National defense is a vital priority and a fundamental responsibility of the federal government. It is also a significant part of the federal budget.

Defense spending accounts for 11% of all federal spending and is the single largest category of discretionary spending.

The U.S. spends more on defense than the next 9 countries combined.

The U.S. has historically devoted a larger share of its economy to defense than many of its key allies.

Nonetheless, total defense spending is currently below its historical average as a share of GDP and is projected to decline further.

America's fiscal and national security are closely linked.