

The Kid Angle

Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children

Budget negotiations endanger children's health, education, well-being

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White House joins release of report on decline in share of spending on kids

White House advisor Dr. C. Kirabo Jackson, a member of President Biden's Council of Economic Advisers, joins First Focus on Children at tomorrow's release of [Children's Budget 2023, which tracks the systemic disinvestment in children that threatens their future and the economic, social, and political health of the country](#).

[Children's Budget 2023](#), scheduled for release on Capitol Hill Friday, September 22, finds that the share of federal spending on children has slipped to pre-pandemic levels, deepening cracks in the child care system, holes in health care, faltering public schools, and the ongoing — and growing — tragedy of child poverty.

To attend Children's Budget Summit 2023, with live keynote speaker Dr. C. Kirabo Jackson, [please register at this link](#).

To live-stream the event, [please watch at this link](#) (Friday, 9/22, 10amET).

U.S. spending on children, both here and abroad, accounts for just 9.89% of the FY 2023 federal budget, according to [Children's Budget 2023](#), a decrease of nearly 16% in real spending from the previous year, and more than 2 percentage points off its pandemic-era levels. The number also falls well shy of the record 11.97% children's share reached at the height of the U.S. public health and economic emergency in FY 2021.

Internationally, the United States historically has spent just a sliver of its budget on children and that trend continues in Children's Budget 2023. Children and young people internationally receive a minimal share of foreign assistance funding: **Only about 9 cents of every \$1 of FY 2023 foreign assistance investments benefit children.**

[Highlights of the embargoed report include:](#)

- **Early Childhood:** The share of federal spending on early childhood programs declined more than 16% between FY 2018 and FY 2023 and makes up just 0.4% of the federal budget in FY 2023.
- **Health Care:** The share of federal spending on children's health care declined nearly 10% in FY 2023 compared to FY 2018, including a nearly 16% decrease in real funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which covers roughly 9 million children.
- **Education:** At first glance, the nearly 68% uptick in the share of federal spending on Education between FY 2018 and FY 2023 seems like a bright spot. But closer examination reveals that the

increase can be mostly attributed to COVID-19 emergency funding that is in the process of winding down. In FY 2023, Education funding accounts for just 1.65% of the federal budget. Real spending declined 3% from FY 2022.

- **Income Support:** Income support for children declined more than 19% as a share of federal spending in FY 2023 compared to FY 2018, primarily as a result of the expiration of the expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC) in January 2022.
- **Housing:** The share of federal spending on housing for children and families decreased by nearly 11% from FY 2018 to FY 2023. And despite skyrocketing rents, housing assistance for families makes up just 0.3% of the federal budget in FY 2023.

Please find an [advance copy of Children's Budget 2023 at this link](#). Please note that the report is embargoed until Friday, Sept. 22, 7amET.

To join our *Children's Budget Summit 2023*, with live keynote speaker *Dr. C. Kirabo Jackson*, [please register at this link](#).



CHILDREN'S 20 BUDGET 23

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