



CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

## Analysis of the Draft Senate FY 2022 Appropriations Bills for Federal Science Agencies | October 22, 2021

Earlier this week, the Senate Appropriations Committee released drafts of nine of its annual appropriations bills. While fiscal year (FY) 2022 officially began on October 1, the Senate Appropriations Committee has so far this year only completed work on three of its FY 2022 bills; none of the Senate bills have yet been voted on by the full Senate. Last month, Congress enacted a continuing resolution (CR) to keep the federal government open until December 3, providing additional time for both chambers to complete their work.

Over in the House, the Appropriations Committee advanced all twelve of its annual spending bills over the summer (see [previous coverage](#)), with nine of its bills successfully passing the chamber. This includes two bills important to the social and behavioral science community: the Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education Appropriations Bill and the Agriculture Appropriations Bill (see [COSSA's analysis](#)).

As noted in previous coverage, the FY 2022 appropriations bills are in many ways a stark contrast to the spending measures we have seen over the last several years, for a few reasons. First, the spending caps that have placed limits on discretionary spending over the last decade expired in FY 2021 and new ones have not yet been set. Second, it is common to see major new investments in the first year of a new Presidential Administration, especially when the House and Senate are of the same party. While in many cases the House and Senate bills do not provide the President with the full amount of requested funds, federal science agencies would still see major budget increases nearly across the board in both proposals.

It is likely that caps on discretionary spending will return in some form in the near future, leaving many to believe FY 2022 is the best opportunity to achieve long-desired increases and major new investments, such as establishing a new agency—ARPA-H—possibly within the National Institutes of Health and standing up a new research directorate at the National Science Foundation focused on technology, innovation, and partnerships (read on for details).

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021
National Institutes of Health	42935.5	47922.9	11.6%
National Science Foundation	8486.8	9486.8	11.8%
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	7819.4	9678.9	23.8%
DOD Basic Research (6.1)	2671.5	3005.4	12.5%
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	1570.1	1656.8	5.5%
Bureau of the Census	1106.6	1432.4	29.4%
Institute of Education Sciences	642.5	814.5	26.8%
Bureau of Labor Statistics	655.0	685.2	4.6%

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	338.0	380.0	12.4%
National Agricultural Statistics Service	183.9	191.7	4.2%
Bureau of Economic Analysis	111.9	124.6	11.4%
Economic Research Service	85.5	90.8	6.2%
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	78.2	85.2	9.0%
Bureau of Justice Statistics	45.0	45.0	0.0%
National Institute of Justice	37.0	41.0	10.8%

As noted, Congress has given itself until December 3 to complete its work on the FY 2022 process. However, given the limited number of legislative days remaining and other issues competing for time—including but not limited to sweeping infrastructure legislation and a \$3.5 trillion reconciliation package—the outlook for completing FY 2022 appropriations bills by early December seems ambitious. Before negotiations to reconcile the differences between the chambers’ spending bills can begin, Congressional leaders must first agree to top-line funding amounts for each bill. It is possible that an additional CR or series of short-term CRs could be needed to complete the FY 2022 process.

The following pages include details on the Senate’s FY 2022 funding bills for federal agencies and programs important to the social and behavioral science research community, including comparisons to the House bills and the President’s request. The analysis is organized by appropriation bill. Read on for full details.

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

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

The Senate’s draft Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations Bill was released on October 18. 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 Senate bill includes a total of \$47.9 billion for NIH in FY 2022, an increase of nearly \$5 billion or 11.6 percent over the FY 2021 enacted level. Still, the total is 3 percent less than the House proposal and almost 8 percent below the President’s request. Included in the total is **\$2.4 billion for a new Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)** (see [previous coverage](#)), leaving about \$2.6 billion for increases to the rest of the agency.

In addition to establishing ARPA-H, the bill would provide increases to each institute and center (IC). Like the House bill, the Senate proposal includes the greatest increases for the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (+66.6%) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (+23.9%). Other institutes and centers would see much smaller increases, some as low as 2.5 percent. See the table below for details.

As expected, the report accompanying the Senate bill includes significant directives related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Several are especially relevant to the social and behavioral science community, including:

- **Impact of COVID-19 on Mental Health** – The Senate bill includes an increase of \$25 million to the National Institute of Mental Health to expand research on the mental health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Diversity in the Biomedical Research Workforce** – The report directs NIH to study the impact the pandemic has had on participation in the biomedical workforce, specifically with respect to race, ethnicity, age, gender, disability status, and career stage. According to the Senate proposal, this should be done by “monitoring the types of awards received from and awarded to institutions for 2 years beginning 90 days after the enactment of this Act.”
- **Behavioral Health in Young Children** – The Senate report calls on the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to prioritize research on “long-term consequences of social isolation or emotional development after a year of inconsistent in-person school attendance” as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

### ARPA-H

As noted, the Senate bill includes \$2.4 billion in new funding to establish an Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), which is \$4.1 billion below the President’s request and \$600 million less than the House proposal of \$3 billion. The report includes substantial language discussing the possible location and structure of the new entity but falls short of endorsing any specific proposal.

The report states:

*“As ARPA-H remains unauthorized and there are differing views on where the new entity should be placed within the Department [of Health and Human Services], the Committee’s recommendation should not be viewed as favoring its placement within NIH. The Committee remains open to making it a free-standing component within NIH or, alternatively, as a separate new agency.”*

The report continues:

*“...if ARPA-H is placed within NIH, the Committee believes it should be as an independent entity rather than within the Office of the Director as had been initially suggested. NIH recognizes that ARPA-H will require a very different culture and mission than its other 27 Institutes and Centers. To foster the development of that culture, ARPA-H should be located away from the main NIH campus... [and]... recruitment from the existing NIH workforce should be avoided.”*

The report goes on to explain that ARPA-H will require “independence and flexibility” on par with DARPA, including authorities for rapid hiring and levels of compensation outside the confines of the typical civil service hiring system.

## Other Provisions

### ***Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research.***

The Senate report includes language similar to the House supporting the work of NIH’s Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) “to coordinate and promote basic, clinical, and translational research in the behavioral and social sciences to support the NIH mission.” The report continues:

*“As multiple Surgeons General and the National Academy of Medicine have declared that most health problems facing the nation have significant behavioral components, the Committee strongly supports the continued strengthening of the behavioral science enterprise at NIH and urges OBSSR funding be increased to accomplish [its] mission.”*

However, unlike the House bill, the Senate report does not specify a funding level for OBSSR; the House report called for a total of \$49.8 million for the office, a \$20 million increase over the FY 2021 level and the President’s request.

### ***Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research***

The Senate LHHHS bill includes \$25 million for research related to firearm injury and mortality, equal to the House level. Funding for this activity was originally provided by Congress in the FY 2020 appropriations bill and again in FY 2021. In each year, Congress appropriated \$12.5 million, and the funding was administered by OBSSR (equal amounts were also appropriated to CDC those same years). Both the House and Senate reports would require NIH and CDC to collaborate with the National Institute of Justice to “compile, share, and improve firearm violence data.” The Senate report goes further to state:

*“Given violence and suicide have a number of causes, the recommendation expects NIH to take a comprehensive approach to studying these underlying causes and evidence-based methods of prevention of injury, including crime prevention.”*

### ***Harassment Policies***

The Senate report contains similar language to the House calling out NIH for not following through on past directives from Congress related to harassment guidance to extramural researchers. It states, “The Committee is deeply frustrated by NIH’s failure to implement its direction to address harassment in extramural research settings.” Previous appropriations bills directed NIH to revise its guidance to grantee institutions to clarify that grantees must identify any changes to key personnel on an award that are related to harassment. In response, the FY 2022 bill has added a new provision requiring grantee institutions to notify the agency when key personnel are removed from their position as a result of harassment.

### ***COVID-19’s Impact on Research***

The Senate bill acknowledges the impacts of the pandemic on the U.S. research enterprise, especially for early career researchers, and commends NIH for steps taken to provide funded and no-cost extensions to fellowship and career development awards. However, the report continues:

*“...[The Committee] is concerned about the possibility of uneven levels of support between ICs, unclear qualifying standards and demand that may exceed resources. To address these concerns, the Committee encourages NIH to develop and disseminate a standardized approach to support eligible investigators across Institutes and Centers and provides funding to enable support of qualified extensions.”*

### ***Impact of Technology and Digital Media on Children and Teens***

The Senate report includes language similar to the House encouraging NIH to prioritize research within the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) on the “cognitive, physical, and socio-emotional repercussions of young people’s use of technologies including mobile devices, computers, and virtual reality tools as well as their consumption of social-media content, video games, and television programming.”

### ***Population Research***

The Senate report includes language similar to the House encouraging NICHD to expand its data collection through existing surveys to address “the dearth of data being collected regarding the short and long-term social, economic, developmental, and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and families...” and to enhance research on the effect of COVID-19 on fertility trends and reproductive health as well as maternal, infant, child, and adolescent mortality.

In addition, the Senate report calls for enhancements to existing surveys within the National Institute on Aging to advance research on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on older populations, specifically, the “short and long-term social, behavioral, and economic health consequences of COVID-19 on older people and their families.” In addition, the report urges NIA to “support the further development of data infrastructure to promote research on racial, ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic disparities in health and well-being in later life and the long-term effects of early life experiences, including for rural, poor and minority populations that may be at enhanced risk for dementia.”

### ***Climate Change Research***

Both the House and Senate bills includes an increase of \$100 million—the amount requested by the President—for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) for research on the impact of climate change on human health.

### ***Health Disparities Research***

The Senate bill would provide NIMHD with an increase of \$250 million, the largest percentage increase of all ICs, to support research to identify and reduce health disparities. This is consistent with the amount requested by the President and the House bill.

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>National Institutes of Health</b>	<b>42935.5</b>	<b>51953.0</b>	<b>49434.0</b>	<b>47922.9</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
National Cancer Institute	6364.9	6539.3	6992.1	6772.5	6.4%	3.6%	3.2%
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	3664.8	3845.7	3866.8	3842.0	4.8%	-0.1%	0.6%
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	484.9	516.2	519.0	515.7	6.4%	-0.1%	0.6%
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	2132.0	2219.3	2237.6	2367.1	11.0%	6.7%	-5.5%
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	2463.4	2707.3	2799.5	2786.1	13.1%	2.9%	0.5%
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	6069.6	6245.9	6557.8	6342.8	4.5%	1.6%	3.4%
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	2991.4	3096.1	3139.7	3067.6	2.5%	-0.9%	2.4%
<i>Eunice Kennedy Shriver</i> National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	1590.3	1942.1	1689.8	1679.0	5.6%	-13.5%	0.6%
National Eye Institute	835.7	858.5	877.1	857.9	2.7%	-0.1%	2.2%
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	814.7	937.1	941.8	936.3	14.9%	-0.1%	0.6%
National Institute on Aging	3899.2	4035.6	4258.0	4180.8	7.2%	3.6%	1.8%
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	634.3	680.2	679.4	675.1	6.4%	-0.7%	0.6%
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	498.1	511.8	522.8	511.3	2.7%	-0.1%	2.2%
National Institute of Mental Health	2053.7	2137.6	2223.1	2142.9	4.3%	0.2%	3.7%
National Institute on Drug Abuse	1479.7	1852.5	1860.3	1832.9	23.9%	-1.1%	1.5%
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	554.9	570.2	582.4	569.6	2.7%	-0.1%	2.2%
National Institute of Nursing Research	175.0	199.8	200.8	199.6	14.1%	-0.1%	0.6%
National Human Genome Research Institute	615.8	633.0	646.3	634.6	3.1%	0.3%	1.8%
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	410.7	422.0	431.1	421.6	2.7%	-0.1%	2.2%
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	390.9	652.2	661.9	651.1	66.6%	-0.2%	1.7%
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health	154.2	184.3	185.3	184.2	19.5%	0.0%	0.6%
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences	855.4	879.0	897.8	878.1	2.6%	-0.1%	2.2%
John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences	84.0	96.3	96.8	96.3	14.5%	-0.1%	0.6%
National Library of Medicine	463.8	474.9	486.8	476.1	2.6%	0.3%	2.2%
Office of the Director	2283.9	2394.9	2667.4	2538.2	11.1%	6.0%	5.1%
Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)	0.0	6500.0	3000.0	2400.0	+\$2.4b	-63.1%	25.0%

## Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

The Senate bill proposes \$380 million for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in FY 2022, matching the amount in the Administration’s request and the House bill. This level would be an increase of \$42 million or 12.4 percent over FY 2021. The total does not include \$108.79 million in mandatory transfers from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) Trust Fund, which is used to translate and disseminate findings from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI).

The bill would increase funding to a few of AHRQ’s research portfolios, including an 11.2 percent increase in Patient Safety; a 25.8 percent increase to Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination; and establishing funding for Improving Maternal Health, allocating \$7.4 million for FY 2022. Other provisions in the Committee’s report direct AHRQ to review evidence-based opioid prescription practices, encourage programs reaching rural and underserved populations, and support the work of the Center for Primary Care Research. AHRQ, along with NIH, CDC, and other offices within the Department of Health and Human Services are also directed to brief the Committees on Appropriations on how the agencies are coordinating their responses to antimicrobial resistance, including related to COVID-19.

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality</b>	<b>338.0</b>	<b>380.0</b>	<b>380.0</b>	<b>380.0</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	0.0%
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes	194.9	234.9	234.9	234.9	20.5%	0.0%	-8.8%
Patient Safety	71.6	71.6	72.6	79.6	11.2%	11.2%	5.8%
Health Services Research, Data, and Dissemination	95.4	128.1	127.1	120.1	25.8%	-6.2%	0.0%
Digital Healthcare Research	16.3	16.3	16.3	16.3	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
U.S. Preventive Services Task Force	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Improving Maternal Health	0.0	7.4	7.4	7.4	+\$7.4m	0.0%	0.0%
Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys	70.0	71.8	71.8	71.8	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Research Management and Support	71.3	73.3	73.3	73.3	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Senate bill includes \$9.68 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), \$181 million above the President’s budget request but \$892 million lower than the House proposal. This total includes \$8.64 billion in discretionary funding, \$903.3 million in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund, and \$139 million from Public Health Service Evaluation transfers.

The bill includes \$175.4 million for the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) within the CDC, flat with FY 2021 and the President’s budget request, although \$15 million below the House’s proposed level.

Much like the House bill, the Senate bill mentions the CDC’s larger Public Health Data Modernization Initiative (DMI), although NCHS is notably unnamed in the Senate version. The DMI was established with a \$50 million appropriation in FY 2020 and received a significant investment of \$1 billion in multi-year funding through the [CARES Act](#). The Senate bill would provide the initiative with an increase of \$100 million in appropriated funds for FY 2022, consistent with the President’s budget request.



The report directs CDC to provide a report on data being collected on the chronic effects of COVID-19 to fill existing knowledge gaps and planning for surveillance of anticipated issues related to long-term COVID-19 effects.

In addition, \$17 million is allocated to improve knowledge of infectious diseases associated with substance use disorders such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV. Funding may be used to increase capacity for State and local health departments, expand syringe exchange programs, implement national screening guidelines, and collect data on infectious diseases related to opioid use.

The report provides an increase of \$26 million for the Safe Motherhood and Infant Health Program, which collects and provides data to State Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs) for improved accuracy of national maternal mortality statistics. CDC would also provide a report on barriers to collection of maternal mortality data and opportunities to improve data coordination amongst MMRCs.

Like the House report, the Committee report includes an increase of \$150 million in investments in Social Determinants of Health within the Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion to improve health equity. This funding is an expansion of a pilot program initiated in FY 2021 to award competitive grants for jurisdictions to develop Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Plans, including engaging with qualified research experts for assistance.

Within the Environmental Health portfolio, the bill includes a \$100 million increase for the Climate and Health program, consistent with the President’s budget request. This increase would expand the program to research health effects associated with climate change and implement climate health adaptation plans.

The FY 2022 bill includes \$25 million for research on firearm injury and mortality prevention, which would double the FY 2021 appropriation of \$12.5 million (in addition to an equal amount within the NIH budget). The report calls out the lack of significant research addressing gun violence against sexual and gender minorities and directs CDC to expand research in these areas. It also urges CDC to collaborate with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to improve and disseminate gun violence data including the Uniform Crime Report and data from hospitals that treat nonfatal gunshot injuries.

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</b>	<b>7819.4</b>	<b>9497.2</b>	<b>10571.4</b>	<b>9678.9</b>	<b>23.8%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>
HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STI, and TB Prevention	1314.1	1420.6	1501.6	1436.1	9.3%	1.1%	4.6%
Chronic Disease Prevention, Health Promotion	1276.7	1452.7	1557.1	1509.7	18.3%	3.9%	3.1%
National Center for Health Statistics	175.4	175.4	190.4	175.4	0.0%	0.0%	8.6%
Environmental Health	222.9	332.9	343.4	333.4	49.6%	0.2%	3.0%
Injury Prevention and Control	682.9	1103.2	1064.2	1050.2	53.8%	-4.8%	1.3%
Occupational Safety and Health	345.3	345.3	360.3	347.3	0.6%	0.6%	3.7%
Global Health	592.8	697.8	842.8	597.8	0.8%	-14.3%	41.0%

## Department of Education

Within the Department of Education, the Senate bill would provide \$814.5 million for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), the research, evaluation, and statistical agency of the Department of Education. This amount represents a \$172 million increase in funding for IES compared to its FY 2021 enacted level, \$75 million higher than the Administration’s request and \$52 million higher than the House proposal. The IES accounts that would receive the most significant increases are Research, Development, and Dissemination, which would see a \$70 million or 35.4 percent increase, and Special Education Studies and Evaluations, which would see a \$10 million or 88.4 percent increase. Both amounts match the Administration’s request for IES. Other accounts that would receive smaller increases are Regional Educational Laboratories at an 11.2 percent increase; Research in Special Education at an 11.1 percent increase; and the Assessment account responsible for administering the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which would see an 8.7 percent increase. Both the National Center for Education Statistics and Statewide Data Systems accounts would remain flat with FY 2021.

The Senate bill includes language providing \$67.5 million in direct appropriations to IES for administrative expenses. Previously, these expenses were supported through appropriations to the Program Administration account. The bill also requests the IES director to submit an administrative and staffing plan addressing ongoing capacity issues within IES.

The bill proposes an increase of \$7 million or 9 percent compared to FY 2021 for the International Education and Foreign Language Studies programs, which include Domestic Programs (also known as Title VI) and Overseas Programs (also known as Fulbright-Hays Domestic Programs) would receive a \$5 million or 7.2 percent increase, while Overseas Programs would see a \$2 million or 22.7 percent increase.

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Institute of Education Sciences</b>	<b>642.5</b>	<b>737.5</b>	<b>762.5</b>	<b>814.5</b>	<b>26.8%</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>
Research, Development, and Dissemination	197.9	267.9	260.9	267.9	35.4%	0.0%	-2.6%
Statistics	111.5	111.5	114.5	111.5	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%
Regional Educational Laboratories	54.0	57.0	59.0	60.0	11.2%	5.3%	-1.7%
Research in Special Education	58.5	58.5	59.5	65.0	11.1%	11.1%	-8.5%
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	11.3	21.3	21.3	21.3	88.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Assessment (NAEP)	172.7	187.7	212.7	187.7	8.7%	0.0%	13.3%
Statewide Data Systems	33.5	33.5	34.5	33.5	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%
<b>International Education and Foreign Language Studies</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>93.2</b>	<b>85.2</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>
Domestic Programs (Title VI)	69.4	69.4	79.4	74.4	7.2%	7.2%	6.7%
Overseas Programs (Fulbright-Hays)	8.8	8.8	13.8	10.8	22.7%	22.7%	27.7%

## Bureau of Labor Statistics

The Senate bill would provide the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) with \$685.2 million, a \$30.2 million increase above FY 2022 but \$15.5 billion below the Administration and House’s proposed level. The explanatory statement “defers action” on providing additional funding for the relocation of the BLS

headquarters, noting that it was supposed to have been completed in FY 2021. Funding for BLS’s remaining programmatic accounts largely align with the House and Administration’s proposals.

The explanatory statement urges BLS to accelerate its work to develop a supplement to the Current Population Survey to measure contingent and alternative work arrangements and to continue to develop and implement a new cohort of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY).

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Bureau of Labor Statistics</b>	<b>655.0</b>	<b>700.7</b>	<b>700.7</b>	<b>685.2</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
Labor Force Statistics	296.3	299.0	299.0	312.0	5.3%	4.3%	-4.2%
Prices and Cost of Living	216.2	233.0	233.0	233.0	7.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Compensation and Working Conditions	84.0	89.9	89.9	89.9	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Productivity and Technology	10.5	12.4	12.4	12.4	17.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Executive Direction and Staff Services	48.0	66.3	66.3	37.9	-21.1%	-42.9%	75.2%

## II. Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill

The Senate’s draft Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill was released on October 18. 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 draft Senate bill includes \$9.49 billion for NSF in FY 2022, which if appropriated would represent a \$1 billion increase for the agency over the FY 2021 enacted level. While the Senate bill is 1.5 percent below the House proposal and 6.7 percent below the President’s request, the amount would still be a high-water mark for the agency.

Notably, like the House version, the Senate bill endorses the President’s proposal to create a new **Directorate for Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships** (see [COSSA’s coverage](#) for full details on the proposed directorate). Unlike the House bill, which did not specify a funding amount for TIP, the Senate bill would allow for up to \$864.9 million for the new activity, the amount requested by the President. The Senate bill also endorses the President’s proposal to create Regional Innovation Accelerators (funded at up to \$200 million) within the new directorate; this program would seek to support use-inspired research in several technology areas (e.g., artificial intelligence) and national challenge areas (e.g., climate change) at the individual community and/or regional level. The Senate would further direct that 20 percent of the accelerators be awarded to institutions in EPSCoR states.

## Research & Related Activities

The Senate bill includes \$7.7 billion for NSF’s R&RA account, which funds the agency’s science directorates, including the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE). The total is \$757 million or 11 percent above the FY 2021 appropriation but 5.8 percent below the President’s request and 0.4 percent below the House bill. However, if one were to assume that NSF allocates the amount proposed by the President for the new TIP Directorate—which would include \$500 million in new funding—the increase for non-TIP-related R&RA activities (i.e. available to all other directorates) would be about \$257 million or 3.7 percent.

## Notable Report Language

### Disinformation and Misinformation

Similar to the House, the Senate report includes language encouraging NSF to “enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study on the current understanding of the spread of COVID-19-related disinformation and misinformation on the Internet and social media platforms, with COVID-19 being one possible exemplar.”

### Online Influence

The Senate report contains similar—although less directive—language as the House bill *encouraging* (instead of “directing”) NSF to support research to counter foreign influence on social media platforms “designed to influence U.S. perspectives and undermine confidence in U.S. elections and institutions.”

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>National Science Foundation</b>	<b>8486.8</b>	<b>10169.3</b>	<b>9634.0</b>	<b>9486.8</b>	<b>11.8%</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Research and Related Activities	6909.8	8139.7	7695.7	7667.1	11.0%	-5.8%	0.4%
Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships	364.9	864.9	n/a	864.9	137.0%	0.0%	n/a
Education and Human Resources	968.0	1287.3	1274.3	1100.0	13.6%	-14.5%	15.8%
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction	241.0	249.0	249.0	249.0	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Agency Operations and Award Management	345.6	468.3	390.0	445.6	28.9%	-4.8%	-12.5%
National Science Board	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.6	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Office of the Inspector General	17.9	20.4	20.4	20.4	14.4%	0.0%	0.0%

## Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Institute of Justice

The Senate bill would provide the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) with \$45 million, flat with its FY 2021 enacted level and the Administration’s request. The House had proposed a \$5 million increase. The explanatory statement requests that BJS provide an update on its progress towards establishing a dataset on police suicide as funded in previous fiscal years.

The bill would provide the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) with \$41 million, level with the Administration’s request and \$4 million above FY 2021, but \$4 million below the House’s proposed funding level. Within the amount provided for NIJ, the Committee continues to direct funding to specific

initiatives, including research on domestic radicalization (\$10 million), school safety (\$1 million), tracking abuse in youth-serving organizations (\$1.5 million), establishing a national model for reducing incarceration for parole violations (\$4 million), research on the *First Step Act* (\$8 million), a pilot campus climate survey on sexual assault (up to \$5 million), and a clearinghouse on online extremism (up to \$500,000). The Committee also directs NIJ to research human trafficking and evaluating correctional education programs, as well as to continue its survey of children exposed to violence.

In addition, the Appropriations Committee “encourages” the Department to establish the Office of Justice Programs’ Science Advisory Board, which advised NIJ and BJS prior to the expiration of its charter in 2018. According to the explanatory statement, the new Board should be “comprised of scholars and practitioners in criminology, statistics, and sociology, as well as practitioners in the criminal and juvenile justice fields.”

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Bureau of Justice Statistics</b>	45.0	45.0	50.0	45.0	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%
<b>National Institute of Justice</b>	37.0	41.0	45.0	41.0	10.8%	0.0%	9.8%

## Census Bureau and Bureau of Economic Analysis

The Senate bill also includes \$124.6 million for the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), an increase of \$12.7 million above FY 2021. The explanatory statement repeats language from previous fiscal years directing BEA to set aside funding to study the role of the outdoor recreation industry in the U.S. economy.

The Senate’s proposal would provide the Census Bureau with a total of \$1.342 billion for FY 2022, \$325.8 million above the FY 2021 level but \$10 million below the amount requested by the Administration and recommended by the House. Within the total appropriation, \$309.9 million would be directed to Current Surveys and Programs and \$1.122 billion would go to Periodic Censuses and Programs. Like the House bill, the Senate bill rejects the Administration’s proposed restructuring of the Census Bureau’s funding accounts.

The explanatory statement directs the Census Bureau to actively consult the data user community when implementing disclosure-avoidance techniques such as differential privacy. It also repeats language from previous fiscal years in support of the American Community Survey.

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Bureau of Economic Analysis</b>	111.9	125.6	120.5	124.6	11.4%	-0.8%	-3.3%
<b>Bureau of the Census</b>	1106.6	1442.4	1442.4	1432.4	29.4%	-0.7%	0.7%
Current Surveys and Programs	288.4	309.9	309.9	309.9	7.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Periodic Censuses and Programs	818.2	1190.1	1132.5	1122.5	37.2%	-5.7%	0.9%

### III. Agriculture Appropriations Bill

The House Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill was reported out of the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 4, one of only three FY 2022 appropriations bills to have passed through the Committee so far this year. Among other federal departments and agencies, 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).

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

#### Economic Research Service

**The Senate bill would allocate \$90.8 million to the Economic Research Service, an increase of \$5.3 million above FY 2021 and \$2.2 million more than the House's proposed level.** Among other provisions, the explanatory statement directs ERS to study programs that incentivize carbon sequestration agricultural practices, including how programs could "manage the tradeoff between incentivizing new adopters and rewarding and sustaining existing adopters of techniques that sequester soil carbon, regional and geographic differences in incentive programs, social and behavioral obstacles, and the differences across program designs."

#### National Agricultural Statistics Service

**The bill would provide the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) with \$191.7 million, an increase of \$7.8 million above its FY 2021 appropriation and \$2.5 million above the House's proposed level.** This amount includes \$46.9 million for the Census of Agriculture. Language in the explanatory statement directs NASS to improve the quality of its public reports, including providing "a customer-centric data collection dashboard for ease of use, improving the data-user experience with simplified access and increased usability, creating a reimagined operating model that equips the agency with the best tools and technology and allows the agency to recruit and retain top talent, and other initiatives that will allow NASS to meet future data needs."

#### National Institute of Food and Agriculture

**The Senate bill includes \$1.657 billion in discretionary funding for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), an increase of \$86.7 million from FY 2021.** The bill includes a total of \$275 million for the Hatch Act State Agricultural Experiment Stations. The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), NIFA's competitive research grant program, would receive \$445 million, a \$10 million increase from FY 2021, but well short of the Administration's proposed \$700 million.

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Economic Research Service</b>	<b>85.5</b>	<b>90.6</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>90.8</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
<b>National Agricultural Statistics Service</b>	<b>183.9</b>	<b>193.7</b>	<b>189.2</b>	<b>191.7</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>
Census of Agriculture	46.3	46.9	46.9	46.9	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</b>	<b>1570.1</b>	<b>1955.9</b>	<b>1654.8</b>	<b>1656.8</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>-15.3%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>
Hatch Act	259.0	329.4	265.0	275.0	6.2%	-16.5%	-3.6%
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	435.0	700.0	450.0	445.0	2.3%	-36.4%	1.1%

## IV. Defense Appropriations Bill

The Senate’s draft Defense Appropriations bill was released on October 18. The bill proposes annual funding levels for some of the federal government’s largest research accounts, including the Department of Defense’s Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) budget and the Defense Health Program, and funds the Defense-Wide and armed services research accounts responsible for the Department’s social science research program, the Minerva Research Initiative.

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

### Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation

The Department of Defense (DOD) is the largest contributor to federal research and development expenditures, the bulk of which 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). **The Senate bill would allocate \$116.15 billion to the RDT&E budget representing an increase of \$9 billion over FY 2021, \$4.1 billion above the Administration’s budget request and \$5.7 billion above the House bill.** This would also mean a significant increase in RDT&E’s Basic Research accounts, with a 12.5 percent increase for Basic Research over FY 2021. Other accounts would see modest increases, such as a 1.3 percent increase for Applied Research, and a 4.9 percent increase for Advanced Technology Development.

### 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 enjoys perennial support from appropriators in Congress. **The Senate report calls for \$36.21 billion for the Defense Health Program, over \$600 million more than the Administration’s request, but \$450 million below the House proposal.** The bill also recommends \$70 million above the Administration’s request for continued research into the treatment and prevention of Traumatic Brain Injury and improved psychological health.

## Minerva Research Initiative

The Minerva Research Initiative (MRI) is a university-based social science research program within the Department of Defense 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 MRI is not provided with a dedicated appropriation from Congress, but rather receives funds from the Navy, the Air Force, and the Basic Research Office (a Defense-Wide account). In FY 2021, Minerva was zeroed out of the Trump Administration’s budget request because of the 2021 Defense-Wide Review. The program survived due to restorative report language included in the final FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and Defense Appropriations bills. Similar restorative language exists in the FY 2022 Defense Appropriations bills.

**The Senate bill recommends a funding adjustment restoring \$13 million for Minerva in the Defense-Wide RDT&E account, a decrease from the \$17 million funding level in FY 2021.** This is still higher than the House bill recommendation of an \$8 million restoration of Minerva.

	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Request	FY 2022 House	FY 2022 Senate	Senate vs. FY 2021	Senate vs. Request	House vs. Senate
<b>Research, Development, Test &amp; Evaluation</b>	<b>107135.2</b>	<b>111964.2</b>	<b>110368.8</b>	<b>116152.5</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>
Basic Research (6.1)	2671.5	2282.9	2441.5	3005.4	12.5%	31.6%	-18.8%
Applied Research (6.2)	6446.1	5508.9	5924.3	6531.9	1.3%	18.6%	-9.3%
Advanced Technology Development (6.3)	7755.6	6893.5	7637.7	8134.8	4.9%	18.0%	-6.1%
<b>Defense Health Program</b>	<b>33684.6</b>	<b>35592.4</b>	<b>36658.5</b>	<b>36206.5</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>

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