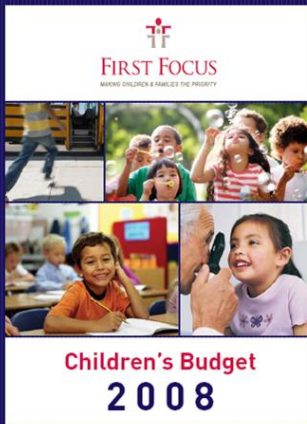


# FIRST FOCUS CHILDREN'S BUDGET 2008

**O**ne penny. That is the amount of every new, real non-defense dollar spent on children's programs by the federal government over the last five years.

The federal government funds over 180 different children's programs, from child health and education to child welfare and juvenile justice. *Children's Budget 2008* is a comprehensive guide to all federal spending on children and an invaluable resource for all those seeking to improve the lives of America's youth.



## A UNIQUE RESOURCE:

*Children's Budget 2008* is a valuable resource for advocates, policymakers, and program administrators alike. For each of the more than 180 federally funded children's programs, it offers:

- ◆ Program descriptions
- ◆ Current appropriation levels
- ◆ Funding levels from the past five fiscal years
- ◆ Proposed funding levels for the coming fiscal year
- ◆ The change over time in funding as a percentage of growth (both in nominal and inflation adjusted terms)

## USER FRIENDLY:

- ◆ Programs are organized into broad categories such as child health and education, allowing users to compare investments across policy areas.
- ◆ Highlights specific programs, drawing attention to their significant role in the lives of children.

## KEY FINDINGS:

- ◆ For the past five years, only **one penny** of every new, real non-defense dollar spent by the federal government has gone to children and children's programs.
- ◆ Children's spending makes up only **ten percent** of the entire non-defense budget.
- ◆ The overall share of federal, non-defense spending going to children's programs **has dropped by ten percent** over the past five years.
- ◆ Real discretionary spending on children **has declined by more than six percent** since 2004, while at the same time all other non-defense discretionary spending has increased by more than 8 percent.

## REVERSING THE TREND:

- ◆ In the short term, expenditures on children should not drop below **ten percent** of all non-defense spending.
- ◆ Reverse the declining share of spending on kids by steadily increasing the federal investment in children's programs.



**FIRST FOCUS**

MAKING CHILDREN & FAMILIES THE PRIORITY