FY2011 Budget Documents: Internet and GPO Availability

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Summary

Every year, the President submits to Congress a series of volumes containing the President’s proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. By law, the proposal is due by the first Monday in February. Neither the Congressional Research Service (CRS) nor the Library of Congress can provide distribution copies of budget documents. This report provides brief descriptions of the budget volumes and related documents, together with Internet addresses, Government Printing Office (GPO) stock numbers, and prices to obtain these publications. It also tells how to find locations of government depository libraries, which can provide both printed copies for reference use and Internet access to the text. This report will be updated as events warrant.
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Introduction

The President’s budget for FY2011 consists of a multivolume set of materials issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The materials contain information on new budget proposals, summary tables, detailed financial information on individual programs and accounts, economic analysis, historical data, explanations of the budget processes, and supporting documents. Every year, the President submits these materials to Congress at the start of the budget cycle for the next fiscal year. The President’s submission is required on or after the first Monday in January, but not later than the first Monday in February (31 U.S.C. § 1105a).

Other budget-related documents released early this year include the annual Economic Report of the President, issued in January by the Council of Economic Advisors, and the Budget and Economic Outlook, an annual publication issued by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). See below for details about these publications.

The President’s Budget Documents, Fiscal Year 2011

Both OMB and the Government Printing Office (GPO) provide Internet access to the main and supporting budget documents, spreadsheet files, the public budget database, and budget amendments and supplements proposed by the President. See http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget and http://www.gpoaccess.gov/usbudget/fy11/index.html, respectively. OMB provides additional information on agency budgets, states, and key issues in the form of fact sheets found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget_factsheets_departments, http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget_factsheets_states, and http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget_factsheets_key. Federal programs that have been recommended by the Administration for termination or reduction are detailed in the document entitled Terminations, Reductions, and Savings, available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/TRS.

The budget set consists of the following documents and CD-ROM materials.

The Budget of the U.S. Government, Fiscal Year 2011

(GPO stock number 041-001-00671-1, $37, 186 pages)

This document contains information, charts, and graphs pertaining to the President’s new budget proposals and overviews of government activities by agency and topic (e.g., “Rescuing the Economy,” and “Reviving Job Creation and Laying a New Foundation for Economic Growth”). Summary tables (pp. 145-179) contain projections of budget baselines, receipts, and outlays; deficits; debt; discretionary spending; and economic projections from FY2009 to FY2020.

The Budget of the U.S. Government, Fiscal Year 2011 (CD-ROM)

(GPO stock number 041-001-00675-3, $25)

The FY2010 Budget CD-ROM contains the full content of the budget documents and most supporting documents for the budget in PDF format. The CD-ROM provides software to search, display, and print, and it contains many tables in spreadsheet format.
Analytical Perspectives, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2011

This volume includes economic, accounting, and “crosscutting” analyses of government programs and activities designed to highlight specific subject areas and provide other significant presentations of budget data to place the budget in perspective. It also includes information on federal receipts and collections, analyses of federal spending, detailed information on borrowing and debt, baseline or current service estimates, and other technical presentations. Chapter 17, “Aid to State and Local Governments,” contains a series of tables (pp. 254-264) that provide selected grant data by state.

The FY2011 Analytical Perspectives volume also contains supplemental material with several detailed tables, including tables showing the budget by agency and account and by function, sub-function, and program. This supplemental material is available on a CD-ROM in the printed document, or on the GPO website at http://www.gpoaccess.gov/usbudget/fy11/spec.html.

Appendix, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2011

Designed primarily for the use of the House and Senate appropriations committees, the FY2011 Appendix contains more detailed financial information on individual programs and appropriations accounts than any of the other budget documents submitted by the President. For each agency, it provides the following:

- the proposed text of the appropriation language,
- budget schedules for each account,
- new legislative proposals,
- explanations of the work to be performed and the funds needed, and
- proposed general provisions applicable to the appropriations of entire agencies or groups of agencies.

These elements are distinguished by varying font and typeface, so that proposed appropriations and prior year funding can be compared at a glance. The following example is from the FY2011 Appendix: language printed in roman type is used as a base, [brackets] enclose material proposed for deletion, and italic type indicates proposed new language:

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, [$5,285,000], $5,936,000…!

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1 Department of Agriculture, Office of the Secretary, excerpt from page 65 of the FY2011 Budget Appendix.
Historical Tables, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2011

(GPO stock number 041-001-00673-7, $49, 368 pages)

These detailed tables cover budget deficit/surplus, outlays, receipts, discretionary and mandatory spending, federal debt, federal employment, payments for individuals, spending by function and agency, and grants to states and local governments. This volume provides some data from 1940 (or earlier) through estimates for FY2015. Historical data are adjusted by OMB to be consistent with the FY2011 budget and to provide comparability over time.

Economic Report of the President, 2010

(GPO stock number 040-000-00783-1, $36, 458 pages)

This year’s annual Economic Report of the President, transmitted to Congress in February 2010 by the Obama Administration, presents the Administration’s report on its economic policies and contains the annual report of the Council of Economic Advisors. It presents an overview of the nation’s economic progress using text and extensive data appendices. Appendix B of the Economic Report includes current and historical statistics on major aspects of economic activity (pp. 319-458). Statistics include national income and expenditures from 1960 to 2009, government finance, population, employment, wages, productivity, prices, debt measures, corporate finance, and international statistics, in some cases back to 1929.


Agency Budget Justifications

Each year in July, OMB issues instructions to all federal executive departments and agencies for submitting budget data and materials for inclusion in the President’s budget documents. These instructions are in a document entitled, Circular No. A-11: Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget. After the President’s budget documents are released in February, Congress begins to hold hearings on agency budget requests, and agencies must submit their budget justifications to the appropriations subcommittees holding the hearings. Budget justifications generally contain more detailed descriptions of an agency’s proposals and programs than is provided in the President’s budget documents. As mandated by Section 22.6 of the 2006 edition of Circular A-11 and subsequent editions, beginning with the FY2008 budget cycle, agencies are required to post their congressional budget justification materials on the Internet within two weeks of transmittal to Congress. Circular A-11 is available on the White House website at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a11_current_year_a11_toc.
Access budget justification documents for each executive agency through the following links:


Department of Veterans Affairs at http://www4.va.gov/budget/products.asp.

**Congressional Budget Office**

**Budget and Economic Outlook: FY2010-FY2020**

(GPO stock number 052-070-07580-5, $27, 177 pages)

CBO’s baseline budget projections span 10 years in its budget reports. The Budget and Economic Outlook includes separate chapters on the economic outlook, outlays, and receipts. The data and projections cover FY2009 through FY2020. This document, released in January 2010, also includes discussions on current economic conditions and initiatives, including the Troubled Asset Relief Program, the treatment of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the federal budget, and the government’s actions in support of the housing and financial markets. The report is available on the CBO website at http://.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/108xx/doc10871/01-26-Outlook.pdf.
CBO provides additional context to its *Budget and Economic Outlook* through a page on its website, entitled “Budget Outlook 2010,” at http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/108xx/doc10871/BudgetOutlook2010_Jan.cfm. This page contains an interactive graph that shows the effects of selected policy alternatives on the deficit. CBO also provides historical and current budget and economic information, including its monthly budget review, at http://www.cbo.gov/budget/budget.shtml.

**GPO Ordering Information**

Printed copies of budget documents are available from GPO and may be purchased using Discover, MasterCard, Visa, or American Express cards

- online at the GPO website at http://bookstore.gpo.gov/;
- by telephone, (866) 512-1800;
- by fax, (202) 512-2104; or
- by mail (check or money order), addressed to U.S. Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000.

**Depository Libraries**

Budget documents are often available for reference use at large public or university libraries, or at a federal government depository library. Addresses of the closest depository libraries can be obtained through a local library or from GPO’s Customer Services department, (866) 512-1800. Internet users may obtain this information from the GPO Access website at http://catalog.gpo.gov/fdlpdir/FDLPdir.jsp.

**Websites on Budget Legislation**

**Congressional Staff**

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) has developed (for Members of Congress and their staffs) two websites covering the budget and appropriations process for congressional offices.

- **Appropriations and Budget Analysis.** For CRS products on appropriations status, jurisdictions, processes, current appropriations bills, and other budget-related resources, congressional staff can access the CRS website at http://www.crs.gov/Pages/clis.aspx?cliid=73.

- **CRS Products on the Federal Budget Process.** Explanations of budget concepts, terminology, the congressional and executive budget process, congressional budget timetable, budget resolutions and reconciliation, the authorization and appropriations process, entitlements and discretionary spending, the Budget Enforcement Act, sequestration, and surpluses/deficits are available from the CRS website at http://www.crs.gov/analysis/Pages/CongressionalOperations.aspx (see links under the heading “Budget Process”).
Public Use

Constituents have access to THOMAS at http://thomas.loc.gov, the legislative website produced by the Library of Congress, with data from the House and Senate. The site includes a Status Table of Appropriations with links to bills, committee and conference reports, and votes for the 12 regular and any supplemental appropriations bills.

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