



CONSORTIUM of SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

Analysis of the House FY 2021 Appropriations Bills for Federal Science Agencies | July 15, 2020

During the week of July 13, the House Appropriations Committee completed its marathon markups of its 12 annual appropriations bills for fiscal year (FY) 2021, making way for consideration by the full House of Representatives; the relevant subcommittees advanced their respective measures the week prior.

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020
National Institutes of Health	41684	46959.0*	12.7%
National Science Foundation	8278.3	8548.3	3.3%
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	7919.2	7870.9	-0.6%
Bureau of the Census	7558.3	1681.1	-77.8%
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	1527.4	1475.3	-3.4%
Bureau of Labor Statistics	655.0	655.0	0.0%
Institute of Education Sciences	623.5	630.5	1.1%
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	338.0	343.0	1.5%
National Agricultural Statistics Service	180.3	183.4	1.7%
Bureau of Economic Analysis	108.0	111.9	3.6%
Economic Research Service	84.8	86.7	2.3%
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	76.2	80.3	5.5%
Bureau of Justice Statistics	43.0	45.0	4.7%
National Institute of Justice	36.0	43.5	20.8%

* including \$5 billion in emergency funding

Despite the semblance of “regular order,” the outlook for final FY 2021 spending bills is still very much up in the air as lawmakers continue to grapple with pandemic relief negotiations and as the November elections approach. In addition, the House bills—which were written by the Democrats—include several funding and policy provisions that will be non-starters for the Republican-controlled Senate. For example, one area of contention between the parties is whether to use the FY 2021 spending bills to provide additional coronavirus relief (as currently included in the House Labor, HHS, Education bill), or to negotiate such measures separately (which is the position of that subcommittee’s Ranking Republican). Also threatening final passage of the FY 2021 bills is the perennial fight over whether to fund the President’s border wall; the House Homeland Security bill contains no funding for the project.

Complicating things further are the budget caps to which appropriators were forced to adhere when writing the FY 2021 bills. As [previously reported](#), a bipartisan budget agreement was passed in August 2019 providing much needed relief from tight budget caps on discretionary spending for FY 2020 and FY 2021. The deal allowed Congress to increase funding to federal agencies across the FY 2020

appropriations bills; however, for FY 2021, the deal raised the caps by only 0.4 percent, setting this year up at the outset to be a particularly challenging one.

Timing for consideration of the FY 2021 spending bills in the Senate remains unclear. The chamber will return from a two-week recess next week and be faced with ongoing COVID-19 relief negotiations and must-pass [defense authorization legislation](#). COSSA will continue to report on the status of FY 2021 funding legislation as the process unfolds.

The following pages include details on the House FY 2021 funding bills for federal agencies and programs important to the social and behavioral science research community. The analysis is organized by appropriation bill:

Contents

I. Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations Bill	2
National Institutes of Health	3
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	7
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	7
Department of Education	8
Bureau of Labor Statistics	9
II. Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill	10
National Science Foundation	10
National Institute of Justice and Bureau of Justice Statistics	11
Census Bureau and Bureau of Economic Analysis	12
III. Agriculture Appropriations Bill	13
Economic Research Service	13
National Agricultural Statistics Service	13
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	13

Stay tuned to [COSSA's coverage](#) for the latest developments.

I. Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations Bill

The House Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations Bill was reported out on July 13. This bill contains annual funding proposals for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Education (ED), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), among other federal departments and agencies.

The [bill text](#) and accompanying [report](#) are available on the Appropriations Committee [website](#).

National Institutes of Health

The House bill includes a total of \$47 billion for NIH in FY 2021, an increase of \$5.5 billion or 13.2 percent over the FY 2020 enacted level. However, within the total is \$5 billion in emergency appropriations that NIH can draw upon through FY 2025. This would leave NIH with an actual FY 2021 appropriation of \$42 billion, or \$500 million (1.2 percent) increase over FY 2020. The emergency funding is intended to “offset the costs related to reductions in laboratory productivity resulting from interruptions or shutdowns of research activity in fiscal year 2020;” it would not be for new research grants. Half of the emergency appropriation (\$2.5 billion) would be transferred to NIH’s various institutes and centers (ICs) based on a proportionate share of each IC’s FY 2020 funding level. This would allow each IC to increase by at least 7 percent in FY 2021. As noted earlier, Democrats and Republicans disagree when it comes to including emergency spending in the annual appropriations bills; it is unclear if this approach will make it through the process when all is said and done. The table below includes FY 2021 House levels for each IC with and without the emergency funding.

Similar to previous years, the House bill rejects attempts by the Trump Administration to create a new NIH institute by transferring the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) into NIH (see the AHRQ section for details).

Bill language and the Committee report accompanying the bill provide specific funding allocations for several of NIH’s major programs and initiatives, including:

- No less than \$2.85 billion to the National Institute on Aging for **Alzheimer’s disease research**.
- \$500 million for the **Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neuro-technologies (BRAIN) initiative** within the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.
- No less than the FY 2020 level of \$266.3 million for the **HEAL Initiative** to address the opioid crisis.
- \$500 million for the **All of Us Precision Medicine Initiative**.

Below are details of notable provisions and language within the House bill and accompanying report.

Office of the NIH Director

Behavioral Research. The House report calls for a “more robust and focused NIH commitment to behavioral science research and training.” To that end, the Committee directs the NIH Director to create a special advisory panel of behavioral scientists and other experts “to complete an assessment providing recommendations on how to better integrate and realize the benefit to overall health from behavioral research at NIH,” and deliver the assessment to Congress by the end of FY 2021.

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research. The report commends the work of NIH’s Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) in coordinating behavioral and social sciences research across institutes and centers (ICs). However, unlike last year’s recommendation, the report stops short of asking NIH to increase OBSSR funding.

Common Fund. The House bill includes \$631.9 million, \$5.4 million or less than one percent increase above FY 2020, for the NIH Common Fund. Common fund resources are used to support research in areas of emerging opportunity, of current public health significance, or to address

noteworthy knowledge gaps in key areas. They are also intended for high-impact projects lasting no more than 10 years.

Diversity at NIH Working Group and Strategic Plan. Expressing ongoing concern about the lack of diversity at NIH—among staff and extramural grantees—the House report requests NIH develop a strategic plan to address racial, ethnic, and gender disparities at NIH. It further encourages the agency to create a working group to develop and implement the plan, and to provide a report to Congress within 90 days of enactment detailing the current composition (race, ethnicity, gender, disability status, veteran status, and institutions of terminal degree and undergraduate degree) of the NIH workforce, advisory committees, and grantees over the last five years.

Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research. Following up on last year’s inclusion of first-time funding for firearm injury research at NIH, the FY 2021 bill proposes doubling funding for this work next year. The House report includes \$25 million (up from \$12.5 million) for research on “biological, behavioral, and environmental mechanisms that underlie aggression, as well as prevention of self-directed violence.” An additional \$25 million is also included in the CDC section (see later section).

Impact of Racism on Public Health. In response to ever-increasing declarations of racism as a public health emergency, the House report directs the agency to provide a report “summarizing NIH’s current portfolio of research on racism as a social determinant of health and outlining how NIH plans to expand and build upon this work.”

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

Population Research. The report includes language in the NICHD section commending the institute for its support of population research, longitudinal surveys, and research on social determinants of health. It also commends NICHD for its development of “low-cost data archiving, data curation, and data sharing strategies that both protect survey participants and provide unparalleled access for researchers,” and encourages the institute to work with NIH leadership on NIH-wide data sharing policies.

Strategic Plan. The House report criticizes the NICHD strategic plan, [released](#) in late 2019, for “insufficient focus on behavioral health, cognition, development of young children, language, learning differences, and school readiness.” Appropriators call on NICHD to support these areas of research in addition to those included in the strategic plan.

National Institute on Aging (NIA)

Population Research. The House report urges NIA to maintain its support for population aging research, including its large-scale longitudinal studies, and consider “expanding research opportunities that will advance our understanding of the factors throughout the life course that contribute to the poor overall health of older people in America and the growing disparities in some parts of the country as well as the disparities between the US and other countries.”

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

Opioids. The report calls on NIDA to dedicate no less than the FY 2020 level of \$266.3 million for opioid misuse and addiction research. Funding would be directed toward specific priorities, including: “development of safe and effective medications and new formulations and combinations to treat opioid use disorders and to prevent and reverse overdose; conduct implementation studies to create a comprehensive care model in communities nationwide to prevent opioid misuse, expand treatment capacity, enhance access to overdose reversal medications, and enhance prescriber practice; test interventions in justice system settings to expand the uptake of medication for addiction treatment and methods to scale up these interventions for population-based impact; and develop evidence-based strategies to integrate screening and treatment for opioid use disorders in emergency department and primary care settings.”

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

Youth Mental Health Disparities. The House report requests that NIMH develop a 10-year strategic plan for addressing youth mental health, including suicide, with a specific goal of eliminating racial mental health disparities in youth by 2030. It also calls for NIMH to convene a “consensus conference” with extramural experts on health disparities and other stakeholders.

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	FY 2021 House + emergency funding	House + emergency funding vs. FY 2020
National Institutes of Health	41684	38693.6	41959.0	0.7%	46959.0	12.7%
National Cancer Institute	6440.4	5881.2	6494.2	0.83%	6908.6	7.3%
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	3625.3	3298.0	3655.4	0.8%	3888.7	7.3%
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	477.7	434.6	481.5	0.8%	512.3	7.2%
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	2114.3	1924.2	2132.5	0.9%	2268.6	7.3%
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	2446.6	2245.1	2465.1	0.8%	2622.4	7.2%
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	5876.2	5445.9	6013.1	2.3%	6391.8	8.8%
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	2937.2	2672.1	2972.5	1.2%	3161.5	7.6%
<i>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</i> National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	1556.9	1416.4	1570.3	0.9%	1670.5	7.3%
National Eye Institute	823.3	749.0	831.2	1.0%	884.2	7.4%
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	802.6	730.1	809.5	0.9%	861.1	7.3%
National Institute on Aging	3545.9	3225.8	3609.2	1.8%	3837.2	8.2%
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	624.9	568.5	630.3	0.9%	670.5	7.3%
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	490.7	446.4	494.9	0.9%	526.5	7.3%
National Institute of Mental Health	2043.0	1844.9	2055.3	0.6%	2186.5	7.0%
National Institute on Drug Abuse	1457.7	1431.8	1474.6	1.2%	1568.7	7.6%
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	546.7	497.3	550.1	0.6%	585.2	7.0%
National Institute of Nursing Research	169.1	156.8	170.6	0.9%	181.5	7.3%
National Human Genome Research Institute	604.1	550.1	611.6	1.2%	650.6	7.7%
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	404.6	368.1	407.1	0.6%	433.1	7.0%
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	335.8	305.5	343.7	2.3%	365.3	8.8%
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health	151.9	138.2	153.0	0.8%	162.8	7.2%
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences	832.9	787.7	840.1	0.9%	893.6	7.3%
John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences	80.8	73.5	86.5	7.0%	91.7	13.4%
National Library of Medicine	456.9	415.7	460.8	0.9%	490.2	7.3%

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Once again, the House rejects the Administration’s repeated proposal to move the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) into the National Institutes of Health. The House bill would provide \$343 million for AHRQ in FY 2021, a 1.5 percent or \$6 million increase compared to FY 2020. This total does not include an expected \$98.5 million in mandatory transfers from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) Trust Fund, which Congress reauthorized last year. This funding is used to translate and disseminate findings from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

The bill includes an increase of \$3 million to support research on improving diagnosis in medicine within AHRQ’s Patient Safety portfolio. It also includes \$1 million in additional funding for research on the risks and benefits of kratom and cannabidiol (CBD), plant-based products used to treat pain in place of opioids. Other provisions in the committee’s report direct AHRQ to examine how to minimize bias in health technologies, the impacts of providing special insurance enrollment periods to pregnant individuals, and potentially establishing a Center for Primary Care Research.

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	338.0	256.7	343.0	1.5%	33.6%
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes	196.7	131.3	199.9	1.6%	52.2%
Patient Safety	72.3	59.9	74.3	2.8%	24.0%
Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination	96.3	56.6	97.5	1.2%	72.1%
Health Information Technology	16.5	0.0	16.5	0.0%	+\$16.5m
U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	11.6	7.4	11.6	0.0%	57.4%
Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys	70.0	71.8	71.8	2.6%	0.0%

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The House bill includes \$7.87 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), \$48.3 million below the FY 2020 enacted level. This total includes \$7.1 billion in discretionary funding and \$856.2 million in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. This total does not include funding already appropriated through the *CARES Act* and other relief bills (see [COSSA’s analysis](#)) or an additional \$9 billion included in the bill in multi-year emergency funding.

The bill includes flat funding of \$174.4 million for the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). This amount reflects the reallocation of an existing \$14 million transfer to the NCHS base budget (thus the FY 2021 figure is not comparable with prior years’ appropriations). The House report also includes language urging NCHS to explore ways to collect more detailed records of birth settings as part of its collection of vital statistics.

NCHS is also prominently mentioned within the CDC’s larger Public Health Data Modernization Initiative. This initiative was established with a \$50 million appropriation in FY 2020 and received a significant investment of \$500 million in multi-year funding through the *CARES Act*. The House bill would provide this initiative with another \$50 million in appropriated funds for FY 2021 as well as an additional \$400 million within the bill’s emergency multi-year funding to complete the “foundational investment” in this

initiative. CDC has not yet publicly released a detailed accounting of how it plans to spend this money, but COSSA will report on additional details as they are released.

Within the funding for the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, the committee report includes \$10 million in funding for the creation of a new “Social Determinants of Health Pilot Program” that would award competitive grants for jurisdictions to develop Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Plans, including engaging with qualified research experts for assistance.

In addition, the bill includes \$25 million for research on firearm injury and mortality prevention, which would double the FY 2020 appropriation of \$12.5 million (in addition to an equal amount within the NIH budget). Other notable language in the bill objects to the U.S. withdrawal from the World Health Organization (WHO) and directs the CDC to take a public health approach to violence and develop a report “detailing the scope and intersection of all forms of violence in the U.S., the cost of violence, and identify areas where more data and intervention are needed.”

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	7919.2	7000.9	7870.9	-0.6%	12.4%
HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI, and TB Prevention	1273.6	1552.6	1287.6	1.1%	-17.1%
Chronic Disease Prevention, Health Promotion	1239.9	813.3	1306.4	5.4%	60.6%
National Center for Health Statistics	174.4	169.0	174.4	0.0%	3.2%
Environmental Health	213.9	182.0	236.9	10.8%	30.1%
Injury Prevention and Control	677.4	730.2	694.9	2.6%	-4.8%
Occupational Safety and Health	342.8	190.0	344.7	0.6%	81.4%
Global Health	570.8	532.2	572.8	0.4%	7.6%

Department of Education

Within the Department of Education, the House bill would provide \$630 million for the **Institute of Education Sciences** (IES), the research, evaluation, and statistical agency of the Department of Education. This amount represents a 1.1 percent increase in funding for IES compared to its FY 2020 enacted level and 11.5 percent above the FY 2021 funding request from the Administration. Nearly every account within IES would see part of this proposed increase, including Research, Development, and Dissemination; Regional Education Laboratories; the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES); Research in Special Education; Statewide Data Systems; and Special Education Studies and Evaluations. The Assessment account within IES, which is responsible for the National Assessment of Educational Progress, would receive flat funding. Notably, the House bill provides increases for the Regional Education Laboratories and the Statewide Data Systems, which the Administration proposed eliminating in the FY 2021 IES budget request.

The committee report includes a provision expressing concern about ongoing shortages of staff at NCES. The report directs the Department to develop a plan to increase staffing at NCES and to consider funding IES in a separate appropriations account.

The bill proposes increases for the **International Education and Foreign Language Studies programs**. The Domestic Programs (also known as Title VI) would receive \$80.3 million, a 3.9 percent increase over the

FY 2020 enacted level. The Overseas Programs (also known as Fulbright-Hays) would receive \$9.6 million, a much more significant 18.6 percent increase. Both programs have been consistently proposed for elimination in the Trump Administration’s budget requests.

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
Institute of Education Sciences	623.5	565.4	630.5	1.1%	11.5%
Research, Development, and Dissemination	195.9	195.9	197.9	1.0%	1.0%
National Center for Education Statistics	110.5	113.5	111.5	0.9%	-1.8%
Regional Educational Laboratories	56.0	0.0	57.0	1.8%	+\$57.0m
Research in Special Education	56.5	56.5	58.5	3.5%	3.5%
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	10.8	10.8	11.3	4.6%	4.8%
Assessment	160.7	188.7	160.7	0.0%	-14.8%
Statewide Data Systems	33.0	0.0	33.5	1.5%	+\$33.5m
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	76.2	0.0	80.3	5.5%	+\$80.3m
Domestic Programs (Title VI)	68.1	0.0	70.8	3.9%	+\$70.8m
Overseas Programs (Fulbright-Hays)	8.1	0.0	9.6	18.6%	+\$9.6m

Bureau of Labor Statistics

The House bill would provide the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) with \$655 million, flat with its FY 2020 enacted level. The amount includes \$13 million for the upcoming relocation of the BLS headquarters.

The committee report includes expressed support for several of BLS’s planned activities for FY 2021, including adding an annual supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) to collect data on contingent work and other topics like veteran employment and the development of a new National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY) cohort. However, the report cautions that in carrying out these new activities, “BLS shall not reduce or eliminate existing statistical work.”

The report suggests that when collecting data on the contingent workforce (i.e. gig employment), BLS explore ways to differentiate workers for whom this is a primary source of income versus those for whom these are supplementary jobs. The report also encourages BLS to collect data on the impact of artificial intelligence on the economy.

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
Bureau of Labor Statistics	655.0	658.3	655.0	0.0%	-0.5%
Labor Force Statistics	288.3	296.3	289.0	0.2%	-2.5%
Prices and Cost of Living	210.0	218.5	210.0	0.0%	-3.9%
Compensation and Working Conditions	83.5	84.0	83.5	0.0%	-0.6%
Productivity and Technology	11.2	11.3	10.5	-6.2%	-7.0%
Executive Direction and Staff Services	35.0	35.2	49.0	40.0%	39.2%
Headquarters Relocation	27.0	13.0	13.0	-51.9%	0.0%

II. Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill

The House Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill was reported out on July 14. This bill contains annual funding proposals for the National Science Foundation, Department of Justice (DOJ), and Census Bureau, among other federal departments and agencies.

The [bill text](#) and accompanying [report](#) are available on the Appropriations Committee [website](#).

National Science Foundation

The House CJS bill includes \$8.55 billion for NSF in FY 2021, which, if appropriated would be a \$270 million or 3.3 percent increase over FY 2020.

Similar to last year, the report accompanying the House bill reaffirms the Committee's commitment to basic research and existing NSF research activities:

"The Committee supports basic research in fundamental science areas and expects that as NSF uses the 10 Big Ideas as a focusing tool, the funding for the fundamental scientific disciplines will be maintained. Within amounts provided, NSF shall allocate no less than fiscal year 2020 levels to support its existing scientific research... [emphasis added]"

This language ensures that existing research activities (e.g. NSF's core programs) do not become a bank for investments in NSF's [Big Ideas](#) and other trans-agency initiatives that have a tendency to tax existing programs.

The House bill includes \$6.97 billion for the Research and Related Activities account, which funds NSF's six research directorates and integrative activities. This would represent a 3.4 percent increase over current year funding. Additionally, the Education and Human Resources (EHR) directorate would see an increase of 3.2 percent.

In a continued show of growing appreciation for the social and behavioral sciences within the Congress, the House bill includes the following report language, which is similar to language in FY 2020:

"Social, Behavioral, and Economic (SBE) Sciences. —The Committee supports SBE and recognizes the fundamental importance of its research for advancing our understanding of human behavior and its application to a wide range of human systems, including public health, national defense and security, education and learning, and the integration of human and machine. SBE funds over half of our nation's university-based social and behavioral science research but remains the smallest of NSF directorates. The Committee believes this research provides an evidence-based understanding of the human condition, resulting in more-informed policymaking and better-informed spending on a full range of national issues. The committee believes SBE-supported research makes the US unique among other nations and recommends no less than the fiscal year 2020 levels for SBE activities [emphasis added]."

The language is intended to ensure that SBE funding continues to keep pace with increases provided to NSF by the Congress in recent years. For reference, the FY 2020 funding level for SBE is \$278.6 million.

Other notable passages urge NSF to prioritize “the ethical and safe development of artificial intelligence” and to “fund research on algorithmic bias in artificial intelligence, machine learning and intelligent systems and its impacts on decisions related to employment, housing, creditworthiness, and many other areas...”

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
National Science Foundation	8278.3	7741.4	8548.3	3.3%	10.4%
Research and Related Activities	6737.2	6213.0	6967.1	3.4%	12.1%
Education and Human Resources	940.0	930.9	970.0	3.2%	4.2%
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction	243.2	229.8	243.2	0.0%	5.9%
Agency Operations and Award Management	336.9	345.6	345.6	2.6%	0.0%
National Science Board	4.5	4.2	4.5	0.0%	6.9%
Office of the Inspector General	16.5	17.9	17.9	8.2%	0.0%

National Institute of Justice and Bureau of Justice Statistics

The House bill would provide the **Bureau of Justice Statistics** (BJS) with \$45 million, an increase of \$2 million above FY 2020. The bill would provide the **National Institute of Justice** (NIJ) with \$43.5 million, an increase of \$7.5 million above FY 2020, which would bring NIJ’s funding back to its FY 2018 level.

The committee report includes a number of provisions instructing BJS and NIJ to support activities related to the study of policing and use of force. These include studies on best practices in de-escalation and excessive force, delays in law enforcement response to investigations, evaluation on stops and searches, community policing practices and accountability measures.

In addition, the Committee includes language expressing concern about [delays to BJS data releases](#):

“BJS Data.—The Committee recognizes the importance of the timely release of data on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. These data are critical for policymakers and researchers to understand in combating crime and advancing equality in the justice system. The Committee directs the Bureau of Justice Statistics to release data in a timely manner and in accordance with its publication calendar. The Committee also directs that BJS communicate any changes in the timing of data releases as soon as possible to users of its data. The Committee further directs that BJS report to the Committee, not later than 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act, on its recent record of data releases and reasons for any delays.”

Other language in the committee report relates to supporting research and data on misdemeanor arrests, human trafficking, the incarcerated Asian American/Pacific Islander population, prison suicide, health needs of incarcerated pregnant women, white supremacist domestic radicalization, cybercrime, marijuana-impaired driving, and the opioid epidemic.

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
Bureau of Justice Statistics	43.0	43.0	45.0	4.7%	4.7%
National Institute of Justice	36.0	43.5	43.5	20.8%	0.0%

Census Bureau and Bureau of Economic Analysis

The House’s proposal would provide the **Census Bureau** with a total of \$1.681 billion for FY 2021, \$9.1 million above the Administration’s requested amount. The amount reflects the significant ramp down in funding following the completion of the 2020 Census, although some 2020 activities will continue into early FY 2021 due to COVID-19-related delays to the operation. The bill would provide \$288.4 million to the Bureau’s Current Surveys and Programs, a \$14.4 million increase compared to FY 2020. The Periodic Censuses and Programs account, which includes the decennial census and the American Community Survey, would receive the Administration’s requested \$1.4 billion.

The coronavirus pandemic caused massive unforeseen disruption to the 2020 Census operation, requiring the Bureau to use the majority of its carryover contingency funds to support the delay and resumption of field operations. Therefore, the House bill rejects the Administration’s proposal to use leftover funds to support the relocation of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to the Census Bureau’s headquarters. Instead, the Bureau is instructed to coordinate with relevant agencies and report back how it plans to pay for the move and to ensure current Census employees would not be negatively impacted by the reconfiguration of the facility.

The committee report also directs the Census Bureau to begin its planning for the 2030 Census by conducting a review of the lessons learned from the 2020 operation and reporting on its findings. It also instructs the Bureau to explore the feasibility of including a race category for Middle Eastern/North African (MENA) (which was considered, but not included in the 2020 Census) and to consider adding questions on sexual orientation and gender identity in the 2030 Census.

The House bill also includes \$111.9 million for the **Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)**, an increase of \$3.4 million above FY 2020 and level with the Administration’s request. The committee report continues to express interest in seeing a long-term funding plan for the creation of a Federal Data Service (which was proposed by the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking), as specified in the [House’s FY 2020 committee report](#).

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
Bureau of Economic Analysis	108.0	111.9	111.9	3.6%	0.0%
Bureau of the Census	7558.3	1672.0	1681.1	-77.8%	0.5%
Current Surveys and Programs	274.0	279.3	288.4	5.3%	3.3%
Periodic Censuses and Programs	7284.3	1392.7	1392.7	-80.9%	0.0%

III. Agriculture Appropriations Bill

The House Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill was reported out on July 9. This bill contains annual funding proposals for Department of Agriculture’s two statistical agencies, the Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), as well as the Department’s primary extramural research agency, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), among other federal departments and agencies.

The [bill text](#) and accompanying [report](#) are available on the Appropriations Committee [website](#).

Economic Research Service

The House bill would allocate \$86.7 million to the Economic Research Service, an increase of \$1.9 million above FY 2020 and a rejection of the Administration’s proposal to significantly curtail ERS’s research activities. The committee report contains a number of provisions directing ERS to study areas of particular interest to the committee, including the impact of foreign tariffs on the agricultural economy and improving data on the agricultural sector in Puerto Rico.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

The bill would provide the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) with \$183.4 million, an increase of \$3.1 million above its FY 2020 appropriation. This amount includes \$46.3 million for the Census of Agriculture. The committee report directs NASS to examine emerging trends in land acquisition within the Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) Survey, which will be conducted as part of the next Census of Agriculture.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

The House bill includes \$1.457 billion in discretionary funding for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), a decrease of \$52.1 million from FY 2020. The bill includes flat funding of \$259 million for Hatch Act State Agricultural Experiment Stations. The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), NIFA’s competitive research grant program, would receive \$435 million, a \$10 million increase from FY 2020, but well short of the Administration’s proposed \$600 million.

	FY 2020 Enacted	FY 2021 Request	FY 2021 House	House vs. FY 2020	House vs. Request
Economic Research Service	84.8	62.1	86.7	2.3%	39.6%
National Agricultural Statistics Service	180.3	177.5	183.4	1.7%	3.4%
Census of Agriculture	45.3	46.3	46.3	2.2%	0.0%
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	1527.4	1590.8	1475.3	-3.4%	-7.3%
Hatch Act	259.0	243.2	259.0	0.0%	6.5%
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	425.0	600.0	435.0	2.4%	-27.5%

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