About This Document

This volume is one of a series of reports on the state of the budget and the economy that the Congressional Budget Office issues each year. It satisfies the requirement of section 202(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 for CBO to submit to the Committees on the Budget periodic reports about fiscal policy and to provide baseline projections of the federal budget. In keeping with CBO's mandate to provide objective, impartial analysis, this report makes no recommendations.

CBO's Panel of Economic Advisers commented on an early version of the economic forecast underlying this report. Members of the panel are Katharine Abraham, Alan Auerbach, Markus Brunnermeier, Mary Daly, Steven Davis, Claudia Goldin, Robert Hall, Jan Hatzius, Anil Kashyap, Lawrence Katz, Donald Kohn, Nellie Liang, Gregory Mankiw, Jonathan Parker, Adam Posen, James Poterba, Valerie Ramey, Carmen Reinhart, Brian Sack, Robert Shimer, Justin Wolfers, and Mark Zandi. Troy Davig, Peter Hooper, Dale Jorgenson, Lawrence Summers, and John Walker attended the panel's meeting as guests. Although CBO's outside advisers provided considerable assistance, they are not responsible for the contents of this report.

The CBO staff members who contributed to this report—by preparing the economic, revenue, and spending projections; writing the report; reviewing, editing, and publishing it; compiling the supplemental materials posted along with it on CBO's website (www.cbo.gov/publication/51129); and providing other support—are listed on the following pages.

Keith Hall Director

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January 2016

Economic Projections

The economic projections were prepared by the Macroeconomic Analysis Division, with contributions from analysts in other divisions. That work was supervised by Wendy Edelberg, Kim Kowalewski, Robert Arnold, and Benjamin Page.

Lauren Bresnahan Inflation, house prices

Daniel Fried Net exports, exchange rates, energy prices Edward Gamber Interest rates, monetary policy, current-quarter

analysis

Ronald Gecan Energy prices

Mark Lasky Business investment, housing

Jason Levine Financial markets

Motor vehicle sector, research assistance Leah Loversky

Joshua Montes Labor markets Jeffrey Perry Financial markets

John Seliski Federal, state, and local government spending and

revenues

Robert Shackleton Potential output, productivity Christopher Williams Consumer spending, incomes

Shiqi Zheng Housing, model and data management

Revenue Projections

The revenue projections were prepared by the Tax Analysis Division, supervised by David Weiner, Mark Booth, Ed Harris, and Janet Holtzblatt. In addition, the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation provided valuable assistance.

Paul Burnham Retirement income

Nathaniel Frentz Federal Reserve System earnings, customs duties,

miscellaneous fees and fines

Pamela Greene Corporate income taxes

Peter Huether Excise taxes

Robert McClelland Capital gains realizations

Shannon Mok Estate and gift taxes, refundable tax credits Kevin Perese Tax modeling, Federal Reserve System earnings

Molly Saunders-Scott International taxation, business taxation Kurt Seibert Payroll taxes, depreciation, tax modeling

Individual income taxes, refundable tax credits **Joshua Shakin**

Naveen Singhal Capital gains realizations, tax modeling

Marvin Ward Tax modeling

Spending Projections

The spending projections were prepared by the Budget Analysis Division, with contributions from analysts in other divisions; that work was supervised by Theresa Gullo, Holly Harvey, Sam Papenfuss, Janet Airis, Tom Bradley, Kim Cawley, Chad Chirico, Sheila Dacey, Jeffrey Holland, and Sarah Jennings of the Budget Analysis Division, as well as by Jessica Banthin of the Health, Retirement, and Long-Term Analysis Division and Damien Moore of the Financial Analysis Division.

Defense, International Affairs, and Veterans' Affairs

Kent Christensen Defense (projections, working capital funds,

operation and maintenance, procurement,

scorekeeping)

Sunita D'Monte International affairs

Ann Futrell Veterans' health care and employment training

services, international food assistance

Raymond Hall Defense (research and development, stockpile sales,

atomic energy, Navy procurement)

William Ma Defense (operation and maintenance, procurement,

> compensation for radiation exposure and energy employees' occupational illness, other defense

programs)

David Newman Defense (military construction and family housing,

> military activities in Afghanistan), veterans' housing and education benefits, reservists'

education benefits

David Rafferty Military retirement

Dawn Sauter Regan Defense (military personnel)

Matthew Schmit Military health care

Dwayne Wright Veterans' compensation and pensions, vocational

and adaptive benefits

Health

Susan Yeh Beyer Health insurance coverage

Julia Christensen Food and Drug Administration, prescription drugs

Kate Fritzsche Health insurance exchanges, other programs Daniel Hoople Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program

Medicare Lori Housman Medicare Jamease Kowalczyk

Sean Lyons Health insurance coverage

Paul Masi Medicare, Federal Employees Health Benefits

program

Sarah Masi Health insurance exchanges, other programs

Kevin McNellis Medicare

Alexandra Minicozzi Health insurance coverage Eamon Molloy Health insurance coverage Health (Continued)

Andrea Noda Medicaid prescription drugs, long-term care,

Public Health Service

Romain Parsad Health insurance coverage Allison Percy Health insurance coverage

Lisa Ramirez-Branum Medicaid, health insurance coverage,

Health Resources and Services Administration

Kyle Redfield Health insurance coverage

Lara Robillard Medicare

Robert Stewart Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program,

Indian Health Service

Ellen Werble Prescription drugs, Public Health Service, National

Institutes of Health

Zoe Williams Medicare

Medicare Part D, prescription drugs, Rebecca Yip

Public Health Service

Income Security and Education

Christina Hawley Anthony Unemployment insurance, training programs,

Administration on Aging, Smithsonian

Institution, arts and humanities

Elizabeth Cove Delisle Housing assistance

Kathleen FitzGerald Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and

other nutrition programs

Social Services Block Grant, children and families Jennifer Gray

services programs, child nutrition and other

nutrition programs

Justin Humphrey Student loans, higher education

Leah Koestner Elementary and secondary education, Pell grants

Susanne Mehlman Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Child

Support Enforcement program, foster care, child care programs, Low Income Home Energy

Assistance Program, refugee assistance

Noah Meyerson Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, Social Security

trust funds, Pension Benefit Guaranty

Corporation

Emily Stern Disability Insurance, Supplemental Security

Income

Natural and Physical Resources

Tiffany Arthur Agriculture

Marin Burnett Administration of justice, science and space

exploration, recreational resources

Megan Carroll Energy, air and water transportation

Natural and Physical Resources (Continued)

Mark Grabowicz Administration of justice, Postal Service Kathleen Gramp Energy, Outer Continental Shelf receipts,

spectrum auction receipts, Orderly Liquidation

Fund

David Hull Agriculture

Jeff LaFave Conservation and land management, other natural

resources, Federal Housing Administration and

other housing credit programs

James Langley Agriculture

Matthew Pickford General government, legislative branch

Sarah Puro Highways, mass transit, Amtrak, deposit insurance,

credit unions

Jon Sperl Pollution control and abatement

Water resources, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, Aurora Swanson

> community and regional development, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Bureau of

Indian Affairs

Susan Willie Commerce, Small Business Administration,

Universal Service Fund, agricultural trade and

credit

Other Areas and Functions

Janet Airis Appropriation bill (Legislative Branch)

Shane Beaulieu Computer support

Barry Blom Federal pay, monthly Treasury data

Joanna Capps Appropriation bills (Labor, Health and Human

Services, and Education; State and Foreign

Operations)

Meredith Decker Other interest, debt limit

Mary Froehlich Computer support

Avi Lerner Troubled Asset Relief Program, automatic budget

enforcement and sequestration, interest on the

public debt

Amber Marcellino Federal civilian retirement, historical data

Virginia Myers Appropriation bills (Commerce, Justice, and

Science; Financial Services and General

Government)

Jeffrey Perry Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, Federal Housing

Administration

Dan Ready Various federal retirement programs, national

income and product accounts, federal pay

Mitchell Remy Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, Federal Housing

Administration

Other Areas and Functions (Continued)

Mark Sanford Appropriation bills (Agriculture and Food and

Drug Administration; Defense)

Esther Steinbock Appropriation bills (Transportation and Housing

and Urban Development; Military Construction

and Veterans Affairs; Energy and Water

Development)

J'nell Blanco Suchy Authorization bills

Patrice Watson Database system administrator

Adam Wilson Appropriation bills (Homeland Security; Interior)

Long-Term Projections

The long-term projections were prepared by the Health, Retirement, and Long-Term Analysis Division and the Macroeconomic Analysis Division. That work was supervised by Julie Topoleski and Benjamin Page. Stephanie Hugie Barello and Michael Simpson prepared the long-term projections without macroeconomic feedback. Jonathan Huntley prepared the long-term projections with macroeconomic feedback.

Writing

Christina Hawley Anthony wrote the summary. Barry Blom wrote Chapter 1, with assistance from Nathaniel Frentz. Edward Gamber and Charles Whalen wrote Chapter 2. Christina Hawley Anthony, Megan Carroll, Meredith Decker, and Avi Lerner wrote Chapter 3. Mark Booth, Pamela Greene, Joshua Shakin, and David Weiner wrote Chapter 4. Amber Marcellino wrote Appendix A, with assistance from Mark Booth and Nathaniel Frentz. Dan Ready wrote Appendix B, with assistance from Nathaniel Frentz. John Seliski wrote Appendix C; Avi Lerner wrote Appendix D. Shiqi Zheng compiled Appendix E, and Amber Marcellino compiled Appendix F.

Review, Editing, and Publishing

Jeffrey Kling and Robert Sunshine reviewed the report. The editing and publishing were handled by CBO's editing and publishing group, supervised by John Skeen, and the agency's web team, supervised by Deborah Kilroe.

Christine Bogusz, Kate Kelly, Loretta Lettner, Bo Peery, Benjamin Plotinsky, and Gabe Waggoner edited the report; Maureen Costantino and Jeanine Rees prepared it for publication; and Robert Dean, Annette Kalicki, Adam Russell, and Simone Thomas published it on CBO's website.

Sarah Puro coordinated the preparation of tables of baseline projections for selected programs, and Peter Huether, Leah Loversky, and Shiqi Zheng compiled supplemental economic and tax data—all posted with this report on the agency's website. Jeanine Rees and Simone Thomas coordinated the presentation of those materials.