

## How U.S. Security Investments Have Failed Us During the Coronavirus

Despite 100,000 U.S. deaths and the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, Congress has yet to fully fund a response to the health and economic crises spurred by COVID-19. It's not for lack of resources. Congress allocates hundreds of billions of dollars to the Pentagon and militarized policing and immigration systems in the name of security, while underinvesting in priorities like health care, medical research and poverty programs that could keep us safe during this crisis.

What We Need	What It Costs	What We Got
<b>COVID Testing</b>	A full COVID testing program could cost <a href="#">\$50 billion to \$300 billion</a> over two years – or, \$25 billion to \$150 billion per year.	\$25 billion per year is about 3%, or 12 days, of the <a href="#">Pentagon's annual budget</a> .  \$150 billion per year is less than the <a href="#">U.S. spent each year</a> on war at the peak of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.
<b>Personal Protective Equipment</b>	Experts called for a stockpile of <a href="#">3.5 billion masks</a> for a pandemic. (The feds have distributed only <a href="#">11.7 million</a> , less than 1% of what's needed.) At a cost of <a href="#">\$0.64 - \$3.40</a> per mask with a five-year shelf life, that's \$448 million to \$2.38 billion each year to maintain the stockpile.	\$826 million in FY 2020 for <a href="#">six presidential helicopters</a> in 2020  \$4.2 billion in military <a href="#">contracts in Afghanistan</a> in 2019
<b>COVID-19 Vaccine</b>	At least <a href="#">\$3 billion</a> is needed for the initial creation and manufacture of adequate quantities of vaccine.	\$4.9 billion in <a href="#">military aid to Afghanistan</a> in 2018
<b>Medical Care</b>	The average cost to care for a hospitalized COVID-19 patient is <a href="#">\$30,000</a> .	<a href="#">\$60,000 per hour</a> for every flyover by the Blue Angels
<b>Food Security</b>	<a href="#">One in five</a> American children are going hungry, three times more than during the Great Recession. The <a href="#">Heroes Act</a> includes \$14 billion in food aid.	Trump's Space Force <a href="#">at \$15 billion for the first year</a>
<b>Jobs</b>	Forty million people are <a href="#">unemployed in the United States</a> . Continuing <a href="#">\$600 monthly payments</a> for a year for all of them would cost \$288 billion.	<a href="#">\$389 billion</a> for Pentagon contractors in 2019