

FY2024 Agriculture Appropriations: Status and Scope

Updated July 19, 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 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).

Table 1 shows the status of FY2024 action on Agriculture appropriations and the previous two fiscal years. For FY2024, both the House and Senate appropriations committees have reported bills.

Table 1. Status of FY2022-FY2024 Agriculture Appropriations

FY2022		FY2023		FY2024					
Enacted ^a	Enacted ^b	Admin Request	Subcmte	House Cmte	Floor	Subcmte	Senate 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	5/18/2023 Voice vote	6/14/2023 H.R. 4368 H.Rept. 118-124 Vote of 34-27	—	X	6/22/2023 S. 2131 S.Rept. 118-44 Vote of 28-0	—	—

Source: CRS using Congress.gov, OMB, and agency websites.

Notes: OMB = Office of Management and Budget; USDA = U.S. Department of Agriculture; FDA = Food and Drug Administration; FCA = Farm Credit Administration; CFTC = Commodity Futures Trading Commission; X = did not occur.

- a. For FY2022, see 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](#).

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- b. For FY2023, see 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 Agricultural Spending

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](#). Federal spending for agricultural programs relies on both discretionary spending and mandatory spending.

- **Discretionary spending** receives most of the attention during the annual appropriations process. Budget enforcement is through budget resolutions that set spending limits. Discretionary spending typically includes agency operations and grant programs. In FY2023, discretionary Agriculture appropriations are \$25.5 billion (**Table 2, Figure 1**).
- **Mandatory spending** is minimally addressed during the appropriations process and supports entitlement programs. Budget enforcement occurs during the authorization process (e.g., [omnibus farm bills](#), which follow budget rules including Pay-As-You-Go). In FY2023, mandatory agriculture and nutrition spending is \$216 billion.

Appropriations Amounts

For FY2024 USDA and FDA agency operations, the House-reported bill proposes \$25.9 billion, a \$615 million reduction (-2%) compared with FY2023. The Senate-reported bill proposes \$26.8 billion, a \$289 million increase (+1%). Both are less than the Administration’s request (**Table 2**).

For the official total discretionary budget authority, the House-reported bill proposes \$17.8 billion compared with \$26 billion in the Senate-reported bill. Besides differences for agency operations, the House-reported bill proposes larger rescissions and scorekeeping adjustments (-\$8.4 billion; **Table 2**). The House-reported bill’s rescissions include \$5.8 billion from P.L. 117-169, commonly referred to as the Inflation Reduction Act, for farm loan debt relief and rural energy programs and \$1.7 billion from limiting the Commodity Credit Corporation and Section 32 accounts.

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

Budget authority in millions of dollars

Agencies and Programs	FY2022		FY2023		FY2024			Proposed Change from FY2023 to FY2024:	
	P.L. 117-103	P.L. 117-328	Admin. request	House-reported H.R. 4368	Senate-reported S. 2131	Enacted	House	Senate	
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	3,732	3,868	—	-91	+45	
Marketing and Regulatory Programs (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Agricultural Marketing Service)	1,341	1,413	1,448	1,355	1,420	—	-58	+7	
Food Safety and Inspection Service	1,109	1,158	1,290	1,197	1,205	—	+39	+47	

Agencies and Programs	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024				Proposed Change from FY2023 to FY2024:	
	P.L. 117-103	P.L. 117-328	Admin. request	House-reported H.R. 4368	Senate-reported S. 2131	Enacted	House	Senate
Farm Service Agency, Risk Management Agency, Business Center	1,868	1,923	2,020	1,904	1,947	—	-19	+23
Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations, Watershed and Flood Prevention, Watershed Rehabilitation, Healthy Forests, Urban Agriculture)	1,005	1,034	1,227	911	1,015	—	-122	-19
Rural Development (Rural Housing Service, Rural Business Cooperative Service, Rural Utilities Service)	3,970	4,079	4,861	4,038	3,941	—	-41	-138
Food and Nutrition Service (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children; Commodity Assistance Programs; Nutrition Programs Administration) ^a	6,709	6,741	7,066	6,638	7,027	—	-102	+286
Foreign Agricultural Service (Food for Peace, McGovern-Dole)	2,217	2,242	2,311	2,223	2,297	—	-18	+55
USDA Departmental Administration and other appropriations in General Provisions	666	578	733	416	541	—	-162	-37
Food and Drug Administration	3,317	3,543	3,915	3,504	3,563	—	-39	+20
Subtotal: Agency operations	25,878	26,534	29,059	25,919	26,822	—	-615	+289
Commodity Futures Trading Commission ^b	382	[365]	295	345	[365] ^c	—	-20	[+0]
Rescissions, Changes in Mandatory Spending, Scorekeeping Adjustments	-1,139	-1,061	-462	-8,430	-833	—	-7,369	+228
Total, Discretionary Budget Authority								
Senate jurisdiction ^b	[24,738]	25,471	28,595	[17,488]	25,988	—	-7,983	+517
House jurisdiction ^b	25,120	[25,836]	28,890	17,833	[26,353]	—	-8,003	[+517]
Mandatory Spending								
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation	12,281	15,395	14,695	14,695	14,695	—	-700	-700
Commodity Credit Corporation	14,402	16,832	10,612	10,612	10,612	—	-6,220	-6,220
Section 32 (Funds for Strengthening Markets, Income, and Supply)	1,391	1,483	1,574	574	1,574	—	-910	+90
Child Nutrition Programs ^a	26,789	28,456	32,009	31,973	32,001	—	+3,517	+3,545
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Food & Nutrition Act Programs ^a	140,438	153,861	149,641	121,992	122,133	—	-31,869	-31,728
Total, Mandatory Spending	195,301	216,027	208,531	179,846	181,015	—	-36,182	-35,013
Loan Authority								
Rural Development Programs	46,208	46,870	44,874	45,979	45,884	—	-891	-986
Farm Loan Program	10,386	10,652	10,686	10,686	10,686	—	+33	+33

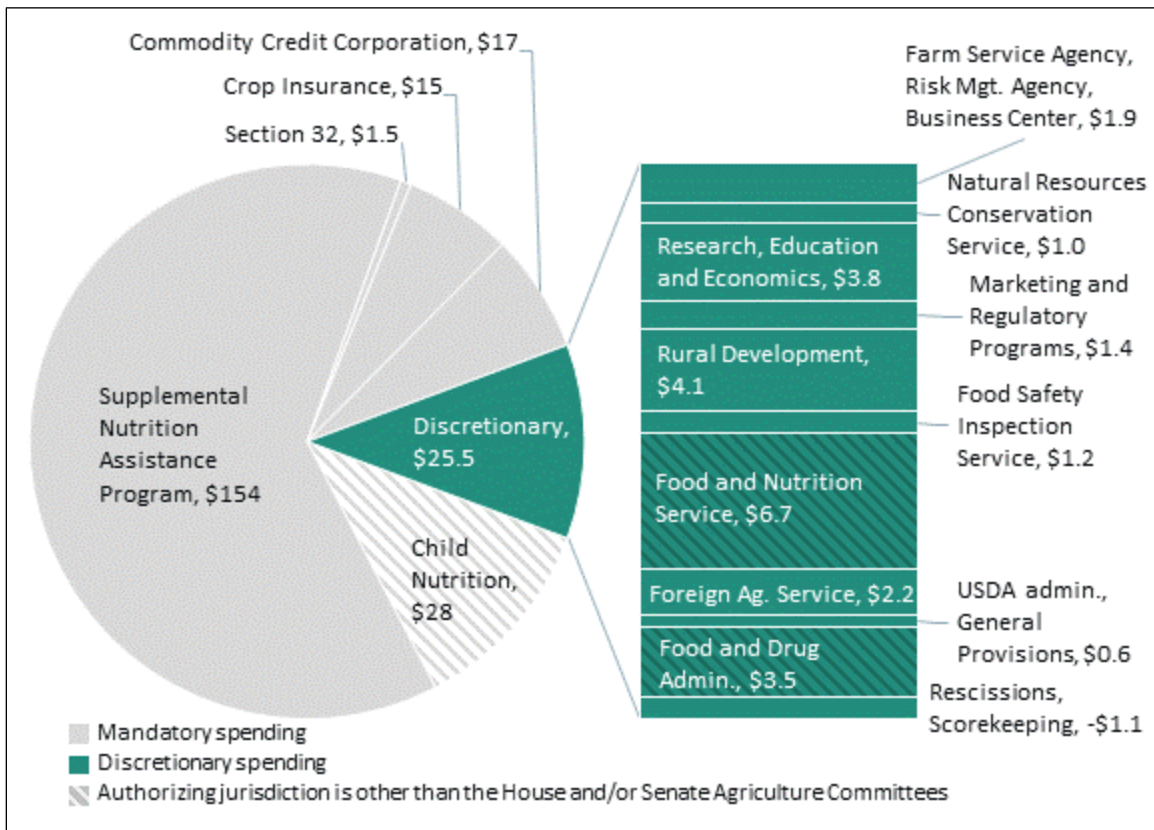
Source: CRS using appropriations text, reports, and unpublished Congressional Budget Office (CBO) tables.

Notes: Amounts are nominal budget authority. Numbers may not sum due to rounding. Excludes supplemental appropriations.

- a. Reflects that CBO scores a portion of the Child Nutrition Program and SNAP as discretionary spending (usually less than \$100 million).
- b. Chamber notation refers to Agriculture appropriations jurisdiction. Bracketed amounts [] are noted for comparison and are not in the official total. CFTC appropriations rotate annually between the House Agriculture appropriations subcommittee and Senate Financial Services subcommittee.
- c. S. 2309, Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2024.

Figure 1. Agriculture and Related Agencies Appropriations, FY2023

Budget authority in billions of dollars



Source: CRS, Table 2.

Related Products About Agricultural Spending

- CRS Report R47560, *Agricultural Conservation: FY2023 and FY2024 Appropriations*
- CRS In Focus IF12193, *Farm and Food Support Under USDA’s Section 32 Account*
- CRS In Focus IF12233, *Farm Bill Primer: Budget Dynamics*

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