



CONSORTIUM of SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

## FY 2025 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS for SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

### Commerce, Justice, Science & Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

#### National Science Foundation At least \$11.9 billion

The National Science Foundation (NSF) 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 answer questions such as: how to better understand the diversity and dynamics of the U.S. STEM workforce, why some people in the path of a hurricane fail to heed warnings despite the accuracy of predictions enabled by the latest technology, or how to advance technology, like artificial intelligence (AI), so that it is people-centric and ethically developed. 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 (NIJ) provides funding for research, development, and evaluation projects at institutions across the country to **shed light on the most pressing issues facing our nation's criminal justice system** today, including the drivers of domestic radicalization, addressing the drug epidemic, reducing violent crime, improving school safety, and fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Despite the nation's growing need for objective, science backed solutions, NIJ's budget has been on a gradual decline for more than a decade. Funding shortfalls limit NIJ's ability to disseminate critical findings to law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders who need the most up-to-date information to improve policies and practices that promote public safety and equitable access to justice. The justice system of the future requires sustained investment in cutting-edge research.

#### 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 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 data linking 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 (BJS) is the **nation's primary source of crime and justice data**, producing statistical evidence needed by researchers and criminal justice decision makers alike. 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 42%, 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. Increased funding 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 2025

## National Institutes of Health \$51.303 billion

The National Institutes of Health (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. In addition to the health benefits that medical research promotes, the federal investment in this lifesaving work also has a multiplier effect in local and regional economies, catalyzes new industries, enhances the U.S.'s global competitiveness, promotes our national security, establishes viable career paths for the next generation of scientists, and generates additional high-quality jobs in communities nationwide. Investment in NIH—particularly social and behavioral science at NIH—has a direct impact on the health and wellness of the population today and in the future.

## National Center for Health Statistics \$220 million

Housed within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Center for Health Statistics (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. With the requested funding, NCHS would be able to modernize and diversify its data collection efforts and more quickly provide meaningful information to policymakers, public health officials, providers, patients, and scientists who rely on NCHS data as well as strengthen the agency's ability to provide unbiased, timely health data to policymakers.

## Bureau of Labor Statistics \$812 million

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces **economic data that is 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 At least \$500 million

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (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 \$91 million

COSSA urges Congress to appropriate \$79.9 million to the Department of Education's Title VI program and \$11 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 At least \$900 million

The Institute of Education Sciences (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. Within IES, the Research, Development, and Dissemination (RD&D) line supports research and development grants in emerging topic areas and addresses research needs such as the potential impact of the use of education technology and AI learning processes.



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