

2025

CHILDREN'S BUDGET





About First Focus on Children

First Focus on Children is a bipartisan advocacy organization dedicated to making children and families a priority in federal policy and budget decisions. We engage a broad coalition of advocates, partners, and members of Congress to increase investments in our nation's children and ensure that federal spending reflects the fact that every issue is a kids' issue. Our goal is to ensure policymakers put all of our nation's children first — regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender and sexual orientation — so they can thrive now and in the years to come.

For more information about First Focus on Children, or to make a donation, please visit firstfocus.org or call 202.657.0670.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

01. Message from the President of First Focus on Children

06. Notes on *Children's Budget 2025*

10. Overall Spending

18. Domestic Programs

18. Early Childhood

28. Education

54. Health

86. Housing

98. Income Support

110. Justice and Child Protection

130. Nutrition

144. Youth Training

154. International Programs

174. Index of Programs



Message from the President of First Focus on Children

Budgets are moral documents. They reveal what our government funds and reflect what we value. Unfortunately, *Children's Budget 2025* tells a story of invisibility and abandonment.

Bruce Lesley

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, the federal government's investment in children declined for the fourth consecutive year, both in real terms and as a share of the federal budget. Today, children receive just **8.57%** of all federal outlays.

Even worse, if the President's FY 2026 budget is enacted, that share will fall to just **8.28%**, which is well below the 11.98% that was invested in children back in FY 2021.

To provide some perspective, children represent about 22% of the nation's population and are completely reliant on adults to provide for their well-being. And yet, **for every \$1 the federal government spends, only about 8 cents** will go toward meeting the needs of children in health, education, safety, and overall well-being.

We are shortchanging the next generation, and the damage is not abstract.

Programs that anchored our success in reducing child poverty in 2021 — such as the expanded Child Tax Credit, Medicaid, child nutrition, and early care and education investments — have been allowed to expire. Federal dollars to public schools have been impounded or frozen at nominal levels, while inflation eats away at their real value. Vital discretionary programs for children have been level-funded, effectively a funding cut.

Internationally, the President's FY 2026 budget proposes to gut support for vulnerable children abroad, slashing U.S. foreign assistance for children by an astonishing and tragic two-thirds, which reduces the children's share of international spending to just 0.03% — a mere 0.3 cents per \$1.

But what makes this moment even more painful is the knowledge that we've already proven that investing in children works. In 2021, with robust investments in children and families — including a fully refundable Child Tax Credit, child care assistance, nutrition expansion, and direct cash support — child poverty fell to just 5.2%, the lowest level ever recorded in U.S. history.¹



Child poverty negatively impacts just about every aspect of the lives of children. Consequently, the American people overwhelmingly support policies that cut poverty and improve the lives of children.²

Unfortunately, Congress allowed those investments to expire, and, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, child poverty has since increased to 13.4% in 2024 — an astounding 158% increase since 2021.³

Why Money Matters

Research confirms what we saw in real time: investing in children delivers immense returns — not just morally, but economically. The idea that spending on children is “too expensive” is as false as it is dangerous.

In a landmark study on what the economists Nathaniel Hendren and Ben Sprung-Keyser referred to as the “Marginal Value of Public Funds,” the authors analyzed over 130 policy changes across five decades.⁴ They found that targeted investments in children, particularly to low-income children through early childhood, health, and education programs, offer the **highest returns of any government expenditure**. Some programs provide **as much as \$10 in societal benefits for every \$1 spent**, including higher lifetime earnings, better health outcomes, and reduced public costs in health care and criminal justice.

Research by H. Luke Shaefer, Hilary Hoynes, Diane Schanzenbach, Anna Aizer, Adriana Lleras-Muney, Douglas Almond, Irwin Garfinkel, Laurel Sariscany, Elizabeth Ananat, Sophie Collyer, Christopher Wimer, and others shows similar results in terms of investing in children. These authors have all found that investments in children have strong returns on investment and improved outcomes for children across a variety of programs and systems.⁵

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) reinforce this case. Their 2019 report, *A Roadmap to Reducing Child Poverty*, estimates that child poverty costs the U.S. **up to \$1.1 trillion per year** in lost productivity, higher crime, and lower educational and health outcomes. Yet existing policies like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Child Tax Credit, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) can cut child poverty by more than half, especially when fully funded and accessible.⁶

The research and economics are crystal clear: **money matters big time**.

And not just for children in poverty, but for all children and the nation’s economic and social well-being.

The American People Understand This

What is perhaps most frustrating is that Washington's retreat from children flies in the face of public opinion. Americans overwhelmingly support investing in kids.

Polling consistently finds that more than a 6-to-1 majority of voters believes the federal government spends too little on children's health, safety, and well-being.⁷

In April 2025, voters expressed overwhelming support for expanding and improving the Child Tax Credit. By an **83-11% margin**, they said they would support making the credit fully refundable with the goal of dramatically cutting child poverty. By a nearly 7-to-1 margin, voters said they would be even more supportive if the Child Tax Credit were reformed so that babies and mothers, victims of natural disasters, and children who had a parent die would no longer be penalized with a reduction or elimination of their credit when their household income dropped.⁸

A Personal Note: What My Mother Taught Me

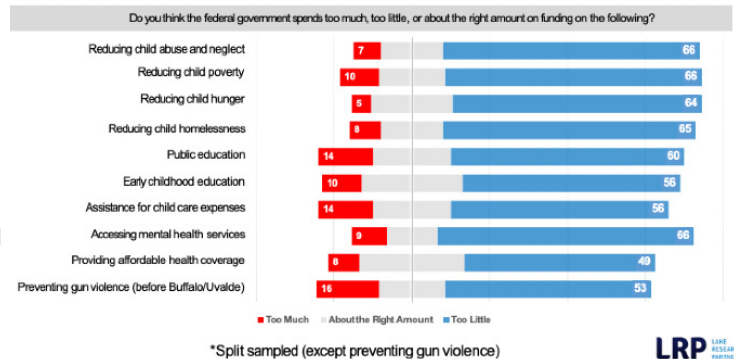
Long before economists quantified these truths, I learned them around the dinner table. My mother, a lifelong teacher and advocate for public education, spent her career fighting for fairness in Texas school finance. She researched and authored the reports, *Money Matters* and *Money Still Matters*, for the Texas Equity Center because she understood that educational excellence and achievement depends on enhanced and equitable investment.⁹ She cited the research that showed funding should follow need and that a child in a low-income district deserves no less than a child in a wealthy one.

Her message was simple: **Equity demands resources. Resources require investment. And yes, money matters.**

Her conviction and findings that educational outcomes depend not just on effort or intention, but on equitable and adequate funding were later powerfully confirmed by the work of C. Kirabo Jackson, Rucker Johnson, and Claire Mackevicius.

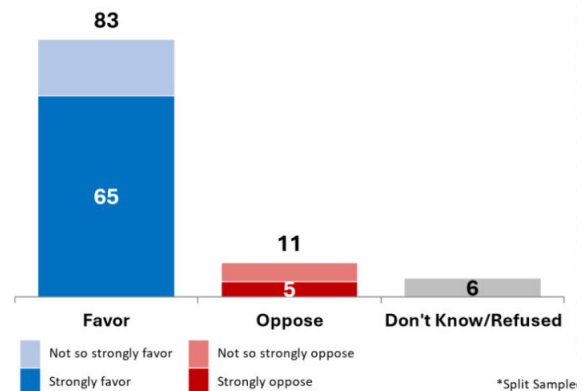
In a series of influential studies, Jackson and colleagues demonstrate that **increased school spending improves student achievement, educational attainment, and long-term earnings**, particularly for children from low-income families. Their research has shown that sustained investments in public education not only raise test scores and graduation rates but also narrow racial and socioeconomic

Voters: How much do we invest in kids?

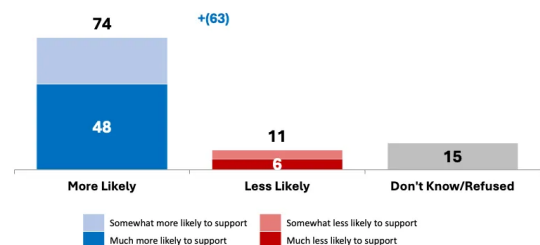


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The Child Tax Credit is an expanded and improved tax cut that refunds poor, working, and middle-class families more money for each child under age 18, creates a larger tax cut for families with children under age six, and makes the credit fully available for all families with low incomes. Based on this, do you favor or oppose the Child Tax Credit? [IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK] And do you feel that way strongly or not so strongly?*



The expansion of the Child Tax Credit would include the children who are left behind or would not qualify for the full credit due to the death of a parent, children of parents who lose some or all their income because they are laid off, or experience a natural disaster, or who lose income during pregnancy and childbirth, including time taken off from work to care for a new baby or other family members. Does that make you more or less likely to support the expansion of the Child Tax Credit? [IF MORE/LESS LIKELY, ASK] Is that much more/less likely or somewhat more/less likely?



disparities in outcomes.¹⁰ These findings affirm what my mother knew and argued forcefully in *Money Matters*: **resources matter deeply, and strategic, equitable investment in children, especially in their education, is essential to achieving opportunity and justice.**

- *It matters for a first grader in Los Angeles who no longer qualifies for the Child Tax Credit because their family lost the credit due to wildfires that took their home, possessions, and business.*
- *It matters for a newborn in Little Rock whose parent was kicked off Medicaid due to paperwork, red tape, and bureaucratic barriers.*
- *It matters for the elementary school students in El Paso, who are seeing their schools close due to federal and state budget cuts.*
- *It matters for the child in Shreveport, Louisiana, who goes to bed hungry because their family can no longer access SNAP, school meals, or even summer meals due to budget cuts.*
- *It matters to the child in Detroit who is trying to learn how to read but has unstable housing.*
- *It matters to the baby in Boston and her siblings, who received a significant reduction in their Child Tax Credit because their mother had complications during pregnancy and childbirth and made “too little” to qualify for the full credit.*
- *It matters for the schoolgirl in Sierra Leone who no longer receives her one nutritious meal of the day at school and to her baby siblings who no longer benefit from the food baskets she used to bring home, now that the Administration has cancelled the McGovern-Dole Food for Education school feeding program in her district.*

Kids across this nation and the world are suffering from the policies that our nation’s lawmakers are enacting.

And that should matter to us all.

A Call to Action

This *Children’s Budget* is more than an accounting exercise: it is a reflection of national will. It shows that — despite all we know and despite all we’ve seen — we are choosing, year after year, to do less for our children. This is not just a policy failure. It is a moral one.

We urge policymakers, the media, and the public to reject the false narrative that we can’t afford to invest in kids. The reality is that we can’t afford not to.

The evidence is clear. The public is ready. The moral and economic cases are overwhelming.

Children cannot vote. They do not have Political Action Committees (PACs). But they have needs. And they deserve better from all of us than just the crumbs of our national priorities.

Let us stop treating investments in children as optional, charitable, or negotiable. Let us restore children to the center of our fiscal, political, and moral agenda.

Because the research confirms it.

Because the public wants it.

Because fairness and equity demand it.

Because, again, money matters.



Bruce Lesley
President, First Focus on Children

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Notes on *Children's Budget 2025*

Sources

The majority of budget numbers in this book for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 can be found in the Congressional budget justifications provided by relevant federal agencies for FY 2025 and the Appendix of President Trump's FY 2026 budget. The Congressional budget justifications, Appendix, and summary tables also are the source for the President's budget request for FY 2026. We use actual outlays in the years where they are available and budget authority where they are not.

Methodology

For the purpose of this book, children are defined as persons aged 18 and under. While there are many federally supported programs entirely dedicated to children and families with children, there also are several in which children constitute only a portion of the beneficiaries. There are other programs that may impact children much more incidentally. Some programs assist people over 18 in the transition out of childhood (for example, foster youth). We do include these programs in the book. The Overall Spending Chapter tracks the share of federal spending on children for both domestic and international programs and services, as well as the combined share of federal spending at home and abroad. This section also breaks out the domestic share of spending by mandatory and discretionary categories. In order to find the share of federal spending for each chapter, we divide the children's share of federal spending in each category by the overall spending level for each fiscal year, which also includes the interest paid on the national debt. To determine the amount of money spent on children, this book relies on agency reporting and data, including some data from the Census Bureau. For a handful of programs, this book relies on the work of the Urban Institute's Kids' Share 2024: Report on Federal Expenditures on Children Through 2023 and Future Projections. The methodology behind the program multipliers is as follows:

- For programs that exclusively benefit children and families with children, 100% of the funding level is considered children's spending.
- For programs that do not limit their benefits to children, the share of program funding that is considered children's spending mirrors the agency's estimated percentage of program benefits that go to children. For example, annual U.S. Department of Agriculture reports indicate the amount of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits going to children averages of 43.25%. In other cases, we analyze Community Population Survey data to generate these estimates, such as for Veteran's Benefits.
- For some programs, such as housing programs under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), there is limited data related to expenditures on children. In those cases, we estimate spending on children as the proportion of children participating in the program overall.
- For some other programs, very little data exists on demographic characteristics of beneficiaries. For these programs, we estimate the share of spending benefitting children as the proportion of children in the U.S. population (or global population for international programs).
- First Focus on Children relies on its own multipliers via agency data and reports for several programs not included in Kids' Share, including for Community Health Centers, the Centers for Disease Control School-Based HIV Program, Homeless Assistance Grants, the National Housing Trust Fund, the Indian Housing Block Grant, the Rural Rental Assistance Program, the Rural Housing Voucher Program, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, Poison Control, Domestic Victims of Trafficking Grants, Healthy Transitions, Career and Technical Education Grants to States, the Corporation for National and Community Service, Gallaudet University, National Science Foundation K-12 Programs, Safe Routes to School, and TRIO Programs.
- First Focus on Children also differs from the Urban Institute's Kids' Share in its estimates for spending

on children for the Children's Health Insurance Program, Disability Trust Fund benefits, Old Age and Survivors' Insurance Trust Fund benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Project Based Rental Assistance, the Public Housing Operating Fund, Tenant Based Rental Assistance, Healthy Start, Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Disability Compensation, Survivors' Pension Benefits, and coverage of tax credits. For instance, the Urban Institute utilizes microsimulation modeling of Community Population Survey data to estimate the number of children participating in Project and Tenant Based Rental Assistance, while First Focus on Children uses data from HUD's "Picture of Subsidized Housing."

- First Focus on Children relies on the Urban Institute's Kids' Share to estimate spending on children under programs such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program; Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health; the Social Services Block Grant; the Community Services Block Grant; Job Corps; Medicaid; Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; Youth Training; and YouthBuild.
- First Focus on Children also cross-referenced spending levels with the National Low Income Housing Coalition for a few programs such as the National Housing Trust Fund, Project-Based Rental Assistance, and the Public Housing Fund.
- A special thanks to Hope Roobol and Pamela Protzol Berman from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), who provided estimates for ATSDR spending on children under age 18 for this book and to Jeanne Briskin, Director of the Office of Children's Health Protection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for providing helpful insight into environmental health funding for children.
- *Children's Budget 2025* includes the mandatory spending for the refundable tax credits as programs that benefit children. The Child Tax Credit and the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit are given only to people with qualifying children and dependents, so they were given a 100% multiplier. The funding level was taken from the mandatory funding levels for the President's FY 2026 budget. For FY 2025 and FY 2026, the mandatory outlays are estimates by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). However, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) goes to individuals with or without qualifying children or dependents. First Focus on Children utilized data published by the Internal Revenue Service that provides demographic breakdowns and spending of the refundable credit to determine the amount spent on the EITC for adults with dependents. The FY 2025 and FY 2026 funding levels are also OMB estimates. Outlays for the Education Stabilization Fund were based on Congressional Budget Office estimates and include FY 2021 funding in the form of a set aside for the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program.
- Every year, First Focus on Children works with our advocacy partners and others to review existing programs and determine whether to adjust our tracking.

Updates to Multipliers

As in past years, *Children's Budget 2025* updates multipliers for several programs based on new data, research, and analysis. As a result, the figures prior to FY 2025 may be different from prior iterations of the *Children's Budget*.

Presentation

For each program individually listed in the book, the spending level indicated is the total allocation from the federal budget. For those programs that are not entirely dedicated to children, we use the estimated share of spending allocated to children to calculate the total share of spending on children overall and for each chapter.

Comparing spending levels over time, it is widely understood that the value of one dollar in 1920 is not the same as the value of one dollar in 2025. This is because prices for goods and services tend to increase over time. Inflation has important consequences for long-term economic comparisons. For example, in 2000, the federal government's total budget was \$1.8 trillion — over 800% greater than the \$195.6 billion it spent 30 years prior. It is important to recognize, however, that due to inflation, every dollar the government spent in 1970 had much greater purchasing power than it did in 2000, such that the nominal value of \$195.6 billion in 1970 translated to a real increase in value of roughly \$828 billion in 2000 (as measured by 1978 prices). Thus, the real overall increase in federal spending was closer to 100% — a major difference from the nominal shift of 800%. That discrepancy is why economists distinguish between real value and nominal value, and it has important implications for Children's Budget. Because of inflation, a program that receives level funding in nominal terms from one year to the next can experience a cut in real terms, because costs are rising faster than the program's funding. Thus, adjusting for inflation is an important step in any fiscal analysis, even a relatively short-term one.

For each program listed, *Children's Budget 2025* reports the nominal funding level and the real (inflation-adjusted) percent change from the prior year. This book adopts the projected inflation rates for FY 2025 and FY 2026 from the Congressional Budget Office's January 2025 report, *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2025 to 2035*. We do not track inflation-adjusted changes for international programs because inflation in other countries may be very different from the U.S.-specific numbers used elsewhere in this book, and inflation may differ substantially across countries receiving foreign aid. This makes it difficult to calculate comparable and reliable inflation-adjusted numbers.

Tax Expenditures

Children's Budget 2025 continues to include the refundable portions of the Child Tax Credit, Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, and the Earned Income Tax Credit. The Treasury Department includes the refundable portion of the credits, the payment to the territories and the payments where tax credit exceeds tax liability as mandatory spending, and we are therefore including the credits as mandatory spending programs for children in the Income Support chapter. We include tax expenditures in every fiscal year we track in this report, which significantly raises the overall spending on children per year and makes Children's Budgets from 2021 and later quite different from previous publications.

Special Considerations under the Second Trump Administration

The current Presidential Administration provided significantly less information on budget figures than what is traditionally offered publicly. Because of this, we had to make several assumptions about how to fill in missing data. These assumptions include:

- For many (mainly smaller) programs, no information on funding was provided for FY 2025 and/or FY 2026. In these cases, we assume flat funding. These instances are indicated by **grayed-out** numbers in program funding charts.
- For some programs, no specific line item is listed for the specific program we track, but funding figures are listed for a broader umbrella of programs that includes the program we track. In these cases, we assume that the program makes up a constant proportion of funding within the broader umbrella of programs from year to year and assign its proportion of the funding for the broader umbrella of programs in missing years. In other words, we assume that the percent change in the smaller program is equal to the percent change of the broader umbrella of programs.

- We do not include rescissions and impoundment in the figures we record. In reality, the Trump Administration has used these mechanisms to withhold funding, so in many cases the reality on the ground for kids may be worse than what these numbers indicate.
- Many programs are consolidated in the President's proposed FY 2026 budget while many others are eliminated. Both of these changes will show up as a zero in program funding charts. However, we mark the zeroes for eliminated programs in **red**. For consolidated programs, we explain where these programs are moved and where to find these consolidated funding streams in the book.

A young girl with dark, curly hair and a blue t-shirt is smiling and holding a pink piggy bank. The piggy bank has a face with eyes, a nose, and a small smile. The background is a solid blue color.

**OVERALL
SPENDING**



↓ 39.46%

Real Percent Decrease in Children's Overall Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025

COMBINED (DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL) SPENDING ON CHILDREN

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 817.362 B	\$ 701.770 B	\$ 618.279 B	\$ 597.505 B	\$ 591.787 B	\$ 580.298 B
Real Change from Prior Year	59.29%	-20.45%	-16.15%	-6.25%	-3.19%	-4.26%
Share of Total Spending	11.98%	11.82%	10.03%	8.83%	8.57%	8.28%

Background

The United States government failed children once again in 2025. For the fourth straight year, investments in children declined, both in terms of total funding and as a share of federal spending.

The *Children's Budget*, published annually by First Focus on Children for more than 15 years, provides a comprehensive analysis of the share of spending allocated to kids across more than 250 government programs in the federal budget. This analysis tracks domestic and international spending on children, including both mandatory and discretionary funding across nearly every federal department, representing numerous agencies and bureaus.

↓ 39.64% Real Percent Decrease in Domestic Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025

TOTAL DOMESTIC SPENDING ON CHILDREN						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 810.896 B	\$ 695.298 B	\$ 611.416 B	\$ 590.856 B	\$ 585.328 B	\$ 578.455 B
Real Change from Prior Year	59.94%	-20.55%	-16.31%	-6.25%	-3.17%	-3.52%
Share of Total Spending	12.01%	11.84%	10.02%	8.81%	8.55%	8.29%

! 0.09% Share of Federal Spending on Children Internationally in FY 2025

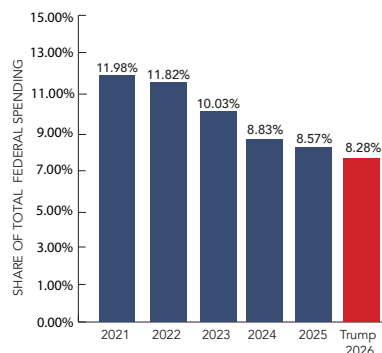
TOTAL SPENDING ON CHILDREN'S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 6.466 B	\$ 6.472 B	\$ 6.863 B	\$ 6.648 B	\$ 6.459 B	\$ 1.844 B
Children's Share of International Spending	9.06%	9.73%	10.40%	10.60%	10.80%	5.91%
Share of Total Spending	0.09%	0.11%	0.11%	0.10%	0.09%	0.03%

*Note: Because inflation may differ substantially across countries receiving foreign aid, we do not calculate real percent change for international programs.

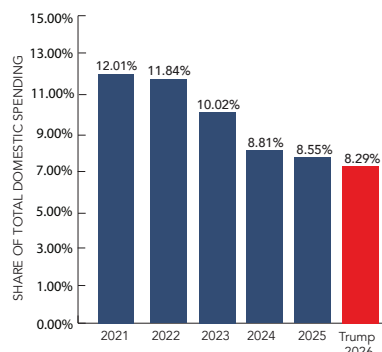
In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, the share of spending on children fell to a mere 8.57%, meaning that for every \$100 spent by the federal government, just \$8.57 went toward meeting the needs of children. The share of spending on children has not been this

low since the previous Trump Administration, when the share of spending on children also declined for four straight years, dropping 25% between FY 2017 and FY 2020 to just 7.6%.¹

Children's Combined Share (Domestic and International) of Total Spending



Children's Share of Total Domestic Spending



These numbers are even more startling in comparison to 2021, when Congress made historic investments in children during the COVID-19 pandemic. To support children during the worldwide health and economic crisis, lawmakers put in place a fully refundable Child Tax Credit (CTC) that ensured children in low-income families would receive the full credit offered to their peers in better-off families, expanded child care support, increased federal dollars for school districts, offered direct payments to families as part of the American Rescue Plan Act and made other efforts. This holistic approach to child well-being pushed the share of spending on children to a high of nearly 12% in 2021.

These investments delivered tangible economic benefits for children, including cutting child poverty nearly in half, driving it to a historic low of 5.2%.² Despite this success, Congress allowed these essential supports for children to expire. By 2023, Congress had completely ended economic impact payments, the expanded Child Tax Credit, the expanded Child Care and Development Block Grant, and expanded nutrition support for children.

This bad news for children continued in FY 2025.



The phase out of payments from the Education Stabilization Fund — and the Administration’s withholding of authorized education funds through impoundment — largely drove the decline in share and also created budget crunches for schools across the country.³

Moreover, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution, which kept most discretionary programs for children level-funded. However, as prices continue to rise for essentials that families rely on — such as food, child care, and health care costs — that stagnant amount of money buys less than it did before, and often comes up short in providing for children’s needs. Overall, federal spending on kids declined by 3.19% in FY 2025 when adjusted for inflation. This number only reflects actual appropriations; it does not account for impoundment or any other withholding of funds. So, the story is likely bleaker on the ground than what we show here.

The New U.S. Legacy on Foreign Aid: Child Deaths Around the World

There is no area where the Trump Administration has been more destructive for children than in its gutting of foreign assistance. The end of foreign assistance coincided with a decline in the share of international children’s spending to just 0.09% of the federal budget — or just 9 cents for every \$100 spent by the federal government. But much worse than the unsavory numbers on spreadsheets was the chaos and sudden interruption in funding imposed by the Trump Administration and Elon

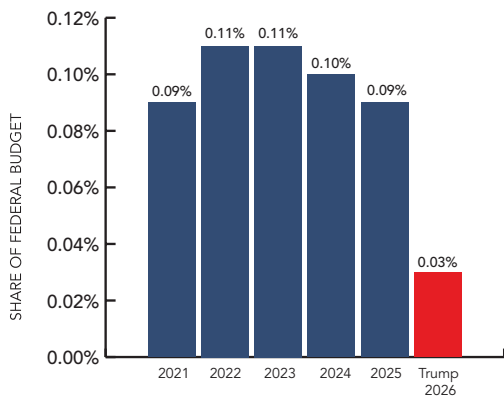
Cuts to USAID have caused the death of more than 300,000 children and could lead to as many as 4.5 million deaths of children under 5 by 2030.

Musk’s Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) initiative, which cost the lives of children on an unprecedented scale. DOGE framed this sudden cancellation of program funding as an effort to rein in federal deficits. But this argument never made any sense. The claims of fraud, waste, and abuse were never substantiated. Moreover, foreign aid simply makes up too little of the federal budget for cuts to make any meaningful difference in national debt. Cost savings are not the legacy of DOGE.

Instead, the legacy of DOGE and the Trump Administration is the death of hundreds of thousands of children. The public health expert Brooke Nichols estimates that more than 300,000 children have died already because of the cuts to USAID, making up more than two-thirds of total deaths.⁴ Meanwhile, an article in *The Lancet* estimates that 4.5 million children under the age of 5 could die by 2030 because of the medium-term impacts of these cuts.⁵

Moreover, Congress has moved to rescind an additional \$8 million in international spending that would disrupt or end essential programs for

Share of Federal Spending on Children Internationally



children, including development assistance (which funds clean water and sanitation), programs to assist refugees, core funding for UNICEF, and support for victims of international disasters. More details on the full gamut of harm in the foreign aid space — both in the short- and long-run — can be found in the international section of *Children's Budget 2025*.

Program Spotlight

Targeting Immigrant and Refugee Children

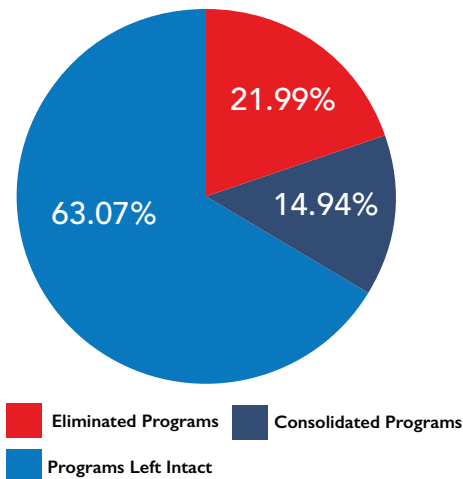
The Trump Administration has proved equally hostile to immigrant and refugee kids seeking a better life in the United States. The President's budget defunds the Title I Migrant Education Program, Migration and Refugee Assistance within the State Department, the Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program, and English Language Acquisition Grants. Altogether, these eliminations would represent \$1.842 billion worth of funding lost for immigrant and refugee children compared to FY 2025. The President's budget would increase funding for Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance to \$225.8 million for children. However, besides the fact that this increase does not nearly make up for the losses to other programs, this funding would be spent only at the discretion of the President. Along with the singling out of international aid, the targeting of immigrant and refugee children suggests a clear pattern of devaluing the lives of children outside the United States. This would represent not only an enormous loss of life and welfare for many of the world's most vulnerable children, but also an enormous abdication of America's traditional leading role in humanitarian assistance on the global stage.

The President's FY 2026 Budget and the Continued War on Children

As bad as the early damage from the Trump Administration has been, the President's FY 2026 budget proposal offers an even more draconian vision going forward. The proposal, if passed, would take a hatchet to a vast array of discretionary programs that provide essential services and safety nets for kids across the country. In total, the President's budget proposes cutting entirely 53 programs that serve kids and consolidating 36 other programs into new funding streams with no guarantee that the original function of the programs will be preserved.

The overall impact of these cuts would be crushing for children. Discretionary spending on kids would fall by 23.70% compared to FY 2025 levels, totaling \$27.440 billion in cuts. In fact, the President's budget would eliminate or consolidate more than one-third of all children's discretionary programs tracked by First Focus on Children. This measure would reduce the children's share of federal spending to just 8.28%, a half-percentage point higher than the lowest level achieved by Trump during his previous term.

Children's Programs Eliminated or Consolidated, President's Budget FY 2026

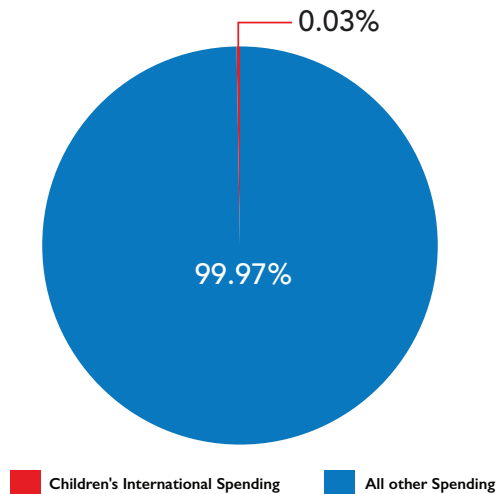


Consistent with early moves by the Trump Administration, the President's proposed FY 2026 budget would be most devastating for children globally. The proposed international budget would reduce spending on children by two-thirds and reduce the share to a low mark of 0.03% — just 3 cents for every \$100 spent by the

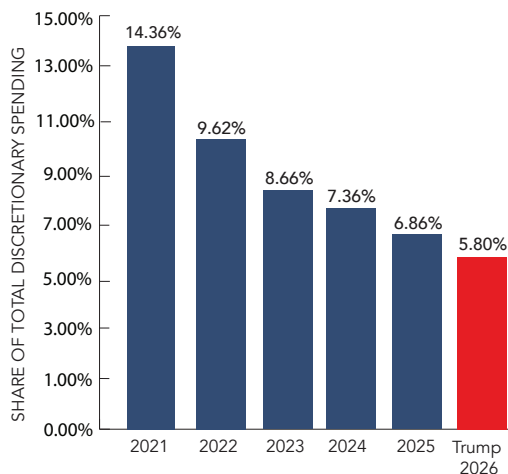
federal government. Additionally, despite across-the-board cuts to international spending, the President's budget would also disproportionately target children, reducing the children's share of international spending from above 10% to just 6.09%.

More details on the specific cuts across issue areas in the President's FY 2026 budget can be found in the chapters that follow.

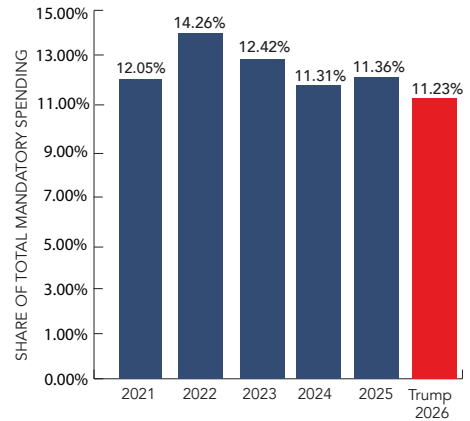
Share of Federal Spending on Children Internationally, President's Budget FY 2026



Children's Share of Total Discretionary Spending



Children's Share of Total Mandatory Spending



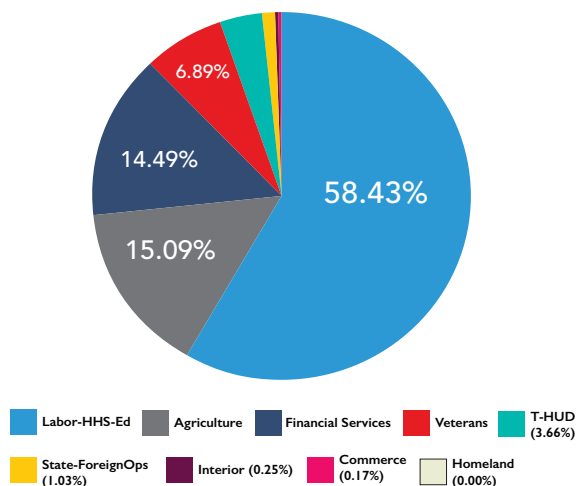
The Story is Much Worse than These Numbers Show

The numbers currently available up to FY 2025 and the President's budget for FY 2026 show only part of the damage inflicted on children in the new term of Congress. The true extent of the harm goes unreflected because the President only released a discretionary budget proposal without outlining a vision for mandatory programs, which make up more than 80% of all children's spending due to large, life-saving programs such as Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). However, in the meantime, Congress has passed a reconciliation bill with terrible cuts for kids to exactly these programs. The enormous cuts to Medicaid in H.R. 1 will not hit immediately and do not show up in the current appropriation levels tracked in this book. However, they promise huge defunding of children's health and nutrition programs in the future.

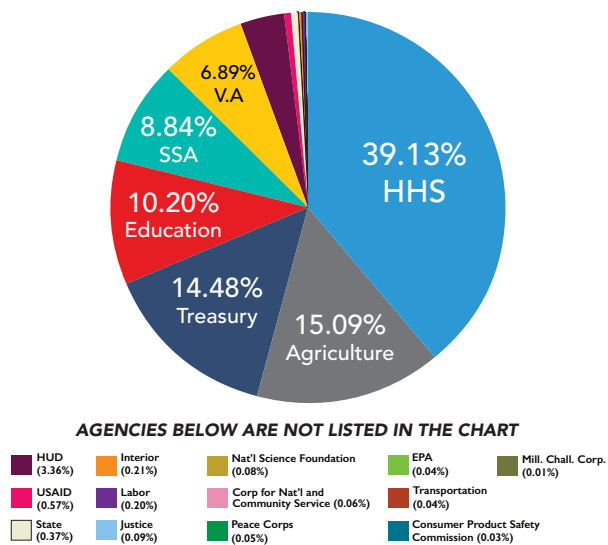
The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that Medicaid provisions in the bill would cost \$911 billion over 10 years and cause 10 million people to lose health insurance.⁶ First Focus on Children estimates that one-fifth of Medicaid spending goes to children. Applying this share to the bill's provisions delivers an estimated \$182.2 billion in cuts over a decade from children's health care support. Cuts to SNAP—a total of \$186 billion over 10 years—would cost kids an estimated \$80.408 billion.

Children are projected to lose \$80 billion in food assistance under H.R. 1

Spending on Children by Appropriations Bill FY 2025



Share of Federal Spending on Children by Agency



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EARLY CHILDHOOD



 **76.52%** Real Percent Decrease in Early Childhood Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025

TOTAL SPENDING ON EARLY CHILDHOOD						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 94.408 B	\$ 22.161 B	\$ 25.438 B	\$ 26.457 B	\$ 26.504 B	\$ 25.721 B
Real Change from Prior Year	273.94%	-78.25%	9.24%	0.90%	-2.08%	-5.25%
Share of Total Spending	1.38%	0.37%	0.41%	0.39%	0.38%	0.37%

Background

Early childhood programs, including Early Head Start, Head Start, home visiting, pre-K, mental health programs, and child care, have immense benefits for young children, their families, and early educators. The opportunities children have during their early years play an essential role in reducing racial inequalities and directly impact their long-term health, well-being, and economic outcomes.¹ The evidence supporting high-quality early childhood investment is among the strongest in the social sciences. Investing in children during their most formative years is among the soundest financial decisions a country can make and ensures that children across the country receive the support they need to thrive.² Child care and other early learning programs also provide families with the opportunity to work or study; support an early learning workforce; and supply crucial infrastructure for the United States' economy.



Current funding levels are not meeting the need that children and their families have for early learning opportunities though. Under current funding levels, Head Start is only able to serve 33% of eligible families, Early Head Start serves 11%, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) serves 15%, and the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program can only serve 15% of families who qualify.

Overall Analysis

The inflation-adjusted funding level for Early Childhood Programs fell by more than 2% between Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY 2025. These programs are mostly flat funded in FY 2025, which constitutes a cut in real dollars. The only exception is MIECHV, which is mandatory and received a \$47.2 million increase, thanks to a bipartisan reauthorization in 2022. However, this increase in one program is not enough to make up for the real cuts that all other early childhood programs have experienced. Early Childhood Programs make up only 0.38% of total federal spending, despite their importance in children's lives and their proven value.

CCDBG and Head Start have historically had strong, bipartisan support, and they have actually experienced some increases in funding in recent years. Despite this support and these increases, even these programs have been cut in real dollars in FY 2025.

Program Spotlights

Child Care

Child care continues to be an enormous expense that many families cannot afford and that harbors disparities, even with federal funding continuing and some increases for CCDBG and Head Start. Child care is least affordable and accessible for Black, Hispanic, and low-income working parents.³ In 2024, the cost to a family of child care for two children in a center was more than annual mortgage payments in 45 states and the District of Columbia, and the cost of child care for an infant at a center was more than in-state tuition at a public university in 41 states and D.C.⁴ Along with the lack of affordability for families looking to access high-quality early childhood resources, there is a critical shortage of early care educators. Poverty-level pay and a lack of professional development opportunities create difficulty in retaining early childhood educators, exacerbating child care shortages across the country. Researchers have found the early care and education workforce is compensated at lower rates than 97% of all professions.⁵

Despite the proven value of early learning programs and the demonstrated need for more child care resources, CCDBG was flat funded in FY 2025, which resulted in a cut of 2.25% from FY 2024 when accounting for inflation. Flat funding may sound harmless and even fortunate in the

current economic environment, but it creates cuts in real dollars and results in services lost for children and their families.

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

The President's FY 2026 budget request would further cut spending on early childhood by 5.25% from FY 2025 when adjusted for inflation. Preschool Grants under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B receive the largest cuts in this request and would be transferred along with several other funding streams to IDEA B – Grants to States, where there would be no guarantee that preschool grants funding would be used for its intended purpose. In addition, the President's budget request eliminates Preschool Development Grants (PDG), erasing \$315 million of investment in children. The President's proposal also eliminates Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS), Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, and National Early Child Care Collaboratives, a total disinvestment of \$90 million. Child care and mental health, beginning at the earliest ages, are two significant priorities for young children and their families. Elimination of these programs would come at a time when their services are needed more than ever. The President's budget provides flat funding for CCDBG, Head Start, and IDEA Part C - Grants for Infants and Families, resulting in real cuts of 2.37%.

Looking Ahead

In addition to a decrease in overall funding for early learning programs, other threats surround these programs.

Both the House Labor, Health and Human Services FY 2026 Appropriations bill and the President's FY 2026 budget request would eliminate CCAMPIS, which provides funding to help parenting college students secure care for their children while they pursue their degree, and Preschool Development Grants (PDG), which are used by states to increase the quality and efficiency of their existing early learning programs. More than 20% of all undergraduate students are raising children, but at current funding levels CCAMPIS can only serve a small fraction of eligible students. PDG assists states in work including data collection, research,

infrastructure development, and other quality initiatives that improve the provision of child care. Head Start has faced numerous challenges this year, including threatened elimination, a halt in grant payments, cuts to the Head Start workforce at the Department of Health and Human Services, a directive that attempts to end services for immigrant children and families, and potential future rulemaking that would cut compensation for teachers. The Trump Administration's plans for Head Start are unclear, and this uncertainty is likely to destabilize the program's workforce and services.

While the recently passed H.R. 1 spending bill did not specifically cut early childhood programs such as child care, the law's cuts to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will hurt the same families that need child care assistance, home visiting, and Head Start. Additionally, these cuts will harm child care professionals and their families: nearly one-third of child care professionals are insured by Medicaid, and 43% of early educator families use one or more public safety programs such as Medicaid and SNAP to help with their health, nutrition, and other needs. Cuts to programs that support the early learning workforce will make early education less stable and available for children and their families. Additionally, H.R. 1 includes a Higher Education Act provision that will prohibit federal student loans from being used for programs whose graduates earn less money than a high school graduate in their state. This provision is expected to include early learning professionals, who work in high-skill, low-paying jobs. Placing further restrictions on the ability of these professionals to pursue education opportunities by limiting their access to federal student loans will only exacerbate the existing workforce shortage.



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Early Childhood Programs

In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.

14.03%
2021-25

Child Care Access Means Parents in School

Department: Education • Bureau: Higher Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 55.0 M	\$ 65.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	0.47%	9.50%	9.81%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program supports the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based child care services. Student parents make up more than 20% of all undergraduate students, and parenting students with access to reliable and affordable child care through CCAMPIS have a persistence rate of 75% in their studies.

Child Care and Development Fund

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

-5.79%
2021-25

Mandatory

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.151 B	\$ 3.238 B	\$ 3.550 B	\$ 3.550 B	\$ 3.550 B	\$ 3.550 B
Real Change from Prior Year	4.58%	-4.78%	4.34%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

-86.66%
2021-25

Discretionary

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 54.838 B	\$ 6.165 B	\$ 8.021 B	\$ 8.746 B	\$ 8.746 B	\$ 8.746 B
Real Change from Prior Year	469.28%	-89.58%	23.82%	5.78%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Child Care and Development Fund makes funding available to states, tribes, and territories to assist qualifying low-income families in obtaining child care so that parents can work or attend classes or training and includes both discretionary funding in the form of the Child Care and Development Block Grant as well as a mandatory Child Care Entitlement to States funding stream.

-100%
2021-25

Child Care Stabilization Fund

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 23.975 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) included a \$24 billion investment in a new Child Care Stabilization Program. More than 220,000 child care programs in the United States received ARP stabilization support, impacting as many as 9.6 million children, and keeping programs open and families working.

-5.40%
2021-25

Head Start and Early Head Start

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.848 B	\$ 11.037 B	\$ 11.997 B	\$ 12.272 B	\$ 12.272 B	\$ 12.272 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.04%	-5.73%	3.45%	-0.76%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Head Start provides comprehensive child development services for economically disadvantaged 3- and 4-year-old children to prepare them to succeed in school, while Early Head Start programs serve low-income infants and toddlers under the age of 3. In providing this demographic with high quality preschool, Head Start narrows the gap between disadvantaged and more privileged children as they enter kindergarten.

-11.67%
2021-25

IDEA B - Preschool Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 397.6 M	\$ 409.5 M	\$ 420.0 M	\$ 420.0 M	\$ 420.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.33%	-4.56%	-2.40%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, IDEA B - Preschool Grants are consolidated into IDEA B - Grants to States. More information on this program can be found in the Education chapter.

-6.29%
2021-25

IDEA C - Grants for Infants and Families

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 481.9 M	\$ 496.3 M	\$ 540.0 M	\$ 540.0 M	\$ 540.0 M	\$ 540.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.20%	-4.56%	3.55%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grants for Infants and Families assist states in implementing statewide systems of coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, interagency programs and making early intervention services available to children with disabilities aged birth through 2.

54.93%
2021-25

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 8.1 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	11.97%	14.45%	42.75%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health grants, first appropriated in FY 2018, support infant and early childhood mental health promotion, intervention, and treatment as authorized in the 21st Century Cures Act.



27.87%
2021-25

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Visiting Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 370.0 M	\$ 446.0 M	\$ 500.0 M	\$ 518.7 M	\$ 565.8 M	\$ 613.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.83%	11.69%	6.69%	0.63%	6.63%	5.77%

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program provides federal funding for home visiting programs. Home visiting connects expectant parents, new caregivers, and their young children with a home visitor, who meets regularly and develops a relationship with a family to strengthen the well-being of caregivers and children and connect families to community resources. Home visiting can be provided by infant and early childhood professionals, social workers, parents, doulas, nurses, mental health professionals, and other trained individuals. Home visiting models vary in the ages of children served but can start prenatally and generally end by school entry.

4.52%
2021-25

National Early Care and Education Learning Collaborative

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	18.96%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

National Early Care and Education Learning Collaborative grants are aimed at spreading sustainable policy and practice improvements in early care and education programs to prevent childhood obesity. These grants help early childhood providers improve nutrition, breastfeeding support, physical activity, and screen time for young children.

-5.93%
2021-25

Preschool Development Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 280.0 M	\$ 290.0 M	\$ 315.0 M	\$ 315.0 M	\$ 315.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-4.03%	3.37%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Preschool Development Grants are competitive grants that fund states to strengthen early childhood systems to prepare all children to enter kindergarten by investing in the early learning workforce, identifying opportunities to expand access to high-quality early learning programs, supporting a comprehensive and mixed-delivery system of early learning, expanding parent and family supports, and promoting children's healthy development and well-being.

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A young girl with blonde hair in two pigtails is seen from behind, raising her right hand. She is wearing a grey t-shirt with a star pattern. The background is a blurred classroom with a green chalkboard and other students. The word "EDUCATION" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

EDUCATION



↓ 16.78%

Real Percent Decrease in
Education Funding from FY 2021
to FY 2025

TOTAL SPENDING ON EDUCATION

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 78.540 B	\$ 102.925 B	\$ 95.765 B	\$ 86.918 B	\$ 60.276 B	\$ 39.180 B
Real Change from Prior Year	57.57%	21.43%	-11.45%	-11.95%	-32.21%	-36.54%
Share of Total Spending	1.15%	1.73%	1.55%	1.28%	0.87%	0.56%

Background

State and local governments provide most of the funding for K-12 public education. However, the federal government plays a crucial role in providing an equitable learning experience for children. The federal government funds more than 60 children's education programs, the overwhelming number of them carried out by the Department of Education. Some of the major programs funded include Title I, which supports schools with high proportions of students from low-income families, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which provides vital resources to students with disabilities. Lawmakers have for decades consistently failed to follow through on their promises to fully fund these programs, and the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget shows real decreases in some of the most crucial education programs.



In addition, President Trump has made no secret of his desire to eliminate the Department of Education entirely, creating a fraught atmosphere for public school systems across the country.

Between real decreases in federal funding caused by inflation, the rise in voucher programs that siphon public school funding, property tax cuts, and the expiration of pandemic relief programs, many U.S. public schools are facing budget shortfalls. Private school vouchers have been on the rise in recent years, and these voucher programs divert funding from public education to private schools.¹ Supporters of so-called “school choice” are pushing a movement to expand universal or near-universal voucher programs, which allow almost any student from any financial background, regardless of whether they already attend a private school, to use public money for private schools.

When there are budget shortfalls and cuts to programs are needed, education is often one of the first areas on the chopping block.² A nationwide decline in public school enrollment has also meant less available funding for schools.³ All of these factors have created a difficult financial environment for the nation’s public schools.

Overall Analysis

For each of the past three fiscal years, cuts to K-12 education have grown in inflation-adjusted terms. Alarming, education funding dropped more than

35% in real dollars between 2021 and 2025, making clear that the federal government considers it a lower priority. These declines have caused real cuts in some of the most essential education programs for low-income students and students with disabilities. For example, Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies experienced a nearly 7% real decline between FY 2021 and FY 2025. IDEA-Part B faced a more than 8% real cut during the same time frame. These funding streams represent most of the money allocated to support students with disabilities and low-income students.

The share of federal funding going to education between FY 2024 and FY 2025 also decreased, driven largely by a \$26.533 billion decline for children under 18 in the Education Stabilization Fund. Congress allocated this funding to help schools and students recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This support did help schools and students navigate the pandemic’s fallout, but they have not fully recovered academically. Data from the Northwest Evaluation Association shows that academic growth during 2023-24 school year fell short of pre-pandemic trends for most grades.⁴ This data emphasizes the need for continued academic support — not cuts — for students.

The budget shortfall on the ground for FY 2025 may be even lower than reported here as a result of the Trump Administration withholding education funds. In July 2025, the Trump Administration withheld more than \$6 billion in education funding

from several key programs, including money that supports migrant students, English language acquisition, after-school and summer programs, teacher preparation and retention, and other vital services.⁵ The Administration also has hollowed out education funding by cancelling important programs and services, including nearly \$900 million in contracts for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).⁶ IES is the research arm of the department that provides the research and evidence that informs policymakers and ensures they have an adequate understanding of the needs of the nation's students.

Program Spotlights

Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program

As child and youth homelessness continues to increase, schools must be better equipped to identify and assist students experiencing homelessness. The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program is the only federal education program that removes barriers to school identification, enrollment, attendance, and academic success caused by homelessness. EHCY funding is used for outreach and identification, enrollment assistance, transportation, school records transfer, immunization referrals, tutoring, counseling, school supplies, professional development for educators and community organizations, and referrals to community services. Yet, the Trump Administration has targeted this funding for consolidation into its proposed “K-12 Simplified Funding Program,” which could effectively eliminate the program.

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

The President's FY 2026 budget request reduces funding for the Department of Education by more than 36% in real terms compared to FY 2025 and eliminates many programs, aligning with his plan to abolish the Department of Education. Several programs in the President's budget — most of them benefitting underserved students — would be combined into block grants, another tactic that likely would eliminate them. Without any requirement to use the block granted funds for

specific purposes, their intended beneficiaries, like rural students, immigrant students, and students experiencing homelessness, would suffer.

The President's budget consolidates 18 programs into a K-12 Simplified Funding Program, which would drastically cut the total combined funding level of these programs. Some of the programs consolidated into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program include 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Education for Homeless Children and Youth, Rural Education, literacy funding, and other critical programs. The Administration also would completely eliminate certain programs, including Civil Rights Training and Advisory Services, English Language Acquisition, and Migrant Education. The President has already tried to defund these programs through brute force. For instance, English Language Acquisition and Migrant Education were both included in the over \$6 billion that the Administration withheld from public schools.

The President's budget also would consolidate many of the programs dedicated to special education into one funding stream. The new special education proposal would consolidate all current funding for special education, except the Part C Infants and Toddlers program and Special Olympics, into IDEA Part B, Grants to States. None of these individual programs would be guaranteed full funding, creating a potentially harmful situation for students with disabilities who depend on them.

Looking Ahead

President Trump campaigned on abolishing the Department of Education and has significantly reduced its workforce and ability to function. His Administration has done so through executive orders,⁷ withholding previously appropriated funds⁸, and other questionable executive actions. Because the Children's Budget does not track such actions, those changes do not appear in the funding streams analyzed here.

Since taking office, President Trump has laid off nearly half of the Department of Education,⁹ which will have a detrimental impact on children across the country. For example, layoffs at the Office for Civil Rights will make it more difficult to address discrimination in schools.¹⁰



The President has also doubled down on school voucher programs, which harm public schools that serve the majority of students. The reconciliation package signed into law in July — better known as the President's One Big Beautiful Bill — creates a permanent private school voucher program fueled by unlimited tax credits. The credit will fully reimburse donors for the first \$1,700 they donate to a scholarship granting organization — allowing an unprecedented full reimbursement for the contribution, prioritizing private school vouchers over charitable giving and all other causes — including the nation's children.¹¹

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9. U.S. Department of Education. "U.S. Department of Education Initiates Reduction in Force." March 11, 2025. <https://www.ed.gov/about/news/press-release/us-department-of-education-initiates-reduction-force>
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Education Programs

In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.

-24.26%
2021-25

Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: National Institute of Food & Agriculture
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 552.0 K	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 500.0 K	\$ 500.0 K	\$ 500.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	67.86%	-4.83%	-51.49%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The National Institute of Food & Agriculture's Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Program serves nearly 5 million students and 60,000 teachers annually through workshops, conferences, field trips, farm tours, and other educational activities.

3.12%
2021-25

Alaska Native Educational Equity

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 36.5 M	\$ 38.5 M	\$ 45.0 M	\$ 45.0 M	\$ 45.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.84%	-2.26%	11.26%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Alaska Native Educational Equity is absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

298.19%
2021-25

American History and Civics Academies & National Activities

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.3 M	\$ 8.0 M	\$ 23.0 M	\$ 23.0 M	\$ 25.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	5.56%	41.19%	173.61%	-2.99%	6.25%	-100.00%

The American History and Civics Academies & National Activities program supports the establishment of Presidential Academies for Teachers of American History and Civics that offer workshops for teachers of American history and civics to strengthen their knowledge and preparation for teaching these subjects. The program also supports the establishment of Congressional Academies for Students of American History and Civics to help high school students develop a broader and deeper understanding of these subjects.

5.48%
2021-25

American Printing House for the Blind

Department: Education • Bureau: American Printing House for the Blind
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 34.4 M	\$ 34.4 M	\$ 43.4 M	\$ 43.4 M	\$ 43.4 M	\$ 43.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.79%	-7.34%	20.04%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The American Printing House for the Blind produces and distributes educational materials to public and nonprofit institutions serving individuals who are blind through allotments to the states. These materials are adapted for students who are legally blind and enrolled in formal education programs below college level.

0.07%
2021-25

Arts in Education

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 30.5 M	\$ 37.0 M	\$ 36.5 M	\$ 36.5 M	\$ 36.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.57%	12.40%	-6.12%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Arts in Education is absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-16.38%
2021-25

Charter School Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 440.0 M	\$ 440.0 M	\$ 440.0 M	\$ 440.0 M	\$ 440.0 M	\$ 500.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	10.94%

Charter School Grants support the planning, development, and implementation of charter schools.



-16.38%
2021-25

Civil Rights Training and Advisory Services

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 6.6 M	\$ 6.6 M	\$ 6.6 M	\$ 6.6 M	\$ 6.6 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Civil Rights Training and Advisory Services program funds Equity Assistance Centers to provide technical assistance and training, upon request, in the areas of race, sex, and national origin to public school districts and other responsible governmental agencies to help schools and communities ensure that equitable education opportunities are available and accessible for all children.

-19.60%
2021-25

Comprehensive Centers

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 52.0 M	\$ 54.0 M	\$ 55.0 M	\$ 50.0 M	\$ 50.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-3.78%	-3.07%	-11.81%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Comprehensive Centers program supports the establishment of Comprehensive Centers to provide capacity-building services to state educational agencies, regional educational agencies, local educational agencies, and schools that improve educational opportunities and outcomes, close achievement gaps, and improve the quality of instruction for all students, and particularly for groups of students with the greatest need.

-15.51%
2021-25

Comprehensive Literacy Development Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: Education for the Disadvantaged
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 192.0 M	\$ 192.0 M	\$ 194.0 M	\$ 194.0 M	\$ 194.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-3.84%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Comprehensive Literary Development Grants are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-25.71%
2021-25

Corporation for National and Community Service

Department: Corporation for National and Community Service • Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 37%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.121 B	\$ 1.121 B	\$ 1.313 B	\$ 1.263 B	\$ 996.0 M	\$ 32.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 414.8 M	\$ 414.8 M	\$ 485.7 M	\$ 467.2 M	\$ 368.5 M	\$ 11.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.72%	-7.34%	11.44%	-6.68%	-22.90%	-96.86%

The Corporation for National and Community Service equips volunteers to meet community needs including health, education, disaster recovery, and economic opportunity. For lack of better data, we assume that it targets children at the same rate as the Community Services Block Grant program.

-25.73%
2021-25

Education Construction

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 264.3 M	\$ 264.3 M	\$ 267.9 M	\$ 234.7 M	\$ 234.7 M	\$ 48.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	3.06%	-7.34%	-3.53%	-15.00%	-2.25%	-80.04%

The Education Construction program is a comprehensive approach to assessing the conditions of bureau funded schools; it determines a holistic site-by-site solution to providing a safe, secure, healthy, operationally modern, and long-lasting campus to support the Bureau of Indian Education's mission to provide quality education opportunities.

1.29%
2021-25

Education for Homeless Children and Youth

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 106.5 M	\$ 114.0 M	\$ 129.0 M	\$ 129.0 M	\$ 129.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.58%	-0.82%	7.69%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Education for Homeless Children and Youth is absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

2.63%
2021-25

Education for Native Hawaiians

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 37.4 M	\$ 39.0 M	\$ 45.9 M	\$ 45.9 M	\$ 45.9 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.87%	-3.37%	12.00%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Education for Native Hawaiians is consolidated into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

11.64%
2021-25

Education Innovation and Research

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 194.0 M	\$ 234.0 M	\$ 284.0 M	\$ 259.0 M	\$ 259.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.15%	11.76%	15.50%	-11.53%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Education Innovation and Research program supports the creation, development, implementation, replication, and scaling up of evidence-based, field-initiated innovations designed to improve student achievement and attainment for high-need students.

Education Stabilization Fund (2021-present)

Department: Education • Bureau: Education Stabilization Fund
Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 71%

51.08%
2021-25

Mandatory

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 9.345 B	\$ 44.738 B	\$ 45.167 B	\$ 49.250 B	\$ 16.884 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 6.635 B	\$ 31.764 B	\$ 32.069 B	\$ 34.968 B	\$ 11.988 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	343.58%	-3.92%	5.78%	-66.49%	-100.00%

-97.31%
2021-25

Discretionary

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 39.269 B	\$ 34.486 B	\$ 19.363 B	\$ 6.267 B	\$ 1.262 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 27.881 B	\$ 24.485 B	\$ 13.748 B	\$ 4.450 B	\$ 896.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-18.63%	-46.57%	-68.60%	-80.32%	-100.00%

The Education Stabilization Fund supports a number of programs authorized and funded in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including Elementary and Secondary Education Emergency Relief and Governor's Emergency Education Relief. These funds are currently being phased out as the remaining portion of allocated dollars is being sent out the door to school districts.

-8.88%
2021-25

Education Statistics

Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 111.5 M	\$ 111.5 M	\$ 121.5 M	121.5 M	\$ 121.5 M	\$ 124.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.31%	-7.34%	3.70%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-0.36%

The Education Statistics program collects, analyzes, and reports statistics and information showing the condition and progress of education in the United States and other nations in order to promote and accelerate the improvement of American education.



-100%
2021-25

Emergency Connectivity Fund

Department: Federal Communications Commission Bureau: Emergency Connectivity Fund for Educational Connections and Devices • Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 85%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.057 B	\$ 1.896 B	\$ 2.676 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 898.5 M	\$ 1.612 B	\$ 2.275 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	66.20%	34.32%	-100.00%	N/A	N/A

Congress established a \$7.17 billion Emergency Connectivity Fund as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to help schools and libraries provide connected devices, such as a laptop, tablet, or similar end-user devices, and connectivity to students, school staff, and library patrons at locations other than a school or library during the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds are available until September 30, 2030

-6.67%
2021-25

English Language Acquisition State Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: English Language Acquisition
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 797.4 M	\$ 831.0 M	\$ 890.0 M	\$ 890.0 M	\$ 890.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.96%	-3.44%	1.92%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The English Language Acquisition State Grants program ensures that English language learner (ELL) children learn academic English, develop high levels of academic achievement, and meet the same challenging state academic standards as all children. Significant achievement gaps persist between ELL children and their peers.



318.10%
2021-25

Full-Service Community Schools

Department: Education • Bureau: Safe Schools and Citizenship Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 150.0 M	\$ 150.0 M	\$ 150.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	16.18%	131.64%	90.34%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Full-Service Community Schools grants support partnerships and coordination between schools and outside organizations to provide comprehensive academic, social, and health services for students, students' family members, and community members that will result in improved educational outcomes for children. Before the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, these activities were supported under the Fund for Education Improvement.

-0.30%
2021-25

Gallaudet University

Department: Education • Bureau: Gallaudet University
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 14%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 140.4 M	\$ 140.4 M	\$ 165.4 M	\$ 167.4 M	\$ 167.4 M	\$ 167.4 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 20.1 M	\$ 20.1 M	\$ 23.6 M	\$ 23.9 M	\$ 23.9 M	\$ 23.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.07%	-7.34%	12.12%	-1.81%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Gallaudet University provides a liberal arts education and career development for deaf and hard-of-hearing undergraduate students. The University also runs two federally supported elementary and secondary programs for deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

-11.84%
2021-25

GEAR UP

Department: Education • Bureau: Higher Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 368.0 M	\$ 368.0 M	\$ 388.0 M	\$ 388.0 M	\$ 388.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.39%	-7.34%	0.34%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

GEAR UP assists states in providing services and financial assistance in high-poverty middle and high schools with the goal of increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.

-12.41%
2021-25

Grants to Local Education Agencies for Indian Education

Department: Education • Bureau: Indian Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 105.4 M	\$ 105.4 M	\$ 110.4 M	\$ 110.4 M	\$ 110.4 M	\$ 110.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-0.32%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Grants to Local Education Agencies for Indian Education addresses the academic needs of Indian students, including preschool children, by helping Indian children sharpen their academic skills, assisting students in becoming proficient in the core content areas, and providing students with an opportunity to participate in enrichment programs that would otherwise be unavailable.

-8.13%
2021-25

IDEA B—Grants to States

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 12.937 B	\$ 13.344 B	\$ 14.194 B	\$ 14.214 B	\$ 14.214 B	\$ 14.891 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.87%	-4.43%	1.23%	-2.85%	-2.25%	2.28%

Special Education Grants to States are part of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and assist states in meeting the cost of providing free special education and related services to children with disabilities. In the President's proposed FY 2026 budget, IDEA B—Preschool Grants, IDEA D—Parent Information Centers, IDEA D—Personnel Preparation, IDEA D—State Personnel Development, IDEA D—Technical Assistance and Dissemination, IDEA D—Technology and Media Services would all be consolidated into IDEA B—Grants to States. The total funding for IDEA B—Grants to States would be the same as the combined funding of Grants to States and all of those other programs for FY 2025; total funding for IDEA would be unchanged.

1.13%
2021-25

IDEA D—Parent Information Centers

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 27.4 M	\$ 30.2 M	\$ 33.2 M	\$ 33.2 M	\$ 33.2 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	1.92%	4.64%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, IDEA D—Parent Information Centers are consolidated into IDEA B—Grants to States.

6.61%
2021-25

IDEA D—Personnel Preparation

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 90.2 M	\$ 95.0 M	\$ 115.0 M	\$ 115.0 M	\$ 115.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.65%	-2.41%	15.20%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, IDEA D—Personnel Preparation is consolidated into IDEA B—Grants to States.

-16.38%
2021-25

IDEA D—State Personnel Development

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 38.6 M	\$ 38.6 M	38.6 M	\$ 38.6 M	\$ 38.6 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, IDEA D—State Personnel Development is consolidated into IDEA B—Grants to States.

-25.81%
2021-25

IDEA D—Technical Assistance and Dissemination

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 44.3 M	\$ 44.3 M	\$ 45.3 M	\$ 39.3 M	\$ 39.3 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-2.69%	-15.82%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, IDEA D—Technical Assistance and Dissemination is consolidated into IDEA B—Grants to States.

-11.04%
2021-25

IDEA D—Technology and Media Services

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 29.5 M	\$ 30.4 M	\$ 31.4 M	\$ 31.4 M	\$ 31.4 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-4.56%	-1.70%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, IDEA D—Technology and Media Services is consolidated into IDEA B—Grants to States.



-9.47%
2021-25

Impact Aid

Department: Education • Bureau: Impact Aid

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.501 B	\$ 1.501 B	\$ 1.618 B	\$ 1.625 B	\$ 1.625 B	\$ 1.625 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.21%	-7.34%	2.59%	-2.56%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Impact Aid program provides financial assistance to school districts affected by Federal activities. Impact Aid helps replace the lost local revenue that would otherwise be available to local education agencies to support the education of children living on federal property, but is unavailable due to the federal property tax exemption.

-3.25%
2021-25

Indian Education

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 819.7 M	\$ 973.1 M	\$ 949.9 M	\$ 948.3 M	\$ 948.3 M	\$ 845.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.32%	10.00%	-7.10%	-3.15%	-2.25%	-12.92%

The Indian Education grant program addresses the academic needs of Indian students, including preschool children, by helping Indian children sharpen their academic skills, assisting students in becoming proficient in the core content areas, and providing students with an opportunity to participate in enrichment programs that would otherwise be unavailable. The totals here exclude funding for post-secondary education programs.

-10.41%
2021-25

Innovative Approaches to Literacy

Department: Education • Bureau: Education for the Disadvantaged

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 28.0 M	\$ 29.0 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	0.40%	-4.03%	-1.55%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Innovative Approaches to Literacy is consolidated into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.



2.20%
2021-25

Javits Gifted and Talented Education

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 13.5 M	\$ 14.5 M	\$ 16.5 M	\$ 16.5 M	\$ 16.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	0.54%	-0.48%	8.29%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Javits Gifted and Talented Education is consolidated into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

6.63%
2021-25

Magnet School Assistance

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 109.0 M	\$ 124.0 M	\$ 139.0 M	\$ 139.0 M	\$ 139.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.38%	5.41%	6.68%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Magnet School Assistance is absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

31.46%
2021-25

National Activities for Indian Education

Department: Education • Bureau: Indian Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 7.9 M	\$ 7.9 M	\$ 12.4 M	\$ 12.4 M	\$ 12.4 M	\$ 12.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	3.39%	-7.34%	49.62%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

National Activities for Indian Education funds are used to expand efforts to improve research, evaluation, and data collection on the status and effectiveness of Indian education programs.

-10.45%
2021-25

National Assessment of Educational Progress

Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 172.7 M	\$ 172.7 M	\$ 185.0 M	\$ 185.0 M	\$ 185.0 M	\$ 130.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.04%	-7.34%	1.92%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-31.39%

The National Assessment of Educational Progress supports programs that assess the academic performance of students nationwide in reading, mathematics, science, writing, U.S. history, civics, geography, and the arts.

-11.78%
2021-25

National Science Foundation K-12 Programs

Department: National Science Foundation • Bureau: Education and Human Resources

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 40%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.111 B	\$ 1.006 B	\$ 1.154 B	\$ 1.172 B	\$ 1.172 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 444.3 M	\$ 402.4 M	\$ 461.6 M	\$ 468.8 M	\$ 468.8 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	14.41%	-16.09%	9.17%	-1.47%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Through its Education and Human Resources Department, the National Science Foundation funds several projects and programs that seek to improve K-12 science education.

-11.73%
2021-25

Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.260 B	\$ 1.290 B	\$ 1.330 B	\$ 1.330 B	\$ 1.330 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.41%	-5.11%	-1.91%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-6.06%
2021-25

Promise Neighborhoods

Department: Education • Bureau: Safe Schools and Citizenship Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 81.0 M	\$ 85.0 M	\$ 91.0 M	\$ 91.0 M	\$ 91.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.98%	-2.77%	1.89%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Promise Neighborhoods are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-12.13%
2021-25

Ready to Learn Television

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 29.5 M	\$ 30.5 M	\$ 31.0 M	\$ 31.0 M	\$ 31.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.52%	-4.20%	-3.27%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Ready to Learn Television supports the development of educational television programming for preschool and early elementary school children and their families.

-21.20%
2021-25

Regional Educational Laboratories

Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 57.0 M	\$ 57.0 M	\$ 58.7 M	\$ 53.7 M	\$ 53.7 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.46%	-7.34%	-1.98%	-11.24%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Regional Educational Laboratories are absorbed into the Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund.

3.53%
2021-25

Research, Development and Dissemination

Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 197.9 M	\$ 197.9 M	\$ 245.0 M	\$ 245.0 M	\$ 245.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.20%	-7.34%	17.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Research, Development and Dissemination is absorbed into the Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund.

-8.15%
2021-25

Research in Special Education

Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 58.5 M	\$ 58.5 M	\$ 64.3 M	\$ 64.3 M	\$ 64.3 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	0.24%	-7.34%	4.53%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Research in Special Education is absorbed into the Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund.



-2.06%
2021-25

Rural Education

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 187.8 M	\$ 195.0 M	\$ 215.0 M	\$ 220.0 M	\$ 220.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.14%	-3.81%	4.93%	-0.73%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Rural Education is absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

1139.39%
2021-25

School-Based Mental Health Services Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: Safe Schools and Citizenship Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 11.8 M	\$ 155.6 M	\$ 155.5 M	\$ 174.6 M	\$ 174.6 M	\$ 174.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.83%	1123.62%	-4.88%	8.93%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The School-Based Mental Health Services Grants are funded in the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSA) to provide funds for establishing social emotional supports, including counselors and therapists, within schools. The numbers are a combined the School-Based Mental Health Services Grants and School-Based Mental Health Services Grants-BSA.

-1.60%
2021-25

Special Education Studies and Evaluations

Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 11.3 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.29%	9.03%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Special Education Studies and Evaluations are absorbed into the Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund.



27.11%
2021-25

Special Olympics Education Programs

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 23.7 M	\$ 31.0 M	\$ 36.0 M	\$ 36.0 M	\$ 36.0 M	\$ 36.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	14.17%	21.28%	10.52%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Special Olympics Education Programs provide financial assistance for activities that promote and expand the Special Olympics and the design and implementation of Special Olympics Education Programs to be integrated into classroom instruction.

-11.45%
2021-25

Special Programs for Indian Children

Department: Education • Bureau: Indian Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 68.0 M	\$ 68.0 M	\$ 72.0 M	\$ 72.0 M	\$ 72.0 M	\$ 72.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	0.78%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Special Programs for Indian Children grants are used for projects and programs that improve Indian student achievement through early childhood education and college preparation programs, and for professional development grants for training Indians who are preparing to begin careers in teaching and school administration.

-20.88%
2021-25

State Assessments and Enhanced Assessment Instruments

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 390.0 M	\$ 378.0 M	\$ 390.0 M	\$ 380.0 M	\$ 369.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.11%	-10.19%	-1.81%	-5.47%	-5.08%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, State Assessments and Enhanced Assessment Instruments are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-28.86%
2021-25

Statewide Data Systems

Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 33.5 M	\$ 33.5 M	\$ 38.5 M	\$ 28.5 M	\$ 28.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.72%	-7.34%	9.37%	-28.18%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Statewide Data Systems are absorbed into the Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund.

33.79%
2021-25

Statewide Family Engagement Centers

Department: Education • Bureau: Education for the Disadvantaged
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	21.02%	11.19%	26.89%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Statewide Family Engagement Centers are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-5.41%
2021-25

Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.220 B	\$ 1.280 B	\$ 1.380 B	\$ 1.380 B	\$ 1.380 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.39%	-2.79%	2.60%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-100%
2021-25

Supplemental Education Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 16.7 M	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 24.5 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	10.97%	16.41%	-100.00%	N/A	N/A

These funds serve as a substitute for domestic grant programs administered by the Department of Education for which the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands are not eligible. Local school districts use these funds for direct educational services focused on school readiness, early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, vocational training, adult and family literacy, and the transition from high school to postsecondary education and careers.

-5.93%
2021-25

Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 80.0 M	\$ 85.0 M	\$ 90.0 M	\$ 90.0 M	\$ 90.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-1.55%	0.77%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The SEED grant program provides funding to increase the number of highly effective educators by supporting the implementation of evidence-based preparation, development, or enhancement opportunities for educators.

-14.55%
2021-25

Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: School Improvement Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 2.143 B	\$ 2.170 B	\$ 2.190 B	\$ 2.190 B	\$ 2.190 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.67%	-6.18%	-3.95%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-74.91%
2021-25

Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants

Department: Education • Bureau: Innovation and Improvement
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 200.0 M	\$ 173.0 M	\$ 173.0 M	\$ 60.0 M	\$ 60.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-19.85%	-4.83%	-66.35%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants support efforts to develop and implement performance-based teacher and principal compensation systems in high-need schools.

12.37%
2021-25

Teacher Quality Partnerships

Department: Education • Bureau: Higher Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 52.1 M	\$ 52.1 M	\$ 70.0 M	\$ 70.0 M	\$ 70.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	0.68%	-7.34%	27.88%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Teacher Quality Partnerships grants are meant to reduce the shortages of qualified teachers in high-need school districts and improve the quality of the current and future teaching force.



-6.92%
2021-25

Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies

Department: Education • Bureau: Education for the Disadvantaged
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 16.537 B	\$ 17.537 B	\$ 18.387 B	\$ 18.407 B	\$ 18.407 B	\$ 18.407 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.84%	-1.74%	-0.22%	-2.88%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies provide supplemental education funding, especially in high-poverty areas, for local programs that provide extra academic support to help students in high-poverty schools meet challenging state academic standards. These grants compensate for inequities in high-poverty areas that have lower levels of local revenue to fund public education.

-16.38%
2021-25

Title I Migrant Education Program

Department: Education • Bureau: Education for the Disadvantaged
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 375.6 M	\$ 375.6 M	\$ 375.6 M	\$ 375.6 M	\$ 375.6 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.96%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Title I Migrant Education Program provides financial assistance to state educational agencies to establish and improve programs of education for children of migratory farmworkers and fishers, helping them overcome the educational disruption that results from repeated moves.



-14.65%
2021-25

Title I Neglected and Delinquent Program

Department: Education • Bureau: Education for the Disadvantaged
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 48.2 M	\$ 48.2 M	\$ 49.2 M	\$ 49.2 M	\$ 49.2 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.91%	-7.34%	-2.86%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, the Title I Neglected and Delinquent Program is absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program.

-9.22%
2021-25

Federal TRIO Programs

Department: Education • Bureau: Higher Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 47%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.097 B	\$ 1.097 B	\$ 1.191 B	\$ 1.191 B	\$ 1.191 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 520.0 M	\$ 520.0 M	\$ 564.5 M	\$ 564.5 M	\$ 564.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.56%	-7.34%	3.32%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Federal TRIO Programs include six outreach and support programs targeted to serve and assist low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities to progress from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs.

New Education Programs

PROPOSED FOR 2026	Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund					
	Department: Education • Bureau: Institute of Education Sciences					
	Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%					
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
	Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
						Trump 2026
						\$ 124.0 M

In the President’s FY 2026 budget, this program consolidates a number of programs in the Institute for Educational Sciences into a common fund including Regional Educational Laboratories, Research in Special Education, Research, Development and Dissemination, Special Education Studies and Evaluations, and Statewide Data Systems.

PROPOSED FOR 2026	K-12 Simplified Funding Program					
	Department: Education • Bureau: N/A					
	Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 47%					
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
	Real Change from Prior Year	-2.56%	-7.34%	3.32%	-2.99%	-2.25%
						Trump 2026
						\$ 2.000 B
						N/A

In the President’s FY 2026 budget, several Department of Education programs are consolidated into a common fund giving states’ greater discretion on how to spend federal education funding. Affected programs are indicated above in their respective program charts.



HEALTH



↑ 20.07%

Real Percent Increase in Health Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025

TOTAL SPENDING ON HEALTH						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 119.338 B	\$ 135.005 B	\$ 151.799 B	\$ 157.038 B	\$ 171.351 B	\$ 181.966 B
Real Change from Prior Year	5.03%	4.82%	7.01%	0.36%	6.66%	3.68%
Share of Total Spending	1.75%	2.27%	2.46%	2.32%	2.48%	2.60%

Background

Children’s health depends on a broad set of protections and supports that work together to help them grow, learn, and thrive. Access to quality health care, safe pregnancies and births, strong public health measures, and a clean environment all play vital roles in ensuring that every child has the opportunity for a healthy start and a bright future. By investing in these areas, we can prevent illness and injury, address inequities, and build stronger communities where all children can reach their full potential.

Health care coverage is essential to a robust childhood that puts kids on a path to success as they mature. Research shows that having health care coverage improves children’s physical and mental health and promotes greater educational attainment and better financial outcomes as they grow into adults. In tandem, Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) are indispensable pillars of children’s health coverage in the United States, currently insuring more than 37 million children.¹ In some



states, the programs cover as many as half of all children. Both programs offer access to essential medical services and preventive care, including regular check-ups, vaccinations, dental and vision care, mental health screenings, and specialty care, all of which enable early detection and treatment of health issues.

Maternal health is a harbinger of children's health and well-being as well. Children suffer the impact of the United States' infant and maternal mortality rates, which are among the highest and most racially disparate in the world. The health and well-being of children is intrinsically linked to maternal health, and lawmakers must work harder to address the country's maternal and infant mortality issues.

Public health initiatives — such as vaccination programs and gun safety measures — are essential to safeguarding children's health and well-being. These efforts prevent disease, reduce injury, and create safer environments in which children can grow and thrive. Vaccines alone have saved millions of young lives by protecting against deadly but preventable illnesses, while evidence-based gun safety policies help reduce accidental shootings, suicides, and community violence that disproportionately affect youth. By addressing health risks before they cause harm, public health initiatives not only protect individual children but also strengthen entire communities, reduce health care costs, and lay the foundation for healthier, more productive futures.

Every child, regardless of race, income, or location, deserves to live in a world free from environmental hazards, yet pollutants, climate-related disasters, and environmental injustices affect nearly every child around the globe. The American Academy of Pediatrics estimates that children under age 5 bear nearly 90% of the harms from climate-related disease.² Children's unique physiology and behavior make them more vulnerable than adults to pollutants, pesticides, and other contaminants — they drink more water, eat more food, and breathe more air in proportion to their body weight, resulting in greater toxin exposure relative to their size. These factors put them at heightened risk from threats such as air and water pollution and toxic substances, with children of color, those in low-income communities, and other marginalized groups disproportionately exposed to pollution, climate change impacts, poor environmental quality, and the resulting health consequences.³

Overall Analysis

The real spending level, meaning the inflation-adjusted funding allocated to children's health programs, increased by 6.66% between Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY 2025. Overall, this spending represents just 2.48% of the federal budget in FY 2025.

But these numbers seem better than they are. The increases to health spending on kids are driven almost entirely by increases in Medicaid. But it is important to note that the increased investment in Medicaid results from anticipated growth in the

program, not from meaningful policy change. In addition, the growth figures include investments made under the Biden administration and do not account for recent policy actions that will significantly decrease investment in children's health, such as the passage of H.R. 1 (see "Looking Ahead" for more information). Additionally, beyond health care coverage, President Trump's FY 2026 budget proposal threatens cuts to other programs that affect children's health, including Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education, Emergency Medical Services for Children, Community Health Centers, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Grants, Project LAUNCH, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, Healthy Start, Safe Motherhood/Infant Health Programs, Gun Violence Prevention Research, and Teen Pregnancy Prevention Discretionary Grants.

Program Spotlights

Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education (CHGME)

President Trump's FY 2026 budget for health would cut nearly \$400 million from the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) program. The CHGME program is a critical federal initiative that helps fund the training of pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists at freestanding children's hospitals across the United States. Unlike most teaching hospitals, which receive Medicare funding for graduate medical education, freestanding children's hospitals treat very few Medicare patients and therefore rely heavily on CHGME to support residency and fellowship programs. This funding is essential for sustaining the pediatric workforce, addressing shortages in pediatric subspecialties, and ensuring that children — particularly those with complex medical needs — have access to highly trained providers. By strengthening the pipeline of pediatric specialists, the CHGME program plays a vital role in advancing children's health, improving access to care, and preparing the next generation of physicians to meet the unique health needs of young patients.

Emergency Medical Services for Children

The President's budget proposes cutting all \$24.3 million of funding for the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program. This program helps emergency departments and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) systems be

better prepared to handle the unique challenges of treating children with severe illness and trauma. This vital federal initiative was born from the recognition that children — because of their unique physiological, developmental, and emotional needs — can't simply be treated as "small adults" in emergencies. By focusing on what makes children different, EMSC pushes our health care and emergency systems to respond with the right resources, training, and support children need in emergencies and in disaster situations. Eliminating this vital program will inevitably lead to more children being severely ill and more children dying from preventable causes. Estimates show that more than 7,600 children die annually under current hospital emergency department pediatric readiness levels.⁴ More than 2,100 children's lives could be saved by improving hospital readiness.⁵

Healthy Start

President Trump's proposed FY 2026 budget for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) would eliminate all Healthy Start, funding. On the legislative side, the last several appropriations processes have threatened funding for Healthy Start but strong congressional support has preserved the program. Established in 1991 by President George H. W. Bush as a presidential initiative, Healthy Start aims to improve maternal health and reduce infant mortality in communities with rates at least 1.5 times the national average. At a time when the U.S. infant and maternal mortality rate outstrips nearly every other developed nation, the Healthy Start program saves lives by building community-based, family-centered initiatives to strengthen maternal and infant health systems in high-risk areas.

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

Overall, health spending on children would decrease by 3.68% under the President's FY 2026 budget proposal. Even more alarming is that discretionary spending on children's health would fall by 39% under the President's budget.

Health Care Coverage

While the President's budget proposal would increase Medicaid and CHIP spending over FY 2025 figures, these increases pale in comparison to the nearly \$1 trillion in cuts made to the programs under H.R. 1, passed by Congress in July 2025 (See "Looking Ahead" for more details).



Infant and Maternal Health

The President's FY 2026 budget proposes significant cuts to programs impacting infant and maternal health. As highlighted above, the President's proposal would eliminate funding for Healthy Start. Additionally, the President's budget would cut funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, Safe Motherhood/Infant Health Programs, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, and Teen Pregnancy Prevention Discretionary Grants.

The President's FY 2026 budget proposal would keep funding flat for Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression, and the Innovation in Maternal Health Program.

Public Health

Despite the Administration's claim that it wants to "Make America Healthy Again" (MAHA) — and its particular insistence on the health of children — the President's budget says the exact opposite. From huge cuts to vastly popular and historically bipartisan programs such as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program to completely defunding vital research and prevention programs that keep children from drowning or being hurt by firearms, it is impossible to claim that the Administration is prioritizing the health and well-being of children.

The Administration has proposed consolidating or completely eliminating entire institutes and offices within the government solely dedicated to protecting children, including the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

(NICHD) and the Office of Adolescent Health. The Administration has targeted the mental and sexual health of children by dismantling the LGBTQ+ youth suicide prevention hotline and proposing elimination of school-based HIV and STI prevention programs, as well as funding for mental health programs, such as Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Grants and Project LAUNCH. Additionally, the Administration is working to eliminate Universal Newborn Hearing, Screening, and Early Intervention — a highly effective and popular program that ensures babies are treated and screened for conditions at birth.

This budget proposal also would eliminate the Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). To combat youth tobacco use, OSH staff have worked with state and local health departments to identify and implement effective strategies to reduce youth e-cigarette use and assist youth who are addicted to nicotine. The office has conducted critical research on youth tobacco product use, which is essential for understanding the scope of the problem and developing effective responses. Eliminating this critical work will erase recent progress made in reducing youth use of e-cigarettes and will endanger children's health.

The budget also would eliminate funding at the CDC and National Institutes of Health for gun violence prevention research, despite the fact that gun violence is the leading cause of death in children.⁶ Across this country, suicide, violent

crime, and accidental shootings cause trauma to children, families, and communities affected by these preventable tragedies.

Environmental Health

The President's budget proposal would completely eliminate or reduce funding for key initiatives that help reduce environment-related harms impacting children's health. Examples include the elimination of funding for the CDC's Climate and Health program and funding for key Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiatives including, the Indoor Air Radon program, the Clean Air and Climate: Climate Protection program, and the Clean Air and Climate: Federal Support for Air Quality Management program. The President's budget would also cut funding for the State and Tribal Grant for reducing lead in drinking water.

Looking Ahead

Health Care Coverage

The numbers above reflect a more positive outlook for children's health care coverage than will exist in reality moving forward. On July 4, 2025, President Trump signed H.R. 1 into law, enacting the largest cuts to Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in U.S. history. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates nearly \$1 trillion in Medicaid and CHIP cuts over the next decade, resulting in at least 10 million Americans losing coverage — including millions of children who depend on these programs for basic health care. The legislation dismantles children's health care protections through multiple provisions: shortening retroactive coverage for children and pregnant women; limiting states' ability to fund pediatric providers through provider taxes and state-directed payments; restricting immigrant eligibility; and imposing work reporting requirements that will cause widespread coverage losses. Measures such as more frequent eligibility checks and increased cost-sharing will have an indirect impact on children's health by further destabilizing household health and financial security.

The impact of these measures will fall hardest on children of color, those with disabilities, and those in small towns and rural areas, who disproportionately rely on Medicaid and CHIP. For example, rural communities face a particularly dire outlook: the \$50 billion rural health program outlined in H.R. 1 is overshadowed by \$137 billion in Medicaid cuts to rural areas, threatening more

than 400 rural hospitals with closure and forcing others to scale back critical services such as obstetrics, cancer care, and behavioral health. The cuts will also hit hard in schools, which will lose funding for school-based health services, including therapies and specialized equipment for children with disabilities. Without these resources, school districts will be forced to choose between meeting children's health needs and funding core educational programs.

Beyond the immediate coverage losses and service cuts, H.R. 1 jeopardizes the long-term well-being and economic mobility of an entire generation. Medicaid is one of the most effective anti-poverty programs in U.S. history, providing the healthy foundation children need to succeed in school, thrive in the workforce, and achieve economic stability as adults. By undermining this foundation, H.R. 1 risks condemning millions of children to poorer health, lower educational attainment, and reduced lifetime earnings — imposing long-term social and economic costs on the country that will far outweigh any short-term budget savings.

Infant and Maternal Health

Awareness and concern over infant and maternal health and mortality have grown in recent years. Yet, lawmakers have continued to threaten funding for essential programs, and infant mortality remains especially high among Black and American Indian/Alaska Native families, reflecting deep and long-standing inequities. Sweeping policy reversals, as well as enacted and proposed cuts by the Trump Administration and the 119th Congress, threaten to dismantle the nation's progress in maternal and infant health. By weakening or eliminating proven strategies to address health inequities, these cuts will strip away vital support systems that help families thrive before, during, and after pregnancy. If enacted, these changes will undo decades of hard-won gains and place mothers and infants — especially those in the highest-risk communities — at greater risk of preventable illness, disability, and death.

Public Health

The Administration has kept funding steady for the Vaccines for Children program, but it has also taken extreme measures to discourage vaccination. With HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s attacks on the COVID-19 vaccine and dismissal of all members of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, he has made it difficult or even impossible for families to



get vaccinated. Vaccines are safe, effective, and thoroughly tested before they ever reach a child, but the Administration and HHS are taking actions that undermine trust in vaccines, especially in the childhood vaccination schedule and overall vaccine recommendations. A reduction in vaccine use will harm children today and long into the future.

Tobacco and e-cigarette use by children and young people continues to be a serious problem, and recent moves by the Administration have undermined progress in reducing use. The most recent National Youth Tobacco Survey by the CDC and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) showed that more than 1.6 million youth, including 7.8% of high schoolers, reported using e-cigarettes last year. Alarming, 42.1% of high school e-cigarette users reported use on 20 days or more a month, including nearly 30% who reported daily use. At the same time, the Administration recently authorized five e-cigarette products for sale and has cut staff at FDA's Center for Tobacco Products, which will hobble the agency's enforcement efforts against illegal e-cigarette products that target children in their marketing. The Administration also did not include smoking as a chronic health issue for children in its May 2025 Make America Healthy Again report and has proposed eliminating OSH. These actions may allow more children to use tobacco and e-cigarette products, and encourage companies to market their harmful products to children without restriction.

Environmental Health

In the face of accelerating climate collapse and ever more damaging natural disasters, the Trump Administration along with Congress through H.R. 1 have made significant cuts to environmental health meant to protect children, in some cases completely eliminating programs. The proposed cuts include programs that help monitor and prevent cancer in children (Trevor's Law), provide safe drinking water, reduce lead levels in homes, improve indoor air quality in schools, prevent lead poisoning in schools, study and prevent the impacts of climate collapse on children, and study and address the ways that discrimination creates unhealthy environments for children and families. These massive cuts come at a time when the EPA has chosen to rescind the landmark 2009 declaration⁷ that greenhouse gases and the climate crisis as a whole are bad for public health, thus revoking the agency's authority to regulate key sources of pollution. The United States was making commendable progress toward climate- and pollution-related goals, though there was still much work to be done. Now, however, these policy changes from the Administration and Congress will reverse progress made to protect our homes, schools, and planet from the ill effects of the well-established climate crisis. The world our children are growing up in is becoming increasingly more polluted and more harmful to their growing bodies and minds.

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2. "Climate Change: The Impact on Children's Health." American Academy of Pediatrics. January 10, 2024. <https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/environmental-health/promoting-healthy-environments-for-children/climate-change/?srsltid=AfmBOoplwlC4zfIFjLqluLFyYop0xpjebtwVC10NNTGtmEL7tYNIFqI>.
3. Perera, Frederica, & Nadeau, Kari. "Climate change, fossil-fuel pollution, and children's health." *New England Journal of Medicine*, 386(24). June 15, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1056/nejmra2117706>.
4. Newgard, C. D., Lin, A., Goldhaber-Fiebert, J. D., et al. (2024). State and National Estimates of the Cost of Emergency Department Pediatric Readiness and Lives Saved. *JAMA Network Open*, 7(11), e2442154. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.42154.
5. Ibid.
6. Villarreal, S., Kim, R., Wagner, E., Somayaji, N., Davis, A., & Crifasi, C. K. (2024). Gun Violence in the United States 2022: Examining the Burden Among Children and Teens. Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.
7. Joselow, Maxine and Lisa Friedman, "In Game-Changing Climate Rollback, E.P.A. Aims to Kill a Bedrock Scientific Finding," *New York Times*, July 29, 2022 <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/29/climate/epa-endangerment-finding-repeal-proposal.html>.

Health Programs

In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 26%

-12.09%
2021-25

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 78.0 M	\$ 78.0 M	\$ 85.0 M	\$ 81.6 M	\$ 82.0 M	\$ 78.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 20.5 M	\$ 20.5 M	\$ 22.4 M	\$ 21.5 M	\$ 21.6 M	\$ 20.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.53%	-7.34%	3.73%	-6.87%	-1.80%	-7.13%

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry protects communities, including children, from harmful health effects related to exposure to natural and human-made hazardous substances by responding to environmental health emergencies; investigating emerging environmental health threats; conducting research on the health impacts of hazardous waste sites; and building capabilities of and providing actionable guidance to state and local health partners.

Autism and Other Developmental Disorders Initiative

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

-11.41%
2021-25

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 53.2 M	\$ 54.3 M	\$ 56.3 M	\$ 56.3 M	\$ 56.3 M	\$ 38.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.63%	-5.32%	-1.33%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-33.73%

The Autism and Other Developmental Disorders Initiative supports surveillance, early detection, education, and intervention activities on autism and other developmental disorders.

Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

2.44%
2021-25

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 112.0 M	\$ 153.0 M	\$ 197.1 M	\$ 153.0 M	\$ 137.2 M	\$ 89.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	6.31%	26.58%	22.57%	-24.67%	-12.34%	-36.46%

Operated jointly between the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training program is focused on developing and expanding the behavioral health workforce serving children, adolescents, and transitional-age youth at risk for developing, or developed, a recognized behavioral health disorder.

Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 78%

3.00%
2021-25

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 167.3 M	\$ 177.1 M	\$ 205.6 M	\$ 206.1 M	\$ 206.1 M	\$ 157.8 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 130.5 M	\$ 138.1 M	\$ 160.3 M	\$ 160.7 M	\$ 160.7 M	\$ 123.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.72%	-1.93%	10.49%	-2.75%	-2.25%	-25.23%

The National Center on Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health aims to provide a national focus for the prevention of secondary conditions in persons within selected disability domains including mobility, personal care, communication, and learning. The program also supports research projects to understand secondary conditions and measure the impact of environment on the lives of persons with disabilities.

-6.28%
2021-25

CDC School-Based HIV Prevention Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 34.0 M	\$ 36.1 M	\$ 38.1 M	\$ 38.1 M	\$ 38.1 M	\$ 8.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.57%	-1.60%	0.44%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-78.81%

CDC's school-based HIV prevention program focuses on three areas: national surveillance, supporting schools to implement primary prevention programs, and building the evidence for what works in prevention. Since FY 2018, the president's budget requests do not specify funding for the school-based HIV prevention program but include it as an activity under Domestic HIV/AIDS Prevention funds.

5.66%
2021-25

CDC School Health Programs (Healthy Schools)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 15.4 M	\$ 17.4 M	\$ 19.4 M	\$ 19.4 M	\$ 19.4 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	5.01%	6.11%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

CDC's Healthy Schools program provides science-based guidance, tools, and training for states, parents, and communities to improve student health.

-51.95%
2021-25

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration Type: • Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 23%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 670.0 M	\$ 315.0 M	\$ 385.0 M	\$ 385.0 M	\$ 385.0 M	\$ 385.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 154.1 M	\$ 72.5 M	\$ 88.6 M	\$ 88.6 M	\$ 88.6 M	\$ 88.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	224.33%	-56.44%	16.32%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

A Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model is designed to ensure access to coordinated comprehensive behavioral health care. CCBHCs are required to serve anyone who requests care for mental health or substance use, regardless of their ability to pay, place of residence, or age — including developmentally appropriate care for children and youth.

-16.38%
2021-25

Child Maltreatment

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 7.3 M	\$ 7.3 M	\$ 7.3 M	\$ 7.3 M	\$ 7.3 M	\$ 7.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.88%

This chart represents the budget set aside for child maltreatment under the Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence program within the Injury Prevention and Control initiative at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

67.24%
2021-25

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	45.22%	23.54%	42.75%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.88%

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Budget set aside for child sexual abuse in CDC Injury Prevention and Control, Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence.

-16.38%
2021-25

Childhood Cancer Data Initiative

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 50.0 M	\$ 50.0 M	\$ 46.4 M	\$ 50.0 M	\$ 50.0 M	\$ 50.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-11.71%	4.57%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Childhood Cancer Data Initiative focuses on the critical need to collect, analyze, and share data to address childhood cancers. The initiative supports childhood cancer research and aims to make it easier for researchers to share data and have access to data from each of the children diagnosed with cancer each year. The initiative was first proposed in the president's FY 2020 budget, which requested \$50 million per year over 10 years. FY 2020 marked the first year the program was funded.

-16.38%
2021-25

Childhood Cancer STAR Act

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 30.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

This program advances childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer research, enhances childhood cancer surveillance, and supports survivors and those affected by childhood cancer.

9.54%
2021-25

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 38.9 M	\$ 41.0 M	\$ 51.0 M	\$ 51.0 M	\$ 51.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.87%	-2.42%	18.38%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program works with states to monitor childhood blood lead levels to prevent lead poisoning and help those who have elevated blood lead levels by assuring appropriate follow-up and linkage to services. The program also supports state and local efforts to collect vital lead data that enables them to target and implement primary prevention and response activities.



-35.85%
2021-25

Children and Other Sensitive Populations Agency Coordination

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Children's Health Protection
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 8.3 M	\$ 6.2 M	\$ 6.5 M	\$ 6.3 M	\$ 6.4 M	\$ 6.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	29.04%	-30.07%	-0.58%	-5.71%	-2.14%	-2.37%

The EPA coordinates and advances the protection of children's environmental health through regulatory development, science policy, program implementation, communication, and effective results measurement.

10.84%
2021-25

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 16.093 B	\$ 16.613 B	\$ 17.588 B	\$ 20.669 B	\$ 21.332 B	\$ 22.115 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-7.70%	-4.35%	0.75%	14.01%	0.88%	1.21%

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is a joint federal and state initiative that provides low-cost health coverage to children in families whose incomes are too high to qualify for Medicaid but too low to afford private insurance. Thanks to CHIP, over 7 million children have access to quality, affordable health care coverage.

-6.64%
2021-25

Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 349.3 M	\$ 375.0 M	\$ 385.0 M	\$ 390.0 M	\$ 390.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.54%	-0.53%	-2.29%	-1.73%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program provides funds to children's teaching hospitals for the operation of accredited graduate medical residency training programs.



-13.04%
2021-25

Children's Mental Health Services

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 125.0 M	\$ 125.0 M	\$ 130.0 M	\$ 130.0 M	\$ 130.0 M	\$ 130.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-1.03%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Children's Mental Health Services initiative provides community-based services for children under age 22 with a diagnosed serious emotional disturbance, serious behavioral disorder, or serious mental disorder and their families.

-7.01%
2021-25

Clean Air and Climate: Climate Protection

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 98.7 M	\$ 107.0 M	\$ 109.3 M	\$ 109.8 M	\$ 109.8 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 21.8 M	\$ 23.6 M	\$ 24.1 M	\$ 24.3 M	\$ 24.3 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-13.44%	0.45%	-2.81%	-2.55%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Climate Protection program supports implementation and compliance with greenhouse gas (GHG) emission standards for light-duty and heavy-duty vehicles, one aspect of tackling the climate crisis.

-3.12%
2021-25

Clean Air and Climate: Federal Support for Air Quality Management

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 139.7 M	\$ 157.4 M	\$ 159.0 M	\$ 165.6 M	\$ 161.8 M	\$ 143.3 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 30.9 M	\$ 34.8 M	\$ 35.1 M	\$ 36.6 M	\$ 35.8 M	\$ 31.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.98%	4.41%	-3.83%	1.03%	-4.49%	-13.56%

The Federal Support for Air Quality Management program supports development of State Implementation Plans through modeling and other tools and assists states in implementing, attaining, maintaining, and enforcing the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for criteria pollutants. The program also supports development and provision of information, training, and tools to assist state, tribal, and local agencies, as well as communities, to reduce air toxics emissions and risks specific to their local areas.

-16.12%
2021-25

Climate and Health

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 2.2 M	\$ 2.2 M	\$ 2.2 M	\$ 2.2 M	\$ 2.2 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.49%	-7.06%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The CDC's Climate and Health Program (CHP) directly supports state, tribal, local, and territorial public health agencies to prepare for specific health impacts of a changing climate. The CHP focuses on the public health-related aspects of climate extremes, including ways to reduce health risks by seeking to establish and use evidence-based interventions targeting the most vulnerable populations.

Community Health Centers

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 30%

-61.46%
2021-25

Mandatory

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 11.600 B	\$ 4.000 B	\$ 3.905 B	\$ 5.346 B	\$ 3.186 B	\$ 4.260 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 3.503 B	\$ 1.208 B	\$ 1.179 B	\$ 1.614 B	\$ 962.2 M	\$ 1.287 B
Real Change from Prior Year	111.10%	-68.05%	-7.08%	32.80%	-41.74%	\$ 30.53%

-6.50%
2021-25

Discretionary

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.554 B	\$ 1.748 B	\$ 1.858 B	\$ 1.738 B	\$ 1.738 B	\$ 1.738 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 469.4 M	\$ 527.8 M	\$ 561.0 M	\$ 524.8 M	\$ 524.8 M	\$ 524.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-31.78%	4.20%	1.16%	-9.25%	-2.25%	-2.37%

For more than 40 years, the federal government has supported efforts to ensure the availability of high-quality health care services for low-income children and adults in communities across the nation. Today, the Community Health Centers (CHC) program continues this tradition by providing care regardless of ability to pay to those who are underserved by America's health care system. Children under the age of 18 represent roughly 30% of CHC patients. In 2010, the Affordable Care Act established the Community Health Center Fund (CHCF) to create a mandatory funding stream to supplement discretionary federal support for CHCs.

8.96%
2021-25

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 29%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 757.1 M	\$ 920.1 M	\$ 986.5 M	\$ 986.5 M	\$ 986.5 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 222.6 M	\$ 270.5 M	\$ 290.0 M	\$ 290.0 M	\$ 290.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.44%	12.61%	2.04%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant is absorbed into the Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant.

NEW
SINCE
2021

Developmental Delays

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A

For research on developmental delays, including speech and language development delays in infants and toddlers.

NEW
SINCE
2021

Drowning Prevention

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 40%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 0.00	\$ 400.0 K	\$ 800.0 K	\$ 800.0 K	\$ 800.0 K	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	90.34%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

This CDC program promotes data-driven prevention strategies for drowning, focused on children and other groups at increased risk.

-8.62%
2021-25

Emergency Medical Services for Children

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 22.3 M	\$ 22.3 M	\$ 24.3 M	\$ 24.3 M	\$ 24.3 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	-7.06%	3.69%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program is a federal initiative to help ensure children receive specialized and effective emergency care. It provides funding, training, and resources so hospitals and EMS teams are equipped to handle pediatric emergencies, aiming to reduce serious injury and death among children nationwide.

-0.82%
2021-25

Ensure Safe Drinking Water: Drinking Water Programs

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 101.3 M	\$ 121.4 M	\$ 115.4 M	\$ 127.2 M	\$ 120.1 M	\$ 128.9 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 22.4 M	\$ 26.8 M	\$ 25.5 M	\$ 28.1 M	\$ 26.5 M	\$ 28.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-6.86%	11.05%	-9.50%	6.93%	-7.71%	4.74%

The Ensure Safe Drinking Water program is responsible for implementing the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure safe drinking water for approximately 320 million Americans, 22.1% being children. The increase in funding will support national drinking water priorities, including addressing lead and emerging contaminants such as PFAS; improving drinking water system resilience to natural hazards, including climate change; and human threats by enhancing cybersecurity; and improving drinking water and water quality across the nation, especially in rural, small, underserved and overburdened communities across the country.

-16.38%
2021-25

Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening/ Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Diseases (SCID)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

CDC's Division of Laboratory Sciences develops lab tests and reference materials for SCID and is working to advance screening for this condition in newborns nationwide.

-2.44%
2021-25

Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 18.0 M	\$ 19.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 21.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.51%	-2.20%	5.19%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

CDC manages the Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program to enhance and maintain the quality and accuracy of newborn screening results. The program provides training, consultation, proficiency testing, guidelines, and materials to state public health laboratories and other labs responsible for newborn screening in the U.S. and abroad.

-16.38%
2021-255

Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (Formerly National Children's Study)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
(Office of the Director) • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 180.0 M	\$ 180.0 M	\$ 180.0 M	\$ 180.0 M	\$ 180.0 M	\$ 120.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-34.91%

The Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes program aims to determine what factors give children the highest probability of achieving the best health outcomes over their lifetime and seeks to investigate the longitudinal impact of prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal environmental exposures on pediatric health outcomes with high public health impact.



708.47%
2021-25

Environmental Justice

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.3 M	\$ 11.8 M	\$ 109.3 M	\$ 117.2 M	\$ 100.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 2.3 M	\$ 2.6 M	\$ 24.2 M	\$ 25.9 M	\$ 22.1 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	4.81%	6.05%	779.05%	3.98%	-16.60%	-100.00%

The communities hardest hit by pollution and climate change are most often communities of color, Indigenous communities, rural communities, and economically disadvantaged communities. The Environmental Justice program greatly enhances the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to develop, manage, and award new competitive grants to reduce the historically disproportionate health impacts of pollution in communities with environmental justice concerns.

-16.38%
2021-25

Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 75%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 9.4 M	\$ 9.4 M	\$ 9.4 M	\$ 9.4 M	\$ 9.4 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

This funding takes a comprehensive, evidence-based research approach to reducing firearm-related suicides, violent crime, and accidental shootings, which include impacts on children.

-50.77%
2021-25

Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention State and Tribal Grants Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 53%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 54.0 M	\$ 38.8 M	\$ 43.8 M	\$ 31.8 M	\$ 31.8 M	\$ 43.8 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 28.6 M	\$ 20.6 M	\$ 23.2 M	\$ 16.9 M	\$ 16.9 M	\$ 23.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	47.72%	-33.45%	7.43%	-29.56%	-2.25%	34.47%

The Garrett Lee Smith Program supports states and tribes with implementing youth suicide prevention and early intervention strategies in schools, educational institutions, juvenile justice systems, substance use programs, mental health programs, foster care systems, and other child and youth-serving organizations. The program targets children and youth aged 10-24; we thereby estimate that 53% of the spending benefits children under the age of 18.

-4.99%
2021-25

Healthy Start

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 127.6 M	\$ 131.5 M	\$ 145.0 M	\$ 145.0 M	\$ 145.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.55%	-4.54%	4.95%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Healthy Start initiative aims to eliminate disparities in prenatal infant and maternal health by enhancing the community health care service system and improving access to comprehensive prenatal and women's health services, particularly for women and infants at higher risk for poor health outcomes.

-19.22%
2021-25

Healthy Transitions

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 20%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 29.5 M	\$ 29.5 M	\$ 30.5 M	\$ 28.5 M	\$ 28.5 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 5.9 M	\$ 5.9 M	\$ 6.1 M	\$ 5.7 M	\$ 5.7 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.51%	-7.34%	-1.60%	-9.36%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Healthy Transitions is a competitive grant program for states and tribes to improve access to mental disorder treatment and related support services for young people aged 16 to 25 who either have, or are at risk of developing, a serious mental health condition.

-7.52%
2021-25

Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 18.9 M	\$ 19.6 M	\$ 20.9 M	\$ 20.9 M	\$ 20.9 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	2.23%	-4.03%	1.62%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children program focuses on reducing the morbidity and mortality caused by heritable disorders in newborns and children by supporting state and local public health agencies' ability to provide screening, counseling, and health care services.

-14.18%
2021-25

Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 9.5 M	\$ 9.8 M	\$ 9.8 M	\$ 9.8 M	\$ 9.8 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	2.19%	-4.90%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

This funding supports breastfeeding families in maternity care settings, communities, and workplaces.



12.58%
2021-25

Indoor Air: Radon Program

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 2.3 M	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 2.9 M	\$ 2.8 M	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	516.0 K	681.0 K	644.0 K	618.0 K	695.0 K	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-16.85%	22.25%	-10.02%	-6.91%	9.95%	-100.00%

The toxin radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Through this program, the EPA promotes actions to reduce the public's health risk from indoor radon and promotes partnerships between national organizations, the private sector, and more than 50 state, local, and tribal governmental programs to reduce radon risk.

-6.59%
2021-25

Indoor Air: Reduce Risks from Indoor Air

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 11.3 M	\$ 12.7 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 14.4 M	\$ 12.6 M	\$ 11.6 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.8 M	\$ 2.9 M	\$ 3.2 M	\$ 2.8 M	\$ 2.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.37%	4.86%	-0.64%	5.28%	-14.84%	-9.67%

Under this program, the EPA maintains indoor air monitoring and assessment equipment, conducts field measurements and assessments, and provides technical support and guidance for indoor air quality remediations, with a primary focus on assistance to tribal communities.

**NEW
SINCE
2021**

Innovation in Maternal Health Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 11.8 M	\$ 15.3 M	\$ 15.3 M	\$ 15.3 M	\$ 15.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	23.66%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Innovation in Maternal Health Program funds public health organizations, universities, community-based organizations and other groups to improve maternal health by establishing maternal health task forces in states; increasing access to comprehensive care before, during, and after pregnancy; improving the collection and use of state-level data about maternal mortality and morbidity; and launching new interventions.

NEW
SINCE
2021

Integrated Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Integrated Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women program fosters the development and demonstration of integrated health services models to support comprehensive care for pregnant and postpartum people who experience health disparities and have limited access to basic social and health care services.

-4.24%
2021-25

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 87%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 710.5 M	\$ 747.7 M	\$ 815.7 M	\$ 813.7 M	\$ 813.7 M	\$ 767.3 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 618.2 M	\$ 650.5 M	\$ 709.7 M	\$ 707.9 M	\$ 707.9 M	\$ 667.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.03%	-2.49%	3.82%	-3.22%	-2.25%	-7.94%

The Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (MCH) aims to improve the health, safety, and well-being of all mothers and children. Through funding to the states, MCH programs strive to support community-based initiatives to address the comprehensive physical, psychological, and social needs of the maternal and child population.

32.61%
2021-25

Medicaid

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 20%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 450.001 B	\$ 529.248 B	\$ 603.781 B	\$ 605.048 B	\$ 674.247 B	\$ 732.740 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 90.000 B	\$ 105.850 B	\$ 120.756 B	\$ 121.010 B	\$ 134.849 B	\$ 146.548 B
Real Change from Prior Year	7.16%	8.97%	8.57%	-2.78%	8.93%	6.10%

Medicaid provides health coverage to children from families with low incomes, ensuring access to essential care for their growth and development. It covers a wide range of services for kids, including doctor visits, hospital care, immunizations, dental and vision services, and regular check-ups. Medicaid currently covers over 30 million children.

NEW
SINCE
2021

Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

This program creates or enhances existing mobile crisis response teams to divert adults, children, and youth experiencing mental health crises from law enforcement in high-need communities.

-6.34%
2021-25

National Asthma Control Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 29.9 M	\$ 30.5 M	\$ 33.5 M	\$ 33.5 M	\$ 33.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	-5.51%	4.53%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The National Asthma Control Program's (NACP) goals include reducing the number of deaths, hospitalizations, emergency department visits, school days or workdays missed, and limitations on activity due to asthma. The NACP funds states, cities, school programs, and non-government organizations to help them improve surveillance of asthma, train health professionals, educate individuals with asthma and their families, and explain asthma to the public.

-9.80%
2021-25

National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 91.7 M	\$ 91.9 M	\$ 93.9 M	\$ 98.9 M	\$ 98.9 M	\$ 98.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	28.84%	-7.12%	-2.76%	2.18%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative aims to improve behavioral health services and interventions for children and adolescents exposed to traumatic events. In FY 2019, Congress appropriated an additional \$10 million to this program to specifically expand services for unaccompanied children who the government separated from their families at the border, children in Puerto Rico, and tribal populations. The program saw another increase of \$5 million in FY 2020. This program received additional FY 2022 funding in the 2022 Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

11.66%
2021-25

National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund

Department: Justice • Bureau: Civil Division
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 17.0 M	\$ 21.7 M	\$ 31.7 M	\$ 22.7 M	\$ 22.7 M	\$ 22.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	26.60%	18.48%	38.95%	-30.61%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund provides funding to compensate vaccine-related injury or death claims for covered vaccines administered on or after October 1, 1988.

-7.38%
2021-25

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.588 B	\$ 1.683 B	\$ 1.749 B	\$ 1.759 B	\$ 1.759 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.24%	-1.81%	-1.10%	-2.43%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development is absorbed into the National Institute for Child and Women's Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication.



-16.38%
2021-25

Office of Adolescent Health

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: General Departmental Management
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 443.0 K	\$ 442.0 K	\$ 443.0 K	\$ 443.0 K	\$ 443.0 K	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.97%	-7.55%	-4.62%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Office of Adolescent Health is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of adolescents and administers the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program and the Pregnancy Assistance Fund.

-31.34%
2021-25

Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 360.0 M	\$ 415.0 M	\$ 410.0 M	\$ 295.6 M	\$ 295.6 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	20.18%	6.81%	-5.98%	-30.06%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The mission of the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes is to provide safe and healthy homes for at-risk families and children by promoting and funding the identification and repair of at-risk housing to address conditions that threaten the health of residents. This includes the Healthy Homes Program, which protects children and their families from housing-related health and safety concerns including mold, lead, allergens, asthma, carbon monoxide, pesticides, and radon, as well as Lead Hazard Reduction and Control grants to safely remove lead in as many pre-1978 homes as possible.

-2.44%
2021-25

Pediatric Disaster Care

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Disaster Medical System
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 7.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-7.34%	11.03%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Pediatric Disaster Care program establishes two Centers of Excellence that will work to improve disaster response capabilities and the ability of pediatric hospitals to manage the overwhelming and unique medical needs of children who are impacted by a disaster.



Pediatric Mental Health Care Access

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

Discretionary						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 31.0 M	\$ 13.0 M	\$ 13.0 M	\$ 13.0 M	\$ 13.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	188.12%	-60.10%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Mandatory						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 80.0 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Pediatric Mental Health Care Access program supports pediatric primary care practices with telehealth consultation by child mental health teams and enhances the capacity of pediatricians to screen, treat, and refer children with mental health concerns.

Personal Responsibility Education Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.13%	-12.62%	-4.83%	2.88%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) was created through the Affordable Care Act and was established to distribute grants to states to provide youth with comprehensive sex education and life skills that will enable them to make responsible decisions to lead safe and healthy lives.

-7.07%
2021-25

Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 58.1 M	\$ 60.2 M	\$ 59.7 M	\$ 65.9 M	\$ 64.6 M	\$ 62.7 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 12.8 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 13.2 M	\$ 14.6 M	\$ 14.3 M	\$ 13.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.22%	-4.06%	-5.53%	7.00%	-4.18%	-5.28%

The Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for complying with the Endangered Species Act and ensuring that federally endangered and threatened species are not harmed when the Agency registers pesticides. The EPA also ensures that currently registered pesticides do not harm the environment.

8.54%
2021-25

Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 36.7 M	\$ 39.5 M	\$ 45.2 M	\$ 48.7 M	\$ 47.7 M	\$ 48.4 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 8.1 M	\$ 8.7 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.8 M	\$ 10.5 M	\$ 10.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-8.78%	-0.20%	8.82%	4.57%	-4.42%	-0.74%

The Environmental Protection Agency has significant responsibility under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to screen new pesticides before they reach the market and ensure that pesticides already in commerce are safe for human health.

-16.38%
2021-25

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 2.6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 160.0 M	\$ 160.0 M	\$ 160.0 M	\$ 160.0 M	\$ 160.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant is a federal grant that provides funding to states, territories, tribes, and other recipients to address public health needs, including maternal, infant, and child health.

-16.04%
2021-25

Project Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Child Health (LAUNCH)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 23.5 M	\$ 23.6 M	\$ 25.6 M	\$ 23.6 M	\$ 23.6 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.58%	-6.96%	3.23%	-10.56%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The purpose of the Project LAUNCH initiative is to promote the wellness of young children from birth to 8 years old by addressing the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral aspects of their development.

2.78%
2021-25

Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Rural Health
Administration Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 82.2 M	\$ 86.0 M	\$ 93.0 M	\$ 101.0 M	\$ 101.0 M	\$ 101.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 18.2 M	\$ 19.0 M	\$ 20.5 M	\$ 22.3 M	\$ 22.3 M	\$ 22.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.05%	-3.03%	2.92%	5.36%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program is a community-based grant program to promote rural health care services by enhancing health care delivery to rural underserved populations in the local community or region, including maternal and infant health.

25.22%
2021-25

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 2.421 B	\$ 2.495 B	\$ 2.571 B	\$ 3.625 B	\$ 3.625 B	\$ 2.725 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 31.5 M	\$ 32.4 M	\$ 33.4 M	\$ 47.1 M	\$ 47.1 M	\$ 35.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.45%	-4.52%	-1.92%	36.80%	-2.25%	-26.61%

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides a comprehensive system of care that includes primary medical care and essential support services for people living with HIV who are uninsured or underinsured.

47.12%
2021-25

Safe Motherhood and Infant Health Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 62.8 M	\$ 83.0 M	\$ 108.0 M	\$ 110.5 M	\$ 110.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	4.84%	22.45%	23.83%	-0.74%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Safe Motherhood and Infant Health program works to improve the health of mothers and babies by promoting optimal and equitable health through surveillance, science, and service.

62.57%
2021-25

Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.7 M	\$ 6.5 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 11.0 M	\$ 11.0 M	\$ 11.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-8.70%	6.45%	46.41%	6.72%	-2.25%	-2.37%

This initiative funds the Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders program to help health care providers identify and address mental health concerns of women during and after pregnancy.



-16.38%
2021-25

Sexual Risk Avoidance Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 35.0 M	\$ 35.0 M	\$ 35.0 M	\$ 35.0 M	\$ 35.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Discretionary grants for Sexual Risk Avoidance programs support the implementation of evidence-based approaches to encourage youth to delay sexual activity and avoid other risky behaviors.

20.50%
2021-25

State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Lead Testing in Schools

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 19.4 M	\$ 14.4 M	\$ 30.5 M	\$ 46.1 M	\$ 28.0 M	\$ 28.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-27.65%	-31.18%	101.14%	46.70%	-40.66%	-2.37%

The Environmental Protection Agency provides multipurpose funds to states and tribes for high-priority activities to complement activities funded under established environmental statutes. This program provides grants to assist educational agencies in the voluntary testing of lead contamination in drinking water at schools and child care facilities.

-54.07%
2021-25

State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 40.1 M	\$ 21.5 M	\$ 32.3 M	\$ 1.6 M	\$ 22.0 M	\$ 20.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 8.9 M	\$ 4.8 M	\$ 7.1 M	\$ 362.0 K	\$ 4.9 M	\$ 4.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	98.74%	-50.24%	42.90%	-95.08%	1212.85%	-11.24%

The Environmental Protection Agency provides multipurpose funds to states and tribes for high-priority activities to complement activities funded under established environmental statutes. The objectives of this grant program are to reduce the concentration of lead in drinking water, especially in small and underserved communities. Any level of lead poisoning in children is harmful, so this is especially beneficial to child health.



State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Safe Water for Small & Disadvantaged Communities

-47.41%
2021-25

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 45.3 M	\$ 26.4 M	\$ 22.9 M	\$ 48.1 M	\$ 28.5 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 5.8 M	\$ 5.1 M	\$ 10.6 M	\$ 6.3 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	72.66%	-46.00%	-17.52%	103.99%	-42.11%	-100.00%

The Environmental Protection Agency provides multipurpose funds to states and tribes for high-priority activities to complement activities funded under established environmental statutes. This grant program provides assistance to underserved communities that have no household drinking water or wastewater services or are served by a public water system that violates or exceeds any maximum contaminant level, treatment technique, or action level.

Substance Abuse Treatment Grant Programs of National and Regional Significance for Children and Families

-14.71%
2021-25

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 29.6 M	\$ 29.6 M	\$ 30.2 M	\$ 30.2 M	\$ 30.2 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-2.93%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

SAMHSA's programs to treat youth with addiction and/or co-occurring substance abuse and mental disorders address gaps in service delivery by providing services to youth, their families, and primary caregivers using effective evidence-based, family-centered practices.

Superfund Cleanup

-74.00%
2021-25

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Land and Emergency Management
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 3%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 904.6 M	\$ 808.5 M	\$ 1.003 B	\$ 848.0 M	\$ 281.2 M	\$ 76.6 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 24.4 M	\$ 21.8 M	\$ 27.1 M	\$ 22.9 M	\$ 7.6 M	\$ 2.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	10.20%	-17.19%	18.12%	-18.02%	-67.58%	-73.40%

Approximately 2.7% of all children in the United States live within one mile of a Superfund or Corrective Action site. A Superfund is a contaminated site due to hazardous waste being dumped, left out in the open, or otherwise improperly managed. These sites include manufacturing facilities, processing plants, landfills, and mining sites. Through the Superfund Cleanup program, the EPA is responsible for cleaning up some of the nation's most contaminated land and responding to environmental emergencies, oil spills, and natural disasters.

-10.75%
2021-25

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Office of Population Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 101.0 M	\$ 101.0 M	\$ 101.0 M	\$ 107.8 M	\$ 107.8 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	3.55%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) program is a discretionary grant program to support evidence-based and innovative approaches to teen pregnancy prevention.

-16.38%
2021-25

Title V Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (Formerly Abstinence Education)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-12.62%	-4.83%	2.88%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Title V Sexual Risk Avoidance Education enables states to provide abstinence education with a focus on at-risk populations with a high rate of out-of-wedlock births. The program teaches the social, psychological, and health gains of abstaining from sexual activity.

-32.64%
2021-25

Toxics Risks Review and Prevention

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 101.3 M	\$ 93.5 M	\$ 121.6 M	\$ 81.6 M	\$ 81.6 M	\$ 78.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 22.4 M	\$ 20.7 M	\$ 26.9 M	\$ 18.0 M	\$ 18.0 M	\$ 17.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	8.13%	-14.49%	23.76%	-34.88%	-2.25%	-6.70%

The Environmental Protection Agency has significant responsibilities under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) for ensuring the safety of chemicals that are already in or are entering into commerce and addressing unreasonable risks to human health and the environment.

25.81%
2021-25

Trevor's Law

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	28.70%	-7.06%	42.75%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Trevor's Law was originally introduced in 2011 to help communities determine whether there is a connection between "clusters" of cancer, birth defects and other diseases, and contaminants in the surrounding environment, and a version of the bill was signed into law in 2016. In fall 2018, the CDC began working to update existing guidelines in accordance with Trevor's Law to ensure that state, tribal, local, and territorial public health agencies and other stakeholders have access to information about current scientific tools and approaches to assess and respond to potential cancer clusters in communities.

-5.23%
2021-25

Tribal Behavioral Health Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 53%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 20.9 M	\$ 20.8 M	\$ 22.8 M	\$ 23.7 M	\$ 23.7 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 11.1 M	\$ 11.0 M	\$ 12.1 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.08%	-7.92%	4.34%	0.92%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Tribal Behavioral Health Grants help grantees develop and implement a plan that addresses suicide and substance abuse to promote mental health among tribal youth. The program targets children and youth aged 10-24; we thereby estimate that 53% of the spending benefits children under the age of 18.

-16.38%
2021-25

Tribal Children and Family Programs

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 7.2 M	\$ 7.2 M	\$ 7.2 M	\$ 7.2 M	\$ 7.2 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

SAMHSA's Children and Family Programs for tribal entities provide support for the Circles of Care grant program, which promotes mental disorder treatment equity by providing American Indian/Alaska Native communities with tools and resources to design and sustain their own culturally competent system of care approach for children.

-49.35%
2021-25

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 17.8 M	\$ 17.8 M	\$ 18.8 M	\$ 10.8 M	\$ 10.8 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.47%	-7.07%	0.51%	-44.53%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention program provides grants to states for the implementation of universal newborn hearing screening prior to hospital discharge, diagnostic evaluation, and enrollment in a program of early intervention.

70.42%
2021-25

Vaccines For Children

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.806 B	\$ 5.140 B	\$ 5.609 B	\$ 7.239 B	\$ 7.757 B	\$ 7.930 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-19.51%	25.13%	3.84%	25.21%	4.75%	-0.19%

The Vaccines for Children Program allows vulnerable children access to life-saving vaccines as a part of routine preventive care, focusing on children without insurance, those eligible for Medicaid, and American Indian/Alaska Native children.



675.90%
2021-25

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 56.0 M	\$ 101.6 M	\$ 501.6 M	\$ 519.6 M	\$ 519.6 M	\$ 519.6 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 12.4 M	\$ 22.5 M	\$ 110.9 M	\$ 114.8 M	\$ 114.8 M	\$ 114.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	185.35%	68.14%	369.77%	0.50%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides 24/7 call, text, and chat access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use, and/or mental health crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. There is a dedicated line for LGBTQ+ youth who need mental health or substance use help.



New Health Programs

**PROPOSED
FOR 2026**

Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 7%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4.126 B
Estimated Share To Children	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 290.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The President's FY 2026 budget proposal absorbs the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant into this new program.

**PROPOSED
FOR 2026**

National Institute for Child and Women's Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 77%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.414 B
Estimated Share To Children	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.084 B
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The President's FY 2026 budget proposal absorbs the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders into this new program.

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HOUSING



↑ 8.84%

Real Percent Increase in Housing Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025

TOTAL SPENDING ON HOUSING						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 17.317 B	\$ 18.606 B	\$ 19.641 B	\$ 21.078 B	\$ 22.541 B	\$ 13.417 B
Real Change from Prior Year	7.45%	-0.45%	0.46%	4.11%	4.53%	-41.89%
Share of Total Spending	0.25%	0.31%	0.32%	0.31%	0.33%	0.19%

Background

Every child deserves a safe and stable place to call home, yet tens of millions of children in the U.S. are experiencing homelessness or are on the brink of homelessness. Our youngest children are at the greatest risk of eviction and homelessness,^{1,2} just when they are undergoing critical stages of brain development. Programs and systems should prioritize children for housing assistance, yet the very opposite is true.

Twenty years ago, households with children accounted for more than 60% of federal rental assistance. By 2022, these households made up just 38% of recipients.³ Children and youth experiencing homelessness too often fall through the cracks and are denied help. Due to the narrow definition of homelessness used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the majority of children and youth experiencing homelessness are ineligible for federal homeless assistance through Homeless Assistance



Grants,⁴ which fund emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, and other programs.

Overall Analysis

Funding for children's housing experienced a 4.53% increase in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 adjusted for inflation, mostly due to a \$1.206 billion increase in the share of Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) that covers children. All housing programs were either flat-funded or increased from FY 2024 to FY 2025, a rare bright spot amidst the passage of a continuing resolution by Congress.

Program Spotlight

Foster Youth to Independence (FYI)

Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers provide tenant-based assistance to youth ages 18-24 exiting foster care who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, with up to 36 months of rental help and a possible additional 24 months under the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities amendments when conditions are met.^{5,6}

President Trump's FY 2026 budget request for HUD would consolidate a number of programs into a State Rental Assistance Program (SRAP) with a \$25 million set aside specifically for FYI, formally recognizing the transition from foster care as an experience that puts young people at high-risk for homelessness.⁷ An estimated 15,590 young people aged out of foster care in FY 2023, according to AFCARS.⁸ Research consistently finds that youth exiting foster care face higher rates of

homelessness, which FYI targets with time-limited rental assistance.

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

Housing is one of the hardest-hit issue areas under President Trump's proposed FY 2026 budget. Children's housing support would decline by 41.89% adjusted for inflation. The core of these cuts is a proposed consolidation of critical housing support programs — TBRA, Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA), and the Public Housing Fund — into a State Rental Assistance program offering greater discretion to states in deciding how to allocate housing assistance funds. Despite the set aside for FYI, this new rental assistance program would provide significantly less money than the combined FY 2025 funding for the three programs it consolidates, amounting to an overall decrease of \$8.207 billion for kids.

Other programs that would see cuts under the President's proposed FY 2026 budget include Homeless Assistance Grants and the Native American Housing Block Grant Program. The President's proposal also eliminates several programs entirely, including the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the Multi-Family Housing Voucher Program, and Choice Neighborhoods. Service Connection for Youth on the Streets would be consolidated with Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs.

Looking Ahead

According to the Constitution, Congress sets final funding for government programs. The current Senate Appropriations bill rejects HUD's consolidation and increases some current programs, including TBRA and Homeless Assistance Grants, signaling a legislative preference for maintaining the existing voucher architecture that serves families with children.⁹ By contrast, the President's budget would replace TBRA, PBRA, Public Housing, and other programs with SRAP, which includes two-year time limits for many non-elderly, non-disabled families, and would eliminate TBRA outright, changes that could shorten the duration of assistance for families with kids if enacted.¹⁰ The House bill outlines different topline and priorities, so final FY 2026 outcomes remain uncertain.¹¹

Cuts to programs outside of HUD may also affect children's housing. The 2025 budget reconciliation law — better known as H.R. 1 — makes historic cuts to Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, better known as SNAP or food stamps. For low-income renters, reduced or disrupted benefits shrink resources available for rent and utilities, heightening eviction risk for children.^{12,13} Although these cross-cutting changes fall outside the HUD appropriations, they could materially worsen housing instability for the nation's children from 2026–2034 unless Congress offsets the pressure with stronger rental support.



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2. Badger, Emily, Cain Miller, Claire, Parlapiano, Alicia. "The Americans Most Affected by Eviction: Young Children." The Upshot, New York Times. October 2, 2023. <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/10/02/upshot/evictions-children-american-renters.html>. . (2017, June). Quantifying the life-cycle benefits of a prototypical early childhood program. The Heckman Equation. <https://heckmanequation.org/resource/lifecyclebenefits-influential-early-childhood-program/>
3. A. J. Greenlee and Kirk McClure, "Participation, Transition, and Length of Stay in Federal Housing Assistance Programs," Cityscape 26, no. 2 (2024): 12, <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/periodicals/cityscape/vol26num2/ch2.pdf>.
4. "Bipartisan Legislation to Help Homeless Children and Youth Reintroduced." SchoolHouse Connection. Last visited August 30, 2024. <https://schoolhouseconnection.org/article/bipartisan-legislation-to-help-homeless-children-and-youth-reintroduced>.
5. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), "FYI Vouchers for the Foster Youth to Independence", accessed August 2025, <https://www.hud.gov/hud-partners/public-indian-housing-fyi>.
6. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, SNAP FRA Final Rule Implementation Memo (noting ABAWD exemptions, including youth aging out of foster care, and timelines), December 18, 2024, <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/SNAP-FRA-Final-Rule-Implementation.pdf>.
7. HUD, State Rental Assistance Program (SRAP) FY 2026 Program Justification (includes \$25 million for Foster Youth to Independence; outlines two-year limits and state formula), pp. 2-1–2-3, https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CFO/documents/2026_CJ_Program_SRAP.pdf.
8. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, "AFCARS Data and Statistics," accessed August 2025, <https://acf.gov/cb/research-data-technology/statistics-research/afcars>.
9. U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations, FY 2026 THUD Report (S. report), July 24, 2025, (TBRA \$37,354,709,000; HAG \$4,530,000,000), <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/download/fy26-thud-senate-report>.
10. HUD, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) FY 2026 Program Justification (TBRA eliminated; –\$36.0 billion vs. FY 2025), p. 3-1, https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CFO/documents/2026_CJ_Program_TBRA.pdf.
11. U.S. House Committee on Appropriations, "Committee Releases FY 26 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Bill," July 13, 2025, <https://appropriations.house.gov/news/press-releases/committee-releases-fy26-transportation-housing-and-urban-development-and>.

12. CBO, “Estimated Effects of Public Law 119-21 on Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program” (SNAP), August 2025, <https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2025-08/61367-SNAP.pdf>.
13. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Federal Register final rule, “SNAP: Program Purpose and Work Requirement Provisions of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023,” December 17, 2024, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/12/17/2024-29072/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-program-purpose-and-work-requirement-provisions-of-the>.

Housing Programs

In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.

-68.64%
2021-25

Choice Neighborhoods

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 54%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 200.0 M	\$ 350.0 M	\$ 350.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 107.6 M	\$ 188.3 M	\$ 188.3 M	\$ 40.4 M	\$ 40.4 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	58.71%	62.15%	-4.83%	-79.21%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Choice Neighborhoods program uses public-private partnerships to help communities transform struggling neighborhoods by revitalizing severely distressed public and/or assisted housing and catalyzing critical improvements in the neighborhood, including vacant property, housing, businesses, services, and schools.

4.75%
2021-25

Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 116.8 M	\$ 120.3 M	\$ 125.3 M	\$ 146.3 M	\$ 146.3 M	\$ 146.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-17.60%	-4.56%	-0.88%	13.28%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Program is designed to meet the needs of runaway and homeless youth by funding local facilities, providing temporary residential care and counseling, and establishing a national toll-free hotline.

5.38%
2021-25

Homeless Assistance Grants

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Community Planning and Development
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 23%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.215 B	\$ 3.213 B	\$ 3.633 B	\$ 4.051 B	\$ 4.051 B	\$ 4.024 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 726.5 M	\$ 726.1 M	\$ 821.1 M	\$ 915.5 M	\$ 915.5 M	\$ 909.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	40.69%	-7.39%	7.61%	8.18%	-2.25%	-3.02%

Homeless Assistance Grants provide funding for homeless programs under Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. These programs include the Emergency Shelter Grants Program, the Supportive Housing Program, the Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy Program, and the Shelter Plus Care Program.



-14.73%
2021-25

Housing Program (Tribal Priority Allocations)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 11.7 M	\$ 11.7 M	\$ 12.2 M	\$ 11.9 M	\$ 11.9 M	\$ 11.9 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 2.6 M	\$ 2.6 M	\$ 2.7 M	\$ 2.6 M	\$ 2.6 M	\$ 2.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.12%	-0.92%	-5.21%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Housing Program (Tribal Priority Allocations) provides grant funding for housing repairs, renovations, construction of modest replacement homes, down payments, or construction of modest homes for families who do not own a home but have ownership or lease of sufficient land suitable for housing.

-59.21%
2021-25

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 20%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 8.250 B	\$ 3.800 B	\$ 4.000 B	\$ 4.025 B	\$ 4.025 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 1.650 B	\$ 760.1 M	\$ 800.0 M	\$ 805.0 M	\$ 805.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	72.13%	-57.32%	0.17%	-2.38%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) keeps families safe and healthy through initiatives that assist families with energy costs.



0.34%
2021-25

Multi-Family Housing Voucher Program (Rural Housing Voucher Program)

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Rural Housing Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 28%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 40.0 M	\$ 45.0 M	\$ 48.0 M	\$ 48.0 M	\$ 48.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 11.1 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 13.3 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	21.02%	4.24%	1.51%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Multi-Family Housing Voucher Program (Rural Housing Voucher Program) is a rental subsidy to help qualifying low-income families who are living in Section 515 Rural Rental Housing multi-family properties and are facing hardship because of foreclosure on the property. Tenants can use these vouchers to supplement rent at their current property or other non-subsidized rental units that meet rural development standards.

-15.05%
2021-25

National Housing Trust Fund

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Community Planning and Development
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 28%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 213.0 M	\$ 739.0 M	\$ 354.3 M	\$ 195.9 M	\$ 216.4 M	\$ 295.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 58.6 M	\$ 203.2 M	\$ 97.4 M	\$ 53.9 M	\$ 59.5 M	\$ 81.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	22.02%	221.47%	-54.37%	-46.37%	7.99%	33.09%

The National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) was established by Congress as part of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 to address the severe shortage of affordable rental homes and provide adequate funding for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. It is a permanent federal program with dedicated sources of funding, not subject to the annual appropriations process, to provide revenue to build, preserve, and rehabilitate housing for people with the lowest incomes. This analysis estimates that the same number of children participating in Project-Based Rental Assistance are benefiting from the NHTF.

73.43%
2021-25

Native American Housing Block Grant Program

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 16%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 648.0 M	\$ 772.0 M	\$ 787.0 M	\$ 1.344 B	\$ 1.344 B	\$ 887.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 103.0 M	\$ 122.7 M	\$ 125.1 M	\$ 213.7 M	\$ 213.7 M	\$ 141.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.78%	10.39%	-2.98%	65.68%	-2.25%	-35.57%

The Native American Housing Block Grant Program is a formula grant program that provides low-income American Indians and Alaska Natives with safe, decent, and sanitary housing.

4.89%
2021-25

Project-Based Rental Assistance

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Office of Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 28%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 13.465 B	\$ 13.940 B	\$ 13.938 B	\$ 16.010 B	\$ 16.890 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 3.703 B	\$ 3.834 B	\$ 3.833 B	\$ 4.403 B	\$ 4.645 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.02%	-4.07%	-4.85%	11.44%	3.12%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Project-Based Rental Assistance is consolidated into the State Rental Assistance Program.

51.47%
2021-25

Public Housing Fund (Formerly the Public Housing Operating Fund)

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 38%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 4.864 B	\$ 8.452 B	\$ 8.514 B	\$ 8.811 B	\$ 8.811 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 1.836 B	\$ 3.190 B	\$ 3.214 B	\$ 3.326 B	\$ 3.326 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	2.82%	61.00%	-4.13%	0.40%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, the Public Housing Fund is consolidated into the State Rental Assistance Program.

2.01%
2021-25

Rural Rental Assistance Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Rural Housing Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 28%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.346 B	\$ 1.410 B	\$ 1.488 B	\$ 1.608 B	\$ 1.642 B	\$ 1.715 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 376.2 M	\$ 394.1 M	\$ 415.9 M	\$ 449.4 M	\$ 458.9 M	\$ 479.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.23%	-2.94%	0.43%	4.84%	-0.19%	1.97%

The Rural Rental Assistance Program provides payments to owners of USDA-financed Rural Rental Housing or Farm Labor Housing projects on behalf of low-income tenants.

-12.20%
2021-25

Service Connection for Youth on the Streets

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 20.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.20%	-7.34%	-0.07%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Service Connection for Youth on the Streets is consolidated into the Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs.

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 33%

-100.00% 2021-25	Mandatory					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 299.0 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 98.7 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

16.91% 2021-25	Discretionary					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 25.778 B	\$ 27.370 B	\$ 30.253 B	\$ 32.387 B	\$ 36.041 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 8.507 B	\$ 9.032 B	\$ 9.984 B	\$ 10.688 B	\$ 11.894 B	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.32%	-1.62%	5.19%	3.86%	8.78%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance is consolidated into the State Rental Assistance Program.

New Housing Programs

PROPOSED FOR 2026	State Rental Assistance Program					
	Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing					
	Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 32.19%					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 36.212 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 11.657 B
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, Project-Based Rental Assistance, and the Public Housing Fund are consolidated into the State Rental Assistance Program.



INCOME SUPPORT



↓ 54.08%

Real Percent Decrease in Income
Support Funding from
FY 2021 to FY 2025

TOTAL SPENDING ON INCOME SUPPORT						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 357.738 B	\$ 276.984 B	\$ 176.134 B	\$ 185.250 B	\$ 196.459 B	\$ 205.240 B
Real Change from Prior Year	80.38%	-28.26%	-39.48%	2.04%	3.66%	1.99%
Share of Total Spending	5.24%	4.66%	2.86%	2.74%	2.85%	2.93%

Background

Income support programs offer vital financial assistance to children and their families and are among the most effective tools for reducing child poverty and economic hardship. Key programs such as the Child Tax Credit (CTC), the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) work together to strengthen the safety net for tens of millions of families. A large body of research shows that these tax credits and cash transfers not only alleviate poverty but also improve children's developmental outcomes and foster better parent-child relationships.¹ The powerful impact of these programs was especially clear under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), when enhanced investments in income supports led to an unprecedented reduction in child poverty — cutting it nearly in half.



In the United States, children born into poverty have a higher chance of remaining poor as adults when compared to our global peers. This growing disparity hampers individual economic mobility and poses long-term barriers for social and economic stability.² The tax code offers one of the strongest tools for improving the lives of children by providing credits, deductions, and asset-building tools that reduce child poverty and promote family economic mobility.

Overall Analysis

There is overwhelming evidence of strong rates of return on investment when resources are dedicated to children, particularly low-income kids.³ Despite this potent evidence, the income support share of federal spending has declined significantly since Fiscal Year (FY) 2021.

From FY 2021 to FY 2025, the share of federal spending on income support programs for children declined by almost half. This alarming drop was driven mostly by the expiration of pandemic-era improvements to the CTC, EITC, and Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit that took effect in FY 2021. The share of federal spending in this category peaked at 5.24% in FY 2021 — when total funding topped a record \$358 billion — and was on a three-year decline until FY 2025, when it increased slightly from 2.74% in FY 2024 to 2.85%, an increase of 3.66 % in real terms.

Program Spotlights

Child Tax Credit

The Child Tax Credit is one of the most effective tools available against child poverty. In 2021, lawmakers temporarily increased the amount of the credit, made it fully refundable, and distributed funds to families monthly. These improvements played a significant role in cutting child poverty nearly in half, from 9.7% in FY 2021 to 5.2% in FY 2022, the lowest level on record.⁴ Once the CTC improvements expired, child poverty soared, rising to 12.4% in 2022 and 13.4% in 2024.⁵

H.R. 1, passed by Congress and signed by President Trump in July 2025, increases the amount of the credit from \$2,000 to \$2,200. But this \$200 increase does not keep up with inflation, and will give children and families even less spending power than they had in 2017.⁶ H.R. 1 also deprives 19 million children of the full credit because their families earn too little and blocks 2.6 million U.S. citizen children from receiving anything at all because their caregiver lacks a Social Security number.⁷ The CTC changes in H.R. 1 also overlook families whose household income suddenly drops — parents welcoming a newborn, survivors of natural disasters or domestic violence, children whose parent has died, kids whose parent has lost a job, and those with a parent who must leave work to provide care. In addition to the bill's significant cuts and policy changes to Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and

the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), H.R. 1's changes to the CTC ignore the children most in need and do not help reduce child poverty.⁸ CTC mandatory funding stayed approximately flat at around \$26.25 billion from FY 2024 to FY 2025.

Earned Income Tax Credit

The EITC is a refundable tax credit available to workers earning relatively low wages. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 31 states plus the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico offer an EITC.⁹ Research shows that families mostly use the credit to pay for basic needs such as groceries, rent, clothing, and school supplies.¹⁰ In 2023, the EITC kept 4 million people out of poverty and evidence has shown that the credit also produces significant lifetime benefits, such as better education outcomes, improved health, and higher lifetime earnings and a more secure retirement.¹¹

EITC funding increased 2.17% in FY 2025, from \$60.0 billion in FY 2024 to \$61.3 billion.

The amount of the credit is based on a variety of factors, including the presence of qualifying children and the recipient's earned income. Enacted 40 years ago, the EITC has evolved from a relatively modest tax benefit to a significant anti-poverty program. Temporary expansions of the EITC under the American Rescue Plan Act nearly tripled the amount of the credit for low-income workers without children, allowed parents with ineligible children (those without a Social Security number) to receive the enhanced childless benefit, and broadened eligibility from 25-years-old to 18-years-old for youth who experience the foster care system or homelessness. In 2024, the EITC and the refundable portion of the CTC together lifted 3.7 million children out of poverty.¹²

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Since the expiration of the 2021 CTC improvements, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program stands as one of the only federal programs providing monthly cash assistance to families with low incomes. TANF provides support to millions of children and families through cash assistance as well as child care subsidies, state tax credits, food banks, and other aid. Nearly 70% of TANF recipients are children.

TANF funding remained flat in FY 2025, resulting in a 2.25% decrease from FY 2024 when accounting for inflation. The TANF block grant has not been increased to adjust for inflation or population change since its inception in 1997. Since then, inflation has cost the TANF block grant 49% of its value. TANF cash assistance is a lifeline for households with children who receive it, helping parents and caretakers afford food, rent, diapers, and other staples. Yet TANF households are often subject to strict work requirements, and assistance fails to reach many kids in need.

The Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 included several changes to the TANF program. Some of these changes could potentially expand the number of households subject to TANF's strict work requirements and result in families with children losing assistance. Because TANF has only been reauthorized on a short term basis for the last 20 years, it is regularly exposed to Congressional policy changes that could further undermine its purpose or erode its value to families.

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

With the exception of no funding requested for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program and a decrease in the Survivors' Pension Benefits (Non-Service Connected Death) of 7.3%, all income support programs are either flat-funded or slightly increased under the President's FY 2026 request. However, programs funded at the FY 2025 level, and even some of the programs with some increase in funding, will fail to keep up with inflation. Most of the programs in this chapter receive mandatory funding that is tied to eligibility and participation, which leads to an estimated FY 2025 increase in real spending of 1.99% under the President's FY 2026 budget.

Looking Ahead

The tax code offers an opportunity for lawmakers to enact changes that would significantly reduce child poverty, address income, racial, and gender inequities, and build financial security for the nation's children and families.

The Advance Premium Tax Credit (APTC) is a refundable tax credit available to families purchasing health care through the Affordable Care Act's health insurance Marketplace, helping



lower their monthly premium costs. In 2024, consumers eligible for a tax credit experienced an average yearly premium savings of approximately \$700 due to enhanced premium tax credits, yet lawmakers did not extend them in H.R.1, and they will expire at the end of 2025. An estimated 93% of Marketplace enrollees, or 19.3 million people, receive APTCs.¹³ The failure to renew this enhanced tax credit will raise health care costs for many families with children. It is estimated that on average, the expiration of the APTC will result in a more than 75% increase in enrollee premium payments.¹⁴

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Income Support Programs

*In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.*

NEW
SINCE
2021

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 7.630 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) can help in offsetting working families' child care costs. Unlike the Child Tax Credit, the CDCTC expansion did not include advance payments. Therefore, spending on this credit did not occur until people filed for their 2021 taxes in 2022, making the refundability portion of the credit FY 2022 funding.

-72.20%
2021-25

Child Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 78.959 B	\$ 131.435 B	\$ 29.049 B	\$ 26.248 B	\$ 26.250 B	\$ 26.673 B
Real Change from Prior Year	175.19%	54.24%	-78.97%	-12.34%	-2.25%	-0.80%

The Child Tax Credit (CTC) helps ease the costs of having children. The refundable portion of the CTC provides a cash payment to low-income taxpayers who owe little or no income tax.

22.64%
2021-25

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Department: Veterans Affairs • Bureau: Benefits Programs
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 4%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 7.987 B	\$ 8.768 B	\$ 10.042 B	\$ 10.936 B	\$ 11.714 B	\$ 12.312 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 301.1 M	\$ 330.6 M	378.6 M	\$ 412.3 M	\$ 441.6 M	\$ 464.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.45%	1.72%	9.00%	5.65%	4.70%	2.61%

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, also known as "Survivors Compensation," pays a monthly payment to a veteran's surviving spouse, child, or parent after a service-connected death.

48.73%
2021-25

Disability Compensation (Veterans)

Department: Veterans Affairs • Bureau: Benefits Programs
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 101.892 B	\$ 115.533 B	\$ 135.980 B	\$ 157.593 B	\$ 181.236 B	\$ 207.947 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 22.610 B	\$ 25.637 B	\$ 30.174 B	\$ 34.970 B	\$ 40.216 B	\$ 46.143 B
Real Change from Prior Year	1.56%	5.06%	12.01%	12.43%	12.41%	12.02%

Disability Compensation is a benefit paid to veterans with disabilities that are the result of a disease or injury incurred or aggravated during active service.

-2.73%
2021-25

Disability Trust Fund Benefits

Department: Social Security Administration • Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 4%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 143.396 B	\$ 143.048 B	\$ 149.443 B	\$ 156.511 B	\$ 166.813 B	\$ 176.876 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 6.309 B	\$ 6.294 B	\$ 6.575 B	\$ 6.886 B	\$ 7.340 B	\$ 7.783 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.45%	-7.57%	-0.58%	1.60%	4.18%	3.52%

Disability Trust Fund Benefits provide monthly benefits to disabled-worker beneficiaries and their spouses and children.

-15.69%
2021-25

Earned Income Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 97%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 60.757 B	\$ 54.725 B	\$ 55.468 B	\$ 60.011 B	\$ 61.257 B	\$ 60.825 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 58.934 B	\$ 53.083 B	\$ 53.804 B	\$ 58.211 B	\$ 59.419 B	\$ 59.000 B
Real Change from Prior Year	2.16%	-16.54%	-3.54%	4.96%	-0.22%	-3.06%

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a refundable tax credit available to eligible workers earning relatively low wages. Because the credit is refundable, an EITC recipient need not owe taxes to receive the benefit.

Economic Impact Payments

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

<div>-100% 2021-25</div>	Round 2						
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
	Spending Level	\$ 32.592 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
	Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

<div>-100% 2021-25</div>	Round 3						
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 108.413 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Congress authorized three rounds of stimulus checks that were sent to Americans in response to the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Using data published by the Internal Revenue Service, we were able to determine the amount of the Economic Impact Payments attributable to a qualifying child. Round 1 of Economic Impact Payments concluded in 2020.

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 36%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 79.3 M	\$ 109.0 M	\$ 125.0 M	\$ 195.5 M	\$ 195.5 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 28.6 M	\$ 39.3 M	\$ 45.1 M	\$ 70.6 M	\$ 70.6 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.02%	27.34%	9.14%	51.73%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program promoted local strategies that leverage public and private resources, which enables HUD-assisted families to increase earned income and build assets. FSS provides case management to help families overcome barriers to work and develop individualized skills training and services plans, and escrow accounts that grow as families' earnings rise. Households participating in Public Housing, Project-Based Rental Assistance, and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance are all eligible for FSS, thus we average the share of children across those three programs to estimate that some 36% of households participating in FSS have children.

Human Services Tribal Design (Tribal Priority Allocations)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 290.0 K	\$ 290.0 K	\$ 218.0 K	\$ 218.0 K	\$ 218.0 K	\$ 218.0 K
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 64.0 K	\$ 64.0 K	\$ 48.0 K	\$ 48.0 K	\$ 48.0 K	\$ 48.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	2.84%	-7.34%	-28.46%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Human Services Tribal Design program supports American Indian/Alaska Native people by allowing tribes flexibility to redesign their Social Services program delivery as authorized under the Snyder Act of 1924. This funding gives tribes the ability to design Social Services programs that are both cost effective and fit the needs of their communities. Funding is prioritized by tribes to this line item and is distributed directly to tribes as base funding.



-16.40%
2021-25

Indian Child Welfare Act (Tribal Priority Allocations)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 16.9 M	\$ 17.3 M	\$ 17.8 M	\$ 16.9 M	\$ 16.9 M	\$ 16.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	13.43%	-5.12%	-1.89%	-8.12%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) program, funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), is tribally operated to support Indian families, prevent separation, and assist with reunification. ICWA programs manage child custody cases, provide prevention services, and serve as contacts for tribes in child placement. Tribal staff also connect state and tribal courts, improving coordination and compliance with the law.

19.31%
2021-25

Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits

Department: Social Security Administration • Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 2%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 991.291 B	\$ 1,063.875 B	\$ 1,192.126 B	\$ 1,304.381 B	\$ 1,414.394 B	\$ 1,488.232 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 23.295 B	\$ 25.001 B	\$ 28.015 B	\$ 30.653 B	\$ 33.238 B	\$ 34.973 B
Real Change from Prior Year	2.07%	-0.56%	6.64%	6.15%	5.99%	2.73%

The Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits provides monthly income to aged insured individuals and their spouses and children, and to survivors of deceased insured workers.

-100%
2021-25

Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 78%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	1.000 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	777.1 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund was created to aid needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including those not currently receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) benefits. These funds can be used for nonrecurrent cash assistance or in-kind support for families with children.

Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs

2.53%
2021-25

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 89%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 4.439 B	\$ 4.194 B	\$ 4.183 B	\$ 4.888 B	\$ 5.443 B	\$ 5.746 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 3.951 B	\$ 3.733 B	\$ 3.723 B	\$ 4.350 B	\$ 4.844 B	\$ 5.114 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.17%	-12.45%	-5.09%	13.37%	8.84%	3.07%

The Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs enforce the support obligations owed by absent parents to their children; locates absent parents; establishes paternity; and obtains child, spousal, and medical support.

Social Services (Tribal Priority Allocations)

-13.51%
2021-25

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 51.2 M	\$ 53.3 M	\$ 54.9 M	\$ 53.0 M	\$ 53.0 M	\$ 53.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 11.3 M	\$ 11.8 M	\$ 12.1 M	\$ 11.7 M	\$ 11.7 M	\$ 11.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.71%	-3.55%	-1.90%	-6.48%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Social Services (Tribal Priority Allocations) funding supports a number of activities for tribally operated social services programs and BIA staff at the Regional field levels. Social Services funding is provided annually to approximately 300 tribes and/or BIA field sites across the nation. Under the umbrella of Social Services, tribes operate a multitude of programs, including Financial Assistance and Social Services, Child Protection Services and Child Welfare (CPS/CW), Adult Protection Services (APS), supervised Individual Indian Money Accounts Services, and Family and Domestic Violence. These funds provide the support for front line responders handling the child and domestic violence in Indian Country.

Supplemental Security Income Federal Benefit Payments

3.73%
2021-25

Department: Social Security Administration • Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 17%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 55.584 B	\$ 61.206 B	\$ 63.154 B	\$ 61.931 B	\$ 68.955 B	\$ 71.636 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 9.449 B	\$ 10.405 B	\$ 10.736 B	\$ 10.528 B	\$ 11.722 B	\$ 12.178 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-11.50%	2.03%	-1.80%	-4.86%	8.83%	1.43%

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Federal Benefit Payments program guarantees a minimum level of income to low-income individuals who are aged, blind, or disabled, and is the only source of federal income support targeted to families caring for children with disabilities such as Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism, intellectual disability, and blindness. Roughly 17% of SSI beneficiaries are children, half of whom would, without SSI, live beneath the poverty line.

-30.18%
2021-25

Survivors' Pension Benefits (Non-Service Connected Death)

Department: Veterans Affairs • Bureau: Benefits Programs
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 8%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.466 B	\$ 1.350 B	\$ 1.297 B	\$ 1.266 B	\$ 1.224 B	\$ 1.162 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 119.3 M	\$ 109.9 M	\$ 105.6 M	\$ 103.1 M	\$ 99.6 M	\$ 94.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-17.43%	-14.67%	-8.57%	-5.30%	-5.50%	-7.31%

Survivors' Pension Benefits provide direct payments to needy surviving spouses and children of deceased war-time veterans whose deaths were not due to service. Children are estimated to receive 8% of these payments.

-10.67%
2021-25

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 78%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 15.383 B	\$ 17.037 B	\$ 17.347 B	\$ 16.434 B	\$ 16.434 B	\$ 16.434 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 11.954 B	\$ 13.239 B	\$ 13.480 B	\$ 12.771 B	\$ 12.771 B	\$ 12.771 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-14.14%	2.62%	-3.10%	-8.09%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) is designed to assist struggling families both through direct cash payments and through work supports, such as job training and child care assistance. In addition, TANF supports child welfare services (states use these funding streams to supplement child welfare programs), child care, and state tax credits benefiting low-income families. TANF replaced traditional cash welfare in 1996, and because it is a block grant, funding has not responded to changes in the economy or increases in participation and the real value has declined over time. Nearly 78% of TANF recipients are children.

-15.85%
2021-25

Welfare Assistance (Tribal Priority Allocations)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 78.0 M	\$ 78.5 M	\$ 78.5 M	\$ 78.5 M	\$ 78.5 M	\$ 78.5 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 17.2 M	\$ 17.3 M	\$ 17.3 M	\$ 17.3 M	\$ 17.3 M	\$ 17.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.05%	-6.76%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Welfare Assistance program offers five types of secondary assistance: General Assistance, Child Care Assistance, Non-Medical Institutional or Custodial Care of Adults, Burial Assistance, and Emergency Assistance. Eligible AI/AN are assessed, screened, and referred to primary public assistance A-HS-7 programs for possible assistance, such as Supplemental Security Insurance, Social Security Disability Insurance, and state-operated general assistance programs.



**JUSTICE AND CHILD
PROTECTION**



↓ 12.06%

Real Percent Decrease in Justice and Child Protection Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025

TOTAL SPENDING ON JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 16.785 B	\$ 19.171 B	\$ 19.669 B	\$ 19.271 B	\$ 17.651 B	\$ 17.272 B
Real Change from Prior Year	17.00%	5.83%	-2.36%	-4.95%	-10.47%	-4.47%
Share of Total Spending	0.25%	0.32%	0.32%	0.28%	0.26%	0.25%

Background

Justice and child protection policy touches three places where young people most often meet the government: the youth justice system, child welfare, and services for unaccompanied children who arrive in the United States. When these systems work, they protect a child's liberty, keep families together, and move cases fairly and on time. When they don't, kids face avoidable detention, school disruption, and separation from caregivers. Stable, on-time funding keeps diversion programs, mentoring, trauma counseling, and family-support programs running. Delays or cuts that impact these systems make it harder to keep youth in school, out of detention, and safely connected to family.

Overall Analysis

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, the federal government allocated just \$17.651 billion to these crucial justice and child protection efforts. From FY 2021 to FY 2025, most juvenile justice funding remained flat, even as costs climbed, delivering real cuts after inflation. Young people need immediate help after crises, yet

continuing resolutions often delay programming and compress award periods, forcing providers to launch programs late and to operate on shortened timelines that strain staffing and continuity of care. In child welfare, prevention programs under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) and Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CB-CAP) have remained level-funded. At the same time, caseload and workforce costs have risen. For youth, flat dollars plus higher costs mean fewer mentoring matches, fewer school-based counseling hours, thinner case-management coverage, and longer waits for family support — conditions that raise the odds of court involvement, absenteeism, and placement instability.¹

Program Spotlights

Children Exposed to Violence

The Children Exposed to Violence initiative helps kids who have witnessed or survived violence regain stability through trauma-informed counseling, school-based supports, and safe-exchange or supervised visitation. The President's FY 2026 budget request cuts this program in half, from \$9.0 million to \$4.5 million, within broader reductions to juvenile justice programs.² For youth, fewer dollars here translates into longer waitlists after an incident, reduced on-site support in schools, greater risk of re-traumatization, and more school absences.

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

President Trump's FY 2026 budget request reduces funding for juvenile justice programs from \$375.0 million to \$300.5 million. Within that total, Youth Mentoring is slashed by almost 60%, from \$104.0 million to \$43.0 million, Children Exposed to Violence goes from \$9.0 million to \$4.5 million, Tribal Youth programs drop from \$16.0 million to \$10.0 million, and the Opioid-Affected Youth Initiative drops to \$7.5 million from \$10.5 million. These reductions will cut into mentoring pairs sustained across the school year, hours of counseling after violence or loss, access to culturally grounded supports for tribal youth, and capacity to address substance-related harms that derail schooling and reentry.

The President's request also keeps CAPTA at \$105 million, flat in nominal dollars from FY 2025, and

sets CB-CAP at \$60 million, which is flat to FY 2025 but a decrease from FY 2024's \$70 million. Level prevention dollars buy less after inflation, so states are likely to narrow the scope or serve fewer families. For unaccompanied children, the President's budget provides about \$4.2 billion in base funding, a decrease of \$1.3 billion from the \$5.5 billion base requested in FY 2025. The budget would also create an uncapped discretionary contingency fund for unaccompanied minors that adds resources when monthly referrals of children to the Office of Refugee Resettlement exceed 10,000, a tool designed to smooth capacity during surges.³ Separately, the President's FY 2026 request eliminates the Community Services Block Grant, Refugee Support Services, and Transitional/Medical Services. While the contingency fund would help keep unaccompanied children safe during spikes, eliminating the Community Services Block Grant and key refugee supports would remove community partners that stabilize housing, income, and short-term services, which likely would have a substantial impact on child safety, school continuity, and entry of unaccompanied children into foster care.

Looking Ahead

The Senate's FY 2026 Commerce-Justice-Science bill funds the Department of Justice (DOJ) at about \$1.6 billion above the President's budget request. The lawmakers emphasize DOJ grants, including for programs under the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The Senate bill specifies \$380 million for OJJDP and \$105 million for youth mentoring, potentially signaling a desire to restore programs that serve young people during negotiations.⁴ For youth outcomes, that difference is concrete: if Congress succeeds in restoring funding, communities can keep more mentoring and counseling hours in place and can maintain tribal youth services. If Congress enacts the President's proposed reductions, providers would be forced to choose among programs, and would hopefully focus on activities with the most significant protective effects: fast access to counseling after an incident; intensive mentoring for the highest-risk youth; and kinship or parent supports that avert foster-care entry, all of which are evidence-based triage recommendations.



1. Congressional Research Service, Federal Grants to States and Local Governments Under Continuing Resolutions (Washington, DC, 2024).
2. U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, FY 2026 Budget and Performance Summary (Washington, DC, 2025), 41–42.
3. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, FY 2026 Congressional Justification (Washington, DC, 2025).
4. U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations, “FY 2026 Commerce, Justice, Science Senate Bill Summary,” July 17, 2025.



Justice and Child Protection Programs

In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.

-16.38%
2021-25

Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 75.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program provides incentive payments to states that increase the number of adoptions of children in the public foster care system.

4.29%
2021-25

Adoption Opportunities

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 44.1 M	\$ 48.0 M	\$ 51.0 M	\$ 53.0 M	\$ 55.0 M	\$ 53.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.41%	0.85%	1.12%	0.82%	1.44%	-5.92%

Adoption Opportunities grants provide funds for projects designed to eliminate barriers to adoption and help find permanent families for children who would benefit from adoption, particularly children with special needs.

-16.38%
2021-25

Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Community Living
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 300.0 K	\$ 300.0 K	\$ 300.0 K	\$ 300.0 K	\$ 300.0 K	\$ 300.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

More than 2.5 million grandparents in the United States are the primary caretakers of their grandchildren. The Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, authorized by Congress in 2018, is intended to identify, promote, coordinate, and disseminate to the public information, resources, and the best practices available to help grandparents and other older relatives raising children, with special emphasis on families impacted by the opioid crisis and Native American families.

-22.32%
2021-25

Chafee Education and Training Vouchers

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 10%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 47.6 M	\$ 43.3 M	\$ 44.3 M	\$ 44.3 M	\$ 44.3 M	\$ 44.3 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 4.8 M	\$ 4.3 M	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 4.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	6.63%	-15.87%	-2.63%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Chafee Education and Training Vouchers program provides vouchers of up to \$5,000 per year to eligible youth who are, or were formerly, in foster care for expenses related to post-secondary education assistance, such as tuition, books, fees, supplies, and vocational training.

-78.13%
2021-25

Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 10%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 546.7 M	\$ 142.9 M	\$ 143.0 M	\$ 143.0 M	\$ 143.0 M	\$ 143.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 54.7 M	\$ 14.3 M	\$ 14.3 M	\$ 14.3 M	\$ 14.3 M	\$ 14.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	270.26%	-75.78%	-4.77%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Chafee Foster Care Independence Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood provides services to foster children under 18 who are expected to “age out” of foster care, former foster youth (ages 18-21), and youth who left foster care for kinship guardianship or adoption after age 16. This program provides a variety of services including, but not limited to, educational assistance, career exploration, vocational training, job placement, life skills training, home management, health services, substance abuse prevention, preventive health activities, and room and board.

-13.99%
2021-25

Child Abuse Discretionary Activities

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 35.0 M	\$ 36.0 M	\$ 38.0 M	\$ 36.0 M	\$ 36.0 M	\$ 36.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-4.70%	0.46%	-8.09%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Child Abuse Discretionary Activities support a national child abuse hotline with resources and intervention in all modalities, including chat, text, and calls, to provide comprehensive capabilities to serve both youth and concerned adults facing child abuse and neglect.



-2.46%
2021-25

Child Abuse State Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 90.1 M	\$ 95.1 M	\$ 105.1 M	\$ 105.1 M	\$ 105.1 M	\$ 105.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-2.20%	5.18%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Child Abuse State Grants assist states and communities in addressing the need for innovative and effective child abuse prevention and treatment services.

7.51%
2021-25

Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.5 M	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	5.89%	7.06%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel grants support efforts to improve the juvenile justice and dependency systems' response to child abuse, neglect, commercial sexual exploitation, and sex trafficking of minors and related cases.

-16.38%
2021-25

Child Welfare Services

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 268.7 M	\$ 268.7 M	\$ 268.7 M	\$ 268.7 M	\$ 268.7 M	\$ 268.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-17.07%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Child Welfare Services program is designed to establish, extend, and strengthen child welfare services. Funds may be used for services such as investigation of child abuse and neglect reports, removal of children from a home for their safety, and financial support for children in foster care.

1.31%
2021-25

Child Welfare Training

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 19.0 M	\$ 19.0 M	\$ 19.0 M	\$ 22.0 M	\$ 23.0 M	\$ 22.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.20%	-7.34%	-4.83%	12.34%	2.26%	-6.68%

Child Welfare Training grants provide funds to accredited public or other nonprofit institutions of higher learning for specific projects to train prospective and current personnel for work in the field of child welfare.

-5.93%
2021-25

Children Exposed to Violence Awareness and Intervention Initiative

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 8.0 M	\$ 8.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 9.0 M	\$ 9.0 M	\$ 4.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	18.96%	-12.69%	-2.25%	-51.18%

The Children Exposed to Violence Awareness and Intervention Initiative helps implement effective juvenile crime and delinquency prevention programs and assist children victimized by crime and abuse.

-16.38%
2021-25

Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration program grants aim to enhance and maintain parental and family relationships for incarcerated parents and mitigate the consequences of parental incarceration for the 7% of U.S. children who have experienced it.

-16.38%
2021-25

Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 500.0 K	\$ 500.0 K	\$ 500.0 K	\$ 500.0 K	\$ 500.0 K	\$ 500.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Grants for the Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal support the development and enhancement of a publicly accessible website that will consolidate information regarding federal resources, grant opportunities, best and promising practices, and ongoing government initiatives that address and support children of incarcerated parents and their caregivers.

-20.31%
2021-25

Children, Youth, and Families at Risk

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: National Institute of Food & Agriculture
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 8.4 M	\$ 8.4 M	\$ 8.4 M	\$ 8.0 M	\$ 8.0 M	\$ 8.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-7.55%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Children, Youth, and Families at Risk program supports the development of community-based educational programs that equip families and youth with limited resources who are at risk for not meeting basic human needs with the skills they need to lead positive and productive lives.

**NEW
SINCE
2021**

Children's Interagency Coordinating Council

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Children's Interagency Coordinating Council funding fosters greater coordination and transparency on child policy across agencies. The Council was tasked with contracting the National Academy of Sciences to prepare a report to Congress analyzing federal policies that have affected child poverty. The study should rely on the U.S. Census Bureau Supplemental Poverty Measure, among other sources of information. The Council was also asked to examine and periodically report on a broad array of cross-cutting issues affecting child well-being.

-2.60%
2021-25

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 60.7 M	\$ 65.7 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 60.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	5.51%	0.29%	2.42%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-16.19%

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention assists states and communities in addressing the need for innovative and effective child abuse prevention and treatment services.

-13.57%
2021-25

Community Services Block Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 37%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 745.0 M	\$ 755.5 M	\$ 770.0 M	\$ 770.0 M	\$ 770.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 275.6 M	\$ 279.5 M	\$ 284.9 M	\$ 284.9 M	\$ 284.9 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-58.55%	-6.04%	-3.01%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Community Services Block Grants offer funds to states to address the causes of poverty by providing effective services in communities. Activities may include coordination and referral to other programs, as well as direct services such as child care, transportation, employment, education, and self-help projects.



-46.24%
2021-25

Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 9.0 M	\$ 9.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	69.43%	-7.34%	-32.02%	-12.69%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiatives provide funding for community-based strategies that focus on street-level outreach, conflict mediation, and the changing of community norms to reduce violence, particularly shootings.

18.46%
2021-25

Consolidated Youth Programs

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office on Violence Against Women
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 12.0 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 17.0 M	\$ 17.0 M	\$ 17.0 M	\$ 17.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.02%	15.82%	7.86%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Consolidated Youth Programs fund comprehensive child-centered community-based efforts and practices to address sexual and domestic violence.

-6.49%
2021-25

Consumer Product Safety Commission

Department: Consumer Product Safety Commission • Bureau: Consumer Product Safety Commission
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 35%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 135.0 M	\$ 139.1 M	\$ 152.5 M	\$ 151.0 M	\$ 151.0 M	\$ 135.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 47.3 M	\$ 48.7 M	\$ 53.4 M	\$ 52.8 M	\$ 52.8 M	\$ 47.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.73%	-4.56%	4.37%	-3.96%	-2.25%	-12.70%

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is an independent regulatory agency whose primary responsibilities include protecting children and families against unreasonable risks of injury associated with consumer products, developing uniform safety standards for consumer products, and promoting research and investigation into the causes and prevention of product related deaths, illnesses, and injuries.



-6.35%
2021-25

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 9.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.85%	3.78%	1.97%	-9.45%	-2.25%	-37.24%

The Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA) program helps ensure that abused children receive high-quality representation in dependency court hearings.

-32.56%
2021-25

Delinquency Prevention Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 15.5 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 6.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	3.49%	-91.03%	693.07%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-49.23%

The Delinquency Prevention Program (formerly known as Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants) provides resources through state advisory groups to units of local government for a broad range of delinquency prevention programs and activities to benefit youth who are at risk of having contact with the juvenile justice system. In recent years, Congress has specified these funds for specific individual Juvenile Justice grant programs that vary from year to year and are listed individually throughout this book. The spending here is general funding for Delinquency Prevention Programs.

-29.09%
2021-25

Domestic Victims of Trafficking Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 31%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 8.3 M	\$ 8.3 M	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 7.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.1 M	\$ 2.1 M	\$ 2.1 M	\$ 2.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-19.30%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Domestic Victims of Trafficking Grants provide funding to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations to improve coordination and increase case management and direct assistance to trafficking victims, including responding to priority service needs. The National Human Trafficking Hotline maintains one of the most extensive data sets on the issue of human trafficking in the United States. Over the past four years, an average of 32% of the calls to the Hotline involved minors.

9.97%
2021-25

Family Violence Prevention and Services

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Children and Family Services Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 182.5 M	\$ 200.0 M	\$ 240.0 M	\$ 240.0 M	\$ 240.0 M	\$ 240.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 40.3 M	\$ 44.2 M	\$ 53.0 M	\$ 53.0 M	\$ 53.0 M	\$ 53.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.96%	1.54%	14.20%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Family Violence Prevention and Services provide funding to prevent incidents of domestic violence and to provide immediate shelter and supportive services.

25.43%
2021-25

Girls in the Juvenile Justice System

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 5.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	45.22%	38.99%	16.32%	-20.62%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Girls in the Juvenile Justice System grants provide competitive demonstration grants focusing on girls in the juvenile justice system through responses and strategies that consider gender and the special needs of girls.

28.45%
2021-25

Guardianship Assistance

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 248.7 M	\$ 254.0 M	\$ 345.0 M	\$ 336.6 M	\$ 382.0 M	\$ 386.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	9.87%	-5.36%	29.26%	-5.36%	10.94%	-1.35%

The Guardianship Assistance provides Title IV-E subsidies on behalf of a child to a relative taking legal guardianship of that child.

-16.38%
2021-25

Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	21.02%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense Program provides funding and other resources to develop effective, well-resourced model juvenile indigent defender offices; and develop and implement standards of practice and policy for the effective management of such offices.



-18.88%
2021-25

Juvenile Justice Part B Formula Grants

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 67.0 M	\$ 70.0 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 65.0 M	\$ 65.0 M	\$ 65.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.15%	-3.19%	1.97%	-15.92%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Juvenile Justice Part B Formula Grants support state, local, and tribal efforts to develop and implement comprehensive juvenile justice plans; monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their juvenile justice programs; and provide training and technical assistance to improve the performance of juvenile justice programs.

-8.37%
2021-25

Missing and Exploited Children Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 94.0 M	\$ 99.0 M	\$ 105.0 M	\$ 103.0 M	\$ 103.0 M	\$ 103.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.01%	-2.41%	0.94%	-4.83%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Missing and Exploited Children Program provides funds to public agencies or private nonprofit organizations for research, training, technical assistance, demonstration projects, or service programs designed to enhance support for missing children and their families.

-12.20%
2021-25

Opioid Affected Youth Initiative

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 12.0 M	\$ 12.5 M	\$ 10.5 M	\$ 10.5 M	\$ 7.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	11.19%	-0.87%	-18.51%	-2.25%	-30.26%

Opioid Affected Youth Initiative grants support states, local communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for children, youth, and at-risk juveniles and their families who have been impacted by the opioid crisis and drug addiction.

-8.90%
2021-25

Payments to States for Adoption Assistance

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.802 B	\$ 3.736 B	\$ 4.128 B	\$ 4.706 B	\$ 4.142 B	\$ 4.397 B
Real Change from Prior Year	8.76%	-8.95%	5.15%	10.60%	-13.97%	3.64%

The Payments to States for Adoption Assistance program provides funds to states to subsidize families that adopt children with special needs who cannot be reunited with their families, thus preventing long, inappropriate stays in foster care.

-24.98%
2021-25

Payments to States for Foster Care

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.795 B	\$ 5.830 B	\$ 5.952 B	\$ 6.382 B	\$ 5.199 B	\$ 5.314 B
Real Change from Prior Year	4.76%	-6.78%	-2.85%	4.04%	-20.38%	-0.21%

The Payments to States for Foster Care program provides matching reimbursement funds for foster care maintenance payments, costs for comprehensive child welfare information systems, training for staff, as well as foster and adoptive parents, and administrative costs to manage the program.

-9.65%
2021-25

Poison Control

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 53%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 24.8 M	\$ 25.8 M	\$ 26.8 M	\$ 26.8 M	\$ 26.8 M	\$ 26.8 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 13.2 M	\$ 13.7 M	\$ 14.2 M	\$ 14.2 M	\$ 14.2 M	\$ 14.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-13.77%	-3.61%	-1.15%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Poison Control program ensures access to poison center services, connects callers to local centers, and promotes poison prevention through a nationwide media campaign.



67.24%
2021-25

Preventing Trafficking of Girls

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 4.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	85.31%	18.96%	-22.39%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Preventing Trafficking of Girls program was created by Congress in the FY 2020 appropriations bill. It carves out \$2 million of Delinquency Prevention Program funds to support efforts to reduce the trafficking of young girls.

Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

-12.15%
2021-25

Mandatory

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 328.4 M	\$ 345.0 M	\$ 345.0 M	\$ 345.0 M	\$ 345.0 M	\$ 420.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.06%	-2.66%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	18.85%

-26.51%
2021-25

Discretionary

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 82.5 M	\$ 82.5 M	\$ 86.5 M	\$ 72.5 M	\$ 72.5 M	\$ 62.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-13.65%	-7.34%	-0.22%	-18.68%	-2.25%	-15.83%

The Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) program offers grants to states to help prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families, to improve the quality of care and services to children and their families, and to promote family reunification.

50.81%
2021-25

Safe Routes to Schools

Department: Transportation • Bureau: Federal Highway Administration
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 14%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 798.4 M	\$ 1.384 B	\$ 1.411 B	\$ 1.440 B	\$ 1.440 B	\$ 1.500 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 110.5 M	\$ 191.5 M	\$ 195.3 M	\$ 199.3 M	\$ 199.3 M	\$ 207.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-9.06%	60.56%	-2.93%	-1.01%	-2.25%	1.70%

The Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) program provides funds to states to substantially improve the ability of primary and middle school students to safely walk and bicycle to school. Since 2012, funding for SRTS has been available to states through competitive block grant funding, the most recent iteration being the Transportation Alternatives Program set-aside within the Surface Transportation Block Grant under the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

70.39%
2021-25

School Safety National Activities

Department: Education • Bureau: Safe Schools and Citizenship Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 106.0 M	\$ 201.0 M	\$ 216.0 M	\$ 216.0 M	\$ 216.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.26%	75.70%	2.27%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, School Safety National Activities are absorbed into the K-12 Simplified Funding Program. More information on this program can be found in the Education chapter.

20.86%
2021-25

Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act Programs

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 12.0 M	\$ 14.5 M	\$ 14.5 M	\$ 14.5 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	7.92%	10.83%	14.99%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act Programs address the harm caused by underage drinking by supporting prevention projects and activities.

-11.33%
2021-25

Social Services Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 61%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.603 B	\$ 1.700 B	\$ 1.700 B	\$ 1.700 B	\$ 1.700 B	\$ 1.700 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 977.9 M	\$ 1.037 B	\$ 1.037 B	\$ 1.037 B	\$ 1.037 B	\$ 1.037 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.98%	-1.74%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Social Services Block Grant offers funds to states to provide social services that best suit the needs of individuals in that state. Services typically include child day care, protective services for children and adults, and home care services for the elderly and handicapped.

738.47%
2021-25

Social Services Research and Demonstration

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 44.5 M	\$ 142.9 M	\$ 75.0 M	\$ 74.8 M	\$ 27.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	3.02%	452.63%	205.49%	-49.05%	-2.52%	-64.10%

The Social Services Research and Demonstration program promotes the ability of families to be financially self-sufficient and supports the healthy development and greater social well-being of children and families as well as the role programs within the Administration for Children and Families play in supporting those goals.

-48.05%
2021-25

STOP School Violence Act

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 132.0 M	\$ 382.0 M	\$ 82.0 M	\$ 82.0 M	\$ 82.0 M	\$ 75.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.24%	168.14%	-79.57%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-10.70%

The STOP School Violence Act provides funding for school security measures and trains teachers and students to recognize and respond to concerns of violence.

-16.38%
2021-25

Support for Missing and Exploited Children

Department: Homeland Security • Bureau: United States Secret Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 6.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Support for Missing and Exploited Children assists federal law enforcement agencies in the investigation and recovery of missing children.

33.79%
2021-25

Tribal Youth Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 17.0 M	\$ 16.0 M	\$ 16.0 M	\$ 10.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	93.63%	29.72%	15.56%	-8.69%	-2.25%	-38.98%

The Tribal Youth Program seeks to support and enhance tribal efforts to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and strengthen a fair and beneficial juvenile justice system response for American Indian/Alaska Native youth.

-1.93%
2021-25

Unaccompanied Children Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.638 B	\$ 5.506 B	\$ 5.506 B	\$ 4.188 B	\$ 4.267 B	\$ 4.243 B
Real Change from Prior Year	170.28%	40.23%	-4.83%	-26.21%	-0.41%	-2.92%

The Unaccompanied Children (UC) Program provides for the care and placement of unaccompanied minors who are either in the custody of federal agencies or have been apprehended by federal officials at a border, port of entry, or in the interior of the United States. UC generally leave their home countries to join family already in the U.S.; escape abuse, persecution, or exploitation in the home country; or to seek employment or educational opportunities.

-9.58%
2021-25

Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 91.0 M	\$ 97.0 M	\$ 79.5 M	\$ 98.4 M	\$ 98.4 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	7.44%	-1.23%	-22.04%	20.14%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program ensures that eligible unaccompanied minor populations receive the full range of assistance, care, and services available to all foster children in the state by establishing a legal authority to act in place of the child's unavailable parent(s). The program works to reunify children with their parents or other appropriate adult relatives through family tracing and coordination with local refugee resettlement agencies. However, if reunification is not possible, each program works to design a case-specific permanency plan for each minor or youth in care.

14.28%
2021-25

Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA)

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 33.0 M	\$ 41.0 M	\$ 41.0 M	\$ 41.0 M	\$ 41.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	7.57%	1.92%	18.24%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) program supports training and technical assistance to professionals involved in investigating, prosecuting, and treating child abuse. This program also supports the development of Children's Advocacy Centers and/or multi-disciplinary teams designed to prevent the inadvertent revictimization of an abused child by the justice and social service system in their efforts to protect the child.



0.54%
2021-25

Youth and Community Violence Prevention

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 15.1 M	\$ 15.1 M	\$ 18.1 M	\$ 18.1 M	\$ 18.1 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	-7.06%	14.08%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

Youth and Community Violence Prevention supports communities through their respective local health departments to prevent multiple forms of violence affecting adolescents, including peer-to-peer and teen dating violence.

-16.38%
2021-25

Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: National Institute of Food & Agriculture
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	5.00%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification supports efforts to deliver training to youth seeking employment or already employed in agricultural production.

-13.04%
2021-25

Youth Mentoring

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 100.0 M	\$ 102.0 M	\$ 107.0 M	\$ 104.0 M	\$ 104.0 M	\$ 43.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.19%	-5.49%	-0.17%	-5.71%	-2.25%	-59.63%

The Youth Mentoring program helps faith- and community-based, nonprofit, and for-profit organizations expand and enhance existing mentoring strategies and programs. It also helps these organizations develop and implement new mentoring strategies and programs designed for youth involved in the justice, reentry, and foster care systems, including mentoring for youth affected by the opioid crisis.

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NUTRITION



↓ 40.69%

**Real Percent Decrease in Nutrition
Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025**

TOTAL SPENDING ON NUTRITION						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 124.877 B	\$ 118.519 B	\$ 120.986 B	\$ 92.867 B	\$ 88.567 B	\$ 94.282 B
Real Change from Prior Year	42.60%	-12.06%	-2.85%	-25.53%	-6.78%	3.93%
Share of Total Spending	1.83%	2.00%	1.96%	1.37%	1.28%	1.35%

Background

Children's access to healthy food is imperative for their learning, development, and lifelong health. Food insecurity – whether it's a deficit of calories or vital nutrients or both – often inflicts long-term damage on children's health and well-being, and compounds the issues associated with child poverty. Federal food assistance programs and child nutrition programs provide millions of children with crucial access to nutritious foods, filling in the gaps experienced by low-income households struggling to put food on the table. These programs also help reduce economic and social inequities, as Black and Hispanic families in the U.S. are more than twice as likely as white families to be food insecure.¹

Solving childhood hunger requires long-term, cross-cutting investments across various policy areas. Food assistance programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and school nutrition programs that



keep children fed year-round all work together to give families access to the food they need.

Overall Analysis

Federal spending on children's nutrition dropped nearly 7% between FY 2024 and FY 2025 – a deeply alarming decline that follows a 25% decrease the year before. This trajectory underscores lawmakers' increasing deprioritization of children's health and well-being, with the share of federal spending dedicated to children's nutrition now sitting at just 1.28% of the total U.S. budget.

The biggest driver of the decline from the previous year is SNAP, which saw a reduction of nearly \$4 billion for kids. Lawmakers also cut the School Lunch Program by \$2 billion from FY 2024 to FY 2025.

Program Spotlights

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP is the nation's largest anti-hunger program and the first line of defense against childhood food insecurity. It provides monthly benefits on an electronic benefits transfer (EBT) card, which can only be used to purchase food at grocery stores and other participating vendors. Nearly 14 million children rely on SNAP for access to nutritious foods, and children represent one-third of SNAP participants.

Updates to the Thrifty Food Plan in FY 2022 reduced child poverty by 8.6% – reinforcing the fact that, with appropriate investment from Congress, SNAP effectively improves the well-being of children. Unfortunately, Congress cut SNAP by nearly \$4 billion in FY 2025. And exponentially worse cuts lie ahead, written into the partisan reconciliation bill signed into law on July 4, 2025, unless Congress reverses them before they take effect.

Overview of President's FY 2026 Budget

Discretionary spending under the President's FY 2026 budget paints a clear picture of the Administration's goal to defund child nutrition in the near term, with a cut of 1.21% in discretionary spending on kids. Driving the decline is a cut of \$391 million to WIC's Fruit and Vegetable Program, which helps families purchase nutritious produce. This issue proved a Congressional flashpoint in the previous year, and the President's budget makes clear that providing nutritious options in anti-hunger programs is not a priority of the current Administration.

Looking Ahead

The worst cuts to SNAP are still to come. The partisan reconciliation bill signed into law on July 4, 2025 makes the largest cut to SNAP in its history – roughly \$186 billion over 10 years. This reduction will undoubtedly increase childhood hunger, strain local food banks, and put pressure on state budgets as Congress shifts the cost of SNAP from the federal

government to the states. These cuts will surely impact all 40 million people who rely on SNAP, including 14 million children.

Under the new state cost shift, states would be forced to fund 5 to 15% of SNAP costs, depending on their administrative error rate. States will struggle to cover this new cost, forcing them to choose between restricting eligibility, making benefits even less supportive, or both. Because the state cost responsibility is in part a function of its error rate, states are rewarded if reducing the number of SNAP participants reduces its error rate. States could even opt out of the program entirely. All of these options will leave children hungrier, and Congress should immediately act to delay or reverse this cost shift, which takes effect in 2027.

The bill also eliminates previous exemptions from work requirements and adds burdensome new requirements that put millions of families who rely on SNAP at risk of losing it. The legislation removes the exemption for caregivers of children ages 14-17, which endangers 800,000 such children whose households currently receive SNAP. It also removes the exemption for young adults ages 18-24 aging out of the foster care system, which forces them to comply with burdensome requirements in order to continue qualifying.

- I. Malloy, Abbie, et al. "2022 USDA Food Insecurity Report." First Focus on Children. October 2023. <https://firstfocus.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/USDA-Food-Insecurity-Report.pdf>.

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Nutrition Programs

In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.

-10.67%
2021-25

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 96.2%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 4.015 B	\$ 4.315 B	\$ 4.660 B	\$ 4.244 B	\$ 4.289 B	\$ 4.484 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 3.863 B	\$ 4.152 B	\$ 4.484 B	\$ 4.084 B	\$ 4.127 B	\$ 4.315 B
Real Change from Prior Year	1.34%	-0.43%	2.78%	-11.64%	-1.21%	2.06%

The Child and Adult Care Food Program assists care institutions in providing meals and snacks to children and adults in non-residential day care, including after-school programs, and to homeless children in emergency shelters. More than 4.2 million children are served each day through this program.

12.20%
2021-25

Child Nutrition Program Commodity Reimbursement/Procurement

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.461 B	\$ 1.568 B	\$ 1.788 B	\$ 1.949 B	\$ 1.960 B	\$ 2.028 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.40%	-0.56%	8.57%	5.70%	-1.67%	1.03%

These funds support commodity purchases used in the School Lunch, Child and Adult Care Food, and the Summer Food Service Programs.

-16.38%
2021-25

Coordinated Review

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	6.39%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Coordinated Review reviews the National School Lunch Program to improve program management, evaluate meal data accuracy, and provide training and technical support to help improve local program accountability.

-66.72%
2021-25

Farm to School Grants

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 12.6 M	\$ 17.0 M	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	35.14%	25.38%	-21.63%	-65.35%	-2.25%	-100.00%

The Farm to School Grant Program provides grants on a competitive basis to increase local food procurement for school meal programs and expand educational agriculture and gardening activities.



-60.18%
2021-25

Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 26.0 M	\$ 26.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	9.61%	14.72%	-4.83%	-62.69%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) is associated with the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, popularly known as WIC. Eligible WIC participants are issued FMNP coupons in addition to their regular WIC benefits. These coupons can be used to buy eligible foods from farmers, farmers markets, or roadside stands that have been approved by the state agency to accept FMNP coupons.

20.00%
2021-25

Food Safety Education

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.3 M	\$ 4.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.24%	-5.48%	31.01%	-2.99%	-0.11%	-0.32%

The Food Safety Education program conducts research into, and implements educational initiatives on, the causes of foodborne illness, especially in schools, and develops materials to educate children and their families on food safety issues.

-6.33%
2021-25

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 183.0 M	\$ 187.0 M	\$ 191.0 M	\$ 195.0 M	\$ 205.0 M	\$ 212.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.02%	-5.32%	-2.80%	-0.95%	2.76%	0.96%

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program assists states in providing free fresh fruits and vegetables to all children enrolled in participating schools.



-100%
2021-25

Pandemic EBT

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 31.229 B	\$ 25.000 B	\$ 20.000 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	139.06%	-25.82%	-23.87%	-100.00%	N/A	N/A

The Pandemic EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) program, or P-EBT, allows states to issue benefits on EBT cards, redeemable for food, to households with children who would have received free or reduced-price school meals if not for the closure of their schools due to the COVID-19 emergency. The American Rescue Plan Act extended the successful P-EBT program through the duration of the pandemic — including during the summer months.

-100%
2021-25

School Breakfast Expansion Grants

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 8.2 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	58.72%	-77.39%	42.75%	-100.00%	N/A	N/A

While school breakfast continues to be a priority, USDA believes these expansion grants are no longer needed to drive participation in the School Breakfast Program. In 2021, FNS awarded the School Breakfast Expansion Grant for U.S. States and the District of Columbia and the School Breakfast Expansion Grant for U.S. Territories. The purpose of these grants was to provide funds to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and qualifying schools, not to exceed \$10,000 per school year, to establish, maintain, or expand the School Breakfast Program.

3.02%
2021-25

School Breakfast Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.039 B	\$ 5.189 B	\$ 5.453 B	\$ 6.141 B	\$ 6.208 B	\$ 6.675 B
Real Change from Prior Year	0.98%	-4.59%	0.02%	9.25%	-1.19%	4.98%

The School Breakfast Program assists states in providing nutritious breakfast services in schools and residential child care institutions.

-9.76%
2021-25

School Lunch Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 13.540 B	\$ 14.666 B	\$ 15.405 B	\$ 16.625 B	\$ 14.611 B	\$ 17.183 B
Real Change from Prior Year	4.81%	0.36%	-0.04%	4.70%	-14.09%	14.82%

The School Lunch Program assists states through cash grants and food donations in providing balanced, low-cost or free lunches to low-income school children each school day. Currently, 28 million children benefit from free or reduced-price school lunches.

-70.22%
2021-25

School Meals Equipment Grants

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 28.1 M	\$ 29.6 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-9.38%	-2.25%	-3.62%	-67.73%	-2.05%	-100.00%

School Meals Equipment Grants help schools purchase the equipment needed to serve healthier meals, improve food safety, expand access, and/or improve energy efficiency. State agencies must prioritize these grants for high-need schools where 50% or more of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

-46.15%
2021-25

Special Milk Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 7.3 M	\$ 6.3 M	\$ 7.8 M	\$ 6.7 M	\$ 4.7 M	\$ 4.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.17%	-20.77%	19.03%	-17.46%	-30.82%	-3.45%

The Special Milk Program assists states in providing milk to children in schools and child care institutions who do not participate in other federal meal service programs.

26.41%
2021-25

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.026 B	\$ 6.000 B	\$ 6.000 B	\$ 7.031 B	\$ 7.598 B	\$ 7.307 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-18.36%	10.61%	-4.83%	13.68%	5.63%	-6.11%

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and breastfeeding and nutrition education to low-income pregnant and postpartum women, as well as infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk.

31.21%
2021-25

State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition Programs

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 317.0 M	\$ 332.0 M	\$ 339.0 M	\$ 491.6 M	\$ 497.5 M	\$ 509.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.53%	-2.97%	-2.83%	40.68%	-1.08%	0.07%

State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition Programs provide funds to states for administrative expenses incurred from supervising and giving technical assistance to local schools, school districts, and institutions in their conduct of child nutrition programs. Funds are also given to help states in their distribution of USDA donated commodities to schools, child care institutions, or adult care institutions.

**NEW
SINCE
2021**

Summer EBT

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.522 B	\$ 3.612 B	\$ 4.046 B
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.98%	9.38%

The Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer program provides additional nutrition assistance during the summer for children who rely on free or reduced-price meals when school is in session.

-100%
2020-24

Summer EBT Demonstration

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 16.3 M	\$ 18.8 M	\$ 40.0 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-54.87%	6.62%	102.79%	-100.00%	N/A	N/A

The Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer demonstration project provided summertime SNAP and WIC benefits to low-income children who are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals, and studied the efficacy of this assistance in reducing food insecurity during the summer months.



24.05%
2021-25

Summer Food Service Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 551.9 M	\$ 581.1 M	\$ 655.3 M	\$ 859.3 M	\$ 818.8 M	\$ 889.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.52%	-2.45%	7.33%	27.21%	-6.86%	6.00%

The Summer Food Service Program, also known as the Summer Meals Program, was established to ensure that children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. These meals come at a critical time of the year when children who normally participate in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs no longer have access to these healthy meals. However, only one in six children participating in these programs during the school year also access the Summer Meals Program.

-35.69%
2021-25

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 43.2%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 146.988 B	\$ 140.441 B	\$ 153.864 B	\$ 122.383 B	\$ 113.042 B	\$ 118.135 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 63.543 B	\$ 60.713 B	\$ 66.515 B	\$ 52.906 B	\$ 48.868 B	\$ 51.070 B
Real Change from Prior Year	44.51%	-11.47%	4.26%	-22.84%	-9.71%	2.03%

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps, provides direct financial assistance to low-income households for use in purchasing food for home consumption. Children represent nearly half of SNAP participants and receive roughly half of every dollar in SNAP benefits, making SNAP the largest federal nutrition program serving children.

-17.56%
2021-25

TEAM Nutrition

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 18.3 M	\$ 20.1 M	\$ 20.2 M	\$ 18.0 M	\$ 18.0 M	\$ 18.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.80%	1.88%	-4.43%	-13.37%	-2.25%	-2.37%

The TEAM Nutrition program is an integrated comprehensive plan involving schools, parents, and the community in efforts to continuously improve school meals, and to promote the health and education of school children.

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TRAINING



↓ 12.61%

Real Percent Decrease in Training
Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2025

TOTAL SPENDING ON YOUTH TRAINING						
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 1.893 B	\$ 1.926 B	\$ 1.984 B	\$ 1.978 B	\$ 1.978 B	\$ 1.375 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.23%	-5.72%	-1.95%	-3.28%	-2.25%	-32.14%
Share of Total Spending	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%	0.02%

Background

Federal youth training programs help close the employment gap among 16-24-year-olds by funding work-based learning, industry credentials, and re-engagement pathways for at-risk youth. Core accounts include Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Activities, YouthBuild, and Job Corps at the Department of Labor (DOL) and Career and Technical Education (CTE) at the Department of Education. These programs make up a relatively small share of federal spending but connect young people to first jobs, apprenticeships, and postsecondary credentials.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, extended continuing resolutions kept agencies operating at prior-year rates and delayed grant awards and other funding actions (for example, YouthBuild Notices of Funding Opportunity and similar grant competitions). That timing delays the launch of grant awards for new projects and extensions of existing ones late in the year, so reported spending looks lower mid-year even when annual funding is flat.



Overall Analysis

From FY 2021 to FY 2025, funding for youth training programs experienced a more than 12% decline after inflation, limiting the number of slots and services that programs can offer young people. From FY 2024 to FY 2025, CTE State Grants were flat in nominal dollars under the continuing resolution. Total funding for training programs increased by roughly \$85 million from FY 2021 to FY 2025, with CTE accounts receiving the largest amount at a \$63 million increase. The remainder went to WIOA Youth at about \$11.1 million, Job Corps at \$4.4 million, and YouthBuild at \$4.0 million.

Despite these funding gains, a greater than 19% increase in consumer prices over the same time period decreased the sector's real buying power. With Congress relying on continuing resolutions, many grants were issued later than usual in FY 2025, leaving programs fewer months to start projects, hire staff, and serve the youth.

Program Spotlight

YouthBuild

YouthBuild combines academics with paid, work-based learning (often construction and related trades) to re-engage at-risk youth. From FY 2021 to FY 2025, YouthBuild spending on kids grew from \$45.4 million to \$49.35 million, a

8.7% funding increase. In real terms, however, funding experienced a 9% decline after inflation. President Trump's FY 2026 budget request proposes folding YouthBuild into a new initiative called Make America Skilled Again (MASA), a state grant program that consolidates 11 existing programs. This consolidation would eliminate specific directions for funding streams, which could endanger the future of YouthBuild. WIOA Youth and other programs also would become part of MASA.¹

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

The Trump Administration's FY 2026 budget request would eliminate or consolidate most Department of Labor youth training programs into Make America Skilled Again (MASA), reframing federal workforce investments as a single, broad state grant. MASA would merge 11 programs and requires at least 10% set aside for Registered Apprenticeship, meaning that it would guarantee that some apprenticeships receive funding; however, because YouthBuild and Job Corps are pre-apprenticeship programs (and WIOA Youth is not an RA program), this change could impact whether young people will benefit and have access to these programs.² The President's approach represents a structural shift from dedicated youth programs toward a larger, block-grant approach to state workforce systems.

Congress, on the other hand, appears to favor preserving specific youth programs, such as Job Corps. The Senate Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill (S. 2587) rejects eliminating about \$1.76 billion specifically for Job Corps, and also continues to provide about \$105 million to YouthBuild and \$285 million for Registered Apprenticeship.³ That stance signals significant resistance to the proposed eliminations and establishes negotiations over whether MASA proceeds as envisioned or whether Congress preserves program-specific youth investments.

Looking Ahead

Cuts to Medicaid and food assistance in the 2025 reconciliation law (H.R. 1) are likely to make budgets tighter for at-risk youth and their families. CBO estimates the Medicaid changes will leave about 7.8 million more people uninsured by 2034⁴ and that changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will reduce participation by about 2.4 million people in an average month.⁵ Training programs exist to help 16-24-year-olds complete classes, earn industry credentials, and transition into jobs or Registered Apprenticeships, but those outcomes depend on steady attendance and basic support.

With less health coverage and less help buying food, families have less money for bus fare to class or worksites, tools and safety gear for labs or apprenticeships, child care during training hours, and even exam fees, all of which raise drop-out risk and lower completion and placement rates. If Congress ultimately moves toward a MASA-style consolidation, state allocation formulas and youth targeting requirements will determine whether access is preserved for the most vulnerable cohorts previously served by YouthBuild and WIOA Youth.

1. U.S. Department of Labor, FY 2026 ETA Budget in Brief (consolidates 11 programs into MASA; ≥10% for Registered Apprenticeship), 2025, https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ETA/budget/pdfs/FY2026BIB_ETA.pdf.
2. U.S. Department of Labor, FY 2026 Congressional Budget Justification—Employment and Training Administration (eliminates WIOA Youth as a stand-alone request), 2025, <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/general/budget/2026/CBJ-2026-VI-03.pdf>.
3. U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations, FY 2026 LHHS Bill Summary (rejects elimination of Job Corps; provides ≈\$1.76B; continues YouthBuild/Registered Apprenticeship), July 2025, https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/fy26_lhhs_senate_bill_summary.pdf.
4. Congressional Budget Office, "Information Concerning Medicaid-Related Provisions in Title IV of H.R. 1" (letter), June 24, 2025, <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/61510>
5. Congressional Budget Office, "Estimated Effects of Public Law 119-21 on Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program," August 11, 2025, <https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2025-08/61367-SNAP.pdf>

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Youth Training Programs

*In cases where the Administration did not provide data, First Focus on Children has assumed flat funding, represented by numbers in **gray**. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 Budget.*

-9.80% 2021-25 Career and Technical Education Grants to States

Department: Education • Bureau: Career, Technical and Adult Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 60%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.335 B	\$ 1.380 B	\$ 1.430 B	\$ 1.440 B	\$ 1.440 B	\$ 1.440 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 800.9 M	\$ 828.0 M	\$ 857.9 M	\$ 863.9 M	\$ 863.9 M	\$ 863.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.76%	-4.21%	-1.39%	-2.31%	-2.25%	-2.37%

Career and Technical Education Grants to States support state and community efforts to improve career and technical education (CTE) for secondary and post-secondary students. These formula grants are directed to states with lower per capita income and larger proportions of students from ages 16-20. By clearly connecting education to post-secondary career success, CTE courses have shown to be effective in dropout prevention and recovery.

-15.83% 2021-25 Job Corps

Department: Labor • Bureau: Office of Job Corps
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 38%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.749 B	\$ 1.749 B	\$ 1.760 B	\$ 1.760 B	\$ 1.760 B	\$ 176.4 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 664.5 M	\$ 664.5 M	\$ 668.9 M	\$ 668.9 M	\$ 668.9 M	\$ 67.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.91%	-7.34%	-4.21%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-90.22%

Job Corps provides young people ages 16-24 education and vocational training at no cost. The program also offers students a monthly stipend, assistance in job placement, and career counseling and transition support for up to 12 months after they graduate.

39.96%
2021-25

National Programs for Career, Technical, and Adult Education

Department: Education • Bureau: Career, Technical and Adult Education

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 60%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 7.4 M	\$ 7.4 M	\$ 32.4 M	\$ 12.4 M	\$ 12.4 M	\$ 10.2 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 19.5 M	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 6.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	315.77%	-62.83%	-2.25%	-20.20%

National Programs for Career, Technical, and Adult Education support research, development, demonstration, dissemination, evaluation, and assessment activities aimed at improving the quality and effectiveness of vocational and technical education.

-13.93%
2021-25

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Training Programs

Department: Labor • Bureau: Employment and Training Administration

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 41%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 921.1 M	\$ 933.1 M	\$ 948.1 M	\$ 948.1 M	\$ 948.1 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 377.7 M	\$ 382.6 M	\$ 388.7 M	\$ 388.7 M	\$ 388.7 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.34%	-6.14%	-3.30%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Training program is consolidated into Make America Skilled Again.

-9.05%
2021-25

YouthBuild

Department: Labor • Bureau: Employment and Training Administration

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 47%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 96.5 M	\$ 99.0 M	\$ 105.0 M	\$ 105.0 M	\$ 105.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 45.4 M	\$ 46.5 M	\$ 49.4 M	\$ 49.4 M	\$ 49.4 M	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.14%	-4.94%	0.90%	-2.99%	-2.25%	-100.00%

In the President's FY 2026 budget, the YouthBuild program is consolidated into Make America Skilled Again.



New Youth Training Programs

PROPOSED
FOR 2026

Make America Skilled Again

Department: Labor • Bureau: Employment and Training Administration
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.966 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 438.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

In the President's FY 2026 budget proposal, several Labor Department programs are consolidated into a Make America Skilled Again program, including Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Training Programs and YouthBuild.

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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS



! 0.09%

**Share of Federal Spending on
Children Internationally in FY 2025**

TOTAL SPENDING ON CHILDREN'S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level on Children	\$ 6.466 B	\$ 6.472 B	\$ 6.863 B	\$ 6.648 B	\$ 6.459 B	\$ 1.844 B
Share of International Spending	9.06%	9.73%	10.40%	10.60%	10.80%	5.91%
Share of Total Spending	0.09%	0.11%	0.11%	0.10%	0.09%	0.03%

Background

At the time of this writing, the global economy is one of vast disparities in resources, health, and power, with the richest 1% of the population enjoying 43%¹ of the world's assets and more than 800 million men, women, and children struggling just to survive on less than \$3 a day.² While the planet has always been a place of immense inequities in wealth and influence, the COVID-19 pandemic and its vastly disparate impacts on the very rich and the very poor, rapidly intensified these extremes. According to the World Bank, the poorest 40% of the global population lost twice as much income³ as the richest 20% and suffered twice the rate of deaths⁴ during and after the pandemic. Their children suffered more, too. It is estimated that more than 10 million children⁵ lost a parent or caregiver, and that the pandemic erased three years of progress in reducing global child poverty rates.

And more worrying developments have appeared on the horizon. For the Global South, and especially for the poorest and most marginal of their populations, 2025 has brought an avalanche of cruelty and injustice. A vast uptick in preventable suffering and death began with the senseless and immoral actions of those newly in power in the White House.



The Trump Administration's Decimation of U.S. Global Leadership

Donald Trump's second term in office began January 20, 2025, and ushered in the expected chaos. But it also initiated a complete about-face on 60 years of U.S. foreign policy and global leadership in alleviating poverty. Immediately upon coming into power, Trump abruptly froze all U.S. foreign assistance and withdrew the United States from both the World Health Organization and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

Over the following weeks and months, the Administration dissolved or incapacitated the entire U.S. foreign aid apparatus: hamstringing work in the field, firing thousands of expert staff, and impounding or rescinding funding for development and humanitarian assistance. The rushed and poorly managed dismantling of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Administration's decision to terminate 83% of foreign assistance programs without any advanced notice to country partners or USAID staff or any transition planning whatsoever, was nothing short of a trainwreck. Immediately, the deadly implications of the bad faith actions by the U.S. began to unfold on the ground, and at the time of this writing, the Administration is continuing efforts to rescind foreign assistance provided by Congress in 2024 and 2025. It has also used the courts to get its way and has largely succeeded.

This apocalyptic move by Washington could not have come at a worse time. Not only were these countries still battling the lingering impact of COVID-19, but overseas development assistance (ODA) had already fallen 9% in 2024.⁶ The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) now projects a 9-17% drop in 2025.⁷ The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and climate goals were wildly off-track, and the poorest countries were overburdened with debt-servicing payments after the COVID-19 pandemic, payments that amounted to more than 2.3 times⁸ what they were spending on the basic health and education of their people.

Additionally, President Trump's fixation on tariffs is expected to disproportionately impact the poor the world over. While the full impact of the President's flawed and chaotic trade policy is yet to be seen, the available evidence points to the exacerbation of existing global inequality and the undermining of poverty reduction efforts.

And despite promises during his campaign, the President has failed to end the wars in Ukraine and Gaza, and even launched an attack on Iran. During conflict, children are the most at risk, and the enabling policies of this Administration with the leaders of Russia and Israel have resulted in horrific suffering, malnutrition, and death. In Gaza alone, an estimated 18,500 children have died.⁹

Overall Analysis

The Loss of the U.S. Agency for International Development

The loss of the United States to the global humanitarian and development landscape cannot be overstated. Since the early 1960s, the United States, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, had been the world's biggest donor of bilateral foreign assistance as well as the largest contributor to United Nations agencies, most multilateral global health mechanisms, and multilateral development banks. In every way, shape and form, the United States — through USAID, the Centers for Disease Control, and the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) — offered programmatic, financial, and technical expertise that blazed the trail in ending preventable suffering and death worldwide. This lifesaving aid was never a burden on the U.S., making up just 1% of the entire federal budget. But the impact delivered by the \$60 billion the U.S. invested annually in global development and humanitarian efforts — the largest and most significant investment by any donor country — stood between the rest of the world and disaster. USAID programs and technical assistance have slashed preventable deaths of children under 5 years old from nearly 13 million a year in 1990 to roughly 5 million in 2024, an astounding feat of commitment and political will. Since 2003, with the advent of PEPFAR, administered by USAID and the CDC, 26 million men, women, and children have been saved from HIV, 5.8 million babies have been born HIV free, and 13 million orphans and vulnerable children have been protected from violence, abuse, and sex trafficking.

According to a recent report in *The Lancet*, higher investments by USAID were associated with a 32% drop¹⁰ in under-5 mortality rates. Further, USAID funding resulted in an overall 65% reduction in HIV deaths, a 51% reduction in deaths from malaria (which mostly kills pregnant women and young children), and a 50% reduction in deaths from Neglected Tropical Diseases. The *Lancet's* conclusion is devastating: an additional 4.5 million children are projected to die worldwide over the next five years as a result of the Trump Administration's continued funding cuts and the destruction of USAID.¹¹

New Remittance Tax in H.R. 1

In addition to the Trump Administration's assault on foreign assistance, the new 1% tax on remittances from the United States to low- and middle-income countries included in the recently enacted reconciliation bill, H.R. 1, is also cause for great concern. Remittances play a crucial role¹² in improving the lives of children in poor countries by paying for their food, medicine, and school fees. Remittances have been shown to improve children's health, nutrition, and school attendance rates while reducing rates of child labor and early marriage.

Remittances, totaling roughly \$685 billion in 2024,¹³ have long been a critical source of household income in many poor and middle-income countries, far greater than Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). Research shows that for every 1% increase in remittance tax, remittances drop 1.6%. Mexico alone stands to lose \$1.5 billion a year¹⁴ in remittances due to this 1% increase, 30 times¹⁵ more than what it will lose from the closure of USAID. This tax on private resources harms the poorest children in the world, just as they lose public resources and need the help of remittances the most.

Folding What's Left of USAID into the State Department

The Administration's freeze on foreign assistance and the subsequent dismantling of USAID have increased suffering and death among children in low-income countries and diminished U.S. global status as a trusted world leader and partner. Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced that he would cut 83% of USAID programming and fold the remainder into the State Department. That process is underway with devastating results. In addition to the new lack of funding, the State Department also lacks the technical capacity in procurement, monitoring and evaluation, and programming to replace USAID's efforts.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee is drafting legislation that would formally end USAID and authorize the State Department to fold what's left of the agency's humanitarian programs (and some development initiatives) into its diplomacy role.

The bill potentially will include a reauthorization of PEPFAR in their State Department legislation as well. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is taking

a different tack, and the final outcome of these two approaches remains unclear.

According to plans shared with Congress earlier this year and included in the Fiscal Year 2026 President's budget, the Administration has already terminated a vast swath of child-focused programming, including international basic education, the Vulnerable Children account, and key elements of PEPFAR's Orphans and Vulnerable Children programs. The Administration passed over these programs because they were not deemed "lifesaving" by Secretary Rubio (and therefore not given a waiver) or did not align with the Administration's stated goal of using foreign assistance to make America "safer, stronger, and more prosperous."

Before the dismantling of foreign aid, children received roughly 10% of U.S. foreign assistance resources, totaling just 0.09% of the overall U.S. budget.¹⁶ Although that amount was far too small given that kids make up as much as 50% of the population in some low-income countries, it was far better than the barren landscape that is emerging.

The Administration plans to slash most development programming and to retain a smaller version of USAID's humanitarian work at the State Department. But investing in humanitarian assistance without development programs will likely prove inefficient, simply placing the smallest of proverbial Band-Aids on open wounds while ignoring what caused the gashes in the first place.

Humanitarian assistance focuses on the short-term — the immediate response to crises — by providing food, water, shelter, medical care, and protection to people affected by emergencies. Development assistance, on the other hand, seeks to create lasting change by addressing long-term issues such as the root causes of poverty and food insecurity, and promoting resilience to shocks such as extreme weather. These two streams work in tandem, with development assistance ideally making humanitarian assistance less necessary over time. Appropriate international responses require both humanitarian and development assistance, and a smooth transition from humanitarian aid to development is crucial for long-term recovery and sustainability. The Administration's planned approach to largely ignore development needs and only respond to emergencies will cause additional preventable death and suffering.

Rescissions

As if closing USAID and slashing programs were not enough, in June 2025 the Trump Administration asked Congress to reclaim, or "rescind," \$9.4 billion in foreign assistance and other funding it had just provided in March. More than \$8 billion of the rescissions package was for foreign assistance. And while the Senate mounted more pushback than anticipated by the Office of Management and Budget, in the end, Congress gave the President most of what he wanted.

The Senate, after much work by the HIV and global health community, did manage to protect \$400 million in PEPFAR funding partly aimed at protecting orphans and vulnerable children. The final bill also included language protecting funds devoted to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, nutrition, or maternal and child health from a separate \$500 million cut to global health programs. Lawmakers also spared funds for the anti-poverty program Food for Peace and the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program that feeds poor school children.

But the final bill still cuts \$8 billion from other international programs, many of which support children, including development assistance (which funds clean water and sanitation), programs to assist refugees, core funding for UNICEF, and support for victims of international disasters, harming hundreds of thousands of children globally. The Administration did not provide specifics about how much funding would be taken from individual programs.

Program Spotlight

At the time of this writing, it appears that the State Department will retain most medical interventions under PEPFAR, likely in some smaller capacity. Tragically, orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) have been largely left behind.

PEPFAR's OVC programs were among the largest annual allotments of money provided specifically for the well-being of children internationally, totaling 10% of PEPFAR's roughly \$5 billion yearly bilateral budget.

For over 20 years, PEPFAR's OVC programs provided children infected with or affected by HIV with critical socio-economic protection — ensuring children were able to attend school, eat nutritious



food, travel to clinics for testing and treatment, and receive psychosocial support to address the stigma and discrimination they experienced. These programs also trained OVC caregivers in positive parenting and provided livelihood support, enabling them to keep their families together and healthy, expand microbusinesses, and better provide for their children.

PEPFAR's OVC programs also played a key role in identifying HIV-positive children, getting them tested, and ensuring adherence to treatment regimens. These functions are still urgently needed. Children continue to be left behind in the global HIV response: just over half of all children living with HIV (57%) are on life-saving treatment versus roughly 77% of adults. And while children make up only 3% of people living with HIV, they account for 12% of AIDS-related deaths.¹⁷

PEPFAR's OVC work represented the first time on a broad scale that the holistic needs of children were addressed in one program and its achievements on behalf of children were expansive. PEPFAR prevented 8.2 million children¹⁸ from becoming orphaned and its parenting programs have been shown to reduce physical, verbal and sexual abuse of children by up to 57%.¹⁹ PEPFAR's OVC work with adolescent girls reduced incidences of sexual violence by 65% in Malawi and 68% in Kenya.²⁰ According to new modeling of high-prevalence countries using Population-Based HIV Impact Assessment surveys, over the past decade alone, OVC programs prevented the sex trafficking of 8,500 children,

reduced the number of child marriages by close to 7,000, and cut the cases of physical and emotional violence against children by nearly 55,000. PEPFAR did all this by keeping girls in school, training parents, educating young boys and girls about what to watch out for, and changing social norms around what is and is not acceptable. These activities were time- and labor-intensive, but they changed the behavior of communities over the long term and produced a strong return on investment.

Over the past two decades, PEPFAR has protected 10.3 million girls from sexual abuse.²¹ When children, especially girls, remain in school, they can generate income, support their families, and contribute to the economy as adults. Every \$1 spent on PEPFAR's OVC programs produced a \$4 return in economic productivity gains.²²

One of the more complicated aspects of OVC programs is that, unlike most other aspects of PEPFAR's policy framework, the legislative authorization for the program expires. The set-aside for 10% of PEPFAR funding to be directed to OVC requires that Congress preserve it, adding it back each time the program is reauthorized. Although it has historically enjoyed bipartisan support, and has been included in each reauthorization, recent political attacks on PEPFAR have resulted in its authorization expiring in March of 2025. Also expired therefore is the 10% set aside for orphans and vulnerable children.

And sadly, OVC programs were closed down by the Administration in January of this year. As mentioned

above, the programs supported by the OVC set-aside did not receive the waiver from Secretary of State Marco Rubio for “life-saving humanitarian assistance” as other medical components of PEPFAR did. As a result, 6.6 million orphans, vulnerable children, and caregivers were abandoned by the United States.

Right now, in countries that were previously receiving PEPFAR’s OVC support, most programming has halted with children no longer receiving food or being connected to medical care. Because education is not free in many countries, when a family is not able to pay school fees (which the OVC set aside covered), children are often forced to work, many times on the street. In some places, when conditions are dire, it is not uncommon for children to be trafficked — “sold” into domestic servitude or married off as young children, where they are without protection from physical and sexual abuse.

PEPFAR has saved and protected millions of babies and young children, ensuring they have the safeguards and support they need to survive and thrive. Child advocates are pushing for OVC programs to be reinstated at the State Department Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy.

Overview of the President's FY 2026 Budget

President Trump’s FY 2026 foreign assistance budget²³ request to Congress included alarming cuts to lifesaving programs and the dissolution of six decades of U.S. foreign assistance architecture. The budget proposes slashing foreign assistance base funding from roughly \$60 billion a year to less than \$10 billion. Billions of dollars are subtracted from critical development assistance and global health programs. And shockingly, former sources of support for refugees and international disaster aid are diverted into a fund that the President can use in whatever way he chooses to remove immigrants inside the United States. The budget also folds what is left of USAID into the State Department, eliminates the CDC’s Center for Global Health, and asks Congress to cancel previously appropriated funds.

The cuts to children’s programming are devastating, totaling roughly over 70% of former investments. Funding for basic education, vulnerable children, and nutrition programming is completely erased, as

is support for clean water and sanitation, maternal and child health, and U.S. contributions to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and UNICEF. The President’s budget request cuts PEPFAR funding as well as the U.S. contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and funding for bilateral infectious disease programming. Critical food assistance programs that support very poor children, Food for Peace and the McGovern-Dole school feeding program — recently spared by Congress — are also eliminated. While support for humanitarian assistance is slightly better, the budget still seeks to slash it from over \$10 billion in 2025 to roughly \$4 billion.

One of the few brighter places in the Administration’s budget request is its continued contribution to the World Bank’s concessional lending arm, the International Development Association (IDA). IDA has supported the world’s poorest countries as they grapple with the ongoing fallout from COVID-19 and food insecurity caused by the war in Ukraine. President Trump’s budget promises IDA \$3.2 billion over three years — short of the \$4 billion pledged by the previous Administration, but at least it is not eliminated.

While Congress is expected to fund foreign assistance at a more reasonable level than the President’s proposed budget, it is clear the Administration will fight obligating appropriated funding and implementing programs it does not support. If enacted, President Trump’s proposed FY 2026 budget would be nothing short of disastrous for the world’s children.

Looking Ahead

The U.S. Constitution gives Congress the power of the purse, but how far it is willing to assert this role with the executive is anyone’s guess. At the time of this writing, the U.S. House of Representatives’ National Security, State Department and Related Programs (NSRP) Subcommittee of Appropriations has filed its FY 2026 foreign assistance budget,²⁴ which aligns with the Administration’s budget request in many areas. The legislation does, however, go its own way in a few significant respects.

First, the bill only reduces foreign assistance funding by 22% from the previous year’s level, allocating \$46.22 billion in 2026 — a stark contrast with the President’s requested over 80% reduction. It provides \$9.5 billion for global health overall

but goes along with the President in prohibiting funding for the World Health Organization and eliminating resources for UNICEF (although the bill's accompanying report does state that the U.S. contribution to UNICEF could be provided from a new "National Security Investment Programs" account). The legislation provides flat funding for PEPFAR, Maternal and Child Health (including \$300 million for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and polio), tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), and expands funding for Vulnerable Children, Nutrition, and Malaria programs. While it does reduce the U.S. contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria by \$150 million, its funding level puts the U.S. on track to exceed the President's proposed 20% cap on U.S. contributions to the overall pot of resources provided by donors.

The House was less generous than the Administration to the World Bank and also rescinds over \$3 billion in previous funding provided for development and economic support. In line with the Administration's stated goal, the House bill requires the State Department to submit a strategy to Congress within 180 days detailing how it plans to transition PEPFAR programs to "country-led ownership." Separately, both the House²⁵ and Senate²⁶ Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees have chosen to ignore the President's budget request to eliminate Food for Peace and McGovern-Dole programs, although the House bill would cut Food for Peace by 44% versus the Senate's 6%, and McGovern-Dole by 8% versus the Senate, which retains flat funding.

As Congress and the Administration continue working toward a federal budget, organizations and advocates in the children's community will continue working to preserve as much U.S. foreign assistance funding and programming for children as possible, ensuring that their well-being and futures are a priority in international policy and development.



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International Programs

NOTE: Inflation varies dramatically from country to country, year to year. Therefore, we do not include figures for inflation-adjusted real percent change for international programs. Numbers in **red** reflect programs that have been zeroed out in the Trump Administration's proposed FY 2026 budget.

Bureau of International Labor Affairs

Agency: Labor • Department: Departmental Management • Type: Discretionary

Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 63%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 96.1 M	\$ 106.1 M	\$ 116.1 M	\$ 116.1 M	\$ 113.1 M	\$ 70.2 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 60.1 M	\$ 66.3 M	\$ 72.6 M	\$ 72.6 M	\$ 70.7 M	\$ 43.9 M

The Bureau of International Labor Affairs seeks to strengthen global labor standards, enforce labor commitments among trading partners, promote racial and gender equity, and combat international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking.

CDC Global Health

Agency: Health and Human Services • Department: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

• Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 8%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 591.0 M	\$ 646.8 M	\$ 692.8 M	\$ 692.8 M	\$ 635.9 M	\$ 303.9 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 46.2 M	\$ 50.6 M	\$ 54.2 M	\$ 54.2 M	\$ 49.7 M	\$ 23.8 M

The CDC provides technical assistance to Ministries of Health and public institutions internationally to prevent, detect, and respond to health threats through training, laboratory support, disease surveillance and emergency response.

Development Assistance

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 17%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.500 B	\$ 4.140 B	\$ 4.369 B	\$ 3.931 B	\$ 3.931 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 591.6 M	\$ 699.8 M	\$ 738.4 M	\$ 664.4 M	\$ 664.4 M	\$ 0.00

Development Assistance funding supports basic education, water and sanitation efforts, food security, agricultural development, climate programs, and democracy and governance initiatives.

Economic Support Fund

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 17%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.152 B	\$ 4.099 B	\$ 4.301 B	\$ 3.890 B	\$ 3.590 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 539.3 M	\$ 701.4 M	\$ 736.0 M	\$ 665.7 M	\$ 614.4 M	\$ 0.00

Economic Support Fund resources support basic education, democracy, human rights, good governance, economic stability, and security in countries where the U.S. has key political and strategic interests.

Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA)

Agency: State • Department: Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration • Type: Discretionary
• Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 91.0 K	\$ 100.0 K	\$ 0.00	\$ 100.0 K	\$ 100.0 K	\$ 1.500 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 14.0 K	\$ 15.0 K	\$ 0.00	\$ 15.0 K	\$ 15.0 K	225.8 M

ERMA is an emergency presidential draw-down account that enables the U.S. to respond rapidly to unforeseen humanitarian needs. Funds are used for life-sustaining assistance to refugees including food, shelter, access to health care, and education.

Food for Peace

Agency: State • Department: Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance • Type: Discretionary
• Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 9%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 2.540 B	\$ 1.750 B	\$ 1.800 B	\$ 1.619 B	\$ 1.619 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 740.7 M	\$ 510.3 M	\$ 524.9 M	\$ 472.1 M	\$ 472.1 M	\$ 0.00

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Food for Peace is consolidated into the International Humanitarian Assistance fund.

International Disaster Assistance

Agency: USAID • Department: Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance • Type: Discretionary
• Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 2%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 4.429 B	\$ 3.905 B	\$ 3.905 B	\$ 4.779 B	\$ 4.029 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 107.2 M	\$ 94.6 M	\$ 94.6 M	\$ 115.7 M	\$ 97.6 M	\$ 0.00

In the President's FY 2026 budget, International Disaster Assistance is consolidated into International Humanitarian Assistance.

International Organizations and Partnerships

Agency: State • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 36%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 387.5 M	\$ 423.0 M	\$ 508.6 M	\$ 436.9 M	\$ 436.9 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 137.9 M	\$ 150.6 M	\$ 181.0 M	\$ 155.5 M	\$ 155.5 M	\$ 0.00

International Organizations and Partnerships funding provides voluntary U.S. contributions to international organizations promoting development, humanitarian, and scientific activities, including the U.N. Development Program (UNDP), U.N. Environment Program (UNEP), U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) and most significantly, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF).

McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program

Agency: Agriculture • Department: Foreign Agricultural Service • Type: Discretionary
• Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 230.0 M	\$ 237.0 M	\$ 243.3 M	\$ 240.0 M	\$ 240.0 M	\$ 0.00

McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program funding provides food and financial assistance to low-income countries to support primary education, child development, and food security. By providing school meals and teacher training, programs boost school enrollment, attendance, and academic performance in vulnerable communities.

Migration and Refugee Assistance

Agency: State • Department: Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration • Type: Discretionary
• Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 3.432 B	\$ 2.912 B	\$ 2.912 B	\$ 3.928 B	\$ 3.178 B	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 516.6 M	\$ 438.4 M	\$ 438.4 M	\$ 591.3 M	\$ 478.4 M	\$ 0.00

In the President's FY 2026 budget, Migration and Refugee Assistance is consolidated into Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance.

Millennium Challenge Corporation

Agency: Millennium Challenge Corporation • Department: Millennium Challenge Corporation • Type: Discretionary
• Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 25%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.097 B	\$ 912.0 M	\$ 930.0 M	\$ 930.0 M	\$ 930.0 M	\$ 224.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 274.3 M	\$ 228.0 M	\$ 232.5 M	\$ 232.5 M	\$ 232.5 M	\$ 56.0 M

The Millennium Challenge Corporation partners with some of the world's poorest countries that are committed to just and democratic governance and economic freedom by investing in economic growth, reducing poverty, and strengthening institutions.



Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP)

Agency: State • Department: State • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 66.0 M	\$ 66.0 M	\$ 76.0 M	\$ 72.6 M	\$ 66.6 M	\$ 6.5 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 4.6 M	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 4.0 M	\$ 389.0 K

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP) introduced Child Protection Compact (CPC) Partnerships in FY 2014. CPC Partnerships are non-binding multi-year bilateral instruments that document the commitment of the governments to achieve shared objectives aimed at reducing child trafficking by building effective systems of justice, child protection, and prevention of violence, abuse, and exploitation. The Office currently has CPC Partnerships with the Governments of Colombia, Jamaica, and Mongolia, and currently in the negotiation process for a partnership with Cote d' Ivoire. The program is funded from the International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Account.

Peace Corps

Agency: Peace Corps • Department: Peace Corps • Type: Discretionary
• Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 70%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 369.0 M	\$ 410.5 M	\$ 430.5 M	\$ 430.5 M	\$ 430.5 M	\$ 430.5 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 258.3 M	\$ 287.4 M	\$ 301.4 M	\$ 301.4 M	\$ 301.4 M	\$ 301.4 M

Peace Corps funding supports American volunteers to live and work in communities overseas for 27 months providing technical assistance in six program areas including health, education, and agriculture.

State-GHP: Oversight and Management and Strategic Information/Evaluation

Agency: State • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 11%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 54.5 M	\$ 54.5 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 6.2 M	\$ 6.2 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

The Oversight and Management and Strategic Information/Evaluation subaccount supports multiple agencies in evaluation and implementation of PEPFAR.



State-GHP: President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

Agency: State • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 11%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 5.905 B	\$ 4.390 B	\$ 4.395 B	\$ 4.174 B	\$ 4.174 B	\$ 2.910 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 667.3 M	\$ 496.1 M	\$ 496.6 M	\$ 471.7 M	\$ 471.7 M	\$ 328.8 M

The Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy leads, manages, and oversees the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) across 55 countries. Through PEPFAR, the U.S. government has saved 26 million lives, enabled 7.8 million babies to be born HIV-free, and supported 6.6 million orphans and vulnerable children and their caregivers.

State-GHP: The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria

Agency: State • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 31%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 1.560 B	\$ 1.560 B	\$ 2.000 B	\$ 1.900 B	\$ 1.900 B	\$ 719.1 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 491.1 M	\$ 491.1 M	\$ 629.6 M	\$ 597.9 M	\$ 597.9 M	\$ 226.3 M

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria is a multilateral partnership of national governments, civil society, philanthropy, and the private sector working to defeat HIV, TB, and malaria and to strengthen health systems and pandemic preparedness in more than 100 countries.

USAID-GHP: Family Planning/Reproductive Health

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 49%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 524.0 M	\$ 524.0 M	\$ 524.0 M	\$ 497.6 M	\$ 497.6 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 256.6 M	\$ 256.6 M	\$ 256.5 M	\$ 243.7 M	\$ 243.7 M	\$ 0.00

Family Planning and Reproductive Health funding supports voluntary family planning, girls' education, the prevention of early or forced marriages, female genital mutilation/cutting, obstetric fistula, and gender-based violence.

USAID-GHP: Global Health Security

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 31%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 190.0 M	\$ 700.0 M	\$ 900.0 M	\$ 854.8 M	\$ 854.8 M	\$ 200.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 59.8 M	\$ 220.3 M	\$ 283.3 M	\$ 269.1 M	\$ 269.1 M	\$ 63.0 M

Global Health Security funding responds to and prevents emerging infectious disease threats and is guided by the United States Global Health Security Strategy.

USAID-GHP: HIV/AIDS

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 26%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 330.0 M	\$ 330.0 M	\$ 330.0 M	\$ 313.4 M	\$ 313.4 M	\$ 118.6 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 85.8 M	\$ 85.8 M	\$ 85.8 M	\$ 81.5 M	\$ 81.5 M	\$ 30.8 M

The HIV/AIDS funding provided to USAID supports technical assistance for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) including socio-economic program expertise in keeping vulnerable families together around HIV infected and affected children.

USAID-GHP: Malaria

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 46%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 770.0 M	\$ 775.0 M	\$ 795.0 M	\$ 755.1 M	\$ 755.1 M	\$ 285.8 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 350.3 M	\$ 352.6 M	\$ 361.7 M	\$ 343.6 M	\$ 343.6 M	\$ 130.1 M

Malaria funding supports preventive treatment, diagnosis, medicine, and the promotion of healthy behaviors including the use of bed nets. Funding also supports health worker training, the utilization of insecticides, improving supply chains, advancing data monitoring, and disease surveillance.

USAID-GHP: Maternal and Child Health

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 94%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 855.0 M	\$ 890.0 M	\$ 910.0 M	\$ 864.3 M	\$ 864.3 M	\$ 85.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 803.7 M	\$ 836.6 M	\$ 855.4 M	\$ 812.4 M	\$ 812.4 M	\$ 79.9 M

Maternal and Child Health funding reduces preventable maternal and child deaths. Funding supports routine childhood immunizations, nutrition counseling, the prevention and treatment of common childhood illnesses, antenatal and post-natal care, skilled birth attendants, breastfeeding counseling, growth monitoring, and the promotion of hygiene. Also included is the U.S. contribution to the Vaccine Alliance, to help vaccinate more than half of the world's children against deadly and debilitating infectious disease.



USAID-GHP: Neglected Tropical Diseases

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 31%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 102.5 M	\$ 107.5 M	\$ 114.5 M	\$ 108.7 M	\$ 108.7 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 32.3 M	\$ 33.8 M	\$ 36.0 M	\$ 34.2 M	\$ 34.2 M	\$ 0.00

Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) refers to a diverse group of parasitic and bacterial diseases that cause significant morbidity and mortality in more than 1 billion people worldwide and disproportionately affect poor and marginalized populations. These diseases can cause severe disfigurement and disabilities, including blindness, developmental disabilities, and malnutrition. NTD funds are used to control and eliminate these diseases of poverty with proven, cost-effective interventions.

USAID-GHP: Nutrition

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 73%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 150.0 M	\$ 155.0 M	\$ 160.0 M	\$ 152.0 M	\$ 152.0 M	\$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 108.8 M	\$ 112.4 M	\$ 116.1 M	\$ 110.2 M	\$ 110.2 M	\$ 0.00

Nutrition funding supports evidence-based, high-impact interventions that address the immediate and root causes of malnutrition. Programming includes breastfeeding counseling for mothers and their families, improved dietary diversity, promoting appropriate complimentary feeding at 6 months of age, the prevention and treatment of child-wasting, micronutrient supplementation, and capacity building for health providers.

USAID-GHP: Tuberculosis

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 23%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 319.0 M	\$ 371.5 M	\$ 394.5 M	\$ 374.7 M	\$ 374.7 M	\$ 178.0 M
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 73.2 M	\$ 85.2 M	\$ 90.5 M	\$ 85.9 M	\$ 85.9 M	\$ 40.8 M

Tuberculosis is the leading infectious disease killer worldwide. Tuberculosis funding is used to support case detection, diagnosis, care, and prevention of the disease in collaboration with partner countries.

USAID-GHP: Vulnerable Children

Agency: USAID • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 25.0 M	\$ 27.5 M	\$ 30.0 M	\$ 28.5 M	\$ 28.5 M	\$ 0.00

Vulnerable Children funding supports the Children in Adversity Office at USAID to build strong beginnings for young children by promoting health, nutrition, safety, security, and responsive caregiving. The funds also support keeping children in families (rather than orphanages or institutions, which can be harmful to child development) and protecting children from violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect.

New International Programs

International Humanitarian Assistance

Agency: State • Department: N/A • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 9%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Trump 2026
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.500 B
Estimated Share to Children	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 229.7 M

In the President's FY 2026 budget, International Disaster Assistance and Food for Peace are consolidated into an International Humanitarian Assistance fund.

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A photograph of a woman with long brown hair, wearing a yellow shirt, lying on a white bed. A young girl with blonde hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt with a gold sequined design, is sitting on the woman's shoulders. The girl is holding an open book and looking at it. The woman is smiling and looking down at the book. In the background, there is a framed picture on the wall with a mustache and the word "JOUP".

INDEX OF PROGRAMS

Alphabetical Index of Programs

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.....	83	Corporation for National and Community Service.....	37
Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program.....	114	Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program.....	120
Adoption Opportunities.....	114	Delinquency Prevention Program.....	120
Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.....	115	Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.....	105
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.....	62	Development Assistance.....	164
Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom.....	34	Developmental Delays.....	68
Alaska Native Educational Equity.....	34	Disability Compensation (Veterans).....	105
American History and Civics Academies & National Activities.....	35	Disability Trust Fund Benefits.....	105
American Printing House for the Blind.....	35	Domestic Victims of Trafficking Grants.....	120
Arts in Education.....	35	Drowning Prevention.....	68
Autism and Other Developmental Disorders Initiative.....	62	Earned Income Tax Credit (Refundability).....	105
Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant.....	84	Economic Impact Payments.....	106
Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training.....	62	Economic Support Fund.....	165
Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health.....	62	Education Construction.....	37
Bureau of International Labor Affairs.....	164	Education for Homeless Children and Youth.....	37
Career and Technical Education Grants to States.....	150	Education for Native Hawaiians.....	37
CDC Global Health.....	164	Education Innovation and Research.....	38
CDC School-Based HIV Prevention Program.....	63	Education Stabilization Fund (2021-present).....	38
CDC School Health Programs (Healthy Schools).....	63	Education Statistics.....	38
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics.....	63	Emergency Connectivity Fund.....	39
Chafee Education and Training Vouchers.....	115	Emergency Medical Services for Children.....	68
Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood.....	115	Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA).....	165
Charter School Grants.....	35	English Language Acquisition State Grants.....	39
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities.....	115	Ensure Safe Drinking Water: Drinking Water Programs.....	68
Child Abuse State Grants.....	116	Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening/Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Diseases (SCID).....	69
Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel.....	116	Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program.....	69
Child and Adult Care Food Program.....	136	Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (Formerly National Children's Study).....	69
Child Care Access Means Parents in School.....	23	Environmental Justice.....	70
Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (Refundability).....	104	Family Planning/Reproductive Health (USAID-GHP).....	168
Child Care and Development Fund.....	23	Family Self-Sufficiency Program.....	106
Child Care Stabilization Fund.....	23	Family Violence Prevention and Services.....	121
Child Maltreatment.....	63	Farm to School Grants.....	136
Child Nutrition Program Commodity Reimbursement/Procurement.....	136	Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children.....	137
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention.....	64	Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research.....	70
Child Tax Credit (Refundability).....	104	Food For Peace.....	165
Child Welfare Services.....	116	Food Safety Education.....	137
Child Welfare Training.....	117	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program.....	137
Childhood Cancer Data Initiative.....	64	Full-Service Community Schools.....	40
Childhood Cancer STAR Act.....	64	Gallaudet University.....	40
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.....	64	Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention State and Tribal Grants Program.....	70
Children and Other Sensitive Populations Agency Coordination.....	65	GEAR UP.....	41
Children Exposed to Violence Awareness and Intervention Initiative.....	117	Girls in the Juvenile Justice System.....	121
Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program.....	117	Global Health Security (USAID-GHP).....	169
Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal.....	117	Grants to Local Education Agencies for Indian Education.....	41
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk.....	118	Guardianship Assistance.....	121
Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).....	65	Head Start and Early Head Start.....	24
Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program.....	65	Healthy Start.....	71
Children's Interagency Coordinating Council.....	118	Healthy Transitions.....	71
Children's Mental Health Services.....	66	Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children.....	71
Choice Neighborhoods.....	92	HIV/AIDS (USAID-GHP).....	169
Civil Rights Training and Advisory Services.....	36	Homeless Assistance Grants.....	92
Clean Air and Climate: Climate Protection.....	66	Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding.....	71
Clean Air and Climate: Federal Support for Air Quality Management.....	66	Housing Program (TPA).....	93
Climate and Health.....	67	Human Services Tribal Design (TPA).....	106
Community Health Centers (Discretionary).....	67	IDEA B—Grants to States.....	41
Community Health Centers (Mandatory).....	67	IDEA B—Preschool Grants.....	24
Community Mental Health Services Block Grant.....	67	IDEA C—Grants for Infants and Families.....	24
Community Services Block Grant.....	118	IDEA D—Parent Information Centers.....	41
Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention.....	118	IDEA D - Personnel Preparation (Discretionary).....	42
Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Init.....	119	IDEA D—State Personnel Development.....	42
Comprehensive Centers.....	36	IDEA D—Technical Assistance and Dissemination.....	42
Comprehensive Literacy Development Grants.....	36	IDEA D—Technology and Media Services.....	42
Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Program.....	92		
Consolidated Youth Programs.....	119		
Consumer Product Safety Commission.....	119		
Coordinated Review.....	136		

Impact Aid	43
Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense Program	121
Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)	107
Indian Education	43
Indoor Air: Radon Program	72
Indoor Air: Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	72
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health	24
Innovation in Maternal Health Program	72
Innovative Approaches to Literacy	43
Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund	53
Integrated Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women	73
🇺🇸 International Disaster Assistance	165
🇺🇸 International Organizations and Partnerships	166
Javits Gifted and Talented Education	44
Job Corps	150
Juvenile Justice Part B Formula Grants	122
K-12 Simplified Funding Program	53
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	93
Magnet School Assistance	44
Make America Skilled Again	152
🇺🇸 Malaria (USAID-GHP)	169
🇺🇸 Maternal and Child Health (USAID-GHP)	169
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	73
Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Visiting Program	25
🇺🇸 McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program	166
Medicaid	73
Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership Program	73
🇺🇸 Migration and Refugee Assistance	166
🇺🇸 Millennium Challenge Corporation	166
Missing and Exploited Children Program	122
Multi-Family Housing Voucher Program (Rural Housing Voucher Program)	94
National Activities for Indian Education	44
National Assessment of Educational Progress	45
National Asthma Control Program	74
National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative	74
National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	74
National Early Care and Education Learning Collaborative	25
National Housing Trust Fund	94
National Institute for Child and Women's Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication	84
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	74
National Programs for Career, Technical, and Adult Education	151
National Science Foundation K-12 Programs	45
Native American Housing Block Grant Program	95
🇺🇸 Neglected Tropical Diseases (USAID-GHP)	170
Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers	45
🇺🇸 Nutrition (USAID-GHP)	170
Office of Adolescent Health	75
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	75
🇺🇸 Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP)	167
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits	107
Opioid Affected Youth Initiative	123
🇺🇸 Oversight and Management and Strategic Information/Evaluation (State-GHP)	167
Pandemic EBT	138
Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund	107
Payments to States for Adoption Assistance	123
Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs	108
Payments to States for Foster Care	123
🇺🇸 Peace Corps	167
Pediatric Disaster Care	75
Pediatric Mental Health Care Access	76
Personal Responsibility Education Program	76
Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	77
Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	77
Poison Control	123

Preschool Development Grants	26
🇺🇸 President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR) (State-GHP)	168
Preventing Trafficking of Girls	124
Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant	77
Project Based Rental Assistance (Discretionary)	95
Project Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Child Health (LAUNCH)	77
Promise Neighborhoods	45
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	124
Public Housing Fund (Formerly the Public Housing Operating Fund)	95
Ready to Learn Television	46
Regional Educational Laboratories	46
Research, Development and Dissemination	46
Research in Special Education	46
Rural Education	47
Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program	78
Rural Rental Assistance Program	95
Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program	78
Safe Motherhood and Infant Health Program	78
Safe Routes to Schools	125
School Breakfast Expansion Grants	138
School Breakfast Program	139
School Lunch Program	139
School Meals Equipment Grants	139
School Safety National Activities	125
School-Based Mental Health Services Grants	47
Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression	78
Service Connection for Youth on the Streets	96
Sexual Risk Avoidance Program	79
Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act Programs	125
Social Services (TPA)	108
Social Services Block Grant	125
Social Services Research and Demonstration	126
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	47
Special Milk Program	139
Special Olympics Education Programs	48
Special Programs for Indian Children	48
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children	140
State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition Programs	140
State Assessments and Enhanced Assessment Instruments	48
State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Safe Water for Small & Disadvantaged Communities	80
State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Lead Testing in Schools	79
State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Reducing Lead in Drinking Water	79
State Assessments and Enhanced Assessment Instruments	48
Statewide Data Systems	49
Statewide Family Engagement Centers	49
STOP School Violence Act	126
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants	49
Substance Abuse Treatment Grant Programs of National and Regional Significance for Children and Families	80
Summer EBT	140
Summer EBT Demonstration	140
Summer Food Service Program	141
Superfund Cleanup	80
Supplemental Education Grants	49
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	141
Supplemental Security Income Federal Benefit Payments	108
Support for Missing and Exploited Children	126
Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Grants	50
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	50
Survivors' Pension Benefits (Non-Service Connected Death)	109
Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants	50
Teacher Quality Partnerships	50
TEAM Nutrition	142
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grants	81
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families	109
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	96

🌐 The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (State-GHP)	168
Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies	51
Title I Migrant Education Program	51
Title I Neglected and Delinquent Program	52
Title V Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (Formerly Abstinence Education)	81
Toxics Risks Review and Prevention	81
Trevor's Law	81
Tribal Behavioral Health Grants	82
Tribal Children and Family Programs	82
Tribal Youth Program	127
TRIO Programs	52
🌐 Tuberculosis (USAID-GHP)	170
Unaccompanied Children Program	127
Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program	127
Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention	82

Vaccines For Children	82
Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA)	127
🌐 Vulnerable Children (USAID-GHP)	171
Welfare Assistance (TPA)	109
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Training Programs	151
Youth and Community Violence Prevention	128
Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification	128
Youth Mentoring	128
YouthBuild	151

Index of Discretionary Programs by Appropriations Subcommittee

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom	34
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk	118
Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children	137
🌐 McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program	166
Pandemic EBT	138
Multi-Family Housing Voucher Program (Rural Housing Voucher Program)	94
Rural Rental Assistance Program	95
School Breakfast Expansion Grants	138
School Meals Equipment Grants	139
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children	140
Summer EBT	140
Summer EBT Demonstration	140
TEAM Nutrition	142
Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification	128

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel	116
Children Exposed to Violence Awareness and Intervention Initiative	117
Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program	117
Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal	117
Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Init	119
Consolidated Youth Programs	119
Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program	120
Delinquency Prevention Program	120
Girls in the Juvenile Justice System	121
Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense Program	121
Juvenile Justice Part B Formula Grants	122
Missing and Exploited Children Program	122
National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	74
National Science Foundation K-12 Programs	45
Opioid Affected Youth Initiative	123
Preventing Trafficking of Girls	124
STOP School Violence Act	126
Tribal Youth Program	127
Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA)	127
Youth Mentoring	128

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Consumer Product Safety Commission	119
--	-----

HOMELAND SECURITY

Support for Missing and Exploited Children	126
--	-----

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Children and Other Sensitive Populations Agency Coordination	65
Clean Air and Climate: Climate Protection	66
Clean Air and Climate: Federal Support for Air Quality Management	66
Education Construction	37
Ensure Safe Drinking Water: Drinking Water Programs	68
Environmental Justice	70
Housing Program (TPA)	93
Human Services Tribal Design (TPA)	106
Indian Education	43
Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)	107
Indoor Air: Radon Program	72
Indoor Air: Reduce Risks from Indoor Air	72
Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk	77
Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk	77
State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Safe Water for Small & Disadvantaged Communities	80
State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Lead Testing in Schools	79
State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Reducing Lead in Drinking Water	79
Superfund Cleanup	80
Toxics Risks Review and Prevention	81

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline	83
Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program	114
Adoption Opportunities	114
Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	115
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	62
Alaska Native Educational Equity	34
American History and Civics Academies & National Activities	35
American Printing House for the Blind	35
Arts in Education	35
Autism and Other Developmental Disorders Initiative	62
Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant	84
Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training	62
Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health	62
Career and Technical Education Grants to States	150

CDC School-Based HIV Prevention Program	63	IDEA D—State Personnel Development	42
CDC School Health Programs	63	IDEA D—Technical Assistance and Dissemination	42
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics	63	IDEA D—Technology and Media Services	42
Chafee Education and Training Vouchers	115	Impact Aid	43
Charter School Grants	35	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health	24
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	115	Innovative Approaches to Literacy	43
Child Abuse State Grants	116	Institute for Educational Sciences FY 2026 Fund	53
Child Care Access Means Parents in School	23	Innovation in Maternal Health Program	72
Child Care and Development Fund	23	Integrated Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women	73
Child Care Stabilization Fund	23	Javits Gifted and Talented Education	44
Child Maltreatment	63	Job Corps	150
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention	64	K-12 Simplified Funding Program	53
Child Welfare Services	116	Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	93
Child Welfare Training	117	Magnet School Assistance	44
Childhood Cancer Data Initiative	64	Make America Skilled Again	152
Childhood Cancer STAR Act	64	Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	73
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	64	Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Visiting Program	25
Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program	65	Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership Program	73
Children's Interagency Coordinating Council	118	National Activities for Indian Education	44
Children's Mental Health Services	66	National Assessment of Educational Progress	45
Civil Rights Training and Advisory Services	36	National Asthma Control Program	74
Climate and Health	67	National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative	74
Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention	118	National Early Care and Education Learning Collaborative	25
Community Health Centers	67	National Institute for Child and Women's Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication	84
Community Services Block Grants	118	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	74
Community Mental Health Services Block Grant	67	National Programs for Career, Technical, and Adult Education	151
Comprehensive Centers	36	Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers	45
Comprehensive Literacy Development Grants	36	Office of Adolescent Health	75
Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Program	92	Pediatric Disaster Care	75
Corporation for National and Community Service	37	Pediatric Mental Health Access	76
Developmental Delays	68	Poison Control	123
Domestic Victims of Trafficking Grants	120	Preschool Development Grants	26
Drowning Prevention	68	Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant	77
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	37	Project Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Child Health (LAUNCH)	77
Education for Native Hawaiians	37	Promise Neighborhoods	45
Education Innovation and Research	38	Promoting Safe and Stable Families	124
Education Stabilization Fund (2021-present)	38	Ready to Learn Television	46
Education Statistics	38	Regional Educational Laboratories	46
Emergency Medical Services for Children	68	Research, Development and Dissemination	46
English Language Acquisition State Grants	39	Research in Special Education	46
Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening/Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Diseases (SCID)	69	Rural Education	47
Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program	69	Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program	78
Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (Formerly National Children's Study)	69	Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program	78
Family Violence Prevention Services	121	Safe Motherhood and Infant Health Program	78
Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention	70	School-Based Mental Health Services Grants	47
Full-Service Community Schools	40	School Safety National Activities	125
Gallaudet University	40	Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression	78
Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention State and Tribal Grants Program	70	Service Connection for Youth on the Streets	96
GEAR UP	41	Sexual Risk Avoidance Program	79
Grants to Local Education Agencies for Indian Education	41	Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act Programs	125
Head Start and Early Head Start	24	Social Services Research and Demonstration	126
Healthy Start	71	Special Education Studies and Evaluations	47
Healthy Transitions	71	Special Olympics Education Programs	48
Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children	71	Special Programs for Indian Children	48
Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding	71	State Assessments and Enhanced Assessment Instruments	48
IDEA B—Grants to States	41	Statewide Data Systems	49
IDEA B—Preschool Grants	24	Statewide Family Engagement Centers	49
IDEA C—Grants for Infants and Families	24	Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants	49
IDEA D—Parent Information Centers	41	Substance Abuse Treatment Grant Programs of National and Regional Significance for Children and Families	80
IDEA D—Personnel Preparation	42	Supplemental Education Grants	49
		Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Grants	50
		Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	50

Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants	50
Teacher Quality Partnerships	50
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grants	81
Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies	51
Title I Migrant Education Program	51
Title I Neglected and Delinquent Program	52
Trevor's Law	81
Tribal Behavioral Health Grants	82
Tribal Children and Family Programs	82
TRIO Programs	52
Unaccompanied Children Program	127
Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program	127
Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention	82
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Training Programs	151
YouthBuild	151
Youth and Community Violence Prevention	128

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS

🌐 Bureau of International Labor Affairs	164
🌐 CDC Global Health	164
🌐 Development Assistance	164
🌐 Economic Support Fund	165
🌐 Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance	165
🌐 Family Planning/Reproductive Health (USAID-GHP)	168
🌐 Food For Peace	165
🌐 Global Health Security (USAID-GHP)	169
🌐 HIV/AIDS (USAID-GHP)	169
🌐 International Disaster Assistance	165
🌐 International Humanitarian Assistance	172
🌐 International Organizations and Partnerships	166
🌐 Malaria (USAID-GHP)	169

🌐 Migration and Refugee Assistance	166
🌐 Millennium Challenge Corporation	166
🌐 Neglected Tropical Diseases (USAID-GHP)	170
🌐 Nutrition (USAID-GHP)	170
🌐 Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP)	167
🌐 Oversight and Management and Strategic Information/Evaluation (State-GHP)	167
🌐 Peace Corps	167
🌐 President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR) (State-GHP)	168
🌐 The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (State-GHP)	168
🌐 Tuberculosis (USAID-GHP)	170
🌐 Vulnerable Children (USAID-GHP)	171

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

Choice Neighborhoods	92
Family Self-Sufficiency Program	106
Homeless Assistance Grants	92
Native American Housing Block Grant Program	95
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	75
Project-Based Rental Assistance	95
Public Housing Fund (Formerly the Public Housing Operating Fund)	95
State Rental Assistance Program	97
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	96

Index of Domestic Programs by Department and Bureau

AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Child and Adult Care Food Program	136
Child Nutrition Program Commodity Reimbursement/Procurement	136
Coordinated Review	136
Farm to School Grants	136
Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children	137
Food Safety Education	137
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	137
Pandemic EBT	138
School Breakfast Expansion Grants	138
School Breakfast Program	139
School Lunch Program	139
School Meals Equipment Grants	139
Special Milk Program	139
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children	140
State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition Programs	140
Summer EBT	140
Summer EBT Demonstration	140
Summer Food Service Program	141
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	141
TEAM Nutrition	142

National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom	34
---	----

Children, Youth, and Families at Risk	118
Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification	128

Rural Housing Service

Multi-Family Housing Voucher Program (Rural Housing Voucher Program)	94
Rural Rental Assistance Program	95

EDUCATION

American Printing House for the Blind

American Printing House for the Blind	35
---	----

Career, Technical, and Adult Education

Career and Technical Education Grants to States	150
National Programs for Career, Technical, and Adult Education	151

Education for the Disadvantaged

Comprehensive Literacy Development Grants	36
Innovative Approaches to Literacy	43
Statewide Family Engagement Centers	49
Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies	51
Title I Migrant Education Program	51
Title I Neglected and Delinquent Program	52

Education Stabilization Fund

Education Stabilization Fund (2021-present)	38
---	----

English Language Acquisition

English Language Acquisition State Grants	39
---	----

Gallaudet University

Gallaudet University	40
----------------------------	----

Higher Education		
Child Care Access Means Parents in School	23	Clean Air and Climate: Federal Support for Air Quality Management
GEAR UP	41	Indoor Air: Radon Program
Teacher Quality Partnerships	50	Indoor Air: Reduce Risks from Indoor Air
TRIO Programs	52	
Impact Aid		Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Impact Aid	43	Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk
Indian Education		Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk
Indian Education	43	Toxics Risks Review and Prevention
National Activities for Indian Education	44	
Special Programs for Indian Children	48	Office of Children's Health Protection
Innovation and Improvement		Children and Other Sensitive Populations Agency Coordination
American History and Civics Academies & National Activities	35	
Arts in Education	35	Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Charter School Grants	35	Environmental Justice
Education Innovation and Research	38	
Javits Gifted and Talented Education	44	Office of Land and Emergency Management
Magnet School Assistance	44	Superfund Cleanup
Ready to Learn Television	46	
Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Grants	50	Office of Water
Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants	50	Ensure Safe Drinking Water: Drinking Water Programs
Institute of Education Sciences		State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Safe Water
Education Statistics	38	for Small & Disadvantaged Communities
National Assessment of Educational Progress	45	State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Lead Testing in Schools
Regional Educational Laboratories	46	State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Reducing Lead in Drinking Water
Research, Development and Dissemination	46	
Research in Special Education	46	FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	47	Emergency Connectivity Fund for Educational Connections and Devices
Statewide Data Systems	49	Emergency Connectivity Fund
Safe Schools and Citizenship Education		
Full-Service Community Schools	40	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Promise Neighborhoods	45	Administration for Children and Families
School-Based Mental Health Service Grants	47	Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program
School Safety National Activities	125	Adoption Opportunities
School Improvement Programs		Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training
Alaska Native Educational Equity	34	Chafee Education and Training Vouchers
Civil Rights Training and Advisory Services	36	Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood
Comprehensive Centers	36	Child Abuse Discretionary Activities
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	37	Child Abuse State Grants
Education for Native Hawaiians	37	Child Care and Development Fund
Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers	45	Child Care Stabilization Fund
Rural Education	47	Child Welfare Services
State Assessments and Enhanced Assessment Instruments	48	Child Welfare Training
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants	49	Children's Interagency Coordinating Council
Supplemental Education Grants	49	Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	50	Community Services Block Grants
Special Education		Consolidated Runaway and Homeless Youth Program
IDEA B—Grants to States	41	Domestic Victims of Trafficking Grants
IDEA B—Preschool Grants	24	Guardianship Assistance
IDEA C—Grants for Infants and Families	24	Head Start and Early Head Start
IDEA D—Parent Information Centers	41	Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
IDEA D—Personnel Preparation	42	Payments to States for Adoption Assistance
IDEA D—State Personnel Development	42	Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement
IDEA D—Technical Assistance and Dissemination	42	and Family Support Programs
IDEA D—Technology and Media Services	42	Payments to States for Foster Care
Special Olympics Education Programs	48	Personal Responsibility Education Program
		Preschool Development Grants
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY		Promoting Safe and Stable Families
Office of Air and Radiation		Sexual Risk Avoidance Program
Clean Air and Climate: Climate Protection	66	Service Connection for Youth on the Streets
		Social Services Block Grant
		Social Services Research and Demonstration
		Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund
		Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
		Title V Sexual Risk Avoidance Education
		(Formerly Abstinence Education)
		Unaccompanied Children Program

Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program	127
Administration for Community Living	
Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	115
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	62
Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services	
Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	65
Medicaid	73
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	
Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health	62
CDC School-Based HIV Prevention Program	63
CDC School Health Programs	63
Child Maltreatment	63
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention	64
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	64
Climate and Health	67
Drowning Prevention	68
Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening/Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Diseases (SCID)	69
Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program	69
Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research	70
Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding	71
National Asthma Control Program	74
National Early Care and Education Learning Collaborative	25
Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant	77
Safe Motherhood and Infant Health Program	78
Trevor's Law	81
Vaccines For Children	82
Youth and Community Violence Prevention	128
Children and Family Services Programs	
Family Violence Prevention and Services	121
General Departmental Management	
Office of Adolescent Health	75
Health Resources and Services Administration	
Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program	65
Community Health Centers	67
Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program	25
Poison Control	123
Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program	78
Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention	82
Maternal and Child Health Bureau	
Autism and Other Developmental Disorders Initiative	62
Emergency Medical Services for Children	68
Healthy Start	71
Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children	71
Innovation in Maternal Health Program	72
Integrated Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women	73
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	73
Pediatric Mental Health Care Access	76
Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression	78
National Disaster Medical System	
Pediatric Disaster Care	75
National Institutes of Health	
Childhood Cancer Data Initiative	64
Childhood Cancer STAR Act	64
Developmental Delays	68
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	74
National Institute for Child and Women's Health, Sensory Disorders, and Communication	84
National Institutes of Health (Office of the Director)	
Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (Formerly National Children's Study)	69

Office of Population Affairs	
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grants	81
Rural Health	
Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program	78
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	
988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline	83
Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant	84
Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics	63
Children's Mental Health Services	66
Community Mental Health Services Block Grant	67
Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention State and Tribal Grants Program	70
Healthy Transitions	71
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health	24
Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership Program	73
National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative	74
Project Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Child Health (LAUNCH)	77
Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act Programs	125
Substance Abuse Treatment Grant Programs of National and Regional Significance for Children and Families	80
Tribal Behavioral Health Grants	82
Tribal Children and Family Programs	82
HOMELAND SECURITY	
United States Secret Service	
Support for Missing and Exploited Children	126
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT	
Community Planning and Development	
Homeless Assistance Grants	92
National Housing Trust Fund	94
Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control	
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	75
Office of Housing	
Project-Based Rental Assistance	95
Public and Indian Housing	
Choice Neighborhoods	92
Family Self-Sufficiency Program	106
Native American Housing Block Grant Program	95
Public Housing Fund (Formerly the Public Housing Operating Fund)	95
State Rental Assistance Program	97
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	96
INDEPENDENT AGENCY	
Consumer Product Safety Commission	119
Corporation for National and Community Service	37
INTERIOR	
Bureau of Indian Education	
Education Construction	37
Indian Education	43
Bureau of Indian Affairs	
Housing Program (TPA)	93
Human Services Tribal Design (TPA)	106
Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)	107
Social Services (TPA)	108
Welfare Assistance (TPA)	109
JUSTICE	
Civil Division	
National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	74
Office of Justice Programs	
Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel	116
Children Exposed to Violence Awareness and Intervention Initiative	117
Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program	117

Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal	117
Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Init	119
Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program	120
Delinquency Prevention Program	120
Girls in the Juvenile Justice System	121
Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense Program	121
Juvenile Justice Part B Formula Grants	122
Missing and Exploited Children Program	122
Opioid Affected Youth Initiative	123
Preventing Trafficking of Girls	124
STOP School Violence Act	126
Tribal Youth Program	127
Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA)	127
Youth Mentoring	128
Office on Violence Against Women	
Consolidated Youth Programs	119
LABOR	
Employment and Training Administration	
Make America Skilled Again	152
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Training Programs	151
YouthBuild	151
Office of Job Corps	
Job Corps	150
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION	
Education and Human Resources	
National Science Foundation K-12 Programs	45
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION	
Independent Agency	
Disability Trust Fund Benefits	105
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits	107
Supplemental Security Income Federal Benefit Payments	108
TRANSPORTATION	
Federal Highway Administration	
Safe Routes to Schools	125
TREASURY	
Internal Revenue Service	
Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (Refundability)	104
Child Tax Credit (Refundability)	104
Earned Income Tax Credit (Refundability)	105
Economic Impact Payments	106
VETERANS AFFAIRS	
Benefits Programs	
Dependency and Indemnity Compensation	105
Disability Compensation	105
Survivors' Pension Benefits (Non-Service Connected Death)	109

Index of International Programs by Agency

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

🌐 CDC Global Health	164
---------------------------	-----

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

🌐 McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program	166
--	-----

LABOR

🌐 Bureau of International Labor Affairs	164
---	-----

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

🌐 Millennium Challenge Corporation	166
--	-----

PEACE CORPS

🌐 Peace Corps	167
---------------------	-----

STATE

🌐 Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance	165
🌐 Food For Peace	165
🌐 International Humanitarian Assistance	172
🌐 International Organizations and Partnerships	166
🌐 Migration and Refugee Assistance	166
🌐 Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP)	167
🌐 Oversight and Management and Strategic Information/Evaluation (State-GHP)	167
🌐 President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR) (State-GHP)	168
🌐 The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (State-GHP)	168

USAID

🌐 Development Assistance	164
🌐 Economic Support Fund	165
🌐 Family Planning/Reproductive Health (USAID-GHP)	168
🌐 Global Health Security (USAID-GHP)	169
🌐 HIV/AIDS (USAID-GHP)	169
🌐 International Disaster Assistance	165
🌐 Malaria (USAID-GHP)	169
🌐 Maternal and Child Health (USAID-GHP)	169
🌐 Neglected Tropical Diseases (USAID-GHP)	170
🌐 Nutrition (USAID-GHP)	170
🌐 Tuberculosis (USAID-GHP)	170
🌐 Vulnerable Children (USAID-GHP)	171

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