



The Budget and Policy Landscape in 2015: Implications for WIC

March 8, 2015

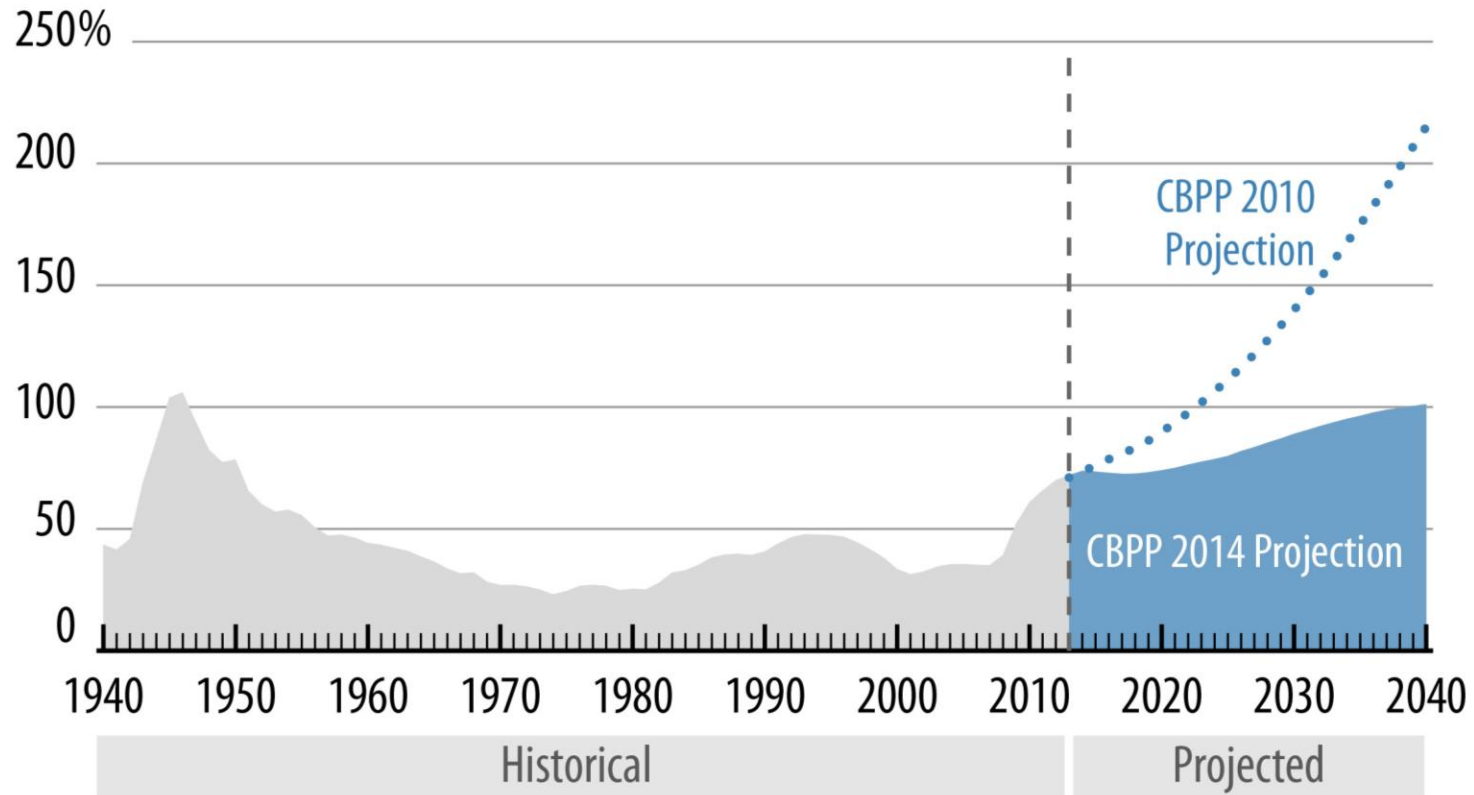
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Long-Term Budget Outlook Has Improved Substantially Since 2010

Debt held by the public as a percent of GDP, 1940-2040

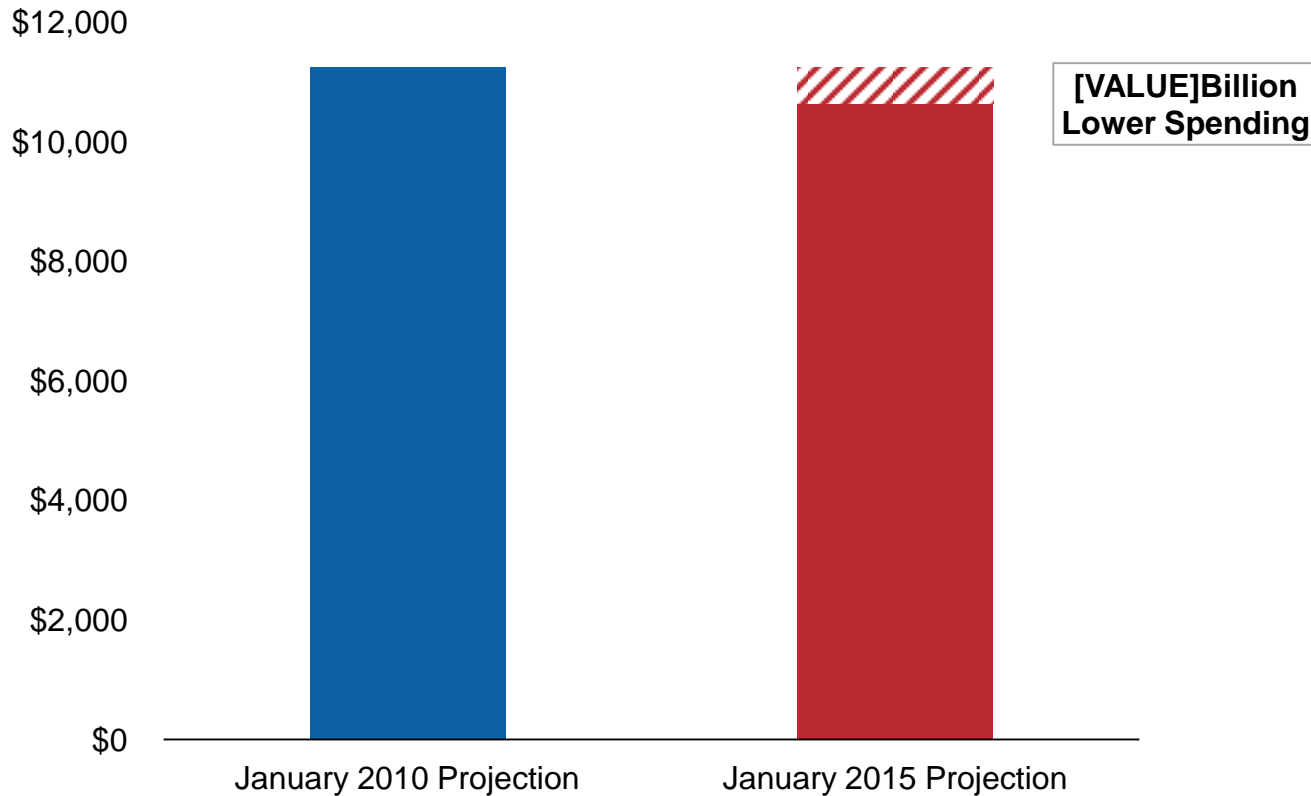


Source: Historical data from the Office of Management and Budget; projections from CBPP based on Congressional Budget Office, Joint Committee on Taxation, and Social Security and Medicare Trustees data



Major Health Programs *including* Health Reform Now Projected to Cost Less Than in January 2010 *without* Health Reform

Spending in billions of dollars, 2011-2020



Note: Baseline projections of Medicare, Medicaid, health insurance subsidies, and Children's Health Insurance Program for fiscal years 2011-2020. January 2015 projections include actual spending for FY 2011-14. Source: CBPP analysis based on Congressional Budget Office estimates.



This Year's Budget Debate

- March/April:

Congress expected to adopt a budget resolution; resolution will set a level for total funding for non-defense discretionary programs in FY 2016

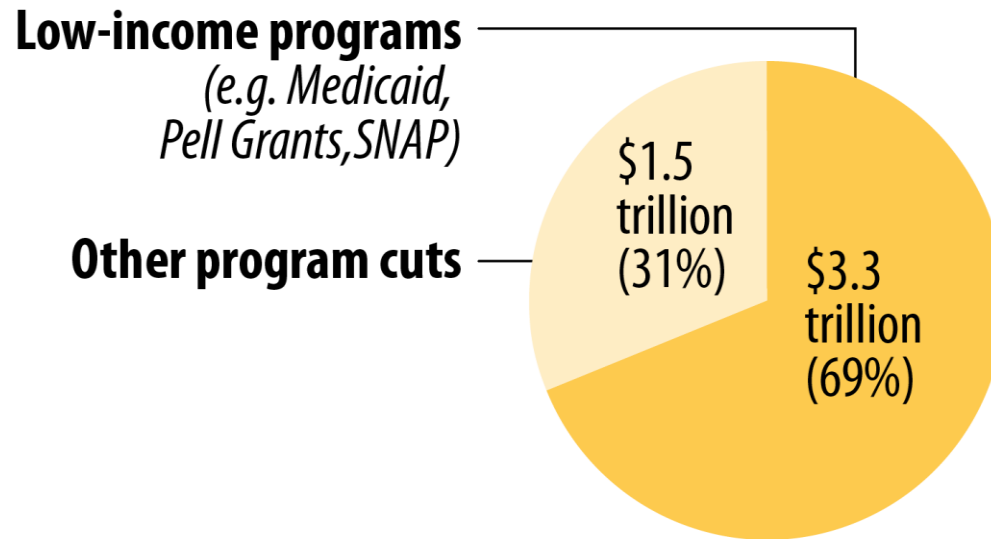
- Summer/Fall:

House and Senate will try to pass a budget reconciliation bill with entitlement cuts, possibly major changes in health reform and Medicaid, and possibly changes in taxes. President may veto the bill, but things not likely to end there.

Major negotiations are likely. Any big changes in budget policy that are made — including any relief from sequestration budget cuts — are likely to be as a result of negotiations. cbpp.org



69 Percent of Cuts in Ryan Plan From Programs for People with Low or Moderate Incomes



Note: Calculations do not include defense increase.

Source: CBPP based on data from Congressional Budget Office and FY 2015 House Budget Resolution and Committee markup.



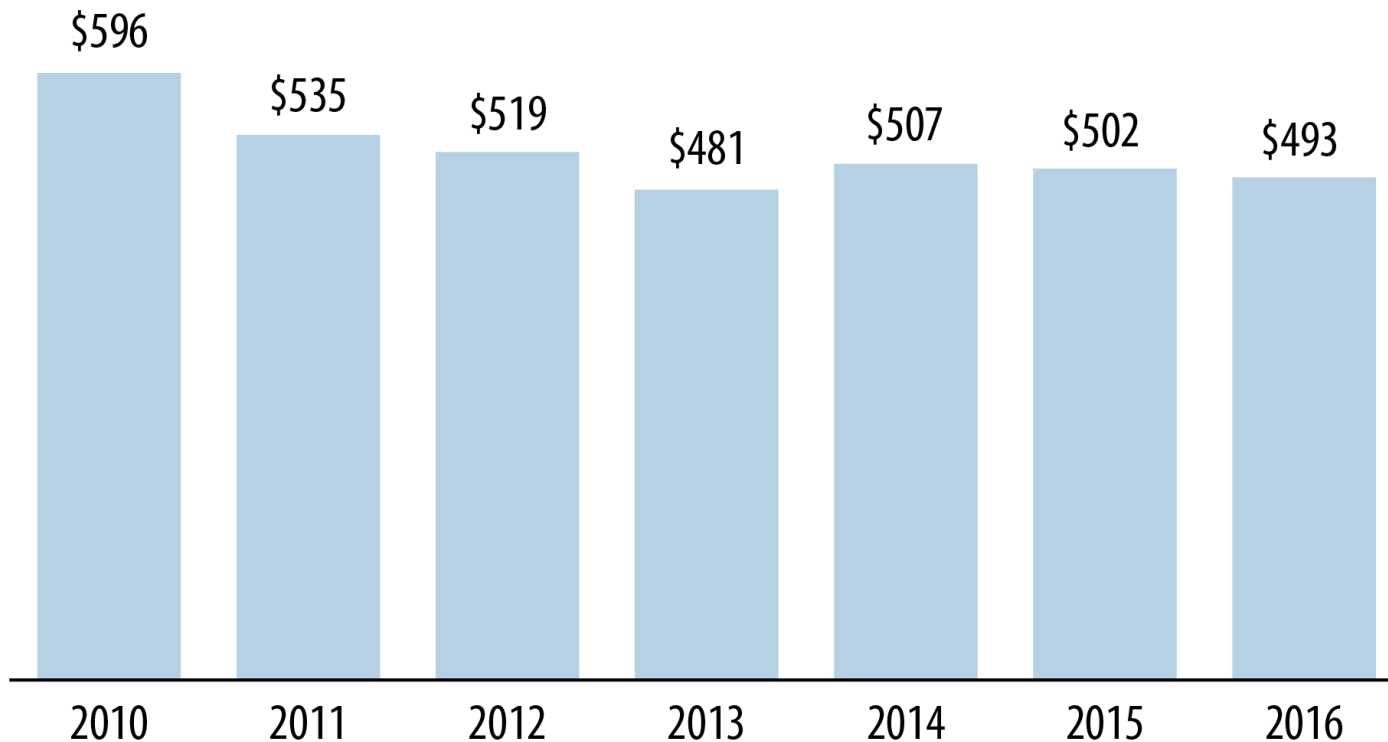
Architecture of Recent Republican Budgets





Total Funding for Non-Discretionary Programs Has Fallen Since 2010

Non-defense discretionary funding in 2016 dollars (billions)



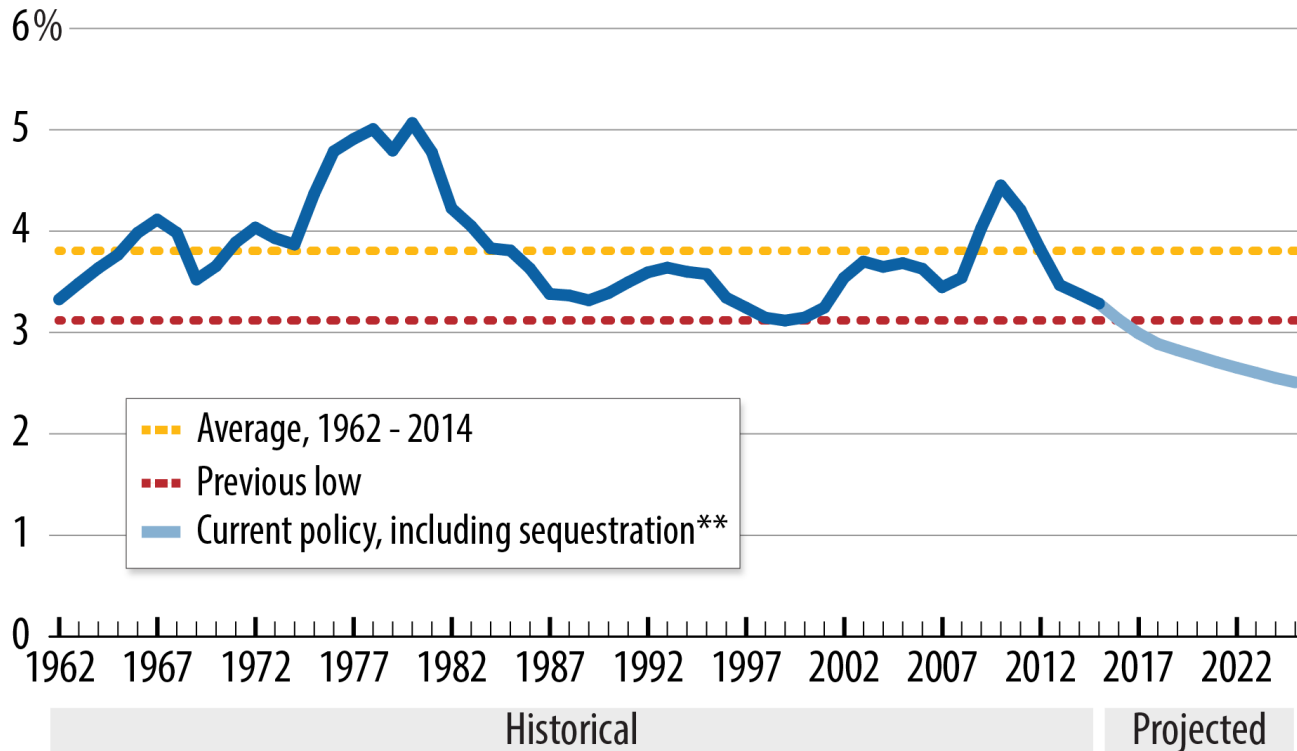
Notes: All amounts exclude funding for disasters, emergencies, program integrity, and Overseas Contingency Operations. The 2010 level does not include any Recovery Act funds.

Source: CBPP analysis of data from the Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget



Non-Defense Discretionary Spending Falling to Historic Lows

Spending as percent of gross domestic product*



*Data available only back to 1962

**Sequestration budget cuts required under the 2011 Budget Control Act

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities based on Office of Management and Budget and Congressional Budget Office data.



Budget Negotiations Could Address

- Affordable Care Act, depending on Supreme Court decision
- Sequestration relief
- Entitlement cuts/changes, including Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP, and possibly CHIP
- Other possible issues: Tax policy changes, Social Security Disability Insurance, etc.