

Total U.S. National Security Spending, 2015-2016

(All figures are \$billions; Then-Year\$)

(Sources: [Department of Defense Budget Overview, Table 28-1](#) from [Analytical Perspectives](#) and [Homeland Security Appendix](#) in 2016 OMB Budget)

<i>National Security Program</i>	<i>2015 as Enacted</i>	<i>2016 as Requested</i>	<i>Comments</i>
DOD Base Budget (Discretionary)	487.3	527.4	The “base” budget purportedly contains all routine, peacetime expenses; however, DOD and Congress have loaded tens of billions of such “base” spending into the Overseas Contingency Operations fund for declared wartime expenses. See below.
DOD Base Budget (Mandatory)	8.8	7	DOD often does not count this “mandatory” spending in its budget presentations to the public; however, being for military retirement and other DOD-only spending, it is as much a part of the DOD budget as military pay and acquisition.
DOD Base Budget (Total)	496.1	534.4	“Total” spending is discretionary and mandatory combined.
Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)	64.3	50.9	This account is traditionally used as a slush fund to pay for DoD priorities that couldn’t make it into the “base” budget, read here , here , and here .
DOD Subtotal (Total)	560.4	585.3	
DOE/Nuclear (Total)	19.2	20.5	For nuclear weapons activities.
“Defense-related activities” (Total)	8.3	8.1	Includes the FBI, payments to the CIA retirement fund.
National Defense (Total)	596.8	620.9	This is the OMB budget function “National Defense” (also known as “050”) which is sometimes confused as Pentagon-only spending.

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Military Retirement Costs Not Scored to DOD	18.2	17.4	This category shows funds paid by the Treasury for military retirement programs, minus interest and contributions from the DOD military personnel budget. The data for the amounts shown here are in functions 600, 900 and 950 . As DOD-unique spending they should be displayed as part of the DOD budget, but they are not by either DOD or OMB.
DOD Retiree Health Care Fund Costs	-5.2	-5.3	Shown are nets costs to the Treasury for this DOD health care program. See functions 550 and 950 . As DOD-unique spending, they should be displayed as part of the DOD budget, but they are not by either DOD or OMB.
Veterans Affairs (Total)	160.6	165.8	These costs are projected to increase to \$253.9 billion in 2025 as the human costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan continue to grow.
International Affairs (Total)	62.7	46.7	
Homeland Security (Total)	53.2	50.4	Includes Homeland Security spending in DHS for federal agencies not shown on this table (thereby excluding DOD, DOE, State and VA).
Share of Interest on the Debt	103.6	106.8	Total On-Budget Federal Budget Authority is \$3.8 trillion in 2015 and \$4.1 trillion in 2016. Total gross interest paid on Treasury debt is \$431.6 billion in 2015 and \$485.7 billion in 2015 . The calculable shares of defense-related spending relative to the federal totals are 24% in 2015 and 22% in 2016.
Grand Total	989.7	1002.7	