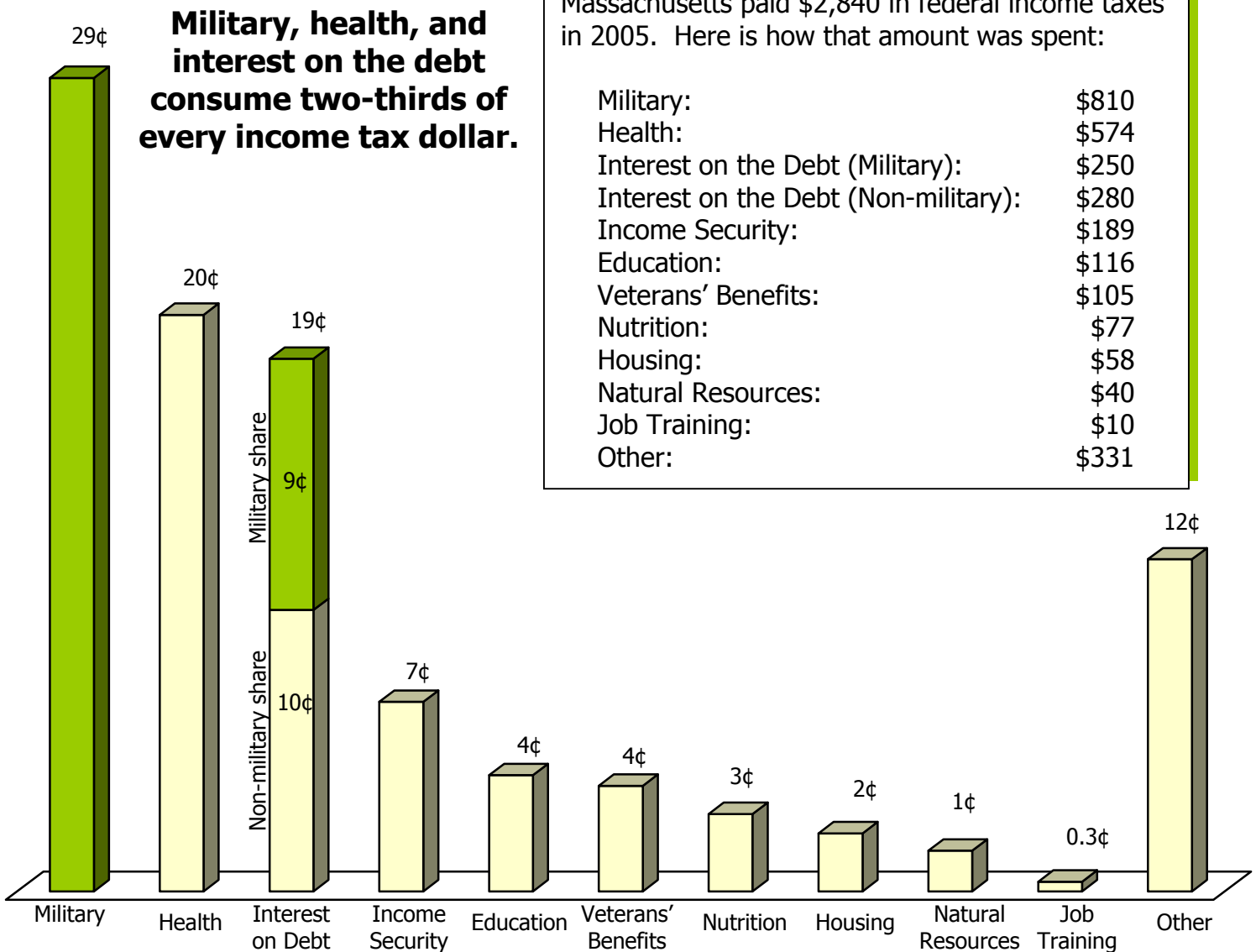




WHERE DO YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO?

SUFFOLK COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

April 2006



The median income family in Suffolk County, Massachusetts paid \$2,840 in federal income taxes in 2005. Here is how that amount was spent:

Military:	\$810
Health:	\$574
Interest on the Debt (Military):	\$250
Interest on the Debt (Non-military):	\$280
Income Security:	\$189
Education:	\$116
Veterans' Benefits:	\$105
Nutrition:	\$77
Housing:	\$58
Natural Resources:	\$40
Job Training:	\$10
Other:	\$331

Notes: The breakdown of the income tax dollar is based on an analysis of each agency's Federal funds outlays according to function and sub-function (category) for fiscal year 2005. Agency budgets can be found in OMB, *Budget of the U.S. Government, FY2007, Analytical Perspectives*. Numbers may not add up due to rounding. *Military* includes the government definition of national defense, international security assistance and Iraq-related spending in the Executive Office of the President. *Income security* includes Supplemental Security Income (aimed at elderly, disabled and blind with low income), tax credit programs, TANF, child care spending and other programs aimed at families. *Other* includes the following function and sub-function areas: general science, space and technology, international affairs other than military assistance, energy, agriculture, commerce and housing credit, transportation, community and regional development, labor and social services other than job training, justice, general government, and undistributed offsetting receipts. For more information on the analysis, go to *Where do Your Tax Dollars Go? Notes and Sources* available at www.nationalpriorities.org/taxday06sources.

Your Income Tax Dollar Over Time:

Military, health, education up since 2000

- ▶ Since 2000, military spending has increased as a portion of the income tax dollar by 20%, climbing from 24¢ to 29¢. This rise is due to the nearly 70% increase in military outlays.

- ▶ Escalating medical costs are reflected in the share of health spending: up from 17¢ to 20¢ of the income tax dollar. Over the same time period, the number of uninsured has grown by more than 6 million, from 14% to 16% of Americans.

Category	Share in 2000	Share in 2005	Change in Share
Military	23.9¢	28.5¢	20%
Health	17.3¢	20.2¢	17%
Interest on the Debt	26.6¢	18.7¢	-30%
Income Security	6.2¢	6.6¢	7%
Education	2.7¢	4.1¢	50%
Veterans' Benefits	3.8¢	3.7¢	-2%
Nutrition	2.5¢	2.7¢	11%
Housing	2.2¢	2.0¢	-7%
Environment	1.7¢	1.4¢	-18%
Job Training	0.4¢	0.3¢	-21%
Other	12.7¢	11.6¢	-8%

- ▶ Interest payments on the debt today comprise nearly 19 cents out of every income tax dollar, down from 27¢ in 2000. This drop results from the combination of low interest rates and overall growth in spending. Now that interest rates are increasing, the coming years will see an increase in interest payments, especially given the large deficits of recent years.
- ▶ Education saw the largest increase in share of the income tax dollar between 2000 and 2006.** In 2000, education made up less than 3 cents of every dollar; in 2005, it made up 4 cents. The rise in education spending is primarily due to the No Child Left Behind Act, though the Act itself remains significantly underfunded.
- ▶ Spending on veterans' benefits, housing assistance, the environment and job training have all fallen as a share of the income tax dollar.

Notes: *The breakdown for fiscal year 2000 is as described on the opposite page but uses actual outlays for 2000 as shown in OMB, *Budget of the U.S. Government, FY2002, Analytical Perspectives*. **Of the categories presented in the table above. Within the *other* category, two items have increased more than education: *transportation* due to the large increase in security measures, and *community and regional development* solely due to the impact of Hurricane Katrina and Rita in 2005.