

# Who Wins and Loses in Trump's Proposed Budget

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President Trump released a [partial outline of his 2018 budget](#) on Thursday, proposing billions of dollars in spending cuts to most government agencies to pay for large increases in military and homeland security spending, resulting in a 1.2 percent cut in discretionary spending over all.

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## Discretionary spending, in billions

Agency	2017 baseline	2018 proposal	Change	Pct. change
Environmental Protection Agency	\$8.2	\$5.7	-\$2.6	-31%
State and other development programs	\$38.0	\$27.1	-\$10.9	-29%
Agriculture	\$22.6	\$17.9	-\$4.7	-21%
Labor	\$12.2	\$9.6	-\$2.5	-21%
Justice	\$20.3	\$16.2	-\$4.0	-20%
Health and Human Services	\$77.7	\$65.1	-\$12.6	-16%
Commerce	\$9.2	\$7.8	-\$1.5	-16%
Education	\$68.2	\$59.0	-\$9.2	-14%
Transportation	\$18.6	\$16.2	-\$2.4	-13%
Housing and Urban Development	\$36.0	\$31.7	-\$4.3	-12%
Interior	\$13.2	\$11.6	-\$1.5	-12%
Energy	\$29.7	\$28.0	-\$1.7	-6%
Treasury	\$11.7	\$11.2	-\$0.5	-4%
NASA	\$19.2	\$19.1	-\$0.2	-1%
Veterans Affairs	\$74.5	\$78.9	+\$4.4	+6%
Homeland Security	\$41.3	\$44.1	+\$2.8	+7%
Defense	\$521.7	\$574.0	+\$52.3	+10%

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding. Totals are shown for fiscal years, which begin in October. They reflect base budget levels for each department, which do not include supplemental money for disaster relief, emergencies or additional war spending. They do include offsetting receipts and proposed changes in mandatory programs (CHIMPS) that are used to offset discretionary spending.

The proposal would also eliminate funding for nearly 20 smaller independent agencies, including the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Legal Services Corporation, which finances legal aid groups.

The blueprint does not include tax proposals or other revenue ideas, and outlines only proposals for discretionary spending, which is money appropriated annually by Congress. Discretionary spending makes up about a quarter of all federal spending. It does not include interest payments on the federal debt or so-called mandatory spending on large programs like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

## **Environmental Protection Agency**

\$5.7 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↓-\$2.6 billion

### **Change from 2017**

↓-31%

### **Pct. change**

The E.P.A. is among the hardest-hit agencies. The budget calls for the elimination of about 3,200 staff positions — over 20 percent of the department. It would also eliminate all funding for enactment of the Clean Power Plan, the regulations designed to curb greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. It would also discontinue funding for climate change research and international climate change programs.

The budget would slightly increase funding on drinking and wastewater infrastructure, including a \$4 million increase for the State Revolving Funds, which are meant to ensure clean water for local communities and prevent contaminated drinking-water crises like the one in Flint, Mich. — CORAL DAVENPORT

## **State and other development programs**

\$27.1 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↓-\$10.9 billion

## **Change from 2017**

↓-29%

### **Pct. change**

Diplomacy and development would be hit hard. The prime target: the United Nations. Climate-change initiatives at the United Nations would lose all their U.S. funding. The government would cut back its regular contribution to the U.N. and would pay no more than 25 percent of the cost of U.N. peacekeeping operations.

The budget would hit multilateral development banks, like the World Bank, which would be trimmed by \$650 million over three years, and cultural programs, like the East-West Center in Honolulu. However, it would safeguard the Fulbright Program. And Israel's \$3.1 billion in annual military aid would be untouched. — MARK LANDLER

## **Agriculture**

\$17.9 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↓-\$4.7 billion

## **Change from 2017**

↓-21%

### **Pct. change**

President Trump wants to reduce funding for the department by making cuts to the National Forest System and by eliminating loan and grant programs for water and sewage systems. The budget would provide \$6.2 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, known as WIC, which helps low income families, while making no cuts to the Food Safety and Inspection Service. It continues funding the department's farmer-focused and competitive research programs. — YAMICHE ALCINDOR

## **Labor**

\$9.6 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↓-\$2.5 billion

#### **Change from 2017**

↓-21%

#### **Pct. change**

President Trump wants to scale back on a number of job training programs, including those aimed at helping seniors, disadvantaged young people and unemployed Americans. The budget also would help states expand apprenticeship programs and training for disabled workers, while eliminating some training grants for occupational safety and health administration. — YAMICHE ALCINDOR

## **Justice**

\$16.2 billion

#### **2018 proposal**

↓-\$4 billion

#### **Change from 2017**

↓-20%

#### **Pct. change**

President Trump wants to cut this budget, even as he steps up border enforcement, hires more immigration judges and slightly increases the F.B.I. budget. Most of the cuts come from a budget maneuver in which funds classified as “mandatory,” like for the Crime Victims Fund, are reduced in order to offset discretionary spending. His budget also relies on cuts to prison construction, which the administration says can be accomplished because of the decline in the prison population under President Obama.

One budget item to watch: Mr. Trump wants to hire 20 lawyers to obtain land in the Southwest, foreshadowing bitter legal fights with landowners from Texas to California over the seizure of private property. — MATT APUZZO

## **Health and Human Services**

\$65.1 billion

## **2018 proposal**

↓-\$12.6 billion

## **Change from 2017**

↓-16%

## **Pct. change**

The budget makes significant cuts to the department's spending, by eliminating \$4.2 billion in community services programs like the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. It also proposes to cut spending at the National Institutes of Health by \$5.8 billion, or about 18 percent. This proposal is a nonstarter in Congress as evidenced by bipartisan support for the Cures Act, a biomedical research bill signed in December. Mr. Trump's proposal includes 21 percent more spending for the Cures Act, about a \$200 million increase over 2017. — ROBERT PEAR

# **Commerce**

\$7.8 billion

## **2018 proposal**

↓-\$1.5 billion

## **Change from 2017**

↓-16%

## **Pct. change**

The budget eliminates the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's grants and programs for coastal and marine management, research and education and eliminates the Minority Business Development Agency, which supports minority-owned businesses. It also scales back export promotion, beefs up trade enforcement and provides \$100 million more for the 2020 Census. — YAMICHE ALCINDOR

# **Education**

\$59 billion

## **2018 proposal**

↓-\$9.2 billion

**Change from 2017**

↓-14%

**Pct. change**

The budget illustrates a full-throated support for school choice programs championed by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. It includes a \$1.4 billion increase for public and private school choice programs while eliminating funding for before- and after-school and summer programs. Federal work-study would also be “significantly reduced” while the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, which is reserved for college students with the greatest need for financial aid, would also be eliminated. Funding to historically black colleges would remain the same. — YAMICHE ALCINDOR

## **Transportation**

\$16.2 billion

**2018 proposal**

↓-\$2.4 billion

**Change from 2017**

↓-13%

**Pct. change**

President Trump wants to initiate the privatization of the nation’s air traffic control operations, a proposal championed by the chairman of the House Transportation Committee. The budget also calls for reduced subsidies to Amtrak, including the reduction of all federal support for its long-distance train services. And it would eliminate funding entirely for a program that subsidizes commercial air flights from rural airports — a proposal likely to find opposition among both Democrats and Republicans representing those rural areas. — NICHOLAS FANDOS

## **Housing and Urban Development**

\$31.7 billion

**2018 proposal**

↓-\$4.3 billion

**Change from 2017**

↓-12%

**Pct. change**

The budget would eliminate the Community Development Block Grant Program, which funds local improvement efforts and anti-poverty programs, and cut funding for rental assistance and homeownership programs and affordable housing initiatives. —  
YAMICHE ALCINDOR

## **Interior**

\$11.6 billion

**2018 proposal**

↓-\$1.5 billion

**Change from 2017**

↓-12%

**Pct. change**

The budget would increase funding for programs that drill for oil and gas on public lands and cut funding for programs such as the National Heritage Areas and the National Wildlife Refuge Fund. It would cut \$120 million from a program that acquires new federal lands. — CORAL DAVENPORT

## **Energy**

\$28 billion

**2018 proposal**

↓-\$1.7 billion

**Change from 2017**

↓-6%

### **Pct. change**

While the president's request would cut the agency's current level, it would give an increase of \$1.4 billion, or 11 percent, to the National Nuclear Security Administration, which is focused on managing the nation's nuclear weapons arsenal. It would also include \$120 million to restart licensing of the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste storage facility in Nevada, which had been frozen by the Obama administration.

The budget would cut or eliminate programs to support research of breakthrough clean energy technology, including the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy and the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program. However, members of both parties in Congress have supported those programs, and it is unlikely that they will agree to eliminate them entirely. — CORAL DAVENPORT

## **Treasury**

\$11.2 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↓-\$0.5 billion

### **Change from 2017**

↓-4%

### **Pct. change**

The department responsible for printing America's money would be receiving less of it. The main target is the Internal Revenue Service, which has already faced deep budget cuts in recent years. According to the proposal, its enforcement and tax-collecting capabilities would not be hindered. Savings would be found by diverting resources from old, paper-based systems. — ALAN RAPPEPORT

## **Veterans Affairs**

\$78.9 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↑+\$4.4 billion

### **Change from 2017**

↑+6%

### **Pct. change**

This department does well under President Trump's budget. Most of the money is earmarked for veterans' health care programs. Notably, the budget funds the extension of the Veterans Choice Program, which has increased options for veterans seeking care outside of V.A. facilities when they are unable to provide timely care. The program is set to expire in August. The budget blueprint also calls for continued investment to improve the department's claims system and for badly needed I.T. infrastructure. — NICHOLAS FANDOS

## **Homeland Security**

\$44.1 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↑+\$2.8 billion

### **Change from 2017**

↑+7%

### **Pct. change**

About \$2.6 billion would be dedicated for border security technology and infrastructure, including the early stages of a wall between the United States and Mexico. The budget sets aside \$314 million to hire and train 500 Border Patrol agents and 1,000 Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel next year. Another \$1.5 billion would go toward supporting the detention and removal of illegal immigrants.

The budget makes no mention of the Coast Guard. — NICHOLAS FANDOS

## **Defense**

\$574 billion

### **2018 proposal**

↑+\$52.3 billion

## Change from 2017

↑+10%

### Pct. change

It's unclear exactly how all of the increases would be distributed. Some of the money would go to accelerating the fight against the Islamic State, and to pay for more warships and fighter jets.

President Trump will face difficulty getting this proposal through Congress, where the threat of automatic spending cuts known as sequestration has acted as a brake on military spending. And many American military officials — the defense secretary included — have denounced efforts to cut foreign aid in favor of more defense spending. Many foreign aid programs, those officials say, contribute to global stability and are seen as important in helping avoid future conflicts. — HELENE COOPER

Sources: White House Office of Management and Budget; Congressional Budget Office; Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

### Correction: March 16, 2017

An earlier version of this article omitted part of the name of a program that would be cut under Trump's budget. It is the National Wildlife Refuge Fund, not the National Wildlife Fund.

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