

## 2012 APPROPRIATIONS FOR KIDS - THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW OF DISCRETIONARY CUTS

	FY 2011	FY 2012	Difference	Nominal % Change	Real % Change
Education	\$39,623,447	\$39,444,078	-\$179,369	-0.45%	2.21%
Housing	\$11,432,474	\$11,027,413	-\$405,062	-3.54%	5.25%
Early Childhood	\$10,610,162	\$11,078,382	\$468,220	4.41%	2.57%
Nutrition	\$6,995,157	\$6,875,849	-\$119,308	-1.71%	3.44%
Health	\$3,769,100	\$3,780,781	\$11,681	0.31%	1.46%
Training	\$1,794,669	\$1,791,277	-\$3,392	-0.19%	1.95%
Child Welfare	\$837,844	\$839,030	\$1,186	0.14%	1.63%
Safety	\$431,294	\$317,181	-\$114,113	-26.46%	27.76%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$75,494,147</b>	<b>\$75,153,991</b>	<b>-\$340,156</b>	<b>-0.45%</b>	<b>2.21%</b>

*\*In Thousands. Totals reflect First Focus calculations on the share of spending in each program that goes to kids.*

With passage of final appropriations bills, FY 2012 will be for the first time, the second year in a row that discretionary funding for kids has been cut. **In total, when adjusted for inflation, discretionary funding for kids will decline by more than 2.2%. This amounts to a loss of nearly \$1.7 billion since FY 2010.** At a time when almost 1 in every 4 children live in poverty, funding for kids should be on the rise.

Though many areas for kids saw a decline or, at best, level funding, Early Childhood was a particular bright spot, with a real increase of more than 2.5% from 2011. Children's Safety comprised of mostly Juvenile Justice programs fared worst, with a real decrease of nearly 28% from 2011. Here are how some of the most important discretionary accounts for kids fared:

INITIATIVE	NOMINAL CHANGE(\$)	REAL CHANGE(%)
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
-High School Graduation Initiative	-\$100 Thousand	2% decrease
-Education for Homeless Children & Youth	-\$120 Thousand	2% decrease
-Striving Readers	\$159 Million	Not funded in 2011
-Promise Neighborhoods	\$30 Million	96% increase
-Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies	\$33 Million	1.6% decrease
<b>HOUSING</b>		
-Public Housing Operating Fund	-\$655 Million	16% decrease

INITIATIVE	NOMINAL CHANGE(\$)	REAL CHANGE(%)
-Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	-\$1.2 Billion	27% decrease
-Rental Assistance Program	-\$49 Million	6.8% decrease
-Tenant Based Rental Assistance	\$543 Million	1.1% increase
-Project Based Rental Assistance	\$83 Million	0.9% decrease
<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD</b>		
-Head Start	\$409 Million	3.6% increase
-Child Care & Development Block Grant	\$56 Million	0.7% increase
<b>NUTRITION</b>		
-Women, Infants, & Children Program	-\$116 Million	3.5% decrease
<b>HEALTH</b>		
-Coordinated School Health Programs	-\$24 Million	45% decrease
-Maternal & Child Health Block Grant	-\$11 Million	3.4% decrease
-Community Health Centers	\$97 Million	4.7% increase
<b>TRAINING</b>		
-Workforce Investment Act Youth Training Programs	-\$1.6 Million	2% decrease
<b>CHILD WELFARE</b>		
-Promoting Safe & Stable Families	-\$120 Thousand	2% decrease
-Child Welfare Services	-\$531 Thousand	2% decrease
-Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment Act (CAPTA) Programs	-\$180 Thousand	2% decrease
<b>SAFETY</b>		
-Title II State Formula Grants	-\$22 Million	37% decrease
-Title V Delinquency Prevention	-\$34 Million	64% decrease
-Juvenile Accountability Block Grant	-\$16 Million	36% decrease
-Poison Control	-\$3 Million	15% decrease

While discretionary funding is significant, more than 70% of the federal money that goes to children comes in mandatory spending. Although proposals were made to limit mandatory funding, levels will remain stable for the current fiscal year.

Though children make up a quarter of our population and are some of our most vulnerable, funding for children represents a small piece of the federal government. In Fiscal Year 2011, **spending on children fell to 8.4% of total federal spending**, including funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). **This is down from a high of 9.2% in 2010.**

With the drop in ARRA funding and states across the nation fiscally strained, a second year in a row of discretionary cuts are not what kids need. As child poverty rises, this final agreement moves in the wrong direction for kids.

*First Focus is a bipartisan children's advocacy organization that is committed to making children and families a priority in federal policy and budget decisions. For more information, contact Jared Solomon, Senior Director of Budget Policy. JaredS@firstfocus.net; 202.657.0679*