

Follow the Money...



The United States spends almost as much on the military as all the rest of the world combined. The US spends vastly more than any possible enemies: roughly 7 times as much as China, 13 times as much as Russia, 73 times as much as Iran, and 44 times as much as the combined spending of the six “rogue” states (as President Bush called them): Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria.

In conclusion, the US federal government could cut the amount spent on the military by hundreds of billions of dollars each year without hurting our security one bit. These billions should be redirected to address community healthcare, education, transportation, and other critical needs of the people of the United States.



PEACE ACTION | 8630 FENTON STREET | STE. 524 | SILVER SPRING | MD 20910 | 301-565-4050



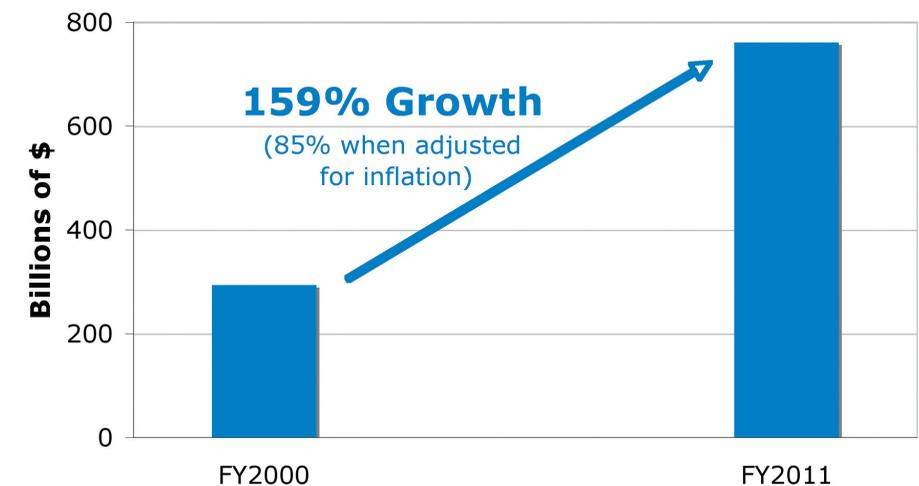
Does our country need to spend so much money to protect us from adversaries?

No!



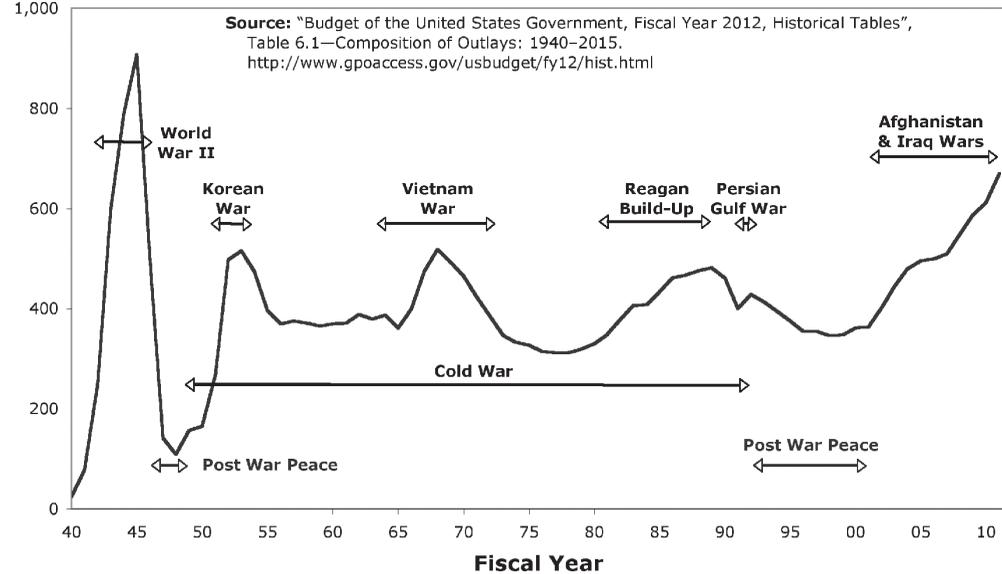
In the current year, fiscal year 2011, the government estimates that it will spend **\$761 billion on the military**. This is more than two-and-a-half times as much as the \$295 billion spent in fiscal year 2000. Adjusting these figures for inflation, the amount spent this year is **85% more** than just eleven years ago.

Military Spending



U.S. Military Outlays

Adjusted for Inflation (billions of FY2005 dollars)



Military spending in inflation-adjusted dollars is now greater than at any time since World War II—even greater than during the peak spending years of the Vietnam War, the Korean War, and the Persian Gulf War.

Spending on the military represents an average of about \$5,800 from each of the 118 million households in the U.S.

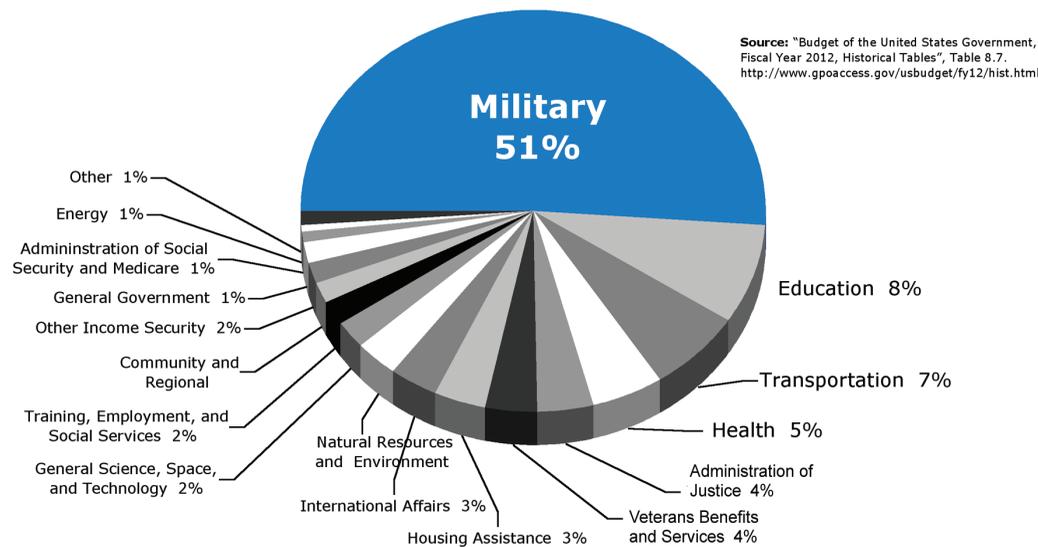
\$5,800 per household to the military?

Who is the enemy?

Since the demise of the Soviet Union over twenty years ago, the United States has no significant military adversaries. The only countries or groups that have expressed hostility towards the United States have small military capabilities.

The United States now has the most powerful military that has ever existed in the history of the world. We have more than enough firepower to obliterate any enemy. The nuclear weapons in the U.S. arsenal are powerful enough to destroy much of the planet and make our world completely uninhabitable. Moreover, US conventional military force is mighty enough that we can wage two large wars simultaneously far from our shores. The US has over 800 military bases around the world and 11 aircraft carrier strike groups circling the planet. No potential adversary has more than one aircraft carrier.

U.S. Discretionary Spending: Fiscal Year 2010



U.S. Military Spending vs. Other Countries, FY 2009

