

Congressional Budget Cuts Would Hit Home in the States

The budget resolution passed by Congressional lawmakers in May 2015 would drastically cut investment in domestic programs Americans rely on. On top of sequestration cuts, the resolution reduces nondefense discretionary spending by \$496 billion spending from 2017-2025. Americans oppose deep cuts, with 56 percent of Americans saying they oppose the sequester.¹

Of the \$496 billion made over time, about \$168 billion – or more than one-third of the cuts – would be cuts to discretionary grants to states over the 2017-2025 time period. And sixty-three percent of nondefense discretionary spending cuts would come from programs for the less fortunate.²



Hitting the Least Fortunate Hardest

Congress' 2016 budget resolution cuts **\$496 billion** deeper than sequestration in non-defense discretionary spending over ten years. Here is how those cuts would affect communities around the nation:

- Each month, roughly 8 million women, infants, and children rely on the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).³ The budget resolution would cut WIC funding by nearly \$6 billion over 2017-2025.
- In 2014, more than 927,000 children and pregnant women were offered educational, nutritional, health, and other services by the Head Start program.⁴ The budget resolution would cut Head Start funding by nearly \$9.6 billion over 2017-2025.
- In 2014, more than 5 million people in low-income families relied on housing vouchers.⁵ The budget resolution would cut low-income housing assistance by more than \$18 billion from 2017-2025.
- Title I grants provided academic support to more than 21 million students attending 56,000 public schools around the country in 2010.⁶ The budget resolution would cut Title I grants by more than \$12 billion from 2017-2025.
- The Community Development Block Grant program financed public improvement projects that benefited 3.3 million Americans in 2013, most of whom are low- to moderate-income.⁷ The budget resolution would cut Community Development Block Grant funding by nearly \$8.4 billion from 2017-2025.

Public Opinion

Achieving a balanced budget through spending cuts alone is harmful and doesn't represent what Americans say they want:

- 66 percent of Americans think corporations pay too little in taxes while 68 percent think wealthy households don't pay enough.⁸
- 85 percent of Americans say funding for school meals and nutrition programs for pregnant women and infants should stay the same or be increased.⁹
- Seven in 10 Americans favor increasing federal funding to ensure high-quality preschool programs are available to all children in America.¹⁰

How the Congressional Budget Resolution Affects Each State

	Cuts to WIC Funding	Cuts to Title I Funding	Cuts to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding	Cuts to Low Income Housing Assistance Funding	Cuts to Head Start Funding
United States	\$5,928,000,000	\$12,073,000,000	\$8,378,000,000	\$ 18,078,000,000	\$9,588,000,000
Alabama	\$ 109,000,000	\$ 222,000,000	\$ 85,000,000	\$ 278,000,000	\$ 153,000,000
Alaska	\$ 26,000,000	-	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 56,000,000
Arizona	\$ 135,000,000	\$ 278,000,000	\$ 82,000,000	\$ 126,000,000	\$ 218,000,000
Arkansas	\$ 66,000,000	\$ 140,000,000	\$ 39,000,000	\$ 116,000,000	\$ 100,000,000
California	\$1,000,000,000	\$ 2,088,000,000	\$ 668,000,000	\$ 2,275,000,000	\$1,218,000,000
Colorado	\$ 63,000,000	\$ 139,000,000	\$ 49,000,000	\$ 212,000,000	\$ 205,000,000
Connecticut	\$ 31,000,000	\$ 118,000,000	\$ 61,000,000	\$ 369,000,000	\$ 82,000,000
Delaware	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 37,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 46,000,000	\$ 20,000,000
District of Columbia	\$ 11,000,000	\$ 186,000,000	\$ 251,000,000	-	\$ 196,000,000
Florida	\$ 324,000,000	\$ 672,000,000	\$ 260,000,000	\$ 806,000,000	\$ 387,000,000
Georgia	\$ 218,000,000	-	\$ 127,000,000	\$ 460,000,000	\$ 240,000,000
Hawaii	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 50,000,000	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 80,000,000	\$ 43,000,000
Idaho	\$ 26,000,000	\$ 48,000,000	\$ 18,000,000	\$ 29,000,000	\$ 48,000,000
Illinois	\$ 221,000,000	\$ 610,000,000	\$ 227,000,000	\$ 992,000,000	\$ 380,000,000
Indiana	\$ 93,000,000	\$ 221,000,000	\$ 90,000,000	\$ 261,000,000	\$ 140,000,000
Iowa	\$ 33,000,000	\$ 78,000,000	\$ 57,000,000	\$ 113,000,000	\$ 82,000,000
Kansas	\$ 47,000,000	-	\$ 44,000,000	\$ 81,000,000	\$ 88,000,000
Kentucky	\$ 101,000,000	\$ 61,000,000	\$ 70,000,000	\$ 229,000,000	\$ 165,000,000
Louisiana	\$ 160,000,000	-	\$2,175,000,000	\$ 285,000,000	\$ 282,000,000
Maine	\$ 18,000,000	\$ 52,000,000	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 94,000,000	\$ 48,000,000
Maryland	\$ 85,000,000	\$ 191,000,000	\$ 94,000,000	\$ 450,000,000	\$ 125,000,000
Massachusetts	\$ 59,000,000	\$ 245,000,000	\$ 153,000,000	\$ 957,000,000	\$ 172,000,000
Michigan	\$ 172,000,000	\$ 495,000,000	\$ 184,000,000	\$ 383,000,000	\$ 341,000,000
Minnesota	\$ 96,000,000	\$ 76,000,000	\$ 89,000,000	\$ 233,000,000	\$ 138,000,000
Mississippi	\$ 91,000,000	\$ 212,000,000	\$ 778,000,000	\$ 131,000,000	\$ 245,000,000
Missouri	\$ 88,000,000	-	\$ 92,000,000	\$ 270,000,000	\$ 179,000,000
Montana	\$ 16,000,000	\$ 46,000,000	\$ 19,000,000	\$ 38,000,000	\$ 56,000,000

	Cuts to WIC Funding	Cuts to Title I Funding	Cuts to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding	Cuts to Low Income Housing Assistance Funding	Cuts to Head Start Funding
Nebraska	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 51,000,000	\$ 26,000,000	\$ 66,000,000	\$ 58,000,000
Nevada	\$ 36,000,000	\$ 85,000,000	\$ 32,000,000	\$ 90,000,000	\$ 36,000,000
New Hampshire	\$ 13,000,000	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 23,000,000	\$ 78,000,000	\$ 26,000,000
New Jersey	\$ 81,000,000	\$ 301,000,000	\$ 133,000,000	\$ 770,000,000	\$ 175,000,000
New Mexico	\$ 50,000,000	\$ 122,000,000	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 73,000,000	\$ 95,000,000
New York	\$ 412,000,000	\$ 1,508,000,000	\$ 695,000,000	\$ 2,725,000,000	\$ 665,000,000
North Carolina	\$ 180,000,000	\$ 330,000,000	\$ 91,000,000	\$ 437,000,000	\$ 285,000,000
North Dakota	\$ 13,000,000	\$ 36,000,000	\$ 13,000,000	\$ 47,000,000	\$ 42,000,000
Ohio	\$ 196,000,000	-	\$ 228,000,000	\$ 788,000,000	\$ 351,000,000
Oklahoma	\$ 93,000,000	\$ 162,000,000	\$ 54,000,000	\$ 131,000,000	\$ 152,000,000
Oregon	\$ 74,000,000	\$ 144,000,000	\$ 52,000,000	\$ 151,000,000	\$ 131,000,000
Pennsylvania	\$ 174,000,000	\$ 543,000,000	\$ 294,000,000	\$ 796,000,000	\$ 333,000,000
Rhode Island	\$ 13,000,000	-	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 133,000,000	\$ 34,000,000
South Carolina	\$ 91,000,000	\$ 122,000,000	\$ 57,000,000	\$ 178,000,000	\$ 128,000,000
South Dakota	\$ 17,000,000	-	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 33,000,000	\$ 52,000,000
Tennessee	\$ 130,000,000	\$ 239,000,000	\$ 67,000,000	\$ 285,000,000	\$ 180,000,000
Texas	\$ 583,000,000	\$ 1,303,000,000	\$ 363,000,000	\$ 873,000,000	\$ 725,000,000
Utah	\$ 39,000,000	\$ 52,000,000	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 59,000,000	\$ 67,000,000
Vermont	\$ 14,000,000	\$ 33,000,000	\$ 14,000,000	\$ 44,000,000	\$ 25,000,000
Virginia	\$ 95,000,000	\$ 224,000,000	\$ 90,000,000	\$ 377,000,000	\$ 178,000,000
Washington	\$ 130,000,000	\$ 185,000,000	\$ 89,000,000	\$ 303,000,000	\$ 196,000,000
West Virginia	\$ 38,000,000	\$ 108,000,000	\$ 54,000,000	\$ 98,000,000	\$ 72,000,000
Wisconsin	\$ 83,000,000	\$ 192,000,000	\$ 82,000,000	\$ 180,000,000	\$ 149,000,000
Wyoming	\$ 9,000,000	\$ 33,000,000	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 14,000,000	\$ 26,000,000

Methodology

The budget resolution passed by Congress in May cuts discretionary spending by an additional \$496 billion deeper than the sequestration cuts in current legislation over ten years. Estimates of cuts to specific programs in each state were made based on previous year allocations.

First, it was assumed that 34 percent of discretionary spending is allocated to states as grants based on recent spending patterns, yielding total cuts to states of \$168 billion in cuts to state discretionary grants. The allocation of total discretionary grants among programs and states was assumed to be the same as it was for a three-year period according to the Census' Federal Aid to State and Local Governments from the US Statistical Abstracts for 2009-2011. Shares were adjusted to exclude mandatory spending included in Federal Aid to State and Local Governments, such as Medicaid, TANF, transportation grants, etc. Some states had missing data for Title I grants, and the data point for housing assistance for the District of Columbia is marred by a one-year de-obligation of funds, so we omit those from our estimates.

Alternate estimates were also developed using a different data source, the Census Survey of State Finances, for which more recent data were available. Aggregate cuts to states were similar using both sources, and the final estimates are based on Census Federal Aid to State and Local Government because it allows better differentiation between discretionary and mandatory spending, and between discretionary programs.

¹ Washington Post-ABC Poll, conducted May 2013, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2013/05/24/post-abc-poll-most-americans-still-disapprove-of-sequester/>.

² Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, *Ten Serious Flaws in the Congressional Budget Plan*, June 2015, <http://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-budget/ten-serious-flaws-in-the-congressional-budget-plan>.

³ U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, WIC Program State-Level Participation as of April 2015, <http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wic-program>.

⁴ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Head Start Program Facts Fiscal Year 2014, <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/data/factsheets/2014-hs-program-factsheet.html>.

⁵ Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, *Policy Basics: The Housing Choice Voucher Program*, July 2015, <http://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/policy-basics-the-housing-choice-voucher-program>.

⁶ U.S. Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Title I Description and Participation, <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/index.html>.

⁷ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, *The Community Development Block Grant Program – Fact Sheet*, <https://www.hudexchange.info/onecpd/assets/File/The-Community-Development-Block-Grant-Program-Fact-Sheet.pdf>.

⁸ Gallup poll, *Taxes*, conducted April 2015, <http://www.gallup.com/poll/1714/taxes.aspx>.

⁹ Hart Research Associates and Chesapeake Beach Consulting poll, *Americans' Views on Hunger*, conducted July – August 2014, http://frac.org/pdf/frac_tyson_oct_2014_public_view_hunger_poll.pdf.

¹⁰ Gallup poll, *In U.S. 70% Favor Federal Funds to Expand Pre-K Education*, conducted August 2014, <http://www.gallup.com/poll/175646/favor-federal-funds-expand-pre-education.aspx>.