Because the Trump administration has not yet released its full budget proposal for fiscal year 2018 in time for production of this flyer, and Congress has not yet finalized the FY2017 budget, the figures here are based on the 2017 proposed budget altered to incorporate budget-related announcements, including at least $54 billion more for the Pentagon, increase in Homeland Security, and reductions for other slices of the pie.

Each year War Resisters League analyzes federal funds outlays as presented in detailed tables in “Analytical Perspectives” of the Budget of the United States Government. Our analysis is based on federal funds, which do not include trust funds — such as Social Security — that are raised separately from income taxes for specific purposes.

What federal income taxes you pay (or don't pay) by April 18, 2017, goes to the federal funds portion of the budget. See www.warresisters.org/piechart.htm for our complete 2018 budget analysis after it is released in April or May. On that page you will also find more details on our methodology and the assumptions behind it.

WHERE YOUR INCOME TAX MONEY REALLY GOES

U.S. FEDERAL BUDGET 2018 FISCAL YEAR

TOTAL OUTLAYS
(FY 2018 FEDERAL FUNDS)
$3,000 BILLION
(estimated)

MILITARY: 48% AND $1,450 BILLION (est.)

$1,250 BILLION (est.)
- 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

$1,800 BILLION (est.)
- Treasury, incl. 20% interest on debt
- Government personnel
- Justice Dept.
- State Dept. (partial)
- Homeland Sec. (partial)
- Int. Sec. Assist. (partial)
- Judicial
- Legislative
- allowances (proposals)

$1,200 BILLION (est.)
- Agriculture
- Interior
- Transportation
- Homeland Sec. (partial)
- HUD
- Commerce
- Energy (non-military)
- NASA (50%)
- Environmental Protection
- Nat. Science Fdn.
- Army Corps Engineers
- Fed. Comm. Commission
- other physical resources

$850 BILLION (est.)
- Treasury, incl. 20% interest on debt
- Government personnel
- Justice Dept.
- State Dept. (partial)
- Homeland Sec. (partial)
- Int. Sec. Assist. (partial)
- Judicial
- Legislative
- allowances (proposals)

$1,550 BILLION (est.)
- Veterans’ Benefits
- Interest on national debt (80% est. to be created by military spending)

20% PAST MILITARY

42% HUMAN RESOURCES

28% CURRENT MILITARY

WHERE YOUR INCOME TAX MONEY REALLY GOES


Vietnam War

Reagan buildup

“War on Terror”

BILLIONS
constant U.S.
2014 dollars

JOHNSON
NIXON
FORD
CARTER
REAGAN
BUSH
CLINTON
BUSH
OBAMA

SIPRI Military Expenditure Database ©2016
When it comes to military spending, it really doesn’t matter who’s in office. The President and Congress are always willing to give the Pentagon more money. All those campaign contributions from military contractors pay off. Just keep the American public in fear — a terrorist around every corner — and convinced that the U.S. must police the world. Then taxpayers will turn over billions of their tax dollars — to an agency that has not passed an audit in 20 years — for wars that breed more wars, weapons systems that even the Pentagon doesn’t want, drones that kill hundreds of innocent children, and bases and troops in countries they’ve never heard of. While Lockheed Martin and their ilk cheer, cuts to programs that will help save the environment, rebuild infrastructure, negotiate peaceful settlements, and take care of people will be felt around the world. It’s your money. Is this how you want it spent?


Get involved in WRL’s organizing and education work: No SWAT zone: campaign to end police militarization, nonviolent direct action training, internationalism, counter military recruitment, airwars 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 and media. Send them copies of this flyer. Demand an investment in peace, not war.

Protest with your money! Sign up at wartaxboycott.org. Refuse to pay all or part of your federal income tax. Whatever you choose to refuse — $1, $10, or a percentage — send a letter to elected officials and tell them why. Though illegal, thousands of people openly participate in this form of protest. Contact us for information or referral to a counselor near you. Contribute resisted tax money to organizations that support the common good.

For more about refusing to pay for war, sample brochures, contact the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee, PO Box 150553, Brooklyn, NY 11215, (800) 269-7464, nwtrcc.org. Support the Peace Tax Fund bill: peacetaxfund.org.

War Tax Resistance: A Guide to Withholding Your Support from the Military, 144-page handbook with history, methods and resources. $6 postpaid at 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 15¢ each (1-199), 12¢ each (200-499), 10¢ each (500+) plus 20% postage. Order online at warresisters.org/store, or mail orders to warresisters.org/store, or mail orders to warresisters.org/store, or mail orders to warresisters.org/store, or mail orders to warresisters.org/store, or mail orders to warresisters.org/store.