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# THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE BUDGET: TRACKING FEDERAL FUNDING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

JENNA MASTROPOLO  
AIP FYI: Science POLICY News

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01

BUDGET SYSTEM

02

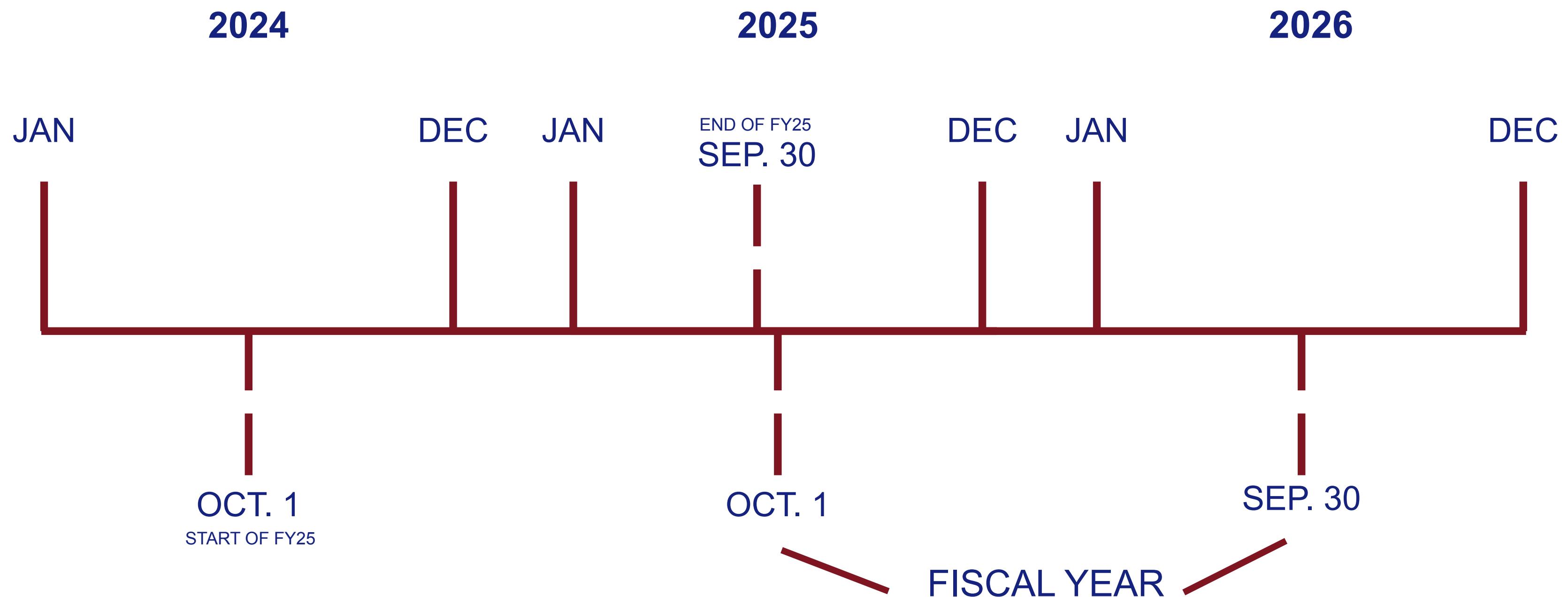
WHY WE CARE

03

BUDGET TRACKER

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# EARLY BUDGET STAGES



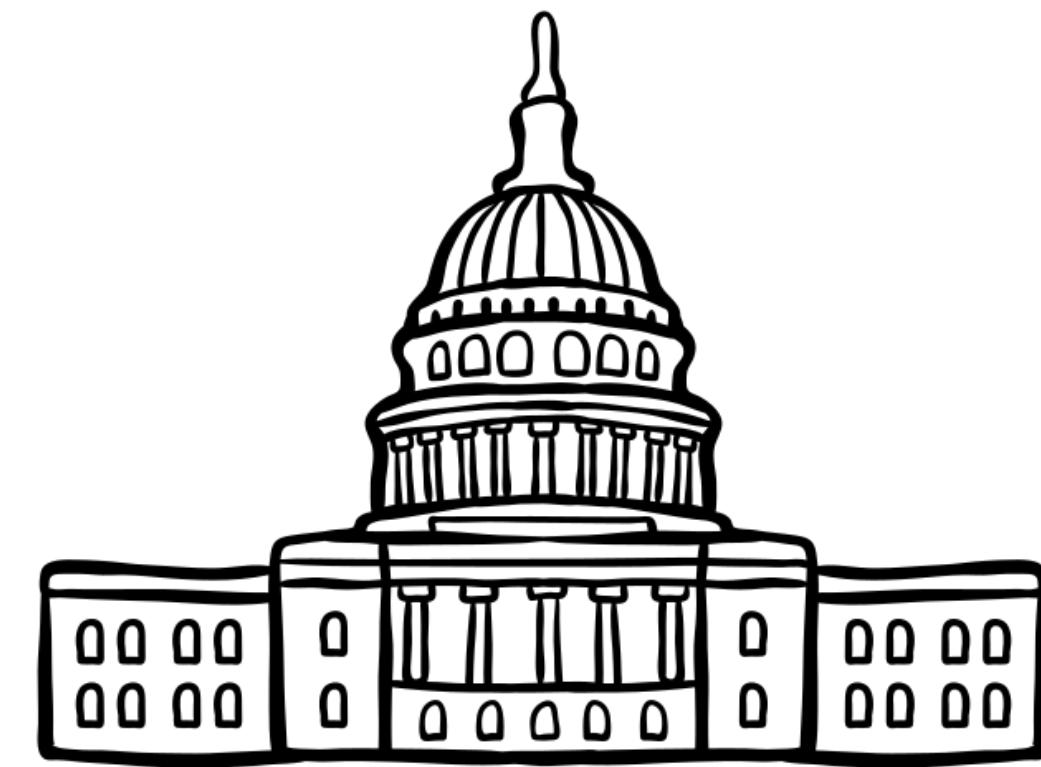
# SHAPING PRESIDENT'S VISION

## PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FISCAL YEAR 2026 DISCRETIONARY FUNDING REQUEST

**Support Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Research.** The Budget maintains funding for research in artificial intelligence and quantum information science at key agencies, to ensure the United States remains on the cutting edge of these critical technologies' development and responsible use.

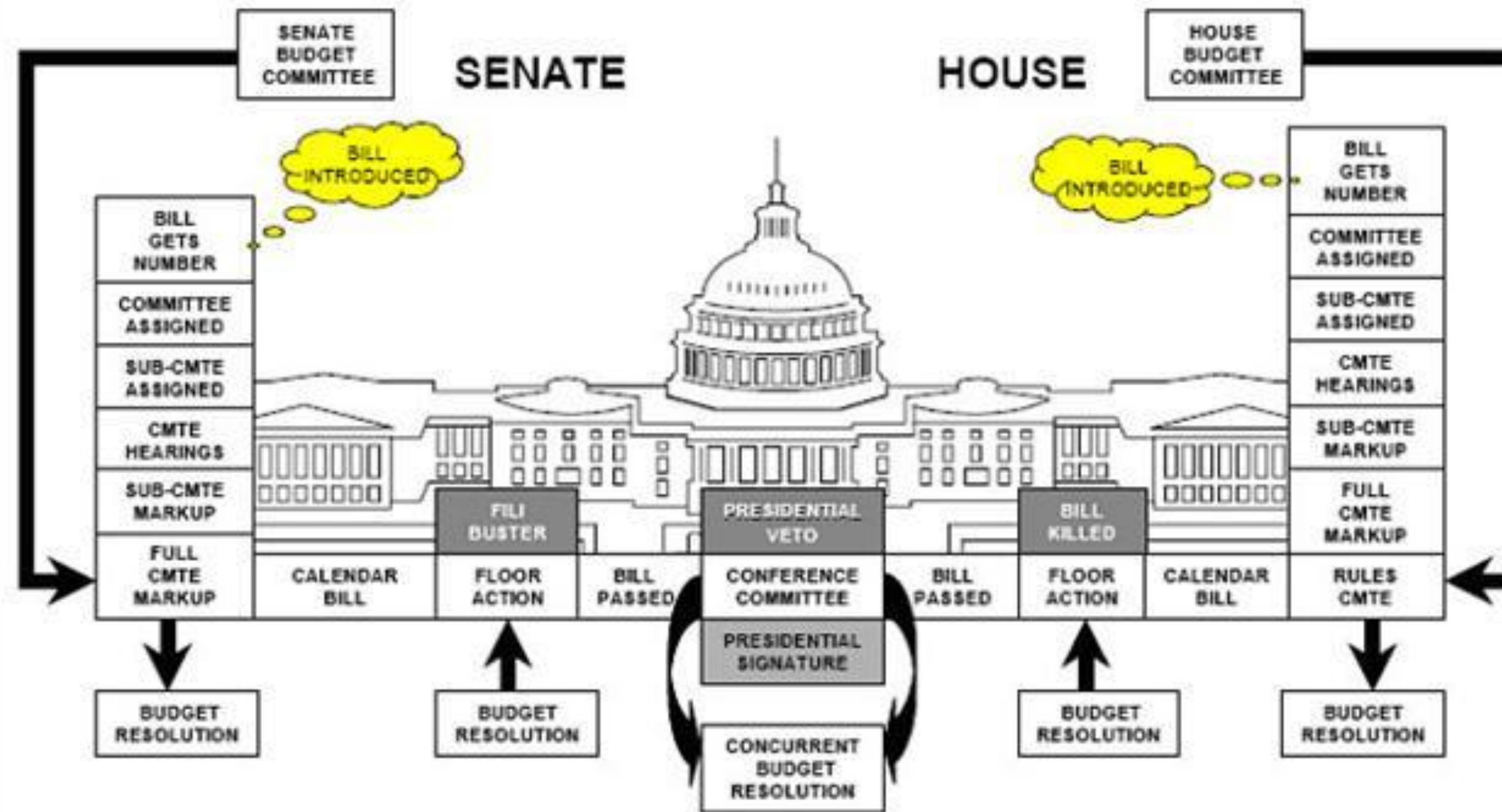
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# BUDGET BECOMES A PROPOSAL



# BREAKING DOWN THE BUDGET

## *The Congressional Budget Process*



## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Appropriations, 2025 .....	\$24,838,327,000
Committee recommendation .....	24,899,679,000

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[In thousands of dollars]

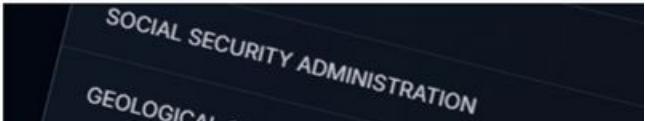
	Committee recommendation
Science:	
Earth Science .....	2,166,000
Planetary Science .....	2,551,800
Astrophysics .....	1,604,900
Heliophysics .....	887,300
Biological and Physical Science .....	90,000
 Total, Science .....	 7,300,000

## USGS Faces Potential Office C

MAR 12, 2025

*At least 30 USGS buildings appear to be on th*

Lindsay McKenzie



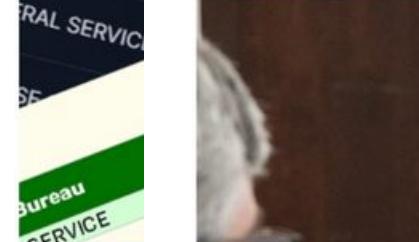
FYI / ARTICLE

## DOE Secretary Defend Boost

JUN 20, 2025

*Democrats and Republicans alike r and staff at a recent hearing.*

Clare Zhang

Department of the Interior  
House Natural Resources

MAY 08, 2025

*The national lab's budget*

Lindsay M



MAY 02, 2025

*NSF has already terminated hundreds of STEM education-related grants, and Trump's 2026 budget proposes even deeper cuts across the federal government.*

Clare Zhang



The NSF logo. NSF

np Challenges 'Emergency'

*by disputing "emergency" appropriations*

## Graduate Programs

*to fall amid anticipation of federal budget cuts,*

# FYI BUDGET TRACKER



## Federal Science Budget Tracker

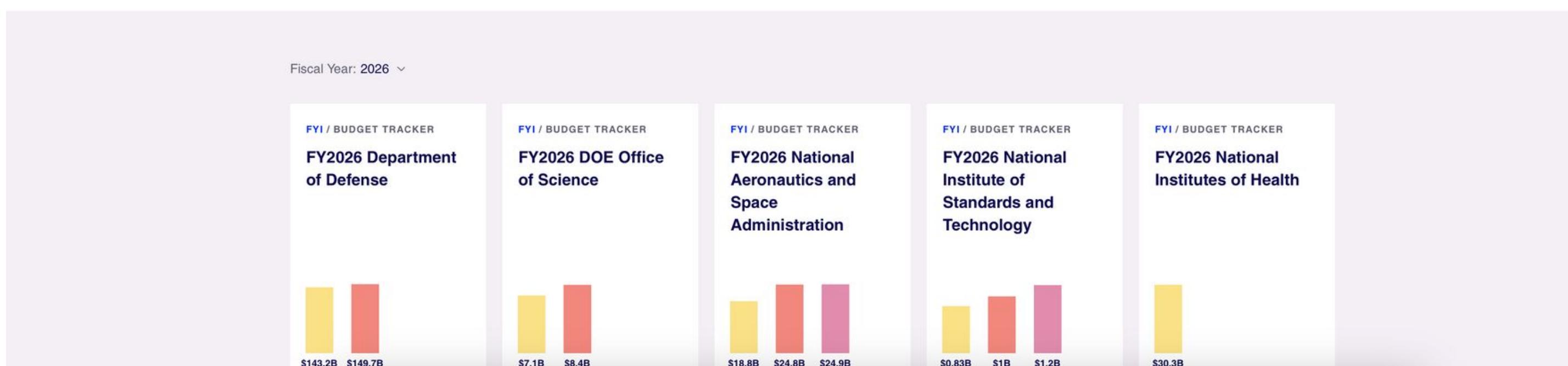
FYI's Federal Science Budget Tracker provides up-to-date information on appropriations proposals and outcomes for agencies that fund the physical sciences. For each agency, you can [click through](#) to a page with program-level budget details, a timeline of actions, and historical budget data.

These trackers are updated as spending proposals become available and legislative action occurs. Previous-year spending levels are also available back to fiscal year 2017.

*Note: We are in the process of upgrading the tracker to better display historical data. However, we caution that figures for many agency programs are not always comparable over time due to budget restructurings and reallocations of funds. There are also often differences between how budget figures are reported by agencies versus how they are reported by Congress.*

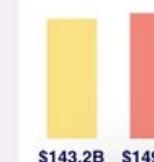
[Learn more](#) about our methodology and the federal budget process.

Questions or comments? [Send us an email](#).



[FYI / BUDGET TRACKER](#)

**FY2026 Department of Defense**



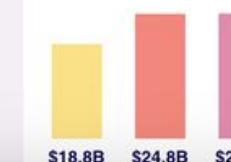
[FYI / BUDGET TRACKER](#)

**FY2026 DOE Office of Science**



[FYI / BUDGET TRACKER](#)

**FY2026 National Aeronautics and Space Administration**



[FYI / BUDGET TRACKER](#)

**FY2026 National Institute of Standards and Technology**



[FYI / BUDGET TRACKER](#)

**FY2026 National Institutes of Health**



# WHAT FYI DOES

## FY2026 Appropriations: NASA

FISCAL YEAR  
2026

REQUEST  
SENATE  
HOUSE

[View Science Mission Directorate chart](#)



PRIOR YEAR FINAL

**NASA** \$24,838 M

**Human Exploration** \$7,666 M

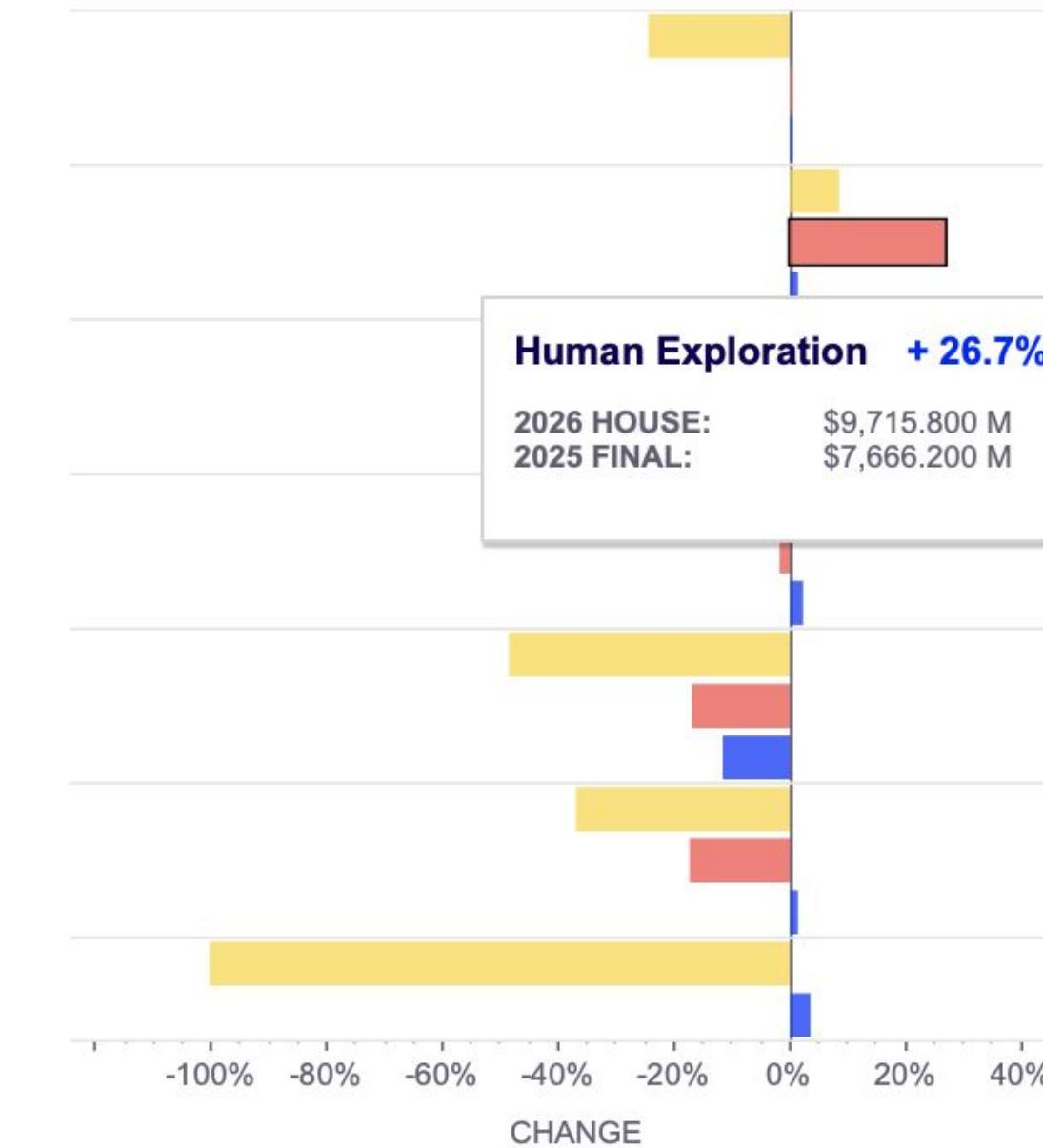
**Science** \$7,334 M

**Space Operations** \$4,220 M

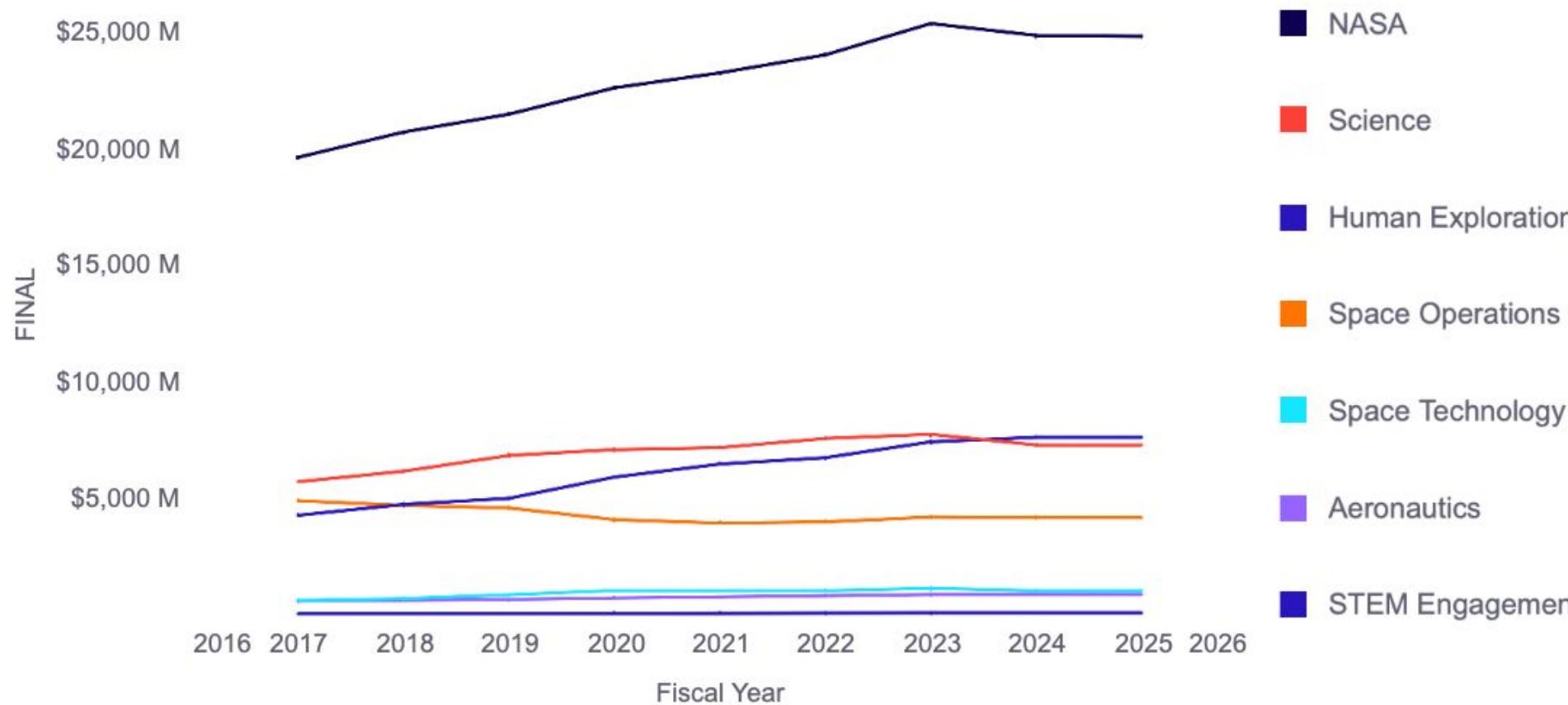
**Space Technology** \$1,100 M

**Aeronautics** \$935 M

**STEM Engagement** \$143 M



## Appropriations History



SELECTED PROGRAMS ARE SHOWN IN  
PERCENT CHANGES OVER THE PRIOR YEAR.

COMPARISON TO PRIOR YEARS IN THE  
TOP-LINE PROGRAMS ACROSS THE AGENCY.

### Budget Details

Selected programs (\$, millions)  
% change over prior year enacted

click rows for subprogram details

- Show summary view
- Show all subprograms

PROGRAM	ENACTED	REQUEST	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL
NASA	\$24,838	\$18,809	\$24,838	\$24,900	
Human Exploration	\$7,666	\$8,313	\$9,716	\$7,783	
Science Mission Directorate	\$7,334	\$3,908	\$6,000	\$7,300	
Astrophysics		\$523	\$1,485	\$1,605	
Biological and Physical Sciences		\$25	\$65	\$90	
Earth Science		\$1,036	\$1,325	\$2,166	
Heliophysics		\$433	\$625	\$887	
Planetary Science		\$1,891	\$2,500	\$2,552	
Space Operations	\$4,220	\$3,132	\$4,150	\$4,314	
Safety, Security, and Mission Services	\$3,092	\$2,118	\$3,044	\$3,107	
Space Technology	\$1,100	\$569	\$913	\$975	
Aeronautics	\$935	\$589	\$775	\$950	
Construction and Environmental Compliance a.	\$300	\$140	\$200	\$275	
STEM Engagement	\$143	\$0		\$148	
Inspector General	\$48	\$41	\$41	\$48	

CHANGE

-100% 100%

# Senators Press NOAA Nominees on Budget and Staffing Cuts

JUL 11, 2025

*Trump's nominee to lead NOAA said he backs the president's proposed cuts while expressing support for the agency's mission.*



Jenna Mastropolo



Neil Jacobs testifies at his Senate nomination hearing on July 9, 2025. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- JACOB TAYLOR
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  - AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS
  - SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS
  - HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY
- 



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# THANK YOU!

I'D BE HAPPY TO TAKE ANY QUESTIONS

B.S. CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS

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