A Closer Look at Mandatory Spending

Primarily benefit programs for which lawmakers set eligibility rules and benefit formulas

**Mandatory Spending at a Glance**

- **10.1%** Mandatory spending as a share of GDP in 1991
- **13.6%** Mandatory spending as a share of GDP in 2011
- **$2.0 Trillion** Mandatory spending by the federal government in 2011
- **$856 Billion** Spending in 2011 on health care programs, the largest component of mandatory spending

**Mandatory Spending in 1991 and 2011**

Percentage of gross domestic product

- **Health Care**
  - Medicare
  - Medicaid
  - Other
  - **2.9%**

- **Social Security**
  - Old-Age and Survivors Insurance
  - Disability Insurance
  - **0.3%**

- **Income Security**
  - Unemployment Compensation
  - Earned Income and Child Tax Credits
  - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
  - Supplemental Security Income
  - **1.2%**

- **Federal Civilian and Military Retirement**
  - Civilian
  - Military
  - Other
  - **-1.5%**

- **Veterans**
  - Income Security
  - Other
  - **0.2%**

- **Other Programs**
  - **0.5%**

- **Offsetting Receipts**

Change (Percentage points)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>1991</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<tr>
<td>Other Programs</td>
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<td>Offsetting Receipts</td>
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Billions of dollars

Prepared by: Jonathan Schwabish and Courtney Griffith
Contact: Projections Unit, Budget Analysis Division
Source: Congressional Budget Office, April 2012
For more details, see CBO’s Budget and Economic Outlook, January 2012: http://go.usa.gov/nPi and CBO’s Updated Budget Projections, March 2012: http://go.usa.gov/mqN

All data are for federal fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30.
Numbers may not add up to totals because of rounding. Net interest not included.

BREAKDOWN of Mandatory Spending in 2011

Health Care $856B
- Medicare $560
- Medicaid $275
- Other $21

Social Security $725B
- Old-Age and Survivors Insurance $596
- Disability Insurance $129

Income Security $404B
- Unemployment Compensation $119
- Earned Income and Child Tax Credits $278
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program $77
- Supplemental Security Income $53
- Other $77

Federal Civilian and Military Retirement $144B
- Civilian $83
- Military $55
- Other $6

Veterans $71B
- Income Security $77

Other Programs $20B

Offsetting Receipts -$193B
Funds collected by government agencies from other government accounts or from the public that are credited as an offset to gross spending. Includes Medicare premiums, intragovernmental payments for federal employees' retirement, and receipts related to natural resources (such as those from oil and gas exploration and development).

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Disability Insurance $129
Unemployment Compensation $119
Earned Income and Child Tax Credits $278
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program $77
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