

BABIES IN THE BUDGET 2024

FEDERAL SHARE OF SPENDING ON INFANTS
AND TODDLERS: FY2020-FY2024





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 www.firstfocus.org or call 202.657.0670.

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Message from the President of First Focus on Children

Turning the Tide: Valuing Our Youngest

Budgets reflect what political leaders value. Our federal budget makes it abundantly clear that babies and toddlers are not a priority.

Bruce Lesley

For the third year in a row, the share of federal spending for children ages 0-3 has declined. If that isn't alarming enough, the share of federal spending that goes to babies and toddlers is a mere 1.52% despite overwhelming evidence that money matters and investments across all aspects of their lives – health, child care, income support, housing, nutrition, and other areas – improve children's long-term success. Investing early in our children leads to better health outcomes, higher educational attainment, and increased earnings as adults.¹ In fact, the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) estimates the societal cost of child poverty to be as much as \$1.1 trillion annually.² It makes no sense to try to solve the nation's debt by cutting children's supports when we know the near- and long-term outcomes from healthy investment in our youngest children benefit not only them, but their families, society, and the nation's ability to grow the economy.

Our nation's youngest children face challenges in every aspect of their daily lives. Consider,

- The U.S. infant mortality rate in 2022, which already was much higher than in other wealthy nations, increased for the first time in two decades.³
- 10% of all U.S. children (7.3 million kids) did not have enough food to keep them healthy in 2022. That is a nearly 7% increase in the number of children over the previous year. Rates of food insecurity were significantly higher for households with children that included a Black or Hispanic adult.⁴



- Recent studies have shown that children are at the greatest risk of eviction. Children are more than 40% of the individuals that face eviction yearly. Additionally, households with children under 5 make up the largest group of households that have had evictions filed against them.⁵
- Millions of children are losing health care. More than 5 million children have lost access to Medicaid through the unwinding process. In some states, such as Utah and Texas, roughly one-third (34% and 29% respectively) of children enrolled in Medicaid have lost coverage.⁶
- Child poverty more than doubled in 2022 compared to 2021, with the rate of children living in poverty increasing from 5.2% to 12.4%. This increase represents more than 5 million children (about twice the population of Mississippi) that we allowed to backslide into poverty within a single year. Black, Hispanic, and American Indian and Alaska Native children experience poverty at a rate more than twice that of white children.⁷

Growing needs demand more investment, not less.

That's not to say some small progress hasn't been made. The COVID-19 pandemic served as a catalyst for investments in our youngest children, ensuring their health and safety during a tumultuous time. FY 2021 saw an almost 54% inflation-adjusted increase in spending on babies and toddlers, but as the peak of the pandemic wound down, so did congressional spending.

Even at the peak, babies and toddlers' share of federal spending still failed to reach 2% in FY 2021. The need to increase investment in our youngest children warrants immediate action. The downward spending trend on babies should not be tolerated. Again, the share of federal spending on infants and toddlers has dropped every year since FY 2021, meaning they are falling further behind as too many members of Congress fail to prioritize children in budget decisions.

FY 2024 saw major cuts to programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Nutrition programs such as SNAP and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) are crucial in alleviating food insecurity, and the expiration of the CTC in 2022 allowed 5 million children to backslide into poverty.⁸ Yet in FY 2024, we see major cuts to SNAP and a decrease in the refundable portion of the Child Tax Credit (CTC) driving the drop in the share of federal spending on babies to a deeply troubling 1.52%. Failure to prioritize investments in our youngest children means we fail them and our nation's future.

President Biden's FY 2025 budget presents us with the opportunity to turn the tide in favor of our nation's youngest children. The President recommends increasing total spending on babies by \$36.8 billion, which would restore the share of the spending on children ages 0-3 to almost 2%, surpassing the record-high in FY 2021. President Biden also recommends significantly expanding the CTC to reach low-income children currently left behind because their parents earn too little. These game-changing improvements to the CTC would increase money available for babies by almost \$28 billion dollars in FY 2025 -- an inflation-adjusted increase of 630%. The President's FY 2025 budget proposal also would make vital investments in child care, housing, paid family and medical leave, mental health, nutrition, and other areas that impact babies, toddlers, and their families.

Building a healthy, prosperous, and equitable upbringing for our babies translates directly to a healthy, prosperous, and equitable future for our country. Funding choices are just that – choices. And Congress and the Administration have the power to choose to support the well-being of children.

We can and must do better by our babies and our children.

It's time to shift the momentum and ensure greater funding for our babies and toddlers. The nation's youngest deserve it.

Bruce Lesley
President, First Focus on Children

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8. U.S. Census Bureau. Poverty in the United States: 2022. Supplemental Poverty Measure Table B-2: Number and Percentage of People in Poverty Using the Supplemental Poverty Measure by Age, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 2009 to 2022. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2023/demo/income-poverty/p60-280.html>

Notes on *Babies In The Budget* 2024

Sources

The majority of budget numbers in this book for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 can be found in the Joint Explanatory Statements for 2024 appropriations bills, though some of the mandatory spending levels for FY 2024 and for smaller discretionary programs can be found in the Congressional budget justifications provided by relevant federal agencies for FY 2024 and the Appendix of President Biden's FY 2025 budget. The Congressional budget justifications and Appendix also are the source for the President's budget request for FY 2025. We use actual outlays in the years where they are available and budget authority where they are not. Additionally, we included funding available in FY 2022 under the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

Methodology

For the purpose of this book, babies are defined as persons aged 0 to 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. There are other programs that may impact babies much more incidentally. In order to find the share of federal spending for each chapter, we divide the share of federal spending in each category by the overall spending level for each fiscal year, which also includes the interest paid on the national debt. To determine the amount of money spent on babies, this book relies on agency reporting and data. For a handful of programs, this book relies on the work of the Urban Institute's Kids' Share 2021: Report on Federal Expenditures on Children Through 2019 and Future Projections.

The methodology behind the program multipliers is as follows:

- For programs that exclusively benefit babies and families with babies, the full 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 mirrors the Agency's estimated percentage of program benefits that go to children. In those cases, this book utilizes the average of that value from FY 2020 to FY 2024 or as many years of data as are available in that time frame. In other cases, we analyze Community Population Survey (CPS) data to generate these estimates, such as for Veteran's Benefits.
- For some programs, such as housing programs under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), there is limited data related to expenditures on children. In those cases, we estimate spending on children as the proportion of children participating in the program overall, utilizing the average over the period of FY 2018 to 2023 or the most recent available years.
- First Focus on Children relies on its own multipliers via agency data and reports for several programs not included in Kids' Share, including for Community Health Centers, Homeless Assistance Grants, the National Housing Trust Fund, the Indian Housing Block Grant, the Rural Rental Assistance Program, the Rural Housing Voucher Program, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Poison Control.

- First Focus on Children also differs from the Urban Institute's Kids' Share in its estimates for spending on children for the Children's Health Insurance Program, Disability Trust Fund benefits, Old Age and Survivors' Insurance Trust Fund benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Project Based Rental Assistance, the Public Housing Operating Fund, Tenant Based Rental Assistance, Healthy Start, Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, Disability Compensation, Survivors' Pension Benefits, and coverage of tax credits. For instance, the Urban Institute utilizes microsimulation modeling of Community Population Survey data to estimate the number of children participating in Project and Tenant Based Rental Assistance, while First Focus on Children uses data from HUD's "Picture of Subsidized Housing."
- First Focus on Children relies on the Urban Institute's Kids' Share to estimate spending on children under programs such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program; Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health; the Social Services Block Grant; the Community Services Block Grant; Medicaid.
- First Focus on Children also cross-referenced spending levels with the National Low Income Housing Coalition for a few programs such as the National Housing Trust Fund, Project Based Rental Assistance, and the Public Housing Fund.
- A special thanks to Hope Roobol and Pamela Protzol Berman from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), who provided estimates for ATSDR spending on children under age 18 for this book and to Jeanne Briskin, Director of the Office of Children's Health Protection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for providing helpful insight into environmental health funding for children.
- Babies in the Budget 2024 includes the mandatory spending for the refundable tax credits as programs that benefit babies. The funding level was taken from "Detailed Budget Object Class Breakdown by Account" for the President's FY 2025 budget. For FY 2024 and FY 2023 the mandatory outlays are estimates by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). However, the Earned Income Tax Credit 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 FY2023 and FY2024 also are estimates by (OMB).
- Every year we work with our advocacy partners to review existing programs and determine whether to add others to our tracking.

Updates to Multipliers

Babies in the Budget 2024 updates multipliers for several programs based on new data, research, and analysis. As a result, the figures are somewhat changed from prior iterations of this report. For many environmental health programs, we used the overall population of children to estimate the multipliers.

Presentation

For each program individually listed in the book, the spending level indicated is the total allocation from the federal budget. For each program that is not 100% dedicated to babies, we indicate the percent of the estimated share of spending allocated to babies in each program's table. 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 2024. This is because prices for goods and services tend to increase over time. Inflation has important consequences for long-term economic comparisons. For example, in 2000, the federal government's total budget was \$1.8 trillion — over 800% greater than the \$195.6 billion it spent 30 years prior. It is important to recognize, however, that due to inflation, every dollar the government spent in 1970 had much greater purchasing power than it did in 2000, such that the nominal value of \$195.6 billion in 1970 translated to a real value of roughly \$828 billion in 2000. 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 this report. 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 2024* reports the nominal funding level and the real percent change from the prior year. This book adopts the projected inflation rates for FY 2024 and FY 2025 from the Congressional Budget Office's Feb 2024 report, *The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2024 to 2034*.

Tax Expenditures

Babies in the Budget 2024 includes the refundable portions of the Child Tax Credit, Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, and the Earned Income Tax Credit. The Treasury Department includes the refundable portion of the credits, the payment to the Territories and the payments where tax credit exceeds tax liability as mandatory spending, and we are therefore including the credits as mandatory spending programs for children in the Income Support chapter. We included tax expenditures in every fiscal year we track in this report.

COVID-19 Response

Due to the availability of COVID-19 spending information, we were able to include supplemental funding for specific programs for FY 2020, FY 2021, FY 2022, and FY 2023. The increased funding was temporary and while much of that funding has been obligated, many of the programs have expired. In addition, as part of this year's debt ceiling agreement and subsequent legislation, some of the remaining COVID-19 funds are targeted for rescission. The book no longer specifically flags COVID-19 programs, but continues to track them.



**OVERALL
SPENDING**



! 1.52%

**The Share of Federal Spending on Children
Ages 0-3 Declined to 1.52% in FY 2024**

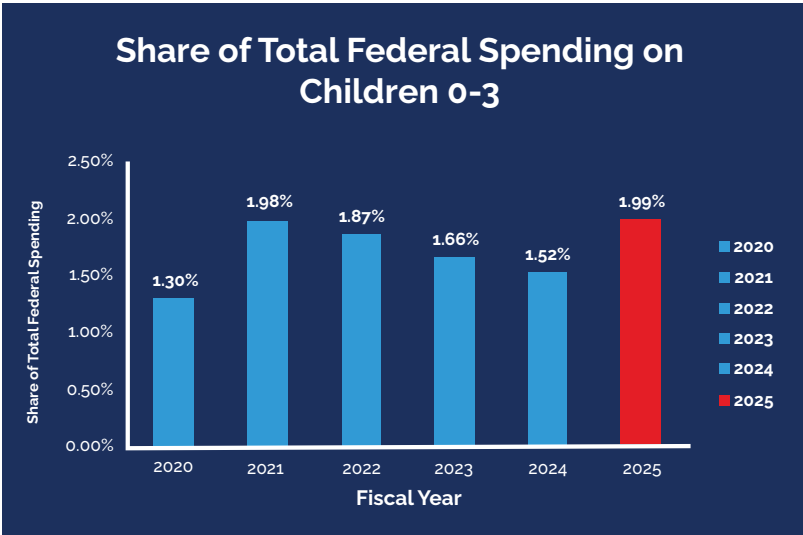
TOTAL DOMESTIC SPENDING ON BABIES						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Estimated Spending Level on Children (Age 0 to 3)	\$85.325 B	\$135.358 B	\$110.866 B	\$102.186 B	\$102.813 B	\$139.628 B
Real Change from Prior Year (Inflation-Adjusted)	10.81%	53.58%	-24.10%	-12.30%	-2.10%	32.47%
Share of Total Spending	1.30%	1.98%	1.87%	1.66%	1.52%	1.99%

Babies Budget 2024 provides a comprehensive analysis of the share of spending allocated to children ages 0 – 3 across more than 150 government programs in the federal budget. This analysis tracks domestic spending on infants and toddlers, including both mandatory and discretionary funding across numerous agencies in 11 different departments. For the purposes of this study, First Focus on Children categorized federal programs into six investment areas: Early Childhood, Health, Housing, Income Support, Justice and Child Protection, and Nutrition. Each chapter includes background on children's well-being and urgent needs, an analysis of the current spending trends, and a brief overview of how children ages 0 – 3 would fare under the President's FY 2025 budget request. The health chapter is organized into four categories, including Health Care Coverage, Infant and Maternal Health, Mental Health, and Environmental Health insert and well being.

In our specific analysis of infant and maternal health programs and services (infant and maternal programs noted in magenta throughout the book), we find that despite important increases to some programs, additional and substantial support is needed to improve the mortality, health, and well-being of infants and mothers. The share of federal funding for infant and maternal health and well-being experienced a 39.7% increase between FY 2020 and FY 2024, the majority of which is due to increased Medicaid funding during that time. Programs including Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health; Vaccines for Children; Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression; Adverse Childhood Experiences; the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program; and Safe Motherhood/Infant Health Programs also experienced increases during that period. However, the share of funding for infant and maternal health and well-being peaked in FY 2023 at 0.8% and fell to 0.75% in FY 2024. Infant and maternal health and well-being programs receive well under 1% of the share of federal funding, and this number is wholly inadequate to meet the challenges that these populations face..

Overall, our analysis finds that for the third straight year, the share of federal spending on children ages 0-3 declined, from just 1.98% in FY 2021 to a mere 1.52% in FY 2024. Despite a modest increase in total estimated spending on children ages 0-3 in FY 2024 from FY 2023, resources dedicated to them still declined as a share of federal spending, dropping from 1.66% in FY 2023 to 1.52% in FY 2024. This demonstrates that the growth in the total federal budget is outpacing what we spend on our youngest children. On top of that, the small increase in FY 2024 funding failed to keep up with inflation, ensuring that support for babies lags behind the estimated average rise in the cost of living for families.

With the growth in the federal budget, the share of federal spending on infants and toddlers was 17% higher in FY 2024 (1.52%) than in FY 2020 (1.30%). However, it is important to state that the share of federal spending on children ages 0-3 in all years analyzed remains alarmingly and unacceptably low. The COVID-19 pandemic spurred a surge of investment in infants and toddlers with historic expansions of programs including the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), as well as temporary measures such as Economic Impact Payments, but even these investments left the share of federal spending on infants and toddlers at just under 2%. And since the end of this national crisis, Congress has clawed back most of these wins for children, resulting in a steady three-year decline in the share of spending devoted to infants and toddlers. Dramatic cuts to SNAP drove the year-over-year decline in spending on infants and toddlers more than any other single factor. SNAP benefits for infants and toddlers fell \$2.168 billion between

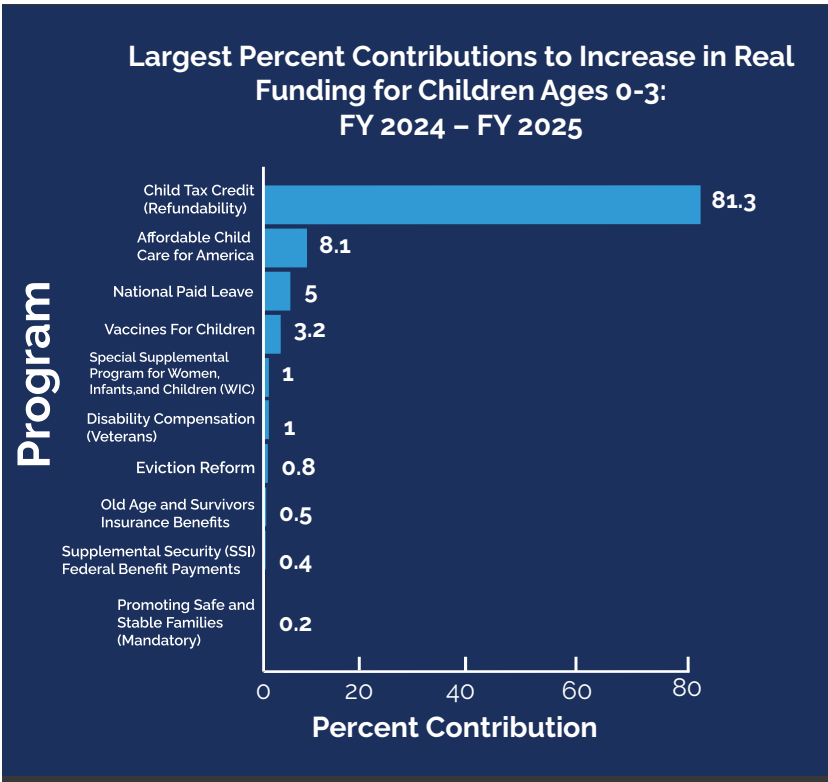


FY 2023 and FY 2024, creating an inflation-adjusted spending decline of nearly 24%. Without this significant SNAP cut, the net funding for babies would have been relatively flat. The impact of these cuts to SNAP dwarfed the effect of all other reductions in funding (see graph) and counteracted any increases seen in some programs benefiting children ages 0-3.

One bright spot in the FY 2024 budget was an increase in discretionary funding for babies that partially offset the dramatic cuts to SNAP. Driven by increases in programs such as WIC, the Child Care and Development Block Grant, Tenant-Based and Project-Based Rental Assistance, and Head Start and Early Head Start, the share of discretionary funding for babies in the budget as a share of total discretionary spending increased from 0.95% to 0.97%. These hard-fought wins cushioned the blow for our youngest children but were not nearly enough to offset the dramatic decreases in mandatory spending on babies caused by expiration of COVID-19 era programs and expansions that disproportionately benefited babies.

The pandemic forced lawmakers to temporarily reckon with the chronic underfunding of children's programs. Unfortunately, too many in Congress have failed to internalize the important investment lessons from the pandemic and its economic fallout – those pandemic-related investments cut child poverty in half in 2021. Since the pandemic, lawmakers have dismantled nearly all the gains for infants and toddlers. Still, many champions for children in Congress continue to prioritize our youngest in federal budget decisions and fight to maintain funding and even increase investments in some programs. Despite their efforts, the share of federal spending on infants and toddlers is alarmingly low and declining. This underinvestment is a missed opportunity to nurture the next generation during its most critical period of development and to address economic and social inequities.

President Biden's FY 2025 budget proposal offers a path forward to entrench transformational investments in babies, increasing total spending on babies by \$38.8 billion. This figure would represent a nearly 35% increase in spending – even after adjusting for expected inflation. The share of the federal budget going to babies would increase from 1.5% to just under 2%. These significant increases offer a welcome



step in the right direction, but it is important to note that they still represent just a fraction of what is needed to meet the needs of all infants and toddlers. The President's proposed expansion of the CTC, including a measure to allow even the lowest-income families to receive it, provides the biggest driver of this growth in investment. The expanded CTC would increase money available for babies by almost \$28 billion dollars, an inflation-adjusted increase of 630%. This one measure alone represents 81.3% of the total inflation-adjusted increase in funding for babies in the President's budget. Other significant investments in babies include new proposals such as Affordable Child Care for America and National Paid and Family Medical Leave.

Preview by Issue Area

- The share of funding for early childhood programs benefiting children ages 0-3 increased on net by 6.1% from FY 2020 to FY 2024 but declined slightly from FY 2023 to FY 2024. The President's FY 2025 budget would dramatically increase early childhood funding, increasing spending for children ages 0 to 3 by over 30% after inflation adjustment, mainly through large child care and preschool proposals.
- The share of health spending on infants and toddlers has increased by 42% between FY 2020 to FY 2024 (despite some declines compared to a peak in FY 2023). However, the share of federal funding being spent on the health of our youngest children consistently remains well below 1% of the federal budget. The President's FY 2025 budget would slightly increase spending by 2.09% adjusted for inflation.
- The share of funding for babies in housing increased by over 30% from FY 2020 to FY 2024 and would increase slightly more under the President's FY 2025 budget request.
- The share of federal spending on income support for babies has fallen by nearly half since its peak in FY 2021 of 0.8% down to 0.422% in FY 2024. However, if enacted, the President's FY 2025 budget would surpass the FY 2021 number reaching 0.846%, mainly as a result of his proposal to expand the Child Tax Credit, which would increase significantly funding for the refundability of the Child Tax Credit.
- The share of spending on justice and child protection stayed relatively flat from FY 2020 to FY 2024, declining slightly. The President's budget would not change this situation much, bumping the share of federal spending up from 0.30% to 0.32%.
- The share of nutrition spending on babies is up 11.3% from FY 2020 to FY 2024, however, funding in this area weathered a precipitous decline in FY 2024 due to expirations of pandemic-era SNAP expansions. The President's FY 2025 budget would fail to restore this level of funding.



EARLY CHILDHOOD



↑ 6.1%

Increase in Share of Federal Spending on Early Childhood from FY 2020 to FY 2024

TOTAL SPENDING ON EARLY CHILDHOOD						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Estimated Spending Level on Children (Age 0-3)	\$7.561 B	\$26.932 B	\$6.996 B	\$7.993 B	\$8.291 B	\$11.105 B
Real Change from Prior Year (Inflation-Adjusted)	19.02%	244.83%	-75.93%	8.71%	0.93%	30.66%
Share of Total Spending	0.115%	0.395%	0.118%	0.130%	0.122%	0.158%

Early childhood programs, including child care, pre-kindergarten, home visiting, and Early Head Start, are vital for young children and their families. Science and experience prove that children's brains are growing at their fastest paces during the ages of 0-3, when their brains form more than one million neural connections every second, and the experiences children have and the connections they make during these years directly impact their long-term health, well-being, and economic outcomes.¹ Early childhood programs can also help eliminate racial inequalities for children, their families, and the people working to care for them. They also provide families with the opportunity to work or study; support an early learning workforce that includes child care, teaching, and home visiting professionals; and are crucial infrastructure to the United States' economy. High-quality early learning programs for children ages birth to five produce a 13% rate of return per year.²

However, access to these programs is neither equal nor adequate. The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) reaches just 15% of eligible families, Early Head Start 11%, and the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program 15% of eligible families. Child care is least affordable and accessible for Black, Hispanic, and low-income working parents.³ The cost to a family of child care for two children in a center in 2022 was more than annual mortgage payments in 41 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 32 states and D.C.⁴ More than half of child care providers recently surveyed said their programs were under enrolled relative to their current capacity, with the reasons including staffing shortages (89%), low pay (77%), and lack of affordability for families (66%).⁵ The early learning workforce is overwhelmingly made up of women, many of whom cannot afford to stay in what are usually low-compensated jobs. This situation results in an unstable early learning workforce that is often neither well-respected nor well-compensated for their work, and that negatively impacts our country's overall economy when families cannot find care for their children.

Overall Analysis

Funding for some early childhood programs experienced dramatic increases in recent years due to COVID-19 emergency spending, but they lost ground when that funding ended, and overall saw less than a 1% increase between FY 2023 and FY 2024.

Funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant saw the largest increase in early childhood funding between FY 2023 and FY 2024, which was much-needed in the wake of expiring pandemic-era funding. Increases to federal child care funding caused most of the 6% increase in early childhood in the share of federal spending between FY 2020 and FY 2024. The child care sector has not recovered since the pandemic and has not been able to permanently increase wages and benefits to attract and keep teachers. Pandemic funding provided \$39 billion in emergency funding, \$24 billion of which expired last year. In states that have not provided additional child care funding in the wake of these losses, the share of families without needed child care increased from 17.8% to 23.1%.⁶

Home visiting through the MIECHV program experienced an increase in early childhood funding as well, due to the reauthorization of the MIECHV statute in 2022. Funding for MIECHV is mandatory, unlike the majority of funding for early childhood. This was the first increase in the program's decade-plus history, but MIECHV still will not be able to serve nearly enough eligible families.

Overview of the President's FY 2025 Budget

President Biden's FY 2025 budget proposal would increase funding for early childhood programs by more than 30%. This proposal would be transformative for our youngest children, their families, and the professionals who provide care and education for them. The budget proposes a new child care program to ensure that working families with incomes up to \$200,000 per year can afford high-quality child care from birth until kindergarten, with most families paying no more than \$10 a day, and the lowest-income families paying nothing. The budget request includes a new proposal

for free preschool for all 4-year-olds, and envisions providing preschool to 3-year-olds. Preschool would be available in a variety of settings that best meet families' needs, including through public schools, child care providers, and Head Start programs. The proposal includes needed increases to Head Start, Early Head Start, and the Child Care Access Means Parents in School program, although would cut Preschool Development Grants.

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Early Childhood Program Listing

N/A
2020-24

Affordable Child Care for America

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 28%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.772 B
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

President Biden's proposal enables states to expand access to affordable, high-quality child care to more than 16 million children. The estimated net cost of this proposal is \$400 billion over 10 years. This incorporates the cost of serving low-income children nationwide.

36.99%
2020-24

Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools

Department: Education • Bureau: Higher Education
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 35%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 18.6 M	\$ 19.2 M	\$ 22.7 M	\$ 26.2 M	\$ 26.2 M	\$ 28.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.48%	0.47%	9.51%	9.79%	-2.70%	4.05%

The Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program supports the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based child care services. Student parents make up almost a quarter of all undergraduate students but less than half of four-year public and community colleges provide campus child care, and that rate has declined in the past decade. Congress provided CCAMPIS with its first funding increase in several years in FY 18, and the program saw another increase in FY 20.

-9.21%
2020-24

Child Care and Development Block Grant (Discretionary)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 28%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 2.566 B	\$ 15.080 B	\$ 1.696 B	\$ 2.206 B	\$ 2.406 B	\$ 2.343 B
Real Change from Prior Year	74.23%	469.28%	-89.58%	23.80%	6.10%	-4.96%

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 Development Block Grant as well as a mandatory Child Care Entitlement funding stream.

17.81%
2020-24

Child Care Entitlement to States (Mandatory)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 28%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 802.1 M	\$ 866.6 M	\$ 890.4 M	\$ 976.2 M	\$ 976.2 M	\$ 976.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	4.58%	-4.78%	4.32%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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 Development Block Grant as well as a mandatory Child Care Entitlement funding stream.

N/A
2020-24

Child Care Stabilization Fund

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 28%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 6.713 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Child Care Stabilization Fund, formed through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, provided states with grants to help child care providers impacted by the pandemic to reopen or stay open, provide safe and healthy learning environments, keep workers on payroll, and provide mental health supports for educators and children during the COVID-19 pandemic.

11.93%
2020-24

Head Start and Early Head Start

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 31%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.287 B	\$ 3.360 B	\$ 3.418 B	\$ 3.715 B	\$ 3.801 B	\$ 3.884 B
Real Change from Prior Year	3.96%	-1.04%	-5.72%	3.43%	-0.46%	-0.32%

Head Start provides comprehensive child development services for economically disadvantaged 3- and 4-year-old children to prepare them to succeed in school, while Early Head Start programs serve low-income infants and toddlers under the age of 3. In providing this demographic with high quality pre-school, Head start narrows the gap between disadvantaged and more privileged children as they enter kindergarten. However, Head Start has yet to reach most eligible children; as of FY 2017, only 31 percent of eligible children had access to the program.

9.59%
2020-24

IDEA C - Grants for Infants and Families

Department: Education • Bureau: Special Education • Type: Discretionary
Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 100%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 477.0 M	\$ 481.9 M	\$ 496.3 M	\$ 540.0 M	\$ 540.0 M	\$ 545.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.04%	-2.20%	-4.56%	3.53%	-2.70%	-1.55%

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

107.44%
2020-24

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 8.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 15.0 M	\$ 15.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	38.00%	11.97%	14.46%	42.73%	-2.70%	-2.46%

These 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.

33.39%
2020-24

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Visiting Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration • Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 72%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 271.0 M	\$ 266.4 M	\$ 321.1 M	\$ 360.0 M	\$ 373.4 M	\$ 407.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.88%	-4.83%	11.70%	6.67%	0.93%	6.41%

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program provides funding for nurses, social workers, or other professionals to meet with at-risk families in their homes, evaluate the families' circumstances, and connect them to the kinds of help that can make a difference in a child's health, development, and ability to learn. Services include health care, developmental services for children, early education, parenting skills, child abuse prevention, and nutrition education or assistance.

21.00%
2020-24

National Early Child Care Collaboratives

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 27%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	18.94%	-2.70%	-2.46%

National Early Child Care Collaborative grants are aimed at obesity prevention and learning readiness. They support early child care education providers with practical training and technical assistance regarding how to make changes within their programs that support healthy eating and physical activity.

N/A
2020-24

Preschool Demonstration Program

Department: Education • Bureau: School Readiness • Type: Discretionary
Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 48%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 12.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Preschool Incentive Demonstration Program would make competitive awards to local educational agencies (LEAs) or consortia of LEAs to expand access to high-quality preschool in school and community based settings, including Head Start, for children eligible to attend Title I schools. The program would also support LEAs and participating schools in aligning high-quality preschool with kindergarten through 3rd grade instruction, facilitating the transition both from preschool to kindergarten and from kindergarten to 3rd grade. As the Department administers the program, it will collaborate with the Department of Health and Human Services.

10.88%
2020-24

Preschool Development Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 48%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 133.1 M	\$ 135.6 M	\$ 140.3 M	\$ 152.4 M	\$ 152.4 M	\$ 121.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	8.43%	-1.43%	-4.03%	3.36%	-2.70%	-22.58%

Preschool Development Grants are competitive grants that allow for states to develop, enhance, or expand high-quality preschool programs and early childhood education programs for children from low- and moderate-income families, including children with disabilities.



HEALTH



↑ 41.9%

**Increase in Share of Federal Spending on Health
from FY 2020 to FY 2024**

TOTAL SPENDING ON HEALTH						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Estimated Spending Level on Children (Age 0-3)	\$31.714 B	\$34.435 B	\$40.146 B	\$45.744 B	\$46.492 B	\$48.669 B
Real Change from Prior Year (Inflation-Adjusted)	-0.21%	5.12%	8.03%	8.42%	-1.10%	2.11%
Share of Total Spending	0.484%	0.505%	0.676%	0.742%	0.687%	0.694%

The share of federal health-related funding for children ages 0-3 experienced a 42% increase between FY 2020 and FY 2024, which sounds promising for the health and well-being of our children. However, the share of federal funding being dedicated to the health of our youngest children consistently remains well below 1% of the federal budget. The share of health funding going to young children and their families peaked at 0.74% in FY 2023, but it decreased in FY 2024 to 0.69%. The peak likely was driven by spending in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) due to the continuous coverage requirements established during the COVID-19 public health emergency that had states maintain enrollment of children and others enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. The drop-off that we see in 2024 is likely a result of states going through the process of "unwinding" these continuous coverage requirements starting in April 2023.

Investing in children's health in their earliest years is vital to improving and protecting their lifelong health and well-being, but the federal government is not making the investments necessary to give children their best opportunities.

Health Care Coverage

Health care coverage is essential to a robust childhood that puts kids on a path to success as they mature. This is especially true for a child's earliest years as infants and toddlers. During the first years of a child's life, they experience rapid growth and require consistent access to preventive care, including regular check-ups, immunizations, and well-child visits. Early detection and treatment of any health problems that may arise during this time can help children avoid more serious health issues down the road.

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) are the two main programs helping ensure children have access to quality, affordable care. Medicaid covers 41% of births nationwide¹ and, as of March 2024, Medicaid and CHIP provide health care coverage to 37.5 million children.²

Medicaid covers children in households with low incomes. CHIP builds on Medicaid's foundation to offer coverage to children in families who make too much to qualify for Medicaid, but too little to afford private coverage or who do not have access to it. Both programs ensure that children can receive the care they need through a comprehensive set of health benefits.

Medicaid and CHIP form the backbone of children's health coverage, but many of the nation's children still lack coverage. Approximately 4 million children are uninsured and, of these, 2.2 million are eligible for Medicaid and CHIP but are not enrolled.³

Medicaid "unwinding" has exacerbated the issue of uninsured children. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, states were required to keep kids enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP. Those continuous coverage protections ended in April 2023. Over the past year, states have been working to redetermine eligibility for all Medicaid and CHIP cases, a process that has disenrolled more than 5 million children.⁴ Many of these children remain eligible for Medicaid but were disenrolled due to administrative issues.

Overall Analysis

Despite the importance of Medicaid and CHIP for children's health, Congress failed to provide budgets for both programs that keep up with inflation between FY 2023 and FY 2024. For Medicaid, children ages 0-3 saw a decrease of 1.23% when adjusted for inflation, equivalent to nearly \$505.2 million worth of funding directed toward their health coverage. In CHIP, the decrease for ages 0-3 was 4.6%, equivalent to nearly \$54.8 million between FY 2023 and FY 2024 when adjusted for inflation. This trend is alarming. Keeping both programs adequately funded helps ensure that kids continue to receive comprehensive coverage that meets their needs. Insufficient federal funding could lead states to cut their spending on health care coverage programs, threatening access to and quality of care.

Overview of the President's FY 2025 Budget

There is some good news and some not-so-good news for children ages 0-3 when it comes to the President's budget regarding programs like Medicaid and CHIP. The good news is that President Biden's FY 2025 budget would award CHIP one of the largest increases in health care funding, an increase of nearly \$78 million for children ages 0-3, a 4.2% increase when adjusted for inflation. On the other hand, the President's budget reserves one of the largest decreases in health funding for Medicaid, where an estimated cut of 0.78% would mean a \$319.4 million decrease for children ages 0-3. While some decrease in Medicaid funding is not a surprise — as noted above, the unwinding will mean fewer enrollees in FY 2025 — any decrease in funding triggers alarms. Policymakers must keep Medicaid adequately funded so that children can continue to receive quality, comprehensive care that meets their unique needs and their families' budgets.

Despite the decrease in the President's Medicaid budget, several proposed initiatives would significantly enhance Medicaid and CHIP for children ages 0-3.

- Preventing coverage gaps: The President's budget would allow states to provide 36 months of continuous eligibility for children enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP (states are already required to provide 12 months). States can expand this policy further for the youngest children by providing continuous eligibility from birth until age 6. States can choose to adopt one or both options, greatly reducing the chances that children will face gaps in their health care coverage, especially during the most critical years of early development.
- Requiring postpartum coverage: States currently are required to provide Medicaid and CHIP recipients with 60 days of postpartum coverage, and they have the option to provide 12 months of coverage. The President's budget would upgrade that option to a requirement, making 12 months of postpartum coverage mandatory in Medicaid and CHIP. Forty-six states and the District of Columbia have adopted the 12-month option.
- Removing barriers to coverage: The President's budget would prohibit states from charging premiums and enrollment fees for CHIP. CHIP is designed to help low-income families afford health insurance for their kids, targeting families above the poverty line with incomes that make affording private insurance difficult. Though CHIP premiums and enrollment fees are typically low in states that have them, even small fees can be a significant burden for families. Every dollar counts, and a monthly premium or an enrollment fee might mean choosing between health care and other necessities like food and rent.

Infant and Maternal Health

Maternal health is intrinsically linked to the health and well-being of our infants and toddlers, and maternal and infant mortality in the United States are serious problems that lawmakers must continue to address. Infant mortality, already higher in the U.S. than in other wealthy countries, increased in 2022 for the first time in 20 years.⁸ The U.S. maternal mortality rate is among the worst and most racially disparate in the world. U.S. maternal mortality rates far outstrip those in 10 similar high-income countries, and they rose even higher during the COVID-19 pandemic.⁹ In 2022, 817

women in the U.S. died as a result of pregnancy or delivery, a decrease over the previous year, but still unacceptably high.¹⁰ The maternal mortality rate for Black women was more than 2.5 times the rate for white women during that time. Over 80% of maternal deaths from 2017-2019 were determined to be preventable.¹¹

Overall Analysis

Awareness and concern over infant and maternal health and mortality have grown in recent years, but funding for some essential programs has faltered. The Maternal and Child Health Block Grant lost nearly 3% in inflation-adjusted funding between FY 2023 and FY 2024, as did Healthy Start, which provides vital services to reduce infant mortality rates across the country. The Safe Motherhood and Infant Health Programs saw large increases between FY 2020 and FY 2023, but have lost ground since then. The share of federal funding for infant and maternal health and well-being experienced a 39.7% increase between FY 2020 and FY 2024, the majority of which is due to increased Medicaid funding during that time. Programs including Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health; Vaccines for Children; Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression; Adverse Childhood Experiences; the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program; and Safe Motherhood/Infant Health Programs also experienced increases during that period. However, the share of funding for infant and maternal health and well-being peaked in FY 2023 at 0.8% and fell to 0.75% in FY 2024. Infant and maternal health and well-being programs receive well under 1% of the share of federal funding, and this number is wholly inadequate to meet the challenges that these populations face.

Overview of the President's FY2025 Budget

The President's FY 2025 budget proposal includes support for maternal and infant health programs, including \$172 million for the Healthy Start program, an increase of \$27 million over the FY 2024 level. This is an especially important signal because the House FY 2024 Labor HHS Appropriations bill attempted to zero out this program, but fortunately Senate and House champions of the program disagreed. States currently have the option to provide 12 months of postpartum coverage in Medicaid and CHIP and 46 states plus the District of Columbia have done so. The proposed budget would make this coverage required. The budget also proposes incentivizing an optional Medicaid benefit to expand maternal health support services across the prenatal, labor and delivery, and postpartum periods. The benefit would include coverage for services provided by doulas, community health workers, nurse home visitors, and peer support workers, although home visitors should not be limited to nurses. The budget request includes a slight increase for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, but this funding level would not keep up with inflation.

Mental Health

Prevention and early intervention are key to addressing the youth mental health crisis that our country is currently facing, where suicide is the second leading cause of death in children and nearly 20% of children ages 3-17 have a mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral health disorder.^{12,13} Prevention and early intervention are most effective in the earliest years of life. Positive infant and early childhood mental health (IECMH) is defined as "the developing capacity of the child from birth to 5 years of age to form close and secure adult and peer relationships; experience,

manage, and express a full range of emotions; and explore the environment and learn – all in the context of family, community, and culture.”¹⁴ Caring for the mental health of our youngest children will allow them to grow to their full potential and can avoid future mental health challenges. The mental health of infant and toddlers’ caregivers, including parents, family members, and early learning professionals, is paramount to the well-being of babies. Factors that can affect IECMH include poverty, chronic stress, housing instability, racism, and maltreatment, and efforts to improve IECMH include a wide range of programs and approaches.

Overall Analysis

Funding for IECMH programs as well as broader mental health funding that supports families and their children has varied over the last several years. The National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative has seen increases of over 28% since FY 2020. However, Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions to Unmet Needs in Children’s Health), which promotes the emotional, social, and physical well-being of children ages 0-8, lost nearly 34% of funding between FY 2023 and FY 2024. Funding for the Maternal Mental Health Hotline has remained flat at \$7 million, translating into a cut in real dollars. Funding for some important mental health programs that impact young children through their families and caregivers has increased in recent years, including through school-based mental health care and community-based services such as Certified Community Behavioral Health Grants.

Overview of the President’s FY 2025 Budget

President Biden’s FY 2025 budget would maintain level funding for Project LAUNCH as well as the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) grant program and the Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (CoE-IECMHC) although these levels do not keep up with inflation.

In addition to programs that address infants and toddlers specifically, mental health supports for caregivers and families are also necessary for positive infant and early childhood mental health. Overall, the President’s FY 2025 budget request would strengthen our mental health care system and provide more accessible and affordable services and supports to families. The budget request would significantly expand the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline with \$602 million in funding, which outpaces the FY 2024 funding level by more than \$80 million. The budget would increase the Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership Program funding by \$20 million over enacted FY 2024 levels to create or enhance mobile crisis response teams to assist individuals and families experiencing mental health crises in lieu of law enforcement. The President’s budget would increase the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant by 3.55% for children ages 0-3 over FY 2024 levels and proposes a new 10% set-aside for prevention and early intervention efforts, which could directly benefit infants and toddlers. It would fund an increase of 14% for our youngest children over FY 2024 for Certified Community Behavioral Health Grants, which ensure access to coordinated comprehensive behavioral health care.

Environmental Health

A healthy environment is imperative to babies’ healthy development. Air pollution, lead exposure, and other environmental dangers can cause lifelong complications and exacerbate preexisting conditions. Infants and toddlers are also more susceptible to the negative impacts of climate change

due to their unique physiology, and global warming poses a particular risk to their health. Young children's anatomy and behaviors make them more susceptible to various types of pollution. They breathe more air and drink more water in proportion to their body weight than adults, putting them at an even greater risk of health effects from contamination. Air pollution alone accounted for 20% of newborn deaths worldwide in 2019.⁵ Their physiology also makes children more likely to suffer from heatstroke during climate-related heat waves and they are more likely to suffer adverse mental health impacts as the frequency of natural disasters increases.^{6,7}

These complex problems require cross-cutting solutions, making sufficient funding for environmental health, climate, and environmental justice programs across several agencies paramount for babies' health. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) houses many of these programs, specifically the Environmental Justice and the Climate Protection programs. These programs aim to uplift and protect frontline communities: Communities of color, as well as indigenous, rural, and economically disadvantaged communities, which typically experience the greatest impact of pollution and climate change. The Climate Protection program aims to mitigate some of the most devastating health impacts of climate change. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) houses the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, which works to reduce lead exposure among children and prevent the associated lifelong health consequences.

Overall Analysis

While several programs have seen marked decreases in the past several years, others have received increases that will allow them to better serve infants and toddlers. EPA's Environmental Justice program has seen a seven-fold real increase since FY 2020 due to an increased focus on correcting decades-old environmental injustices. Additionally, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Protection Programs has received consistent and adequate real increases since FY 2020. However, other programs have lost significant funding, such as the EPA's Reduce Risks from Indoor Air program and Superfund Cleanup program.

Overview of the President's FY 2025 Budget

The President Biden's focus on climate change and environmental health is reflected in his budget, particularly when it comes to children's health. EPA's Climate Protection program, HHS' Climate and Health program, and EPA's Environmental Justice program all received significant increases in the President's proposal. However, lawmakers failed to adequately fund a large portion of these programs, and many did not receive even flat funding and took significant cuts. For example, HHS' Office of Lead Hazard and Healthy Homes received a cut of more than \$60 million, removing a layer of protection that reduces toddlers' risk of lead exposure.

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Health Program Listing

PROPOSED
IN 2025

0-6 Continuous Eligibility in Medicaid/CHIP

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 50%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 15.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Currently, all states must provide 12 months of continuous eligibility for children up to age 18 enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP, meaning their coverage remains uninterrupted even if their family's income fluctuates. Under the President's FY2025 budget proposal, states can expand the policy further for the youngest children by providing continuous eligibility from birth until age 6.

PROPOSED
IN 2025

36-month Continuous Eligibility in Medicaid/CHIP

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 7%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 7.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Currently, all states must provide 12 months of continuous eligibility for children up to age 18 enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP, meaning their coverage remains uninterrupted even if their family's income fluctuates. The President's budget would expand upon this policy by allowing states to provide continuous eligibility for all children for 36 months.

117.81%
2020-24

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.6 M	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 1.4 M	\$ 1.4 M	\$ 4.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	21.02%	29.73%	22.34%	-2.70%	225.15%

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) can have a tremendous impact on future violence victimization and perpetration, and lifelong health and opportunity. CDC works to understand ACEs and prevent them.

7.32%
2020-24

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 3.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.49%	-1.53%	-7.34%	3.72%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) protects communities, including children, from harmful health effects related to exposure to natural and man-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.

4.20%
2020-24

Autism and Other Developmental Disorders

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 42%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 22.0 M	\$ 22.3 M	\$ 22.8 M	\$ 23.7 M	\$ 23.7 M	\$ 23.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.97%	-1.63%	-5.31%	-1.34%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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

24.04%
2020-24

Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 54%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 86.9 M	\$ 90.4 M	\$ 95.7 M	\$ 111.1 M	\$ 111.3 M	\$ 111.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.90%	0.72%	-1.93%	10.47%	-2.46%	-2.69%

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 environment on the lives of persons with disabilities.

NEW
SINCE
2020

Cap insulin at \$35 for everyone

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 1%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 5.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Inflation Reduction Act limits Medicare beneficiary cost-sharing for insulin to \$35 per month. The President's FY25 budget request would extend that cap to insulin products in commercial markets, allowing more of the 37 million Americans with diabetes, including more than 300,000 children, to lock in this lower cost.

86.35%
2020-24

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 20.1 M	\$ 9.5 M	\$ 11.6 M	\$ 11.6 M	\$ 13.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	31.43%	224.33%	-56.43%	16.30%	-2.70%	14.01%

A Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic 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.

-3.20%
2020-24

Child Maltreatment

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 1.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Budget set aside for child maltreatment in CDC Injury Prevention and Control, Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence

190.41%
2020-24

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.5 M	\$ 0.5 M	\$ 0.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	45.22%	23.55%	42.73%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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

-10.94%
2020-24

Childhood Cancer Data Initiative

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 6.9 M	\$ 6.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-3.19%	-7.34%	-11.72%	-3.51%	-2.46%

The Childhood Cancer Data Initiative (CCDI) 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 approximately 16,000 children diagnosed with cancer each year. The initiative was first proposed in the President's FY20 budget, which requested \$50 million per year over 10 years. FY20 marked the first year the program was funded.

-3.20%
2020-24

Childhood Cancer STAR Act

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 4.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Childhood Cancer STAR Act helps advance childhood and adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancer research, while also enhancing childhood cancer surveillance and providing enhanced support for survivors and those affected by childhood cancer.

33.43%
2020-24

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Programs

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 5.6 M	\$ 5.9 M	\$ 6.2 M	\$ 7.7 M	\$ 7.7 M	\$ 9.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.20%	1.87%	-2.41%	18.36%	-2.70%	16.67%

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

-0.83%
2020-24

Children and Other Sensitive Populations Agency Coordination

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Children's Health Protection
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-6.52%	29.04%	-30.06%	-0.60%	-5.14%	18.81%

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

-1.10%
2020-24

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 7%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.114 B	\$ 1.062 B	\$ 1.096 B	\$ 1.161 B	\$ 1.138 B	\$ 1.216 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.94%	-7.70%	-4.34%	0.74%	-4.60%	4.21%

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides funds to states to initiate and expand child health assistance to uninsured, low-income children. Thanks to CHIP, nearly 9 million children have access to healthcare.

N/A
2020-24

Clean Air and Climate: Climate Protection

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	3.67%	20.14%	-14.59%	20.40%

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

81.83%
2020-24

Clean Air and Climate: Federal Support for Air Quality Management

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.4 M	\$ 0.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-45.28%	38.85%	-23.46%	19.04%	23.32%	-7.52%

The Federal Support for Air Quality Management Program supports development of State Implementation Plans (SIPs) through modeling and other tools and assists states in implementing, attaining, maintaining, and enforcing the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) 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

-3.20%
2020-24

Climate and Health

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.09%	-3.49%	-7.05%	-4.85%	-2.70%	95.09%

CDC's Climate and Health Program (CHP) directly supports state, tribal, local, and territorial public health agencies to prepare for specific health impacts of a changing climate. The CHP focuses on the public health-related aspects of climate extremes, including ways to reduce health risks by seeking to establish and use evidence-based interventions targeting the most vulnerable populations. For PB24 they consolidated some accounts so PB number is an estimate.

-23.73%
2020-24

Community Health Centers (Discretionary)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 5%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 100.1 M	\$ 70.6 M	\$ 79.3 M	\$ 78.9 M	\$ 78.9 M	\$ 78.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	44.40%	-31.78%	4.21%	-5.39%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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 under-served by America's health care system, and children under the age of 18 represent roughly 30 percent 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.

-5.93%
2020-24

Community Health Centers (Mandatory)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 5%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 241.5 M	\$ 526.6 M	\$ 181.6 M	\$ 177.3 M	\$ 234.7 M	\$ 287.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	35.69%	111.10%	-68.05%	-7.10%	28.81%	19.62%

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 under-served by America's health care system, and children under the age of 18 represent roughly 30 percent 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.

32.17%
2020-24

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 30.6 M	\$ 32.1 M	\$ 39.0 M	\$ 41.8 M	\$ 41.8 M	\$ 43.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	1.44%	12.62%	2.03%	-2.70%	1.01%

The MHBG program's objective is to support the grantees in carrying out plans for providing comprehensive community mental health services. The MHBG program targets children with serious emotional disturbances. This program received additional FY22 funding in the 2022 Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

N/A
2020-24

Developmental Delays

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.51 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A

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

N/A
2020-24

Drowning

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.4 M	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 0.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	90.31%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Drowning is the leading cause of death for children. More children ages 1–4 die from drowning than any other cause of death.

5.47%
2020-2024

Emergency Medical Services for Children

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 3.7 M	\$ 3.7 M	\$ 3.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.48%	-7.06%	3.67%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Emergency Medical Services for Children Program provides grants to states and accredited schools of medicine for the expansion and improvement of emergency medical services for children who need critical care or treatment for trauma.

20.54%
2020-24

Ensure Safe Drinking Water: Drinking Water Programs

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	25.03%	-3.33%	-1.08%	19.36%	-9.38%	34.76%

This program is responsible for implementing the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) 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.

-3.20%
2020-24

Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening/Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Diseases

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 100%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	3.11%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Babies born with Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) appear normal at birth but cannot fight infection. They may die before 1 year of age without medical treatment¹. If SCID is diagnosed early in life, before the onset of infection, a bone marrow transplant can successfully treat the disorder. Newborn screening identifies babies with congenital disorders like SCID. Nearly 4 million newborns are screened annually in the U.S. for numerous diseases, and 45 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico currently screen for SCID. CDC's Division of Laboratory Sciences has developed laboratory tests and reference materials for SCID using dried bloodspots and is working to advance screening nationwide.

19.58%
2020-24

Environmental Health Laboratory: Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 100%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 17.0 M	\$ 18.0 M	\$ 19.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 21.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-7.78%	2.51%	-2.19%	5.17%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Newborn screening identifies conditions that can affect a child's long-term health or survival. CDC's Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch manages the Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program (NSQAP) 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 laboratories responsible for newborn screening in the U.S. and many other countries.

-3.20%
2020-24

Environmental Influence on Child Health Outcomes

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 27.2 M	\$ 27.2 M	\$ 27.2 M	\$ 27.2 M	\$ 27.2 M	\$ 27.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	7.53%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

ECHO currently funds the Navajo Birth Cohort Study. The agreement encourages OD to consider expanding the study to include a larger representation of indigenous children in the national cohort to allow for a better understanding of the impacts of environmental exposure in these unique populations

853.69%
2020-24

Environmental Justice

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.4 M	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 10.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	87.09%	4.81%	6.06%	721.15%	-10.35%	229.26%

The communities hardest hit by pollution and climate change are most often communities of color, indigenous communities, rural communities, and economically disadvantaged communities. EPA will implement the President's Justice40 Initiative with the goal of delivering at least 40 percent of the overall benefits of relevant federal investments to underserved and overburdened communities. The FY 2023 Budget will expand upon the historic investments in environmental justice in the FY 2022 President's Budget to greatly enhance the 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.

-3.20%
2020-24

Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research Assurance • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 5%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.6 M	\$ 0.6 M	\$ 0.6 M	\$ 0.6 M	\$ 0.6 M	\$ 1.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	173.13%

Currently funding a project "Firearm Safety and Injury Prevention during Early Childhood: A Parent Engagement Approach". This study will engage parents of young children (ages 0-5 years) with a mixed-methods, community-based approach to develop and pilot an intervention among firearm-owning parents with young children to inform prevention of unintentional firearm injury and death in early childhood.

11.84%
2020-24

Healthy Start

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 47%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 60.0 M	\$ 61.0 M	\$ 62.3 M	\$ 68.8 M	\$ 68.8 M	\$ 81.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.98%	-1.55%	-4.53%	4.94%	-2.70%	15.71%

The Healthy Start Initiative aims to eliminate disparities in prenatal infant and maternal health by enhancing community health care service system and improving access to comprehensive prenatal and women's health services, particularly for women and infants at higher risk for poor health outcomes. Nearly 70 percent of the program's participants are children and pregnant women.

13.04%
2020-24

Heritable Disorders

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 17.9 M	\$ 18.9 M	\$ 19.6 M	\$ 20.9 M	\$ 20.9 M	\$ 20.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	8.07%	2.23%	-4.02%	1.60%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Severe combined immune deficiency, support newborn screening and follow-up for SCIO and other newborn screening disorders.

4.87%
2020-24

Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 9.0 M	\$ 9.5 M	\$ 9.7 M	\$ 9.7 M	\$ 9.7 M	\$ 9.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	10.89%	2.19%	-4.90%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Severe combined immune deficiency, support newborn screening and follow-up for SCIO and other newborn screening disorders.

34.71%
2020-24

Indoor Air: Radon Program

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 4.78 K	\$ 3.74 K	\$ 5.24 K	\$ 2.34 K	\$ 6.65 K	\$ 5.78 K
Real Change from Prior Year	744.04%	-24.17%	29.90%	-57.57%	176.62%	-15.20%

The toxin radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Through this program, 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.

97.88%
2020-24

Indoor Air: Reduce Risks from Indoor Air

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Air and Radiation
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 4.5 M	\$ 9.9 M	\$ 5.4 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 9.3 M	\$ 6.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-38.14%	110.71%	-49.60%	-84.04%	901.88%	-35.09%

Under this program, 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.

N/A
2020-24

Innovation in Maternal Health Program

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 11.8 M	\$ 15.3 M	\$ 15.3 M	\$ 30.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	23.64%	-2.70%	93.18%

Admin transfer from MCH block grant

N/A
2020-24

Integrated Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 100%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 10.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-2.70%	-2.46%

Admin transfer from MCH block grant

14.54%
2020-24

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 28%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 192.6 M	\$ 198.9 M	\$ 209.4 M	\$ 228.4 M	\$ 227.8 M	\$ 232.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.02%	0.03%	-2.49%	3.81%	-2.93%	-0.30%

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.

46.87%
2020-24

Medicaid

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 7%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 26.832 B	\$ 29.700 B	\$ 34.930 B	\$ 40.103 B	\$ 40.708 B	\$ 41.405 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.12%	7.16%	8.98%	9.24%	-1.23%	-0.78%

Medicaid is a joint federal and state program that provides health insurance coverage to certain categories of low-income individuals, including children, pregnant women, parents of eligible children, and people with disabilities. Each state administers its own Medicaid program, while the federal Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services provides oversight and establishes requirements for service delivery, quality, funding, and eligibility standards. The Affordable Care Act expanded Medicaid in FY 2014, resulting in more adults enrolling in the program.

8.10%
2020-24

National Asthma Control Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.97%	-3.48%	-5.50%	4.51%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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

38.96%
2020-24

National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 10.3 M	\$ 13.8 M	\$ 13.8 M	\$ 14.1 M	\$ 14.8 M	\$ 14.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	6.28%	28.84%	-7.12%	-2.78%	2.49%	-7.39%

The National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative aims to improve behavioral health services and interventions for children and adolescents exposed to traumatic events develop and promote effective community practices for children and adolescents exposed to a wide array of traumatic events. In FY19, 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 FY20. This program received additional FY22 funding in the 2022 Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

136.34%
2020-24

National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund

Department: Justice • Bureau: Civil Division
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 5%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.7 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.7 M	\$ 1.7 M	\$ 1.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	28.14%	26.60%	18.49%	38.93%	-2.70%	11.81%

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.

9.38%
2020-24

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: National Institutes of Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 17%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 264.7 M	\$ 270.0 M	\$ 286.1 M	\$ 297.3 M	\$ 299.0 M	\$ 300.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.87%	-1.24%	-1.80%	-1.11%	-2.14%	-2.05%

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) supports and conducts basic, clinical, and epidemiological research on the reproductive, neurobiological, developmental, and behavioral processes that determine and maintain the health of children, adults, families, and populations. NICHD also supports and develops research programs concerned with the impact of the environment on infant and child development.

36.86%
2020-24

Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 43.8 M	\$ 54.4 M	\$ 62.7 M	\$ 61.9 M	\$ 61.9 M	\$ 52.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.46%	20.18%	6.82%	-5.99%	-2.70%	-16.73%

The Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) mission is to provide safe and healthy homes for at-risk families and children by promoting and funding the identification and repairs in 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.

25.84%
2020-24

Pediatric Mental Health Access

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 1%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.48%	188.12%	-60.10%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program promotes behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care by supporting the development of new, or the improvement of existing, statewide or regional pediatric mental health care telehealth access programs. The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, enacted in 2022, provides an additional \$80 million dollars over 4 years for PMHCA, therefore an additional \$20 million has been added in fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

N/A
2020-24

Pediatric Mental Health Access (Mandatory - ARP)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Maternal and Child Health Bureau
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 1%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program promotes behavioral health integration in pediatric primary care by supporting the development of new, or the improvement of existing, statewide or regional pediatric mental health care telehealth access programs. The American Rescue Plan Act created a mandatory funding stream for FY 2021.

-95.23%
2020-24

Pesticides: Protect Human Health from Pesticide Risk

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 1.9 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.1 M	\$ 0.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.60%	-4.22%	-4.06%	-95.20%	-7.19%	98.93%

EPA has significant responsibility under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) to screen new pesticides before they reach the market and ensure that pesticides already in commerce are safe for human health.

-94.20%
2020-24

Pesticides: Protect the Environment from Pesticide Risk

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.63%	-8.78%	-0.20%	-94.06%	-7.98%	77.16%

EPA is responsible for complying with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and ensuring that federally endangered and threatened species are not harmed when the Agency registers pesticides, and to ensure that currently registered pesticides do not harm the environment.

-3.20%
2020-24

Preventive Health and Health Service Block Grant

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Small portion goes to maternal, infant, and child health.

**NEW
SINCE
2020**

Prohibit CHIP enrollment fees/premiums

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 7%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 7.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The President's budget proposes a policy of prohibiting states from charging premiums and enrollment fees for CHIP

5.01%
2020-24

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

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 36%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 8.5 M	\$ 8.4 M	\$ 8.5 M	\$ 9.2 M	\$ 9.2 M	\$ 9.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.58%	-6.96%	3.22%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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

NEW
SINCE
2020

Require 12 months of postpartum coverage in Medicaid

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 55.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

States currently have the option to provide 12 months of postpartum coverage in Medicaid/CHIP and 45 have done so. The proposed budget would make this coverage required.

22.95%
2020-24

Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Rural Health
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 9%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 6.8 M	\$ 7.1 M	\$ 7.4 M	\$ 8.0 M	\$ 8.7 M	\$ 8.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.85%	0.05%	-3.02%	2.90%	5.68%	-10.18%

Multiplier is funding allocated to the Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies (RMOMS) which aims to increase access to maternal and obstetrics care in rural communities. This improves health outcomes for mothers and infants.

0.41%
2020-24

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services
Administration Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 0%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 4.8 M	\$ 5.0 M	\$ 5.1 M	\$ 5.1 M	\$ 7.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	5.37%	-5.45%	-4.51%	-1.94%	-2.70%	32.08%

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. Children under the age 19 represent 2.4 percent of the population that this program serves.

80.26%
2020-24

Safe Motherhood/Infant Health Programs

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 58.0 M	\$ 62.8 M	\$ 83.0 M	\$ 108.0 M	\$ 108.0 M	\$ 118.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	4.84%	22.46%	23.81%	-2.70%	6.58%

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

77.47%
2020-24

Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 5.7 M	\$ 6.5 M	\$ 10.0 M	\$ 11.0 M	\$ 15.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-8.70%	6.45%	46.39%	7.04%	37.45%

We fund the MMHSUD program to help health care providers identify and address mental health concerns of women during and after pregnancy.

8.58%
2020-24

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

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 1.0 M	\$ 1.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	14896.71%	72.66%	-45.99%	-17.53%	21.17%	3.27%

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. This grant program provides assistance to underserved communities that have no household drinking water or wastewater services or are served by a public water system that violates or exceeds any maximum contaminant level, treatment technique, or action level.

4.25%
2020-24

State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Lead Testing in Schools

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.9 M	\$ 2.9 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 4.6 M	\$ 4.2 M	\$ 5.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2475.68%	-27.65%	31.15%	5.53%	-10.67%	27.16%

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. This program provides grants to assist educational agencies in the voluntary testing of lead contamination in drinking water at schools and childcare facilities.

9.15%
2020-24

State and Tribal Assistance Grant: Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Water
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.7 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 0.7 M	\$ 1.1 M	\$ 0.7 M	\$ 2.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	30919.14%	98.74%	-50.23%	42.88%	-33.73%	185.89%

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 objectives of this grant program are to reduce the concentration of lead in drinking water, especially in small and underserved communities. Any level of lead poisoning in children is harmful, so this is especially beneficial to child health.

-65.74%
2020-24

Superfund Cleanup

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Land and Emergency Management • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 0.4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.3 M	\$ 3.7 M	\$ 3.3 M	\$ 3.5 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-7.83%	10.20%	-17.18%	-0.20%	-67.73%	20.08%

Approximately 2.7% of all children in the United States lived 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, EPA is responsible for cleaning up some of the nation's most contaminated land and responding to environmental emergencies, oil spills and natural disasters.

20.53%
2020-24

Toxics Risks Review and Prevention

Department: Environmental Protection Agency • Bureau: Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 3.9 M	\$ 3.8 M	\$ 6.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-6.60%	8.13%	-14.49%	19.86%	-6.68%	58.37%

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

93.61%
2020-24

Trevor's Law

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.2 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.3 M	\$ 0.5 M	\$ 0.5 M	\$ 0.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	48.30%	28.70%	-7.06%	42.73%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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, 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.

-3.20%
2020-24

Tribal Children and Family Programs

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 17%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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

2.24%
2020-24

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Early Intervention (Early Hearing Detection and Intervention)

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 17.8 M	\$ 17.8 M	\$ 17.8 M	\$ 18.8 M	\$ 18.8 M	\$ 18.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.47%	-7.06%	0.49%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and 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.

22.96%
2020-24

Vaccines For Children

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 53%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 2.426 B	\$ 2.017 B	\$ 2.724 B	\$ 2.973 B	\$ 3.082 B	\$ 4.261 B
Real Change from Prior Year	8.45%	-19.51%	25.14%	3.83%	0.88%	34.87%

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

NEW
SINCE
2020

Youth Behavioral Health Program

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This new program would be part of the overall Behavioral Health Workforce Development Program and would address youth behavioral health needs through peer support while also building an early pathway program for behavioral health careers for young adults.



HOUSING



↑ 30.4%

**Increase in Share of Federal Spending
on Housing from FY 2020 to FY 2024**

TOTAL SPENDING ON HOUSING						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Estimated Spending Level on Children (Age 0-3)	\$ 2.703 B	\$ 2.986 B	\$ 3.200 B	\$ 3.399 B	\$ 3.640 B	\$ 3.970 B
Real Change from Prior Year (Inflation-Adjusted)	7.15%	6.97%	-0.71%	1.06%	4.21%	6.40%
Share of Total Spending	0.041%	0.044%	0.054%	0.055%	0.054%	0.057%

We are currently in the midst of a dire affordable housing crisis, which has exacerbated eviction and homelessness rates. Unfortunately, this crisis is hitting children hardest. Recent studies have shown that children are at greatest risk of eviction. Children make up more than 40% of all individuals facing eviction each year.¹ Additionally, children under 5 make up the largest group of households that have had evictions filed against them. Children are typically invisible in documents tracking eviction cases, contributing to the complexity of the issue and making it more difficult to address the housing challenges. Extreme racial disparities also exist, particularly affecting Black babies. About a quarter of Black babies and toddlers face the risk of eviction each year.²

Eviction has many detrimental effects on infants and children. Evicted families are more likely to be exposed to allergens, toxins, and unsafe homes. And children who have an eviction filing or an

eviction move out order are more likely to have higher levels of blood lead and lower levels of lead testing.³ These children also have an increased risk of hospitalization, neurodevelopmental harm, and adverse birth outcomes.⁴

The federal government plays a critical role in preventing evictions and homelessness. Several federal programs directly address the affordable housing crisis by providing support for affordable homes and eviction prevention. Some major programs include tenant and project-based rental assistance, the public housing fund, and homeless assistance grants. These funds are essential to ensuring an adequate supply of affordable housing and an investment in services preventing eviction.

Overall Analysis

In recent years, the U.S. has been experiencing an affordable housing crisis, partially fueled by the pandemic. The federal government played a crucial role in supporting housing throughout the pandemic. The Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program provided over \$46 billion to support housing stability for renters during the pandemic.⁵ Nonetheless, the housing market continues to experience impacts from the pandemic. Inflation and rising interest rates also contribute to the housing shortage.⁶ Additionally, the lowest-income renters have had the slowest and most difficult recovery from the pandemic.⁷

- Federal funding during the pandemic was crucial to supporting housing stability and access to affordable housing. Babies — who are at the greatest risk of eviction — continue to need increased support. The share of housing funding for babies aged 0-3 of the federal budget has increased somewhat between FY 2020 and FY 2022 but has remained flat since then. Even with the notable 30% increase in the share of federal spending between FY 2020 and FY 2024, the reality for children does not reflect that increase. Families with young children continue to face particularly high rates of housing instability and homelessness yet often face high barriers to accessing assistance.
- Between FY 2023 and FY 2024, two programs saw large declines: Estimated funding for children 0-3 from the Choice Neighborhoods program fell by \$22.3 million (a 79.1% decline when adjusted for inflation) while the National Housing Trust Fund declined again by another \$5.7 million (a further 40.1% decline when adjusted for inflation).
- However, increases elsewhere — most notably in tenant-based and project-based rental assistance — ensured that the share of total spending devoted to housing programs for children from 0-3 remained steady between FY 2023 and FY 2024.

Despite some funding increases for rental assistance, current levels are not sufficient to assist all families with children who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability, and data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development shows that households with children represent a declining share of subsidized housing recipients.⁸ Stable housing is critical for healthy child development, so we encourage the federal government to work to ensure that families with young children can access and utilize rental assistance.

Overview of the President's FY 2025 Budget

President Biden's FY 2025 budget proposal prioritizes eviction prevention, with \$184.5 million going toward eviction reform for children age 0-3. Young children are at greatest risk of eviction, with extreme racial disparities. Roughly 25% of Black babies and toddlers are at risk of eviction in an average year.⁹ The President's funding request focuses on issues such as ensuring renters have access to prevention resources and a fair legal process.¹⁰

The President's budget includes small increases, such as an estimated addition of just over \$11 million dollars for Project-Based Rental Assistance for children aged 0-3 (1.7% increase in FY 2025 adjusted for inflation). This funding stream is vital to ensuring affordable housing for low-income households. However, despite a small nominal increase in funding, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance would decrease for children by 1.34% in FY 2025 when adjusted for inflation. Project and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance provide financial support to low-income households. These two funding streams play critical roles in reducing homelessness and ensuring the availability of accessible and affordable places to live. While these programs have similar functions, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance is issued to the tenant, who can move and continue receiving assistance. Project-Based Rental Assistance is specific to the unit itself and cannot move with the tenant.¹¹ The Public Housing Fund, which is critical to ensuring that low-income families have access to affordable housing, also would take a significant cut under the President's proposal, putting families at risk of homelessness.

The investments that President Biden outlines in his FY 2025 budget fall far short of what's needed to create drastic change for our most at-risk children and families. The housing allocation for children aged 0-3 only comprises 0.06% of the President's overall budget request, which is insufficient to ensure families with young children have the resources necessary for a stable home.

1. "Children Face Highest Risk of Eviction," National Low Income Housing Coalition, October 10, 2023, <https://nlihc.org/resource/children-face-highest-risk-eviction>.
2. Emily Badger, Claire Cain Miller, and Alicia Parlapiano, "The Americans Most Threatened by Eviction: Young Children," The New York Times, October 2, 2023, <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/10/02/upshot/evictions-children-american-renters.html>.
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Housing Program Listing

-40.49%
2020-24

Choice Neighborhoods

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 8%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 9.9 M	\$ 16.2 M	\$ 28.4 M	\$ 28.4 M	\$ 6.1 M	\$ 11.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-19.83%	58.71%	62.16%	-4.85%	-79.15%	82.08%

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

PROPOSED
IN 2025

Eviction Reform

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Office of Policy Development and Research
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 9%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 288.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Young children are at greatest risk of eviction, with extreme racial disparities. The President's budget provides \$3 billion of mandatory funding to prevent evictions that can be used to implement policy and program improvements.

77.28%
2020-24

Homeless Assistance Grants

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Community Planning and Development
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 75.4 M	\$ 109.6 M	\$ 109.6 M	\$ 123.9 M	\$ 138.1 M	\$ 138.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-17.29%	40.69%	-7.38%	7.59%	8.50%	-2.24%

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.

-1.29%
2020-24

Housing Program (TPA)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.4 M	\$ 0.4 M	\$ 0.4 M	\$ 0.5 M	\$ 0.5 M	\$ 0.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	18.88%	-3.19%	-7.11%	-0.93%	-4.93%	46.91%

The Housing Program seeks to enhance the quality of life of qualified individuals by addressing substandard housing and homelessness for members of federally recognized Tribes. The program provides funding for housing repairs and renovations of existing homes, construction of modest replacement homes, housing down payments to use in conjunction with other Federal and State programs, or construction of modest homes for families who do not own a home but have ownership or lease of sufficient land suitable for housing. Program funding is available to federally recognized Tribes for use in providing program services to Tribal applicants who meet the eligibility criteria in 25 CFR § 256. The Housing Program targets eligible applicants and is based upon a priority ranking that includes factors such as income, age, veterans, disability, and dependent children.

-16.03%
2020-24

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

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

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 140.1 M	\$ 249.2 M	\$ 114.8 M	\$ 120.8 M	\$ 121.6 M	\$ 124.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	23.94%	72.13%	-57.32%	0.15%	-2.09%	-0.37%

LIHEAP keeps families safe and healthy through initiatives that assist families with energy costs. Approximately a quarter of spending on LIHEAP goes to children.

45.21%
2020-24

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

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Rural Housing Service

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.6 M	\$ 1.8 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 1.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	16.82%	21.02%	4.25%	1.50%	-2.70%	-22.78%

The Rural Housing Voucher Program is designed to provide qualifying low-income families who live in Rural Rental USDA Housing with vouchers to pay their mortgages and avoid being displaced. The 2024 President's Budget is requesting the Rural Voucher program be merged with the Rental Assistance program, the line item for PB24 is therefore zeroed out.

24.87%
2020-24

National Housing Trust Fund

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Community Planning and Development
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 7.0 M	\$ 8.8 M	\$ 30.7 M	\$ 14.7 M	\$ 9.0 M	\$ 10.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	106.62%	22.02%	221.50%	-54.38%	-40.13%	14.10%

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 benefitting from the National Housing Trust Fund.

64.95%
2020-24

Native American Housing Block Grant Program

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 2%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 15.6 M	\$ 15.6 M	\$ 18.6 M	\$ 18.9 M	\$ 26.7 M	\$ 19.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-14.88%	-3.78%	10.40%	-3.00%	37.36%	-28.00%

The Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) is a formula grant program that provides low-income American Indian and Alaska Natives with safe, decent, and sanitary housing across 567 tribal entities in 35 states. A HUD report in 2017 found that physical housing problems for Indian households in tribal areas are much more severe than for U.S. households on average, and recommended 68,000 units of new, affordable housing in Indian Country to replace substandard or overcrowded units. Limited funding is a key constraint for many tribes in being able to provide new affordable housing units.

20.10%
2020-24

Project Based Rental Assistance (Discretionary)

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Office of Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 535.5 M	\$ 558.8 M	\$ 578.5 M	\$ 578.4 M	\$ 664.4 M	\$ 692.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	8.28%	1.02%	-4.07%	-4.86%	11.77%	1.66%

The Project-Based Rental Assistance Program provides funding to landlords who rent a specified number of affordable apartments to low-income families or individuals. Since FY 2007, the share of children receiving Project Based Rental assistance has fallen from 33 percent to 28 percent, and was as low as 21 percent in 2014.

10.11%
2020-24

Promise Neighborhoods

Department: Education • Bureau: Safe Schools

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 12.1 M	\$ 12.2 M	\$ 12.8 M	\$ 13.7 M	\$ 13.7 M	\$ 13.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	0.77%	-1.98%	-2.76%	1.87%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Building a complete continuum of cradle-to-career solutions of both educational programs and family and community supports, with great schools at the center

86.23%
2020-24

Public Housing Fund (Formerly the Public Housing Operating Fund)

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

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 6%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 261.1 M	\$ 277.2 M	\$ 481.7 M	\$ 485.3 M	\$ 502.2 M	\$ 486.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-2.98%	2.82%	61.01%	-4.14%	0.70%	-5.45%

The Public Housing Fund supports the operation of public housing including maintenance, security, and social services for residents. The share of children living in public housing has fallen from 41 percent to 38 percent since 2007. The 2021 Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act combined the Public Housing Capital Fund and the Public Housing Operating Fund into the new Public Housing Fund. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260) combined the Public Housing Capital Fund and the Public Housing Operating Fund into the new Public Housing Fund. The Budget Book does not track the Public Housing Capital Fund.

13.21%
2020-24

Rural Rental Assistance Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Rural Housing Service

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 58.0 M	\$ 56.8 M	\$ 59.5 M	\$ 62.8 M	\$ 67.9 M	\$ 71.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.80%	-5.23%	-2.93%	0.41%	5.16%	2.54%

The Rental Assistance Program's goal is to reduce the rents paid by low-income families occupying eligible Rural Rental Housing, Rural Cooperative Housing, and Farm Labor Housing projects financed by the Rural Housing Service. Assistance is paid on behalf of residents and covers the difference between the actual monthly rental cost and 30 percent of the tenant's adjusted income. President's Budget request combines Rural Housing Vouchers and Rural Rental Assistance.

27.28%
2020-24

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (Discretionary)

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 6%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.599 B	\$ 1.673 B	\$ 1.776 B	\$ 1.963 B	\$ 2.102 B	\$ 2.126 B
Real Change from Prior Year	9.33%	1.32%	-1.61%	5.18%	4.17%	-1.34%

The Housing Choice Voucher Program, or Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (commonly referred to as "Section 8"), helps subsidize housing costs for over two million families through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is the federal government's largest low-income housing assistance program. Since 2007, the share of children using Tenant Based Rental Assistance has fallen from 54 percent to 33 percent.

EXPIRED
IN 2022

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (Mandatory)

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 6%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 19.4 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Housing Choice Voucher Program, or Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (commonly referred to as "Section 8"), helps subsidize housing costs for over two million families through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is the federal government's largest low-income housing assistance program. Since 2007, the share of children using Tenant Based Rental Assistance has fallen from 54 percent to 33 percent. * The American Rescue Plan authorizes an additional \$4.98 billion of mandatory spending in additional vouchers for Tenant Based Rental Assistance to be allocated over 10 years. We used estimated budget outlays for FY 2022 instead of budget authority.



**INCOME
SUPPORT**



-6.9%

**Decrease in Share of Federal Spending on
Income Support from FY 2020 to FY 2024**

TOTAL SPENDING ON INCOME SUPPORT						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Estimated Spending Level on Children (Age 0-3)	\$29.705 B	\$54.663 B	\$43.841 B	\$27.339 B	\$28.556 B	\$59.267 B
Real Change from Prior Year (Inflation-Adjusted)	19.03%	78.16%	-25.68%	-40.66%	1.63%	102.45%
Share of Total Spending	0.453%	0.801%	0.738%	0.443%	0.422%	0.846%

Income support programs provide financial aid and cash assistance to children and their families and include some of the programs that are most effective at reducing child poverty and economic hardship. The historic improvements to the Child Tax Credit (CTC) in 2021 under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) contributed significantly to the largest-ever decrease in U.S. child poverty, cutting it from 9.7% in 2020 to 5.2% in 2021.¹ CTC payments also dramatically reduced food insufficiency² and eased material hardship for households across the country. The successful policy changes to the CTC also helped address racial and income inequities by temporarily making the tax fully refundable, which allowed it to reach the nearly one-third of children who had been left behind because their household's earnings were too low.³ According to the Center on Poverty and Social Policy at Columbia University, those "left behind" by the lack of refundability of the Child Tax Credit are disproportionately: (1) children under the age of 6 (40% receive only partial or no credit); (2) Black and Hispanic children; (3) children in single-parent households ("70% of children in families headed by single parents who are female do not receive the full credit"); and, (4) children in rural communities.⁴

Programs such as the CTC, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and a proposal in the President's FY 2025 budget request to establish a National Paid Family and Medical Leave Program would work together to strengthen the support system for millions of children and their families. Extensive research shows that tax credits and cash transfers promote positive parent-child interactions, improve child development outcomes, and significantly reduce child poverty. It is hard to overstate the impact of these programs collectively and the results became evident under the ARPA when additional investments in broad income support cut child poverty nearly in half. Child poverty is a policy choice, with clear, proven methods for reducing it. The American people — across partisan, racial, gender, regional, and generational lines — agree by overwhelming margins that Congress should extend and improve the Child Tax Credit.⁵

Now, under the arbitrary discretionary funding caps set in the 2023 Fiscal Responsibility Act, children's discretionary programs are facing deep cuts that could exceed 10% or more for some programs unless Congress moves to prevent them. Reams of research have shown that investing in children results in near- and long-term positive outcomes for them and for the country's economy as a whole. There is overwhelming evidence of strong rates of return on investment (ROI) when resources are dedicated to children, particularly low-income kids.⁶ Despite this potent evidence on spending, the share of federal spending on our youngest children is a mere 1.52% overall and declining and the share of federal spending on income support programs is only 0.42% and declining as well.

No child deserves to grow up in poverty, yet nearly 9 million U.S. children do.⁷ Every child should have their basic needs met — food, shelter, safety — and have healthy environments in which to play, learn, live, and thrive. Again, child poverty is a policy choice. The expiration of the improved CTC in 2022 more than doubled year-over-year child poverty with the rate of children living in poverty increasing from 5.2% to 12.4%.⁸ These percentages represent more than 5 million children who were allowed to backslide into poverty within a single year.⁹ Black, Hispanic, and American Indian and Alaska Native children experience poverty at twice the rate of their white peers. In addition, 10% of all U.S. children — 7.3 million kids — did not have enough food to keep them healthy in 2022, a nearly 7% increase over the previous year.¹⁰ As with poverty, rates of food insecurity are significantly higher for households with children that include a Black or Hispanic adult.

As lawmakers make major funding decisions, discuss tax reform proposals, and look to another debt limit debate, they must embrace and better understand the challenges affecting every aspect of our children's lives. In May, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) put a \$4 trillion price tag on a permanent extension of the expiring provisions of the 2017 tax cuts. This estimate includes \$3.4 trillion from extending the expiring individual and estate tax provisions as well as \$551 billion from extending business provisions. Instead of extending tax breaks for the nation's wealthiest people and corporations, Congress should reform our tax structure in a way that generates revenue to improve investment in our children. Lawmakers must also center kids, their families, and those most in need in annual spending decisions, reject arbitrary budget caps, and protect mandatory programs that support children.

A more equitable tax code that works because everyone pays their fair share would support healthy child development and help stabilize families struggling to afford every-day living expenses. The tax reform debate provides a tremendous opportunity for lawmakers to enact changes that would significantly reduce child poverty, address income and racial inequities, and build financial security for all our nation's children and families.

Overall Analysis

The share of federal spending on income support for children ages 0-3 declined by nearly 7% from FY 2020 to FY 2024. Despite a small 1.63% real increase in spending for income support programs between FY 2023 and FY 2024, the share of federal spending on infant and toddler-related income support steadily declined from a peak of an extremely inadequate 0.80% in FY 2021 during the height of the pandemic to an alarming low of 0.42% in FY 2024. The bump up in funding from FY 2023 to FY 2024 was driven by an increase in seven programs, most heavily by higher funding of the Disability Compensation for Veterans and the Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits. However, those increases were to great degree offset by declines in five programs including the Supplemental Security Income Federal Benefits Payment program and the refundable portion of the Child Tax Credit.

Overview of the President's FY 2025 Budget:

President Biden's FY 2025 budget request, if enacted, would represent a big win for babies in need of income support. The share of federal spending on infants and toddlers would more than double with President Biden's request for more than \$30 billion in additional investment solely for children between the ages of 0-3. An expansion of the mandatory refundable portion of the Child Tax Credit — totaling nearly \$28 billion — would be the primary driver of this increase. This significant CTC boost plus the President's \$1.7 billion proposal to establish a national paid family and medical leave program, would account almost entirely for the increased investment in children 0-3. The request also recommends \$2.15 million in additional funding for the Department of Labor to give grants and technical assistance to states and localities to develop, improve, and implement the income support programs.

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Income Support Program Listing

N/A
2020-24

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.145 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A

The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) can help in offsetting workinng families' child care costs. The credit was made temporarily fully refundable under the American Rescue Plan for FY21

0.09%
2020-24

Child Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 4.167 B	\$ 11.844 B	\$ 19.715 B	\$ 4.357 B	\$ 4.308 B	\$ 32.241 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-5.25%	175.19%	54.25%	-78.97%	-3.79%	629.97%

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. The American Rescue Plan Act made several changes and expansions to the child tax credit: increased the amount of the Child Tax Credit from \$2,000 to \$3,600 for children under age 6, and \$3,000 for other children under age 18, expanded the scope to cover children 17 years and younger compared to 16 years and younger, provided advance payments of an eligible taxpayer's 2021 child tax credit as opposed to waiting until the 2022 tax filing season to receive the benefit, made the credit fully refundable so low-income households can receive the full benefit, and extended the credit to Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories.

52.13%
2020-24

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

Department: Veterans Affairs • Bureau: Benefits Programs
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 1%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 43.9 M	\$ 45.5 M	\$ 50.0 M	\$ 57.2 M	\$ 69.0 M	\$ 66.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	5.29%	0.45%	1.73%	8.98%	17.23%	-6.09%

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

58.15%
2020-24

Disability Compensation (Veterans)

Department: Veterans Affairs • Bureau: Benefits Programs

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.254 B	\$ 3.413 B	\$ 3.870 B	\$ 4.555 B	\$ 5.316 B	\$ 5.784 B
Real Change from Prior Year	10.39%	1.56%	5.07%	11.99%	13.55%	6.13%

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.

1.17%
2020-24

Disability Trust Fund Benefits

Department: Social Security Administration • Bureau: Independent Agency

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 1%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 969.1 M	\$ 946.4 M	\$ 944.1 M	\$ 986.3 M	\$ 1.013 B	\$ 1.060 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.08%	-5.45%	-7.56%	-0.59%	-0.08%	2.07%

Disability Insurance (DI) provides monthly benefits to disabled-worker beneficiaries and their spouses and children.

-5.20%
2020-24

Earned Income Tax Credit (Refundability)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 8.694 B	\$ 9.174 B	\$ 9.707 B	\$ 8.376 B	\$ 8.514 B	\$ 8.606 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.15%	2.16%	-1.96%	-1.09%	-1.41%	22.41%

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. For FY 2016-2019, data from the Internal Revenue Service was used to determine the amount of refundable credits being issued to people with qualifying children (the amount allocated to childless adults was not included). As the most recent year of data from the IRS is for tax year 2019 (FY 2020), for FY 2021-2023, we used data from the Congressional Research Service that estimates 97% of EITC funds are allocated to people with qualifying children. For FY 2022 we used a 91% multiplier to account for the expansion to childless workers.



Economic Impact Payments (Round 1)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 4.517 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) of March 2020 provided the first round of economic impact payments to Americans following the decline of the economy from the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible individuals for their first taxable year beginning in 2020 were sent a refundable tax credit of up to \$1,200 (\$2,400 for eligible individuals filing a joint tax return), plus \$500 per qualifying child of the eligible individual.



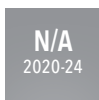
Economic Impact Payments (Round 2)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 4.921 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020, provided Americans with a second round of economic impact payments. Eligible individuals received \$600 per person, or \$1,200 for married individuals, plus \$600 for each qualifying child.



Economic Impact Payments (Round 3)

Department: Treasury • Bureau: Internal Revenue Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 16.370 B	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The American Rescue Plan Act (March 2021) authorized the third and final round of economic impact payments. Qualifying individuals received payments of up to \$1,400 (\$2,800 for eligible individuals filing a joint tax return), plus \$1,400 per qualifying dependent of the eligible individual(s).

70.01%
2020-24

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Department: Housing and Urban Development • Bureau: Public and Indian Housing
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 5%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 4.4 M	\$ 4.3 M	\$ 6.0 M	\$ 6.8 M	\$ 7.7 M	\$ 6.8M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-4.02%	27.35%	9.12%	9.37%	-13.22%

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 services plans, and escrow accounts that grow as families' earnings rises. 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 37 percent of households participating FSS have children.

-22.70%
2020-24

Human Services Tribal Design (TPA)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M	\$ 0.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	2.32%	2.84%	-7.34%	-28.47%	-2.70%	1.12%

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

13.39%
2020-24

Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 2.2 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 2.6 M	\$ 2.7 M	\$ 2.5 M	\$ 3.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-25.45%	13.43%	-5.11%	-1.91%	-7.85%	48.48%

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) program is provided to Tribes as authorized under Pub. L. 95-608, the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978. All BIA-funded ICWA programs are Tribally operated. Tribes receive ICWA TPA funding to prevent the separation of Indian families and provide assistance for family reunification. Funded ICWA activities include intervening in involuntary child custody proceedings and providing reunification and prevention services to Indian families. Tribal ICWA programs are the central contact point for Tribes and AI/AN families seeking assistance for temporary and permanent placement of Indian children, including foster care. Tribal ICWA staff also serve as the liaison between State and Tribal court systems and are the first responders to incidences of child endangerment, neglect, and abuse. The activities and work of Tribal ICWA staff have resulted in improved coordination and compliance with the law.

N/A
2020-24

National Paid Family and Medical Leave Program

Department: Social Security Administration • Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 85%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.700 B
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The President's FY25 budget would establish a national paid family and medical leave program under the Social Security Administration that would provide 12 weeks of paid leave for workers to care for a new child, a seriously ill loved one, themselves or to take time to address other health-and family-related circumstances.

32.95%
2020-24

Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits

Department: Social Security Administration • Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 0.4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.290 B	\$ 3.470 B	\$ 3.724 B	\$ 4.172 B	\$ 4.520 B	\$ 4.815 B
Real Change from Prior Year	4.36%	2.07%	-0.55%	6.62%	5.40%	3.92%

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

NEW
SINCE
2020

Paid Leave State Grants

Department: Labor • Bureau: The Women's Bureau
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 85%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This new proposal would provide grants to states and localities from the Department of Labor for technical assistance to develop, improve, and implement the larger, new proposed paid leave program.

6.32%
2020-24

Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 13%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 609.1 M	\$ 596.6 M	\$ 563.7 M	\$ 615.9 M	\$ 668.9 M	\$ 685.9 M
Real Change from Prior Year	8.50%	-5.17%	-12.44%	3.96%	5.68%	0.02%

The Child Support Enforcement Program enforces the support obligations owed by absent parents to their children, locates absent parents, establishes paternity, and obtains child, spousal, and medical support.

-0.41%
2020-24

Social Services (TPA)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.9 M	\$ 1.9 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 2.1 M	\$ 2.0 M	\$ 3.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.96%	-3.71%	-3.54%	-1.91%	-6.20%	46.04%

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

-3.88%
2020-24

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Federal Benefit Payments

Department: Social Security Administration • Bureau: Independent Agency
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.563 B	\$ 1.429 B	\$ 1.574 B	\$ 1.623 B	\$ 1.552 B	\$ 1.711 B
Real Change from Prior Year	7.31%	-11.50%	2.04%	-1.82%	-6.98%	7.57%

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program guarantees a minimum level of income to low-income individuals who are aged, blind, or disabled, and is 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 15 percent (or 1.2 million) of SSI beneficiaries are children, half of whom would, without SSI, live beneath the poverty line.

-32.03%
2020-24

Survivors' Pension Benefits (Non-Service Connected Death)

Department: Veterans Affairs • Bureau: Benefits Programs

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 1%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 21.1 M	\$ 18.0 M	\$ 16.6 M	\$ 16.0 M	\$ 14.8 M	\$ 14.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.27%	-17.43%	-14.67%	-8.58%	-9.45%	-7.30%

Survivors' Pension Benefits provide direct payments to needy surviving spouses and children of deceased war-time veterans whose deaths were not due to service. Children are estimated to receive 12 percent of these payments.

EXPIRED
IN 2022

TANF Pandemic Emergency Assistance

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

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 147.9 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 established a new Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

-3.19%
2020-24

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

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

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 2.565 B	\$ 2.275 B	\$ 2.520 B	\$ 2.566 B	\$ 2.566 B	\$ 2.566 B
Real Change from Prior Year	10.34%	-14.14%	2.63%	-3.11%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) is designed to assist struggling families both through direct cash payments and through work supports such as job training and child care assistance. Income support is critical to healthy child development and academic achievement. 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, but because it is a block grant, funding has not responded to changes in the economy or increases in participation and the real value has declined over time. Fully 75 percent of TANF funding goes to children.

1.67%
2020-24

Welfare Assistance (TPA)

Department: Interior • Bureau: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 4%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 2.8 M	\$ 2.9 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M	\$ 3.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.07%	1.05%	-6.75%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Welfare Assistance program offers five types of secondary assistance: General Assistance, Child Care Assistance, Non-Medical Institutional or Custodial Care of Adults, Burial Assistance, and Emergency Assistance. Eligible AI/AN are assessed, screened, and referred to primary public assistance A-HS-7 programs for possible assistance, such as Supplemental Security Insurance, Social Security Disability Insurance, and State-operated general assistance programs. The Welfare Assistance program in FY 2024 will continue to focus on providing funding to participating eligible members of federally recognized Tribes.



**JUSTICE AND CHILD
PROTECTION**



-5.7%

**Decrease in Share of Federal Spending on
Justice and Child Protection from FY 2020 to FY 2024**

TOTAL SPENDING ON JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Estimated Spending Level on Children (Age 0-3)	\$2.073 B	\$2.154 B	\$2.187 B	\$2.291 B	\$2.020 B	\$2.216 B
Real Change from Prior Year (Inflation-Adjusted)	4.80%	0.57%	-5.92%	-0.28%	-14.22%	6.99%
Share of Total Spending	0.032%	0.032%	0.037%	0.037%	0.030%	0.032%

Dangers to children's physical safety and well-being remain a pervasive issue, making it a priority to fund programs that advocate for justice and child protection. Child welfare programs offer crucial intervention and support services to vulnerable children and families. Data show that the youngest children are the most at-risk and experience higher rates of maltreatment. Children ages 0-3 make up more than one-quarter (27.3%) of victims of maltreatment and 30% of all victims of neglect are under the age of 3.¹ Early exposure to these forms of child abuse interrupts a child's healthy physical and mental development.² Maltreatment and neglect also can lead to entry into the foster care system. Currently, infants and toddlers are overrepresented in the foster care population, with children under age 3 accounting for approximately one-third (33%) of those entering foster care during Fiscal Year (FY) 2022.³ In FY 2022, neglect caused more than 115,000 children to be removed from their homes and placed in the foster care system.⁴ Although not causally linked, child poverty and child neglect are highly correlated.⁵ Poverty serves as a risk

factor for a family being reported to child protective services for neglect because it often signifies a lack of access to necessary resources for appropriate care.⁶ Therefore, policy makers 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 Act (VOCAA) 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.⁷ Similarly, VOCAA, a youth justice program, supports enforcement and prosecution of child abuse cases and funds Child Advocacy Centers, which coordinate the proceedings.⁸ CAPTA provides state funding for child protective service systems, which identify, prevent, and treat cases of child abuse and neglect.⁹ CAPTA also provides services to families affected by substance-use disorders by helping families create plans of safe care. In FY 2022, nearly 46,000 infants in 50 states were referred to child protective service agencies with prenatal substance exposure.¹⁰

Overall Analysis

FY 2024 marked the biggest decline in four years in total funding for justice and child protection programs for children 0-3, whose funding declined more than 14% from the previous year after adjusting for inflation. Since FY 2020, lawmakers have cut funding for these programs by nearly 6% as a share of the federal budget.

A \$315.9 million decrease in Payments to States for Foster Care for ages 0-3 accounted for a large part of the FY 2024 decline. Decreasing numbers of children in the foster system are driving some of this decline, but the children who remain are not getting the financial support that they need.¹¹ In FY 2023, fewer than two-in-five children in foster care (36%) were covered by Title IV-E federal funding. The number of children covered under the mandatory funding has continued to decrease over the years due to the eligibility requirements, which are not adjusted for inflation and have remained the same since 1996.¹² Additionally, the entry of infants and toddlers into the foster care system has remained high, with children ages 0-3 representing one-third of all children entering foster care in FY 2022.¹³ As a result, the major decrease in foster care funding will disproportionately harm infants and toddlers.

On the other hand, funding for the Child Welfare Training program for ages 0-3 increased by nearly 13%. The program helps prospective and current child welfare agency staff strengthen their skills, knowledge, and qualifications. The \$6.7 million in funding for FY 2024 also supports special projects for training personnel to work in the field of child welfare.¹⁴ Although the increase to this program will be beneficial, this success is offset by the fact that only three other justice and child protection programs of the 29 programs tracked here experienced an increase in funding for ages 0-3, with the rest experiencing inflation-adjusted declines. For example, Promoting Safe and Stable Families experienced a more than \$3.4 million funding decrease for ages 0-3, adjusted for inflation. PSSF funding is essential to supporting states' targeted efforts to prevent child abuse, encourage permanence in families, and promote more equitable outcomes for children and families as a whole.¹⁵

Overview of the President's FY 2025 Budget

President Biden's FY 2025 budget increases funding for justice and child protection programs by 7%, bringing spending on children in this area to \$2.216 billion. While this increase does not fully restore funding to FY 2023 levels, it does offer greater support for individual child welfare programs than they have received in recent years. For example, mandatory funding for PSSF, which experienced cuts in FY 2024, would almost double, to more than \$150 million in spending for children 0-3. This drastic increase would further support family preservation and reunification services and would help create a new grant program aimed at covering legal costs for children and families involved in the child welfare system, including costs associated with issues such as housing and domestic violence.¹⁶

The President's FY 2025 budget request also increases funding for the Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI), an initiative created in FY 2022 to prevent and reduce violent crime in communities.¹⁷ With a 95% inflation-adjusted increase, funding for CVIPI would reach \$14.6 million in spending for children 0-3, contributing positively to children's overall safety and protection.

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Justice and Child Protection Program Listing

Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments Program

-3.20%
2020-24

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 11.3 B	\$ 11.3 B	\$ 11.3 B	\$ 11.3 B	\$ 11.3 B	\$ 11.3 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Adoption Incentives Program provides incentive payments to states that increase the number of adoptions of children in the public foster care system. At the end of FY 2019, more than 125,000 children in foster care were eligible and waiting to be adopted. In FY 2018, the adoption rate for children in foster care was 14.4%.

Adoption Opportunities

21.87%
2020-24

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 6.4 B	6.7 M	7.2 M	7.7 M	8.0 M	7.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	6.13%	1.41%	0.86%	1.10%	1.12%	-6.14%

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

-3.20%
2020-24

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Community Living
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 45.30 K	\$ 45.30 K	\$ 45.30 K	\$ 45.30 K	\$ 45.30 K	\$ 45.30 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

More than 2.5 million grandparents in the United States are the primary caretaker of their grandchildren. The Advisory Council, 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.

-0.43%
2020-24

Child Abuse Discretionary Activities

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 31%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 10.7 M	\$ 10.7 M	\$ 11.1 M	\$ 11.7 M	\$ 11.1 M	\$ 11.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.54%	-3.19%	-4.69%	0.44%	-7.82%	2.96%

Ongoing support for a national child abuse hotline to provide resources and intervention in all modalities, including chat, text, and call, to provide comprehensive capabilities to serve both youth and concerned adults facing child abuse and neglect.

12.92%
2020-24

Child Abuse State Grants

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 31%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 27.7 M	\$ 27.7 M	\$ 29.2 M	\$ 32.3 M	\$ 32.3 M	\$ 32.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	4.09%	-3.19%	-2.19%	5.16%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) is a critical part of federal efforts to assist states and communities in addressing the need for innovative and effective child abuse prevention and treatment services. This funding combines Child Abuse State Grants, Child Abuse Discretionary Activities, and Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention. Ongoing support for a national child abuse hotline to provide resources and intervention in all modalities, including chat, text, and call, to provide comprehensive capabilities to serve both youth and concerned adults facing child abuse and neglect.

-17.08%
2020-24

Child Welfare Services

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 47.1 M	\$ 40.3 M	\$ 40.3 M	\$ 40.3 M	\$ 40.3 M	\$ 40.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	15.07%	-17.07%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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

18.33%
2020-24

Child Welfare Training

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 31%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 5.5 M	\$ 5.8 M	\$ 5.8 M	\$ 5.8 M	\$ 6.7 M	\$ 14.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	2.20%	-7.34%	-4.85%	12.68%	104.03%

Child Welfare Services 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.

21.00%
2020-24

Children Exposed to Violence Awareness and Intervention Initiative

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 1.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	18.94%	-2.70%	-2.46%

-3.20%
2020-24

Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 125.0 K	\$ 125.0 K	\$ 125.0 K	\$ 125.0 K	\$ 125.0 K	\$ 125.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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 percent of U.S. children who have experienced it.

-3.20%
2020-24

Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 3%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 12.50 K	\$ 12.50 K	\$ 12.50 K	\$ 12.50 K	\$ 12.50 K	\$ 12.50 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Grants for the Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal support the development and enhancement of a publically accessible internet 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.

-3.20%
2020-24

Children, Youth, and Families at Risk

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 1.3 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

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

**NEW
SINCE
2020**

Children's Interagency Coordinating Council

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

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 450.0 K	\$ 450.0 K	\$ 450.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-2.70%	-2.46%

Funding to foster greater coordination and transparency on child policy across agencies. The Council shall enter into agreement with NASEM to prepare a report to Congress analyzing federal policies that have affected child poverty. The study should rely on the U.S. Census Bureau Supplemental Poverty Measure, among other sources of information. The Council will also examine and periodically report on a broad array of cross-cutting issues affecting child well-being.

-57.16%
2020-24

Community Services Block Grants

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

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 5%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 92.6 M	\$ 39.6 M	\$ 40.2 M	\$ 41.0 M	\$ 41.0 M	\$ 41.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	127.50%	-58.55%	-6.03%	-3.02%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Community Services Block Grant Program offers 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.

22.89%
2020-24

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention

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

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 8.4 M	\$ 9.2 M	\$ 9.9 M	\$ 10.7 M	\$ 10.7 M	\$ 13.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	37.97%	5.51%	0.30%	2.40%	-2.70%	24.24%

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) is designed to assist struggling families both through direct cash payments and through work supports such as job training and child care assistance. Income support is critical to healthy child development and academic achievement. 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, but because it is a block grant, funding has not responded to changes in the economy or increases in participation and the real value has declined over time. Fully 75 percent of TANF funding goes to children.

505.02%
2020-24

Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 2.1 M	\$ 2.1 M	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 7.5 M	\$ 15.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	69.43%	-7.34%	239.83%	-2.70%	95.09%

9.89%
2020-24

Consumer Product Safety Commission

Department: Consumer Product Safety Commission • Bureau: Consumer Product Safety Commission
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 6%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 8.1 M	\$ 8.2 M	\$ 8.4 M	\$ 9.3 M	\$ 9.2 M	\$ 11.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	3.23%	-1.73%	-4.56%	4.36%	-3.67%	18.27%

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.

21.00%
2020-24

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 2%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 288.0 K	\$ 300.0 K	\$ 336.0 K	\$ 360.0 K	\$ 360.0 K	\$ 360.0 K
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	0.85%	3.78%	1.95%	-2.70%	-2.46%

Through the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program, the Department of Justice seeks to ensure that abused and neglected children receive high-quality representation in dependency court hearings.

32.76%
2020-24

Family Violence Prevention and Services

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Children and Family Services Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 15%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 26.4 M	\$ 27.6 M	\$ 30.2 M	\$ 36.2 M	\$ 36.2 M	\$ 36.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	5.22%	0.96%	1.55%	14.18%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) program is authorized by the Child Abuse Amendments Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-457), as most recently amended by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320). The program provides funding to support programs and projects that work to prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence and to provide immediate shelter and supportive services for adult and youth survivors of domestic violence (and their dependents).

60.36%
2020-24

Guardianship Assistance

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

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 21.0 M	\$ 23.9 M	\$ 24.4 M	\$ 33.1 M	\$ 34.8 M	\$ 35.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	13.75%	9.87%	-5.35%	29.24%	2.38%	-1.92%

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

16.16%
2020-24

Missing & Exploited Children Programs

Department: Justice • Bureau: Office of Justice Programs
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 25%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 22.0 M	\$ 23.6 M	\$ 24.9 M	\$ 26.4 M	\$ 26.4 M	\$ 26.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	5.18%	4.01%	-2.41%	0.92%	-2.70%	-1.53%

The Missing and Exploited Children Program provides funds to public agencies or private nonprofit organizations for research, training, technical assistance, demonstration projects, or service programs designed to enhance support for missing children and their families.

25.62%
2020-24

Payments to States for Adoption Assistance

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 7%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 227.4 M	\$ 255.5 M	\$ 251.1 M	\$ 277.4 M	\$ 295.1 M	\$ 313.1 M
Real Change from Prior Year	10.94%	8.76%	-8.95%	5.14%	3.53%	3.47%

The 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.

-13.23%
2020-24

Payments to States for Foster Care

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 24%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.285 B	\$ 1.391 B	\$ 1.399 B	\$ 1.428 B	\$ 1.152 B	\$ 1.243 B
Real Change from Prior Year	0.44%	4.76%	-6.77%	-2.86%	-21.52%	5.25%

The 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. The proportion of children in foster care receiving these maintenance payments has declined from 51.8 percent in 2000 to approximately 40 percent in FY 2018, partially due to duction in the overall foster care population and increased adoptions, but also due to fixed income eligibility guidelines.

-6.84%
2020-24

Poison Control

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Health Resources and Services Administration
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 41%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 11.4 M	\$ 10.2 M	\$ 10.6 M	\$ 11.0 M	\$ 11.0 M	\$ 11.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	20.36%	-13.77%	-3.61%	-1.17%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The 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. The proportion of children in foster care receiving these maintenance payments has declined from 51.8 percent in 2000 to approximately 40 percent in FY 2018, partially due to duction in the overall foster care population and increased adoptions, but also due to fixed income eligibility guidelines.

-24.12%
2020-24

Promoting Safe and Stable Families (Discretionary)

Department: Health and Human Services • Bureau: Administration for Children and Families
Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 24%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 22.2 M	\$ 19.8 M	\$ 19.8 M	\$ 20.8 M	\$ 17.4 M	\$ 18.4 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-8.59%	-13.65%	-7.33%	-0.23%	-18.44%	2.93%

The Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) Program offers grants to states to help prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families, to improve the quality of care and services to children and their families, and to promote family reunification. The FY20 funds to the program include \$20 million for PSSF's Kinship Navigator Programs and \$10 million for Regional Partnership Grants targeting children and families impacted by the opioid epidemic. The 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. The proportion of children in foster care receiving these maintenance payments has declined from 51.8 percent in 2000 to approximately 40 percent in FY 2018, partially due to duction in the overall foster care population and increased adoptions, but also due to fixed income eligibility guidelines.

2.88%
2020-24

Promoting Safe and Stable Families (Mandatory)

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

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 24%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 77.9 M	\$ 78.8 M	\$ 82.8 M	\$ 82.8 M	\$ 82.8 M	\$ 154.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	7.11%	-2.06%	-2.65%	-4.85%	-2.70%	82.37%

The Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) Program offers grants to states to help prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families, to improve the quality of care and services to children and their families, and to promote family reunification. The FY20 funds to the program include \$20 million for PSSF's Kinship Navigator Programs and \$10 million for Regional Partnership Grants targeting children and families impacted by the opioid epidemic.

2.87%
2020-24

Social Services Block Grant

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

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 9%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 147.3 M	\$ 147.6 M	\$ 156.6 M	\$ 156.6 M	\$ 156.6 M	\$ 156.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-4.20%	-2.98%	-1.73%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The Social Services Block Grant offers funds to states to provide social services that best suit the needs of individuals in that state. Services typically include child day care, protective services for children and adults, and home care services for the elderly and handicapped. Roughly 56 percent of SSBG services benefit children.

935.73%
2020-24

Social Services Research and Demonstration

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

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 17%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.2 M	\$ 1.3 M	\$ 7.6 M	\$ 24.3 M	\$ 12.8 M	\$ 5.2 M
Real Change from Prior Year	6.14%	3.02%	452.67%	205.45%	-48.90%	-60.33%

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.

-3.20%
2020-24

Support for Missing and Exploited Children

Department: Homeland Security • Bureau: United States Secret Service

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 25%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 1.5 M	\$ 1.5 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-3.19%	-7.34%	-4.85%	-2.70%	-2.46%

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children assists federal law enforcement agencies in the investigation and recovery of missing children and supports the maintenance of a national resource center dedicated to these issues.

47.00%
2020-24

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 Infants and Toddlers: 29%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 7.7 M	\$ 8.6 M	\$ 9.4 M	\$ 11.7 M	\$ 11.7 M	\$ 12.6 M
Real Change from Prior Year	18.28%	7.57%	1.93%	18.22%	-2.70%	4.68%

The Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) program supports training and technical assistance to professionals involved in investigating, prosecuting, and treating child abuse. This program also supports the development of Children's Advocacy Centers and/or multi-disciplinary teams designed to prevent the inadvertent revictimization of an abused child by the justice and social service system in their efforts to protect the child.



NUTRITION



15.6%

Increase in Share of Federal Spending on Nutrition from FY 2020 to FY 2024

TOTAL SPENDING ON NUTRITION						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Estimated Spending Level on Children (Age 0-3)	\$11.549 B	\$14.169 B	\$14.476 B	\$15.398 B	\$13.792 B	\$14.378 B
Real Change from Prior Year (Inflation-Adjusted)	22.93%	18.78%	-5.33%	1.21%	-12.85%	1.69%
Share of Total Spending	0.176%	0.208%	0.244%	0.250%	0.204%	0.205%

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.¹ 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.² More than 1-in-7 children in America experiences food insecurity, a situation being compounded by soaring food costs, and the rising prices and shortages around infant formula.³

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, also 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 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.

Overall Analysis

The total share of spending that goes toward infant's and toddler's nutrition programs has declined significantly between FY 2023 and FY 2024, and accounts for not even a quarter of a percent of the total budget. Total spending on nutrition programs for babies decreased by 12.85% between FY 2023 and FY 2024 adjusted for inflation. Most notably SNAP spending on infants suffered the largest cuts in funding in FY 2024 for babies of any program in the federal budget. Food prices rose by 5% in 2023, and more investments are needed in order to ensure that our children have enough to eat in the face of rising food insecurity and inflation.

Given that the last of the pandemic-era programs and enhanced benefits expired in 2023, many programs saw significant cuts as benefits returned to lower levels. Specifically, SNAP spending decreased by nearly 24% between FY 2023 and FY 2024 as emergency allotments expired. Smaller but still important programs, like the Farmers Market Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program) saw significant cuts of up to 62.6% in the same time frame. Political trends also shifted dramatically during FY 2023, as appropriators struggled to secure full funding for WIC in the House despite a decades-long bipartisan agreement to do so.

Overview of the President's FY 2025 Budget

President Biden's FY 2025 budget makes modest but important investments in our youngest children's nutrition programs. However, while the proposed FY 2025 levels are an improvement over the FY 2024 spending levels, they still fund these programs at lower levels than previous years. The President's FY 2025 budget request increases nutrition funding for infants and toddlers by nearly \$60 million, but that amount cannot reverse the \$1.7 billion decrease dealt to these programs between FY 2023 and FY 2024.

The President's FY 2025 budget increases funding for WIC to \$7.7 billion, providing enough support to reach 800,000 mothers and babies per month. This funding is sufficient to meet all of the current program's needs. The President's budget also supports WIC's enhanced fruit and vegetable cash value benefit (CVB) levels, allowing mothers to purchase more produce for their children.

Finally, this budget proposes a \$34 million contingency fund to finance any unexpected expenses, such as increased participation or food costs.

1. Benjamin-Neelon, Sara E., Allen, Carter, and Brian Neelon. "Household Food Security and Infant Adiposity." *American Academy of Pediatrics Selective Deposit*, 146(3). September 1, 2020. <https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/146/3/e20193725/36662/Household-Food-Security-and-Infant-Adiposity?autologincheck=redirected>.
2. Cook, John T. et al. "Food Insecurity Is Associated with Adverse Health Outcomes among Human Infants and Toddlers." *The Journal of Nutrition*, 134(6). June 2004. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0022316623028171>.
3. "Food Insecurity." *American Academy of Pediatrics*. Last accessed May 16, 2024. <https://www.aap.org/en/patient-care/food-insecurity/>.

Nutrition Program Listing

7.11%
2020-24

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 28%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 1.074 B	\$ 1.124 B	\$ 1.208 B	\$ 1.305 B	\$ 1.188 B	\$ 1.241 B
Real Change from Prior Year	4.57%	1.34%	-0.42%	2.77%	-11.37%	1.88%

The Child and Adult Care Food Program assists child and adult 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.

-100.00%
2020-24

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (Women, Infants and Children Participants)

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 67%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 133.5 M	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	-100.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of vulnerable populations by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. As of FY 2015, the program began phasing out women, infants and children, focusing exclusively on elderly persons above age 60. Funding for this program directed for women, infants, and children was phased out of the program starting in FY 2020.

-47.81%
2020-24

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 Infants and Toddlers: 67%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 12.4 M	\$ 14.0 M	\$ 17.4 M	\$ 17.4 M	\$ 6.7 M	\$ 10.0 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-1.43%	9.61%	14.73%	-4.85%	-62.58%	46.32%

The WIC 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.

-8.86%
2020-24

Special Milk Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 12%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 0.9 M	\$ 0.8 M	\$ 0.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	-0.53%	0.17%	-20.76%	19.01%	-17.21%	-2.21%

The Child and Adult Care Food Program assists child and adult 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.

14.19%
2020-24

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

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 67%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.979 B	\$3.355 B	\$ 4.006 B	\$ 4.006 B	\$ 4.693 B	\$ 5.139 B
Real Change from Prior Year	-3.30%	-18.36%	10.62%	-4.85%	14.01%	6.80%

The Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and breast-feeding and nutrition education to low-income pregnant and postpartum women, as well as infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk.

51.11%
2020-24

State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition Programs

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 1%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 3.1 M	\$ 3.2 M	\$ 3.3 M	\$ 3.4 M	\$ 4.9 M	\$ 4.8 M
Real Change from Prior Year	1.93%	-2.53%	-2.96%	-2.84%	41.10%	-4.18%

State Administrative Expenses for Child Nutrition provides funds to states for administrative expenses incurred from supervising and giving technical assistance to local schools, school districts, and institutions in their conduct of child nutrition programs. Funds are also given to help states in their distribution of USDA donated commodities to schools or child or adult care institutions.

17.99%
2020-24

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service

Type: Mandatory • Share of Spending Allocated to Infants and Toddlers: 7%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level for Infants and Toddlers	\$ 6.480 B	\$ 9.672 B	\$ 9.241 B	\$ 10.066 B	\$ 7.898 B	\$ 7.960 B
Real Change from Prior Year	52.95%	44.51%	-11.46%	3.65%	-23.65%	-1.68%

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps, provides direct financial assistance to low-income households for use in purchasing food for home consumption. Children represent nearly half of SNAP participants and receive roughly half of every dollar in SNAP benefits, making SNAP the largest federal nutrition program serving children.

**NEW
SINCE
2020**

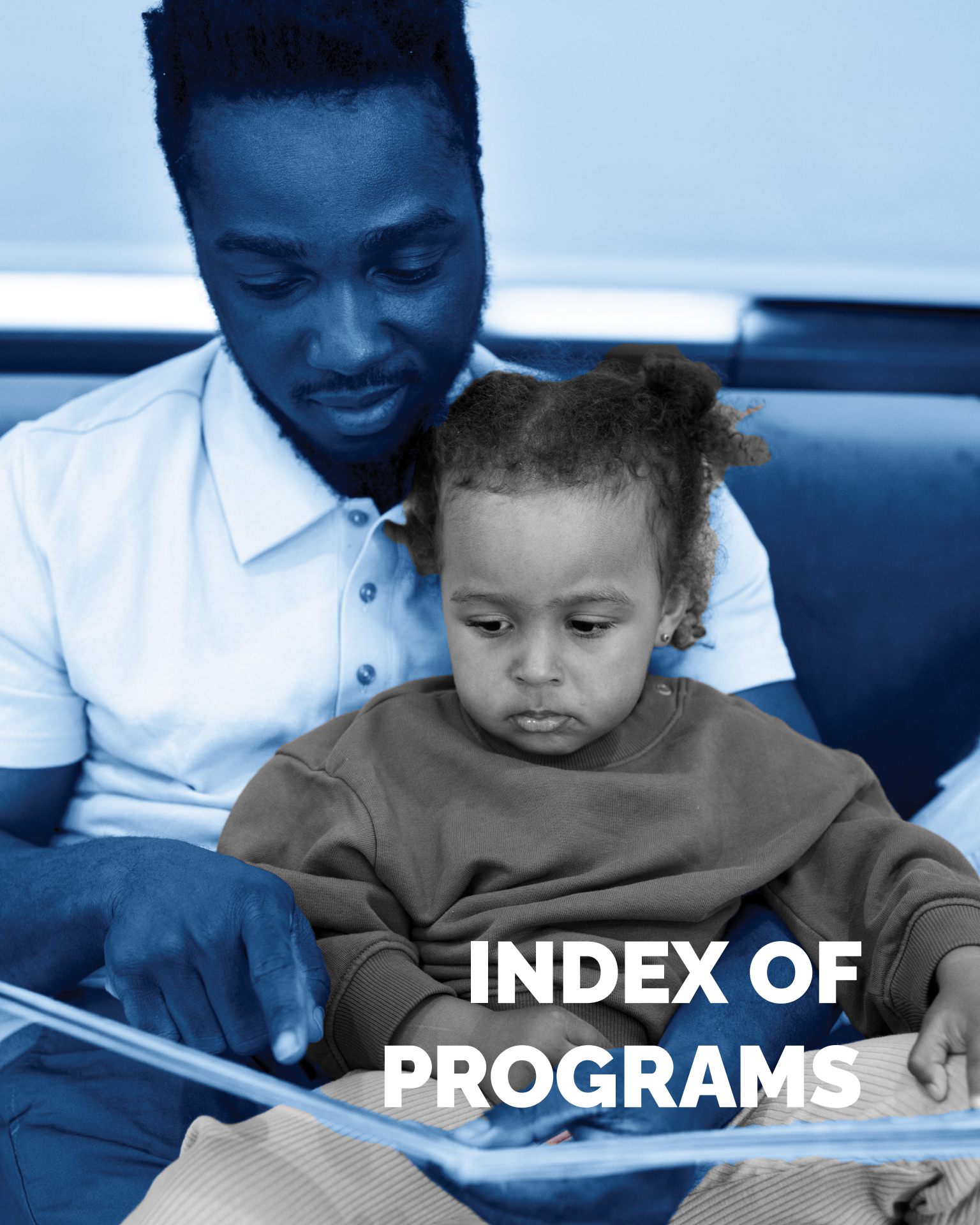
WIC Emergency Contingency Fund

Department: Agriculture • Bureau: Food and Nutrition Service

Type: Discretionary • Share of Spending Allocated to Children: 67%

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Biden 2025
Spending Level	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 22.7 M
Real Change from Prior Year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This proposal would create a contingency fund to finance any unexpected expenses in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to states like increased participation or soaring food costs.



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