



America's Direct Deposit to Planned Parenthood

History shows that at Planned Parenthood, nothing is certain but death and taxpayer funding.

by Connor Semelsberger, MPP

Key Points

Since 1993, Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion business, has reported carrying out 7,059,206 abortions, all while receiving over \$9.1 billion in total taxpayer funding.

The largest sources of taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood are Medicaid and Title X. This matches their new business model in which abortion, contraception, and STD testing make up 80 percent of all services.

Nearly 70 percent of all Planned Parenthood affiliates carry out abortions, with an increasing amount offering chemical abortions only.

Summary

The organization now known as Planned Parenthood was founded in 1921 to advance founder Margaret Sanger's eugenic vision of utilizing birth control to "weed out the unfit." Today, Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion business in the United States, carrying out over half of all reported abortions nationwide, and has a \$1.6 billion annual budget. Despite the enactment of numerous federal and state laws prohibiting taxpayer funding of abortion, Planned Parenthood has historically received millions of dollars in government funding each year. This analysis pulls together publicly available data from three primary sources to bring to light just how entangled Planned Parenthood's abortion business has become with American tax dollars.

Introduction

The Planned Parenthood Federation of America originated in 1921 as the American Birth Control League.¹ Its eugenicist founder, Margaret Sanger, lauded birth control as “the greatest and most truly eugenic method”² and “the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, of preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become defectives.”³ The League changed its name to Planned Parenthood in 1942, and in 1970 a clinic in Syracuse, New York began offering abortions as part of its services.⁴ Today, Planned Parenthood is the largest abortion business in the United States.⁵

Fifty-eight percent of Americans disapprove of their tax dollars being used to fund abortion,⁶ a practice many find morally abhorrent due to their religious beliefs, professional medical opinions, or their simple recognition that an unborn child is a human being deserving of protection. As a result, numerous federal and state laws have been enacted to protect American consciences by prohibiting taxpayer funding of abortion. Nevertheless, Planned Parenthood has historically received millions of dollars each year in government funding.

By analyzing publicly available information on Planned Parenthood dating from 1994 to the present, this publication seeks to illuminate just how entangled Planned Parenthood’s abortion business has become with American tax dollars.

This analysis contains data from three primary sources:

- Government Accountability Office (GAO) Reports: Since 1998, pro-life members of Congress have requested reports from the GAO detailing how much annual spending goes to major abortion businesses like Planned Parenthood. The GAO has provided this information from Fiscal Year (FY) 1994 through FY 2018; however, the data is inconsistent from year to year and is only published at Congress’ request.

- Planned Parenthood Annual Reports: Planned Parenthood releases annual financial reports that outline government revenue and abortion totals. Family Research Council has tracked down annual reports dating back to 1994.
- American Life League's Planned Parenthood Facilities Reports: The American Life League publishes annual reports detailing the number and type of facilities Planned Parenthood operates. This includes data on overall abortion facilities in the United States and how many Planned Parenthood facilities carry out abortions.

Government Accountability Office Reports

Planned Parenthood Federation of America

Since 1994, Planned Parenthood has received a reported total of **\$6.15 billion** in federal taxpayer funds. In the first year that the GAO published these reports, Planned Parenthood received \$120 million.⁷ In FY 2018, the most recent year with reported numbers, Planned Parenthood received \$572.7 million, an increase of \$452 million over 24 years.⁸

The largest source of federal funding for Planned Parenthood is Medicaid, a massive federal and state health program that provides health coverage for low-income Americans. Individual Planned Parenthood affiliates will perform health care services like STD tests, cancer screenings, or prenatal services for Medicaid recipients and are reimbursed for those services via the state's Medical Assistance program. Although the Medicaid funds Planned Parenthood receives cannot be used to pay for abortions directly (due to the Hyde Amendment), these funds subsidize the abortion industry by allowing abortion businesses to be reimbursed for the actual health services they perform, which then frees up other money to hire abortionists, pay for abortions, or build abortion facilities.

Planned Parenthood's Medicaid funding has increased significantly over the past few decades. In 1994, Planned Parenthood received \$50 million from Medicaid. In 2018, it received a record high of \$467 million.

The second-largest source of government funding for Planned Parenthood is the Title X family planning program. This has been a stable source of funding over the years. Planned Parenthood received \$41.9 million in grants in 1994 and \$57.2 million in 2015. Despite the Title X law clearly stating that abortion is not a method of family planning, Planned Parenthood has continued to receive millions in Title X funds, all while continuing to expand its abortion business.

In 2019, the Trump administration issued the Protect Life Rule, which required clinics to maintain physical and financial separation between their family planning services and abortion activities (if any) in order to be eligible for Title X funds. Planned Parenthood refused to comply with this requirement, sacrificing millions of dollars in federal funding in order to continue co-locating its abortion practice with its other services. As a result, many family planning clinics across the country that complied with the rule were able to receive funding that might have otherwise gone to Planned Parenthood. However, the Biden administration has already begun the process of overturning the Protect Life Rule and restoring Title X funds to abortion businesses like Planned Parenthood.

Medicaid and Title X make up approximately 94 percent of all government funds received by Planned Parenthood. The remaining six percent is made up of various federal grants, ranging from Maternal and Child Services grants to unrelated grants run through the Departments of Agriculture, Homeland Security, and Justice.⁹

International Planned Parenthood Federation

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is officially a separate entity from the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, and since FY 1994, the GAO has also reported IPPF's government funding. Since 1994, IPPF has reported receiving **\$258.67 million** in federal taxpayer

funds. The majority of these funds come from family planning and HIV/AIDS grants run through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Over the years, various presidents have enacted pro-life protections on these funds, altering which entities can receive family planning grants. For example, during his administration, President George W. Bush reinstated the Mexico City Policy, which required international organizations like IPPF to certify that they do not promote or perform abortions in order to qualify for international family planning funds. In these years, USAID still reported obligating several million dollars to IPPF. However, IPPF did not report receiving or expending any of these grants.

President Barack Obama rescinded the Mexico City Policy during his administration. However, in 2017, President Donald Trump reinstated and expanded it into the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance (PLGHA) policy, which applied to family planning grants as well as all global health funds. However, even with PLGHA in place, the government reported obligating \$7.53 million to IPPF in 2017 and \$9 million in 2018, and IPPF reported spending some of those funds.¹⁰ This reveals the known loophole that enabled IPPF to receive global health funds as a subgrantee of other organizations that had accepted PLGHA's terms. The Trump administration responded to this loophole by further expanding PLGHA to apply to subgrantees as well as direct grantees. The next GAO report expected to be published in 2024 should show the impacts of this policy.

In 2013, the GAO began reporting government funds sent to Marie Stopes International (MSI), one of the largest global abortion businesses. Notably, MSI reported receiving **\$193.9 million** in taxpayer funding between 2013 and 2018 compared to only \$27.5 million to IPPF in the same span. MSI has a much larger reach than IPPF around the globe and, in recent years, receives the majority of U.S. global health funds that go to abortion businesses.

Planned Parenthood Annual Reports

Planned Parenthood Federation of American publishes an annual report in January detailing its services, finances, and activities from July through June of the previous year. The most important data points included in these reports are its abortion and government funding numbers.

Planned Parenthood Services

Since 1993, Planned Parenthood has reported carrying out 7,059,206 of the 22,325,080 total abortions reported by the Centers for Disease Control. That means since 1994, Planned Parenthood has accounted for 31.6 percent of all reported abortions. In contrast, Planned Parenthood has only reported 88,695 adoption referrals since 1994.

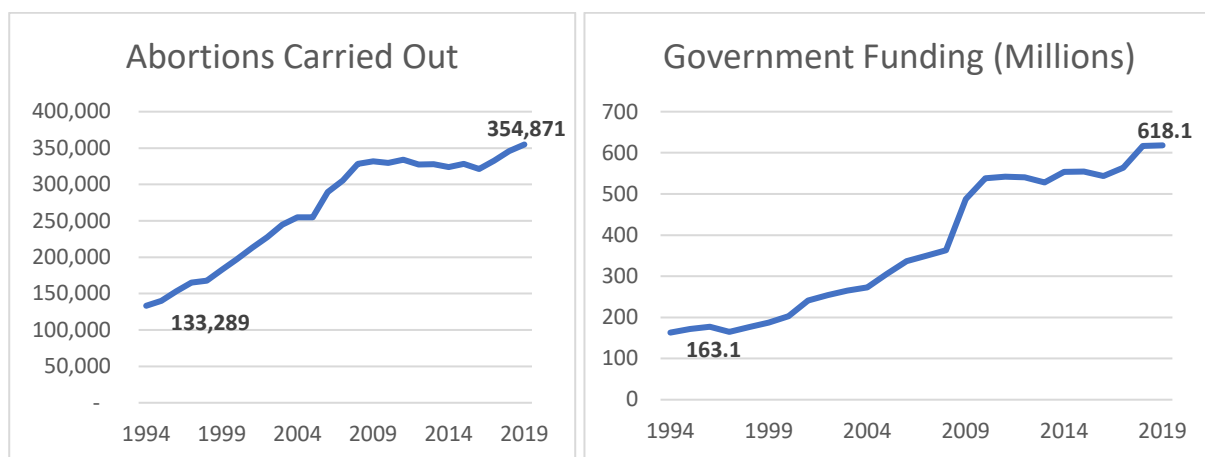
Planned Parenthood has notoriously reported that only “three percent” of its services performed each year are abortions. Although it is true that in some years abortions have only accounted for three percent of Planned Parenthood’s total reported services, that number is deeply misleading. Planned Parenthood reports both its total number of services performed and patients seen. One patient may come in and receive several different services like a pregnancy test, STD test, and be given contraception all in one visit. This renders the number of services performed dramatically higher than the number of patients served. A more accurate representation of Planned Parenthood’s abortion activities is what percentage of all patients seen in a given year receive an abortion. In 2019, 14 percent of all patients that went to Planned Parenthood received an abortion. That number has doubled since 1994. Meanwhile, Planned Parenthood is seeing fewer patients each year (down from a peak of over three million in 2006) while simultaneously carrying out more abortions.

Breaking down the different types of services Planned Parenthood reports also reveals a great deal about the organization’s story. Planned Parenthood touts itself as providing comprehensive women’s health services. Although that might have been true for a unique period between 1999 and 2004, it is far from the truth now. Beginning in 2005, Planned Parenthood began reporting more STD testing and

contraception services and fewer women's health services overall. This trend has continued, and now abortion, contraception, and STD testing account for over 80 percent of all services performed. That means women's health services like adoptions, prenatal care, cancer screenings, and well woman exams comprise less than 20 percent of all its services. Planned Parenthood is an organization designed to profit from all the impacts of the sexual revolution—provide contraception for all, and as a fail-safe, provide STD testing and abortions when contraception or family planning fails.

Planned Parenthood Funding

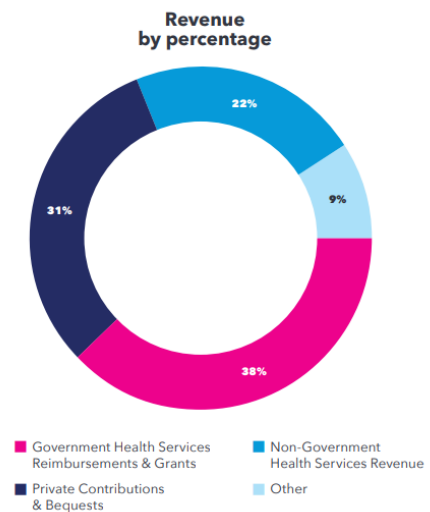
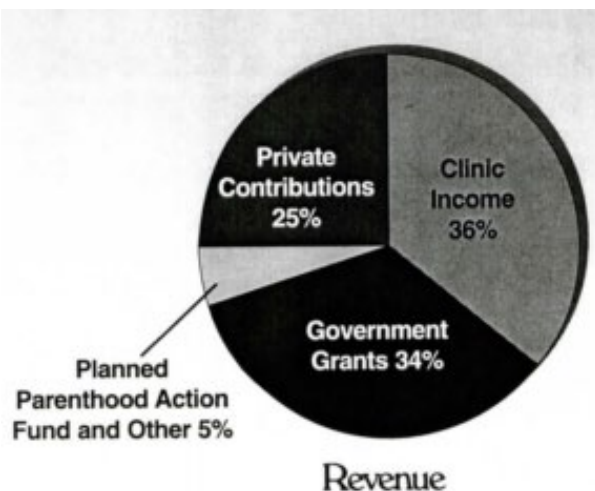
The abortion business model that Planned Parenthood now perpetuates is aided by increasing amounts of government funding. By its own records, Planned Parenthood has reported a total of **\$9.1 billion** in government revenue since 1994. Its reports do not specify what portion of these funds come from the federal, state, or local governments. Instead, they include all government revenue sources in one line item. As Planned Parenthood's abortion numbers have increased, so has its total government funding. In 1994, Planned Parenthood reported carrying out 133,289 abortions while receiving \$163 million in taxpayer funds.¹¹ In 2019, Planned Parenthood reported carrying out a record 354,871 abortions and received \$618.1 million in taxpayer funds.¹²



In 1994, government funds accounted for 34 percent of Planned Parenthood's reported revenue. In 2019, government funds accounted for 38 percent of all reported revenue, only a four percent increase

in 25 years. This minimal change in percentage of government revenue reveals several interesting trends. First, while the overall dollar amount of government revenue Planned Parenthood receives each year has increased dramatically, its overall revenue has also dramatically increased at nearly the same rate. The increasing amount of private contributions and requests Planned Parenthood receives (\$510 million in 2019) helps to explain the minimal increase in the share of government revenue Planned Parenthood receives in a given year.

A second observation is how funding restrictions impact what Planned Parenthood's income can be used on. The vast majority of its reported government revenue cannot be used to pay for abortions directly. Both Medicaid and Title X, its two largest federal funding sources, have restrictions on abortion funding, as do 34 state governments. This means that government revenue covers most of Planned Parenthood's contraception, STD testing, and other services, while abortion revenue mostly comes from private health insurance coverage, out-of-pocket payments, or private contributions that can be used to cover abortion expenses. In 1994, facility income made up 36 percent of its revenue, government grants made up 34 percent, private contributions made up 25 percent, and five percent was other.¹³ Comparing that with 2019, Planned Parenthood reported 38 percent revenue from government grants, 31 percent from private contributions, 22 percent from facility income, and nine percent from other.¹⁴ In this time period, Planned Parenthood now reports 14 percent less revenue from facility income but six percent more in private donations and four percent more in government grants.



This shift in revenue sources demonstrates Planned Parenthood's modern-day business model centered around less actual health care services and more on contraception and abortion. Despite declining facility income, government revenue continues to foot the bill for its large percentage of contraception and STD tests. Meanwhile, increased private donations (which generally have no strings attached) and the now smaller portion of facility income covers Planned Parenthood's ever-expanding abortion business. The simultaneous increase in private contributions and decrease in facility revenue demonstrates very clearly Planned Parenthood's expanding abortion business at the expense of health services.

American Life League's Planned Parenthood Facilities Reports

Since the 1990s, the American Life League (ALL) has been publishing annual reports detailing the state of Planned Parenthood's abortion business. These reports reveal how many and what type of facilities Planned Parenthood operates across the United States.

Planned Parenthood peaked at 938 facilities in 1995. Today, it has 563, its lowest amount recorded. Of these facilities, 387 carry out abortions (69 percent).¹⁵ This highlights a quickly developing trend. Planned Parenthood is closing facilities each year; however, the majority of its open facilities carry out abortions. In 2005, only 26 percent of Planned Parenthood facilities carried out abortions. Now, nearly 70 percent carry out abortions, an increase of 44 percent in 15 years. And as of 2018, Planned Parenthood officially makes up over half of all abortion facilities nationwide.

The ALL reports also specify what type of abortions each Planned Parenthood facility carries out (*i.e.*, those that carry out both surgical and chemical abortions and those that only carry out chemical abortions). The number of Planned Parenthood facilities that carry out both surgical and chemical abortions (174 as of 2020) has remained relatively the same. However, the number of Planned Parenthood facilities that only carry out chemical abortions has increased sharply. In 2005, Planned Parenthood had 57 chemical-only facilities. Today, Planned Parenthood has 213 chemical-only

facilities. Planned Parenthood also boasts an 84 percent market share of the chemical-only abortion facilities in the United States.

This shift away from expensive surgical abortions towards more profitable chemical abortions could not be made clearer than by the types of facilities Planned Parenthood is electing to open and close. Planned Parenthood can save money by paying far fewer abortionists and using less facility space, towards a model with fewer facilities but more abortions and more profit.

Conclusion

Over the past 25 years, Planned Parenthood has adapted its practice to become the nation's largest abortion business. In the 1990s, Planned Parenthood primarily offered women's health services, contraception, and some abortions funded mainly through facility revenue, but it has since morphed into an abortion and STD-testing business subsidized heavily by taxpayer funds. The modern-day Planned Parenthood is a far cry from a comprehensive woman's health center. Instead, it is an organization that seeks out public validation of its growing abortion business in the form of government funding, all while it continues to close facilities, offer fewer health services, and expand its abortion practice through chemical abortion pills. The national abortion rate has declined steadily since its peak in 1980. Yet, somehow, Planned Parenthood has been carrying out a higher percentage of abortions in America each year and has received ever-escalating amounts of taxpayer funding. It is about time that American taxpayers end our direct deposit to Planned Parenthood's abortion business once and for all.

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² Margaret Sanger, *The Pivot of Civilization* (New York: Brentano's, 1922), 189.

³ Margaret Sanger, *Woman and the New Race* (New York: Brentano's, 1920), 229.

⁴ “Our History,” Planned Parenthood, accessed June 16, 2021,

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<https://www.forbes.com/companies/planned-parenthood-federation-of-america/?sh=7d4ec0b118a1>.

⁶ “Americans’ Opinions on Abortion: January 2021,” Knights of Columbus/Marist Poll, accessed June 16, 2021,

<http://www.kofc.org/en/resources/news-room/polls/kofc-americans-opinions-on-abortion012021.pdf>.

⁷ “Family Planning: Federal Funds Provided to Planned Parenthood Organizations,” U.S. General Accounting Office, May 22, 1998, <https://www.gao.gov/assets/hehs-98-171r.pdf>.

⁸ “Health Care Funding: Federal Obligations to and Funds Received by Certain Organizations Involved in Health-Related Services, 2016 through 2018,” U.S. Government Accountability Office, December 21, 2020,

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⁹ “Health Care Funding: Federal Obligations to and Expenditures by Selected Organizations Involved in Health-Related Activities, Fiscal Years 2013–2015,” U.S. Government Accountability Office, March 6, 2018,

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¹¹ “Annual Report 1994–1995,” Planned Parenthood Federation of America,

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¹² “2019–2020 Annual Report,” Planned Parenthood Federation of America,

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¹³ “Annual Report 1994–1995,” Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

¹⁴ “2019–2020 Annual Report,” Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

¹⁵ “American Life League’s 2020 Planned Parenthood Facilities Report,” American Life League, February 2021,

https://www.stopp.org/pdfs/2020/2020_PP_Facilities_Report.pdf.