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Solid state detectors have long been used in space-based instrumentation, but the past decade has seen the scale of their usage expand to encompass systems with hundreds of thousands or more of readout channels. Those projects are similar in many ways to the large ground-based systems in high energy physics but are subject to many additional constraints necessitated by space flight. Solid-state detectors are also well established in the focal planes of astronomical telescopes on the ground, as well as in space, and a recent trend in that area has also been toward larger systems, to image rapidly large swatches of the sky. This talk will give an overview of solid state detector usage in recent projects in both areas and will focus on a few examples of how modern technology has been adapted to the needs of these specialized systems.