



THE TRUMP BUDGET IS A DISASTER FOR RURAL AMERICA

The Trump Budget prioritizes programs for the wealthy while defunding programs that foster high quality of life in rural communities. Over the past ten years, the population in metro areas has grown 7 percent while [rural areas have lost nearly 2 percent](#). Greater economic opportunity in metro areas – employment is growing 3 times faster in urban counties compared to rural counties – and declining birth rates are two reasons for this loss. By cutting programs that help rural communities thrive, the Trump Budget is hastening the decline of rural America.

\$182 Billion Cut from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): [16 percent of rural households](#) count on SNAP, formerly known as food stamps, to put food on the table every day. But the Trump Budget cuts \$182 billion from SNAP in addition to Trump’s previously proposed severe cuts to the program.

Eliminates the Low-Income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP): Rural households spend [more of their paychecks](#) on heating and cooling costs than metro households and are more likely to live close to the poverty line. In fact, 41 percent of rural households live below 200 percent of the poverty line. On average, households get [\\$386 a year](#) from LIHEAP – a small amount that helps them keep their families warm. And yet, the Trump Budget eliminates LIHEAP.

\$900 Billion Cut from Medicaid: Nearly [25 percent of rural adults](#) and 45 percent rural children are enrolled in Medicaid. This cruel, unnecessary cut will hurt rural Americans who are disproportionately affected by disability, substance abuse, and other diseases.

\$76 Billion Cut from Programs to Help People with Disabilities: Individuals in rural areas are [46 percent more likely](#) to have a disability. The Trump Budget cuts billions from Social Security Disability Insurance and other programs.

\$2.2 Billion Cut from Select Rural Economic Programs: More than 300 rural counties are rated as “[persistently poor](#)” compared to just 50 urban counties. The Trump Budget eliminates critical programs that fuel rural recovery and growth, including:

- The Delta Regional Authority, Denali Commission, and Northern Border Regional Commission
- National Wildlife Refuge Fund
- Abandoned Mine Land Grants

\$298 Million Cut from Programs for Tribal Nations: Even though [54 percent of Native Americans](#) live in rural areas and small towns, the Trump Budget slashes programs key to tribal governments, including:

- \$240 million cut from the Native American Housing Block Grant, including elimination of the Indian Community Development Block Grant, redirecting these funds to “national security” projects
- \$58 million cut from the Tribal Welfare Assistance Program

21 Percent Cut from the Department of Agriculture: Cuts harming family farms include:

- \$1 billion from “[Extension](#),” which provides education and outreach to farmers and rural communities
- \$32 million from the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network
- \$10.8 billion from Natural Resource Conservation Service conservation programs

Billions in Cuts from Programs to Combat Climate Change: The Trump Budget cuts the Environmental Protection Agency’s budget by **34 percent** over the next decade, dedicates more than **\$1.4 billion** for fossil fuel extraction activities, and eliminates and cuts programs that help rural communities address climate change, including:

- Cuts \$24 billion (76 percent) from the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program and Emergency Watershed Protection Program
- Rural Energy for America Program
- Protection projects for waterways such as Chesapeake Bay and Lake Champlain

