Would You Give President Obama \$4 Trillion?

Learn how the president wants to spend your tax dollars

Jasmine Tucker
Senior Research Analyst
National Priorities Project
February 25, 2016



Step 1 in the Budget Process

The 5 Step Federal Budget Process



The President submits a budget request to Congress.



Lawmakers release their own budget plans and set overall spending levels with a **budget resolution**.



House and Senate subcommittees set funding for each program through appropriations bills.

3.



House and Senate members come together to resolve differences in their appropriations bills.



The budget returns to the President for his signature before it becomes law.



President's Budget Highlights

- \$4.2 trillion in total spending
 - 4% more than FY 2016
- \$3.6 trillion in total revenue
 - 7% more than FY 2016
- Runs a deficit of \$503 billion
 - Deficit is 2.6% of the economy



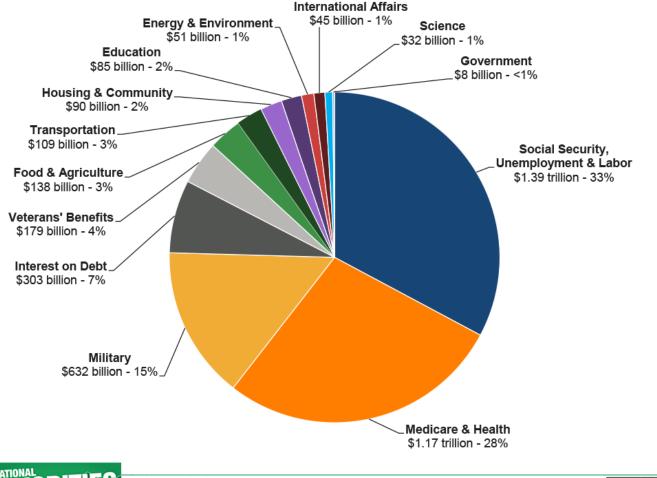
Key Proposals in the President's Budget

- Domestic Spending
 - Clean transportation program
 - Two free years of community college
 - Preschool for All
- Pentagon Spending
 - More than ½ of discretionary spending for Pentagon
 - \$59 billion Pentagon slush fund
- Taxes and Revenue
 - Increases fairness & transparency in the tax system



President's Proposed \$4.2 Trillion Total Spending (FY 2017)







nationalpriorities.org





What are Mandatory and Discretionary Spending?

MANDATORY

- Depends on eligibility rules and permanent or multi-year "authorization" of funds
- Funded primarily by trust funds and payroll taxes, as well as other sources

Includes:

- Social Security
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Unemployment Insurance
- Retirement for federal employees
- Student loans

DISCRETIONARY

- Depends on annual budget process and "appropriations" of funds
- Funded primarily by income taxes (individual and corporate)

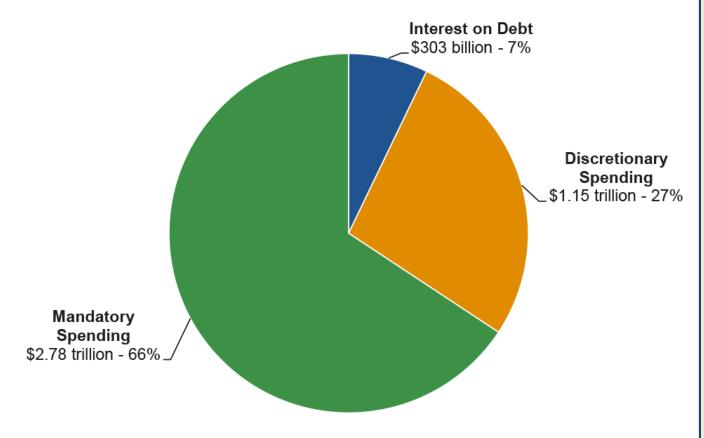
Includes:

- Pentagon
- Education
- Transportation
- Housing Veterans' Benefits
- Science



President's Proposed \$4.2 Trillion Budget: Mandatory and Discretionary Spending and Interest on the Federal Debt (FY 2017)







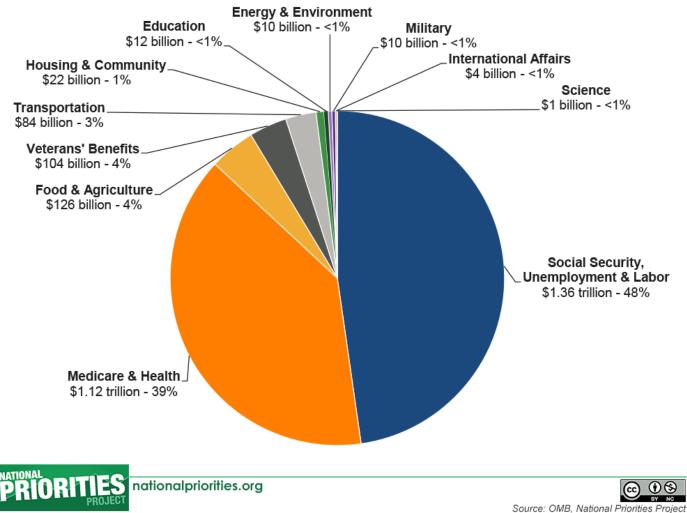
national priorities.org





President's Proposed \$2.8 Trillion Mandatory Spending (FY 2017)

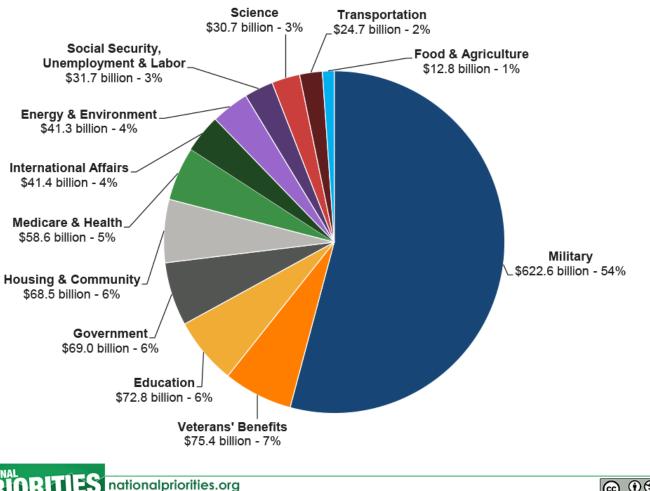






President's Proposed \$1.15 Trillion Discretionary Spending (FY 2017)





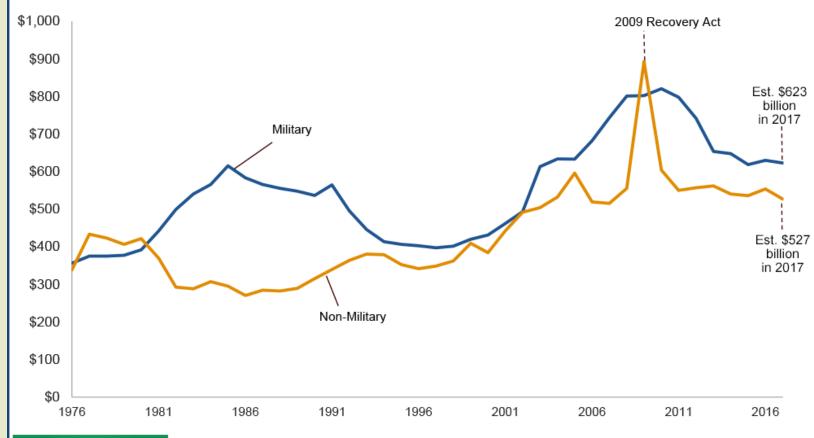






Military and Non-Military Discretionary Spending (in billions of 2017 dollars)







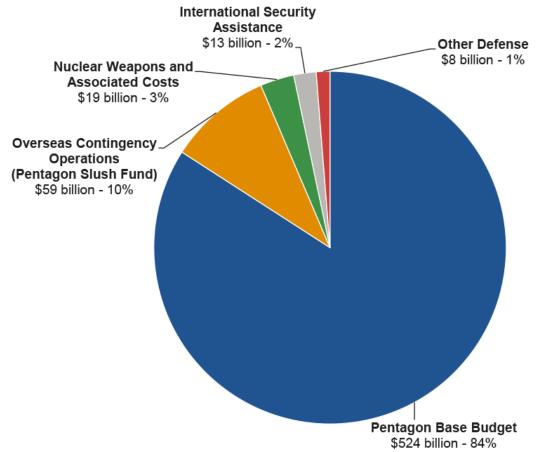
national priorities.org





President's Proposed \$623 Billion Discretionary Defense Spending (FY 2017)







nationalpriorities.org





Sequestration

 Keeps to spending levels agreed to in Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015

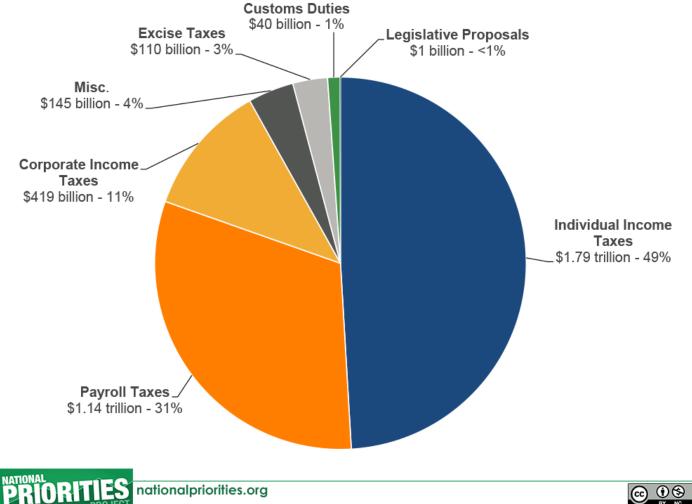
 Eliminates sequestration afterwards





President's Proposed \$3.6 Trillion in Revenue (FY 2017)







Individual and Corporate Taxes as a Percent of **President's Proposed Total Federal Revenue**



(FY 1934 - 2017)



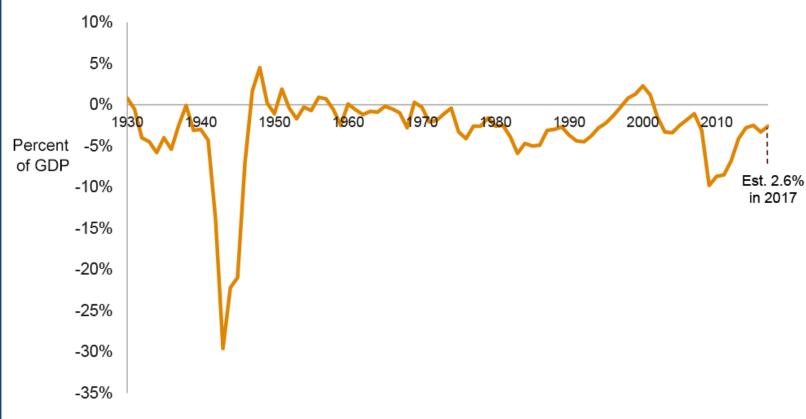






Annual Budget Deficit or Surplus as a Percent of GDP (1930 - 2017)







nationalpriorities.org





Public's Policy Priorities for 2016

- Economy 75%
- Terrorism 75%
- Education 66%
- Jobs 64%
- Social Security 62%
- Health Care Costs 61%
- Medicare 58%
- Reducing Crime 58%
- Budget Deficit 56%
- Poor and Needy 54%
- Immigration 51%

Shifts in public priorities since Obama's reelection

% rating each a top priority for the president and Congress each year ...

	Jan 2013	Jan 2014	Jan 2015	Jan 2016	'13-'16 change
	%	%	%	%	
Strengthening the nation's economy	86	80	75	75	-11
Defending country from terrorism	71	73	76	75	+4
Improving the educational system	70	69	67	66	-4
Improving the job situation	79	74	67	64	-15
Making Social Security system sound	70	66	66	62	-8
Reducing health care costs	63	59	64	61	-2
Making Medicare system sound	65	61	61	58	-7
Reducing crime	55	55	57	58	+3
Reducing the budget deficit	72	63	64	56	-16
Dealing with problems of poor & needy	57	49	55	54	-3
Dealing with issue of immigration *	_	40	52	51	+11
Strengthening the U.S. military	41	43	52	49	+8
Protecting the environment	52	49	51	47	-5
Reforming the nation's tax system	52	55	48	45	-7
Reforming the criminal justice system	_	_	_	44	n/a
Dealing with global climate change	28	29	34	38	+10
Dealing with gun policy	_	_	_	37	n/a
Dealing with global trade issues	31	28	30	31	0

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 7-14, 2016. Significant differences in **bold**. * 2014-2016 change

In 2013 and 2014, the question on climate change asked about "dealing with global warming".

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



Questions?

www.nationalpriorities.org

Jasmine Tucker jtucker@nationalpriorities.org

