

The Impact of Budget Cuts on the Title X Family Planning Network

The increasing number of uninsured Americans, dramatic increases in the demand for subsidized reproductive and sexual health services, and the rising cost of new technologies have put an enormous financial strain on family planning health centers. At the same time that patient visits are increasing, public funding, patient fees and private fundraising have all fallen during the recession. Many Title X-funded systems have cut hours, frozen hiring, furloughed staff, or reduced staff through attrition or layoffs to cope with falling revenue in the recession.¹

Cuts to Title X funding, especially in the current economic climate, harms millions in need across the country and in turn costs the federal government money. The recession has resulted in millions of women choosing to delay childbearing or limit the number of children they have, and many of these women are turning to Title X-funded health centers for care, as demonstrated by the increase in Title X patients in 2009 and 2010.

In 2011, Congress threatened Title X with elimination twice. As a result, **the program has been cut by nearly \$24 million—a 7.4% loss of funding—over two fiscal years, and within the span of one calendar year.** Title X's actual funding for FY 2012 is \$293.9 million – \$5.5 million less (1.9%) than the final FY 2011 funding level of \$299.4 million, and \$2.9 million less than the FY 2012 appropriated amount.² These cuts have reduced access to services while the number of patients Title X serves has increased by nearly 5% since 2007.

Title X Appropriations

Fiscal Year	Funding Level (in millions)	Change (in millions)
2012	\$293.9	-\$5.5
2011	\$299.4	-\$18.1
2010	\$317.5	\$10.0
2009	\$307.5	\$7.5
2008	\$300.0	\$16.9
2007	\$283.1	\$0.0
2006	\$283.1	-\$2.9
2005	\$286.0	\$7.7
2004	\$278.3	\$4.9
2003	\$273.4	\$8.4
2002	\$265.0	\$11.1

Support Title X

The overwhelming majority of Americans strongly believe in the importance of family planning services as a basic preventive measure.

Recent polling by NFP RHA found that over **eight in ten Americans (84 percent) say family planning services, including contraception, are important to basic preventive health care services.** This sentiment crossed all demographic and political lines.³

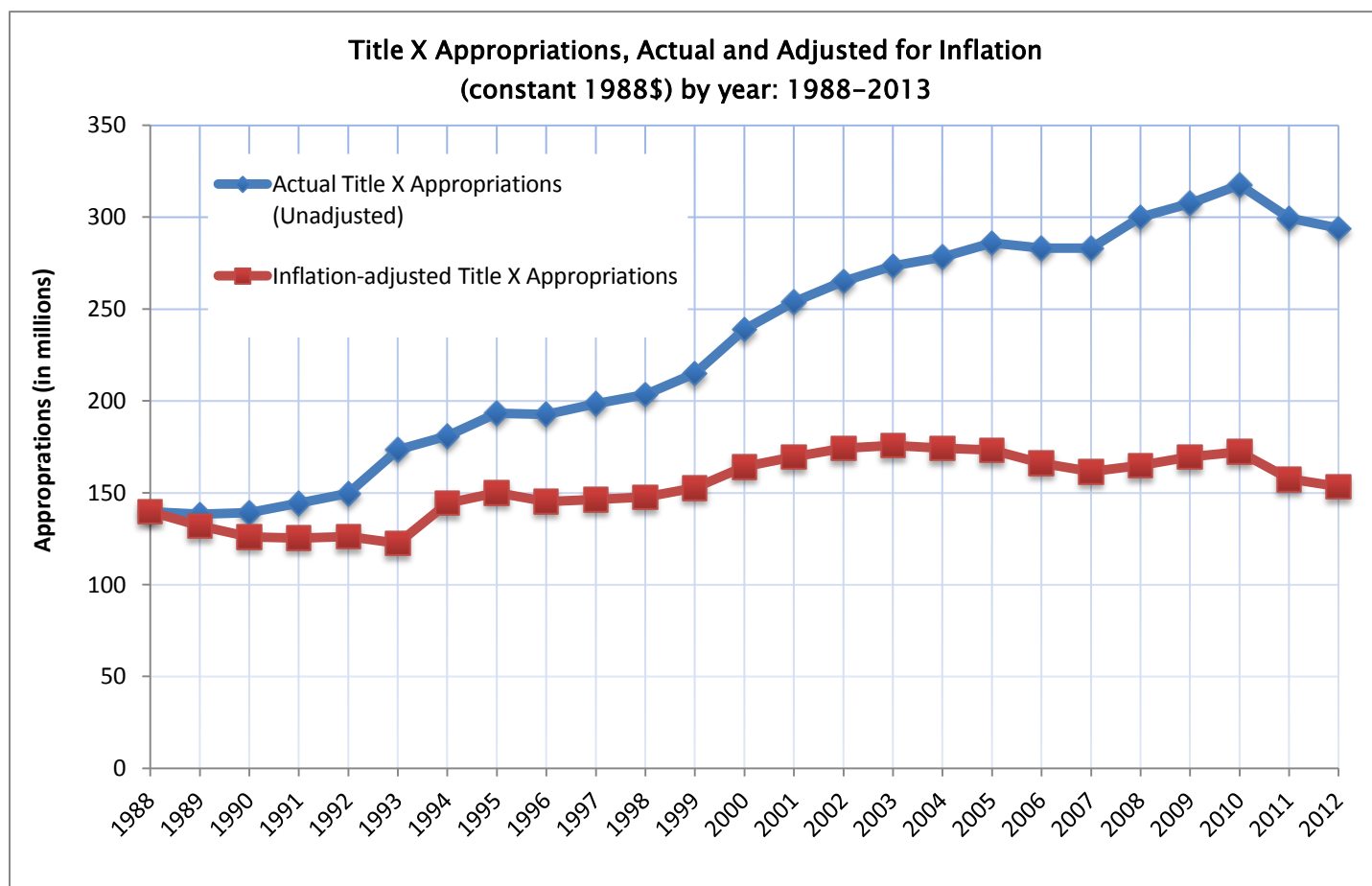
¹ Guttmacher Institute, *A Real-Time Look at the Impact of the Recession on Publicly Funded Family Planning Centers* (2009), accessed March 2012, www.guttmacher.org/pubs/RecessionFPC.pdf.

² Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011, H.R. 1, 112th Congress (2011).

³ Lake Research Partners. Memo to National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association (NFP RHA) and the Communications Consortium Media Center (CCMC), *Key Findings on Public Attitudes on Family Planning*, May 31, 2011, accessed March 2012, <http://www.nationalfamilyplanning.org/document.doc?id=213>.

Since 1971, family planning services and supplies provided through Title X-funded health centers have prevented unintended pregnancies—nearly half of which would have likely ended in abortion⁴—improved public health, and saved billions of taxpayer dollars. Yet despite these accomplishments, Title X has been chronically underfunded and is again facing the threat of ideologically driven funding cuts in the 112th Congress. At a time when almost every state in the country is making substantial cuts to their public health programs, and the number of vulnerable individuals are growing and in need of safety-net services, it is cruel to propose cutting Title X, a critical public health resource that has been proven effective over its 41-year history.

Additional cuts to Title X funding, given the increased demand for services and the current economy, would threaten access to critical health services for millions in need across the country.



Appropriated amount is shown in constant 1988 dollars based on the consumer price index
US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/>.

⁴ Jennifer Frost, Stanley Henshaw, and Adam Sonfield, *Contraceptive Needs and Services: National and State Data, 2008 Update* (NY: Guttmacher Institute, May 2010).