many high-income countries as a result of austerity measures was compensated for by business research expenditure. In parallel, public commitment to research grew in many lower income countries. The G20’s world share of research expenditure remained stable, at 92%.

The volume of scientific publications worldwide progressed by 23% between 2008 and 2014, slightly faster than the number of full-time equivalent researchers (21%). The G20’s world share of researchers remained stable, at 87%, whereas its world share of publications progressed from 92% to 94%. The G20 accounts for 64% of the global population.