

National defense is a vital priority and a fundamental responsibility of the federal government. It is also a significant part of the federal budget.

Defense spending accounts for

13%

of all federal spending in 2023

SINGLE
LARGEST
CATEGORY
OF DISCRETIONARY
SPENDING

Training, Employment, and Social Service.
General Government

Defense

Veterans' Benefits and Services

Transportation

Health

Education

International Affairs

Administration of Justice

Housing Assistance

Natural Resources and Environment

Community and Regional Development

General Science, Space, and Technolog

ON DEFENSE THAN THE NEXT 9 COUNTRIES

CUMPINLP

2023 DEFENSE SPENDING (BILLIONS OF DOLLARS) \$\bigcup \\$916 BILLION \bigcup \bigcup \\$883 BILLION \bigcup \bigcup \\ \$\bigcup \\$883 BILLION \bigcup \b

Russia

India

Saudi Arabia

United Kingdom

Germany

Ukraine

France

Japan

4% United Sign Uni

2003

2008

The U.S. has historically devoted a larger share of its economy to defense than many of its key allies.

Defense Spending (% of GDP)

8% 7% 6%

1% 0%

6%

5% 4% 3%

2% 1% 0% 1974 1984 1994 2004 2014 2024

Average Defense Spending (1974–2023)

Actual | Projected

Defe

2034

Defense Discretionary Spending (% of GDP)



Putting our debt on a sustainable course over the long term will lead to higher levels of economic growth, continued availability of resources to invest in our

future, and a sustained leadership role for the United States in the world.

– The Coalition for Fiscal and National Security Chairman, Admiral Mike Mullen

Learn more about the policy options: PGPF.ORG/DEFENSE

