

FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE

CCAO Workforce, Families and Children Symposium

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AGENDA

General Federal Landscape

- IRA
- Federal Appropriations
- Midterm Elections
- Economic Outlook

Human Services & Education Policy

- Food and Nutrition Assistance
- Child Care
- Child Welfare
- Expanded Child Tax Credit
- PSLF Waiver

NACo Resources

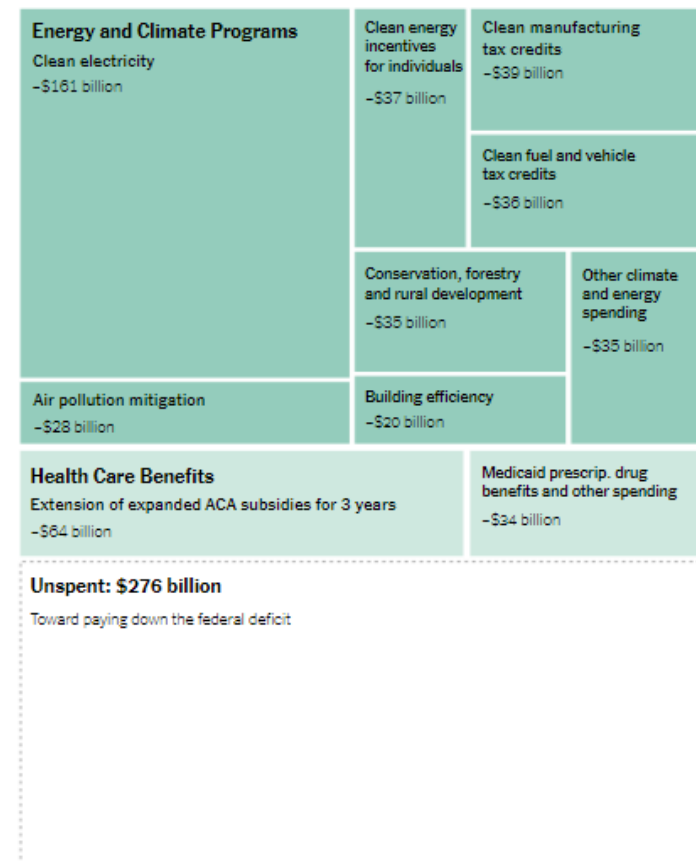
Federal Policy Landscape

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT (IRA): BACKGROUND

SAVINGS +\$765 billion



SPENDING -\$489 billion



Source: [Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget](#), [Congress's Joint Committee on Taxation](#), Congressional Budget Office and additional estimates by Don Schneider of Piper Sandler. | Notes: Numbers are rounded. I.R.S. savings reflect a projected net revenue raised from \$80 billion in compliance and enforcement funding.

IRA: POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS

Likely the last major legislation Congress will pass before election season

Closes window for major social spending proposals under Build Back Better Act

Heightened partisan tensions

Important boost for the White House

FY 2023 APPROPRIATIONS: CURRENT STATUS

Subcommittee	FY 22 Enacted Level (billions)	House Proposed FY 23 (billions)	Senate Proposed FY 23 (billions)
Agriculture*	\$25.1	\$27.2	\$27.1
Commerce, Justice, Science	\$75.8	\$85.5	\$85.8
Defense	\$728.5	\$761.7	\$792.1
Energy and Water Development*	\$52.9	\$56.3	\$57.5
Financial Services and General Government*	\$25.5	\$29.8	\$29.5
Homeland Security	\$57.5	\$60.3	\$59.9
Interior, Environment*	\$38.0	\$44.8	\$42.2
Labor, HHS, Education	\$197.0	\$224.4	\$216.1
Legislative Branch	\$5.9	\$7.0	\$6.8
Military	\$127.6	\$150.5	\$152.0
Construction, VA*			
State, Foreign Operations	\$56.1	\$64.6	\$64.6
Transportation, HUD*	\$81.0	\$90.9	\$89.0
Total	\$1.47 trillion	\$1.603 trillion	\$1.623 trillion

- Senate spending bills have not received committee markups
- No bipartisan agreement on total spending OR topline numbers
- Continuing Resolution (CR) all but certain

**passed House as part of H.R. 8294*

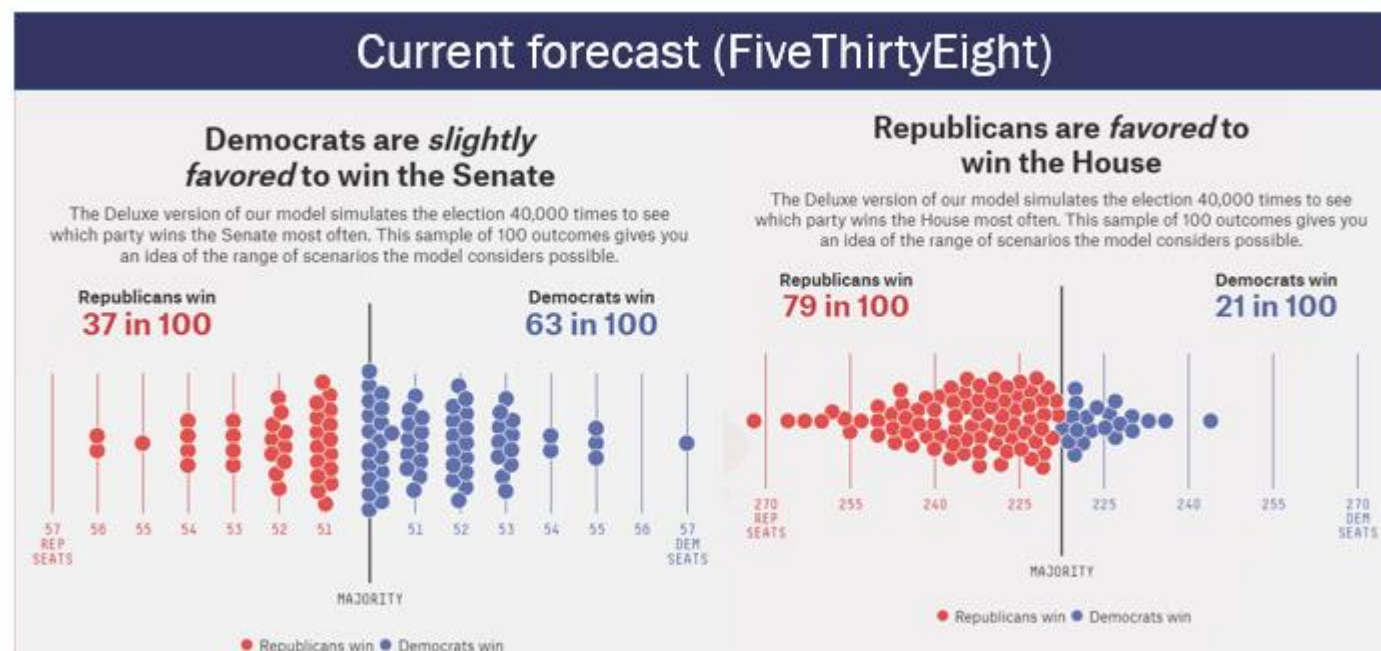
FY 2023 APPROPRIATIONS: WHAT TO WATCH

- **Funding levels for key human services programs**
 - Child Care and Development Block Grant
 - Head Start
 - Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies
 - Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act
 - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
 - Older Americans Act (OAA)
 - Elder Justice Act (EJA)
- **Program reauthorizations/extensions**
 - Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program
 - Title IV-B (Child Welfare Services)
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
 - School meal flexibilities?
- **Inflation impacts**

NOVEMBER MIDTERMS

	Democratic Seats	Republican Seats
HOUSE	224 (36 retirements or primary losses)	212 (27 retirements or primary losses)
SENATE	50* (14 up for election)	50 (21 up for election)

*Sens. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Angus King (I-ME) caucus with the Democrats



ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Unemployment

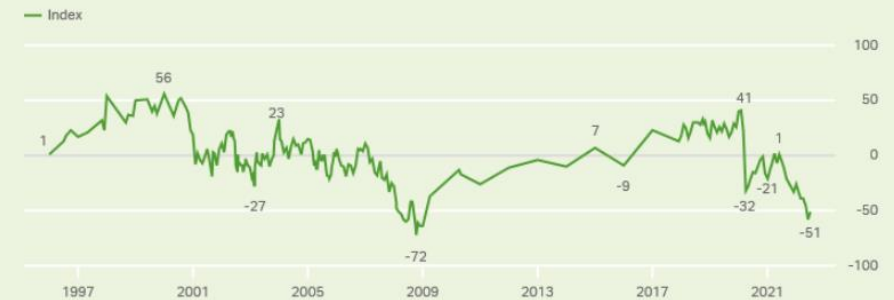
- 3.5% (pre-pandemic)

Inflation

- 8.5% annualized (highest in 4 decades)

Gallup Economic Confidence Index, 1996-2022

Among U.S. adults



Gallup also asked the Economic Confidence Index questions in four 1992 polls. The Economic Confidence Index ranged between -39 and -21 in those polls.

GALLUP

Human Services and Education Policy

CHILD CARE AND EARLY LEARNING



Severe ECE workforce shortages, including in Head Start



117,000 fewer child care jobs available in March 2022 than Feb 2020



COVID relief cliffs/expiring flexibilities



Ongoing material hardship (inflation, infant formula shortage)

CHILD CARE AND EARLY LEARNING: WHAT TO WATCH

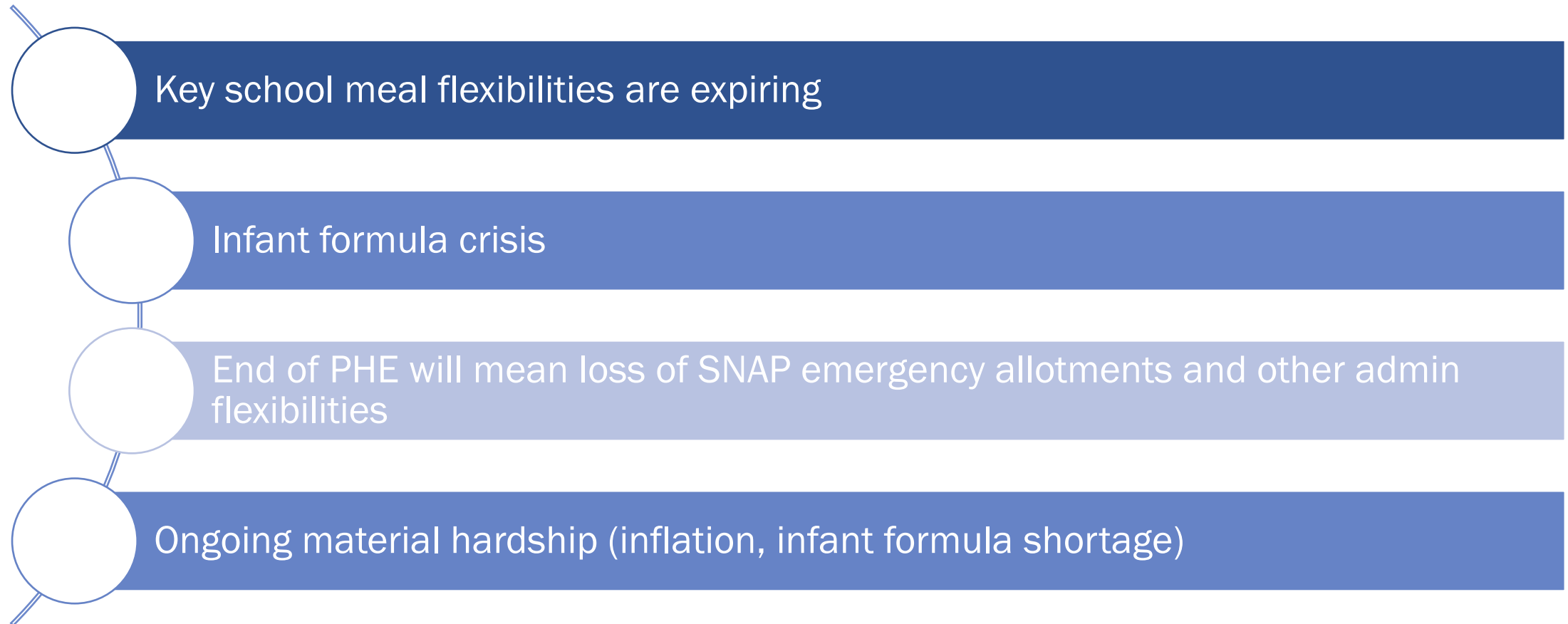
Biden administration

- Administration of Children and Families (ACF) [Dear Colleague Letter](#) highlighting potential investments in ECE workforce
- ACF is establishing a new [National Early Care and Education Workforce Center](#)

Senate child care proposals

- [CCDBG Reauthorization Act of 2022](#) (S. 3899)
- Murray-Kaine [Child Care framework](#) (Democratic-led, assumed reconciliation)
- [Improving Early Childhood Data Systems Act](#) (S. 4675)

FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE



FOOD AND NUTRITION ASSISTANCE: WHAT TO WATCH

Biden administration

- New limited [SNAP waivers](#) from U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to help state agencies adapt after PHE expiration
- Forthcoming [White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health](#)
- Flexibilities within WIC to cope with formula shortage
 - Imported formula flexibilities and funding may expire Sept. 30

Congress

- Child Nutrition Reauthorization (CNR) proposal from House Dems ([Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act; H.R. 8450](#))
- [Keep Kids Fed Act \(PL 117-158\)](#)
 - Only extended certain administrative flexibilities
 - Will lawmakers renew fight over free school meal eligibility?
- FY 2023 Farm Bill Reauthorization

CHILD WELFARE



FFPSA implementation continues to pose challenges

Burnout/capacity issues among child welfare workforce

Youth acuity/placement crisis

Temporary relief for youth aging out (Chaffee flexibilities, EITC expansion) has expired

CHILD WELFARE: WHAT TO WATCH

Biden administration

- New ACF Assistant Secretary, [January Contreras](#)
- New [guidance](#) urging uniform standards securing child support for children in foster care
- Potential proposed rule on [kinship licensing standards](#)

Congress

- [Access to Foster Care to 21 Act](#), H.R. 8177 (Rep. Judy Chu, D-Calif.)
- Title IV-B Reauthorization

EXPANDED CHILD TAX CREDIT: THE FINAL PUSH

- Authorized under American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021
- Temporarily expanded eligibility and size of the credit
 - Estimated 3.4 million children lifted above the poverty line in December
- Most eligible families have obtained the credit
- However, non-filers and other hard-to-reach households may still be missing out on payments

**THE DEADLINE FOR FAMILIES
TO CLAIM THE EXPANDED
CREDIT WITH THE
SIMPLIFIED NON-FILER
PORTAL IS OCTOBER 15**

NATIONAL OUTREACH CAMPAIGN FOR TAX BENEFITS

Help Families Get Their Child Tax Credit

Families are eligible for thousands of dollars from the Child Tax Credit and other tax benefits this year. A family of four with low income who didn't file last year could get nearly \$20,000 in tax benefits—but only if they file a return.



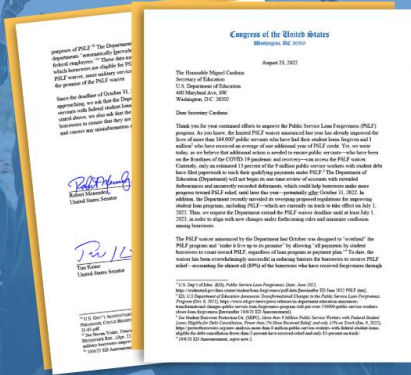
[Click here for outreach support](#)

LIMITED PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS (PSLF) WAIVER


- County employees may be temporarily eligible for federal student loan forgiveness under limited PSLF waiver
- Must apply by October 31
- Visit www.whitehouse.gov/pslf
- Lawmakers and advocates [pushing for waiver extension](#) through July, 2023

New Letter


TO SEC. CARDONA ON PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS



The letter urges the Department of Education to **extend** the PSLF waiver until **July 1, 2023**.



Help public service employees progress towards student loan forgiveness.



Maximize flexibilities & minimize confusion for borrowers.

NACo RESOURCES

Human Services and Education

- Reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Reauthorization and Appropriations
- Support the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
- Support the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)
- Support the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- Reauthorize and Fully Fund the Older Americans Act (OAA)
- Authorize Resources for County Veteran Service Officers

THE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION LANDSCAPE

UPDATED MARCH 2022



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARPA INVESTMENT TRACKER



The Local Government ARPA Investment Tracker is an online resource that compiles information from local governments to offer a detailed picture of how large cities and counties (with populations of at least 250,000) are deploying the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars.

This tracker project is a partnership between Brookings Metro, the National Association of Counties, and the National League of Cities, aimed at highlighting innovative, evidence-based, well-targeted uses of ARPA funds.

NACo RESOURCES



QUESTIONS?



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