

FY2024 Agriculture Appropriations: Status and Scope

May 9, 2023

Status of Agriculture Appropriations

The Agriculture appropriations bill—formally known as the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—funds all of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), excluding the U.S. Forest Service. It also funds the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the Department of Health and Human Services and, in even-numbered fiscal years, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). Jurisdiction over CFTC appropriations is in the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee and the Senate Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee; the two subcommittees rotate carrying enacted CFTC appropriations.

Table 1 shows the status of FY2024 action on Agriculture appropriations and the previous two fiscal years. For FY2024, the House and Senate subcommittees have held hearings on the Administration’s request but have not marked up bills.

Table 1. Status of FY2022-FY2024 Agriculture Appropriations

FY2022	FY2023	FY2024							
		Admin.		House			Senate		
Enacted ^a	Enacted ^b	Request	Subcmte	Cmte	Floor	Subcmte	Cmte	Floor	Enacted
3/15/2022 P.L. 117-103, Division A Cong. Rec. 3/9/2022, Book III	12/29/2022 P.L. 117-328, Division A Cong. Rec. 12/20/2022 S7819	3/13/2023 OMB Appendix USDA FDA CFTC FCA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Source: Congressional Research Service (CRS), compiled from Congress.gov, OMB, and agency websites.

Congressional Research Service

<https://crsreports.congress.gov>

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Notes: OMB = Office of Management and Budget; USDA = U.S. Department of Agriculture; FDA = Food and Drug Administration; CFTC = Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and FCA = Farm Credit Administration.

- a. For FY2022, see also House-reported [H.R. 4356](#) and [H.Rept. 117-82](#), House-passed [H.R. 4502](#) (Division B), and Senate-reported [S. 2599](#) and [S.Rept. 117-34](#).
- b. For FY2023, see also House-reported H.R. 8239 and H.Rept. 117-392, House-passed H.R. 8294 (Division B), and Senate-introduced S. 4661 with [unofficial explanation](#).

Scope of Agriculture Appropriations

The federal budget process treats discretionary and mandatory spending differently. Committees in Congress are organized around these types of spending and their corresponding responsibilities for authorizing and appropriating (CRS In Focus IF11032, *Budgetary Decisionmaking in Congress*). Federal spending for agricultural programs relies on both discretionary spending and mandatory spending.

- **Discretionary spending** is controlled by annual appropriations acts and receives most of the attention during the appropriations process. Budget enforcement is through annual budget resolutions that set spending limits. Discretionary spending typically includes agency operations (including salaries and expenses) and grant programs. In FY2023, discretionary Agriculture appropriations are \$25.5 billion ([Table 2, Figure 1](#)).
- **Mandatory spending** appears in appropriations acts and is usually not changed. Budget enforcement for mandatory spending occurs during the authorization process (e.g., passage of legislation such as [omnibus farm bills](#), which follow budget rules including Pay-As-You-Go, PayGo). Mandatory spending creates funding stability for entitlement programs compared with annual appropriations. In FY2023, mandatory agriculture spending is \$216 billion and comprises the majority of USDA and farm bill funding.

Table 2. Agriculture and Related Agencies Appropriations, FY2022-FY2024

Budget authority in millions of dollars

Agencies and Programs	FY2022		FY2023		FY2024			Change from FY2023 to FY2024	
	P.L. 117-103	P.L. 117-328	Admin. request	House	Senate	Enacted	\$	%	
Discretionary Accounts									
Research, Education, and Economics (Agricultural Research Service, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Economic Research Service)									
	3,676	3,823	4,188	—	—	—	+364	+10%	
Marketing and Regulatory Programs (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Agricultural Marketing Service)									
	1,341	1,413	1,448	—	—	—	+35	+2%	
Food Safety and Inspection Service									
	1,109	1,158	1,290	—	—	—	+132	+11%	
Farm Service Agency, Risk Management Agency, Business Center									
	1,868	1,923	2,020	—	—	—	+97	+5%	
Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations, Watershed and Flood Prevention, Watershed Rehabilitation, Healthy Forests, Urban Agriculture)									
	1,005	1,034	1,241	—	—	—	+207	+20%	

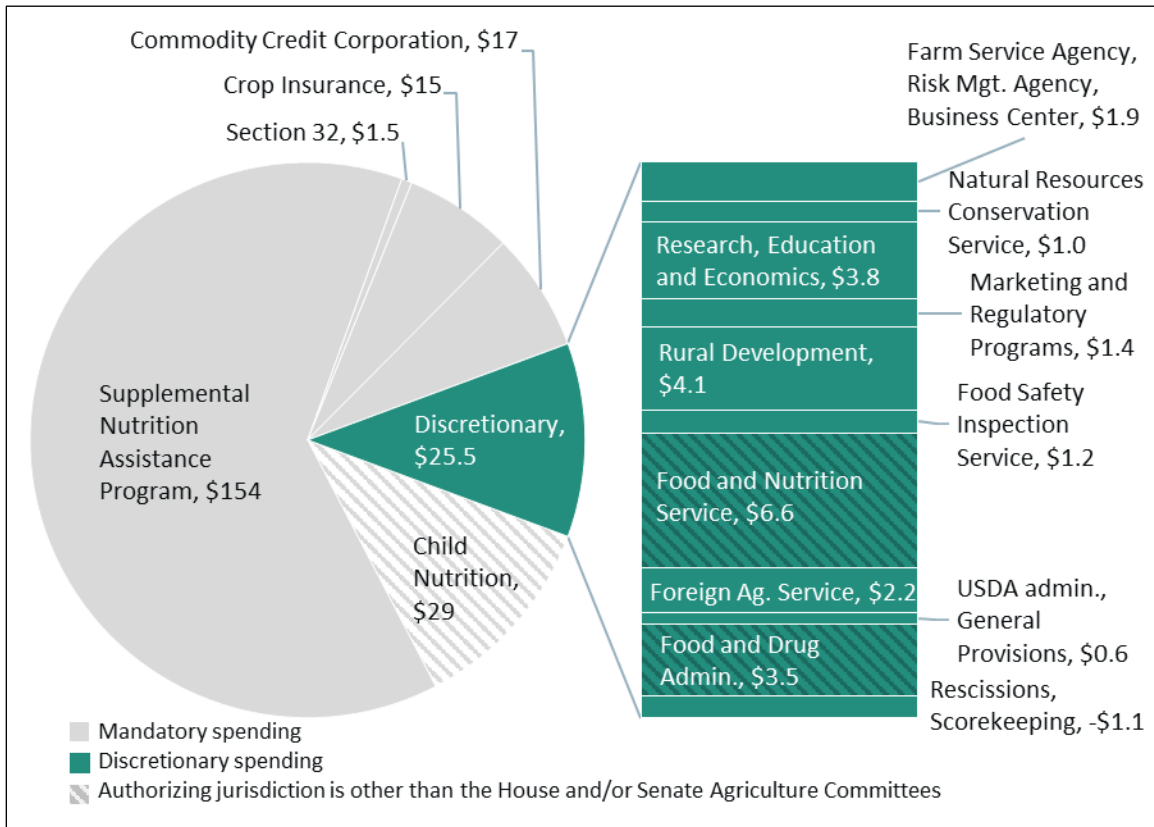
Agencies and Programs	FY2022			FY2023			FY2024			Change from FY2023 to FY2024 Admin. Request	
	P.L. 117-103	P.L. 117-328	Admin. request	House	Senate	Enacted	\$	%			
Rural Development (Rural Housing Service, Rural Business Cooperative Service, Rural Utilities Service)	3,970	4,079	4,887	—	—	—	+808	+20%			
Food and Nutrition Service (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children; Commodity Assistance Programs; Nutrition Programs Administration) ^a	6,610	6,647	7,038	—	—	—	+391	+6%			
Foreign Agricultural Service (Food for Peace, McGovern-Dole)	2,217	2,242	2,311	—	—	—	+69	+3%			
USDA Departmental Administration and other appropriations in General Provisions	666	578	713	—	—	—	+135	+23%			
Food and Drug Administration	3,317	3,543	3,915	—	—	—	+372	+11%			
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	382	[365]	295	—	—	—	-70	-19%			
Rescissions, Changes in Mandatory Spending, Scorekeeping Adjustments	-1,139	-1,061	-545	—	—	—	+516	-49%			
Subtotal, Discretionary Spending											
Senate jurisdiction^b	[24,738]	25,471	28,560	—	—	—	+3,089	+12%			
House jurisdiction^b	25,120	[25,836]	28,855	—	—	—	+3,019	+12%			
Mandatory Spending Accounts											
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation	12,281	15,395	14,692	—	—	—	-703	-5%			
Commodity Credit Corporation	14,402	16,832	11,785	—	—	—	-5,047	-30%			
Section 32 ^c	1,391	1,483	1,771	—	—	—	+288	+19%			
Child Nutrition Programs ^a	26,884	28,545	32,031	—	—	—	+3,485	+12%			
SNAP, Food & Nutrition Act Programs ^a	140,441	153,864	122,133	—	—	—	-31,730	-21%			
Subtotal, Mandatory Spending	195,302	216,028	182,358	—	—	—	-33,670	-16%			
Loan Authority											
Rural Development Programs	46,208	46,870	47,456	—	—	—	-586	+1%			
Farm Loan Program	10,386	10,652	10,686	—	—	—	-34	+0%			

Source: CRS, using appropriations text, reports, and unpublished Congressional Budget Office (CBO) tables. For FY2024, CRS compiled amounts from the OMB Budget Appendix based on Agriculture appropriations subcommittee jurisdiction.

Notes: Amounts are nominal budget authority. Excludes supplemental appropriations, except as have been incorporated into mandatory appropriations. SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

- Less than \$100 million of the mandatory spending amounts shown in the table for the Child Nutrition Programs and SNAP are classified as discretionary spending in the official total.
- Bracketed amounts [] are shown for comparison and are not in the official total of the associated column due to jurisdiction or inclusion of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). Senate jurisdiction refers to the Agriculture appropriations subcommittee bill not including the CFTC. House jurisdiction includes the CFTC.
- Section 32 refers to the account known as Funds for Strengthening Markets, Income, and Supply.

Figure 1. Agriculture and Related Agencies Appropriations, FY2023
 Budget authority in billions of dollars



Source: CRS, Table 2.

Note: Excludes Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Related Products About Agricultural Spending

- CRS Report R44606, *The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC)*
- CRS In Focus IF12193, *Farm and Food Support Under USDA’s Section 32 Account*
- CRS In Focus IF12233, *Farm Bill Primer: Budget Dynamics*
- CRS In Focus IF12115, *Farm Bill Primer: Programs Without Baseline Beyond FY2023*

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