

Can you guess the federal spending breakdown?

Introduction

You may or may not have seen the Tax Day Flyer already, but this is not a memory test. We want you to label and assemble the blank pie slices below into what you think is the US's spending breakdown. As you assign categories to the slices, think about what the US's priorities are, what we spend money on, and what our government, society, and politicians value.

Pie Slices

Below is the disassembled federal spending pie chart. Assign labels to the different slices and reassemble the pie. There are five labels to assign use the chart below to understand each label.

Human Resources

- Health/Human Services
- Soc. Sec. Administration
- Education Dept.
- Food/Nutrition programs
- Housing & Urban Dev.
- Labor Dept.
- Earned Inc/Child Credits
- Health Insurance Credits
- other human resources

General Government

- Treasury, incl. 20% interest on debt
- Government personnel
- Justice Dept.
- State Dept. (partial)
- Int. Sec. Assist. (partial)
- NASA (50%)
- Judicial
- Legislative
- Allowances (proposals)
- other general govt.

Physical Resources

- Agriculture
- Interior
- Transportation
- Homeland Sec. (partial)
- HUD
- Commerce
- Energy (non-military)
- Environmental Protection
- Nat. Science Fdtn.
- Army Corps Engineers
- Fed. Comm. Commission
- other physical resources

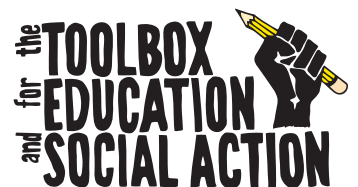
Current Military

- Military Personnel
- Operation & Maint.
- Procurement
- Research & Dev.
- Construction
- Family Housing
- Retiree Pay/Healthcare
- DoE nuke weapons/clean-up
- NASA (50%)
- Internl. Security Asst.
- Homeland Secur. (military)
- State Dept. (partial)
- FBI military
- other current military

Past Military

- Veterans' Benefits
- Interest on national debt

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Compare & Contrast

Now, take open your Tax Day Flyer and compare your chart with the actual representation of government funding. Once you have had a chance to review the pie charts, take some time to think or talk about what you noticed and what you learned. The conversations below can help guide your conversations:

How did the two pie charts compare and contrast?

On what information or beliefs did you base your pie chart?

If there were any differences in your pie chart and the Tax Day Flyer's, what were they? What do you think about these differences?

Why do you think this country spends its money the way it does? What does it value? What doesn't it value? What did you learn from this activity, and what did this activity reinforce for you?

WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE

339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012

Tel (212) 228-0450 • Fax (212) 228-6193

wrl@warresisters.org • www.warresisters.org

THE TOOLBOX FOR EDUCATION AND SOCIAL ACTION

12 Linden Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Tel (617) 252-8799

contact@toolboxfored.org • toolboxfored.org

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Assign these categories:

Human Resources

Past Military

Current Military

General Government

Physical Resources

