







2026 BABIES IN THE BUDGET

First Focus on Children

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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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Bruce Lesley, President
First Focus on Children

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF FIRST FOCUS ON CHILDREN

America's Babies: Losing Ground on Every Front

When it comes to infants, babies, and toddlers, the United States suffers from a stark case of cognitive dissonance: what lawmakers say about babies and what they choose to fund for them are, increasingly, two different things.

President Trump routinely refers to "precious little babies."[1] He has said the country needs "more babies, to put it very nicely,"[2] a sentiment echoed by his Vice President JD Vance, who added that "it is the task of our government to make it easier for young moms and dads to afford to have kids, to bring them into the world and to welcome them as the blessings that we know they are…"[3] Members of Congress also talk about children as "our future,"[4] about ensuring "parents are well-equipped to raise strong families,"[5] about "the health and welfare of babies"[6] and "allowing parents time to care for newborn babies."[7]

And yet…

For every $100 the federal government spent in fiscal year (FY) 2026, just $1.67 went toward supporting children under 3.

More than $12 for every $100 went to the Pentagon.

First Focus on Children's *Babies in the Budget 2026* analyzed nearly 150 government programs across nearly every federal department and found that over the last six years the federal government has accelerated its disinvestment in the country's youngest children. On nearly every front, America's babies are losing ground.

For every $100 the federal government spent in FY 2026, just $1.67 went toward supporting children under 3.

More than $12 for every $100 went to the Pentagon.

Since 2021, the share of federal investment devoted to babies has shrunk by 18.5%. Programs supporting child care have expired or been eliminated. The Child Tax Credit has become less valuable than it was in 2017. And lawmakers have ended critical social services, housing supports, and health care initiatives that benefit the nation's infants, babies, and toddlers.

Mandatory spending — which expands automatically according to need — has kept babies from falling deeper into developmental debt. But discretionary spending — which is optional, evaluated annually, and provides a clear marker of lawmakers' morals, interests, and priorities — has fallen off a cliff. Since 2021, Congress has cut the share of federal discretionary investments in children ages 0–3 in half — from 2.05% in FY 2021 to 1.05% in FY 2026.

To understand just where babies fall in lawmakers' priorities, it's important to note that most spending on older Americans — Social Security and Medicare — is mandatory, meaning it adjusts automatically as enrollment and costs rise, protected by law and insulated from the annual scramble of appropriations. Spending on children runs almost entirely in the opposite direction. Spending on children is disproportionately discretionary. It is capped and routinely expires, forcing supporters to fight for its renewal.

President Trump's proposed FY 2027 budget would cut investment in babies to just 1.61% of the federal budget. He would cut discretionary spending — which represents the active choices he makes on babies' behalf — to less than 1% of total discretionary spending.

These trends are not only bad for babies. They're bad for the country.

Decades of research show that the first three years of a child's life are when the brain develops most rapidly and when children are most sensitive to the effects of hardship, hunger, unstable housing, inadequate nutrition, and parental stress. Keeping children strong, healthy, and supported during this time lays the foundation for lifelong health, learning, opportunity, and advancement. Studies have shown that children who are supported in early childhood are more likely to complete their education, have fewer health issues, and show greater economic achievement later in life.

Later in life is when these children become workers, caregivers, innovators, taxpayers, and leaders. When we shortchange them, we undermine the very conditions needed for long-



term economic growth and national prosperity. There is, in fact, no greater investment a society can make. In contrast, failing to invest in our babies pushes costs forward into higher expenditures on health care, child welfare, lost economic potential, and other fallout, making delay one of the most expensive choices a nation can make.

Mandatory programs — chiefly Medicaid — have been the primary reason overall federal investment in babies hasn't fallen even further, even as discretionary support collapsed. But that cushion is not guaranteed to hold: the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill, also known as H.R. 1, cuts nearly $1 trillion from Medicaid over the next decade and nearly $200 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Because these two mandatory programs account for nearly half of all federal investment in babies and toddlers, these cuts will hit hardest for children under 3.

This continuous disinvestment in the nation's babies assigns hard-and-fast numbers to lawmakers' real feelings about them. The Trump Administration is working overtime to revoke birthright citizenship from America's babies.[8] In addition to reducing the value of the Child Tax Credit in H.R. 1, lawmakers increased the number of children excluded to 20 million or 28% of all children.[9] The Administration's new investment accounts for newborns, seeded by $1,000 contributions from the federal government, actively disadvantage the lowest-income babies and will increase the country's wealth disparity.

The country's leaders offer lots of words about babies. But these words must be backed by actions. Lawmakers must act — now, today — to protect the country's babies. Protect them from program cuts, from harmful policies, from legislative measures that disrespect them and undermine their future — and the country's.

When it comes to making policy that does right by the nation's babies, lawmakers need answer only one question: "Is it good for children?"

President's Message Endnotes

1 Roll Call. (2025, January 24). Donald Trump vlog: March for Life—January 24, 2025. Factba.se. https://rollcall.com/factbase/trump/transcript/donald-trump-vlog-march-for-life-january-24-2025/

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6 Lee, M. (2022, May). Support for Lee's FORMULA Act. U.S. Senate. https://www.lee.senate.gov/2022/5/support-for-lee-s-formula-act

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Technical Notes on *Babies in the Budget 2026*

Sources

The majority of budget numbers in this book for fiscal year (FY) 2026 can be found in the congressional budget justifications provided by relevant federal agencies for FY 2026 and the Appendix of President Trump's FY 2027 budget. The congressional budget justifications, Appendix, and summary tables also are the source for the President's budget request for FY 2027. 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, babies are defined as persons under age 3. While there are many federally supported programs entirely dedicated to babies and families with babies, there also are several in which babies constitute only a portion of the beneficiaries. We include these programs in the book and estimate the share of spending that supports children 0-3 (see below on multipliers).

The Overall Spending chapter tracks the share of federal spending on children 0-3 domestically and breaks out the share of spending by mandatory and discretionary categories. To find the share of federal spending for each chapter, we divide the babies' portion 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 babies, 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 2025: Report on Federal Expenditures on Children Through 2024 and Future Projections*. The methodology behind the program multipliers is as follows:

- For programs that exclusively benefit babies and families with babies, 100% of the funding level is considered babies' spending.
- For programs that do not limit their benefits to babies, the share of program funding that is considered babies' spending is estimated from agency data when possible.
- For some programs, such as housing programs under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), there is limited data related to expenditures on babies. In those cases, we estimate spending on babies as the proportion of babies participating in the program overall. This method may be less accurate if spending per person varies by age.
- For some other programs, very little data exists on demographic characteristics of beneficiaries. For these programs, we estimate the share of spending benefiting babies as the proportion of babies in the U.S.
- 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.
- *Babies in the Budget 2026* includes the mandatory spending for the refundable tax credits as programs that benefit babies. For FY 2026 and FY 2027, 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 2026 and FY 2027 funding levels are also OMB estimates.

- 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, *Babies in the Budget 2026* updates multipliers for several programs based on new data, research, and analysis. As a result, the figures prior to FY 2026 may be different from prior editions of the *Babies in the 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 babies, we use the estimated share of spending allocated to babies to calculate the total share of spending on babies 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 2026. 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 — more than 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 *Babies in the 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, *Babies in the Budget 2026* 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 2026 and FY 2027 from the Congressional Budget Office's February 2026 report, *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2026 to 2036*.

Tax Expenditures

Babies in the Budget 2026 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 babies in the Income Support chapter.

Special Considerations Under the Second Trump Administration

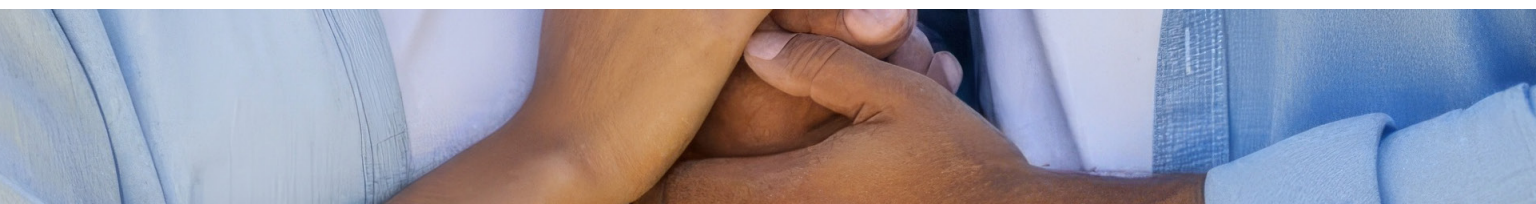
The current presidential Administration provided significantly less information on budget figures than what is traditionally offered publicly. Because of this, we had to make several assumptions about how to fill in missing data. These assumptions include:

- For many (mainly smaller) programs, no information on funding was provided for FY 2026 or FY 2027. In these cases, we assume flat funding.
- 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 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 babies may be worse than what these numbers indicate.
- Section 530A "baby savings accounts" under H.R. 1 (P.L. 119-21) are not included as a children's program in this report because benefits are only accessible to people once they turn 18.





OVERALL SPENDING



Overall Spending on Children Under 3

Background

Babies in the Budget 2026 provides a comprehensive analysis of the share of spending allocated to children 0-3 across nearly 150 government programs in the federal budget. This analysis includes both mandatory and discretionary funding across nearly every federal department, representing numerous agencies and bureaus.

The nation's youngest children face severe and chronic underinvestment. In fiscal year (FY) 2026, only 1.67% of all federal spending went to children under 3. Stated plainly, this means that for every $100 the federal government spends, just $1.67 goes to children ages 0-3.

These numbers are even worse when put in perspective. Children 0-3 receive just 1.67% of all federal spending, yet they account for 3.3% of the U.S. population,[1] or roughly twice what they receive. Defense spending makes up nearly 12% of all federal spending — more than seven times the investment in infants and toddlers.[2,3]

In FY 2026, only 1.67% of all federal spending went to children under 3.

This means that for every $100 the federal government spends, only $1.67 goes to children ages 0–3



-18.28%

Real Percent Change in Overall Funding for Babies FY 2021 to FY 2026

OVERALL SPENDING ON CHILDREN UNDER 3

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$139.618 B	$120.530 B	$108.704 B	$107.027 B	$111.595 B	$122.137 B	$124.555 B
Real Change from Prior Year	50.53%	-20.01%	-14.17%	-4.48%	1.53%	6.29%	-0.64%
Share of Total Spending	2.05%	2.03%	1.76%	1.58%	1.60%	1.67%	1.61%

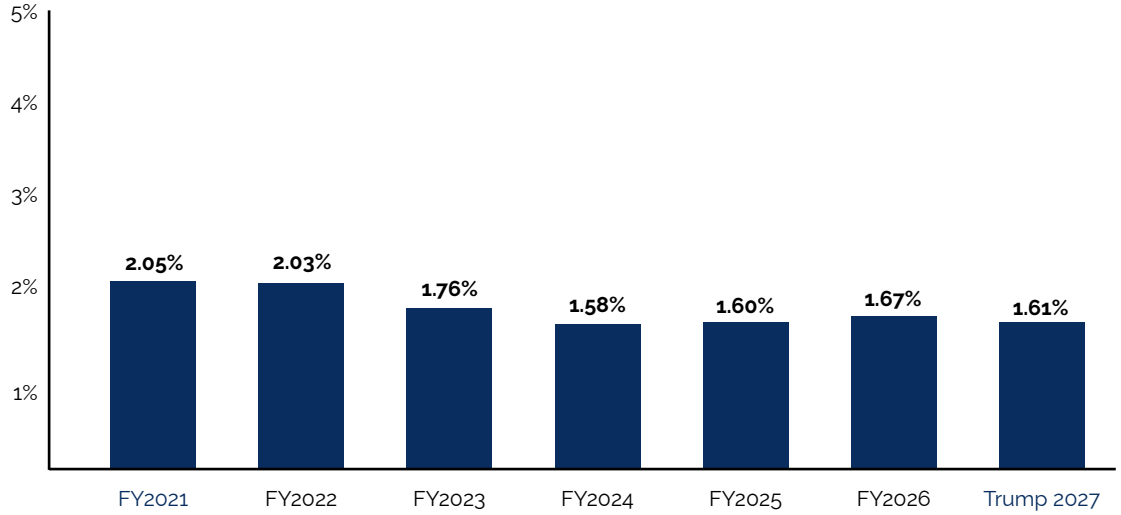
The United States is also moving in the wrong direction even compared to the recent past. In 2021, babies' share of the federal budget reached an all-time high of 2.05% due to historic investments during the COVID-19 pandemic that disproportionately benefited the youngest children. These measures included one-time investments in child care through the Child Care Stabilization Fund and the Child Care and Development Block Grant, expanded nutrition benefits, and an expanded Child Tax Credit that made the lowest-income children eligible for the maximum credit and increased the benefit for children under 6 specifically.

Unfortunately, Congress phased out all of these measures in subsequent years, culminating in a decline of nearly one-fifth in the babies' share by FY 2026. The worst of the pandemic may be behind us. But child poverty remains. Children still go hungry. And child care remains hopelessly out of reach for families across the nation. The COVID response proved that child poverty, hunger, and a lack of child care all are choices: the measures cut child poverty nearly in half, driving it to a historic low of 5.2% even in the midst of a recession.[4] Despite this success, policymakers decided that children and their families were not important enough to protect these tremendous gains.

Mandatory funding is the only thing that has kept babies' fortunes from sinking even lower in the years since those investments. Mandatory programs do not require renewed funding from Congress each year, and instead expand to meet people's needs based on demographics, economic conditions, and other factors. Babies' share of mandatory spending still lies below its peak of 2.79% in 2022 (when the government distributed the bulk of the expanded Child Tax Credit), but remains above 2%, much higher than their overall share. Most importantly, Medicaid, by far the largest program by investment in babies, has increased steadily over this period.

While the increase in mandatory spending is welcome, lawmakers' priorities are better represented by discretionary spending. Discretionary spending requires Congress to make proactive decisions every year on what to fund. Discretionary investments in babies have fallen off a cliff since FY 2021, declining by nearly half to just over 1%. Discretionary programs have proved the weakest link in young children's investment because Congress refuses to implement adequate funding for babies' health, safety, early education, development, economic security, and well-being.

Fig 1. Share of Total Federal Spending on Children Ages 0-3



Overall Analysis

Both mandatory and discretionary spending ticked upward in FY 2026. Mandatory spending grew by a robust 7% adjusted for inflation. An increase in Medicaid proved the main driver for the increase in mandatory spending. However, Medicaid estimates for FY 2026 should be taken with a grain of salt. Though they show a large increase compared to FY 2025, more than 2 million children have lost Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage since President Trump took office, numbers that likely are not reflected in the FY 2026 projected Medicaid funding.[5] In addition, H.R. 1, the reconciliation package passed by Congress and signed into law in July 2025 as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill, will dramatically worsen health care access for babies, toddlers, and infants going forward. (Find more details on these issues in the Health chapter.)

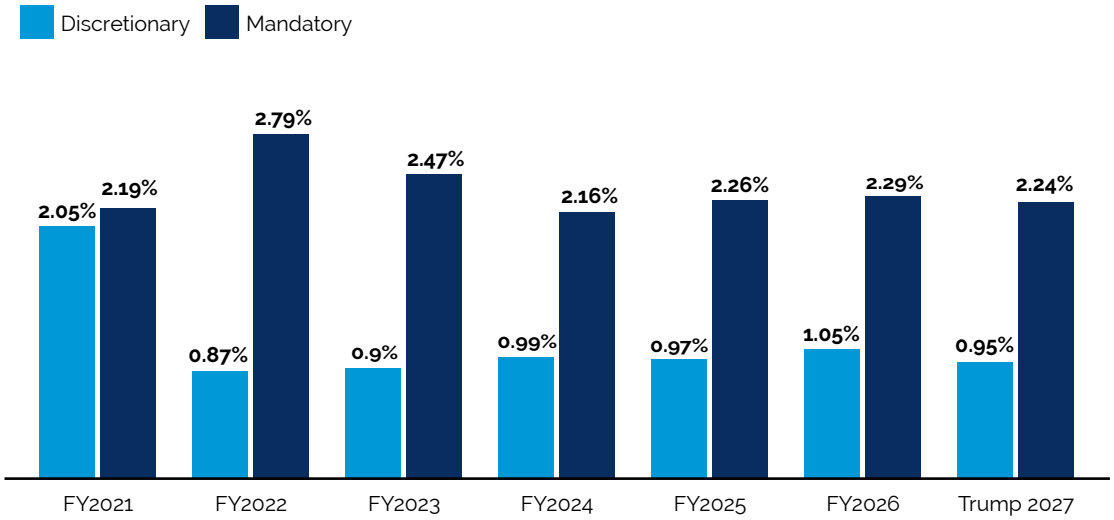
Discretionary spending increased slightly, rising by just under 1% for children 0-3 when adjusted for inflation. Even this small win demonstrates how important it is for babies and children to have champions in Congress. Increases to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and for housing vouchers led the rise in funding.

The President's FY 2027 Budget Proposal

The President's FY 2027 budget proposal would completely erase these small wins for the nation's youngest children — and plunge them even deeper into disinvestment. Under the President's proposal, the share of federal spending on children 0-3 would fall to 1.61%. More alarmingly, because the President's proposal affects only discretionary spending, the discretionary share going to babies — that is, the share that communicates the Administration's priorities — would fall dramatically to just 0.95%, or 95 cents for every $100 in federal discretionary spending.

These budget cuts would affect children 0-3 across the spectrum of human needs. Some of the largest proposed cuts stem from the elimination of Preschool Development Grants, Healthy Start, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Safe Motherhood/ Infant Health Programs, and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant along with reductions in WIC, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. More details on the issue-by-issue effects of these cuts can be found in the policy-area chapters that follow.

Fig 2. Babies' Share of Total Discretionary vs. Mandatory Spending



The Story Is Worse than the Numbers Show

The increase in mandatory spending has been the lone bright spot for the nation's babies and toddlers, but it is extremely unlikely to last. Over the next decade, H.R. 1 will cut nearly $1 trillion from Medicaid and nearly $200 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), two of the top five programs in terms of total dollars invested in kids 0-3. Together, Medicaid and SNAP make up nearly 50% of all spending on babies across the federal government, while total federal spending on these programs accounts for just 11.5% of the budget as a whole, highlighting the disproportionate impact that cuts to these programs will inflict on babies. These cuts will remain hidden in budget numbers until the bill's provisions take hold over the next decade, but the real-life consequences have already proven devastating for the nation's youngest children.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that Medicaid provisions in H.R. 1 will cost $911 billion over 10 years and cause 10 million people to lose health insurance.[6] First Focus on Children estimates that 6.6% of Medicaid spending goes to children under 3. Applying this share to the bill's provisions delivers an estimated $60.126 billion in cuts over a decade from babies' health care support. Cuts to SNAP — a total of $187 billion over 10 years — would cost babies an estimated $12.239 billion. (Find more details on these cuts in the Health and Nutrition chapters.)

Overall Spending Endnotes

1 ZERO TO THREE. (2023). State of babies yearbook: National. https://stateofbabies.org/national/2023/

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Overall Spending Appendix

MANDATORY SPENDING ON CHILDREN 0–3							
↑ 2021-2026 +4.54%	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 106.064 B	$ 106.023 B	$ 92.944 B	$ 90.087 B	$ 94.032 B	$ 103.892 B	$ 107.188 B
Real Change from Prior Year	36.62%	-7.38%	-16.57%	-5.97%	1.64%	7.30%	0.52%
Share of Total Mandatory Spending	2.19%	2.79%	2.47%	2.16%	2.26%	2.29%	2.24%

DISCRETIONARY SPENDING ON CHILDREN 0–3							
↓ -48.72% 2021-2026	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 33.554 B	$ 14.507 B	$15.760 B	$ 16.940 B	$17.563 B	$ 18.245 B	$ 17.368 B
Real Change from Prior Year	122.00%	-59.94%	3.39%	4.28%	0.95%	0.89%	-7.26%
Share of Total Discretionary Spending	2.05%	0.87%	0.90%	0.99%	0.97%	1.05%	0.95%





EARLY CHILDHOOD



Early Childhood Funding

Background

Early childhood programs, including Early 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 that infants, babies, and toddlers have 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 babies and their families have for early learning opportunities, though. At current funding levels, Early Head Start only serves 11% of eligible families, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) serves 16%, and the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program can serve just 15% of families who qualify.

Overall Analysis

Funding for early childhood programs for children ages 0-3 fell by about 2% between fiscal year (FY) 2025 and FY 2026 adjusted for inflation. Congress rejected the deep cuts to early learning programs that the President's FY 2026 budget request had proposed — eliminating Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS), Preschool Development Grants (PDG), and National Early Child Care



-70.88%

Real Percent Change in Early Childhood Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2026

TOTAL SPENDING ON EARLY CHILDHOOD

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 26.924 B	$ 6.986 B	$ 7.978 B	$ 8.276 B	$ 8.308 B	$ 8.393 B	$ 8.365 B
Real Change from Prior Year	245.04%	-75.96%	8.68%	0.64%	-2.25%	-1.89%	-2.9%
Share of Total Spending	0.39%	0.12%	0.13%	0.12%	0.12%	0.11%	0.11%

Collaboratives — and instead funded nearly every early childhood program at close to its FY 2025 level. Flat funding still constitutes a cut after inflation is taken into account, so the sector saw a real decline of 1.89% for FY 2026 even without the proposed eliminations. The only program to experience an increase relative to inflation was MIECHV, which is mandatory and received an estimated $34 million increase for children 0-3, rising to $441 million for that group and continuing the growth it has seen since a bipartisan reauthorization in 2022. However, this increase in one program is not enough to offset the real cuts that all other early childhood programs have experienced. Funding for children 0-3 from early childhood programs makes up only 0.11% of total federal spending, despite their importance in children's lives and their proven value.

CCDBG and Head Start, including Early Head Start, which focuses on children younger than 3, have historically had strong, bipartisan support, and they have actually experienced some increases in nominal funding in recent years. Despite this support, even these programs have been cut in real dollars in FY 2026.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Child Care

Child care continues to be an enormous expense that many families cannot afford and still reflects disparities, even with continued federal funding 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 of child care for a family with 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, Congress cut CCDBG in FY 2026, resulting in a decrease of 1.94% from FY 2025 when accounting for inflation.

Overview of the President's FY 2027 Budget

The President's FY 2027 budget request would cut spending on early childhood for children 0-3 by 2.9% from FY 2026 when adjusted for inflation — essentially the same proposal Congress rejected for FY 2026, now aimed at FY 2027. The President's budget request again eliminates Preschool Development Grants (PDG), erasing $152.5 million of investment in children 0-3, and again eliminates Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) and National Early Child Care Collaboratives, a combined disinvestment of $29 million for children 0-3. (For Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, please see the Health chapter.) 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 and Head Start, resulting in real cuts of roughly 2.6% each. The one positive change among discretionary programs is a proposed real increase for IDEA Part C – Grants for Infants and Families.

Looking Ahead

Besides the decrease in overall funding for early learning, other threats surround these programs.

The President's FY 2027 budget request would eliminate CCAMPIS, which provides funding to help parenting college students secure care for their children while they pursue their degree, and PDG, which is used by states to increase the quality and efficiency of their existing early learning programs, including many that

serve children under 3. 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 and Early Head Start have faced sustained upheaval over the past year. Earlier in 2026, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposed rolling back 2024-era wage and compensation comparability requirements for Head Start staff, closing that comment period in June. The compensation rulemaking Children's Budget 2025 flagged as a threat has since moved forward. More recently, in August 2026, HHS proposed a far more sweeping overhaul of the Head Start Program Performance Standards — gutting staff-to-child ratios and group size limits, the length of the program day and year, dietary and physical-fitness requirements, and caps on administrative overhead. The Administration frames the changes as restoring local flexibility and freeing up capacity to serve as many as 236,000 additional children. Head Start providers and advocates, including the National Head Start Association, have raised concerns that loosening staffing ratios and program-duration standards could weaken the safety and quality protections that have defined the program for six decades. The rule remains open for public comment as of this writing, and its ultimate scope will not be settled before this book goes to print.

H.R. 1, signed into law in July 2025, did not directly cut early childhood programs such as child care, but its cuts to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are beginning to affect the same families who rely on child care assistance, home visiting, Head Start and Early Head Start as those provisions phase in. These cuts also threaten 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 babies and their families. H.R. 1 also includes a Higher Education Act provision that prohibits federal student loans from being used for programs whose graduates earn less money than a high school graduate in their state, a provision 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

The arrows below represent the change in each program's share of the federal budget. Programs that have been eliminated in the Trump Administration's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget are flagged with ❗.

2021-2026
+27.39%

Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS)

Department: Education | Bureau: Higher Education
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 35%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 55.0 M	$ 65.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 19.2 M	$ 22.8 M	$ 26.2 M	$ 26.2 M	$ 26.2 M	$ 26.2 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	0.47%	9.50%	9.81%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

The Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (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.

-85.96%
2021-2026

Child Care and Development Fund (DISCRETIONARY)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 27.5%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 54.838 B	$ 6.165 B	$ 8.021 B	$ 8.746 B	$ 8.746 B	$ 8.831 B	$ 8.831 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 15.080 B	$ 1.695 B	$ 2.206 B	$ 2.405 B	$ 2.405 B	$ 2.429 B	$ 2.429 B
Real Change from Prior Year	469.28%	-89.58%	23.82%	5.78%	-2.63%	-1.94%	-2.57%

2021-2026
+5.25%

Child Care and Development Fund (MANDATORY)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 27.5%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 3.151 B	$ 3.238 B	$ 3.550 B	$ 3.550 B	$ 3.550 B	$ 3.550 B	$ 3.550 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 866.5 M	$ 890.5 M	$ 976.2 M	$ 976.2 M	$ 976.2 M	$ 976.2 M	$ 976.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.58%	-4.78%	4.34%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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 the mandatory Child Care Entitlement to States funding stream.



Child Care Stabilization Fund

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 28%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 23.975 B	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 6.713 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

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



Head Start and Early Head Start

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 30.97%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 10.848 B	$ 11.037 B	$ 11.997 B	$ 12.272 B	$ 12.272 B	$ 12.357 B	$ 12.357 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.360 B	$ 3.418 B	$ 3.715 B	$ 3.801 B	$ 3.801 B	$ 3.827 B	$ 3.827 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.04%	-5.73%	3.45%	-0.76%	-2.63%	-2.21%	-2.57%

The Head Start program provides comprehensive child development services, including preschool and child care for children ages 3 and 4; care and home visiting through Early Head Start for infants, toddlers, and expectant families; the American Indian and Alaska Native Head Start program; and the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start program. Head Start provides services in a variety of settings, including home visiting, center-based, and family child care, giving families many choices and prioritizing the inclusion of parents as partners in decisions and operations.



IDEA C – Grants for Infants and Families

Department: Education | Bureau: Special Education
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 481.9 M	$ 496.3 M	$ 540.0 M	$ 540.0 M	$ 540.0 M	$ 540.0 M	$ 590.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.20%	-4.56%	3.55%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	6.45%

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 ages birth through 2.

2021-2026
+54.76%

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 72%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 370.0 M	$ 446.0 M	$ 500.0 M	$ 518.6 M	$ 565.8 M	$ 613.0 M	$ 754.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 266.4 M	$ 321.1 M	$ 360.0 M	$ 373.4 M	$ 407.4 M	$ 441.3 M	$ 542.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.83%	11.69%	6.69%	0.63%	6.22%	5.21%	19.85%

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.

2021-2026
+16.77%

National Early Child Care Collaboratives

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 27%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 4.0 M	$ 4.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	18.96%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

National Early Child Care Collaboratives are grants aimed at spreading sustainable policy and practice improvements in early child 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.

2021-2026
+5.1%

Preschool Development Grants

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 48.4%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 280.0 M	$ 290.0 M	$ 315.0 M	$ 315.0 M	$ 312.0 M	$ 315.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 135.5 M	$ 140.4 M	$ 152.5 M	$ 152.5 M	$ 151.0 M	$ 152.5 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-4.03%	3.37%	-2.99%	-3.56%	-1.95%	-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.



HEALTH

Health Funding

Background

Babies' health depends on a broad set of protections and family supports that work together to help them grow, learn, and thrive. High-quality, affordable health coverage that meets babies' needs provides the foundation of these supports. Research shows that having health coverage provides lifelong impacts, improving babies' physical and mental health, promoting greater educational attainment, and leading to better financial outcomes as they grow into adults. Yet, the overall children's uninsurance rate is trending in the wrong direction, reaching 6% in 2024, and projected to rise as the 2025 budget reconciliation law known as H.R. 1 takes full effect in the years ahead.[1]

Two programs make up the backbone of babies' coverage: Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which provide high-quality, affordable coverage to more than 35 million children in the U.S. — nearly half of all children in the country.[2] Medicaid and CHIP play an especially important role for children living in rural areas, and for racial and ethnic minority children, who are disproportionately represented among beneficiaries. In addition, these programs cover most children living in poverty, nearly all children in foster care, and half of all children with special health care needs. Every decision federal and state officials make about the financing and implementation of Medicaid and CHIP impacts children's health.

Despite its 30 years of bipartisan success in cutting the rate of uninsured children by two-thirds, CHIP remains the only federal health care program that requires congressional action for renewal. CHIP is currently slated to run out of funds in 2029. CHIP offers benefits designed with children in mind, tailored by each state to meet the needs of children in families whose incomes are too high to qualify for Medicaid, but who cannot access or afford commercial health coverage. As private options, such as coverage on the health insurance exchanges, or marketplaces, become increasingly unaffordable



+45.81% **Real Percent Change in Health Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2026**

TOTAL SPENDING ON HEALTH

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 38.702 B	$ 51.263 B	$ 52.279 B	$ 49.938 B	$ 52.596 B	$ 60.408 B	$ 62.191 B
Real Change from Prior Year	3.54%	22.73%	-2.95%	-7.33%	2.55%	11.54%	0.30%
Share of Total Spending	0.57%	0.86%	0.85%	0.74%	0.76%	0.83%	0.81%

and unreliable for children, it is time for Congress to build on the programs that work for children by securing the future of CHIP for the long term.

The health of the nation's babies also depends on effective public health measures aimed at fostering safe pregnancies and births, eliminating vaccine-preventable diseases, establishing strong gun safety measures, and mitigating environmental hazards. 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. Initiatives in maternal health can also address a dire need, as infant and maternal mortality rates in the U.S. rank among the highest and most racially disparate in the world. By investing in these areas, lawmakers can prevent illness and injury, address inequities, and build stronger communities where all babies can reach their full potential.

Overall Analysis

The overall inflation-adjusted federal spend on babies' health programs increased by 11.54% between fiscal year (FY) 2025 and FY 2026, according to First Focus on Children's calculations, which combine actual appropriated amounts for discretionary programs for FY 2026 and projected expenditures for mandatory programs over the same time period. As a result, the overall increase identified for FY 2026 is driven almost entirely by projections of Medicaid spending growth, given the mandatory program's outsize impact relative to discretionary spending and its counter-cyclical support for babies when family incomes drop due to economic trends.

The projected Medicaid growth, however, offers a skewed picture. In reality, over the past year, more than 2 million children lost Medicaid or CHIP coverage, which is not reflected in the projected Medicaid spend for FY 2026. This coverage loss comes on the heels of the largest cuts to the programs in U.S. history under H.R. 1. While the bill was enacted in July 2025 with the expectation it would save $990 billion in federal Medicaid and CHIP spending by 2036, the majority of the cuts do not occur until after the November 2026 midterm elections, and therefore, are not reflected in this 2026 calculation either.

The inflation-adjusted federal spending on discretionary health programs for infants and toddlers offers a better indicator of meaningful policy choices impacting babies' health. These numbers demonstrate persistent reductions in investment, decreasing 2.20% between FY 2025 and FY 2026, and decreasing 5.5% since 2021. At a time when the number of children without insurance is rising, and CHIP's future is on the line, Congress has chosen to decrease its investment in the health of children and babies.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Emergency Medical Services for Children

The President's FY 2027 budget proposes cutting all $24.3 million of funding for the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program, of which $3.7 million is estimated to go toward babies. This program helps better prepare emergency departments and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) systems to handle the unique challenges of treating babies and children with severe illness and trauma. This vital federal initiative was born from the recognition that babies and 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 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 babies and children being severely ill and more dying from preventable causes. Estimates show that more than 7,600 children die annually under current hospital emergency department pediatric readiness levels.[3] More than 2,100 children could be saved by improving hospital readiness.[4]

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Healthy Start

President Trump's proposed FY 2027 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 country, 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 2027 Budget

The President's FY 2027 budget proposes a 31.3% reduction in discretionary spending on babies' health programs — more than six times the largest cut that Congress has passed since 2021. The budget would achieve this stunning divestment in babies' health by reducing funding for dozens of critical discretionary health programs serving babies or eliminating them altogether.

Specifically, the President's budget would cut more than $344 million in federal spending on babies by eliminating 16 health programs, offices, and services that promote healthy babies and families, including Emergency Medical Services for Children, Healthy Start, Community Mental Health Services Block Grants, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Office of Drowning Prevention, and Safe Motherhood and Infant Health Programs. In addition, the budget proposes cutting several programs by 5% or more when adjusted for inflation, including the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), resulting in a whopping $218 million in reductions. The President's FY 2027 budget would keep funding flat for several programs, including the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention program, Childhood Cancer Data Initiative, Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention, and the Innovation in Maternal Health Program, which amounts to an estimated 2.57% cut when accounting for inflation.

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. The budget would significantly cut programs critical to infant and maternal health, such as the CDC's National Center on Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health, and would consolidate or completely eliminate entire institutes dedicated to protecting babies, including NICHD. The President's budget would completely eliminate the CDC's National Asthma Control Program as well as programs that detect environmental causes of pediatric cancers, protect babies against extreme weather, and shield them from the second leading cause of lung cancer (radon), in total cutting $34.9 million dollars or 25.9% of environmental health funding for babies. From huge cuts to vastly popular and historically bipartisan public health programs, such as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, to completely defunding vital research and prevention programs that keep babies from drowning or being hurt by firearms, it is clear that the Administration is not prioritizing the health and well-being of babies.

Looking Ahead

Health Care Coverage

Although H.R. 1 implementation has barely begun, its massive changes to Medicaid funding and policy have sparked a financial chain reaction that is already impacting state budgets, hospitals, clinicians, and the lives of babies and children. Because children comprise nearly half of all Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries, cuts of this magnitude will require states to reduce children's



eligibility and benefits, as well as payments to pediatric and maternal care providers. In the one year since the law passed, and in preparation for the federal cuts to come, states have already downsized children's coverage or undercut children's benefits, and some have adopted work reporting requirements early, putting downward pressure on parents' and therefore children's coverage. The Congressional Budget Office now projects that 3 million more children will lose their Medicaid or CHIP coverage by 2036, largely as a result of the policy choices in H.R. 1. In addition, states that have addressed low Medicaid reimbursement rates for pediatric and maternity care providers through state-directed payments are now implementing caps that threaten funding for children's hospitals and the existence of labor and delivery units across the country, particularly in rural areas. All told, the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill that targeted changes for the childless adult population is hurting children's coverage and access to care, and there are still two years of implementation to go. To stop the law's alarming impacts on child health, Congress must intervene.

Infant and Maternal Health

Despite increased awareness of the country's shamefully high infant and maternal health and mortality rates, lawmakers have continued to threaten funding for essential programs. 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 efforts to advance 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

As in FY 2025, the Administration continues to undermine coverage and access to safe, effective childhood vaccines through a variety of actions, including continued interference with the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the January 2026 removal of immunizations against influenza, rotavirus, hepatitis A, certain diseases that cause meningitis, and other illnesses from the CDC's recommended childhood vaccine schedule, and the August 2026 executive order to make it significantly harder to get vaccinated.[5] Vaccine skepticism espoused by HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. has spurred falling vaccination rates and sustained uninterrupted transmission chains, ultimately leading to massive, multi-state outbreaks of measles — a highly contagious virus that can cause severe and life-threatening complications, especially in children under the age of 5. As a result, the U.S. is now on the brink of losing its measles elimination status, which has been held for more than a quarter-century. Moreover, the Administration has proposed

removing four currently required measures of pediatric and prenatal immunization from the Pediatric Quality Measures Program, a move that will reduce transparency. The combination of actions undermining childhood vaccinations and reducing transparency into the outcomes ensures that as childhood immunization rates fall, there will be no standardized national longitudinal data to document the decline or provide the tools needed to detect and respond before babies pay the price.

Environmental Health

Combined with deep cuts to air quality management, pesticide monitoring, and toxic substances review, cuts to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and CDC programs will further exacerbate stress on the skeleton staff who are already struggling to fulfill the agencies' responsibilities.[6] The Administration has cut CDC staff by more than 3,000 people, and although officials say they plan to fill those gaps, it will be difficult for CDC to restore decades of lost expertise as potential employees navigate cratering trust in the agency and fewer workplace protections.[7] These cuts also come as the Administration has tried to roll back regulations on pesticides and toxic substances.[8] These actions combined will vastly increase babies' exposure to toxic substances and their risk of lifelong and life-threatening illness, including birth defects and cancer. The Administration has promoted glyphosate, a chemical that potentially causes cancer, and has offered only a toothless executive order to address concerns about pesticides.[9] Ignoring the effect climate has and will have on babies also exposes them to harm from extreme weather, especially extreme heat, which is increasing in frequency and intensity across the country and negatively impacting the places babies are most likely to be: in child care facilities, schools, and at home. Babies deserve better protection from environmental hazards, a need that can only be met with more funding — not less — for programs dedicated to protecting them.

Health Endnotes

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250th





HEALTH

The arrows below represent the change in each program's share of the federal budget. Programs that have been eliminated in the Trump Administration's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget are flagged with ❗.

2021-2026 **+68.15%**

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 5.0 M	$ 7.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 755.0 K	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	21.02%	29.72%	22.36%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00% ❗

CDC works to understand and prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences that can have a tremendous impact on future violence victimization and perpetration, lifelong health, and opportunity.

-4.42% 2021-2026

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.98%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 78.0 M	$ 78.0 M	$ 85.0 M	$ 81.6 M	$ 82.0 M	$ 79.8 M	$ 78.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.1 M	$ 3.1 M	$ 3.4 M	$ 3.2 M	$ 3.3 M	$ 3.2 M	$ 3.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.53%	-7.34%	3.73%	-6.87%	-2.17%	-5.49%	-4.77%

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.

2021-2026 **+0.73%**

Autism and Other Developmental Disorders

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 42%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 53.2 M	$ 54.3 M	$ 56.3 M	$ 56.3 M	$ 56.3 M	$ 57.3 M	$ 38.2 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 22.3 M	$ 22.8 M	$ 23.7 M	$ 23.7 M	$ 23.7 M	$ 24.1 M	$ 16.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.63%	-5.32%	-1.33%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-1.16%	-35.02%

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

Proposed for 2027

Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant

Department: HHS | Bureau: Healthy America Administration
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 1.01%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 4.502 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 45.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant provides states with enhanced flexibility to respond to local behavioral health priorities.

2021-2026 +1.66%

Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 54.06%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 167.3 M	$ 177.1 M	$ 205.6 M	$ 206.1 M	$ 183.1 M	$ 182.1 M	$ 153.8 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 90.4 M	$ 95.7 M	$ 111.1 M	$ 111.4 M	$ 99.0 M	$ 98.4 M	$ 83.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.72%	-1.93%	10.49%	-2.75%	-13.50%	-3.41%	-17.69%

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 the environment on the lives of persons with disabilities.

-46.25% 2021-2026

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Department: HHS | Bureau: Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Admin
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 670.0 M	$ 315.0 M	$ 385.0 M	$ 385.0 M	$ 385.0 M	$ 385.5 M	$ 385.5 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 20.1 M	$ 9.4 M	$ 11.6 M	$ 11.6 M	$ 11.6 M	$ 11.6 M	$ 11.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	224.33%	-56.44%	16.32%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.76%	-2.57%

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.

-6.58% 2021-2026

Child Maltreatment

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.1 M	$ 1.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

2021-2026
+86.84%

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.5 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 226.5 K	$ 302.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 453.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	45.22%	23.54%	42.75%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

This chart represents the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention budget set aside for child sexual abuse within the Injury Prevention and Control initiative at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

2021-2026
+86.84%

Childhood Cancer Data Initiative

Department: HHS | Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 50.0 M	$ 50.0 M	$ 46.4 M	$ 50.0 M	$ 50.0 M	$ 100.0 M	$ 100.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 7.5 M	$ 7.5 M	$ 7.0 M	$ 7.5 M	$ 7.5 M	$ 15.0 M	$ 15.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-11.71%	4.57%	-2.63%	94.23%	-2.57%

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.

-6.58%
2021-2026

Childhood Cancer STAR Act

Department: HHS | Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 30.0 M	$ 30.0 M	$ 30.0 M	$ 30.0 M	$ 30.0 M	$ 30.0 M	$ 30.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 4.5 M	$ 4.5 M	$ 4.5 M	$ 4.5 M	$ 4.5 M	$ 4.5 M	$ 4.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

The Childhood Cancer STAR Act advances childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer research; enhances childhood cancer surveillance; and supports survivors and those affected by childhood cancer.

2021-2026
+22.38%

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Programs

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 38.9 M	$ 41.0 M	$ 51.0 M	$ 51.0 M	$ 51.0 M	$ 51.0 M	$ 51.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 5.9 M	$ 6.2 M	$ 7.7 M	$ 7.7 M	$ 7.7 M	$ 7.7 M	$ 7.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.87%	-2.42%	18.38%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention programs work 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 programs also support state and local efforts to collect vital lead data that enable them to target and implement primary prevention and response activities.

-28.83%
2021-2026

Children and Other Sensitive Populations Agency Coordination

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Children's Health Protection
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 8.3 M	$ 6.2 M	$ 6.5 M	$ 6.3 M	$ 6.9 M	$ 6.3 M	$ 6.8 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.2 M	$ 937.0 K	$ 978.9 K	$ 951.5 K	$ 1.0 M	$ 952.5 K	$ 1.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	29.04%	-30.07%	-0.58%	-5.71%	6.31%	-10.95%	3.61%

Children and Other Sensitive Populations Agency Coordination advances the protection of children's environmental health through regulatory development, science policy, program implementation, communication, and effective results measurement.

2021-2026
+29.91%

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 33%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 16.093 B	$ 16.613 B	$ 17.588 B	$ 21.071 B	$ 21.332 B	$ 22.379 B	$ 25.571 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 5.311 B	$ 5.482 B	$ 5.804 B	$ 6.954 B	$ 7.040 B	$ 7.385 B	$ 8.438 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-7.70%	-4.35%	0.75%	16.23%	-1.42%	1.88%	11.32%

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, more than 7 million children have access to quality, affordable health care coverage.

-100%
2021-2026

Clean Air and Climate: Climate Protection

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 98.7 M	$ 107.0 M	$ 109.3 M	$ 109.8 M	$ 86.8 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.3 M	$ 3.6 M	$ 3.6 M	$ 3.7 M	$ 2.9 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-13.44%	0.45%	-2.81%	-2.55%	-22.95%	-100.00%	N/A

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

2021-2026
+74.93%

Clean Air and Climate: Federal Support for Air Quality Management

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 139.7 M	$ 157.4 M	$ 159.0 M	$ 165.6 M	$ 180.6 M	$ 261.5 M	$ 148.8 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 4.7 M	$ 5.3 M	$ 5.3 M	$ 5.5 M	$ 6.0 M	$ 8.7 M	$ 5.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.98%	4.41%	-3.83%	1.03%	6.20%	40.62%	-44.57%

The Federal Support for Air Quality Management program supports the 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.



-6.29%
2021-2026

Climate and Health Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 333.0 K	$ 334.0 K	$ 334.0 K	$ 334.0 K	$ 334.0 K	$ 334.0 K	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.49%	-7.06%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-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 aspects of climate extremes, including ways to reduce health risks by establishing and using evidence-based interventions that target the most vulnerable populations.

2021-2026
+4.45%

Community Health Centers (DISCRETIONARY)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 4.54%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.554 B	$ 1.748 B	$ 1.858 B	$ 1.738 B	$ 1.738 B	$ 1.738 B	$ 1.757 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 70.6 M	$ 79.3 M	$ 84.3 M	$ 78.9 M	$ 78.9 M	$ 78.9 M	$ 79.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-31.78%	4.20%	1.16%	-9.25%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-1.51%

-62.95%
2021-2026

Community Health Centers (MANDATORY)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 4.54%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 11.600 B	$ 4.000 B	$ 3.905 B	$ 5.346 B	$ 4.295 B	$ 4.600 B	$ 1.132 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 526.6 M	$ 181.6 M	$ 177.3 M	$ 242.7 M	$ 195.0 M	$ 208.8 M	$ 51.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	111.10%	-68.05%	-7.08%	32.80%	-21.76%	4.01%	-76.02%

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.

2021-2026
+22.35%

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant

Department: HHS | Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 4.24%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 757.1 M	$ 920.1 M	$ 986.5 M	$ 986.5 M	$ 995.6 M	$ 991.5 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 32.1 M	$ 39.0 M	$ 41.8 M	$ 41.8 M	$ 42.2 M	$ 42.0 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.44%	12.61%	2.04%	-2.99%	-1.73%	-3.28%	-100.00%

Administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant supports states and territories in providing community mental health services for adults with serious mental illnesses and children under the age of 18 with serious emotional disturbances.

N/A

Developmental Delays

Department: HHS | Bureau: National Institutes of Health

Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 10.0 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 1.5 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Developmental Delays program funds research for speech and language development delays in infants and toddlers.

N/A

Drowning Prevention

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 40%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 1.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 0.00	$ 400.0 K	$ 800.0 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%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

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

2021-2026
+2.09%

Emergency Medical Services for Children

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 22.3 M	$ 22.3 M	$ 24.3 M	$ 24.3 M	$ 24.3 M	$ 24.3 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.4 M	$ 3.4 M	$ 3.7 M	$ 3.7 M	$ 3.7 M	$ 3.7 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	-7.06%	3.69%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-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.

2021-2026
+10.77%

Ensure Safe Drinking Water: Drinking Water Programs

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 101.3 M	$ 121.4 M	$ 115.4 M	$ 127.2 M	$ 127.7 M	$ 120.1 M	$ 127.4 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.4 M	$ 4.1 M	$ 3.9 M	$ 4.2 M	$ 4.3 M	$ 4.0 M	$ 4.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-6.86%	11.05%	-9.50%	6.93%	-2.31%	-8.64%	3.34%

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.

2021-2026
+8.99%

Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 18.0 M	$ 19.0 M	$ 21.0 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%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

-6.58%
2021-2026

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

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.



-6.58%
2021-2026

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

Department: HHS | Bureau: National Institutes of Health (Office of the Director)
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 180.0 M	$ 180.0 M	$ 180.0 M	$ 180.0 M	$ 180.0 M	$ 180.0 M	$ 180.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 27.2 M	$ 27.2 M	$ 27.2 M	$ 27.2 M	$ 27.2 M	$ 27.2 M	$ 27.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

-100%
2021-2026

Environmental Justice

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 10.3 M	$ 11.8 M	$ 109.3 M	$ 117.2 M	$ 51.2 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 345.5 K	$ 395.4 K	$ 3.7 M	$ 3.9 M	$ 1.7 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	4.81%	6.05%	779.05%	3.98%	-57.44%	-100.00%	N/A

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.

-6.58%
2021-2026

Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 5%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 12.5 M	$ 12.5 M	$ 12.5 M	$ 12.5 M	$ 12.5 M	$ 12.5 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 625.0 K	$ 625.0 K	$ 625.0 K	$ 625.0 K	$ 625.0 K	$ 625.0 K	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

This funding for the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Department of Justice takes a comprehensive, evidence-based research approach to reducing firearm-related suicides, violent crime, and accidental shootings, which include impacts on children. The Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research evaluates the effectiveness of death and injury prevention strategies, as well as determinants of firearm injury, the identification of those at risk, and the evaluation of innovative interventions.

2021-2026
+6.33%

Healthy Start

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 127.6 M	$ 131.5 M	$ 145.0 M	$ 145.0 M	$ 145.0 M	$ 145.2 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.55%	-4.54%	4.95%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.72%	-100.00%

The Healthy Start program reduces infant and maternal mortality by enhancing the community health care service system and increasing access to comprehensive prenatal and women's health services, particularly for women and infants at higher risk for poor health outcomes.

2021-2026
+3.31%

Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 18.9 M	$ 19.6 M	$ 20.9 M	$ 20.9 M	$ 20.9 M	$ 20.9 M	$ 20.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.23%	-4.03%	1.62%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

-4.12%
2021-2026

Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 9.5 M	$ 9.8 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%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

The Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding funding supports breastfeeding families in maternity care settings, communities, and workplaces.

2021-2026
+14.97%

Indoor Air: Radon Program

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 2.3 M	$ 3.1 M	$ 2.9 M	$ 2.8 M	$ 3.3 M	$ 2.9 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 78.0 K	$ 102.9 K	$ 97.3 K	$ 93.4 K	$ 110.8 K	$ 96.0 K	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-16.85%	22.25%	-10.02%	-6.91%	15.52%	-15.82%	-100.00%

The toxin radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Through the Indoor Air: Radon 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.

2021-2026
+1.21%

Indoor Air: Reduce Risks from Indoor Air

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 11.3 M	$ 12.7 M	$ 13.3 M	$ 14.4 M	$ 14.3 M	$ 12.2 M	$ 12.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 376.2 K	$ 425.8 K	$ 444.5 K	$ 482.4 K	$ 476.8 K	$ 407.6 K	$ 400.3 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.37%	4.86%	-0.64%	5.28%	-3.77%	-16.97%	-4.32%

Under the Indoor Air: Reduce Risks from Indoor Air 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.

2021-2026
+73.08%

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Department: HHS | Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 8.1 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 15.0 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%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-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.

N/A

Innovation in Maternal Health Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 11.8 M	$ 15.3 M	$ 15.3 M	$ 15.3 M	$ 17.3 M	$ 17.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	23.66%	-2.99%	-2.63%	9.81%	-2.57%

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.

N/A

Integrated Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 10.0 M	$ 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%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

2021-2026
+7.64%

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 28%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 710.5 M	$ 747.7 M	$ 815.7 M	$ 813.7 M	$ 813.7 M	$ 818.7 M	$ 767.2 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 199.0 M	$ 209.4 M	$ 228.4 M	$ 227.8 M	$ 227.8 M	$ 229.2 M	$ 214.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.03%	-2.50%	3.82%	-3.22%	-2.63%	-2.29%	-8.70%

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.

2021-2026
+51.79%

Medicaid

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 6.6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 450.001 B	$ 630.925 B	$ 635.708 B	$ 569.116 B	$ 614.337 B	$ 731.156 B	$ 744.849 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 29.700 B	$ 41.641 B	$ 41.957 B	$ 37.562 B	$ 40.546 B	$ 48.256 B	$ 49.160 B
Real Change from Prior Year	7.16%	29.91%	-4.11%	-13.15%	5.11%	15.58%	-0.75%

Medicaid provides health coverage to children from families with low incomes and children with disabilities, 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 checkups. Medicaid, together with the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), currently covers more than 36 million children.

2021-2026
+4.64%

National Asthma Control Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 29.9 M	$ 30.5 M	$ 33.5 M	$ 33.5 M	$ 33.5 M	$ 33.5 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 897.2 K	$ 915.0 K	$ 1.0 M	$ 1.0 M	$ 1.0 M	$ 1.0 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	-5.51%	4.53%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-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 nongovernment organizations to help them improve surveillance of asthma, train health professionals, educate individuals with asthma and their families, and explain asthma to the public.



National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative

Department: HHS | Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 91.7 M	$ 91.9 M	$ 93.9 M	$ 98.9 M	$ 98.9 M	$ 100.9 M	$ 100.9 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 13.8 M	$ 13.8 M	$ 14.1 M	$ 14.8 M	$ 14.8 M	$ 15.1 M	$ 15.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	28.84%	-7.12%	-2.76%	2.18%	-2.63%	-0.92%	-2.57%

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.



National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund

Department: Justice | Bureau: Civil Division

Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 5.3%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 17.0 M	$ 21.7 M	$ 31.7 M	$ 22.7 M	$ 22.7 M	$ 22.7 M	$ 22.7 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 901.0 K	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.7 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	26.60%	18.48%	38.95%	-30.61%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.



National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Department: HHS | Bureau: National Institutes of Health

Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 17%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.588 B	$ 1.683 B	$ 1.749 B	$ 1.759 B	$ 1.759 B	$ 1.780 B	$ 1.651 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 270.0 M	$ 286.1 M	$ 297.3 M	$ 299.0 M	$ 299.0 M	$ 302.6 M	$ 280.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.24%	-1.81%	-1.10%	-2.43%	-2.63%	-1.73%	-9.63%

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development's mission is to lead research and training to understand human development, improve reproductive health, enhance the lives of children and adolescents, and optimize abilities for all.



Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

-23.29%
2021-2026

Department: HUD | Bureau: Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 360.0 M	$ 415.0 M	$ 410.0 M	$ 295.6 M	$ 295.6 M	$ 295.6 M	$ 110.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 54.4 M	$ 62.7 M	$ 61.9 M	$ 44.6 M	$ 44.6 M	$ 44.6 M	$ 16.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	20.18%	6.81%	-5.98%	-30.06%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-63.74%

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.

Pediatric Mental Health Access (DISCRETIONARY)

2021-2026
+21.81%

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 10.0 M	$ 31.0 M	$ 13.0 M	$ 13.0 M	$ 13.0 M	$ 13.0 M	$ 13.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 99.7 K	$ 310.0 K	$ 130.0 K	$ 130.0 K	$ 130.0 K	$ 130.0 K	$ 130.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.48%	188.10%	-60.09%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

Pediatric Mental Health Access (MANDATORY)

-100%
2021-2026

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 80.0 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 800.0 K	$ 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

The Pediatric Mental Health 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.

2021-2026
+1.15%

Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 58.1 M	$ 60.2 M	$ 59.7 M	$ 65.9 M	$ 66.6 M	$ 62.9 M	$ 64.8 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.9 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.2 M	$ 2.2 M	$ 2.1 M	$ 2.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.22%	-4.06%	-5.53%	7.00%	-1.60%	-8.22%	0.33%

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk program 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.

2021-2026
+31.63%

Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 36.7 M	$ 39.5 M	$ 45.2 M	$ 48.7 M	$ 48.6 M	$ 51.7 M	$ 47.4 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.3 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.6 M	$ 1.6 M	$ 1.7 M	$ 1.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-8.78%	-0.20%	8.82%	4.57%	-2.81%	3.28%	-10.65%

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk program 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.

-6.58%
2021-2026

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 2.6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 160.0 M	$ 160.0 M	$ 160.0 M	$ 160.0 M	$ 160.0 M	$ 160.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 4.2 M	$ 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%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-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.

-22.09%
2021-2026

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

Department: HHS | Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 35.8%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 23.5 M	$ 23.6 M	$ 25.6 M	$ 23.6 M	$ 23.6 M	$ 19.6 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 8.4 M	$ 8.5 M	$ 9.2 M	$ 8.5 M	$ 8.5 M	$ 7.0 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.58%	-6.96%	3.23%	-10.56%	-2.63%	-19.34%	-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.

2021-2026
+26.19%

Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Rural Health
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 8.6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 82.2 M	$ 86.0 M	$ 93.0 M	$ 101.0 M	$ 101.0 M	$ 111.0 M	$ 111.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 7.1 M	$ 7.4 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.7 M	$ 8.7 M	$ 9.5 M	$ 9.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.05%	-3.03%	2.92%	5.36%	-2.63%	6.73%	-2.57%

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.

2021-2026
+40.79%

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 0.2%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 2.421 B	$ 2.495 B	$ 2.571 B	$ 3.625 B	$ 3.625 B	$ 3.648 B	$ 2.725 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 4.8 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.1 M	$ 7.3 M	$ 7.3 M	$ 7.3 M	$ 5.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.45%	-4.52%	-1.92%	36.80%	-2.63%	-2.27%	-27.23%

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.

2021-2026
+68.82%

Safe Motherhood and Infant Health

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 62.8 M	$ 83.0 M	$ 108.0 M	$ 110.5 M	$ 110.5 M	$ 113.5 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	4.84%	22.45%	23.83%	-0.74%	-2.63%	-0.25%	-100.00%

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



2021-2026
+98.3%

Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression

Department: HHS | Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 5.7 M	$ 6.5 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 11.0 M	$ 11.0 M	$ 12.0 M	$ 12.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-8.70%	6.45%	46.41%	6.72%	-2.63%	5.95%	-2.57%

The Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression 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.

2021-2026
+34.62%

State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Lead Testing in Schools

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 19.4 M	$ 14.4 M	$ 30.5 M	$ 46.1 M	$ 34.1 M	$ 28.0 M	$ 28.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 2.9 M	$ 2.2 M	$ 4.6 M	$ 7.0 M	$ 5.1 M	$ 4.2 M	$ 4.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-27.65%	-31.18%	101.14%	46.70%	-28.08%	-20.18%	-2.57%

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

-48.69%
2021-2026

State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 40.1 M	$ 21.5 M	$ 32.3 M	$ 1.6 M	$ 103.0 K	$ 22.0 M	$ 20.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.3 M	$ 718.5 K	$ 1.1 M	$ 54.7 K	$ 3.4 K	$ 734.8 K	$ 668.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	98.74%	-50.24%	42.90%	-95.08%	-93.88%	20,643.40%	-11.43%

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 the State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Reducing Lead in Drinking Water 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.

-41.24%
2021-2026

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

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 45.3 M	$ 26.4 M	$ 22.9 M	$ 48.1 M	$ 31.1 M	$ 28.5 M	$ 20.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.5 M	$ 882.0 K	$ 764.4 K	$ 1.6 M	$ 1.0 M	$ 951.9 K	$ 668.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	72.66%	-46.00%	-17.52%	103.99%	-37.09%	-10.98%	-31.63%

EPA provides multipurpose funds to states and tribes intended to be used at their discretion for high-priority activities to complement activities funded under established environmental statutes. The State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Safe Water for Small & Disadvantaged Communities 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.

-92.09%
2021-2026

Superfund Cleanup

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Land and Emergency Management
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 0.41%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 904.6 M	$ 808.5 M	$ 1.003 B	$ 848.0 M	$ 1.316 B	$ 76.6 M	$ 75.3 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.7 M	$ 3.3 M	$ 4.1 M	$ 3.5 M	$ 5.4 M	$ 314.2 K	$ 308.5 K
Real Change from Prior Year	10.20%	-17.19%	18.12%	-18.02%	51.13%	-94.35%	-4.33%

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.

2021-2026
+4.15%

Toxics Risks Review and Prevention

Department: EPA | Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.34%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 101.3 M	$ 93.5 M	$ 121.6 M	$ 81.6 M	$ 122.1 M	$ 113.0 M	$ 78.9 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.4 M	$ 3.1 M	$ 4.1 M	$ 2.7 M	$ 4.1 M	$ 3.8 M	$ 2.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	8.13%	-14.49%	23.76%	-34.88%	45.63%	-10.13%	-31.98%

The Environmental Protection Agency's Toxics Risks Review and Prevention program has significant responsibilities under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to ensure the safety of chemicals already in or entering commerce and to address unreasonable risks to human health and the environment.

2021-2026
+40.55%

Trevor's Law

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 301.1 K	$ 302.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 453.0 K	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	28.70%	-7.06%	42.75%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-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.

-0.12%
2021-2026

Tribal Children and Family Programs

Department: HHS | Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 17%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.7 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.3 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	3.83%	-100.00%

SAMHSA's Tribal 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.

-43.42%
2021-2026

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention

Department: HHS | Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 100%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 17.8 M	$ 17.8 M	$ 18.8 M	$ 10.8 M	$ 10.8 M	$ 10.8 M	$ 10.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.47%	-7.07%	0.51%	-44.53%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

2021-2026
+49.04%

Vaccines For Children

Department: HHS | Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 53%

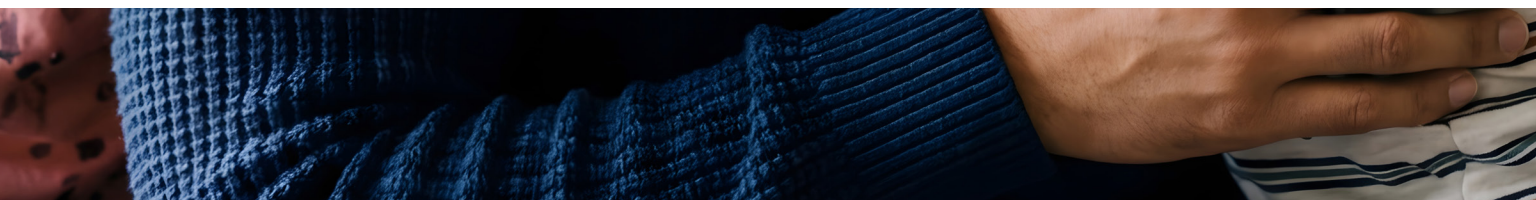
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 3.806 B	$ 5.140 B	$ 5.609 B	$ 7.239 B	$ 6.576 B	$ 6.072 B	$ 6.784 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 2.017 B	$ 2.724 B	$ 2.973 B	$ 3.837 B	$ 3.485 B	$ 3.218 B	$ 3.595 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-19.51%	25.13%	3.84%	25.21%	-11.55%	-10.32%	8.84%

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.





HOUSING



Housing Funding

Background

Every baby and toddler deserves a safe, stable place to grow, yet homelessness and housing instability remain a growing crisis for families with young children. During the 2022-2023 school year, an estimated 447,000 infants and toddlers from birth through age 3 experienced homelessness, 82,000 more than in 2021, a 23% increase. The rise in infant homelessness was widespread, covering 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.[1] The first three years of a child's life are among the most critical for brain development, and yet babies and toddlers are among those at highest risk of eviction.[2] Homelessness during these years can disrupt the stable relationships, routines, and safe environments that support babies' healthy development and can have lasting consequences for their physical and mental health, learning, and well-being.[3]

Alarmingly, these numbers likely understate the scale of the crisis, as babies and toddlers experiencing homelessness are often the least visible to the systems designed to help them. Infants and toddlers experiencing homelessness may be doubled up with other families, moving frequently, staying in motels or cars, or living in other unstable arrangements that make their homelessness difficult to identify.[4] Compounding this invisibility, the definition of homelessness used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to determine eligibility for assistance excludes families who are temporarily staying with others or in motels, leaving many families with young children unable to access critical housing and services. Research shows that children experiencing these forms of homelessness can face outcomes comparable to — or worse than — those living in shelters.[5] As families with children face increasingly limited housing resources and a declining share of housing subsidies, federal policy must prioritize children and recognize the full range of housing instability experienced by families with babies and toddlers.[6]



+28.87% **Real Percent Change in Housing Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2026**

TOTAL SPENDING ON HOUSING

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 2.999 B	$ 3.213 B	$ 3.412 B	$ 3.658 B	$ 3.927 B	$ 4.137 B	$ 3.990 B
Real Change from Prior Year	6.93%	-0.73%	1.08%	4.01%	4.53%	2.29%	-6.03%
Share of Total Spending	0.04%	0.05%	0.06%	0.05%	0.06%	0.06%	0.05%

Babies and toddlers are also far less visible to education authorities than older children. Local educational agencies identified just 19,650 children under age 3 experiencing homelessness during the 2022-2023 school year — an increase of 26% from the previous year — but these babies represent only a fraction of the young children experiencing homelessness nationwide.[7] Fear, stigma, lack of awareness, and the hidden nature of homelessness can prevent families from seeking assistance or make it difficult for systems to identify them. Federal policy must therefore prioritize preventing eviction and housing loss before families with babies and toddlers become homeless, while ensuring that families who do experience homelessness can quickly access stable housing and the early childhood, health, nutrition, and family supports they need. As HUD considers changes to federal housing and homelessness policy, it must protect families currently receiving assistance from losing that support and must prioritize families with young children who face significant barriers to accessing critical housing assistance and services.

Overall Analysis

Housing investments for infants and toddlers continue a trend of modestly positive news, with funding increasing for the fourth consecutive year. From FY 2025 to FY 2026, federal housing investments for babies increased by $210 million, or 2.29% after adjusting for inflation. Over the longer term, the share of federal spending devoted to babies' housing needs has increased 28.87% since FY 2021. Despite this progress, however, housing remains a significant gap in federal investments for the nation's youngest children, with the share of federal spending devoted to meeting the housing needs of infants and toddlers hovering at .06%. In FY 2026, increases in the Tenant-Based and Project-Based Rental Assistance programs were the primary drivers of investment growth.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Housing Assistance for Homeless Infants and Toddlers

Congress must increase investments in affordable housing, rental assistance, eviction prevention, and homelessness assistance, with particular attention to families with infants and toddlers. Federal agencies and programs must strengthen coordination among housing, early childhood, health, education, and child welfare systems so that they can identify young children experiencing homelessness earlier and ease access to supports for families. Federal policymakers must also establish a consistent definition of homelessness across programs by adopting the broader definition in the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act. Federally funded early childhood and education programs recognize homelessness among families temporarily staying with others in precarious circumstances or living in motels, while HUD's narrower definition generally limits housing assistance to families in shelters or unsheltered locations. This disconnect leaves many infants, toddlers, and their families identified as homeless by schools and early childhood programs without access to housing assistance. The need for greater investment is clear: the share of benefits from subsidized HUD programs going to families with children fell from 42% in 2009 to 33% in 2022.[8] Federal policy must prioritize prevention and early intervention so that babies and toddlers have the stable housing, nurturing relationships, and supportive environments they need during the most formative years of their lives.



Overview of the President's FY 2027 Budget

The Trump Administration's proposed FY 2027 budget would reverse recent progress in federal investments in housing support for infants and toddlers and would significantly weaken the housing and homelessness safety net for babies and families. It would cut nearly $147 million from spending on babies' housing — a more than 6% cut when adjusted for inflation — largely by eliminating the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the housing program dedicated to Promise Neighborhoods at the Department of Education, HUD's Choice Neighborhoods program, and the Rural Housing Voucher Program at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The President's proposed budget also reduces investments for babies by cutting their portion of HUD's Project-Based Rental Assistance by just over $37 million, Homeless Assistance Grants by approximately $13 million, and the Native American Housing Block Grant Program by more than $6 million. Together, these cuts and eliminations would leave fewer resources available to prevent homelessness, preserve affordable housing, and help babies and their families remain safely housed.

Looking Ahead

Homelessness is a particularly urgent crisis for babies and toddlers, whose first three years are a period of extraordinary brain development. Federal policy must therefore prioritize preventing homelessness before it happens and ensuring that babies, toddlers, and their families receive immediate, comprehensive support when homelessness does occur. Congress must protect and significantly increase investments in affordable housing, rental assistance, eviction prevention, and homelessness assistance, with targeted resources for families with infants and toddlers, expectant parents, and young people who have experienced foster care. Congress

specifically must prioritize infants and toddlers as it considers reauthorizing the Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act.

The Trump Administration also is pursuing changes to the Head Start program that could have an outsized impact on the homelessness crisis among babies and toddlers. Head Start and Early Head Start, which serve children from birth through age 3, are among the few federal early childhood programs that explicitly identify children experiencing homelessness as categorically eligible for services. A recent proposal from HHS to strip core standards from the landmark early learning and health services program could eliminate or weaken many of the federal requirements that make it unique, including some that affect infants and toddlers experiencing homelessness.[9] Head Start programs follow specific strategies for recruiting, enrolling, and engaging children and families experiencing homelessness, and provide comprehensive supports including developmental, medical and dental screenings, mental health services, family engagement, and, in some cases, transportation. Weakening the federal standards that govern these services could make it harder for programs to identify and adequately support young children experiencing homelessness, particularly when their housing instability is hidden or temporary.



Housing Endnotes

1 SchoolHouse Connection and Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan, Infant & Toddler Homelessness Across 50 States: 2022–2023, (2025, April). https://schoolhouseconnection.org/article/infant-and-toddler-homelessness

2 Badger, E., Miller, C. C., & Parlapiano, A. (2023, October 2). The Americans Most Threatened by Eviction: Young Children. The New York Times. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/10/02/upshot/evictions-children-american-renters.html

3 SchoolHouse Connection and Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan, Infant & Toddler Homelessness Across 50 States: 2022–2023, (2025, April). https://schoolhouseconnection.org/article/infant-and-toddler-homelessness

4 SchoolHouse Connection and Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan, Infant & Toddler Homelessness Across 50 States: 2022–2023, (2025, April). https://schoolhouseconnection.org/article/infant-and-toddler-homelessness

5 SchoolHouse Connection and Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan, Infant & Toddler Homelessness Across 50 States: 2022–2023, (2025, April). https://schoolhouseconnection.org/article/infant-and-toddler-homelessness

6 Petit-Frere, M. (2026, June 26). Families With Children Are Losing Ground In One Of The Country's Most Important Housing Assistance Programs. Family Promise - Transforming the Lives of Families Experiencing Homelessness. https://familypromise.org/latest/families-with-children-are-losing-ground-in-one-of-the-countrys-most-important-housing-assistance-programs/

7 SchoolHouse Connection and Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan, Infant & Toddler Homelessness Across 50 States: 2022–2023, (2025, April). https://schoolhouseconnection.org/article/infant-and-toddler-homelessness

8 Thrive From the Start, "A Policy Agenda for Solving Infant and Toddler Homelessness," (2025, May 1). https://thrivefromthestart.org/policy-agenda/ .

9 SchoolHouse Connection, "Head Start Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Analysis," (2026, August). PDF report. https://e1.nmcdn.io/assets/schoolhouse/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/SHC-Head-Start-NPRM-Analysis.pdf


LOVE





HOUSING

The arrows below represent the change in each program's share of the federal budget. Programs that have been eliminated in the Trump Administration's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget are flagged with ❗.

-88.32%
2021-2026

Choice Neighborhoods

Department: HUD | Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 8.12%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 200.0 M	$ 350.0 M	$ 350.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 25.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 16.2 M	$ 28.4 M	$ 28.4 M	$ 6.1 M	$ 6.1 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	58.71%	62.15%	-4.83%	-79.21%	-2.63%	-67.63%	-100.00% ❗

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

2021-2026
+28.37%

Homeless Assistance Grants

Department: HUD | Bureau: Community Planning and Development
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.41%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 3.215 B	$ 3.213 B	$ 3.633 B	$ 4.051 B	$ 4.051 B	$ 4.417 B	$ 4.024 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 109.6 M	$ 109.6 M	$ 123.9 M	$ 138.1 M	$ 138.1 M	$ 150.6 M	$ 137.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	40.69%	-7.39%	7.61%	8.18%	-2.63%	5.89%	-11.24%

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.

2021-2026
+7.23%

Housing Program (TPA)

Department: Interior | Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.78%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 11.7 M	$ 11.7 M	$ 12.2 M	$ 11.9 M	$ 11.9 M	$ 13.4 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 442.6 K	$ 443.6 K	$ 461.9 K	$ 451.3 K	$ 451.3 K	$ 508.0 K	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.12%	-0.92%	-5.21%	-2.63%	9.32%	-100.00% ❗

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.

-54.2%
2021-2026

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.02%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 8.250 B	$ 3.800 B	$ 4.000 B	$ 4.025 B	$ 4.025 B	$ 4.045 B	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 249.2 M	$ 114.8 M	$ 120.8 M	$ 121.6 M	$ 121.6 M	$ 122.2 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	72.13%	-57.32%	0.17%	-2.38%	-2.63%	-2.40%	-100.00%

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) keeps families safe and healthy by assisting families with energy costs.

2021-2026
+12.1%

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

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Rural Housing Service
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 4.2%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 40.0 M	$ 45.0 M	$ 48.0 M	$ 48.0 M	$ 48.0 M	$ 48.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.7 M	$ 1.9 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	21.02%	4.24%	1.51%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

The Multi-Family Housing Voucher Program (Rural Housing Voucher Program) is a rental subsidy that helps qualifying low-income families living in Section 515 Rural Rental Housing multi-family properties who are facing hardship due to 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.

-14.48%
2021-2026

National Housing Trust Fund

Department: HUD | Bureau: Community Planning and Development
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 4.15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 213.0 M	$ 739.0 M	$ 354.3 M	$ 195.9 M	$ 216.4 M	$ 195.0 M	$ 267.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 8.8 M	$ 30.7 M	$ 14.7 M	$ 8.1 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 8.1 M	$ 11.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	22.02%	221.47%	-54.37%	-46.37%	7.58%	-12.49%	33.40%

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.

2021-2026
+62.76%

Native American Housing Block Grant Program

Department: HUD | Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 2.4%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 648.0 M	$ 772.0 M	$ 787.0 M	$ 1.344 B	$ 1.105 B	$ 1.129 B	$ 872.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 15.6 M	$ 18.5 M	$ 18.9 M	$ 32.3 M	$ 26.5 M	$ 27.1 M	$ 20.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.78%	10.39%	-2.98%	65.68%	-19.94%	-0.77%	-24.75%

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.

2021-2026
+28.65%

Project-Based Rental Assistance

Department: HUD | Bureau: Office of Housing
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 4.15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 13.465 B	$ 13.940 B	$ 13.938 B	$ 16.010 B	$ 16.890 B	$ 18.543 B	$ 17.640 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 558.8 M	$ 578.5 M	$ 578.4 M	$ 664.4 M	$ 700.9 M	$ 769.5 M	$ 732.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.02%	-4.07%	-4.85%	11.44%	2.72%	6.62%	-7.32%

The Project-Based Rental Assistance Program provides funding to landlords who rent a specified number of affordable apartments to low-income families or individuals.

2021-2026
+4.95%

Promise Neighborhoods

Department: Education | Bureau: Safe Schools and Citizenship Education
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 81.0 M	$ 85.0 M	$ 91.0 M	$ 91.0 M	$ 91.0 M	$ 91.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 12.2 M	$ 12.8 M	$ 13.7 M	$ 13.7 M	$ 13.7 M	$ 13.7 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.98%	-2.77%	1.89%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

Promise Neighborhoods provides grants to community-based organizations to develop and implement plans for comprehensive neighborhood services modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone.

** In the Trump FY 2027 Proposed Budget, this program is consolidated into the Make Education Great Again funding stream.*

2021-2026
+59.78%

Public Housing Fund (Formerly Public Housing Operating Fund)

Department: HUD | Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 5.7%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 4.864 B	$ 8.451 B	$ 8.514 B	$ 8.811 B	$ 8.811 B	$ 8.319 B	$ 8.622 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 277.2 M	$ 481.7 M	$ 485.3 M	$ 502.2 M	$ 502.2 M	$ 474.2 M	$ 491.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.82%	61.00%	-4.13%	0.40%	-2.63%	-8.30%	0.97%

The Public Housing Fund supports the operation of public housing units, including maintenance, security, and social services for residents. This book does not track the Public Housing Capital Fund.

2021-2026
+19.03%

Rural Rental Assistance Program

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Rural Housing Service
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 4.22%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.346 B	$ 1.410 B	$ 1.488 B	$ 1.608 B	$ 1.610 B	$ 1.715 B	$ 1.795 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 56.8 M	$ 59.5 M	$ 62.8 M	$ 67.9 M	$ 67.9 M	$ 72.4 M	$ 75.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.23%	-2.94%	0.43%	4.84%	-2.53%	3.48%	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.

2021-2026
+39.3%

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (DISCRETIONARY)

Department: HUD | Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 6.49%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 25.778 B	$ 27.370 B	$ 30.253 B	$ 32.387 B	$ 36.041 B	$ 38.439 B	$ 38.846 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.673 B	$ 1.776 B	$ 1.963 B	$ 2.102 B	$ 2.339 B	$ 2.495 B	$ 2.521 B
Real Change from Prior Year	1.32%	-1.62%	5.19%	3.86%	8.36%	3.58%	-1.54%

-100%
2021-2026

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (MANDATORY)

Department: HUD | Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 6.49%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 299.0 M	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 19.4 M	$ 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

The Housing Choice Voucher Program, or Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (commonly called "Section 8"), helps subsidize housing costs for more than 2 million families through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is the federal government's largest low-income housing assistance program. Families with children are a declining share of Housing Choice Voucher recipients.





INCOME SUPPORT

Income Support Funding

Background

Income support programs provide critical financial assistance to babies and their families and are among the nation's most effective tools for reducing child poverty and economic hardship. Key programs — including the Child Tax Credit (CTC), the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) — strengthen the economic security of tens of millions of children. A substantial body of research demonstrates that these tax credits and cash assistance programs not only reduce poverty but also improve children's health and developmental outcomes, strengthen parent-child relationships, promote economic mobility, and generate long-term savings for society.[1] Their impact was especially evident during the implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), when temporary enhancements to income supports helped drive child poverty to a historic low, cutting it nearly in half. These results underscore the critical role federal investment in income support plays in giving babies and young children a strong start in life.

Yet too many babies continue to begin life at an economic disadvantage. Compared with children in many peer nations, babies born into poverty in the United States are more likely to remain poor into adulthood, limiting economic mobility and undermining the nation's future economic strength and prosperity.[2] The tax code remains one of the federal government's most powerful tools for improving children's well-being through refundable tax credits, targeted tax benefits, and asset-building policies that help families meet basic needs and build financial security. Michigan's Rx Kids initiative demonstrates how universal, unconditional cash assistance can improve health and economic outcomes for mothers, babies, and families.[3] These early investments are especially important because the first years of life are a period of extraordinary brain development. Targeted federal investments during this critical period can have lifelong benefits, because families welcoming a new baby often face declining earnings at the same time their expenses increase.[4]



-43.25% **Real Percent Change in Income Support Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2026**

TOTAL SPENDING ON INCOME SUPPORT

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 54.663 B	$ 42.398 B	$ 27.286 B	$ 28.787 B	$ 30.855 B	$ 33.208 B	$ 34.593 B
Real Change from Prior Year	78.16%	-28.13%	-38.75%	2.35%	4.37%	4.52%	1.49%
Share of Total Spending	0.80%	0.71%	0.44%	0.43%	0.44%	0.45%	0.45%

Building a healthy, prosperous, and equitable future begins by ensuring every baby has a strong financial foundation. Sustained federal investments in income support programs help improve child well-being today while fostering a healthier, more prosperous, and more equitable society for generations to come.

Overall Analysis

The share of federal spending on income support for children ages 0-3 declined by 43.25% from fiscal year (FY) 2021 to FY 2026. The share of federal infant and toddler-related income support peaked at 0.8% in FY 2021 — less than 1 cent for every dollar invested — during the height of the pandemic when total spending on income support for babies reached roughly $55 billion. The share of federal spending on income support programs for babies dropped by almost half from FY 2021 to FY 2025 and hovers at a mere 0.45% of the budget. This decline is mainly due to the expiration of the expanded CTC and the loss of pandemic-era economic impact payments. CTC funding for infants and toddlers reached nearly $20 billion in FY 2022 and now is less than $5 billion. In FY 2026, the federal government allocated $33.208 billion to income support programs for babies, an increase of $2.353 billion over FY 2025 that was driven largely by mandatory funding requirements, resulting in a real increase in spending of 4.52% between FY 2025 and FY 2026. The four biggest increases for babies among mandatory spending programs were the refundable portion of the CTC that increased by almost $800 million, the Disability Compensation (Veterans) program that grew by approximately $840 million, the EITC that increased by more than $207 million, and the Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits that saw nearly a $290 million increase. Discretionary programs make up a much smaller share of income support investments and were largely flat funded from FY 2025 to FY 2026.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Child Tax Credit

The CTC is one of the federal government's most powerful tools for reducing child poverty and supporting families with children. In 2021, Congress temporarily expanded the credit by increasing its value, making it fully refundable, and providing monthly payments to families. Those changes helped drive child poverty to a historic low, falling from 9.7% in FY 2021 to 5.2% in FY 2022. After those improvements expired, child poverty climbed sharply, reaching 12.4% in 2022 and 13.4% in 2024.[5] Research shows that families face an increased risk of poverty around the time of a child's birth, and that income support delivered during pregnancy, at birth, and throughout a child's earliest years can have lasting positive effects on child and family well-being. These findings underscore the importance of a CTC that provides meaningful support beginning at birth and keeps pace with families' needs.[6] Although H.R. 1, enacted in July 2025, raised the maximum CTC from $2,000 to $2,200, the increase fails to keep pace with inflation and leaves families with less purchasing power than the credit provided in 2017.[7] In 2024, the refundable portion of the CTC lifted almost 1.5 million children out of poverty.[8]

H.R. 1 also continues to deny the full credit to 19 million children because their families' earnings are too low to qualify, and prevents 2.6 million U.S. citizen children from receiving any benefit because their caregiver does not have a Social Security number.[9] The law likewise fails to protect families whose incomes unexpectedly decline due to circumstances beyond their control, such as the birth of a child, natural disasters, domestic violence, the death of a parent, job loss, or the need to leave work to provide caregiving. Coupled with the legislation's significant cuts and policy changes to Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), H.R. 1 leaves behind the children with the greatest needs and does little to reduce child poverty.[10]



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Adoption Tax Credit

The Adoption Tax Credit helps families offset the significant costs associated with adopting a child, including adoption fees, legal expenses, and travel costs. The credit provides up to $17,280 per eligible child in tax year 2025, with up to $5,000 available as a refundable credit following improvements enacted through H.R. 1.[11] While this change expands access for some families, the credit remains only partially refundable, limiting the ability of many lower-income families to receive the full value of the benefit. Making the Adoption Tax Credit fully refundable would ensure that all eligible adoptive families can access the full support intended to help children achieve safe, permanent family connections. The analysis in *Babies in the Budget 2026* includes the mandatory funding for the refundable portion of the tax credit, estimated at nearly $14 million for infants and toddlers in FY 2026.

Overview of the President's FY 2027 Budget

President Trump's FY 2027 budget request would increase funding for income support programs from $33.208 billion to $34.393 billion. Because the total funding for these programs comes almost entirely from mandatory spending, the increase is attributed to eligibility and participation rates rather than policy changes that support infants and toddlers. The result is an estimated real change in spending of 1.49% and no change in the share of spending for children ages 0-3, which remains at 0.45% of the federal budget in FY 2027. It is important to understand that mandatory programs automatically expand to meet the needs of the populations they serve, but this increase does not reflect proactive policy choices by lawmakers. Where the Administration does propose policy changes — manifested in discretionary programs — it cuts or eliminates all of the income support programs. The three discretionary programs eliminated include the Family Self-Sufficiency Program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and both the Human Services Tribal Design program and the Welfare Assistance program at the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Looking Ahead

The tax code remains a powerful tool for lawmakers to reduce child poverty, promote greater equity across income, race, and gender, and strengthen the financial security of children and families. Cash assistance is especially important during infancy, when families often face increased expenses at the same time that income may decline, and investments during this critical period can have lasting effects on children's health, development, and economic well-being. Yet H.R. 1's changes to the CTC and other family-related tax provisions — including child care tax credits and new tax-advantaged savings accounts — disproportionately direct benefits to higher-income families while providing inadequate support to children with the greatest needs. The Tax Policy Center at the Urban Institute finds that, as a share of the economy, federal spending on children through the tax code will actually decline over time as a result of H.R. 1.[12] Coupled with significant cuts to Medicaid, CHIP, and SNAP, these tax changes will leave many children and families worse off and represent a missed opportunity to build on proven, cost-effective policies that improve children's well-being.

Future tax and wealth-building reforms should strengthen investments in children and families, expand economic opportunity, and help narrow the nation's persistent wealth gaps. The Trump Accounts (Section 530A, "baby savings accounts," under H.R. 1) reflect an important recognition that building assets, not simply increasing income, can shape children's long-term economic security. However, the program's current design risks widening existing disparities by giving children from families with greater financial resources more opportunities to accumulate wealth while providing limited support to those who begin life with fewer resources. Without significant changes, Trump Accounts could reinforce rather than reduce existing wealth gaps. To make the program a meaningful tool for expanding opportunity, the federal government should provide automatic, income-targeted contributions for children with the greatest needs. Because the one-time $1,000 government seed deposit into these accounts is not available until a child reaches age 18, it is not included as an income support investment in the *Babies in the Budget 2026* analysis.

Income Support Endnotes

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INCOME SUPPORT

The arrows below represent the change in each program's share of the federal budget. Programs that have been eliminated in the Trump Administration's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget are flagged with ❗.

New in 2026

Adoption Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury | Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 92.0 M	$ 184.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 13.9 M	$ 27.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	94.86%

Under this program, if you adopt an eligible child, you may be able to claim the Adoption Tax Credit or income exclusion for employer-provided adoption benefits. We only include the refundable portion of this tax credit, up to $5,000 per qualifying child.

N/A

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury | Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 7.630 B	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 0.00	$ 1.145 B	$ 0.00	$ 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	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.

-62.38%
2021-2026

Child Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury | Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 78.959 B	$ 131.435 B	$ 29.049 B	$ 26.248 B	$ 26.470 B	$ 31.800 B	$ 32.033 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 11.844 B	$ 19.715 B	$ 4.357 B	$ 3.937 B	$ 3.970 B	$ 4.770 B	$ 4.805 B
Real Change from Prior Year	175.19%	54.24%	-78.97%	-12.34%	-1.80%	16.67%	-1.86%

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.

2021-2026
+49.41%

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Department: Veterans Affairs | Bureau: Benefits Programs
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 0.57%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 7.987 B	$ 8.768 B	$ 10.042 B	$ 10.936 B	$ 11.843 B	$ 12.774 B	$ 13.653 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 45.5 M	$ 50.0 M	$ 57.2 M	$ 62.3 M	$ 67.5 M	$ 72.8 M	$ 77.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.45%	1.72%	9.00%	5.65%	5.45%	4.75%	4.13%

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.

2021-2026
+87.53%

Disability Compensation (Veterans)

Department: Veterans Affairs | Bureau: Benefits Programs
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.35%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 101.892 B	$ 115.533 B	$ 135.980 B	$ 157.593 B	$ 179.454 B	$ 204.542 B	$ 228.880 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.413 B	$ 3.870 B	$ 4.555 B	$ 5.279 B	$ 6.012 B	$ 6.852 B	$ 7.667 B
Real Change from Prior Year	1.56%	5.06%	12.01%	12.43%	10.88%	10.69%	9.02%

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.

2021-2026
+10.03%

Disability Trust Fund Benefits

Department: Social Security Administration | Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 0.66%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 143.396 B	$ 143.048 B	$ 149.443 B	$ 156.511 B	$ 157.300 B	$ 168.900 B	$ 178.000 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 946.4 M	$ 944.1 M	$ 986.3 M	$ 1.033 B	$ 1.038 B	$ 1.115 B	$ 1.175 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.45%	-7.57%	-0.58%	1.60%	-2.14%	4.28%	2.68%

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

2021-2026
+2.39%

Earned Income Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury | Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 60.757 B	$ 54.725 B	$ 55.468 B	$ 60.011 B	$ 65.215 B	$ 66.589 B	$ 68.401 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 9.174 B	$ 8.263 B	$ 8.376 B	$ 9.062 B	$ 9.847 B	$ 10.055 B	$ 10.329 B
Real Change from Prior Year	2.16%	-16.54%	-3.54%	4.96%	5.82%	-0.84%	0.08%

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.

-100%
2021-2026

Economic Impact Payments (Round 2)

Department: Treasury | Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 32.592 B	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 4.921 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

-100%
2021-2026

Economic Impact Payments (Round 3)

Department: Treasury | Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 108.413 B	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 16.370 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.

2021-2026
+143.12%

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Department: HUD | Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 5.45%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 79.3 M	$ 109.0 M	$ 125.0 M	$ 195.5 M	$ 195.5 M	$ 206.4 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 4.3 M	$ 5.9 M	$ 6.8 M	$ 10.7 M	$ 10.7 M	$ 11.2 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.02%	27.34%	9.14%	51.73%	-2.63%	2.53%	-100.00%

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program promotes 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 service plans, along with 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.



-29.77%
2021-2026

Human Services Tribal Design (TPA)

Department: Interior | Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.78%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 290.0 K	$ 290.0 K	$ 218.0 K	$ 218.0 K	$ 217.0 K	$ 218.0 K	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 11.0 K	$ 11.0 K	$ 8.2 K	$ 8.2 K	$ 8.2 K	$ 8.2 K	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	2.84%	-7.34%	-28.46%	-2.99%	-3.07%	-2.44%	-100.00%

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 Tribal Priority Allocations (TPA) funding gives tribes the ability to design Social Services programs that are both cost-effective and fit the needs of their communities. Tribes prioritize this line item and funding is distributed directly to tribes as base funding.

-6.6%
2021-2026

Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)

Department: Interior | Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 16.9 M	$ 17.3 M	$ 17.8 M	$ 16.9 M	$ 16.6 M	$ 16.9 M	$ 10.9 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 2.5 M	$ 2.6 M	$ 2.7 M	$ 2.5 M	$ 2.5 M	$ 2.5 M	$ 1.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	13.43%	-5.12%	-1.89%	-8.12%	-4.52%	-0.96%	-37.33%

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.

2021-2026
+40.79%

Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits

Department: Social Security Administration | Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 0.35%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 991.291 B	$ 1.064 T	$ 1.192 T	$ 1.304 T	$ 1.411 T	$ 1.494 T	$ 1.579 T
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.470 B	$ 3.724 B	$ 4.172 B	$ 4.565 B	$ 4.939 B	$ 5.229 B	$ 5.529 B
Real Change from Prior Year	2.07%	-0.56%	6.64%	6.15%	5.35%	2.82%	3.01%

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

2021-2026
+19.84%

Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 13.44%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 4.439 B	$ 4.194 B	$ 4.183 B	$ 4.888 B	$ 5.391 B	$ 5.694 B	$ 4.541 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 596.6 M	$ 563.7 M	$ 562.2 M	$ 657.0 M	$ 724.5 M	$ 765.3 M	$ 610.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.17%	-12.45%	-5.09%	13.37%	7.39%	2.59%	-22.31%

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

2021-2026
+3.02%

Social Services (TPA)

Department: Interior | Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.78%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 51.2 M	$ 53.3 M	$ 54.9 M	$ 53.0 M	$ 53.0 M	$ 56.5 M	$ 34.3 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.9 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.1 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.0 M	$ 2.1 M	$ 1.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.71%	-3.55%	-1.90%	-6.48%	-2.56%	3.47%	-40.85%

Social Services (Tribal Priority Allocations) funding supports a number of activities for tribally operated social services programs and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) staff at the regional field levels. Social Services funding is provided annually to approximately 300 tribes and 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, Adult Protection Services, supervised Individual Indian Money Accounts Services, and Family and Domestic Violence. These funds provide support for frontline responders handling child and domestic violence in Indian Country.

2021-2026
+13.61%

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Federal Benefit Payments

Department: Social Security Administration | Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 2.57%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 55.584 B	$ 61.206 B	$ 63.154 B	$ 61.931 B	$ 64.500 B	$ 67.600 B	$ 69.700 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.429 B	$ 1.573 B	$ 1.623 B	$ 1.592 B	$ 1.658 B	$ 1.737 B	$ 1.791 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-11.50%	2.03%	-1.80%	-4.86%	1.41%	1.78%	0.45%

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.

-30.92%
2021-2026

Survivors' Pension Benefits (Non-Service-Connected Death)

Department: Veterans Affairs | Bureau: Benefits Programs
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 1.23%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.466 B	$ 1.350 B	$ 1.297 B	$ 1.266 B	$ 1.145 B	$ 1.084 B	$ 1.008 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 18.0 M	$ 16.6 M	$ 16.0 M	$ 15.6 M	$ 14.1 M	$ 13.3 M	$ 12.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-17.43%	-14.67%	-8.57%	-5.30%	-11.93%	-8.06%	-9.40%

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

-100%
2021-2026

TANF Pandemic Emergency Assistance

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 14.79%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.000 B	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 147.9 M	$ 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

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 established a new, one-time Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including those not currently receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits. These funds can be used for nonrecurrent cash assistance or in-kind support for families with children.

2021-2026
+5.35%

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 14.79%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 15.383 B	$ 17.037 B	$ 17.347 B	$ 17.347 B	$ 17.347 B	$ 17.347 B	$ 17.347 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 2.275 B	$ 2.520 B	$ 2.566 B	$ 2.566 B	$ 2.566 B	$ 2.566 B	$ 2.566 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-14.14%	2.62%	-3.10%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

Temporary Assistance for 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. Because it is a block grant, funding has not responded to changes in the economy or increases in participation, and its real value has declined over time. Nearly 78% of TANF recipients are children.

-5.99%
2021-2026

Welfare Assistance (TPA)

Department: Interior | Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 3.78%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 78.0 M	$ 78.5 M	$ 78.5 M	$ 78.5 M	$ 78.5 M	$ 78.5 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 2.9 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	1.05%	-6.76%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.0%

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 American Indians and Alaska Natives are assessed, screened, and referred to primary public assistance programs for possible assistance, such as Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability Insurance, and state-operated general assistance programs.





JUSTICE & CHILD PROTECTION



Justice and Child Protection Funding

Background

Dangers to children's physical safety and well-being remain a pervasive issue in the United States, and data show that the youngest children are at greatest risk and experience higher rates of maltreatment. Children younger than 3 years old represent 65.7% of child fatalities.[1] Early exposure to child abuse interrupts a child's healthy physical and mental development. Although not causally linked, child poverty and child neglect are highly correlated. Poverty serves as a risk factor for a family being reported to child protective services for neglect because families in poverty often lack the resources to properly feed and care for a baby or child. Therefore, policymakers must also consider supporting justice and child protection by funding child poverty programs.

Child welfare programs such as Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF), the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grants, and the Victims of Child Abuse program (VOCA) support vulnerable children and families. The PSSF program offers funding to states and tribal organizations for prevention, intervention, and support services that help maintain stability within biological, kinship, or adoptive families. Along with supporting healthy and stable families, PSSF provides resources to combat child abuse and neglect. Similarly, VOCA, a youth justice program, supports enforcement and prosecution of child abuse cases and funds Child Advocacy Centers, which coordinate the proceedings. CAPTA provides state funding for child protective service systems, which identify, prevent, and treat cases of child abuse and neglect.



-6.46%

Real Percent Change in Justice and Child Protection Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2026

TOTAL SPENDING ON JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 2.154 B	$ 2.187 B	$ 2.285 B	$2.412 B	$ 2.186 B	$ 2.156 B	$2.071 B
Real Change from Prior Year	0.57%	-5.93%	-0.53%	2.37%	-11.75%	-4.18%	-6.41%
Share of Total Spending	0.03%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%

Overall Analysis

Spending on Justice and Child Protection for children 0-3 remains extremely small at just under $300 million. The share of federal spending devoted to this issue for kids under 3 has remained fairly stable since fiscal year (FY) 2022, hovering around just 0.02% of the federal budget. These programs received a decrease from FY 2025 to FY 2026, $29 million, leading to a cut of 4.18% adjusted for inflation.

Mandatory programs remained roughly stable, with mandatory spending on PSSF, Payments to States for Adoption Assistance, and Social Services Research and Demonstration all increasing between $8 and $18 million.

Discretionary programs did not fare as well. Payments to States for Foster Care experienced the steepest decline of any program in this sector, losing approximately $67 million in funding for children 0-3. Lawmakers also cut discretionary spending for PSSF and the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the only other Justice and Child Protection programs that received cuts.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Child Welfare / Title IV-E

The Trump Administration's proposed FY 2027 budget seeks to implement priorities outlined in the Fostering the Future for American Children and Families executive order, which focuses on modernizing child welfare systems and increasing accountability and transparency. The budget also advances an initiative of the Department of Health and Human Services called "A Home for Every Child," which aims to increase the availability of foster families through prevention efforts and strengthened recruitment and retention strategies.

The budget indicates that existing Title IV-E funding, which provides funding to states for foster care and adoption services, will support child welfare information technology modernization, expanded use of AI and predictive analytics, and the development of a new state performance scorecard.

However, the proposal does not include additional details on funding levels or implementation costs, leaving questions about how these initiatives will be carried out in practice.

Overview of the President's FY 2027 Budget

The President's FY 2027 proposed budget, if enacted, would represent a harsh blow to the already underfunded area of Justice and Child Protection for children under 3. The proposed budget would cut funding for this cohort by more than 20% adjusted for inflation, a relatively large cut to an already small spending commitment. These cuts would decrease funding by more than $50 million and decrease the share of federal spending in this area for children under 3 to just 0.01% of the federal budget.

Payments to States for Foster Care and the Community Services Block Grants would experience the largest declines, with each losing roughly $41 million for children 0-3. The President's budget also would reverse the FY 2026 increase experienced by Social Services Research and Demonstration, resulting in a cut of $8 million.

Looking Ahead

Title IV-E Foster Care's Shrinking Share

Title IV-E foster care and adoption/guardianship assistance have made up nearly 90% of total annual federal child welfare funding since FY 2019, but the share of those funds dedicated specifically to foster care is declining, down from 54% of the total in FY 2019 to an expected 44% in FY 2027.[2]

Title IV-E foster care eligibility for children is frozen to 1996 Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) income/asset limits that were never adjusted for inflation, so a shrinking share of families qualify each year without

any legislative action. As a result, the share of children in foster care covered by federal Title IV-E funding has fallen from about 52% in 2000 to roughly 33% in FY 2024, pushing more costs onto states even as overall federal child welfare funding stays flat in the President's proposed FY 2027 budget.

Advocates recommend "delinking" IV-E eligibility from the AFDC standard entirely (which has already happened for some parts of IV-E, such as adoption assistance, but not for foster care maintenance payments), to stop the erosion of federal support.

Leveraging Family First for Babies

The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) lets states use Title IV-E funds, reimbursed at 50% for up to 12 months, to serve families at imminent risk of removal before a child enters care with services including home visiting, infant/early childhood mental health services, pre- and postnatal supports, substance use treatment, and infant-toddler court teams. Since states have broad discretion in defining "candidacy" under their Title IV-E prevention plans, proponents could push states to build explicit infant/toddler pathways into those plans and track outcomes for this age group separately.[3]

Justice and Child Protection Endnotes

1 Child maltreatment 2024. (2026). https://acf.gov/cb/report/child-maltreatment-2024

2 Child welfare funding in the president's FY2027 budget: In brief. (2026). https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R48912

3 Vivrette, R., McKlindon, A., Jordan, E., Haas, M., Ball, J., Mueterthies, G., Szrom, J., & Silloway, T. (2025, November 3). Using the Family First Act to grow and nurture support systems for families of young children. Child Trends. https://www.childtrends.org/publications/using-the-family-first-act-to-grow-and-nurture-support-systems-for-families-of-young-children







JUSTICE & CHILD PROTECTION

The arrows below represent the change in each program's share of the federal budget. Programs that have been eliminated in the Trump Administration's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget are flagged with ❗.



Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 75.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 11.3 M	$ 11.3 M	$ 11.3 M	$ 11.3 M	$ 11.3 M	$ 11.3 M	$ 11.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.



Adoption Opportunities

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 44.1 M	$ 48.0 M	$ 51.0 M	$ 53.0 M	$ 53.0 M	$ 53.0 M	$ 53.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 6.7 M	$ 7.2 M	$ 7.7 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.41%	0.85%	1.12%	0.82%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.



Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Community Living
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 300.0 K	$ 300.0 K	$ 300.0 K	$ 300.0 K	$ 300.0 K	$ 300.0 K	$ 300.0 K
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 45.3 K	$ 45.3 K	$ 45.3 K	$ 45.3 K	$ 45.3 K	$ 45.3 K	$ 45.3 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

-3.91%
2021-2026

Child Abuse Discretionary Activities

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 30.7%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 35.0 M	$ 36.0 M	$ 38.0 M	$ 36.0 M	$ 36.0 M	$ 36.0 M	$ 36.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 10.7 M	$ 11.1 M	$ 11.7 M	$ 11.1 M	$ 11.1 M	$ 11.1 M	$ 11.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-4.70%	0.46%	-8.09%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

2021-2026
+8.97%

Child Abuse State Grants

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 30.7%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 90.1 M	$ 95.1 M	$ 105.1 M	$ 105.1 M	$ 105.1 M	$ 105.1 M	$ 105.1 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 27.7 M	$ 29.2 M	$ 32.3 M	$ 32.3 M	$ 32.3 M	$ 32.3 M	$ 32.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-2.20%	5.18%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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

-6.58%
2021-2026

Child Welfare Services

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 268.7 M	$ 268.7 M	$ 268.7 M	$ 268.7 M	$ 268.7 M	$ 268.7 M	$ 268.7 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 40.3 M	$ 40.3 M	$ 40.3 M	$ 40.3 M	$ 40.3 M	$ 40.3 M	$ 40.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-17.07%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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

2021-2026
+8.18%

Child Welfare Training

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 30.7%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 19.0 M	$ 19.0 M	$ 19.0 M	$ 22.0 M	$ 22.0 M	$ 22.0 M	$ 22.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 5.8 M	$ 5.8 M	$ 5.8 M	$ 6.7 M	$ 6.7 M	$ 6.7 M	$ 6.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.20%	-7.34%	-4.83%	12.34%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.



Children Exposed to Violence Awareness and Intervention Initiative

Department: Justice | Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	18.96%	-12.69%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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



Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program

Department: Justice | Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 2.5%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 125.0 K	$ 125.0 K	$ 125.0 K	$ 125.0 K	$ 125.0 K	$ 125.0 K	$ 125.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.



Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal

Department: Justice | Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 2.5%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 500.0 K	$ 500.0 K	$ 500.0 K	$ 500.0 K	$ 500.0 K	$ 500.0 K	$ 500.0 K
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 12.5 K	$ 12.5 K	$ 12.5 K	$ 12.5 K	$ 12.5 K	$ 12.5 K	$ 12.5 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.



-10.98%
2021-2026

Children, Youth, and Families at Risk

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: National Institute of Food & Agriculture
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 8.4 M	$ 8.4 M	$ 8.4 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.0 M	$ 8.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.3 M	$ 1.3 M	$ 1.3 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M	$ 1.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-7.55%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

The Children, Youth, and Families at Risk program supports the development of community-based educational programs that equip families and youth who have limited resources and are at risk for not meeting basic human needs with the skills they need to lead positive and productive lives.

N/A

Children's Interagency Coordinating Council

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 3.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 0.00	$ 0.00	$ 450.0 K	$ 450.0 K	$ 450.0 K	$ 450.0 K	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

Children's Interagency Coordinating Council funding fosters greater coordination and transparency on child policy across agencies. The council was also asked to examine and periodically report on a broad array of cross-cutting issues affecting child well-being.

-2.82%
2021-2026

Community Services Block Grants

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 5.32%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 745.0 M	$ 755.5 M	$ 770.0 M	$ 770.0 M	$ 770.0 M	$ 775.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 39.6 M	$ 40.2 M	$ 41.0 M	$ 41.0 M	$ 41.0 M	$ 41.2 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-58.55%	-6.04%	-3.01%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-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.

2021-2026
+8.82%

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 60.7 M	$ 65.7 M	$ 70.7 M	$ 70.7 M	$ 70.7 M	$ 70.7 M	$ 60.7 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 9.2 M	$ 9.9 M	$ 10.7 M	$ 10.7 M	$ 10.7 M	$ 10.7 M	$ 9.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	5.51%	0.29%	2.42%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-16.36%

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention assists states and communities in addressing the need for innovative and effective child abuse prevention and treatment services.

-39.94%
2021-2026

Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiatives

Department: Justice | Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 14.0 M	$ 14.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 9.0 M	$ 0.00
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 2.1 M	$ 2.1 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 1.4 M	$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	69.43%	-7.34%	-32.02%	-12.69%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-100.00%

Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiatives provide funds to jurisdictions to plan, develop, implement, and expand both adult- and youth-focused community violence intervention programs.



Consumer Product Safety Commission

Department: Consumer Product Safety Commission | Bureau: Consumer Product Safety Commission
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 6.07%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 135.0 M	$ 139.1 M	$ 152.5 M	$ 151.0 M	$ 151.0 M	$ 135.0 M	$ 135.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 8.2 M	$ 8.4 M	$ 9.3 M	$ 9.2 M	$ 9.2 M	$ 8.2 M	$ 8.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.73%	-4.56%	4.37%	-3.96%	-2.63%	-13.16%	-2.57%

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.



Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program

Department: Justice | Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 2.4%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 12.5 M	$ 14.0 M	$ 15.0 M	$ 14.0 M	$ 14.0 M	$ 14.0 M	$ 9.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 300.0 K	$ 336.0 K	$ 360.0 K	$ 336.0 K	$ 336.0 K	$ 336.0 K	$ 216.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	0.85%	3.78%	1.97%	-9.45%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-37.37%

The Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA) helps ensure that abused children receive high-quality representation in dependency court hearings.



Family Violence Prevention and Services

Department: HHS | Bureau: Children and Family Services Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 15.1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 182.5 M	$ 200.0 M	$ 240.0 M	$ 240.0 M	$ 240.0 M	$ 245.0 M	$ 245.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 27.6 M	$ 30.2 M	$ 36.2 M	$ 36.2 M	$ 36.2 M	$ 37.0 M	$ 37.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.96%	1.54%	14.20%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-0.86%	-2.57%

The Family Violence Prevention and Services program provides funding to prevent incidents of domestic violence and to provide immediate shelter and supportive services.

2021-2026
+45.01%

Guardianship Assistance

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 9.6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 248.7 M	$ 254.0 M	$ 345.0 M	$ 336.6 M	$ 382.0 M	$ 386.0 M	$ 418.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 23.9 M	$ 24.4 M	$ 33.1 M	$ 32.3 M	$ 36.7 M	$ 37.1 M	$ 40.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	9.87%	-5.36%	29.26%	-5.36%	10.52%	-1.87%	5.50%

Guardianship Assistance provides Title IV-E subsidies on behalf of a child to a relative taking legal guardianship of that child.

2021-2026
+4.35%

Missing & Exploited Children Programs

Department: Justice | Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 25.13%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 94.0 M	$ 99.0 M	$ 105.0 M	$ 103.0 M	$ 103.0 M	$ 105.0 M	$ 108.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 23.6 M	$ 24.9 M	$ 26.4 M	$ 25.9 M	$ 25.9 M	$ 26.4 M	$ 27.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.01%	-2.41%	0.94%	-4.83%	-2.63%	-1.00%	0.21%

The Missing and Exploited Children Programs provide 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.

2021-2026
+8.04%

Payments to States for Adoption Assistance

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 6.72%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 3.802 B	$ 3.736 B	$ 4.128 B	$ 4.706 B	$ 4.223 B	$ 4.397 B	$ 4.485 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 255.5 M	$ 251.1 M	$ 277.4 M	$ 316.2 M	$ 283.8 M	$ 295.5 M	$ 301.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	8.76%	-8.95%	5.15%	10.60%	-12.62%	1.12%	-0.62%

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.

-14.33%
2021-2026

Payments to States for Foster Care

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 24%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 5.795 B	$ 5.830 B	$ 5.952 B	$ 6.382 B	$ 5.591 B	$ 5.314 B	$ 5.142 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.391 B	$ 1.399 B	$ 1.428 B	$ 1.532 B	$ 1.342 B	$ 1.275 B	$ 1.234 B
Real Change from Prior Year	4.76%	-6.78%	-2.85%	4.04%	-14.69%	-7.70%	-5.73%

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.

2021-2026
+4.7%

Poison Control

Department: HHS | Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 41%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 24.8 M	$ 25.8 M	$ 26.8 M	$ 26.8 M	$ 26.8 M	$ 27.8 M	$ 27.8 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 10.2 M	$ 10.6 M	$ 11.0 M	$ 11.0 M	$ 11.0 M	$ 11.4 M	$ 11.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-13.77%	-3.61%	-1.15%	-2.99%	-2.63%	0.73%	-2.57%

The Poison Control program ensures access to poison center services, connects callers to local centers, and promotes poison prevention through a nationwide media campaign.

-29.22%
2021-2026

Promoting Safe and Stable Families (DISCRETIONARY)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 24%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 82.5 M	$ 82.5 M	$ 86.5 M	$ 72.5 M	$ 72.5 M	$ 62.5 M	$ 62.5 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 19.8 M	$ 19.8 M	$ 20.8 M	$ 17.4 M	$ 17.4 M	$ 15.0 M	$ 15.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-13.65%	-7.34%	-0.22%	-18.68%	-2.63%	-16.28%	-2.57%

2021-2026
+19.48%

Promoting Safe and Stable Families (MANDATORY)

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 24%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 328.4 M	$ 345.0 M	$ 345.0 M	$ 345.0 M	$ 345.0 M	$ 420.0 M	$ 420.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 78.8 M	$ 82.8 M	$ 82.8 M	$ 82.8 M	$ 82.8 M	$ 100.8 M	$ 100.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.06%	-2.66%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	18.23%	-2.57%

The Promoting Safe and Stable Families 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.

-0.93%
2021-2026

Social Services Block Grant

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 9.21%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 1.603 B	$ 1.700 B	$ 1.700 B	$ 1.700 B	$ 1.700 B	$ 1.700 B	$ 1.700 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 147.6 M	$ 156.6 M	$ 156.6 M	$ 156.6 M	$ 156.6 M	$ 156.6 M	$ 156.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.98%	-1.74%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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 older adults and people with disabilities.

2021-2026
+842.9%

Social Services Research and Demonstration

Department: HHS | Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 17%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 7.5 M	$ 44.5 M	$ 142.9 M	$ 75.0 M	$ 27.5 M	$ 75.3 M	$ 27.5 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.3 M	$ 7.6 M	$ 24.3 M	$ 12.8 M	$ 4.7 M	$ 12.8 M	$ 4.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	3.02%	452.63%	205.49%	-49.05%	-64.29%	165.85%	-64.41%

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.

-6.58%
2021-2026

Support for Missing and Exploited Children

Department: Homeland Security | Bureau: United States Secret Service
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 25.13%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 6.0 M	$ 6.0 M	$ 6.0 M	$ 6.0 M	$ 6.0 M	$ 6.0 M	$ 6.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M	$ 1.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.83%	-2.99%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

Support for Missing and Exploited Children assists federal law enforcement agencies in the investigation and recovery of missing children.

2021-2026
+33.9%

Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA), Improving Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse Program

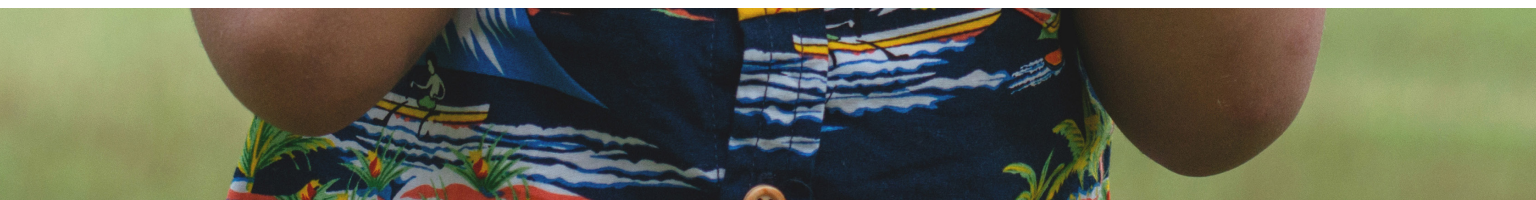
Department: Justice | Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 28.6%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 30.0 M	$ 33.0 M	$ 41.0 M	$ 41.0 M	$ 41.0 M	$ 43.0 M	$ 41.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 8.6 M	$ 9.4 M	$ 11.7 M	$ 11.7 M	$ 11.7 M	$ 12.3 M	$ 11.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	7.57%	1.92%	18.24%	-2.99%	-2.63%	1.85%	-7.10%

The Victims of Child Abuse (V)CA) Improving, Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse 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 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.



NUTRITION



Nutrition Funding

Background

Consistent access to healthy food is critically important for a child's development and overall well-being. Federal food assistance and child nutrition programs provide vital support to America's children, filling in the nutritional and caloric gaps that emerge when low-income families struggle to make ends meet. Adequate nutrition during infancy and early childhood is especially important and can impact a child's health into adulthood. Research shows that infants who experience low food security are more likely to be obese, a condition that is likely to persist into adulthood. Children ages 0-3 experiencing food insecurity are more likely to be in poor health than their food-secure peers and, in fact, are 30% more likely to be hospitalized. More than 1-in-7 children in America experiences food insecurity, a situation being compounded by soaring food costs and the rising prices of infant formula.

Overall Analysis

Nutrition assistance programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) are proven to mitigate some of the worst health risks associated with early childhood food insecurity. SNAP, previously known as food stamps, provides monthly benefits to help recipients purchase groceries. WIC provides similar assistance specifically to pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, infants, and children up to age 5, and includes a specific cash value benefit that allows parents to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Other programs, such as the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), help child care providers offer meals and snacks to bridge some of the nutritional gaps babies may experience at home. Infants and toddlers enrolled in these programs are less likely to be food insecure



-8.86%

Real Percent Change in Nutrition Funding from FY 2021 to FY 2026

TOTAL SPENDING ON NUTRITION

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 14.169 B	$ 14.476 B	$ 15.456 B	$ 13.947 B	$ 13.714 B	$13.824 B	$ 13.337 B
Real Change from Prior Year	18.78%	-5.34%	1.61%	-12.46%	-4.26%	-2.10%	-6.00%
Share of Total Spending	0.21%	0.24%	0.25%	0.21%	0.20%	0.19%	0.17%

and demonstrate improved health outcomes. Significant investments are critical to ensuring that these programs can meet the needs of each infant and toddler who needs them.

Overview of the President's FY 2027 Budget

The fiscal year (FY) 2027 President's budget requests the equivalent of a 6% drop in nutrition spending on babies, driven largely by cuts to SNAP and grants to states that support child nutrition. It also cuts investment in WIC (discussed below in more detail). Even larger cuts loom on the horizon, as states brace for the SNAP administrative cost shift scheduled to go into effect in FY 2027 under H.R. 1 (also discussed below in more detail).

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

WIC's Fruit and Vegetable Program

Discretionary spending under the President's FY 2027 budget paints a clear picture of the Administration's goal to defund child nutrition in the near term. Most notably, for the second year in a row, the proposal cuts $1.4 billion from WIC's Fruit and Vegetable Program, which helps families purchase nutritious produce. WIC has long been one of the most critically important programs for babies and their mothers. It supports low-income newborns by providing access to healthy foods, formula and breastfeeding support, nutritional education, and referrals to other services. Unfortunately, in recent years, the fruit and vegetable component has also been a legislative flashpoint. The President's budget requests a cap on the cash value of the fruit and vegetable benefit that is much lower than current law, a change that would limit the purchasing power of this benefit and the nutrition in children's diets.[1] Congress fortunately saw fit to fully fund this program in FY 2026, even though the White House requested a sharp reduction. At a time when grocery prices continue to rise, the President's FY 2027 request makes clear that the Administration does not prioritize making healthy foods more affordable for pregnant women, newborns, and their parents.

Looking Ahead

The worst cuts to SNAP are still to come. H.R. 1, the partisan reconciliation bill signed into law on July 4, 2025, makes the largest cut to SNAP in history: roughly $187 billion over 10 years. This measure undoubtedly will increase childhood hunger — including among babies — will 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 would impact all 40 million people who rely on SNAP, including the program's 16 million children.

Under the new state cost shift, states would be forced to fund 5-15% 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 a function of its error rate, states are rewarded if reducing the number of SNAP participants reduces their error rates. States could even opt out of the program entirely. All of these options will leave children and babies hungrier. Congress should immediately act to delay or reverse this cost shift, which starts going into effect with the administrative cost shift in October 2026, and then with the benefit cost shift a few years later, depending on states' error rates. The governors of all 50 states — whether Republican or Democratic — have come together to urge Congress to provide parity to all states and delay this cost shift for two years,[2] but so far Congress has ignored this request.

Nutrition Funding Endnotes

1 Eppes, Elisabet, and Luis Nuñez. "For Second Year in a Row, Trump Budget Seeks to Slash WIC Fruit and Vegetable Benefits for Millions." Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (2026, April 14). https://www.cbpp.org/blog/for-second-year-in-a-row-trump-budget-seeks-to-slash-wic-fruit-and-vegetable-benefits-for

2 National Governors Association. NGA Joins Coalition Letter Outlining SNAP Recommendations. (2026, January 8). https://www.nga.org/advocacy-communications/letters-nga/nga-joins-coalition-letter-outlining-snap-recommendations/









NUTRITION

The arrows below represent the change in each program's share of the federal budget. Programs that have been eliminated in the Trump Administration's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget are flagged with ❗.

2021-2026
+5.18%

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 28%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 4.015 B	$ 4.315 B	$ 4.660 B	$ 4.244 B	$ 4.289 B	$ 4.521 B	$ 4.727 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 1.124 B	$ 1.208 B	$ 1.305 B	$ 1.188 B	$ 1.201 B	$ 1.266 B	$ 1.324 B
Real Change from Prior Year	1.34%	-0.43%	2.78%	-11.64%	-1.59%	2.35%	1.88%

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.

-55.51%
2021-2026

Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program)

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 66.76%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 21.0 M	$ 26.0 M	$ 26.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M	$ 10.0 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 14.0 M	$ 17.4 M	$ 17.4 M	$ 6.7 M	$ 6.7 M	$ 6.7 M	$ 6.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	9.61%	14.72%	-4.83%	-62.69%	-2.63%	-2.88%	-2.57%

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.

-41.64%
2021-2026

Special Milk Program

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 12%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 7.3 M	$ 6.2 M	$ 7.8 M	$ 6.7 M	$ 4.7 M	$ 4.6 M	$ 4.6 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 877.1 K	$ 750.0 K	$ 938.0 K	$ 798.1 K	$ 564.8 K	$ 547.9 K	$ 549.8 K
Real Change from Prior Year	0.17%	-20.77%	19.03%	-17.46%	-31.09%	-5.79%	-2.23%

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.



Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Discretionary | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 66.76%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 5.026 B	$ 6.000 B	$ 6.000 B	$ 7.031 B	$ 7.597 B	$ 8.200 B	$ 8.000 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.355 B	$ 4.006 B	$ 4.006 B	$ 4.694 B	$ 5.072 B	$ 5.474 B	$ 5.341 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-18.36%	10.61%	-4.83%	13.68%	5.21%	4.83%	-4.95%

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.



State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition Programs

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 1%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 317.0 M	$ 332.0 M	$ 339.0 M	$ 491.6 M	$ 497.5 M	$ 509.9 M	$ 426.5 M
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 3.2 M	$ 3.3 M	$ 3.4 M	$ 4.9 M	$ 5.0 M	$ 5.1 M	$ 4.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.53%	-2.97%	-2.83%	40.68%	-1.46%	-0.46%	-18.51%

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 also help states distribute USDA-donated commodities to schools, child care institutions, or adult care institutions.



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Department: Agriculture | Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service
Type: Mandatory | Share of Spending Allocated to Babies: 6.58%

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Trump 2027
Spending Level	$ 146.988 B	$ 140.441 B	$ 153.864 B	$ 122.383 B	$ 112.905 B	$ 107.473 B	$ 101.234 B
Estimated Share to Babies	$ 9.672 B	$ 9.241 B	$ 10.124 B	$ 8.053 B	$ 7.429 B	$ 7.072 B	$ 6.661 B
Real Change from Prior Year	44.51%	-11.47%	4.26%	-22.84%	-10.17%	-7.56%	-8.23%

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, provides direct financial assistance to low-income households to purchase 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.





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