

Federal Spending 101

Federal spending is divided into three categories:

Discretionary Spending

is decided by Congress through the annual appropriations process.

Mandatory Spending

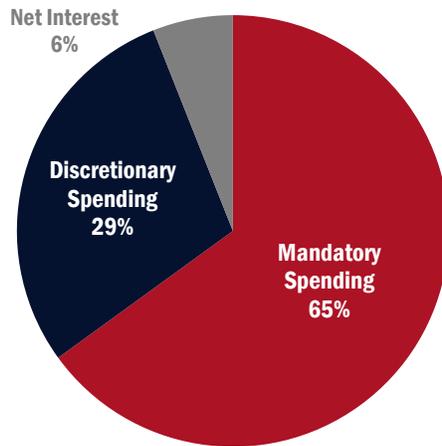
is automatic, because it funds programs that are required by law. It does not go through the annual appropriations process.

Net Interest

is the government's interest payments on debt.

FISCAL YEAR 2015 (FY2015) FEDERAL SPENDING = \$3.8 Trillion

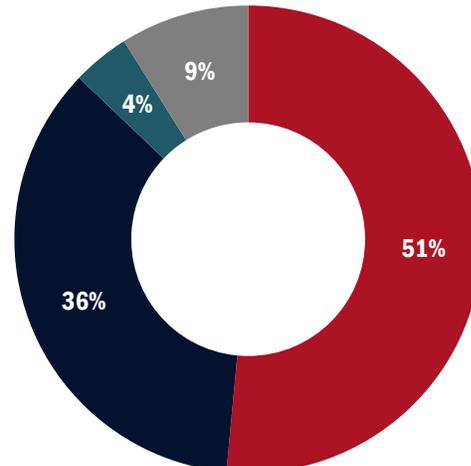
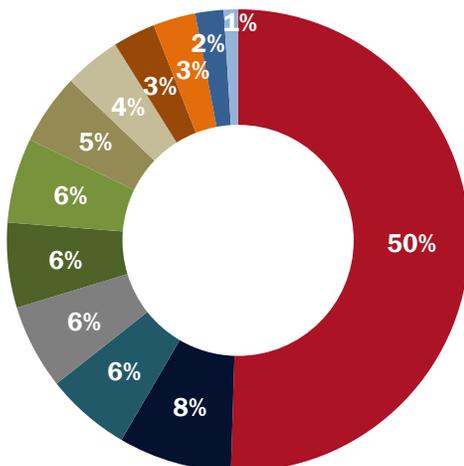
Discretionary vs. Mandatory Spending



- Defense
- Education
- Social Security, Unemployment, Labor
- Government
- Medicare, Health
- Veterans' Benefits
- International Affairs
- Energy, Environment
- Transportation
- Science, Space, Tech
- Housing, Community
- Agriculture

FY2015 Discretionary Spending

FY2015 Mandatory Spending



- Social Security, Unemployment, Labor
- Medicare, Health
- Veterans' Benefits
- Net Interest