



President Trump's Budget Underfunds Programs to Combat Coronavirus

There are more than [80,000](#) confirmed cases of the 2019 coronavirus (COVID19) worldwide. Unfortunately, President Trump's budget, if enacted, would cut several public health programs that are being used to stop the spread of infectious diseases like coronavirus.

Agencies Tasked with Response Need Sustained, Strong Support

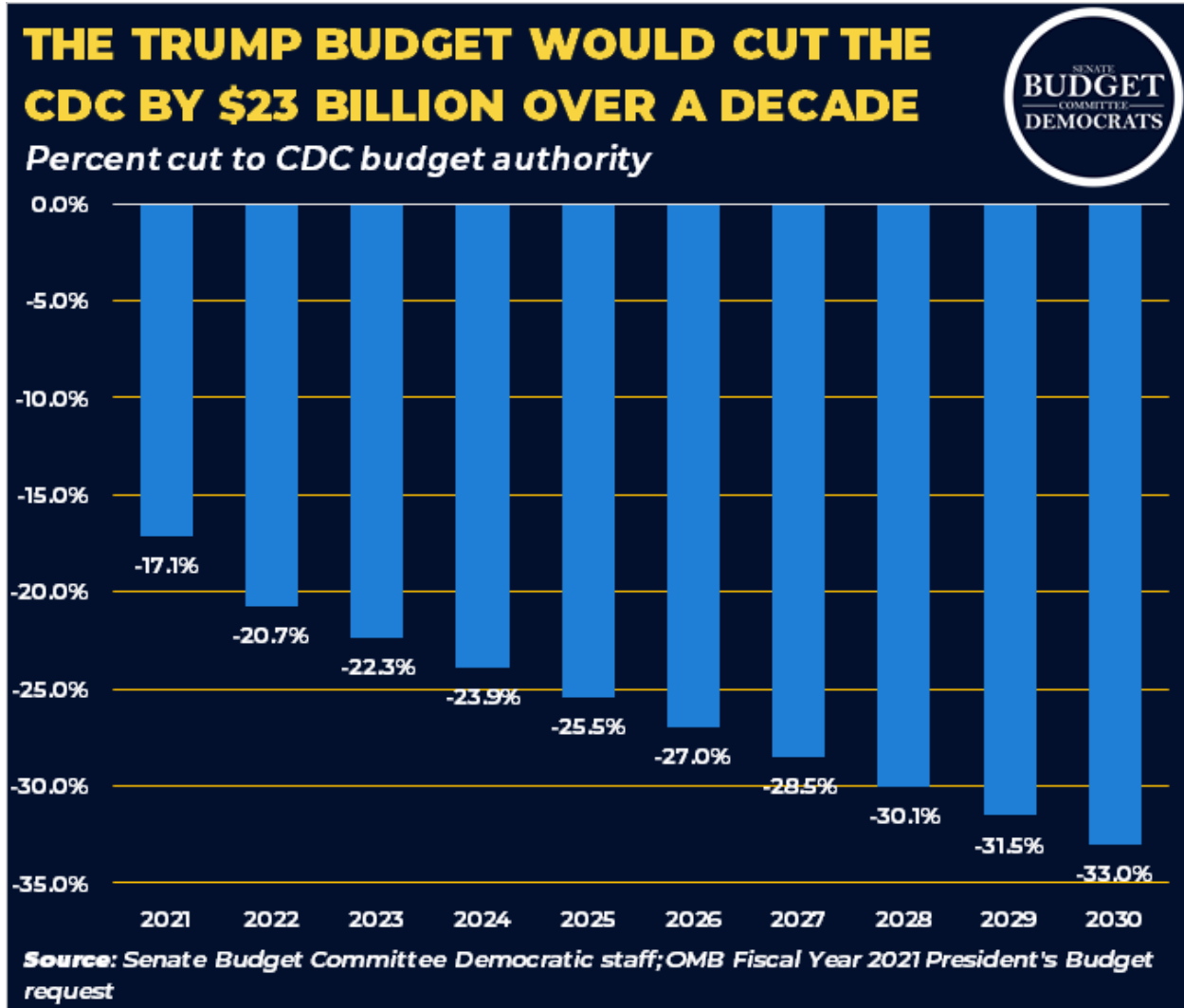
The Trump Administration has proposed cuts to public health and global health funding, and has failed to fill key high-level public health positions. Here's a few facts on Trump's record.

FACT: Trump undercuts global health funding amid coronavirus outbreak.

In his FY21 budget, President Trump cut almost \$100 million from crucial global health investments, including in global HIV/AIDS, global polio eradication, global immunization and the global public health capacity and development program. Furthermore, he cut funding crucial to combat Coronavirus, including:

- **\$35 million** cut to the Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund (IDRRRF).
- **\$85 million** cut to Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases.
- **\$25 million** cut to the Public Health Preparedness and Response program.

President Trump also proposes to cut \$39 million from CDC global health funding in FY 2021 and proposes slashing total CDC funding by \$23 billion over a decade.



FACT: Trump has left top global health positions empty.

In May 2018, [Trump disbanded the global health security unit](#) within the White House National Security Council. Rear Admiral Timothy Ziemer, a career official who served in both the Obama and George W. Bush Administrations as lead of the unit, left shortly after. Unfortunately, the position is still vacant.

FACT: The Coronavirus Task Force is incomplete.

Even the [task force](#) the Trump Administration recently created to address the coronavirus faces [skepticism from academics](#), citing the lack of personnel from the Department of Defense, the U.S. Agency for International Development, or the Department of Agriculture.

FACT: Trump slashes funding to Medicaid, a key public health response program.

Medicaid plays a critical role in helping states respond to disasters and public health emergencies. Medicaid has played a critical role in providing enhanced [funding and coverage](#) in response to public health crises such as the Zika virus outbreak in Puerto Rico and the national opioid epidemic.

In his FY21 budget, President Trump proposes to **slash Medicaid by over \$900 billion**. He has also proposed to gut Medicaid through block grants and caps that would restrict the ability of states and Medicaid to respond to public health emergencies like the coronavirus.

President Trump's Past Budgets Also Slashed Public Health Funding

Year after year, President Trump's budgets have proposed slashing public health investments. Congress has repeatedly rejected these proposals.

Trump Administration FY20 Budget: The Trump Administration proposed a massive **\$1.3 billion** cut to CDC. This included a **\$68 million** cut for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, the same program that is leading the coronavirus efforts. They also proposed slashing **\$103 million** for emerging/zoonotic diseases, **\$30 million** from Public Health Preparedness and Response, and **\$39 million** for global health.

Trump Administration FY19 Budget: The Administration proposed to cut CDC by **\$1 billion** and **zeroed out** the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

In addition, they cut **\$595 million** from Public Health Preparedness and Response, **\$44 million** from Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, **\$60 million** for emerging/zoonotic infectious diseases, and **\$23 million** for global health.

Trump Administration FY18 Budget: The Administration proposed cutting CDC by **\$1.2 billion**, cut **\$136.3 million** from Public Health Preparedness Response, and **\$76.3 million** from global health. They proposed an additional, **\$64.9 million** cut from emerging/zoonotic infections, and **\$81.7 million** from immunization and respiratory diseases.