

A Yearlong CR Harms Public Health

A full-year continuing resolution (CR) could result in a more than \$70 billion cut to non-defense spending:

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

Under the Fiscal Responsibility Act, non-defense discretionary (NDD) spending for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 is capped at **\$703.7 billion, but the terms of the bipartisan budget agreement call for an additional \$69 billion, bringing the NDD topline total to \$773 billion.** The FRA mandated cap of \$703.7 billion is \$40.2 billion below the cap-equivalent number of \$743.9 billion in FY 2023. In addition to the \$743.9 billion in base funding for FY 2023, the terms of the FY 2023 agreement included an additional \$27.5 billion in funding, bringing the NDD topline total to \$771 billion.

Please see the table from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities for more information.

IMPACT OF A FULL-YEAR CR

Under the current part-year CR, most government programs are operating at the same level they were provided in FY 2023, and this funding has not been adjusted to conform to the terms and conditions of the FY 2024 agreement.

Due to technical reasons (including increased levels of advance appropriations that have not been adjusted to account for the FRA), extending the current CR for the remainder of FY 2024 for all 12 appropriations bills would trigger a sequestration (across-the-board indiscriminate cuts to almost every NDD program, project, and activity across government) of **\$73 billion, which is approximately three times larger than the sequestration of NDD resources in 2013.**

CURRENT STATE OF PLAY

A “date-change” CR would eliminate the \$69 billion that was part of the bipartisan budget agreement, which was designed to work in conjunction with the \$703.7 billion cap.

Without abiding by the totality of the agreement, cuts to NDD programs (outside of veterans programs) would approach \$70 billion, relative to FY 2023.

Discretionary Levels in the Debt-Limit Agreement (\$ in billions)

	2023	2024	Difference
Defense Discretionary – base/cap*	858.4	886.3	28.0
Non-Defense Discretionary (NDD):	771.4	772.7	1.3
NDD base/cap*	743.9	703.7	-40.2
Agreed-upon adjustments:			
CHIMPs**	15.0	25.0	10.0
Emergencies***	12.5	23.0	10.5
Rescissions: Commerce fund, IRS****		21.0	21.0
Components of NDD:			
Veterans’ medical care	118.8	121.0	2.3
NDD outside veterans’ medical care	652.6	651.6	-1.0

Source: CBPP analysis of Congressional Budget Office data

*The statutory cap level for 2024 specified in the Fiscal Responsibility Act, and the comparable level for 2023 at the time of the enactment of the bill.

**CHIMPs stand for “Changes In Mandatory Programs” made in annual appropriations bills. The table reflects additional NDD funding offset by CHIMP savings.

***Funding that is designated as an emergency is not subject to the caps.

****Rescissions are provisions that repeal funding, enacted in prior years, that has not yet been used by government agencies. The table reflects additional NDD funding offset by rescissions.