



CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

ANALYSIS

of the

**President's FY 2018
Budget Request**

for

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

May 2017

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How to interpret budget figures in this document

The budget numbers provided in this report account for the Administration’s Fiscal Year 2018 request for discretionary spending, unless noted otherwise. All figures in the agency tables are in millions of current dollars, and, in most cases, are rounded to one figure after the decimal. Totals may contain rounding errors.

The tables in this document list the amounts enacted in FY 2016 and FY 2017 (where available), the amount proposed in the President’s FY 2018 budget request, and a comparison between each enacted appropriation year and the amount requested, expressed as percent change. Due to the late completion of the FY 2017 appropriations bills, final FY 2017 enacted levels are not yet known for some subaccounts; therefore, comparisons for those accounts are made to the FY 2016 enacted levels.

FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
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Introduction

The President's FY 2018 Budget Request for Social and Behavioral Science

On May 23, the Trump Administration released the full details of its fiscal year (FY) 2018 budget request to Congress. Preliminary details were released for some federal departments and agencies back in March (see COSSA's report at: <http://www.cossa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Skinny-Budget-MM-March-16-2017.pdf>). The President's budget arrives only four months before FY 2018 begins on October 1, making it nearly impossible for Congress to complete its work on the FY 2018 appropriations bill on time. The next fiscal year will most certainly begin under a continuing resolution (CR).

The budget seeks dramatic reductions totaling \$3.6 trillion across nearly every department of the federal government, with the exception of the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, and Veterans Affairs. The President also promises to balance the budget within 10 years, although others argue that the budget's accounting is flawed.

To achieve the desired increases in defense funding while also cutting overall spending, the President proposes reversing the defense sequester by moving \$54 billion out of nondefense discretionary programs (which includes research agencies and programs) to defense discretionary pots. What is more, the budget seeks to reduce future nondefense discretionary spending by an additional two percent each year through 2027. In short, the Trump Administration intends to use nondefense programs—research, education, social safety net programs, environmental protection, etc.—as the bank for growth in defense accounts.

Such a move would dismantle the parity principle set by Congress for the purpose of ensuring that defense and nondefense discretionary programs are treated equally when setting annual spending caps (i.e. making sure that cuts are not taken to nondefense programs in order to boost funding for defense programs, and vice versa). Of course, shifting funds in this way would require an act of Congress, who is responsible for setting the defense and nondefense spending caps for the discretionary side of the ledger; the President cannot unilaterally shift funds from nondefense accounts to defense under current law.

The budget also boasts its focus on “streamlining government.” It seeks to cut the federal workforce and eliminate entire agencies to achieve savings. Some of the agencies eyed for elimination include the National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, Institute for Museum and Library Services, U.S. Institute of Peace, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (which would be transferred to the National Institutes of Health), and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Of course, for many of these agencies, this is not the first time they have been targeted for elimination or deep cuts, and Congress has managed to keep them intact for the most part.

As for the various research accounts, there are few winners in the budget. The President requests a total of \$117.7 billion in R&D funding across the government, compared to the \$134 billion requested in the final Obama Administration budget for FY 2017. Nearly all accounts that fund basic research would be cut. Despite these cuts, the budget still states that it “seeks to build on strong private sector R&D investment by prioritizing federal resources on areas that industry is not likely to support over later-stage applied research and development that the private sector is better equipped to pursue.”

Snapshot of the President's FY 2018 Budget Request		
	FY 2018 Request	% Change*
National Institutes of Health	\$26.9 billion	-21.0%
National Science Foundation	\$6.7 billion	-11.2%
Department of Defense Basic Research	\$2.2 billion	-2.1%
Census Bureau	\$1.5 billion	+3.7%
Institute of Education Sciences	\$616.8 million	+1.9%
Bureau of Labor Statistics	\$607.8 million	-0.2%
Education and Cultural Exchanges	\$285 million	-55.1%
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (move to NIH)	\$272 million	-16%
National Agricultural Statistics Service	\$186 million	+8.6%
National Endowment for the Humanities	\$42.3 million	-71.8%
Bureau of Economic Analysis	\$97 million	-6.1%
Bureau of Justice Statistics	\$38 million	-16.5%
National Institute of Justice	\$33 million	-16.5%

*Snapshot only includes agencies for which the final FY 2017 appropriation

While the Congress will not stand for most of the cuts sought in the President's budget, sequestration is still the law of the land. That means that there are still very tight caps in place tamping down any hope for increased budgets in FY 2018 unless Congress acts to lift the overall discretionary spending levels. In this environment, flat funding in FY 2018 may very well be a significant win.

Looking Ahead

The release of the President's budget request marks the official start of the FY 2018 appropriations process, though some Congressional committees have already begun holding their oversight hearings even without a budget in front of them.

It is important to remember that the President's budget is just one step in the annual appropriations process. Congress still holds the power of the purse. Many, if not most, of the proposals in the President's budget will be dead on arrival in Congress. Case in point, Congress is not likely to endorse the President's \$7.2 billion cut to the National Institutes of Health after increasing the agency's budget by \$2 billion in the final FY 2017 appropriations bill that was signed into law earlier this month (more on FY 2017 at: <http://www.cossa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/FY-2017-Omnibus-Analysis-May-2-2017.pdf>).

Bipartisan support is also strong for the National Science Foundation. Focus should now turn to Congress, which is rich with champions for science on both sides of the aisle, including for social science.

We invite you to read on to learn all of the details of the President's request as it would impact social and behavioral science research. COSSA will be working over the coming months to secure the best possible funding outcome for the agencies and programs important to our community.

Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) funds scientific activities through its Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area, which is comprised of USDA's two principal statistical agencies, the Economic Research Service and the National Agricultural Statistics Service; the National Institute of Food and Agriculture; and the Agricultural Research Service, which conducts intramural research in the natural and biological sciences. The Administration's FY 2018 discretionary funding request for REE totals \$2.5 billion.

USDA's FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <https://www.usda.gov/our-agency/about-usda/budget>.

Economic Research Service

The Administration's FY 2018 request for the Economic Research Service (ERS) is \$76.7 million, a \$10.1 million cut (11.6 percent) from the FY 2017 enacted level. According to the Administration, the request prioritizes "areas where ERS is best positioned to provide information that the private sector or academia has weaker incentives or higher cost to provide." ***Because detailed information on ERS' planned spending of its FY 2017 appropriation is not yet available, comparisons below are made to FY 2016 enacted levels.***

One area of increased funding in the President's request is the Agricultural Resource Management Survey, which would receive a \$350 million increase (5.3 percent) compared to FY 2016 to cover the survey's increased operating costs. ERS would also receive additional funding to cover salary increases.

Two areas of research would be eliminated under the proposal: Diet Quality, including the Role of Food Access (\$657 million in FY 2016), and Local Foods (\$200 million in FY 2016). According to the request:

"Intramural and extramural research funded by ERS on food access has shown that prices and food preferences largely determine food choices and access to supermarkets is not a significant factor. Additional research on food access does not have a high payoff and ERS will discontinue this research. ERS will reduce research on the causes of poor diet quality as there is an extramural research community working in this area."

In addition, the request states that the growth in academic expertise and research interest in local food markets and their impact on communities over the past ten years has reduced "the value of ERS research on local foods."

Funding for the Increasing Drought Resilience program would be cut by \$1 million (67.2 percent) compared to FY 2016. Under the reduced funding, the program would focus on drought resilience in existing USDA programs. The request would also significantly reduce funding for Bioenergy/Renewable Energy research, by 60 percent compared to FY 2016. The proposal states that ERS will "capitalize on existing tools and improve the focus of the program." ERS' Research Innovation for Improving Policy Effectiveness program, which supports linking data sources and behavioral economics research to identify program improvements, would see a \$1.5 million, or 42.9 percent, cut compared to FY 2016. At the reduced funding level, ERS would "investigate alternative program structures that have potential to better target benefits."

Other programs that would see cuts under the Administration's request include the Consumer Data Information Program (37.7 percent), International Activities (35.5 percent), and Cooperative Agreements and Grants (34.4 percent).

National Agricultural Statistics Service

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) would receive \$186 million, an increase of \$14.8 million or 8.6 percent from the FY 2017 enacted level. The increase is due to the ramp-up to the Census of Agriculture, which will be conducted in FY 2018. The budget provides \$63.9 million for the Census, a \$21.7 million increase above FY 2017. The additional funds would be used to conduct and begin analysis for the Census of Agriculture, which is conducted every five years.

NASS' Agricultural Estimates would receive a decrease of \$4.2 million compared to FY 2016 (*details on FY 2017 funding for NASS Agricultural Estimates are not yet available*). NASS would reduce the sample size and publish fewer estimates for the following products and surveys: Crop Progress; Agricultural Prices; Acreages, Crop Production, Grain Stocks and Prospective Plantings; Cattle on Feed; Hogs and Pigs Reports; County Estimates; January Cattle; January Sheep and Goats; Cotton Ginnings Estimates; Cold Storage Estimates; Milk Production Estimates; and Dairy Production Estimates. The request would also decrease funding for NASS' Geospatial Improvement Initiative by 75 percent. The reduced funding level would support only current services and provide no funding for new initiatives.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

The FY 2018 request for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), which funds extramural research, education, and extension programs within USDA, is \$1.3 billion in discretionary funding, a 7.7 percent decrease from the FY 2017 enacted level. The total includes \$769.6 million for Research and Education Activities, \$462.9 million for Extension Activities; and \$20.3 million for Integrated Activities.

The request includes a \$463,000 cut to research conducted at State Agricultural Experiment Stations under the Hatch Act program. It also proposes to eliminate a number of NIFA programs, including Capacity Building at Non-Land Grant Colleges; the Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Program; Sun Grants; Global Change, UV-B Monitoring; Veterinary Services Grant Program; Institute Challenge, Multicultural Scholars, and Graduate Fellowship Grants; Secondary/Two-Year Post-Secondary Education Program; Farm Safety/AgrAbility and Youth Farm Safety Education; New Technologies for Agricultural Extension; Rural Health and Safety; Renewable Resources Extension Act; and Women and Minorities in STEM Fields.

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

The Administration proposes a \$25.7 million cut to the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, NIFA's competitive research grants program, leaving it with \$349.3 million and undoing the increase appropriators provided to the agency in FY 2017. The budget request would slightly restructure NIFA's three core programs. The Foundational Program would be renamed "Foundational and Applied Science," and receive \$221 million. It would continue to support the six priorities identified in the 2014 Farm Bill.

Instead of continuing NIFA’s Challenge Areas program (which funded research in critical areas), the budget proposes a new Sustainable Agricultural Systems program, to be funded at \$65.8 million. The new program is intended to use a systems approach to the former challenge areas, to address the topics “comprehensively and collectively, rather than in insolation.” The request states that the new integrated approach will “enable NIFA’s goal of advancing the convergence of agricultural sciences with engineering, nutritional and food sciences, social sciences, and other disciplines... to generate new scientific discovers, new products, new markets, and consequently new high-skilled jobs.” The proposal would fund larger research projects, up to \$10 million per project, and includes funding for grants made through the Challenge Areas in previous years.

The request would provide \$23.7 million in FY 2018 for Education and Workforce Development through NIFA’s Education and Literacy Initiative (ELI). ELI would focus on building three areas of the agricultural scientific workforce pipeline: Enhancing Agricultural Literacy (training grants for K-14 teachers), Developing Pathways (support for undergraduates in agriculture or allied disciplines), and Advancing Science (graduate and post-graduate fellowships).

Table 1 – Department of Agriculture

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016*	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Economic Research Service	85.4	86.8	76.7	-10.2%	-11.6%
National Agricultural Statistics Service	168.4	171.2	186.0	10.4%	8.6%
Agricultural Estimates	125.9	n/a	121.8	-3.3%	n/a
Census of Agriculture	42.2	42.2	63.9	51.5%	51.4%
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	1331.2	1362.9	1257.4	-5.5%	-7.7%
Hatch Act	243.7	243.7	243.2	-0.2%	-0.2%
Agricultural and Food Research Initiative	350.0	375.0	349.3	-0.2%	-6.8%

* Final FY 2017 enacted levels are not yet known for some subaccounts. Therefore, comparisons for those accounts are made to the FY 2016 enacted levels.

Department of Commerce

The Department of Commerce has broad jurisdiction, serving not only as the home for the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), but also for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Economic Development Administration (EDA), and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Analysis of the FY 2018 budget requests for Census, BEA, and NOAA are included below.

Currently, the Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA) houses the Census Bureau and BEA, although funding for Census is provided through a separate appropriation. The President's budget proposes to consolidate most of ESA's operations within BEA. The Under Secretary for Economic Affairs would reside within the Office of Secretary.

Census Bureau

The Census Bureau, which received a fairly modest increase in the FY 2017 omnibus, would receive an even smaller increase of \$54 million (3.7 percent) in FY 2018, for a total of \$1.5 billion (about half the amount of the FY 2016 to FY 2017 increase). This is an unprecedentedly low rate of growth compared to previous decennial census lead-up years and would likely hurt the Bureau's ability to conduct a cost-effective, accurate 2020 count (not to mention its ability to effectively administer its other programs and surveys).

The request would provide the Census' Current Surveys and Programs line with \$246 million, a cut of \$24 million. The Periodic Censuses and Programs account would receive a \$48.4 million increase compared to its FY 2017 appropriation, including \$672.1 million for the 2020 Census. This amount, only 6.4 percent above the level appropriated in FY 2016, is highly concerning given that FY 2018 marks the final year of the testing phase of the decennial census when the Bureau will conduct the 2018 End-to-End Census Test.

The American Community Survey (ACS) would receive a total of \$217.8 million, a decrease of \$8.2 million compared to FY 2016 (the final FY 2017 funding level for the ACS is not yet available). The Survey would reduce its use of telephone follow-up to non-responding households in favor of personal visits. However, this change "will result in some loss to the quality of ACS data, especially in the smallest geographic areas." In addition, the ACS would reduce its training operations for field representatives and reduce planned research into new content and methods.

The Census Bureau's FY 2017 budget request can be found at:
http://www.osec.doc.gov/bmi/budget/FY18_CBJ.html.

Bureau of Economic Analysis

The request includes \$97 million in funding for the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), a 6.1 percent reduction below the FY 2017 appropriation. All four of BEA's economic accounts would see reductions. The National Economic Accounts (which produces the GDP) would decrease by 12 percent, International

Economic Accounts by 7.3 percent, Industry Economic Accounts by 6.7 percent, and Regional Economic Accounts by 1.5 percent.

In order to comply with the funding decrease, BEA would eliminate three of its current activities. The International Trade in Services initiative measures trade in R&D; intellectual property; and financial, health, and IT services. According to the Administration's request, "Without these new data, U.S. businesses, trade negotiators, state and local planners, and other policy-makers will lack critical data to guide future economic decisions." BEA will also cease its efforts to separately measure the impact of small businesses on the U.S. economy, which "would have supported better fiscal policy and enhanced small business decision making." Lastly, BEA will pause its research on incorporating improved measures of health care into core GDP accounts, "leaving these key statistics at risk for bias and potentially distorting the overall picture of the U.S. economy."

BEA's FY 2018 budget request can be found at: http://www.osec.doc.gov/bmi/budget/FY18_CBJ.html.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The budget request includes a total of \$4.8 billion in discretionary funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a decrease 15.9 percent below the FY 2017 enacted level. While NOAA is first and foremost a mission agency and not a basic science grant-making agency like the National Science Foundation, NOAA relies on science from its internal laboratories and experts from throughout the extramural research community to inform its many services and activities. Unfortunately, the FY 2018 budget seeks to accommodate the proposed budget largely through cuts to extramural grants, while prioritizing funding for operational activities within the National Weather Service and infrastructure investments (i.e. observational satellites).

The **Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)** serves as NOAA's central research hub, working to integrate research conducted across the agency's line offices (e.g. National Ocean Service, National Weather Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, etc.). NOAA research activities can be categorized into three main focus areas: (1) weather and air quality, (2) climate, and (3) ocean and coastal resources. NOAA has taken steps in recent years to better institutionalize the social, behavioral, and economic sciences into its activities, particularly as they relate to risk communication during extreme weather events and understanding the economic impacts of the various activities under its purview. The agency published *Vision and Strategy: Supporting NOAA's Mission with Social Science* in 2015, which serves as a roadmap for better integrating social science across agency functions with research in the natural sciences. A progress report on NOAA's activities in support of the vision is available at: <http://www.performance.noaa.gov/wp-content/uploads/ssvandsannualreport-final.pdf>.

Unfortunately, the budget request includes a sizable cut of 31.9 percent below the FY 2017 enacted level, for a total OAR budget of \$350 million. The budget states that the agency will "prioritize OAR's core functions and reduce extramural grants." In particular, the budget seeks to cut competitive extramural climate research by about 36 percent and also would eliminate the National Sea Grant College Program, which is a network of 33 university-based programs that award competitive research grants on coastal and ocean issues, including in the social sciences. More on NOAA's research activities can be found on the [OAR website](#).

Competitive research within the National Ocean Service would also be eliminated under the budget, as well as NOAA’s Office of Education, which manages programs aimed at preparing the next generation of professionals working in the oceanic and atmospheric sciences and services.

NOAA’s FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <http://www.corporateservices.noaa.gov/nbo>.

Table 2 – Department of Commerce

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016*	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Bureau of the Census	1370.0	1470.0	1524.4	11.3%	3.7%
Current Surveys and Programs	270.0	270.0	246.0	-8.9%	-8.9%
Periodic Censuses and Programs	1100.0	1200.0	1248.4	13.5%	4.0%
American Community Survey	226.0	n/a	217.8	-3.6%	n/a
2020 Decennial Census	631.9	n/a	672.1	6.4%	n/a
Economic Census & Census of Governments	109.6	n/a	111.7	2.0%	n/a
Bureau of Economic Analysis	105.1	103.3	97.0	-7.7%	-6.1%
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	5773.5	5675.0	4775.3	-17.3%	-15.9%
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research	482.0	514.0	350.0	-27.4%	-31.9%

* Final FY 2017 enacted levels are not yet known for some subaccounts. Therefore, comparisons for those accounts are made to the FY 2016 enacted levels.

Department of Defense

The Department of Defense (DOD) is one of the few agencies that would receive an increase under the President's FY 2018 budget request as it seeks to prioritize investments in national security. Unfortunately, the science and technology programs within the agency would not see much of that increase.

DOD's FY 2018 budget requests can be found at: <http://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/Budget2018/>.

Research, Development, Test & Evaluation

DOD is the largest contributor to federal R&D expenditures. The bulk of the funds are administered through the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) budget. Science and technology activities under RDT&E are further divided into Basic Research (6.1), Applied Research (6.2), and Advanced Technology Development (6.3). For FY 2018, the request proposes cuts to all three accounts, with the greatest proposed cut (6.5 percent) for advanced technology development. **Basic and applied research would be cut by 2.1 percent and 6.1 percent, respectively.** Additional RDT&E accounts exist for systems development, prototypes, and demonstration, which receive the majority of RDT&E funds and would all receive increases under the President's budget request.

Defense Health Program

Outside of the RDT&E account is the Defense Health Program, which has been a considerable source of funding for biomedical research, particularly cancer research, and is a favorite of appropriators in Congress. **The Defense Health Program would see a \$148 million or 0.4 percent cut compared to the FY 2017 appropriation,** which is not expected to be the final outcome for the program given its popularity in Congress.

Minerva Research Initiative

In recent years, DOD has taken steps to better harness social science expertise and apply it to its national defense efforts. Most notable is the Minerva Research Initiative, which began in 2008 at the behest of then-Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. Minerva is a university-based social science research program that seeks to "improve DOD's basic understanding of the social, cultural, behavioral, and political forces that shape regions of the world of strategic importance to the U.S."

The Minerva program is not provided with a dedicated appropriation from Congress and is not addressed specifically in the DOD budget request. Instead, funds for Minerva are pooled from the various DOD services, including the Army Research Office (ARO), Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), and Office of Naval Research (ONR).

Table 3 – Department of Defense

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation	70633.1	72301.6	83327.8	18.0%	15.3%
Basic Research (6.1)	2223.3	2276.0	2228.5	0.2%	-2.1%
Applied Research (6.2)	4922.5	5296.0	4973.5	1.0%	-6.1%
Advanced Technology Development (6.3)	5633.3	6439.0	6022.2	6.9%	-6.5%
Defense Health Program	32414.0	33781.3	33929.0	4.7%	0.4%

Department of Education

Education is primarily a state and local responsibility. **The President's FY 2018 budget request for the Department of Education is \$59 billion in discretionary appropriations, a \$9 billion or 13.2 percent decrease below the FY 2017 funding level.** The Administration's request includes \$1.4 billion to support new investment in public and private school choice. Accordingly, the budget request consists of significant reductions in many programs and contains 22 program eliminations to accommodate these new investments. As reported previously, the International Education programs (Title VI and Fulbright-Hays) are among the programs proposed for elimination.

*The Department of Education's FY 2018 budget request can be found at:
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget18/index.html>.*

Institute of Education Sciences

The FY 2018 budget request for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) is \$616.8 million. The request represents a 1.9 percent increase over the final FY 2017 appropriation, bringing it back up to the FY 2016 level after a cut in the FY 2017 omnibus bill. IES supports its activities through its four centers: the National Center for Education Research (NCER), the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE), and the National Center for Special Education Research (NCSEER).

The FY 2018 budget request for Research, Development, and Dissemination is \$194.6 million, a slight increase from the \$187.5 million funding level in FY 2017. The request would allow IES to sustain current efforts to produce and support the use of evidence-based practices in the field and in the Department. It would provide \$34.9 million for new research awards and for continued dissemination of information about what works in education to states and localities.

The request for the Department's Statistics program is \$111.8 million, slightly above the FY 2017 funding level of \$109.5 million. The Statistics program is operated through competitively awarded contracts administered by NCES. The request would "support the collection, analysis, and dissemination of education-related statistics in response to both legislative requirements and to the particular needs of data providers, data users, and educational researchers."

The request for the Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) is \$54.3 million, slightly less than the FY 2017 level. The request would be used to support new five-year contracts for the second-year activities for nine of the ten RELs. The Southwest REL is the exception because it is scheduled to be competed in FY 2018.

The FY 2018 budget request for the Assessment account is \$156.9 million, slightly more than the FY 2017 funding level of \$156.8 million. The request would be used to support the ongoing National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB).

For Research in Special Education, the budget includes \$53.9 million to support continued investment in long-term programs of research. The request is slightly less than the \$54 million FY 2017 funding level. The request would allow the continued accumulation of empirical knowledge and the development of

“evidence-based practices and policies that will result in improved academic achievement, social and emotional well-being, behavior, and physical development for children with disabilities.”

The FY 2018 budget request for the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems is \$34.5 million, slightly more than the FY 2017 appropriation. The request would support the continuation costs of grants awarded in 2015. Up to \$6 million would be used to support efforts to improve data coordination, quality, and use at the local, state, and national levels.

Finally, the President’s request for Special Education Studies and Evaluations is \$10.8 million, the same as the FY 2017 funding level. Funds would be used to support an evaluation of preschool special education practices, a study of state and local implementation of IDEA, a study of post-high school outcomes for youth with disabilities, the Middle Grades Longitudinal Study, and special education reports from the *What Works Clearinghouse*.

Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need

The President’s FY 2018 budget request for the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) program is \$5.8 million, a reduction of \$23.5 million or 81.5 percent below the FY 2017 funding level. The budget states that “fellowships supported under GAANN are more appropriately supported through other Federal programs, as well as through institutional and other non-Federal resources.” The requested funds would cover continuation awards for 2015 grantees only.

International and Foreign Language Education

The Administration’s FY 2018 budget request proposes to eliminate the International Education and Foreign Language Studies Domestic and Overseas Programs (Title VI and Fulbright Hays). The budget request states that “other federal agencies whose primary mission is national security implement similar programs and are better equipped to support the objective of these programs.” The Administration questions whether the goals of the program are consistent with the Department of Education’s core mission. The program’s authorization expired in 2014.

Table 4 – Department of Education

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Institute of Education Sciences	618.0	605.3	616.8	-0.2%	1.9%
Research, Development, and Dissemination	195.0	187.5	194.6	-0.2%	3.8%
Statistics (National Center for Education Statistics)	112.0	109.5	111.8	-0.2%	2.1%
Regional Educational Laboratories	54.4	54.4	54.3	-0.2%	-0.2%
Research in Special Education	54.0	54.0	53.9	-0.2%	-0.2%
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	10.8	10.8	10.8	0.0%	0.0%
Assessment	157.20	156.8	156.9	-0.2%	0.1%
Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems	34.5	32.3	34.5	0.0%	6.8%
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	72.2	72.2	0.0	-100.0%	-100.0%
Domestic Programs (Title VI)	65.1	65.1	0.0	-100.0%	-100.0%
Overseas Programs (Fulbright-Hays)	7.1	7.1	0.0	-100.0%	-100.0%
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need	29.3	28.1	5.2	-82.3%	-81.5%

Department of Energy

In its 2015 Quadrennial Technology Review, the Department of Energy (DOE) noted several areas in which insights from the social sciences can play a role in enhancing DOE’s research, development, and demonstration activities. The Department houses the Energy Information Administration, the principal statistical agency that reports objective information on the energy sector. The Department does not have a dedicated social and behavioral science research program, but it has funded basic and applied research through its Office of Science and Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). However, the President’s request would eliminate ARPA-E, citing concern about “the potential for ARPA-E’s efforts to overlap with Research & Development (R&D) being carried out, or which should be carried out, by the private sector.”

DOE’s FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <https://energy.gov/cfo/downloads/fy-2018-budget-justification>.

Energy Information Administration

The Administration’s request for the Energy Information Administration (EIA) calls for a \$4 million cut compared to FY 2017. The request states that the reduced funding would still allow EIA to continue its core statistical and analysis activities, but that it would no longer be able to “keep pace” with three areas of emerging interest: (1) regional issues like electricity transmission infrastructure and modernization, the economics of existing nuclear generators, and more granular petroleum supply information; (2) using alternative data collection modes to improve energy consumption information; and (3) development of new models for global hydrocarbon supply and international electricity markets.

Table 5 – Department of Energy

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016*	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Energy Information Administration	122.0	122.0	118.0	-3.3%	-3.3%

* Final FY 2017 enacted levels are not yet known for some subaccounts. Therefore, comparisons for those accounts are made to the FY 2016 enacted levels.

Department of Health and Human Services

The Department of Health and Human Services supports a variety of scientific research endeavors with the goal of improving human health and well-being. It supports basic research through the National Institutes of Health, health services research through the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, and public health research and surveillance through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Additionally, through offices such as the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) and the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), the Department sets policy, coordinates research efforts, and ensures that programs are effective and efficient. ***As noted elsewhere in this document, funding levels for FY 2017 (current year) are not yet available for some accounts; in such cases, comparisons are made to the FY 2016 enacted level.***

HHS' FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <http://www.hhs.gov/about/budget/index.html>.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

The FY 2018 budget request for the **Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)** is \$125.5 million, 55.3 percent below the FY 2016 enacted level. In addition to the immediate Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, the request would provide support for 11 core public health offices, including the Office of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Policy, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Human Research Protections, Office of Adolescent Health, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Office of Minority Health, and the Office on Women's Health, among others.

The budget request for the immediate Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health is \$11.7 million and equal to the FY 2016 funding level for three priorities:

- (1) Creating better systems of prevention
- (2) Eliminating health disparities and achieving health equity
- (3) Making Healthy People come alive for all Americans

The FY 2018 budget request for the **Office of Minority Health (OMH)** is \$56.6 million, nearly flat with the FY 2016 funding level. The proposed funding level would allow OMH to continue its leadership related to "coordinating policies, programs, and resources to support implementation and monitoring" of both the HHS Disparities Action Plan and the National Partnership for Action (NPA). In FY 2018, OMH plans to continue to support program activities. This will include providing leadership to committees and workgroups, contracts, grants and the strategic use of interagency agreements designed to coordinate federal efforts related to health disparities, including:

- Communities Addressing Childhood Trauma (ACT), a multidisciplinary initiative to address unhealthy behaviors in minority youth and provide them with coping skills.
- American Indian/Alaska Native Health Equity Initiative (AI/AN HQI), which supports projects that "enhance the capacity to assess and implement culturally and linguistically appropriate intervention models addressing complex trauma including behavior needs (e.g., mental health issues and substance use disorders)."

- Multiple Chronic Condition Management (MCCM), a new program designed to demonstrate the effectiveness of a client-centered, integrated health and social service network in improving multiple chronic conditions for targeted racial and ethnic minority populations.

The FY 2018 budget request for the **Office on Women’s Health (OWH)** is \$32 million, the same as the FY 2016 funding level. In FY 2018, OWH plans to place particular emphasis on “preventing opioid misuse among women and girls, reducing childhood obesity, mental health, reducing health disparities, promoting the health of women and girls across the lifespan, and supporting new and continuing initiatives to address violence and trauma.” In 2018, OWH intends to sponsor a workshop designed to explore multiple levels of analyses (environmental, sociocultural, behavioral, and biological) and examine how these factors impact women’s mental health across the lifespan and across racial/ethnic groups.

In addition, for FY 2018, OWH plans to restore its support for a collaborative of academic centers focusing on women’s health known as the Centers of Excellence in Women’s Health Collaborative. To inform OWH’s FY 2018 and FY 2019 priorities, the Office plans to work with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (which the Administration proposes moving to the National Institutes of Health, see NIH section) to update a 2013 systematic review, “Childhood Obesity Prevention Programs: Comparative Effectiveness Review and Meta-Analysis” from its Evidence-Based Practice Centers (EPC) Program. OWH also plans to support programs addressing health disparities in women, examining such issues as female genital cutting, increased focus and/or collection of data on women’s health issues, and older women and HIV/AIDS.

The FY 2018 budget request for the HHS **Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP)** is \$6.7 million and equal to the FY 2016 funding level. This funding level is expected to absorb inflationary costs and maintain ODPHP’s activities around *Healthy People*, Dietary Guidelines for Americans, Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, health literacy, and healthfinder.gov. The FY 2018 request will provide for the ongoing collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Statistics, other HHS agencies, and the Departments of Agriculture and Education, among others.

For the **Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP)**, the FY 2018 budget request is \$6.5 million and comparable to the FY 2016 funding level. In FY 2018, OHRP expects to:

- Support the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (SACHRP) meetings.
- Make revisions to and implement the human subjects research regulations.
- Sponsor up to three OHRP-sponsored Research Community Forums.
- Issue two guidance documents.
- Open three Division of Compliance Oversight not-for-cause evaluations of institutions’ human subject protections program.

Finally, the FY 2018 budget request for the **Office of Adolescent Health** is \$1.4 million, comparable to the FY 2016 funding level. The request eliminates the Teen Pregnancy Prevention program citing the “significant” decline in the teenage pregnancy rate over recent years and at the same time noting that “it does not appear this program has been a major driver in that reduction.”

Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) advises the Department on policy development and conducts research and evaluation to support HHS decision-making. The FY 2018 request includes \$41.2 million for ASPE, level with the amount enacted in FY 2016. ASPE's FY 2018 priorities include addressing the opioid epidemic, improving care for people with mental illness and other behavioral health needs, improving the individual and small-group health insurance markets, and reducing regulatory burden.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

See *National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality in the National Institutes of Health* section.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The FY 2018 budget request for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) calls for a total of \$5.1 billion in discretionary funding, which includes \$5 billion in budget authority and \$143 million in Public Health Services (PHS) Evaluation transfers. This amount represents a decrease of \$1.2 billion (18.4 percent) from the FY 2017 appropriation.

The Administration's proposal calls for a decrease of \$183.3 million for **HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Infections, and Tuberculosis Prevention**. According to the request, "CDC's ability to implement innovative demonstration projects or research examining strategies related to high impact prevention and new tools supporting HIV prevention will be reduced." A reduction to CDC's Sexually Transmitted Infections account would reduce support for Disease Investigation Specialists and training for clinicians. The funding reduction would also impact studies to improve Tuberculosis treatment and program delivery.

The budget request for **Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion** is \$952.3 million, \$165 million below the FY 2017 enacted level. The request includes a proposal for a new \$500 million block grant program, the *America's Health* Block Grant. The grants are intended to "provide flexibility in FY 2018 for each state to implement specific interventions that address leading causes of death and disability, including interventions to spur improvements in physical activity and the nutrition of children and adolescents, and other leading causes of death such as heart disease."

The request eliminates a number of programs that "could be supported by the new *America's Health* Block Grant" (though the FY 2016 appropriation for these programs was over \$880 million, far exceeding the funding level of the new block grant program). These programs include Tobacco Prevention and Control; Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity; Heart Disease and Stroke; Diabetes; and Arthritis. In addition, the budget request would also eliminate the CDC's Colorectal, Prostate, and Skin Cancer; Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health; Prevention Research Centers; Epilepsy; Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding; National Lupus Patient Registry; Million Hearts; National Early Child Care Collaboratives; and Health Promotion programs. The budget proposes an expansion of the National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program.

The request includes \$155 million for the **National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)**, a cut of \$5.4 million from FY 2017. Within the total requested for NCHS, \$143 million would be in the form of PHS Evaluation transfers, a funding mechanism often criticized by Members of Congress. The reduction in funds would mean that NCHS would postpone modernization activities, limit the content of its core data systems to “the most critical public health issues,” and decrease sample sizes to a “baseline which permits the production of estimates on key health indicators at the national level.” The proposal would also reduce funding for **Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Public Health Informatics**, including the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

The request for **Environmental Health** totals \$157 million, 27.2 percent below the FY 2017 appropriation. The budget would eliminate funding for the Climate and Health program, which funded research on the health effects of climate change, and the ALS registry. The budget reduces funding for the Environmental and Health Outcome Tracking Network, which would result in limited state contributions of new data sources to the national network, reduced availability of scientific and technical experts, and longer timelines for explanations of the relationships between environmental conditions and health.

The CDC’s **Injury Prevention and Control** programs would receive a 24.4 percent cut compared to FY 2017, for a total of \$216.2 million. The request would eliminate the Elderly Falls Program from the CDC’s Unintentional Injury Prevention program. It also proposes to eliminate the CDC’s Injury Control Research Centers. The FY 2018 request calls for \$200 million for the **National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)**, a 40.3 percent decrease from FY 2017. The request would not fund state and academic partners for conducting, translating, or evaluating research. It would also eliminate Education and Research Centers.

Within the request for **Global Health**, the budget proposes to reduce funding for Global HIV/AIDS by 45.8 percent. According to the request, “To achieve transformative epidemic impact, CDC will concentrate on controlling the epidemic in countries that are closest to reaching epidemic control.” The request for **Public Health Preparedness and Response** proposes to eliminate funding for the Academic Centers for Public Health Preparedness.

CDC’s FY 2018 funding request can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/budget/fy2018/congressional-justification.html>.

National Institutes of Health

The FY 2018 budget request for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) \$26.9 billion, a reduction of \$7.164 billion or 21 percent below the FY 2017 enacted level.

For FY 2018, NIH priorities would be guided by four themes:

- (1) Fundamental science enhanced by technological advances
- (2) Treatment and cures
- (3) Health promotion and disease prevention
- (4) Enhancing stewardship

As COSSA reported in March, the Administration proposes a major reorganization of NIH’s institutes and centers. Included in the reorganization is the elimination of the Fogarty International Center (FIC). The

budget request zeros out funding for FIC. Certain FIC “mission-critical international research and research-related activities,” however, will be moved to the NIH Office of the Director. For this transfer, \$25 million in funding would be provided, including for visa and passport services for international travel and “partnerships between U.S. scientists, institutions, and counterparts abroad to advance research and training.” International research is expected to be prioritized, as appropriate, by other NIH Institutes as part of their research portfolios.

The proposed reorganization also includes the transfer of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality into NIH, where it would become the National Institute for Research Safety and Quality (see below).

NIH Innovation, Cures Act

The budget request includes the full \$496 million authorized by the *21st Century Cures Act* (Public Law 114-255) for the *NIH Innovation, Cures Act* initiatives and research areas, including:

- \$100 million for the Precision Medicine Initiative’s *All of Us* Research Program
- \$96 million for the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative (\$43 million to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and \$43 million to the National Institute of Mental Health)
- \$300 million for the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot (National Cancer Institute)
- \$10 million for Regenerative Medicine

Indirect Costs

The budget request would make a major policy change related to the grant process and reduce reimbursement of *indirect costs*, also known as grantee facilities and administrative (F&A) costs. The rationale is that it would allow available funding to be “better targeted toward supporting the highest priority research on diseases that affect human health.” The policy change would cap the indirect cost rate for NIH grants at 10 percent of total research and would “be applied to all types of grants with a rate higher than 10 percent currently.” According to the Administration, this would bring the indirect cost rate paid by the federal government in line with the rate paid by private foundations for biomedical research conducted at universities. An additional policy change would require NIH to “streamline select Federal research requirements for grantees through targeted approaches.”

NIH’s FY 2018 budget request, including details on other institutes and centers not discussed here, can be found at: <https://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/br.html>.

Office of the Director and Trans-NIH Activities

The budget request for the NIH **Office of the Director (OD)** is \$1.6 million, a 7.6 percent reduction below the \$1.7 million FY 2016 funding level (*final FY 2017 levels are not yet available for some subaccounts*). The program offices in the Office of the Director would all see modest reductions in their budgets, including the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives (DPCPSI). The budget request for DPCPSI is \$11.9 million, a 9.2 percent decrease below the FY 2016 funding level of \$18.1 million. The proposed reduction in the budget would preclude DPCPSI from filling several key vacancies and would “reduce or eliminate other costs, including support for a planned scientific workshop.”

Within OD, the budget request for the **Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR)** is \$24.1 million, a 9.7 percent decrease below the FY 2016 funding level of \$26.7 million. In FY 2018, OBSSR would

“further prioritize” its efforts related to the opioid crisis by reducing its support in other areas. Cited as an example is OBSSR’s support for the National Cooperative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR). While OBSSR intends to continue its support for NCCOR’s steering committee meetings and basic infrastructure, it would have to seek the support of non-federal partners for funding new initiatives. In FY 2016, OBSSR released its updated strategic plan, [Strategic Plan 2017-2021](#), along with several planned initiatives. The FY 2018 budget request would require OBSSR to defer implementation of some of the planned initiatives and reduce others. Similarly, the Office’s support for OppNet [Basic Behavioral and Social Science Opportunity Network] would be reduced and a planned new initiative to “improve the standardization of behavioral research taxonomies and ontologies to increase efficiency and sharing of behavioral and social science research data” would also be deferred.

The budget request for the **Office AIDS Research (OAR)** is \$58.3 million, a 6.3 percent or \$3.9 million below the FY 2016 funding level.

The budget request for the **Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH)** is \$37.8 million, a 10 percent reduction below the FY 2016 funding level of \$42 million. In FY 2018, ORWH intends to partner with the NIH ICs to implement the NIH women’s health strategic plan, including providing “support to expand consideration of sex/gender factors in basic, biomedical, and behavioral and science studies.” The reduction in its budget, however, would preclude ORWH from supporting the High Priority, Short-Term Project Awards (R56) in FY 2018. ORWH’s budget request for the Administrative Supplements for Research on Sex/Gender Differences in Health and Disease program would be aligned with priorities in the new NIH-wide strategic plan and would be reduced less than the R56.

For the **Office of Disease Prevention**, the budget request is \$8.95 million, 10 percent below the FY 2016 funding level of \$9.9 million. In FY 2018, ODP plans to continue its partnership with the institutes and centers to build the “prevention research evidence base and develop collaborative activities through the trans-NIH Prevention Scientific Interest Groups.” The reduction in funding, however, will prevent ODP from supporting a new Peer to Peer (P2P) workshop in FY 2018. It will also preclude ODP from supporting research co-funding and other interagency agreements “focused on advancing and promoting prevention research.”

The budget request for **Trans-NIH HIV/AIDS Research** is \$2.4 billion, an 18.7 percent decrease below the FY 2016 funding level. In 2015 NIH developed a series of [key HIV/AIDS research priorities and cross-cutting research areas](#), including: “vaccine research and other modalities to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS, next generation of HIV therapies with better safety and ease of use, research toward sustained viral remission and develop a cure, and HIV-associated coinfections, comorbidities and complications.” These priority areas “are linked by crosscutting areas focused on basic research, research to reduce health disparities, behavior and social science research, and research training.” The budget request emphasizes that HIV/AIDS-related behavioral and social science research “is integrated within all of the high-level priorities for HIV/AIDS research including prevention and treatment of HIV infection, developing a cure, and research on co-morbidities and co-infections.”

The budget request for the NIH’s **Common Fund** is \$454.4 million, \$221.2 million and 33.4 percent below the FY 2016 funding level of \$675.6 million. The reduction in the budget request for the Common Fund reflects the overall budget reduction in accordance with the President’s budget as well as the transfer of the *All of Us* Research Program, formerly the Precision Medicine Initiative Cohort Program, out of the Common Fund. The program, however, will remain in the Office of the Director. The approximately 30 programs supported by the Common would see an approximate 20 percent reduction in funding. The

Common Fund's Health Economics program will expire in FY 2017, along with the Epigenomics program. Common Fund programs are supported a maximum of ten years.

The Common Fund's **Science of Behavior Change (SOBC)** is in its second stage and is "developing measures and interventions designed to engage the specific targets identified in the first stage of the program." SOBC includes a focus on adherence to medical regimens. In FY 2018, existing SOBC awardees are expected to begin to disseminate information about "validated targets and assays to the greater behavioral research community." New awards will be made that "will enable researchers to incorporate this rigorous approach across a wide range of behavioral health studies."

The Common Fund's **Strengthening the Biomedical Research Workforce** program is designed to enhance training opportunities for early career scientists. The program supports the Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST) awards "to develop innovative approaches to complement traditional research training." NIH is evaluating the program to share best practices with the training community.

In FY 2018, three new scientific opportunities within existing Common Fund programs would be pursued and two new programs would be launched. The Common Fund's **Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K)** would enter "a second stage and would pilot making NIH-funded large datasets and associated computational tools findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable in a shared space that multiple scientists can access remotely." The **Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research** program would continue to receive funding to support activities to establish and grow the childhood cancer or structural birth defect research cohorts.

The FY 2018 budget request for the **Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO)**, formerly the National Children's Study, is \$131.4 million, 20 percent below the FY 2016 funding level. As a result of the reduction in funding, ECHO would eliminate its support for the Children's Health Exposure Analysis Resource (CHEAR), a laboratory network to analyze exposures in environmental and bio specimens. Reductions would also be made in its Data Analysis Centers and Coordinating Centers, as well as its Cohort grants.

National Cancer Institute

The FY 2018 budget request for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) is \$4.5 billion, a 22.5 percent decrease below the FY 2017 enacted level. NCI stresses that "cancer control science relies on basic and applied research in behavioral, social, and population sciences to enhance interventions that reduce cancer risk, incidence, morbidity and mortality, and improve quality of life." Accordingly, the Institute supports research "to understand the factors that influence cancer care outcomes, quality of care, and quality of life." In addition, NCI's core research portfolio includes population studies (e.g. epidemiological, environmental, behavioral, and survivorship research). Also included among the NCI's priorities in FY 2018 is support for programs to train and retain a diverse workforce of researchers.

National Institute on Aging

The FY 2018 budget request for the National Institute on Aging (NIA) is \$1.3 billion, a 36.4 decrease below the FY 2017 funding level. NIA's **Behavioral and Social Research Program (BSR)** supports "research to understand and improve the processes of aging at the individual and population levels." Proposed major activities by BSR in FY 2018 include a continued focus on Alzheimer's disease (AD) epidemiology, health disparities, and caregiving. BSR also plans to support research to improve the quality of life for individuals with AD and related dementias at the end of life. Active research in FY 2018 is also expected to include

initiatives “to stimulate research on mid-life adults that can inform efforts to optimize health and well-being, prevent illness and disability in later years, and potentially reverse the negative impact of early life adversity on later life health.”

NIA’s **Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology** program, which supports research on health, disease, and disability in the aged, expects its active research areas in FY 2018 to include clinical trials of interventions to menopausal symptoms; functional impairment in older individuals with HIV; and obesity in older Americans. The study of behavioral interventions to address multiple chronic health conditions in primary care is also expected to be an active area of research in FY 2018.

National Institute of Mental Health

The budget request for the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) is \$1.2 billion, a 25 percent decrease below the FY 2017 funding level. In FY 2018, NIMH’s **Division of Neuroscience and Basic Behavioral Science (DNBBS)** plans to support research into the brain mechanisms underlying social interactions, including research into “social interactions that involve multiple social modalities and the brain circuits underlying those interactions.” The budget request for NIMH’s **Recovery After Initial Schizophrenia Episode (RAISE)** project is \$6.7 million, a \$1.6 million decrease below the FY 2017 level. The Institute notes that the decreases in funding in FY 2018 for the program “will bring commitments in line with available resources.”

National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities

The budget request for the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) is \$214.7 million, a 25.7 percent decrease below the FY 2017 funding level. NIMHD specifies that “the central core of health disparities research involves identifying how race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status interact with health determinants, such as social determinants, individual behaviors, the physical and cultural environment, and biological systems, to lead to differential clinical and population health outcomes.” The Institute’s minority health and health disparities research is organized around three themes: (1) community health and population science; (2) clinical and health service research; and (3) integrative biological and behavioral sciences.

Through its **Basic, Social, and Behavioral Research** program, NIMHD demonstrates its commitment to reducing health disparities by supporting research that enhances the knowledge about minority health and “the etiology of diseases and conditions with differential health outcomes for disadvantaged populations.” The Institute also seeks to “understand the impact of behavioral, biological, sociocultural, and environmental determinants on health.” In FY 2018, the Institute intends to support “investigations of the human epigenome focused on identifying and characterizing the mechanisms by which social experiences at various stages in life can affect gene function and influence health trajectories or modify disease risk in racial and ethnic minority and health disparity population.”

In FY 2018, NIMHD also plans to continue support for its **Transdisciplinary Collaborative Centers (TCC)** for Health Disparities Research with a focus on “key topic areas in minority health and health disparities including, but not limited to, social determinants of health, environmental health disparities, men’s health, precision medicine, chronic disease prevention, and health services and policy research.” The budget request for the TCCs is \$20.2 million, \$9.6 million below the FY 2017 funding level of \$29.8 million. According to NIMHD, the reduction in funding will “bring commitments in line with available resources.”

The budget request for NIMHD's **Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI)** program is \$39.7 million, a \$17 million decrease below the FY 2017 level.

*National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality
(Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality)*

Under the President's proposal, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) would be absorbed into the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a new Institute: the National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality (NIRSQ). Congressional action is required to create a new NIH Institute, so this is not a policy action the Administration could take on its own. The rationale for the change is to "remove duplication and improve the effectiveness of existing health services research." However, AHRQ's applied, systems-level approach to research on the health care system is unique, and it would remain to be seen how well that would integrate with NIH's approach.

The request would allocate \$272 million to the new Institute, which represents a \$52 million cut from AHRQ's FY 2017 appropriation. This amount includes \$5 million to conduct a "trans-NIH comprehensive review of health services and translation research to help minimize overlap and ensure coordination across NIH," leaving \$267 million to cover the remainder of what were AHRQ's core activities. In addition, NIRSQ would continue to receive mandatory transfers from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund—\$106.5 million in FY 2018— to support dissemination of findings from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

Although the request for NIRSQ does not go into the same level of detail on funding for AHRQ's research portfolios as does previous budget requests, it does provide some clues as to the direction the new Institute would take. Research on **Patient Safety** would receive \$74.1 million, a slight increase over the amount allocated for AHRQ in FY 2017. The new agency would also continue to provide support for the **U.S. Preventive Services Task Force**, although at a reduced level of \$7.4 million, compared to \$11.6 million in FY 2017. The request also provides support for the **Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS)**, the only national source of comprehensive annual data on the how Americans use and pay for medical care, giving it a small increase to bring its FY 2018 funding level to \$70 million.

However, the request would eliminate support for research on **Health Information Technology**, funded at \$16.5 million in FY 2017. Research in this area would need to be undertaken in conjunction with another portfolio. Although the proposal does not specify the total amount of funding for **Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination**, it does note that many activities within this portfolio would be eliminated or reduced, including "dissemination and implementation projects, the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems surveys, quality measures development, measurement and data projects, and several contract-funded health services research projects." The budget would provide \$43.9 million for investigator-initiated research, \$10 million to the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP), \$1 million for Evidence-Based Practice Centers, and \$3 million to continue opioid treatment research grants.

National Library of Medicine

For the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the budget request is \$373.3 million, an 8.7 percent decrease below the FY 2017 funding level. NLM notes that the important advances due to its partnership with other federal agencies and departments in support of genome sequence technology through its Health Promotion and Disease Prevention program “are critically dependent on individual behavior and community action.” The Library makes this “extensive free, high quality health information available to individuals and communities as they confront health problems and emergencies.” Accordingly, through its **National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM)**, NLM partners with schools, churches, minority-serving institutions, tribal organizations, public health departments, and others to increase awareness and access to health information.

In FY 2018, NN/LM would be level-funded at the FY 2017 funding level of \$12 million. In FY 2018, the reduction in NLM’s budget would require it to scale back or discontinue support for some NLM databases and services. The Institute would continue to support the NN/LM but would “streamline, consolidate, or scale back other outreach programs designed to promote access and training in effective use of NLM resources for scientists, clinicians, patients, and the general public.”

Extramural research, resource, and workforce development programs are supported by NLM. This NLM-supported research focuses on the “development and testing of approaches for acquiring, integrating, managing, mining, analyzing, and presenting biomedical data, information, and knowledge across a spectrum of sizes and data types.” In addition, NLM plans to offer grants in four categories: research project grants and supplements; training/fellowship/career support; information resource awards; and small business grants.

Through its **Informatics Workforce and Resources for Biomedicine and Health** program, NLM would continue support for “research training and career transition through institutional training programs and grants to individuals.” This includes three “unique resource” grant programs that are not available elsewhere in the federal government: Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health (supports researchers in history and philosophy of medicine, biomedical science, and bioethics), NLM Administrative Support for Informationist Services (provides supplemental funds to existing NIH research grantees to allow the addition of an information specialist to their research team), and NLM Information Resources to Reduce Health Disparities (focuses on development of information resources).

In FY 2018, NLM would also support new research project grants (RPGs) “with increased focus on patient engagement and understandable health information to support decisions by clinicians and patients.”

Table 6 – Department of Health and Human Services

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016*	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health	280.5	n/a	125.5	-55.3%	n/a
Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation	41.2	n/a	41.2	0.0%	n/a
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	6414.2	6293.5	5134.6	-19.9%	-18.4%
HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI, and TB Prevention	1121.0	1117.3	934.0	-16.7%	-16.4%
Chronic Disease Prevention, Health Promotion	1176.7	1115.6	952.3	-19.1%	-14.6%
Health Statistics	160.4	160.4	155.0	-3.4%	-3.4%
Environmental Health	182.3	215.8	157.0	-13.9%	-27.2%
Injury Prevention and Control	236.1	286.1	216.2	-8.4%	-24.4%
Occupational Safety and Health	338.6	335.2	200.0	-40.9%	-40.3%
Global Health	426.6	435.1	350.0	-18.0%	-19.6%
Public Health Preparedness and Response	1413.3	1405.0	1266.0	-10.4%	-9.9%
Preventive Health & Health Services Block Grant	160.0	160.0	0.0	-100.0%	-100.0%
National Institutes of Health	32311.3	34084.0	26920	-16.7%	-21.0%
NIH Office of the Director	1570.7	1665.2	1452.4	-7.5%	-12.8%
Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives	13.1	n/a	11.9	-9.2%	n/a
Director's Discretionary Fund	9.9	n/a	8.9	-10.1%	n/a
Common Fund	675.6	682.6	452.4	-33.0%	-33.7%
Office of AIDS Research	62.20	n/a	58.3	-6.3%	n/a
Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research	26.7	n/a	24.1	-9.7%	n/a
Office of Research on Women's Health	42.0	n/a	37.8	-10.0%	n/a
Office of Disease Prevention	9.9	n/a	8.9	-10.1%	n/a
Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (<i>formerly National Children's Study</i>)	164.9	n/a	131.4	-20.3%	n/a
OD Operations	1.6	n/a	1.5	-6.3%	n/a
National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality (<i>currently Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality</i>)	334.0	324.0	272.0	-18.6%	-16.0%
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes	196.8	187.2	145.5	-26.1%	-22.2%
Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys	66.0	66.0	70.0	6.0%	6.0%

* Final FY 2017 enacted levels are not yet known for some subaccounts. Therefore, comparisons for those accounts are made to the FY 2016 enacted levels.

Department of Homeland Security

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) invests in research through its Science and Technology Directorate, whose mission is to “deliver effective and innovative insight, methods and solutions for the critical needs of the Homeland Security Enterprise.”

DHS’ FY 2018 budget can be found at: <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/congressional-budget-justification-fy-2018>.

Science and Technology Directorate

While the department as a whole would see an increase in the President’s budget request, the Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) would see a sizeable decrease in funding compared to its FY 2017 enacted appropriation. **The budget request seeks a 19.8 percent reduction for S&T, bringing the Directorate’s budget down to \$627.3 million.** This includes \$343 million for research and development, a 20 percent decrease from the enacted FY 2017 R&D appropriation. The Administration’s budget calls on DHS to prioritize the enforcement portions of its mission, including building a wall along the southern border of the United States.

The S&T request includes \$35.2 million for the DHS Apex programs, which fund crosscutting, multi-disciplinary research projects. The work of the programs, which focus on single topics like border control or security screening, are complemented by the establishment of “technology engines” (also known as Apex Engines) which include teams of subject-matter experts that can assist the Apex program managers. The request would provide \$18 million for the Apex Engines, which is consistent with recent funding levels. This includes flat funding for the Behavioral, Economic, and Social Science Engine (BESS-E); other engines would see modest reductions in funding. DHS describes BESS-E’s impact as analyzing “social and behavioral implications of new technologies, programs, and polices to support their research, implementation, and diffusion across Apex programs, Federal, State, Local and Tribal agencies.”

Additionally, the Administration budget request for the Office of University Programs (OUP) totals \$29.7 million, representing a \$10 million or 26.7 percent decrease from the enacted FY 2017 appropriation. OUP supports homeland security-related research and education at U.S. colleges and universities to address high priority issues and enhance capabilities in the long term. The recommended funding decrease would result in the loss of three of DHS’ Centers of Excellence; the potentially eliminated centers were not identified in the budget request.

Table 7 – Department of Homeland Security

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Science and Technology Directorate	776.7	781.7	627.3	-19.2%	-19.8%
Research, Development, and Innovation	434.8	430.1	343.0	-21.1%	-20.3%
University Programs	39.7	40.5	29.7	-25.2%	-26.7%

Department of Housing and Urban Development

The Administration requests a decrease of \$6.2 billion or 13.2 percent for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the budget request. This includes elimination of the Community Development Block Grant program and several smaller capacity-building and affordable housing programs while prioritizing rental assistance programs and rent reform.

HUD's FY 2018 budget request can be found at:

https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=FY_18_CJS_COMBINED.PDF.

Office of Policy Development and Research

The FY 2018 budget request calls for \$85 million for HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R), bringing it back to its FY 2016 funding level.

PD&R's funds would be used to support policy analysis, research, and surveys in addition to data infrastructure development and information management to help inform housing and community development policy. The request includes funding for three major research and technology categories: (1) \$50 million for core research and technology activities, primarily the [American Housing Survey](#), (2) \$10 million for experimental demonstrations, evaluations, and research related to the [Moving to Work](#) program, and (3) \$25 million for technical assistance to HUD's program partners and practitioners to help ensure access to guidance produced by PD&R. This would represent a slightly increased commitment to research related to the *Moving to Work* program and to providing technical assistance, but is relatively consistent with priorities outlined in the FY 2017 HUD appropriations language.

Table 8 – Department of Housing and Urban Development

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Office of Policy Development and Research	85.0	89.0	85.0	0.0%	-4.5%

Department of Justice

The President’s budget request includes a total of **\$4.4 billion** for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) within the Department of Justice (DOJ), which includes \$1.3 billion in discretionary funds and \$3.1 in mandatory funds. The discretionary funding request represents a 23.3 percent decrease from enacted FY 2017 levels.

Funding for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) would also see cuts in the FY 2018 budget. While NIJ and BJS received increases in the final FY 2017 omnibus for the first time in years, the President’s budget would reverse those increases, returning both agencies’ budgets to FY 2016 levels. The request includes \$33 million for NIJ and \$38 million for BJS for FY 2018.

While the Department of Justice recommends some new priorities for their discretionary grant programs generally, including increasing the amount of money for grants dedicated to hiring police officers and block grants to help reduce gang violence, the budget states there are “no increases or substantive changes proposed” for NIJ or BJS.

Finally, the request proposes increasing the Research, Evaluation, and Statistics set-aside, which can provide additional funding support to NIJ and BJS, from 2 percent in FY 2017 to 3 percent in FY 2018.

DOJ’s FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <https://www.justice.gov/doj/fy-2018-budget-and-performance-summary>.

Table 9 – Department of Justice

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Bureau of Justice Statistics	38.0	45.5	38.0	0.0%	-16.5%
National Institute of Justice	34.0	39.5	33.0	-2.9%	-16.5%

Department of Labor

Housed within the Department of Labor is the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), one of 13 principal federal statistical agencies, responsible for measuring labor market activities as well as working conditions and price changes.

DOL's FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <https://www.dol.gov/general/budget/>.

Bureau of Labor Statistics

The President's request includes \$607.8 million for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), a \$1.2 million cut from FY 2017. The request states that "BLS will implement non-permanent programmatic reductions that may temporarily affect the quality and quantity of select BLS products," and that the Bureau "may need to delay or defer spending on implementation of certain data improvements, development and research projects, and stakeholder outreach efforts."

The budget details several of the program reductions BLS will need to make in order to meet the FY 2018 funding request, including removing student dorms from the Current Population Survey sample, slowing efforts to modernize systems supporting the Producer Price Index and International Price Program, and delaying redesign of the Consumer Expenditure Survey. In addition, according to the proposal, the National Compensation Survey will not publish detailed information on health plan provisions in FY 2018, though the survey is "the only federal source of this type of information in the benefits market."

Table 10 – Department of Labor

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Bureau of Labor Statistics	609.0	609.0	607.8	-0.2%	-0.2%
Labor Force Statistics	262.9	273.0	268.8	2.2%	-1.6%
Prices and Cost of Living	213.5	207.0	209.9	-1.7%	1.4%
Compensation and Working Conditions	85.8	83.5	82.9	-3.4%	-0.7%
Productivity and Technology	10.8	10.5	10.8	0.0%	2.8%
Executive Direction and Staff Services	36.0	35.0	35.5	-1.2%	1.6%

Department of State

As part of its diplomatic efforts, the Department of State sponsors educational, professional, and cultural exchange programs through its Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. These programs aim to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange that assist in the development of peaceful relations.”

The State Departments FY 2018 budget request can be found at:

<https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/271013.pdf>.

Educational and Cultural Exchanges

The Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) designs and implements educational, professional, and cultural exchange programs. Overall, the agency requests \$285 million, a decrease of over 55 percent from the FY 2017 enacted level. ECA received a 5.8 percent increase in the FY 2017 omnibus appropriations bill.

The request explains that, under the President’s budget request, ECA would focus its support on core global programs such as Fulbright and the International Visitor Leadership Program. Despite this prioritizing, the Administration requests a 48 percent cut to ECA’s academic programs, which include the Fulbright Program. Other notable cuts would include a 47 percent cut to the professional and cultural exchanges supported by ECA and a 73 percent cut to the Young Leaders Initiatives.

Table 11 – Department of State

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs	599.2	634.1	285.0	-52.4%	-55.1%

Department of Transportation

The FY 2018 request continues the implementation of the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act*, a five-year surface transportation reauthorization bill passed in 2015. The FAST Act authorized funding for federal programs related to highways, roads and bridges, public transportation, and railroads, among other areas, and includes the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

DOT's FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <https://www.transportation.gov/mission/budget/fy-2018-budget-estimates>.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

The request includes \$26 million for the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, level with FY 2017. BTS' funding is determined by its authorization under the FAST Act, which authorizes an annual appropriation of \$26 million through FY 2020. FY 2018 funding would be used to "enhance the data collection, fill critical data gaps, and conduct rigorous statistical analysis programs to produce statistical information to support policy, regulatory, investment decisions, and transportation planning." The Bureau also administers the Airline Transportation Statistics program through a transfer of funds from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Table 12 – Department of Transportation

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	26.0	26.0	26.0	0.0%	0.0%

National Science Foundation

The President's request includes a total of \$6.65 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF), which is \$819 million or 11 percent below the FY 2017 enacted level. If appropriated by Congress, this amount would bring the NSF budget down to its lowest level in a decade. NSF's Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account, which is where funding for six of seven research directorates is maintained, would also see an 11 percent reduction. As reflected in the chart below, there are no real winners in the NSF budget. Further, the proposed levels would reduce NSF's funding rate from 21 percent to 19 percent next year.

Within R&RA, all of NSF's directorates would see reductions ranging from about 7 percent for the Biological Sciences Directorate to 10.6 percent for the Geosciences Directorate. The Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE) would be cut by about 10.4 percent. ***It is important to note that NSF has not yet transmitted its FY 2017 (current year) spending plan to the Congress; therefore, we do not have exact funding levels for FY 2017 for the directorates housed within R&RA.*** Comparisons herein are therefore made to the FY 2016 enacted level.

The Education and Human Resources Directorate (EHR), which is funded separately from the other directorates, would see a 13.6 percent cut in FY 2018 compared to the FY 2017 enacted level.

During the budget release event hosted by NSF on May 23, Director France Córdova spoke of the difficult choices the agency was forced to make in developing the FY 2018 budget. As part of the process, the individual directorates were asked to identify the most appropriate places for cuts so as to not have to take across-the-board cuts to the entire agency. Programs and activities were reviewed to ensure those most relevant to NSF's mission were prioritized. The resulting budget, according to NSF leadership, is one that the agency agrees can maintain support for core programs while continuing to invest in foundation-wide priorities.

While the overall funding levels in the budget are disappointing, the NSF budget strongly states the agency's ongoing support for *all fields of science*. The first sentence of the NSF budget reads:

"The President's FY 2018 Budget Request for the National Science Foundation (NSF) continues the Nation's longstanding commitment to support basic research and education across all fields of science and engineering."

While SBE's cut is on the larger side (see the chart below), it is still less than the total R&RA cut. It does not appear that social science was singled out among the directorates for disproportionate cuts. This provides some optimism in the budget about the rightful place social and behavioral science continues to hold within the agency.

NSF's Big Ideas

According to Dr. Córdova, the FY 2018 budget request "seeds" funding for NSF's Big Ideas. As [previously reported](#), NSF announced 10 Big Ideas in 2016 that serve as bold and broad questions to help direct NSF's long-term research agenda and ensure that future generations will reap the benefits of fundamental scientific research. The budget is said to make investments that will "move toward realizing the vision and potential of the Big Ideas."

NSF-Wide Investments

The FY 2018 budget continues investment, though at reduced levels, for NSF's cross-foundation multi-disciplinary research areas. Funding levels proposed for the activities most relevant to social science include (*comparisons are made to FY 2016 levels*):

Understanding the Brain	\$134.5 million (-22.2%), \$24 million from SBE
Risk and Resilience	\$31.2 million (-27.4%), \$2.9 million from SBE
Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems	\$24.4 million (-69.5%), \$2.5 million from SBE
Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (INCLUDES)	\$14.9 million (+6.5%), \$500,000 from SBE
Secure and trustworthy Cyberspace	\$113.8 million (-12.3%), \$4 million from SBE

STEM training and fellowship programs appear to be one major source for reductions in the FY 2018 budget. Below is a snapshot of the proposals for some of NSF's signature STEM workforce programs:

ADVANCE	-67.0%
CAREER (Faculty Early Career Development)	-13.7%
Graduate Research Fellowships	-25.8%
NSF Research Traineeships	-28.4%
Research Experiences for Undergraduates	-23.5%

Additional details on the President's request for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate and the Education and Human Resources Directorate follow.

NSF's FY 2018 budget request can be found at: <https://nsf.gov/about/budget/fy2018/index.jsp>.

Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences

While the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE) represents only about 3.6 percent of the entire NSF budget, it represents more than two-thirds (68 percent) of total federal funding for academic basic research in the social and behavioral sciences. **The President's request would provide a total of \$244 million for SBE in FY 2018.** This would represent a 10.4 percent decrease from the FY 2016 enacted level (*FY 2017 levels are not yet available for the individual directorates within R&RA*).

To achieve a 10.4 percent reduction to the directorate, all four of SBE's divisions and units would receive varying levels of cuts. The Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences Division (BCS) and the Social and Economic Sciences Division (SES), SBE's primary grant-making divisions, would be reduced by 10.2 percent and 11.3 percent respectively (*compared to FY 2016 levels*). SBE Multidisciplinary Activities (SMA) would be cut by 17.2 percent and the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), a federal statistical agency housed within SBE, would be reduced by 5 percent.

The Social and Economic Sciences Division would receive a total of \$87.1 million in FY 2018, a cut of \$11 million or 11.3 percent below the FY 2016 level. Within this amount, funding for research grants would be cut by \$7.4 million (8.4 percent); education programs would be cut by two-thirds, primarily the ADVANCE

program that focuses on increasing the number of women in STEM; and infrastructure would be reduced by \$1.8 million (21.5 percent), specifically targeted at NSF's "big three" surveys – the American National Election Studies (ANES), Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), and General Social Survey (GSS). Under this scenario, the budget assumes that 70 percent of the SES portfolio would be available for new research grants and 30 percent for continuing grants.

The Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences Division would receive a total of \$85.3 million in FY 2018, which is a cut of \$9.7 million or 10.2 percent below the FY 2016 enacted level. Similar to SES, BCS research grants would see a 7.5 percent reduction, with the bulk of the cuts taken to education and infrastructure activities (69.8 percent and 61.4 percent respectively). In education, cuts are proposed, again, for the ADVANCE program but also for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) as well as BCS' contribution to the NSF-wide INCLUDES program (REU funding was increased in the SES budget). The cuts in infrastructure are meant to reduce funding for BCS' contributions to the Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the SBE Sciences (RIDIR) program, which focuses on the development of next generation big data resources for SBE research. Under these funding levels, the request projects that 80 percent of the BCS portfolio would be available for new research grants and 20 percent for continuing grants.

The budget request for the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) is \$48.2 million, a cut of \$2.6 million or 5 percent below the FY 2016 enacted level. The budget states that "to operate within estimated funding levels, NCSES will apply early results from its ongoing research in the new area of adaptive design methods that promises to reduce data collection effort while maintaining quality." Support would be maintained for the National Survey of College Graduates and the Survey of Doctorate Recipients, as well as the two Congressionally-mandated reports, *Science and Engineering Indicators* and *Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering*.

The **SBE Office of Multidisciplinary Activities (SMA)** manages programs that span the SBE directorate and the foundation, such as Science of Science and Innovation Policy, REU Sites, and SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowships. **The President's budget would provide a total of \$23.5 million for SMA in FY 2018, a cut of 17.2 percent below the FY 2016 level.** Research and education activities would both be cut by about 16 percent. Infrastructure funding would decrease by 26 percent, although the cut is mostly attributed to the sunset of the Cyberinfrastructure Framework for 21st Century Science and Engineering (CIF21) program in FY 2017, resulting in automatic savings.

Directorate for Education and Human Resources

The budget request includes a total of \$760.6 million for the Education and Human Resources Directorate (EHR), which is \$119 million or 13.6 percent below the FY 2017 enacted level. EHR would receive the largest percentage cut of the seven NSF research directorates. The budget notes that there are no major shifts in EHR's priorities from FY 2016. If appropriated, funds would be used to "intensify [EHR's] engagement in foundational research, broadening participation, and advancing science and engineering through strategic collaborations across the NSF disciplines."

The biggest relative hit would be to EHR's Division of Graduate Education (20.5 percent below FY 2016). The Division of Undergraduate Education would be cut by 12 percent, the Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings by 11 percent, and the Division of Human Resource Development by 9.4 percent. Of particular note is the budget's proposal to reduce the number of

Graduate Research Fellowships supported by the agency from 2,000 to 1,000, the number of fellows supported a decade ago in 2008.

The Division of Graduate Education (DGE) would receive a total of \$221.3 million in FY 2018, a decrease of \$56.9 million or 20.5 percent below FY 2016. Cuts would be felt across the division, including to the Graduate Research Fellowship Program as noted above. In addition, project and program evaluation (PPE) activities within the learning and learning environments theme would be reduced by 38 percent.

The **Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings (DRL) would receive a total of \$199.6 million under the President's budget, a cut of \$24.7 million or 11 percent below FY 2016 levels.** Within DRL, the learning and learning environments theme would see an increase of 34 percent (\$34.3 million total). The budget states that early childhood STEM learning would be prioritized in FY 2018. In exchange for this increase and additional savings, EHR's contributions to the STEM + Computing Partnerships program (STEM + C) would be cut by 61 percent.

The Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE) would receive a total budget of \$204.4 million in FY 2018, a cut of \$27.9 million or 12 percent below FY 2016 levels. Within the budget, core research on STEM learning environments would be cut by 66 percent to just \$4.5 million. In addition, Advanced Technological Education and the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarships Program would be cut by 10.7 percent and 16.4 percent respectively.

The Division of Human Resource Development (HRD) would receive a total of \$135.3 million in FY 2018, a decrease of \$14 million or 9.4 percent below FY 2016. Nearly all of the activities across the division would be cut, with the exception of NSF INCLUDES, which would see a 32 percent boost, and HRD's contributions to the ADVANCE program, which would see a small increase.

Finally, the President's budget notes EHR's ongoing leadership of the Federal Coordination in STEM Education Task Force (FC-STEM), adding that EHR will provide staff support for the STEM Education Advisory Panel that was created earlier this year with the passage of the [American Innovation and Competitiveness Act](#).

Table 13 – National Science Foundation

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016*	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
National Science Foundation	7493.9	7472.2	6652.9	-11.2%	-11.0%
Research and Related Activities	5998.1	6033.6	5361.7	-10.6%	-11.1%
Education and Human Resources	884.1	880.0	760.6	-14.0%	-13.6%
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction	241.5	209.0	182.8	-24.3%	-12.5%
Agency Operations and Award Management	351.1	330.0	328.5	-6.4%	-0.5%
National Science Board	4.3	4.4	4.4	1.4%	0.0%
Office of the Inspector General	14.8	15.2	15.0	1.7%	-1.3%
NSF Spending by Directorate					
Biological Sciences	723.8	n/a	672.1	-7.1%	n/a
Computer and Information Science and Engineering	935.2	n/a	838.9	-10.3%	n/a
Engineering	915.7	n/a	833.5	-9.0%	n/a
Geosciences	876.5	n/a	783.3	-10.6%	n/a
Mathematical and Physical Sciences	1348.8	n/a	1219.4	-9.6%	n/a
Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences	272.2	n/a	244.0	-10.4%	n/a
Office of International Science and Engineering	49.1	n/a	44.0	-10.3%	n/a
Integrative Activities	426.6	n/a	315.7	-26.0%	n/a
Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate	272.2	n/a	244.0	-10.4%	n/a
Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences	95.0	n/a	85.3	-10.2%	n/a
Social and Economic Sciences	98.1	n/a	87.1	-11.3%	n/a
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics	50.7	n/a	48.2	-5.0%	n/a
SBE Office of Multidisciplinary Activities	28.3	n/a	23.5	-17.2%	n/a
Education and Human Resources Directorate	884.1	880.0	760.6	-14.0%	-13.6%
Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings	224.3	n/a	199.6	-11.0%	n/a
Undergraduate Education	232.3	n/a	204.4	-12.0%	n/a
Graduate Education	278.2	n/a	221.3	-20.5%	n/a
Human Resource Development	149.3	n/a	135.3	-9.4%	n/a

* Final FY 2017 enacted levels are not yet known for some subaccounts. Therefore, comparisons for those accounts are made to the FY 2016 enacted levels.

Other Agencies

National Archives and Records Administration

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) requests \$376 million for FY 2018, representing a **1.2 percent decrease from the FY 2017 enacted level**. NARA would prioritize its repairs and restoration programs and its Office of Inspector General while operating expenses and grant making programs would see decreases.

Most notably, NARA is not requesting funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission Grants Program, which has provided grants to preserve and publish non-Federal records that document American history.

The National Archives and Records Administration FY 2018 budget request can be found at:
<https://www.archives.gov/files/about/plans-reports/performance-budget/fy-2018-performance-budget.pdf>.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities is one of number of independent agencies that would be **eliminated under the President's budget request**. Among the reasons for the agency's elimination, the Office of Management and Budget cites that other sources of funding for the humanities are available and that the Administration does not consider the activities of NEH to be core federal responsibilities. The budget requests \$42.3 million, a decrease of 71.8 percent to begin the closure of the agency.

The National Endowment for the Humanities FY 2018 budget request can be found at:
https://www.neh.gov/files/2018_appropriations_request.pdf.

United States Institute of Peace

The U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP), like the National Endowment for the Humanities, would be **eliminated under to the President's FY 2018 budget request**. USIP is an independent institution with a founding mission to prevent and resolve violent international conflicts, promote post-conflict stability and democratic transformations, and increase peacebuilding capacity, tools, and intellectual capital worldwide. The Administration has requested \$19 million, a decrease of 49.9% from FY 2017, giving the agency enough money to begin its closure. The "niche mission" and duplicative nature of the U.S. Institute of Peace are cited as reasons to eliminate the agency.

Justification for USIP's termination can be found at:
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/msar.pdf>.

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

The Administration also proposes terminating federal funding for the Woodrow Wilson Center in FY 2018. The Wilson Center is an independent, non-partisan think tank that seeks to provide “in-depth research and dialogue that informs actionable ideas on global issues.” The Administration does not consider the Center’s mission to be a core federal responsibility. In addition, the Administration cites the potential for private investment in the Center as a reason for its elimination. The budget requests \$8 million for the Center, a decrease of 23.8 percent that would allow for the “orderly closeout of federally funded operations” during FY 2018.

Justification for the Woodrow Wilson Center’s termination can be found at:
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/budget/fy2018/msar.pdf>.

Table 14 – Other Agencies

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
National Archives and Records Administration	389.1	380.60	376.0	-3.4%	-1.2%
National Endowment for the Humanities	147.9	149.80	42.3	-71.4%	-71.8%
United States Institute of Peace	35.0	37.90	19.0	-45.7%	-49.9%
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars	11.0	10.50	8.0	-27.3%	-23.8%

Appendix A: NIH Request by Institute and Center

Table 15 – National Institutes of Health Request by Institute and Center

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
National Institutes of Health	32311.3	34084.0	26920	-16.7%	-21.0%
John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences	70.0	72.2	0.0	-100.0%	-100.0%
National Cancer Institute	5206.2	5389.2	4174.2	-19.8%	-22.5%
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences	684.4	705.9	557.4	-18.6%	-21.0%
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health	129.8	134.7	101.8	-21.6%	-24.4%
National Eye Institute	707	732.6	549.8	-22.2%	-25.0%
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	3109.1	3206.6	2534.8	-18.5%	-21.0%
National Human Genome Research Institute	512.5	528.6	399.6	-22.0%	-24.4%
National Institute on Aging	1596	2048.6	1303.5	-18.3%	-36.4%
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	466.7	483.4	361.4	-22.6%	-25.2%
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	4749.9	4906.6	3782.7	-20.4%	-22.9%
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	540.9	557.9	417.9	-22.7%	-25.1%
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	342.9	357.1	282.6	-17.6%	-20.9%
<i>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</i> National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	1338.3	1380.3	1032.0	-22.9%	-25.2%
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	422.3	436.9	325.8	-22.9%	-25.4%
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	412.8	425.8	320.7	-22.3%	-24.7%
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	1813.7	1870.6	1449.5	-20.1%	-22.5%
National Institute on Drug Abuse	1048.9	1090.9	864.9	-17.5%	-20.7%
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	692.6	714.3	593.1	-14.4%	-17.0%
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	2508.9	2650.8	2185.5	-12.9%	-17.6%
National Institute of Mental Health	1516.5	1601.9	1201.9	-20.7%	-25.0%
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	280.3	289.1	214.7	-23.4%	-25.7%
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	1692.8	1783.7	1312.9	-22.4%	-26.4%
National Institute of Nursing Research	145.7	150.3	113.7	-22.0%	-24.4%
National Institute for Research on Safety and Quality	334.0	324.0	272.0	-18.6%	-16.0%
National Library of Medicine	395.1	407.5	373.3	-5.5%	-8.4%

Appendix B: Request for Principal Statistical Agencies

Table 16 – Principal Statistical Agencies

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Proposed	FY 2018 vs. FY 2016*	FY 2018 vs. FY 2017
Bureau of Economic Analysis	105.1	103.3	97.0	-7.7%	-6.1%
Bureau of Justice Statistics	38.0	45.5	38.0	0.0%	-16.5%
Bureau of Labor Statistics	609.0	609.0	607.8	-0.2%	-0.2%
Bureau of the Census	1370.0	1470.0	1524.4	11.3%	3.7%
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	26.0	26.0	26.0	0.0%	0.0%
Economic Research Service	85.4	86.8	76.7	-10.2%	-11.6%
Energy Information Administration	122.00	122.00	118.00	-3.3%	-3.3%
Statistics of Income (IRS)	38.0	34.0	34.0	-10.5%	0.0%
National Agricultural Statistics Service	168.4	171.2	186.0	10.4%	8.6%
National Center for Education Statistics	112.0	109.5	111.8	-0.2%	2.1%
National Center for Health Statistics	160.4	160.4	155.0	-3.4%	-3.4%
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics	50.7	n/a	48.2	-5.0%	n/a
Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (Social Security Administration)	15.0	n/a	20.0	33.3%	n/a

* Final FY 2017 enacted levels are not yet known for some subaccounts. Therefore, comparisons for those accounts are made to the FY 2016 enacted levels.