

THE IMPACT OF SEQUESTRATION

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IMPACT EXAMPLES: NONDEFENSE DISCRETIONARY SPENDING, General

- [The Economic Impact of the Budget Control Act of 2011 on DOD & non-DOD Agencies](#)
Dr. Stephen Fuller, George Mason University, commissioned by Aerospace Industries Association (July 2012):

The analysis concludes that the automatic spending cuts mandated in the Budget Control Act affecting defense and non-defense discretionary spending in just the first year of implementation will reduce the nation's GDP by \$215 billion; decrease personal earnings of the workforce by \$109.4 billion, increase unemployment by 1.5% and cost the U.S. economy 2.14 million jobs.

- [Under Threat: Sequestration's Impact on Nondefense Jobs & Services](#)
Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee (July 2012):

States and local communities would lose \$2.7 billion in Federal funding for just three critical education programs alone – Title I, special education State grants, and Head Start – that serve a combined 30.7 million children. Nationwide, these cuts would force 46,349 employees to either lose their jobs or rely on cash-strapped States and localities to pick up their salaries instead.

In health, 659,476 fewer people would be tested for HIV, 48,845 fewer women would be screened for cancer; and 211,958 fewer children would be vaccinated.

At a time when the unemployment rate is still above 8 percent, 1.6 million fewer adults, dislocated workers and at-risk youth would receive job training, education and employment services; and the families of 80,000 fewer children would receive child care subsidies, making it harder for parents to find work.

IMPACT EXAMPLES: HEALTH RESEARCH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Health Professions and Nursing Education Programs
Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (August 2012): [Estimated Impact of Sequestration on the Health Resources and Services Administration \(HRSA\)'s Title VII Health Professions and Title VIII Nursing Education Programs:](#)
 - 6,240 fewer children receiving dental screenings and preventive services
 - 1,788 fewer seniors receiving primary care, dental care, and psychiatric care
 - 4,500 fewer underserved and uninsured seniors receiving care in acute, ambulatory, or long-term care settings
 - 3,579 fewer individuals receiving clinical psychology services
 - 22,592 fewer health care providers receiving continuing education on cultural competence, women's health, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, health disparities, and related topics

- 14,040 fewer public health professionals trained
- Impact on Aging Research — [Friends of National Institute on Aging](#) (October 2012)

The National institute on Aging would lose over \$86 million in fiscal year 2013 if sequestration takes effect. A cut of this magnitude would drastically limit opportunities to pursue answers to outstanding scientific questions at a critical time by driving application success rates into the single digits, constricting funding for research training programs, curtailing progress in ongoing clinical trials like those referenced above, and delaying field surveys, which could mean the loss of longitudinal data that can never be recovered.
- National Institutes of Health – [American Heart Association](#) (October 2012)

Funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will be cut by about \$2.5 billion or roughly 8% in January as a result of automatic across-the-board cuts (or sequestrations) required by the Budget Control Act. A cut of \$2.5 billion would reduce the NIH budget to 2004 funding levels and would mean that 2,300 grants that NIH plans to fund would not be awarded. Success rates would sink to historic low single digit levels.

The impact on jobs and economic activity is equally staggering: a \$2.5 billion sequester could result in the loss of 33,000 jobs across the United States and a \$4.5 billion decline in economic activity. The threat of these cuts — and the lack of consistency and predictability in the level of medical research funding — introduces tremendous uncertainty into the medical research enterprise and encourages private investigators with promising research proposals to pursue opportunities abroad.
- [NIH Sequestration Loss Estimates, per State](#)
FASEB (September 2012)

Administering a reduction of this scale in a short timeframe will be calamitous. It will require arbitrary funding cuts that will prevent critical research projects from reaching completion. Since at least 75 percent of the grant budgets are for salaries, the impact on employment and local economies will be immediate and severe. The negative impact on our nation's health, security, and international competitiveness will be impossible to estimate, and it may take us generations to recover the lost talent, as highly trained researchers and dedicated young scientists and engineers will be driven from science by the disruption of their training and their work.
- [Public Health Education Programs, by State](#)
Coalition of National Health Education Associations (August 2012)

A study conducted by the National Association of County and City Health Officials found that 57 percent of local health departments reduced or eliminated services in at least one program area in 2011, cuts that affected 65 percent of the U.S. population. The cuts proposed in current federal budget discussions further threaten the vitality of our public health system.
- [Sequestration: Health Research at a Breaking Point](#)
Research!America (May 2012)

The prospect of automatic spending cuts, or sequestration, scheduled to take effect in January 2013, casts a pall over future U.S. leadership of research and development and would delay access to new medical treatments. Sequestration would slash federal investments in critical health, scientific, medical and biological research aimed at discovering treatments, moving safe and effective new medicines to market, and creating the innovations to grow our economy. More than 80% of these dollars are competitively awarded to universities, academic medical centers, small businesses and independent research institutes throughout the nation to ensure our leadership in a global marketplace. Sequestration would negatively impact job creation, scientific progress, the health of Americans and U.S. competitiveness just as other nations are aggressively boosting their investments in research and development.

This report illustrates the dire consequences of a 7.8% cut, which could reduce funding for research agencies by approximately \$3.6 billion in 2013 alone. The National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and the National Science Foundation would lose critical funding for innovative research and programs that save lives and drive economic growth.

IMPACT EXAMPLES: HEALTH, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, AND PUBLIC HEALTH

- [Department of Health and Human Services Analysis of Sequester's Impact](#)
Department of Health and Human Services (June 29, 2012)

The National institutes of Health could potentially eliminate 2,300 new and competing grants, with nearly 300 fewer grants issued by the National Cancer Institute.

Up to 100,000 children would lose Head Start services and approximately 80,000 fewer children would receive child care assistance. In addition, approximately 12,150 fewer patients would receive benefits from our AIDS Drug Assistance program. Approximately 169,000 fewer individuals would be admitted to substance abuse treatment programs and an estimated 14,200 fewer people who are homeless would receive assistance.

- [Domestic Violence Services](#)
Campaign for Funding to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (September 2012)

Sequestration would result in nearly 200,000 fewer victims receiving life-saving and cost-effective services. Specifically:

- 112,190 fewer victims would have access to domestic violence programs and shelters;
- Approximately 64,000 fewer victims would have assistance in obtaining protection orders, crisis intervention and counseling, sexual assault services, hospital based advocacy, transitional housing services, and help with civil legal matters;
- Newer-funded programs that specifically meet the unique needs of rape and sexual assault victims, including medical and legal assistance and other direct services, would be significantly compromised;
- Programs that provide services to children and youth exposed to violence would also face cuts that would undermine their ability to reach and protect victims.

- [FDA Sequestrable Funding by Center, User Fee](#)
Alliance for a Stronger FDA (October 2012)
- [The Effect of Sequestration on Global Health: Projecting the Human Impact](#)
amfAR: The Foundation for AIDS Research (October 2012)
 - HIV/AIDS treatment for 276,500 people will not be available, potentially leading to 63,000 more AIDS-related deaths and 124,000 more children becoming orphans.
 - 112,500 fewer HIV-positive pregnant women will receive PMTCT services, leading to more than 21,000 infants being infected with HIV.
 - Funding for food, education, and livelihood assistance will not be available for nearly 359,000 children.
 - 2.2 million fewer insecticide-treated nets will be procured, leading to nearly 6,000 deaths due to malaria; 3.6 million fewer people will receive treatment.
 - 60,000 fewer people with TB will receive treatment, leading to 7,000 more deaths due to TB; 300 fewer people with MDR-TB will receive treatment.
 - 1.3 million fewer pentavalent vaccines for children will be available through GAVI, leading to 14,000 more deaths from diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, Haemophilus influenza type B, and hepatitis B.
- [Estimating the Human Impact of Sequestration on HIV/AIDS in the United States](#)
amfAR: The Foundation for AIDS Research (October 2012)
 - 15,700 people will lose AIDS Drug Assistance Program support for HIV treatment
 - 5,000 households that include people living with HIV/AIDS will lose housing support
 - Equivalent of 460 AIDS research grants will be eliminated
 - Major cut in HIV prevention services
- [Impact of Sequestration on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
Centers for Disease Control (July 2012)

Sequestration would force CDC to cut support for every state in the country, reducing support by more than \$200 million. Just a few examples of what this would mean for the health of Americans:

- CDC would not be able to support 2,500 specialized disease detectives in state and local health departments; outbreaks of foodborne disease, meningitis, pneumonia, and other conditions would be investigated and stopped more slowly or not at all. An estimated 150 fewer foodborne outbreaks would be identified and stopped promptly. A single outbreak can cost millions of dollars and health care and productivity losses, send hundreds of people to hospitals, and kill children and adults.
- Life-saving immunizations would be denied to children and adults. Approximately 840,000 fewer vaccines would be made available to protect local communities, increasing the risk of preventable outbreaks.
- Public health programs that protect entire communities by reducing vaccination disparities would be cut.

- Between 210,000 and 840,000 children and adults would be denied life-saving vaccines that prevent hepatitis B, influenza, measles, and pertussis outbreaks.
 - The time to identify and appropriately treat victims of a chemical attack would double from five days to up to two weeks, increasing suffering and death, as support is eliminated for laboratories which can diagnose and help doctors treat patients. The uncertainty resulting from this delay would have significant consequences in national security and economic stability.
 - Approximately 800 additional individuals would contract HIV due to reduction in the availability of HIV tests and prevention. This would cost the United States \$250 million, since every HIV infection costs more than \$300,000 in health care costs.
 - 50,000 fewer women would be screened for breast and cervical cancer, resulting in 800 fewer cancers detected early.
 - CDC's highly effective program to prevent diabetes would have to be scaled back, meaning that tens of thousands more Americans would develop diabetes over the coming years. Each person with diabetes costs \$6,600 more in health care spending every year.
- [Sequestration: Impact on Women, Infants, Children and Families](#)
AMCHP, March of Dimes, American Academy of Pediatrics, and ACOG (July 2012)
 - Sequestration will result in cutting more than 750,000 mothers and infants from WIC.
 - Sequestration will reduce federal funding for Title X, the only dedicated family planning program, to its lowest point in a decade. Funding cuts will lead to staff layoffs and limited service hours which will reduce access to critical health services that detect breast and cervical cancer, prevent and treat STIs, and have shown to decrease the incidence of unplanned pregnancies.
 - The Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant, Healthy Start and other programs at the Maternal and Child Health Bureau will be cut by nearly \$100 million under the scheduled sequestration. This will eliminate critical services, health education, and programs that protect and promote the health of more than 40 million women, infants and children with special health care needs in the United States. Sequestration will also result in the closure of rural clinics serving children with special health care needs and lost capacity to support regionalized systems of care for low birth weight and medically fragile newborns.
- [Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services](#)
Mental Health America (July 2012)

Community Mental Health Services Performance Partnership Block Grant Sequestration effects:

 - 684,000 individuals will lose critical employment and housing assistance, case management services, and school-based supports;
 - 1.13 million children and adults will be at risk of losing access to any type of public mental health support.

Children's Mental Health Services Sequestration effects:

- 1,300 youth with severe emotional disturbances will lose access to treatment services;
- 500 individuals working in the field will no longer receive specialized mental health training;
- 100 formal organizational coordinated service agreements will be eradicated.

- [Potential Impact of Sequestration on Public Health](#)

Association for State and Territorial Health Officials (September 19, 2012)

The net effect of sequestration to state and local public health agencies will be devastating reductions to programs in the fiscal year's third and fourth quarters. These cuts will put the public at greater risk for infectious disease outbreaks, including whooping cough, foodborne illnesses like E. coli and salmonella, life-threatening healthcare-associated infections from routine hospital stays, and the elimination of Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) food benefits for many families. When natural disasters such as tornadoes and floods occur, public health system response times will increase because fewer rescue and medical workers would be available to respond, increasing hospitalizations and risking lives.

- [Cuts have CONSEQUENCES](#)

National Association of County & City Health Officials (August 2012)

- Five million families would be denied prenatal care, well child services, infant mortality, injury and violence prevention, oral healthcare, and comprehensive care through clinics, home visits, and school-based health programs through the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant;
- Communities would lose \$48 million needed to prepare for and respond to public health emergencies like disease outbreaks, tornados, wildfires, and floods;
- More than 650,000 people would not be tested for HIV and more than 12,000 people would lose access to life-saving AIDS drugs;
- 211,958 children would not receive vaccinations to prevent disease; and
- 48,845 women would not be screened for cancer

- [Report on Sex Ed Implications](#)

Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS) (October 16, 2012)

Should sequestration go into effect on January 2, 2013, federally funded sex education programs would face significant challenges in addressing the critical HIV, sexually transmitted disease (STD), and pregnancy prevention needs of our nation's youth—thus impacting the future health and well-being of our country.

- [Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment](#)

NASADAD (July 2012)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which administers the SAPT Block Grant, would receive a \$292 million reduction compared to its FY 2012 level of \$3.48 billion. A cut of this magnitude to the SAPT Block Grant would significantly reduce prevention, treatment and recovery services across the country, resulting in increased demands on emergency rooms, hospitals, jails, and prisons.

- [The Value of the Poison Control Center System](#)
The Lewin Group (October 2012)

IMPACT EXAMPLES: EDUCATION

- [Stop the Largest Cuts Education Cuts Ever!](#)
Committee for Education Funding (November 2012)

These sequestration cuts would chop funding for programs in the Department of Education by over \$4.1 billion. In addition, Head Start would be cut by \$653 million. This would be the largest cut EVER to education programs. Sequestration would move us backwards ten years, by slashing Department of Education non-Pell grant discretionary funding below the Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 level.

- o *Head Start* would be cut by \$653 million, harming 78,100 low-income children.
- o *Title I* would be cut by \$1.2 billion, adversely affecting services to almost 1.8 million educationally disadvantaged children.
- o *IDEA special education* would be cut by more than \$1 billion affecting 566,700 students with disabilities.
- o Funding for *teacher quality grants* would be cut by \$202 million.
- o While Pell grants is exempt from sequestration in FY 13, other *student financial aid programs* such as Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and Work-Study would be cut by \$140 million, reducing aid to more than 2.1 million students.
- o *TRIO, GEAR UP* and other higher education programs will cut by a combined \$207 million.
- o *Career, Technical and Adult Education* would be cut by \$142 million, harming almost 1.2 million students.
- o Overall, these education cuts would directly jeopardize over 78,000 education jobs.

- [Cut Deep: How the Sequester Will Impact our Schools](#)
American Association of School Administrators (July 2012)

The cuts of sequestration are estimated to between eight and nine percent, which would reduce funding for the US Education department by an additional \$4 billion and affect millions of students, classrooms and teachers by increasing class size, reducing programs and services and eliminating educator jobs.

State/ local governments and school districts have very limited capacity to soften the cuts of sequestration: When asked if their state or local school district have the ability to soften the impact of sequestration, nearly all respondents replied 'no'. Nine in ten (90 percent) replied that their state would be unable to absorb or offset the cuts of sequestration, equal to the 89.5 percent indicating that their district would be unable to absorb the cuts.

More than half (54.1 percent) of respondents reported that their budget for the 2012-13 school year built-in cuts to off-set sequestration. School administrators report a variety of approaches in planning for sequestration. The annual process of adopting school budgets wrapped in May, meaning survey respondents were able to indicate how/if their district budget offset the anticipated cuts of sequestration. Less than half (45.2 percent) of respondents reported that they are waiting to

see when/how sequestration unfolds. Their budgets did not build in cuts to offset sequestration, and they plan to '...make any necessary changes as needed, when the cuts happen'.

The cuts of sequestration will translate into reductions in and eliminations to personnel, curriculum, facilities and operations. Respondents reported that the cuts of sequestration would mean reducing professional development (69.4 percent), reducing academic programs (58.1 percent), eliminating personnel (56.6 percent) and increasing class size (54.9 percent). As one respondent from Alabama replied, "The bottom line is that kids...pay the price."

- [Impact Aid and Sequestration: The Impact of the Budget Control Act on Federally Impacted School](#)
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (August 2012)

Of the 334 school districts, 36-percent have budgeted the sequester cut into the 2012-2013 school year. The percentage of school districts that have adjusted for the cut in the upcoming year remains consistent for school districts serving military populations (35-percent) and American Indian populations (40-percent). For school districts where Impact Aid makes up 30-percent or more of the district's total overall budget (99 districts), the percentage is slightly higher at 41-percent.

The results of those cuts for districts that have built in the sequester are varied. The top five areas for reduction are: defer maintenance and technology purchases (64-percent); eliminate non-instructional staff (54-percent); increase class sizes (46-percent); eliminate instructional staff (44-percent); and reduce professional development (35-percent). Other areas of reduction include academic programs, extra-curricular activities and summer programs, and transportation routes.

School district respondents also noted they're reducing spending through attrition; increasing local taxes, and reducing contracted services, classroom supplies and materials, and the number of working days.

- [Impact of Sequestration of Federal Education Programs](#)
National Education Association (September 2012)

The funding cut is equivalent to eliminating educational services as well as eliminating or reducing financial aid for 9.3 million students attending pre-K, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools.

The funding cut could lead to the elimination of 78,400 jobs, which includes early childhood, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary educators, and all other support staff.

- [Federal Public Education Revenues and the Sequester](#)
American Association of School Administrators (November 2012)

Students in poorer communities will feel deeper cuts from the sequester. Wealthier communities run their districts on operating budgets sourced more from state and local revenues. Attributed to a lack of state/local willingness, capacity or a combination of the two, students in poorer states will see the sequester applied to one-fifth of their district's operating budgets, while their peers in wealthier districts will see the cuts apply to less than five percent of the budget.

- [A Fight for the Future: Education, Job Training, and the Fiscal Showdown](#)
Young Invincibles (Nov. 2012)

Looming automatic budget cuts, known as “sequestration,” will cost thousands of youth jobs in 2013. AmeriCorps, which has already sustained cuts in recent years, creates 80,000 youth jobs a year — though in 2011 it received a record 582,000 applications. Cuts from sequestration could pull nearly \$40 million dollars from the program in 2013, in addition to reducing funding for nearly every other education and training program.

IMPACT EXAMPLES: BUSINESS AND THE WORKFORCE

- [Disinvesting in the Skills of America's Workforce: The Potential Impact of Sequestration on Key Federal Employment and Training Programs](#)
National Skills Coalition (August 2012)
 - Workforce programs would be devastated by sequestration. If the sequester is implemented, National Skills Coalition estimates that workforce programs will serve nearly 3 million fewer workers and employers in 2013.
 - In 2010, more than 9 million individuals received WIA Title I training and employment services, a 248 percent increase in just two years. Despite this skyrocketing demand for services, WIA Title I programs would be forced to turn away nearly 400,000 adults, youth, and dislocated workers as a result of the sequester.
 - More than 40 percent of workers have been jobless for 27 weeks or longer, suffering from long-term unemployment. Yet sequestration would cut funding for the WIA Dislocated Worker program by almost \$80 million, denying services to nearly 46,000 dislocated workers.
 - Despite a youth unemployment rate above 18 percent, more than twice the overall unemployment rate, almost 19,000 youth would lose access to WIA Youth employment services under the sequesters.
 - Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs would serve 66,000 fewer learners, even though there are already more than 160,000 people on waiting lists for ABE programs.
 - Although high risk students are 8 to 10 times less likely to drop out in 11th or 12th grades if they are enrolled in a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program, 1 million fewer students would be served by CTE programs as a result of the sequester.
 - A 2010 study conducted by the National Organization on Disability/Harris Poll found that nearly 70 percent of working age people with disabilities want to work, yet the unemployment rate for disabled individuals remains persistently high. If the sequester takes effect, Vocational Rehabilitation programs would serve almost 78,000 fewer disabled individuals.
 - Although the number of people served through the Wagner-Peyser Employment Services (ES) increased by more than 4 million people between 2008 and 2011 (from just over 17 million people to more than 21 million people), funding for the ES has declined by more than 45 percent since 2001 (adjusted for inflation). Under sequestration, 1.2 million fewer jobseekers will be served by the ES.
 - [Impact of Sequestration on America's Workforce, by State](#)

IMPACT EXAMPLES: HOUSING

- [Estimated Cuts in Federal Rental Assistance due to Sequestration](#)
Center for Budget and Policy Priorities (October 2012)

The sequester cuts would cut housing choice vouchers to 179,025 families.

- [Estimated Cuts in Housing and Community Block Grant Funding due to Sequestration](#)
Center for Budget and Policy Priorities (October 2012)

- [Impact of Sequestration to Affordable Housing and Community Development Programs](#)
Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (August 2012)

CHCDF estimates that sequestration would negatively affect more than 440,000 households and an additional 1.1 million people by decreasing affordable housing opportunities and community development services. These households and individuals are low and moderate income renters and homeowners in urban, suburban, rural and tribal communities, including the elderly, people with disabilities and people experiencing homelessness. The need for affordable housing and community development services far exceeds what current funding levels can provide and sequestration would accelerate the growth in the number of households in need

IMPACT EXAMPLES: NONDEFENSE DISCRETIONARY SPENDING, Other

- [The Impact of Federal Budget Cuts on State and Local Public Safety](#)
Prepared by National Criminal Justice Association and VERA Institute for Justice (October 2012)

Over the past two years, federal support for the criminal justice assistance grant programs through the Department of Justice has been decreased by 43 percent.

Some programs have been eliminated; others have taken deep cuts. For instance, since FY2012 the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) program has been cut by 34 percent, the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring grants by 44 percent, the in-person drug treatment supported by the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) program by 67 percent, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) by 75 percent, the juvenile delinquency prevention initiatives funded by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Part A (JJDP A) by more than 50 percent, and reimbursement to state and local governments through the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) by 27 percent.

These programs are at historically low levels of funding. The additional deep cuts mandated by sequestration could leave the federal-state-local public safety partnership virtually unfunded by FY2021.

- [The Sequester Would Harm the Environment and the Economy](#)
The Wilderness Society, Natural Parks Conservation Association, The Natural Resources Defense Council, and Defenders of Wildlife (October 2012)

Among other impacts outlined in the fact sheet, the sequester could:

- Closure of some national parks, wildlife refuges, and ending visitor programs on these and other public lands, severely impacting the nearly \$650 billion annual economic contribution generated by outdoor recreation, much of which is supported by activities on these lands;
- Cuts to research and development programs at the Office of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency will hinder the creation of new, world-leading American technologies in wind, solar and biofuels;
- Cutting EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Fund will cripple a critical tool for addressing pollution from sewage systems and storm water runoff that threatens public health and our use and enjoyment of waterways. Cutting a program that has created between 1.4 and 2 million jobs since 1988 will only undermine needed investment in our public water infrastructure and cost thousands of jobs.

These programs are very popular and important for protecting public health, wildlife, public lands, clean air and water and a sustainable energy future. They also contribute a great deal to the economy by creating jobs and reducing health care and other costs associated with pollution, invasive species, fire, and other challenges.

- **Sequestration Impacts On Our Public Lands**
The Wilderness Society

Sequestration will have a profoundly negative effect on conservation efforts all across the United States. National parks, forests, and fish and wildlife habitat will suffer significantly without the necessary funding that is critical to supporting essential programs. These programs are dedicated to protecting our natural resources from which all Americans benefit. Without adequate funding, existing projects may have to be put on hold or ended completely. Sequestration means that trails won't be maintained, roads will close, there will be fewer law enforcement officers, less access to recreation and tourism, environmental education will be limited or be cancelled, scientific research and monitoring will be stopped, and program implementation and management will become even more difficult. In addition, the ability of the US government to help American communities build resilience to current climate impacts would be at risk. It is essential that we ensure these services continue to be available to the American public. Deeper budget cuts will make this nearly impossible throughout the country. As a result, these impacts will put not only public lands but also the communities and wildlife that depend on them at serious risk.

- [7 Ways Looming Budget Cuts To Public Lands And Oceans Will Affect Americans](#)
Think Progress (December 2012)

In this issue brief, we examine seven key areas where federal land and ocean management agencies, such as the Department of the Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,

make critical investments on which Americans have come to depend and what cutting these agencies might mean, including:

- Less accurate weather forecasts
- Slower energy development
- Fewer wildland firefighters
- Closures of national parks
- Fewer places to hunt
- Less fish on our tables
- Diminished maritime safety and security

Overall, the Office of Management and Budget predicted in a recent report that sequestration will cut \$2.603 billion in fiscal year 2013 alone from the agencies that manage the hundreds of millions of acres of lands and oceans that belong to U.S. taxpayers.

- [NDD Sequestration Hurts Vulnerable Seniors](#)
Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (October 2012)

If Congress allows sequestration to go into effect on January 2, 2013, the resulting \$54.5 billion in non-defense discretionary (NDD) cuts in FY 2013 will have devastating effects on programs that maintain older adults' independence, health and well-being. This would avoid making actual choices about which federal discretionary programs provide the greatest return-on-investment and reflect the current and future needs of our country.

Any "savings" from the sequester would pale in comparison to the added costs, resulting in premature nursing home placement for seniors who can no longer stay in their homes and communities because of reduced federal funding. Such cuts would also place greater financial strains on family caregivers and drive higher medical costs due to elders' poorer nutrition and health, increased falls, and other avoidable crises. There will be indirect economic harms from the sequester as well: fewer meals served means smaller purchases from local farmers, grocers and food vendors, fewer in-home service hours restricts the senior's life and the worker's pay, and stranded-at-home seniors spend fewer dollars in their community.

- [Potential Impact of the Sequester on Selected Youth, Family, Aging, and Disability Programs](#)
National Human Services Assembly (October 2012)