HOW THESE FIGURES WERE DETERMINED

“Current military” includes Dept. of Defense ($656 billion) and the military portion ($201 billion) from other departments as noted in current military box above. “Past military” represents veterans’ benefits plus 80% of the interest on the debt.* For further explanation, please go to warresisters.org.

These figures are from an analysis of detailed tables in the Analytical Perspectives book of the Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2019. The figures are Federal funds, which do not include Trust funds — such as Social Security — that are raised and spent separately from income taxes.

What you pay (or don’t pay) by April 17, 2018, goes to the Federal funds portion of the budget. The government practice of combining Trust and Federal funds began during the Vietnam War, thus making the human needs portion of the budget seem larger and the military portion smaller.

*Analysts differ on how much of the debt stems from the military; other groups estimate 50% to 60%. We use 80% because we believe if there had been no military spending most of the national debt would have been eliminated.
The president’s FY2019 budget was greeted with “dead on arrival” by politicians. Congress had just passed a spending bill that overrode it, but one thing Congress and the president always agree on: more military spending. And worse, the budget message promises “a more lethal force,” adding more victims to the hundreds of thousands — military and civilians — killed as a result of U.S. wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan. It’s also a more lethal budget with big cuts to food stamps, healthcare, legal protection for the poor, low income housing, employment training, environmental protection, parks, renewable energy, and more.

**Demilitarize the Dollar**

Combined Dep. of Defense, Homeland Security, nuclear weapons (DoE), Veterans Admin., and 80% interest on the debt

**Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2019**

**Weapons**
- $24 billion more for nuclear weapons, which 122 nations are working to outlaw
- $69 billion more for endless war and more drone strikes that have killed over 5,000 civilians in Iraq and Syria since Oct. 2014
- $10 billion for a missile “defense” system: false security and more militarism
- $75 billion for aircraft, missiles, tanks and giant contractors like Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon and Boeing
- A lot more for the Pentagon, which has never passed an audit and can’t account for billions of dollars of your money

**Walls**
- $1.6 billion — U.S. dollars not Mexican pesos — for 65 miles of border wall
- $3.5 billion for more armed border agents, ICE officers & $2.000 detention beds
- $15 billion cut to the State Dept. says to the world “military force not diplomacy”
- An endless drumbeat of tweets and reporting that criminalizes immigrant communities in this nation of immigrants

**Whopping Deficits**
- $7 trillion added to the deficit over 10 years
- U.S. public debt spikes with every war and military build-up since the Civil War
- Children will be paying off debt for today’s endless wars — and $1 trillion/year medical and disability costs for thousands of wounded veterans

Sources: airwars.org; International Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, icasw.org; watson.brown.edu/costsofwar; public debt history Wikipedia

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**WHAT YOU CAN DO**

- **Leaflet** with this flyer year-round and on Tax Day, April 17, 2018, and throughout the Global Days of Action on Military Spending, April 15–May 2, demilitarize.org.
- **Get involved in WRL’s organizing and education work:** nonviolent direct action training, internationalism, counter military recruiting, resisting airwars, No SWAT zone, campaign to end police militarization, and more. Visit WRL’s membership handbook at warresisters.org/joinwrl. Find resources to challenge militarism, curb police power, strengthen nonviolent action and lift up community resilience!
- **Write elected officials, letters-to-the-editor, and posts online.** Send and share copies of this flyer. Explain your budget priorities for a better world.
- **Divest from war!** Refuse to pay to pay all or part of your federal income tax. Though illegal, thousands of people openly participate in this form of protest. Sign up at wartaxdivestment.org. Whatever you choose to refuse — $1, $10, 47% or 100% — send a letter to elected officials and tell them why. Contact us for information or referral to a counselor near you. Contribute resisted tax money to groups that work for the common good.
- **For more about refusing to pay for war, sample brochures, and to watch the introductory film Death & Taxes, contact the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee, (800) 269-7464 or see nwtcc.org. Support the Peace Tax Fund bill: peacetaxfund.org.**
- **War Tax Resistance: A Guide to Withholding Your Support from the Military,** 44-page handbook with history, methods and resources. $5 plus $2 postage warresisters.org/store.

**LOCAL CONTACT**

If no group is listed, check for a WRL chapter on the website below, or start your own. Contact WRL for more information.

**RESOURCES**

- Additional copies of this leaflet are available for $1 each (1-199), $1.50 each (200-499), $2 each (500+) plus 20% postage. Order online at warresisters.org/store, or mail orders to the WRL address on this flyer.

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“As our social fabric is stretched thin by widening income inequality, politicians criminalize the poor, fan the flames of racism and xenophobia to divide the poor, and steal from the poor to give tax breaks to the rich and budget increases to a bloated military.”

REV. DR. WILLIAM J. BARBER, II
The Souls of the Poor Folk, a report auditing America, Institute for Policy Studies for poorpeoplescampaign.org.