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How Is the Federal Government Spending Our 2013 Income Tax Dollars?

FOR CURRENT AND PAST WARS 40%

This includes the Pentagon budget and related programs with a military function, such as nuclear weapons production in the Department of Energy, and foreign military assistance (28%); interest on the federal debt accumulated from past Pentagon spending (7%); and care and benefits for veterans plus other costs and obligations from past wars (5%).

FOR HEALTH CARE, HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND HEALTH RESEARCH 23%

This includes Medicaid, public health programs, Indian Health, the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. (Most of the money for Medicare comes from a dedicated payroll tax, not from income taxes, so the Medicare Trust Fund, with its separate income, is not considered part of the "federal funds budget" and is not included here.)

TO ASSIST LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS 16%

This category includes programs such as housing, income, education, and food assistance that are available to people who meet certain income guidelines. Some help to alleviate poverty (food assistance, income supplements) while others provide a firm foundation and ladders out of poverty (such as housing, health care and education.)

FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS 11%

This includes interest on the rest of the federal debt—the part that is not attributable to past military spending (10%)—and other government operations such as Congress, the judiciary, most of the Department of Homeland Security, the IRS, Treasury, etc. (1%)

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 6%

Includes supports for trade and commerce, agriculture support, urban and rural development, employment and education programs, plus child care assistance and community programs.

ENERGY, SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT 3%

Includes funding for the Environmental Protection Agency, National Science Foundation, National Aeronautic and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, most of the Department of the Interior, plus the Forest Service and Natural Resource Conservation Service.

DEVELOPMENT, DIPLOMACY AND WAR PREVENTION 2%

This tiniest category includes funding for all the ways we relate to the rest of the world that do not engage our military capacities—the entire State Department, including the diplomatic corps and the Agency for International Development, support for the United Nations and other international institctions and non-military aid to other countries.

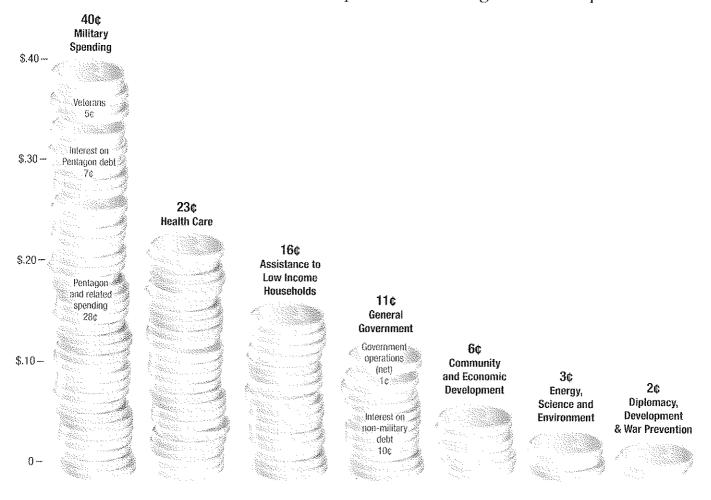
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Source—FCRL calculations based on estimated FY2013 expenditures reported by the White House Office of Management and Budget in FY2014 budget documents, released March 11 2014. (Analytical Perspectives, Table 29-1). This analysis covers the \$2,537,133,000,000 "federal fund" budget, which is the spending supported by income taxes, estate taxes and other general revenues. Not included are trust bands, such as Social Security, Medicare and highway trust funds, which are supported by dedicated revenues. For a complete data set, showing how individual budget line items were categorized, please contact Ruth Flower at flower/shorting.



WHERE DO YOUR INCOME TAX DOLLARS GO?

For each dollar of federal income tax we paid in 2013, the government spent about:



For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also -Matthew 6:21

These coins show how the federal government spends our income tax dollars.

This imbalanced spending has consequences: cuts in programs that help give people ladders out of poverty, as well as missed opportunities to prevent war and address climate change. The Pentagon budget still accounts for 40 cents of every tax dollar the U.S. government spends. Please ask your members of Congress to use your income tax dollars to pay for what this nation really needs. Use FCNL's website, fcnl.org, to send your message.

War is Not the Answer!

More details at www.fcnl.org/13taxchart