

Table B-1.

Comparison of CBO's Adjusted April 2018 Baseline and January 2017 Baseline

Billions of Dollars

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Adjusted April 2018 Baseline											
Revenues	3,339	3,490	3,680	3,829	4,016	4,232	4,448	4,667	5,003	5,301	5,520
Outlays	4,131	4,463	4,683	4,947	5,290	5,505	5,693	6,020	6,324	6,616	7,047
Deficit	-793	-973	-1,003	-1,118	-1,275	-1,273	-1,245	-1,352	-1,321	-1,314	-1,527
Debt Held by the Public at the End of the Year ^a	15,676	16,743	17,804	18,970	20,290	21,609	22,904	24,310	25,687	27,058	28,642
January 2017 Baseline											
Revenues	3,604	3,733	3,878	4,019	4,176	4,346	4,527	4,724	4,931	5,140	n.a.
Outlays	4,091	4,334	4,562	4,816	5,135	5,346	5,554	5,890	6,228	6,548	n.a.
Deficit	-487	-601	-684	-797	-959	-1,000	-1,027	-1,165	-1,297	-1,408	n.a.
Debt Held by the Public at the End of the Year ^a	15,416	16,092	16,845	17,704	18,721	19,776	20,858	22,078	23,430	24,893	n.a.
Difference Between Adjusted April 2018 Baseline and January 2017 Baseline											
Revenues	-265	-243	-199	-190	-160	-114	-79	-57	72	161	n.a.
Outlays	40	129	121	132	155	158	139	130	96	68	n.a.
Deficit ^b	-305	-372	-320	-322	-315	-272	-217	-187	-24	93	n.a.
Debt Held by the Public at the End of the Year ^a	260	650	959	1,266	1,569	1,832	2,046	2,232	2,257	2,165	n.a.

Sources: Congressional Budget Office; staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation.

n.a. = not applicable.

a. The net amount that the Treasury borrows is determined primarily by the annual budget deficit. In addition, several factors—collectively labeled “other means of financing” and not directly included in budget totals—also affect the government’s need to borrow from the public.

b. Negative numbers indicate that CBO’s projection of the deficit has grown.

Over most of the coming decade, the decrease relative to last year’s projections, measured as a share of GDP, is larger for revenues than for noninterest spending (see Figure B-2). The result is that projected deficits through 2025 are now markedly larger than previously projected. Beginning in 2026, however, they are smaller than previously projected.

Changes in Projected Spending

In CBO’s extended baseline, noninterest spending as a percentage of GDP is slightly lower than anticipated last year, mainly because the agency’s projections of outlays for Social Security and the major health care programs have fallen. CBO’s projections of discretionary spending, by contrast, are higher than they were a year ago. Projections of net interest costs are higher than previously projected through the late 2030s and then lower.

Noninterest Spending

As a share of GDP, noninterest spending—that is, spending for Social Security, spending for the major federal health care programs, and other noninterest spending—is projected to be about the same in 2018 as projected last year and lower thereafter. Specifically, it is projected to equal 19.0 percent of GDP in 2018 and to reach 23.0 percent of GDP by 2047 (0.2 percentage points lower than in last year’s projection).

Social Security Spending. CBO projects that outlays for Social Security as a percentage of GDP will be slightly lower than the agency anticipated last year. That change reflects slightly lower projections of nominal outlays over the next 10 years and higher projections of GDP.

The revisions to nominal outlays over the next 10 years include a downward adjustment of projected spending