

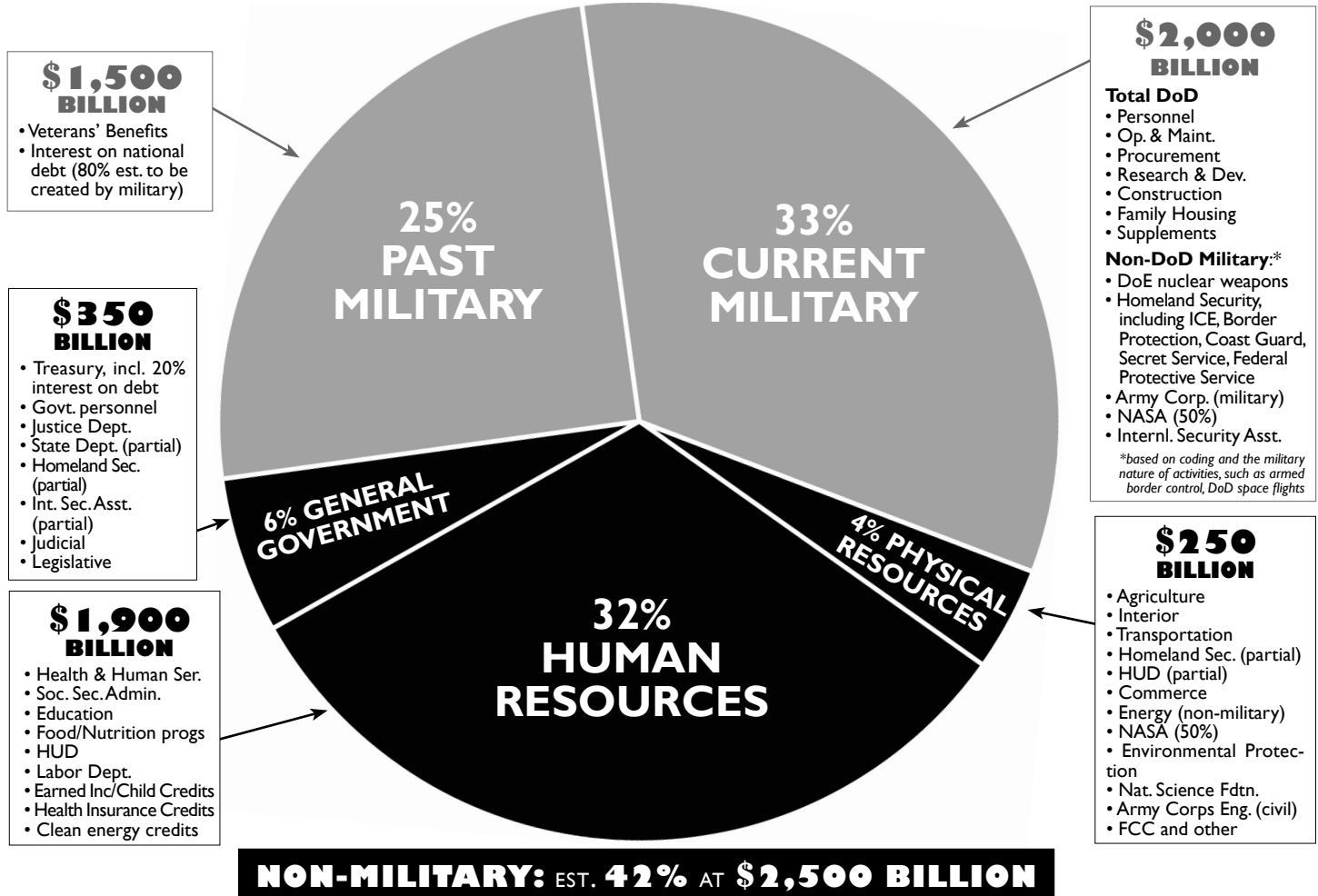
WHERE YOUR INCOME TAX MONEY IS GOING

ESTIMATED U.S. FEDERAL BUDGET 2027 FISCAL YEAR

TOTAL OUTLAYS (FY 2027 FEDERAL FUNDS)

EST. \$6,000 BILLION

MILITARY: EST. 58% AT \$3,500 BILLION



WHY AN ESTIMATED BUDGET?

The current administration has yet to release a budget proposal. Consequently, the figures presented here are a rough estimate of the FY2027 budget (Oct. 1, 2026 - Sep. 30, 2027).

These figures are projected estimates based on past analyses, Feb. 2026 Congressional Budget Office analysis, and recent administration statements, such as the President's intention to add \$600 billion to the Pentagon budget. **We know from Project 2025 and administration actions that the trend is towards higher military spending.** Congress has done little to oppose this.

Since 1977 WRL's pie charts have used the *Analytical Perspectives* book of the *Budget of the United States Government* for each fiscal year for this analysis. However, the government did not produce budget books in 2025, and the current administration *may* produce only a "blueprint" of its FY2027 budget request to Congress.

Our analysis intends to show where income taxes go; these are Federal

funds that do not include Trust funds — such as Social Security — which are raised and spent separately from income taxes. Potential cuts to Social Security and Medicare are not reflected in this pie chart. For further explanation, please go to warresisters.org.

What you pay (or don't pay) by April 15, 2026, goes to the Federal funds portion of the budget. The government practice of combining Trust and Federal funds began during the Vietnam War, intending to make the human needs portion of the budget appear larger and the military portion smaller during that unpopular war.

**Analysts differ on how much of the debt stems from the military; other groups estimate 50% to 60%. We use 80% because we believe if there had been no military spending, most of the national debt would have been eliminated.*

SOURCES: Budget-based news, including *New York Times*, Costs of War Project (costsofwar.watson.brown.edu), nationalpriorities.org, plus data from the Congressional Budget Office among other sources

FUND MILITARISM, GET WAR

The United States enters its 250th year with militarism in ascendance. War has failed to solve conflicts or create peace — from Korea to Vietnam to 25 years of endless war on terror — and yet elected officials throw more money at the Pentagon. Funding the war machine buys war and killing. And, as the pie chart on the front shows, militarization is taking over other agencies. The result: heavily armed agents and military in our streets, causing fear, deaths, and threatening democracy. It's not too late to heed the warning of "founding father" James Madison (right) and demand a disarmed budget and disarmed world.



“A standing military force, with an overgrown Executive will not long be safe companions to liberty. The means of defense against foreign danger, have been always the instruments of tyranny at home.”

JAMES MADISON, 1787

THE INCREASINGLY MILITARIZED BUDGET BUYS

- **877 U.S. bases in 95 countries** at \$80 billion/year
- **War on Iran** — 165 school children killed in first missile strikes
- **Drone attacks in Caribbean** with 150+ dead so far
- **\$27 billion to enable Israel's genocide in Gaza** — 75,000 dead, including 23,000 children, with over 12,000 missing
- **U.S. military blockade, takeover, and attack of Venezuela** — \$1 billion and counting
- **Homeland Security's mass detention & deportation** force equals the world's 13th largest military
- 100,000 children in the U.S. experiencing a **parent detained** in 2025
- **32 deaths in ICE custody** in 2025; so far, 10 deaths in custody and 8 killed in the streets in 2026
- **Surplus weapons** of war transferred to local law enforcement by the Pentagon
- **Peaceful protest** met with **military-style response**

I'm not
buying
it.



YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR!

\$1.5 TRILLION COULD SAVE LIVES INSTEAD

- **Medicaid** for 70 million people (\$636 Billion)
- **Child Tax Credit** proven to lift children out of poverty (\$215 B)
- **SNAP** grocery support for millions (\$123 B)
- **Dept. of Ed.** grants for disabled students, student loans (\$278 B)
- **Highways**, bridges, transit upgrades (\$70 B)
- **National Institutes of Health** for essential research (\$50 B)
- **School breakfast and lunch** serving 30 million children (\$32 B)
- **FEMA disaster recovery** (\$32 B)
- **Federal Aviation** air traffic control & air safety (\$27 B)
- **EPA clean air, water, land** (\$25 B)
- **Substance abuse & mental health** programs (\$8 B)

“For every innocent person you kill, you create ten new enemies.”

GEN. STANLEY McCHRISTAL

Sources: internationalpolicy.org/publications/unaccountable-military-surplus-fuels-police-violence-at-home-and-abroad; costsofwar.watson.brown.edu/paper/we-get-what-we-pay-cycle-military-spending-industry-power-and-economic-dependence; commondreams.org/news/donald-trump-and-venezuela; nationalpriorities.org/interactive-data/trade-offs

WHAT YOU CAN DO

• **Leaflet** with this flyer year-round and on Tax Day, **April 15, 2026**, and during the **Global Days of Action** on Military Spending, April 10 - May 9, 2026, demilitarize.org.

• **Write elected officials, letters-to-the-editor, and posts online.** Congress votes for military increases despite public opposition. Demand change! Send them copies of this flyer. and share it with your friends and family.

• **Divest from war!** Refuse to pay all or part of your federal income tax. Though illegal, thousands of people openly participate in this form of protest. Whatever you choose to refuse — \$1, \$10, 58% or 100% — send a letter to elected officials and tell them why. Contact us for information. Contribute resisted tax money to groups that work for the common good.

• For more about **refusing to pay for war**, brochures, and other resources, contact the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee, (800) 269-7464 or see nwtrcc.org.

RESOURCES

• Additional copies of this leaflet are available for 18¢ each (20-199), 15¢ each (200-499), 13¢ each (500+) plus 20% postage. Order online at warresisters.org/store, or mail orders to the WRL address on this flyer.

• **War Tax Resistance: A Guide to Withholding Your Support from the Military** — 6th Edition (2025). Print and e-book available. Order online at warresisters.org/store for \$20 + postage; ebook sales on Kobo.com.



• **Also in our store:** War Resisters' International's *Handbook for Nonviolent Campaigns and New Worlds in Old Shells: a handbook for constructive programme*

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