Interest costs on the national debt are rising to historic levels — NO MATTER HOW YOU MEASURE IT

Interest Costs in Dollars (Adjusted for Inflation)

Interest Costs as a Percentage of GDP

Interest Costs as a Percentage of All Federal Revenues

Interest Costs as a Percentage of All Federal Spending

Interest costs will become the single largest category of the budget — bigger than Social Security, Medicare or national defense.

Budget Categories (Percent of GDP)

Note: Medicare spending is net of payments from the states.