



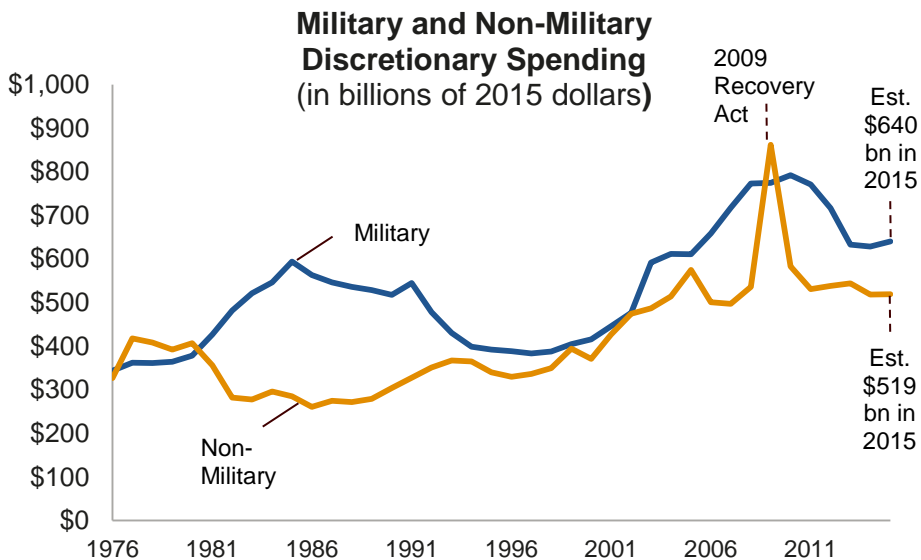
Federal Budget Tip Sheet: Military & Security Spending

Key Fact: In fiscal year 2015, military spending is projected to account for 55 percent of all federal discretionary spending – that’s the portion of the federal budget that the president requests and lawmakers determine each year in the appropriations process. Military spending will account for 16 percent of overall federal spending in 2015. U.S. military expenditures are greater than the next 10 largest military budgets around the world, combined.

President Obama’s 2015 Budget: The president has requested \$648 billion for military programs in fiscal year 2015, an increase of more than \$12 billion, or 2 percent, relative to 2014. That includes an estimated \$85 billion for the war in Afghanistan, officially referred to as “Overseas Contingency Operations” (OCO). Billions of dollars in the war budget have been widely referred to as a “[slush fund](#).” Meanwhile, according to polling, 58 percent of Americans would support substantial reductions in military spending.¹

Total Security Spending: Through fiscal 2014, the U.S. will have spent more than \$9 trillion on national security programs since Sept. 11, 2001, in inflation-adjusted dollars. That includes funding for the Department of Defense, the U.S. nuclear weapon stockpile, wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and homeland security.

Military v. Non-Military Spending: In the decade following Sept. 11, 2001, military spending increased 35 percent, adjusted for inflation. Spending on domestic discretionary programs – things like education and public transit – grew by 12 percent over the same time period.



Source: OMB | National Priorities Project

War Costs: By the end of fiscal 2014, the U.S. government will have spent an inflation-adjusted \$1.75 trillion on the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Homeland Security: The U.S. government will spend \$886 billion on homeland security between Sept. 11, 2001 and the end of fiscal 2014. That’s substantially larger, in inflation-adjusted terms, than all federal spending on the New Deal.

More About Military Spending: bit.ly/NPPmilitary

¹ Program for Public Consultation [poll](#), conducted Apr. 12-18, 2012.