



**Congressional
Research Service**

Informing the legislative debate since 1914

DHS Budget v. DHS Appropriations: Fact Sheet

name redacted

Specialist in Homeland Security and Appropriations

Updated April 2, 2018

Congressional Research Service

7-....

www.crs.gov

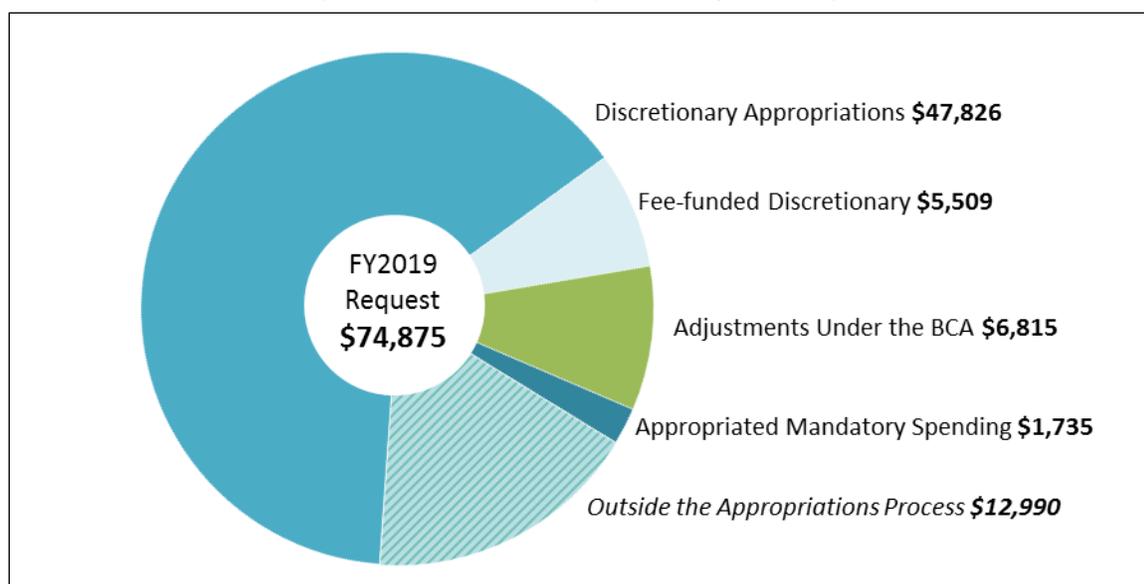
R44052

A significant portion of the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS’s) budget is not fully reflected in the net discretionary spending level of the annual DHS appropriations act. Some components, such as the Transportation Security Administration, rely on fee income or offsetting collections to support a significant amount of their activities. Less than 4% of the budget for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is provided through the annual appropriations act—the rest is derived from fee income.

Figure 1 highlights the range of funding mechanisms that support the overall DHS budget and provides a visual comparison of their relative size. It presents a breakdown of the Donald J. Trump Administration’s FY2019 budget request, showing the discretionary appropriations subject to the discretionary spending limits, discretionary spending funded through fees, discretionary spending not subject to discretionary spending limits due to special designation under the Budget Control Act (BCA), and appropriated mandatory spending. All of these mechanisms rely on the appropriations process to provide budget authority to the department. A patterned wedge shows the amount of resources to be provided outside the annual appropriations process, through mandatory spending, trust funds, and user fees. The amounts shown in this graphic are derived from the Administration’s budget request documents, and therefore do not exactly mirror the data presented in congressional documents, which are the source for most of the other data presented in CRS reports on appropriations measures.

Figure 1. DHS Gross Budget Breakdown: FY2019 Request

(millions of dollars of budget authority, rounded)



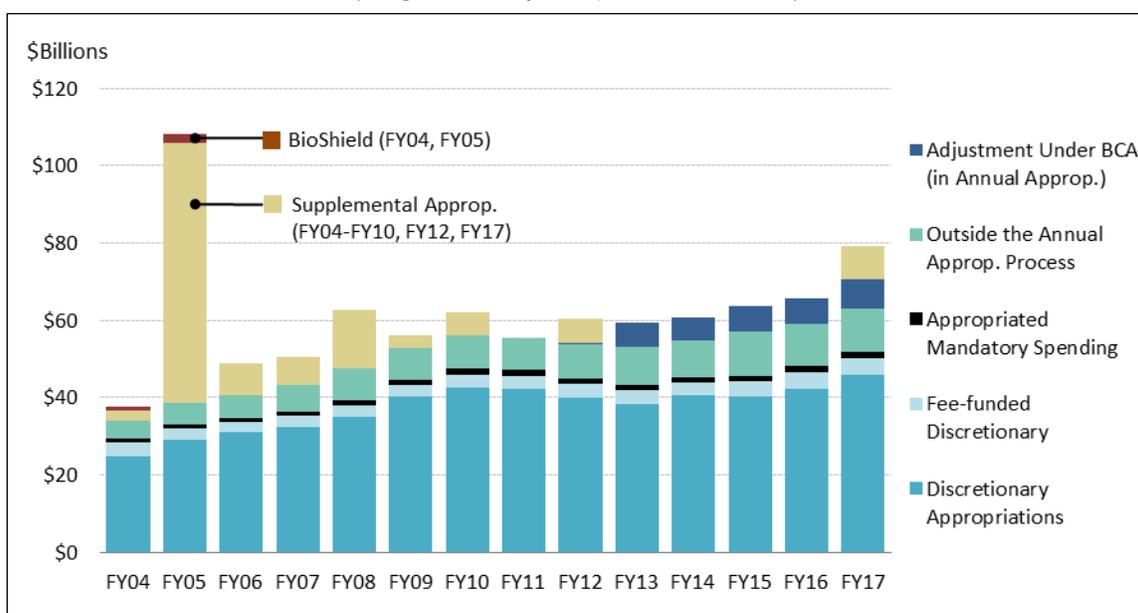
Source: CRS analysis of the FY2019 DHS *Budget-in-Brief*.

Notes: BCA = the Budget Control Act (P.L. 112-25). Amounts may not sum to totals due to rounding. The amounts shown in this graph are derived from the Trump Administration’s budget request documents, and therefore do not exactly mirror the data presented in congressional documents, which are the source for most of the other data presented in CRS reports on appropriations measures.

This range of different funding mechanisms contributing to the DHS budget is not a new development. From the establishment of the department in the middle of FY2003, when the initial resources for the department were provided via transfer, DHS has been dependent in part on resources provided beyond its funding stream subject to the annual appropriations process.

Figure 2 provides a historical breakdown of the actual spending reported by DHS in its budget documentation, outlining the same categories as above, plus the impact of supplemental appropriations, from the first full-year appropriation for the department (FY2004) through the most recently completed fiscal year for which data are available (FY2017). While the amount of funding provided for DHS activities outside the appropriations process more than doubled from FY2004 to FY2016,¹ rising from \$4.7 billion to \$10.8 billion, this was not the primary factor in the 75% growth of the DHS budget over the same time period. Annual discretionary appropriations, not including fee-funded discretionary spending or spending exempt from discretionary spending limits under the BCA, rose roughly \$17.7 billion (72%) over the same time period.

Figure 2. DHS Budget Breakdown, Actual, FY2004-FY2017
(budget authority unadjusted for inflation)



Source: CRS analysis of DHS *Budget in Brief* documents from FY2006 to FY2019.

Notes: BCA = the Budget Control Act (P.L. 112-25). Does not include rescissions of prior-year budget authority. The amounts shown in this graph are derived from several Administrations' budget request documents, and therefore do not exactly mirror the data presented in congressional documents, which are the source for most of the other data presented in CRS reports on appropriations measures.

Author Contact Information

(name redacted)
Specialist in Homeland Security and Appropriations
-redacted-@crs.loc.gov7-....

¹ Comparisons with FY2017 totals would be distorted by the significant levels of supplemental appropriations provided in that fiscal year.

EveryCRSReport.com

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) is a federal legislative branch agency, housed inside the Library of Congress, charged with providing the United States Congress non-partisan advice on issues that may come before Congress.

EveryCRSReport.com republishes CRS reports that are available to all Congressional staff. The reports are not classified, and Members of Congress routinely make individual reports available to the public.

Prior to our republication, we redacted names, phone numbers and email addresses of analysts who produced the reports. We also added this page to the report. We have not intentionally made any other changes to any report published on EveryCRSReport.com.

CRS reports, as a work of the United States government, are not subject to copyright protection in the United States. Any CRS report may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without permission from CRS. However, as a CRS report may include copyrighted images or material from a third party, you may need to obtain permission of the copyright holder if you wish to copy or otherwise use copyrighted material.

Information in a CRS report should not be relied upon for purposes other than public understanding of information that has been provided by CRS to members of Congress in connection with CRS' institutional role.

EveryCRSReport.com is not a government website and is not affiliated with CRS. We do not claim copyright on any CRS report we have republished.