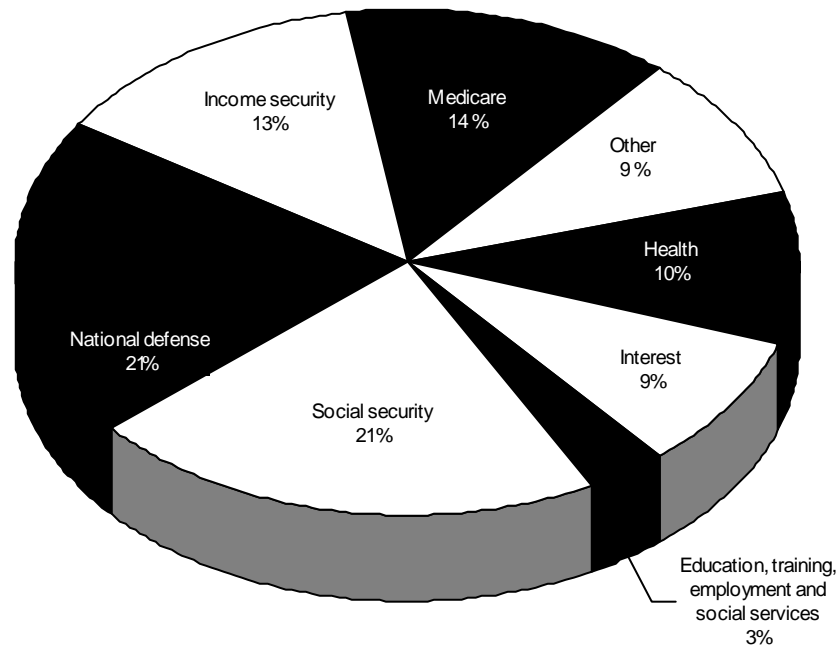


OUTLAYS BY FUNCTION

Outlays occur when the Government pays its obligations whether with cash, check or electronic funds transfer. Total outlays were \$2,730.5 billion in fiscal 2007, an increase of \$75.6 billion or 2.8 percent over the amount from fiscal 2006. The text below shows how outlays were divided in fiscal 2007. The seven largest categories of outlays are detailed below and correspond directly to the Government's functional classification system.

The functional classification system groups Government activities-budget authority and outlays, loan guarantees and tax expenditures-into categories that reflect the national need addressed by each transaction. The system identifies 17 broad categories that address national needs. This provides a coherent and comprehensive basis for analyzing and understanding the budget. Two additional categories-interest and undistributed offsetting receipts-do not address specific national needs but are included to cover the entire budget. Under the functional classification system, each outlay is assigned to a classification that best defines its most important purpose, even though the outlay may serve more than one purpose.



The table that follows shows fiscal 2007 and 2006 outlays for each functional classification. It also shows the amount and percentage change in outlay levels between these two fiscal years. Changes in outlays for the largest functional classifications are discussed briefly below.

- National defense**—This function includes those activities directly related to the defense and security of the United States. This amount encompasses Government spending for conventional forces, strategic forces, atomic energy defense activities and other defense related activities. National defense outlays for fiscal 2007 increased by \$38.2 billion, to \$560.1 billion.
- Education, training, employment and social services**—These programs assist citizens in developing and learning skills to expand their potential opportunities and job placement possibilities. Outlays for this function were \$89.7 billion for fiscal 2007, a decrease of 24.2 percent or \$28.6 billion from fiscal 2006 outlays.
- Health**—The Federal Government helps meet the nation's health care needs by financing and providing health care services, aiding disease prevention, and supporting research and training. Outlays for this function were \$266.3 billion in fiscal 2007. This represents an increase of \$13.6 billion over the prior fiscal year.
- Medicare**—Through Medicare, the Federal Government contributes to the health and well being of aged and disabled Americans. Outlays for this function were \$375.4 billion in fiscal 2007. That is an increase of 13.8 percent or \$45.5 billion over fiscal 2006 outlays.
- Income security**—Income security benefits are paid to the aged, the disabled, and the unemployed and low-income families. Included within this classification are programs such as general retirement and disability, public assistance and unemployment compensation. Outlays for these benefits were \$367.4 billion in fiscal 2007, an increase of 4.2 percent or \$14.9 billion over the fiscal 2006 level.
- Social security**—Through social security, the Federal Government contributes to the income security of aged and disabled Americans. This function's outlays were \$586.2 billion for fiscal 2007. That represents an increase of 6.9 percent or \$37.6 billion over fiscal 2006 outlays.
- Interest**—This function includes interest paid by the Federal Government offset by interest collections from the public and interest received by Government trust funds. Net interest outlays are very sensitive to both interest rates and the amount of debt outstanding. Net interest outlays increased in fiscal 2007 to \$237.9 billion. This is a 5.0 percent increase from the prior fiscal year.

OUTLAYS BY FUNCTION

IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

	Fiscal 2007	Fiscal 2006	Amount change from 2006	Percent change
National defense	560,078	521,840 r	38,238	7.3
International affairs.....	28,528	29,549 r	-1,021	-3.5
General science, space, and technology.....	20,958	23,616 r	-2,658	-11.3
Energy.....	-915	751 r	-1,666	-221.9
Natural resources and environment.....	31,693	33,055 r	-1,362	-4.1
Agriculture.....	19,634	25,970 r	-6,336	-24.4
Commerce and housing credit.....	380	6,030 r	-5,650	-93.7
Transportation.....	72,962	70,244 r	2,718	3.9
Community and regional development.....	28,641	54,531 r	-25,890	-47.5
Education, training, employment and social services.....	89,677	118,253 r	-28,576	-24.2
Health.....	266,297	252,666 r	13,631	5.4
Medicare.....	375,408	329,868 r	45,540	13.8
Income security.....	367,364	352,506 r	14,858	4.2
Social security.....	586,180	548,549 r	37,631	6.9
Veterans benefits and services.....	72,846	69,842 r	3,004	4.3
Administration of justice.....	37,311	41,016 r	-3,705	-9.0
General Government.....	17,764	18,234 r	-470	-2.6
Net interest.....	237,931	226,603 r	11,328	5.0
Undistributed offsetting receipts.....	-82,237	-68,250 r	-13,987	20.5
Total outlays.....	2,730,499	2,654,873 r	75,626	2.8

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

r = revised