THE FEDERAL BUDGET IN FISCAL YEAR 2023

Prepared by Dan Ready, Jorge Salazar, and Caitlin Verboon

Data source: Congressional Budget Office, March 2024

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. GDP = gross domestic product.

Amounts reflect the actual amounts reported in The Accuracy of CBO's Budget Projections for Fiscal Year 2023 (December 2023).

### Categories of the Budget

#### Mandatory Spending
Primarily payments for benefits programs whose eligibility rules and benefit formulas are set by law

#### Discretionary Spending
Spending that lawmakers control annually through appropriation acts

#### Net Interest
The government’s interest payments on debt held by the public, offset by the interest income that the government receives

#### Revenues
Taxes and other funds collected from the public that arise from the government’s exercise of its sovereign powers

### Deficits and Debt

#### Federal Deficits or Surpluses

- **6.3%** of GDP
  - Deficit in 2023
- **3.7%** of GDP
  - Average deficit over the past 50 years

#### Deficit in 2023

**$1.7 Trillion**

#### Debt held by the public at the end of 2023

**97%** of GDP

#### Change in net interest costs from 2021 to 2023

**87%**

### Total Outlays

- **$6.1 Trillion**
  - 22.7% of GDP

### Net Interest

- **$659 Billion**
  - 2.4% of GDP

### Total Revenues

- **$4.4 Trillion**
  - 16.5% of GDP

### Percentages

- **22.7%** of GDP
  - Total Outlays
- **16.5%** of GDP
  - Total Revenues
- **12.5%** of GDP
  - Federal Debt Held by the Public

### Debt Held by the Public, 1974 to 2023

- **$2.2 Trillion**
  - 8.1% of GDP

### Categories of Federal Spending

#### Mandatory Spending
- Social Security
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Nondefense/non-discretionary spending

#### Discretionary Spending
- Defense
- Nondefense
- Interest

### Categories of Federal Revenues

#### Individual Income Taxes
- Individual income tax receipts are levied on a wide range of income, including wages, salaries, and self-employment income.

#### Payroll Taxes
- Payroll taxes consist of the social insurance taxes used to fund social insurance programs, primarily Social Security and Medicare.

#### Corporate Income Taxes

#### Other Revenues
- Other revenues include collections of customs duties, excise taxes, miscellaneous fees and fines, estate and gift taxes, and remittances from the Federal Reserve.

### Federal Debt Held by the Public

- **$1.7 Trillion**
  - 50.8% of GDP

### Federal Debt Held by the Public, by Component

- **$1.3 Trillion**
  - 48.3%

### Federal Debt Held by the Public, by Component

- **$0.6 Trillion**
  - 22.5%

### Federal Debt Held by the Public, by Component

- **$0.5 Trillion**
  - 18.0%

### Federal Debt Held by the Public, by Component

- **$0.2 Trillion**
  - 7.0%

### Federal Debt Held by the Public, by Component

- **$0.1 Trillion**
  - 3.4%

### Federal Debt Held by the Public, by Component

- **$0.1 Trillion**
  - 3.4%