Defense spending accounts for about half of total discretionary spending

2019 Discretionary Outlays: $1,338 Billion

- Defense
- Transportation
- Veterans' Benefits and Services
- Education
- Health
- Administration of Justice
- International Affairs
- General Government
- Housing Assistance
- Natural Resources and Environment
- General Science, Space and Technology
- Community and Regional Development
- Training, Employment, and Social Services

NOTES: Health includes funding for agencies that provide healthcare services or engage in health research, such as the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Indian Health Service. General government includes central executive and legislative functions as well as the administrative costs of Social Security, Medicare, and income security programs. Energy ($5 billion) is included in Transportation. Agriculture ($6 billion) is included in Natural Resources and Environment. Veterans’ benefits primarily consists of medical and hospital care.

© 2020 Peter G. Peterson Foundation