



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for the military forces needed to safeguard the United States' vital national interests. The President's 2024 Budget for DOD provides the resources necessary to sustain and strengthen U.S. deterrence, advancing vital national security interests through integrated deterrence, campaigning, and investments that build enduring advantages. The Budget supports America's servicemembers and their families, strengthens alliances and partnerships, bolsters America's technological edge, preserves economic competitiveness, and combats 21st Century security threats.

The Budget requests \$842 billion in discretionary budget authority for 2024, a \$26 billion or 3.2-percent increase from the 2023 enacted level. This growth enables DOD to make the investments necessary to execute the Administration's 2022 National Security and National Defense Strategies.

The President's 2024 Budget:

- **Promotes Integrated Deterrence in the Indo-Pacific and Globally.** To sustain and strengthen deterrence, the Budget prioritizes China as America's pacing challenge in line with the 2022 *National Defense Strategy*. DOD's 2024 Pacific Deterrence Initiative highlights some of the key investments the Department is making, focuses on strengthening deterrence in the region, and demonstrates the Department's long-term commitment to the Indo-Pacific. DOD is building the concepts, capabilities, and posture necessary to meet these challenges, working to integrate deterrence efforts across the United States Government and with U.S. allies and partners.
- **Supports Ukraine, European Allies, and Partners.** The Budget continues support for Ukraine, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies, and other European partner states by prioritizing funding to enhance the capabilities and readiness of United States, allied, and partner forces in the face of continued Russian aggression.
- **Counters Persistent Threats.** While focused on maintaining robust deterrence against China and Russia, the Budget also enables DOD to counter other persistent threats including those posed by North Korea, Iran, and violent extremist organizations.
- **Modernizes the Nuclear Deterrent.** The Budget maintains a strong nuclear deterrent as a foundational aspect of integrated deterrence, for the security of the Nation and U.S. allies. The Budget supports the U.S. nuclear triad, NATO strategic deterrence, and the necessary ongoing nuclear modernization programs, to include the nuclear command, control, and communication networks.

- **Advances U.S. Cybersecurity.** The Budget continues to invest in cybersecurity programs to protect the Nation from malicious cyber actors and cyber campaigns. These investments strengthen cyber protection standards for the defense industrial base and cybersecurity of DOD networks.
- **Prioritizes the Care of Servicemembers and the DOD Civilian Workforce.** The Budget invests in America’s servicemembers and civilian workforce with robust 5.2 percent pay raises—the largest in decades. The Budget also provides servicemembers with annual rate increases for both housing and subsistence allowances.
- **Fulfills America’s Commitment to Military Families.** Military families are key to the readiness and well-being of the All-Volunteer Force, and therefore are critical to national security. The Budget continues to support military families by prioritizing programs, including the Secretary of Defense’s Taking Care of People initiatives, that directly support military spouses, children, caregivers, survivors, and other dependents. Specific programming increases include the further expansion of community-based child care fee assistance, a public-private partnership to increase child care capacity, and a reduction in parent fees for child care workers in order to recruit and retain staff.
- **Strengthens Programs to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Assault and Implement Military Justice Reform.** The Budget fully funds implementation of the recommendations of the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military. These investments would improve the Department’s ongoing work to enhance accountability, prevention, culture, and victim care and support, and advance the efforts of the Military Departments and Services to develop capabilities for independent Offices of Special Trial Counsel, which would assume jurisdiction over sexual assault, domestic violence, and related crimes.
- **Promotes Energy Efficiency and Installation Resilience for Warfighting Operations.** The Budget invests in power and energy performance, which makes U.S. forces more agile, efficient, and survivable. The Budget also improves the resilience of DOD facilities and operations to protect mission critical capabilities.
- **Enhances Biodefense and Pandemic Preparedness.** The Budget provides robust funding to support the Administration’s 2022 *National Biodefense Strategy and Implementation Plan for Countering Biological Threats, Enhancing Pandemic Preparedness, and Achieving Global Health Security*, the National Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Initiative, and to implement recommendations from DOD’s Biodefense Posture Review.
- **Builds the Air Forces Needed for the 21st Century.** The Budget funds the procurement of a mix of highly capable crewed aircraft while continuing to modernize fielded fighter, bomber, mobility, and training aircraft. The Budget also accelerates the development and procurement of uncrewed combat aircraft and the relevant autonomy to augment crewed aircraft. Investing in this mix of aircraft provides an opportunity to increase the resiliency and flexibility of the fleet to meet future threats, while reducing operating costs.
- **Optimizes U.S. Naval Shipbuilding and Modernization.** Maintaining U.S. naval power is critical to reassuring allies and deterring potential adversaries. The Budget proposes executable and responsible investments in the U.S. Navy fleet. The Budget also continues the recapitalization of the Nation’s strategic ballistic missile submarine fleet while investing in the submarine industrial base. In addition, the Budget makes meaningful investments in improving the lethality and survivability of the fleet, particularly improving undersea superiority.

- **Supports a Ready and Modern Army.** The Budget maintains a ready Army capable of responding globally as part of the Joint Force through investments in Army modernization initiatives, including continued investments in the Multi-Domain Task Force providing critical non-kinetic and long-range strike capabilities. In addition, the Budget modernizes and expands the production capacity of the industrial base to ensure the Army can meet strategic demands for critical munitions.
- **Invests in Long-Range Fire Capabilities.** The safety and security of the Nation requires a strong, sustainable, and responsive mix of long-range strike capabilities. The Budget invests in the development and testing of hypersonic strike capabilities while enhancing existing long-range strike capabilities to bolster deterrence and improve survivability.
- **Increases Space Resilience.** Space is vital to U.S. national security and integral to modern warfare. The Budget maintains America's advantage by improving the resilience of U.S. space architectures, such as in space sensing and communications, to bolster deterrence and increase survivability during hostilities.
- **Ensures Readiness Across America's Armed Forces.** The Budget continues to ensure that U.S. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Guardians remain the best trained and equipped fighting forces in the world. The Budget places additional emphasis on foundational investments to sustain current weapon systems and support increased training across the Department, while pursuing technological enhancements to extend the service life of material vital to the warfighter. At the same time, the Budget strengthens DOD's civilian workforce as a critical contributor to the Nation's security. In addition, the Budget continues the recapitalization and optimization of the four public Naval Shipyards to meet future submarine and carrier maintenance requirements.
- **Optimizes Force Structure.** In line with the National Defense Strategy, the Budget optimizes force structure to build a Joint Force that is lethal, resilient, sustainable, survivable, agile, and responsive. The Budget supports DOD's plan to upgrade capabilities by redirecting resources to cutting-edge technologies in high-priority platforms.
- **Supports Defense Research and Development (R&D) and the Defense Technology Industrial Base.** DOD plays a critical role in overall Federal R&D that spurs innovation, yields high-value technology, enables America to maintain and build advantages over strategic competitors, and creates good-paying jobs. The Budget prioritizes defense R&D, testing, and evaluation funding to invest in breakthrough technologies that drive innovation, support capacity in the defense technology industrial base, ensure American technological leadership, and underpin the development of future defense capabilities.
- **Strengthens the U.S. Supply Chain and Industrial Base.** The Budget invests in key technologies and sectors of the U.S. industrial base such as microelectronics, submarine construction, munitions production, and biomanufacturing.
- **Empowers Small Disadvantaged Businesses and Underserved Communities.** The Budget continues to advance equity and support small disadvantaged businesses and underserved communities. DOD will continue to explore opportunities to serve the American people, with a focus on these communities, through supplier and contracting operations.

