Mandatory programs and interest costs will take over more of the federal budget, squeezing discretionary programs.

% of Federal Spending

- **1971**
  - Total Spending: 19 percent of GDP
  - Mandatory: 58%
  - Discretionary: 42%
  - Net Interest: 0%

- **2021**
  - Total Spending: 26 percent of GDP
  - Mandatory: 29%
  - Discretionary: 27%
  - Net Interest: 66%

- **2051**
  - Total Spending: 32 percent of GDP
  - Mandatory: 17%
  - Discretionary: 19%
  - Net Interest: 55%


**Note:** Mandatory programs include Social Security, the major federal health programs, other entitlement programs, and offsetting receipts. Outlays in 2021 are affected by programs to address the pandemic. In 2022, discretionary spending is projected to account for 32 percent of total spending.