

## Reponse to a question from a recent town hall

*Question: How much does the government spend on different functions of the federal government - for instance, how much does the government spend on defense?*

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A percentage breakdown of federal spending by category:

*2009 Appropriated ("discretionary") programs:*

<b>Defense/Security</b>	\$782 billion	22%
<b>Non-security</b>	\$437 billion	12%

*Mandatory programs:*

<b>Social Security</b>	\$678 billion	19%
<b>Medicare</b>	\$425 billion	12%
<b>Medicaid</b>	\$251 billion	7%
<b>Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) 2</b>	\$15 billion	4%
<b>Other mandatory programs</b>	\$167 billion	17%

<b>Net interest on debt</b>	\$187 billion	5%
<b>Total outlays</b>	\$3.51 trillion	

In the President's FY 2011 Budget, the budget volume has a request for each Agency with discretionary outlays for FY2009. This document is [available here](#).

If you review each Department at the link above, you will find the actual discretionary outlays for FY2009. (For example: to find the Department of Agriculture's figures, see page [5 of the PDF](#) )

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