

## BACKGROUND AND KEY MESSAGES

First Focus is proud to announce the release of Children's Budget 2018, which captures and analyzes historical funding data and spending trends across a wide range of policy areas including child welfare, early childhood, education, health, housing, income support, nutrition, safety and training tracking federal investments in nearly 200 different programs.

Some highlights of this analysis:

- Children receive a smaller piece of the Federal pie today than they did five years ago. The share of total federal spending on children has declined by 1.7 percent since FY 2014 (from 8.20 percent to 8.06 percent)
- However, the share of total federal spending on children rose 1.1 percent from FY 2017 (when it was 7.97 percent), thanks to important investments following passage of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (PL 115-123)
- In FY 2018, the federal government spent 7.7 percent of its budget on the interest on the national debt—nearly as much as the 8.06 percent it spent on children. The Urban Institute estimates federal spending on interest on the debt will surpass all federal investments on children in FY 2020
- If enacted, the President's FY 2019 Budget Proposal would eliminate 41 programs serving children and cut numerous others, reducing the share of spending on kids to 6.89 percent
- The Budget Control Act of 2011 (PL 112-25) cap on non-defense discretionary spending will drop \$55 billion (from \$597 billion to \$542 billion) in FY 2020—jeopardizing gains under the Bipartisan Budget Act

## SOCIAL MEDIA AND HASHTAG USE

To promote both the new analysis in Children's Budget Book and the Children's Budget Summit to complement the publication, use [#CHILDRENSBUDGET2018](#).

As a secondary hashtag and call to action for the federal government to better invest in our children, use [#INVESTINKIDS](#).

## IMAGE BANK

Check out our bank of image materials here.:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vt3xcw3j7rv7bl9/AAD6sbu5NIrwBeadQHWS\\_zrwa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vt3xcw3j7rv7bl9/AAD6sbu5NIrwBeadQHWS_zrwa?dl=0)

## FIRST FOCUS RESOURCES

- Children's Budget Book: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H>
- Children's Budget Summit Registration Page: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-childrens-budget-summit-and-reception-tickets>

## SAMPLE TWEETS

- Despite being 25% of the population, children only receive 8% of federal budget funds. Learn more about the effects of this decision in #ChildrensBudget2018: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #InvestInKids
- Are we doing our part to #InvestInKids? The @First\_Focus Children's Budget Book shows that the share of total federal spending on children has declined by 1.7 percent since FY 2014: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids
- How is the government spending on children? Check out @First\_Focus' comprehensive analysis of the federal budget and how it directly affects our nation's children: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids
- The President's FY 2019 budget would decrease federal spending by nearly \$34 billion, translating to cut of 12.3%. Learn how this could affect children in @First\_Focus' Children's Budget Book: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids
- President Trump's FY 2019 budget request would completely eliminate 41 programs that serve children. Learn more about the ramifications of this plan in @First\_Focus' annual Children's Budget Book: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids

# Messaging and Social Media Kit: Children's Budget Book 2018

- In FY 2018, the federal government spent nearly as much on the interest on the national debt as it did on children. How can we better use our money for future generations?  
<http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids

## CHILD WELFARE

- Child welfare programs received just 0.26 percent of total federal spending in FY 2018. In the wake of the opioid crisis, this is not nearly enough. <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H>  
#ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

- Early childhood supports are critical factors in shaping children's success, yet they received just 0.48 percent of total federal spending in FY 2018. See how we can better #InvestInKids  
<http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018

## EDUCATION

- State funding cuts that led to statewide teacher's strikes spotlight the importance of federal spending on education, which has increased by less than 1% since FY 2014. Congress can do more to support our students and #Investinkids <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H>  
#ChildrensBudget2018

## HEALTH

- Of the 41 children's programs that the president's FY19 budget would cut, 22 percent are critical health programs for kids: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018  
#InvestInKids
- What does spending on children's health look like? It's the largest category of federal spending on children but is only 2.43 percent of the federal budget in FY 18  
<http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids

## HOUSING

- We can #InvestInKids by investing in their housing, but these programs only received 0.43 percent of total federal spending in FY 2018: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids
- Only 1 in 4 families that are eligible for federal housing assistance receive it—with only 0.43 percent of total spending devoted to these programs, many children and families are left to experience homelessness. Learn more in #ChildrensBudget2018: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H>

## INCOME SUPPORT

- Income support for children received just 1.8 percent of total federal spending in FY 2018 <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids

## NUTRITION

- Food insecurity remains a serious issue for 13 million children. We can't afford continued cuts to their nutrition programs: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids

## SAFETY

- Child safety programs received just 0.05 percent of total federal spending in FY 2018 <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids

## TRAINING

- If we don't invest in youth training, we'll have less capacity to meet the growing needs of our workforce: <http://bit.ly/2xd1e1H> #ChildrensBudget2018 #InvestInKids