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Cossa Headlines
A monthly look at what’s new and noteworthy in social science policy
This Month’s HEADLINES

This Month’s DEEP DIVE:
The Trump Administration’s FY 2021 Budget Request

This Month’s HOMEWORK: Actions you can take this month

Camille Hosman,
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Use the chat box to ask a question.

More opportunities for Q&A at the end.
This Month’s Headlines

CONGRESS

• Difficult Road Ahead for FY 2021 Appropriations
  • More: www.cossa.org/tag/fy-2021

• House Republicans Introduce Bill to Reauthorize Science Agencies

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

• NSF Invites Proposal Submissions on 2026 Idea Machine Finalist Themes

• OSTP Requests Feedback on Data Repositories and Data Sharing (Due March 6)
  • More: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/01/17/2020-00689/request-for-public-comment-on-draft-desirable-characteristics-of-repositories-for-managing-and

• NCHS Releases First Estimate of Maternal Mortality in 13 Years
  • More: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/maternal-mortality/index.htm

• NIMHD Names Psychologist Monica Webb Hooper Deputy Director

COMMUNITY

• National Academies reports on Forced Migration Research, Adolescent Behaviors and Outcome, 2020 Health Indicators, Improving Services for Opioid Use Disorder & Infectious Diseases
  • More: https://www.nap.edu/

• Nominations Open for 2020 SAGE-CASBS Award

COSSA

• COSSA Releases 2020 Rankings of College and University Social Science Investment
  • More: https://www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings/

• UNC’s Cassandra A. Davis Answers “Why Social Science?”
  • More: www.whyssocialscience.com

• COSSA Sends Letter in Support of Panchanathan Nomination to Lead NSF

• Early Bird Advocacy Day Registration Ends TOMORROW
  • More: www.cossa.org/event/2020-advocacy-day

Subscribe for more news: www.cossa.org/washington-update
Use the chat box to ask a question.

More opportunities for Q&A at the end.
The President’s FY 2021 Budget Request: What Social Science Advocates Should Know
The President’s FY 2021 Budget Request

- Key Takeaways from the Administration’s Budget
- Agency-by-Agency Analysis:
  What the Administration proposes, what the science community recommends, what we think will actually happen
  - NSF
  - NIH
  - Department of Education
  - Federal Statistical Agencies
  - Other notable proposals
- What’s Next & What You Can Do
The President’s FY 2021 Budget Request

- **Key Takeaways from the Administration’s Budget**
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- **What’s Next & What You Can Do**
The bad stuff is old – the interesting stuff is new

There are a few interesting policy proposals...

But don’t forget...
**Key Takeaways**

**Snapshot of the President’s FY 2021 Budget Request**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency/Department</th>
<th>FY 2021 Request</th>
<th>% Change*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
<td>$4.5 billion</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</td>
<td>$1.5 billion</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Energy</td>
<td>$5.5 billion</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Bureau</td>
<td>$12.5 billion</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Labor and Statistics</td>
<td>$8.5 billion</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Education Aids</td>
<td>$5.5 billion</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Department</td>
<td>$24.5 billion</td>
<td>57.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency for National Drug Control and Quality Control</td>
<td>$1.5 billion</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities</td>
<td>$5.5 billion</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Economic Analysis</td>
<td>$10.5 billion</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics and Statistics</td>
<td>$6.5 billion</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Justice</td>
<td>$3.5 billion</td>
<td>120.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Justice Statistics</td>
<td>$43 million</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities</td>
<td>$33.4 million</td>
<td>-79.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Comparisons are to FY 2020 enacted levels unless noted otherwise.
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National Science Foundation

Funding summary
Last year: $8.1 billion
Request: $7.7 billion
COSSA & Community: $9 billion
Best guess: Flat to large increase

Policy Proposals
Emphasis on Industries of the Future
Continuation of the 10 Big Ideas and Convergence Accelerators
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Funding summary
Last year: $41.7 billion
Request: $38.7 billion
COSSA & Community: $44.7 billion
Best guess: Big increase

Policy Proposals
Investment in AI
Continued emphasis on opioid addiction and misuse
OBSSR to lead efforts on:
  • Review of research taxonomies and vocabularies
  • Barriers to translation of interventions
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Policy Proposals
Focus on privacy at NCES

Research in special education to include social and behavioral outcomes

Reauthorization proposals

REL and SLDS Eliminations

Department of Education: IES

Funding summary
Last year: $623.5 million
Request: $565.4 million
COSSA & Community: $670 million
Best guess: Flat to small increase
Funding summary
Last year: $76.2 million
Request: eliminated
COSSA & Community: $106.1 million
Best guess: Flat to small increase

Policy Proposals
Shift responsibilities to other agencies
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Main Takeaway: Mixed signals

On the one hand:
• Anemic investments overall
• What happened to the analytical perspectives?
  • Strengthening Federal Statistics
  • Building and Using Evidence to Improve Government Effectiveness
• Repeat of proposal to gut ERS (more later)

On the other hand:
• Last year’s proposed cuts were worse
• New proposals for next-gen statistics, evidence-based policymaking (more later)
Census Bureau

Funding summary
Last year: $7.6 billion
Request: $1.6 billion
COSSA & Community: TBA
Best guess: Big decrease

Policy Proposals
2020 Census Wind Down

“Survey-Centric” to “Data-Centric”
• CEDCaP → DICE
• Enterprise Data Lake
• Administrative Records Research
• Continued Disclosure Avoidance R&D
Funding summary
Last year: $655 million
Request: $658.3 million
COSSA & Community: TBA
Best guess: Flat, potential small increase for move

Policy Proposals
Upcoming BLS HQ move to co-locate with Census; reiterate support for move to Commerce Department

Investments in measuring poverty

Improvements to JOLTS & development of CPS supplement on gig economy
Funding summary
Last year: $174.4 million
Request: $169 million
COSSA & Community: $189 million
Best guess: Flat to small increase

Policy Proposals
Realign ongoing transfer from Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Informatics into NCHS base budget (not an increase!)

CDC-Wide Public Health Data Modernization Initiative:
• Where’s NCHS?
Funding summary
Last year: $84.8 million
Request: $62.1 million
COSSA & Community: TBA
Best guess: Flat funding ($84.8 million)

Policy Proposals
Finalizes ERS’s move to Kansas City, MO
Would eliminate or curtails the majority of ERS’s economic analysis work

- Farm, conservation, and trade policy
- Returns on investments in agricultural research and development
- Estimates of international food availability and food security in low- and middle-income countries
- Research for food security and nutrition
- Research for policy effectiveness
- New energy sources (bioenergy, renewable energy, and shale oil and gas)
- Local and regional food markets
- Returns on investments in conservation services
- Returns on investments in pest management
- Invasive species
- Markets for environmental services
- Food consumption and nutrition
- Prosperity and well-being of rural households (including rural education, housing, health, and poverty)
- Food safety

Eliminations were proposed in previous year budget requests and REJECTED by Congress.
Statistical Agencies: The Rest

Bureau of Economic Analysis
  • Funding for Departmental Chief Data Officer

Bureau of Transportation Statistics
  • Waiting on Surface Transportation Reauthorization – Details TBA

Bureau of Justice Statistics
  • Still waiting on details
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Other Notable Proposals

National Institute of Justice
• Proposed increase, new mandates

Department of Defense
• Cuts to basic research, Minerva details TBA

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
• AFRI Investments in AI, Machine Learning, and Predictive Science
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What's Next?

• Congress gets to work!
• Monitor Administration activities
• Make your voice heard
Let’s hear from you!

If using computer microphone: raise your hand!
   Step 1: select “participants”
   Step 2: select “raise hand”
   (may be in sidebar)
   Step 3: after you’re unmuted, ask your question!

If using telephone audio: put your question in the chat box!
Homework Assignment

- Write to your Representatives! [https://www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action/](https://www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action/)
- Protect NSF funding!
- Protect Dept. of Education funding!
- Protect NIH funding!
- Protect funding for federal statistics!

- Register for Social Science Advocacy Day! Early Bird ends TOMORROW.
  - Early Bird ends TOMORROW: [https://www.cossa.org/event/2020-advocacy-day](https://www.cossa.org/event/2020-advocacy-day).
Next Month:

- March’s HEADLINES
- DEEP DIVE: TBD
PREVIOUS DEEP DIVE TOPICS:

• Jan 20: 2019 Policy Wrap-Up and a Look Ahead
• Dec 19: Understanding Threats to U.S. Research Security
• Nov 19: 2020 Census
• Oct 19: USDA’s Economic Research Service
• Sept 19: Social Science at NSF: What’s New and What’s Next
• Aug 19: How and Why to Advocate from Home
• July 19: 2020 Census and the Citizenship Question
• June 19: Policy Updates from COSSA
• May 19: National Academies’ Decadal Survey of Social Science Applications for Intelligence Analysis
• April 19: FY 2020 Social Science Budgets – Part II
• March 19: FY 2020 Social Science Budgets – Part I
• Feb 19: Evidence-Based Policymaking and the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018
• Jan 19: COSSA’s 2019 Legislative Agenda and Advocacy Resources
Tune in each month – 2nd Thursday

Tell your colleagues to sign up for COSSA Member Messages and Alerts—MEMBERS ONLY (email Julia at jmilton@cossa.org)

Encourage other organizations and universities to Join COSSA (email Wendy at wnaus@cossa.org)

Send us your ideas for DEEP DIVES (email Camille atchosman@cossa.org)
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