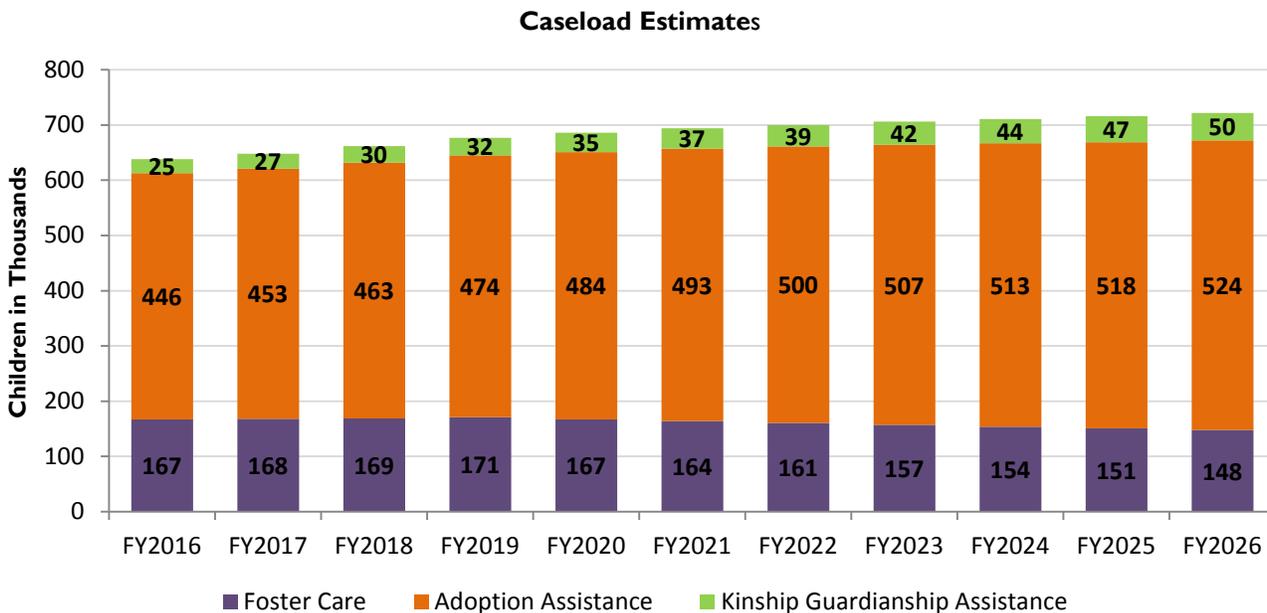
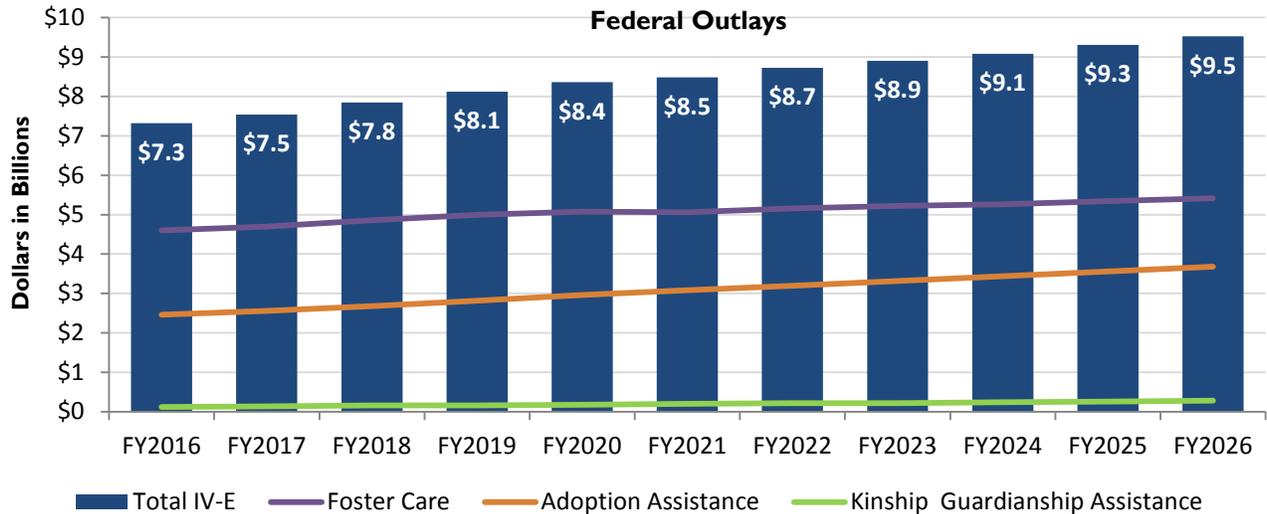


**Figure II-2. CBO Caseload and Federal Outlay Estimates for the Title IV-E Program**

CBO = Congressional Budget Office

As estimated by CBO, most of the change in Title IV-E spending over the next decade would be related to provision of adoption assistance, while most Title IV-E spending would continue to be for foster care. Growth in kinship guardianship assistance is strong but as a relatively new component of the program (first authorized in FY2009) it is starting from a low spending base and remains a relatively small piece of the Total Title IV-E spending picture. Caseload estimates for these components are consistent with these spending estimates.



**Source:** Figure prepared by CRS on December 9, 2016 for the 2016 version of the House Ways and Means Committee Green Book. CBO estimates are as included in its March 2016 baseline. <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/51299-2016-03-FosterCare.pdf>.

**Note:** The total estimated Title IV-E program spending shown here includes the capped mandatory funding provided to states under the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program as well as annual mandatory funding provided for technical assistance and grants to improve tribal child welfare services. Other funding authorized in Title IV-E but provided on a discretionary basis (i.e., funding for Chafee Educational and Training Vouchers and for Adoption and Legal Guardianship Assistance Payments) is *not included* in these estimates.

**Table 11-2. Estimated Federal Outlays under the Title IV-E Program, FY2016-FY2021**

Estimates prepared by HHS as of February 2016 and by CBO as of March 2016 and reflect current law at that time.

	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)						Congressional Budget Office (CBO)					
	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021
<b>Foster Care</b>												
Maintenance Payments	\$694	\$776	\$843	\$903	\$2,012	\$2,091	\$920	\$980	\$1,020	\$1,040	\$2,120	\$2,060
Child Placement Activities and Administration	\$1,382	\$1,468	\$1,558	\$1,597	\$2,937	\$3,029	\$1,140	\$1,200	\$1,240	\$1,280	\$2,600	\$2,640
Training	\$239	\$262	\$272	\$273	\$289	\$298	\$240	\$240	\$240	\$260	\$260	\$260
Information Technology <sup>a</sup>	\$131	\$133	\$138	\$140	\$115	\$118	\$120	\$120	\$140	\$140	\$100	\$100
Demonstration (waivers) <sup>b</sup>	\$2,190	\$2,161	\$2,217	\$2,263	\$0	\$0	\$2,180	\$2,160	\$2,220	\$2,280	\$0	\$0
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$4,636</i>	<i>\$4,800</i>	<i>\$5,028</i>	<i>\$5,176</i>	<i>\$5,353</i>	<i>\$5,536</i>	<i>\$4,600</i>	<i>\$4,700</i>	<i>\$4,860</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$5,080</i>	<i>\$5,060</i>
<b>Adoption Assistance</b>												
Assistance Payments	\$2,101	\$2,214	\$2,336	\$2,470	\$2,613	\$2,766	\$2,040	\$2,120	\$2,220	\$2,320	\$2,440	\$2,540
Administration	\$443	\$470	\$502	\$533	\$567	\$600	\$400	\$420	\$440	\$460	\$480	\$500
Training	\$29	\$30	\$32	\$34	\$36	\$38	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$40	\$40	\$40
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$2,573</i>	<i>\$2,714</i>	<i>\$2,870</i>	<i>\$3,037</i>	<i>\$3,216</i>	<i>\$3,404</i>	<i>\$2,460</i>	<i>\$2,560</i>	<i>\$2,680</i>	<i>\$2,820</i>	<i>\$2,960</i>	<i>\$3,080</i>
<b>Kinship Guardianship Assistance</b>												
Assistance Payments	\$112	\$133	\$150	\$166	\$184	\$204	\$100	\$120	\$140	\$140	\$160	\$180
Administration	\$11	\$13	\$14	\$16	\$18	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Training	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$1						
Post-Demonstration <sup>c</sup>	\$3	\$2	\$2	\$1	\$1	\$1						
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$126</i>	<i>\$149</i>	<i>\$166</i>	<i>\$184</i>	<i>\$204</i>	<i>\$226</i>	<i>\$120</i>	<i>\$140</i>	<i>\$160</i>	<i>\$160</i>	<i>\$180</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<b>Other</b>												
Chafee Foster Care Independence Program <sup>d</sup>	\$139	\$139	\$140	\$140	\$141	\$143	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$140
Tribal Technical Assistance	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3
Sequestration <sup>e</sup>							-\$1	-\$2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL TITLE IV-E Program</b>	<b>\$7,477</b>	<b>\$7,805</b>	<b>\$8,207</b>	<b>\$8,540</b>	<b>\$8,917</b>	<b>\$9,312</b>	<b>\$7,322</b>	<b>\$7,541</b>	<b>\$7,843</b>	<b>\$8,123</b>	<b>\$8,363</b>	<b>\$8,483</b>

**Source:** Table prepared by CRS on December 7, 2016 for the 2016 version of the House Ways and Means Committee *Green Book*. Based on estimated outlays provided by HHS to CRS (estimates prepared February 2016) and by CBO (as part of its publicly available March 2016 baseline) <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/51299-2016-03-FosterCare.pdf>.

**Note:** HHS and CBO update these estimates at least annually. CBO estimates are used for congressional scorekeeping purposes. HHS estimates have traditionally been used to determine the “definite budget authority” Congress includes in the annual appropriations act. However, if the HHS estimate exceeds the amount needed for the federal government to pay its share of the program cost, the dollars return to the federal treasury. Alternatively, if the estimate is less than what is needed, Congress typically provides additional “indefinite” budget authority.

- a. This is the line used to estimate funding provided to support development and operation of automated child welfare information systems on a statewide basis. CBO used the term “information technology;” HHS used the term “SACWIS,” which refers to “statewide automated child welfare information system.” Federal regulations finalized in June 2016 renamed these as Comprehensive Child Welfare Information Systems (CCWIS).
- b. More than half of the states currently have approval to receive Title IV-E funding to support a demonstration (or waiver) project. This means the state is permitted to spend the Title IV-E dollars on different activities and for different individuals than would be allowed without the “waiver” although the project must be determined by HHS as cost neutral to the federal government. Authority for HHS to grant new waivers expired on September 30, 2014 and currently approved waivers may be permitted to operate no later than September 30, 2019. Accordingly, funding estimated to be spent under a “demonstration” drops to \$0 for FY2020. At the same time, neither HHS nor CBO assume that all of this money then will no longer be spent under the Title IV-E program. Instead the estimates for FY2020 and FY2021 assume much higher “foster care maintenance payment” and “child placement activities and administration” costs under Title IV-E foster care. Presumably this reflects the fact that while states may use funding provided under a IV-E demonstration project (waiver) to support children and activities that would not be permitted absent the waiver, they are also required to maintain all of the same assistance and protections that would be available for IV-E eligible children in the absence of the waiver. Thus, much waiver spending is presumably spent now on Title IV-E eligible children and for eligible activities and once the waiver ends would be reported in “regular” IV-E spending categories. For additional information, see discussion of “Waivers,” in CRS Report R43458, *Child Welfare: Overview of Federal Programs and their Recent Funding*, by Emilie Stoltzfus.
- c. Congress first authorized Title IV-E kinship guardianship assistance as part of the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-351). That law provided that any child who as of September 30, 2008 was receiving assistance or services under a Title IV-E demonstration (waiver) project related to guardianship assistance could continue (even after the demonstration ended) to receive those same IV-E funded services and assistance (and same conditions as the demonstration). These costs are referred to in the estimates shown in the table as “post-demonstration.” The provision is presumably applicable to a declining number of individuals because they are no longer children.
- d. The Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) provides funds to states for services to assist children who are likely to age out of foster care or who have aged out. Only the portion of Chafee funding that is mandatory (capped entitlement) is considered a part of the Title IV-E program. For more information about CFCIP see CRS Report RL34499, *Youth Transitions from Foster Care: Background and Federal Programs*, by Adrienne Fernandes-Alcantara, included in the reports section of this 2016 *Green Book* chapter.
- e. The Title IV-E program is exempt from sequestration which, under the Budget Control Act, may be ordered for non-defense mandatory accounts. However, federal administration funds are subject to sequestration regardless of the program. A small amount of Title IV-E funds may then be subject to this reduction in funding. CBO estimates this effect in a separate line while HHS does not. (Title IV-E program funding which may be subject to sequestration includes, for example, funds to administer required program evaluation under CFCIP).