



FY 2024 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

for SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2024

National Science Foundation At least \$11.9 billion

The National Science Foundation is the only U.S. federal agency tasked with supporting scientific research across **all fields of science** and serves as the largest single funder of basic social and behavioral science research in the United States. Investment in social and behavioral science research at NSF helps us better understand why certain conditions lead to conflict in one part of the world but not another, why some people in the path of a hurricane fail to heed warnings to seek shelter despite the accuracy of predictions enabled by the latest technology, and how mis- and disinformation has affected the world's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and how to combat it. Robust funding for NSF is critical for tackling complex human-centered questions like these.

National Institute of Justice \$60 million

The National Institute of Justice funds social science research that can help the Department of Justice implement science-based strategies to reduce crime and promote equitable justice for all. Unfortunately, despite the increasing demand for objective research and data, NIJ's budget has been on a gradual decline for more than a decade. Compounding the pressures of decreasing annual appropriations is the inclusion of Congressionally mandated directives for targeted research activities, often without additional funding. Providing more flexibility to NIJ would allow it to better direct resources to topics most in need of study and to pivot when research demands shift. An appropriation at the requested level coupled with increased flexibility is needed to inform DOJ's efforts to balance issues of mass incarceration and racism in the legal system with a continued pursuit of effective strategies to prevent and control crime, support law enforcement, and advocate for victims.

Census Bureau \$2 billion

Social scientists across the country rely on the Census Bureau for accurate, timely, objective, and relevant data to better understand the U.S. population and to produce findings that help shape policies to better serve the American people. With the 2020 Census behind us, the Census Bureau has an opportunity to modernize its operations to meet the challenges of 21st century data collection. With sufficient investment, the Census Bureau can transform its data collection and processing systems, expand its data storage and analysis capabilities, continue its work to improve linking data from administrative records and big data sources, and ensure that the Bureau continues to set the standard in data security and privacy protection.

Bureau of Justice Statistics \$75 million

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the nation's primary source of crime and justice data, producing statistical evidence needed by researchers and criminal justice decision makers. Despite growing demand from policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders for high-quality criminal justice data across an expanding array of variables, BJS has also faced significant budgetary challenges over the past decade. Since FY 2010, the BJS budget has decreased by 30%, not accounting for inflation. Steady declines in funding have resulted in antiquated systems and, especially, staffing shortfalls, which can only be resolved through sustained investment. An appropriation at the requested level would set the BJS budget on a path toward right-sizing. It would allow BJS to modernize data collection and dissemination systems, hire the necessary experts, and begin to develop the next generation of statistical products to keep pace with the ever-changing criminal justice landscape and fill critical knowledge gaps.

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education & Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2024

National Institutes of Health \$50.924 billion

NIH supports basic and applied social and behavioral science research across its 27 institutes and centers. Understanding behavioral influences on health is critical in battling the leading causes of morbidity and mortality, including obesity, heart disease, cancer, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, age-related illnesses, accidents, substance abuse, and mental illness. Our ongoing recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic underscores the need for better understanding of the behavioral and social factors at play when tackling health-related challenges and preparing for future public health crises. Investment in NIH—particularly social and behavioral science at NIH—has direct impact on the health and wellness of the population today and in the future.

National Center for Health Statistics \$215 million

Housed within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NCHS collects critical data on all aspects of our health care system through data cooperatives and surveys that serve as the gold standard for data collection around the world. Additional funding would allow NCHS to respond to rising costs, declining response rates, and an ever-more complex health care system and capitalize on opportunities surrounding advances in statistical methodology, big data, and computing to produce better information more quickly and efficiently, while reducing the reporting burden on local data providers.

Bureau of Labor Statistics \$868 million

BLS produces economic data that are essential for evidence-based decision-making by businesses and financial markets, federal and local officials, and households faced with spending and career choices. The BLS, like every federal statistical agency, must modernize in order to produce the gold standard data on jobs, wages, skill needs, inflation, productivity and more that our businesses, researchers, and policymakers rely on so heavily. The requested funding level would allow BLS to continue to support evidence-based policymaking, smart program evaluation, and confident business investment.

Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality \$500 million

AHRQ is the only agency in the federal government with the expertise and explicit mission to fund research on improving health care at the provider level (i.e., in hospitals, medical practices, nursing homes, and other medical facilities). Its work improves the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of America's health care system and provides a necessary complement to the work of health research agencies.

International Education and Foreign Language Studies \$173.6 million

COSSA urges Congress to appropriate \$152.1 million to the Department of Education's Title VI program and \$21.5 million to the Fulbright-Hays program. These programs nurture cadres of college graduates with the cultural and language proficiencies needed to serve in government, including at the Department of Defense, Department of State, and federal intelligence agencies.

Institute of Education Sciences \$900 million

IES provides the nation with important statistics, research, and evaluation that improve education policy and practice and allows us to understand trends in student populations, as well as in schools and universities. With increasing demand for evidence-based practices in education, adequate funding for IES is essential to support studies that increase knowledge of the factors that influence teaching and learning and apply those findings to improve educational outcomes.



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