

# Ensuring America's Security and Prosperity

A BUDGET FOR  
**AMERICA'S**  
**FUTURE**

The President's National Security Strategy sets forth a clear vision for the United States that prioritizes the security and prosperity of the American people first. A secure, prosperous, and free America will be strong and ready to lead abroad to protect our interests and our way of life. While America possesses enduring national strengths, we face an increasingly complex and dangerous world, filled with a wide range of threats that have intensified in recent years. In order to preserve peace through strength, we must continue our historic investments in the military to ensure we have the forces and capabilities needed to deter aggression, prevail in conflict, and protect the security of the United States.

- **Rebuilds American Strength.** The Budget requests \$740.5 billion for national defense, a \$2.5 billion increase over the 2020 enacted level. Of this total, \$705.4 billion is for the Department of Defense (DOD), including \$636.4 billion for the base budget and \$69 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). Consistent with the National Defense Strategy, the Budget advances DOD efforts over the last three years to prioritize investments in modernization, lethality, and innovation that provide our Nation's warfighters a competitive advantage against growing threats from near-peer adversaries, such as China and Russia, deter aggressive regional challengers, and maintain pressure on terrorist groups throughout the world.
- **Prioritizes Nuclear Deterrence.** America's nuclear deterrent is the backstop and foundation of the Nation's defense and that of our allies. The Budget invests \$28.9 billion for nuclear weapons programs at DOD, including \$17.7 billion to modernize critical nuclear delivery systems and support ongoing enhancements to Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications systems. For the Department of Energy, the Budget provides \$19.8 billion for the National Nuclear Security Administration, of which \$15.6 billion is for nuclear weapons programs. This funding will be used to support the existing nuclear weapons stockpile, extend the life of our nuclear warheads, recapitalize facilities, and maintain world-leading science supporting the nuclear weapons stockpile.
- **Invests in Modernization and Lethality.** The Budget supports military dominance across all warfighting domains—air, land, sea, space, and cyberspace. It continues to fund the world's most advanced and lethal naval force by investing \$19.3 billion to procure 10 new battle force and unmanned ships, including the recapitalization of the strategic ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) fleet with the first Columbia-class SSBN. The Budget also invests \$15.1 billion in DOD's tactical fighter programs, procuring 115 advanced fighter aircraft, and fully supports the modernization of one armored brigade combat team per year. Nearly \$10 billion is provided to support DOD cyber missions and grow the capacity of military cyber forces.
- **Grows the United States Space Force.** Building on the historic establishment of the United States Space Force (USSF), the Budget supports the growth of the USSF to advance America's national interests in space. The Budget provides \$111 million to fund essential personnel growth for the USSF to enable the development of doctrine, testing, and training for the new Service. In total, the Budget invests \$18 billion in space programs, including for the Space Development Agency, which will pursue development of space capabilities, and United States Space Command, which will employ the forces and capabilities of the USSF.

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- **Strengthens Homeland Missile Defeat and Defense.** The Administration continues to prioritize funding for DOD programs that protect the American homeland from rogue state missile threats. The Budget advances the objectives of the 2019 Missile Defense Review by providing \$20.3 billion to strengthen DOD's missile defeat and defense capabilities. The Budget assesses the potential modification of existing regional missile defense systems in order to deploy a layered homeland missile defense, which can be demonstrated as early as 2025.
- **Funds Leading Edge Innovation.** The United States must maintain its competitive advantage and technological superiority to counter the emerging threats outlined in the National Defense Strategy. As part of DOD's largest Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) request ever, the Budget provides over \$14 billion in science and technology programs that support key investments in industries of the future such as artificial intelligence, quantum information science, and biotechnology. Significant funding is provided to advance core innovation and modernization priorities, including hypersonic weapons, directed energy, 5G, space, autonomy, microelectronics, and fully-networked command, control, and communications.
- **Maximizes Readiness for the Future.** The Budget sustains and accelerates readiness gains made across each of the Services in recent years as a result of the Administration's focus on rebuilding the military. The Budget increases the Navy's ship and aircraft operation and maintenance accounts by \$1.9 billion; redirects Air Force funding toward increased flying hours, weapons sustainment, and training from legacy aircraft to next generation platforms; and emphasizes large-scale training activities and tactical proficiency within the Army's operational forces. The Budget also supports DOD's effort to divest legacy platforms and systems and reallocate resources towards key modernization efforts that support operations in highly contested environments.
- **Supports the Warfighter and their Families.** The President believes that America's service men and women are our Nation's most valuable asset. As such, the Budget proposes a 3.0-percent military pay raise and funds a full range of important compensation programs to ensure our Nation's military remains best positioned to recruit and retain a well-trained volunteer force. The Budget supports a total military end-strength of 2,153,000 active duty and reserve personnel, growing end-strength by over 13,000 above 2020 authorized levels.
- **Achieves Savings and Efficiencies.** The Budget reflects the Administration's commitment to streamline bureaucracy, ensure good stewardship of taxpayer dollars, and prioritize the core functions of Government. As part of this effort, the Budget supports DOD's comprehensive review of defense-wide organizations, known as the Fourth Estate, which identified over \$5 billion in savings in 2021 and transferred an additional \$2 billion in activities and functions to the Military Departments for more effective and efficient operations. DOD has reinvested all savings in innovation and lethality initiatives that strengthen the military's competitive advantage in high-end warfare.

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## Strengthening the Commitment to Our Nation's Veterans

The Budget continues to fulfill the President's promise to veterans by making critical investments in high priority initiatives that ensure veterans receive top quality care, benefits, and services—wherever they work or live. The Budget supports key Administration priorities such as veteran suicide prevention and opioid abuse prevention programs, and continues to integrate the changes enshrined in the VA MISSION Act of 2018, providing veterans greater choice in and access to the medical care they deserve. The Budget also supports other critical priorities, such as electronic health record modernization and information technology enhancements, and efforts to strengthen efficiency, transparency, and accountability within the Department.

- **Prioritizes Veterans Affairs Medical Care Funding.** The Budget provides \$90.0 billion, a 12.7-percent increase above the 2020 enacted level, continuing the implementation of the VA MISSION Act of 2018, and providing greater choice for many veterans regarding their healthcare decisions. The Budget also includes \$1.2 billion for the expansion of the Caregivers program, which provides stipend payments to caregivers of eligible veterans.
- **Invests in Veteran Suicide Prevention.** The Budget provides \$313 million, a 32-percent increase over the 2020 enacted level, to support the Administration's veteran suicide prevention initiatives, including the National Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End Suicide, a population-based, public health model encouraging partnerships at the national, regional, and local levels. These efforts support evidence-based approaches for suicide prevention in coordination with State and local governments, faith communities, employers, schools, and healthcare organizations.
- **Funds Opioid Abuse Prevention Programs.** The Budget provides \$504 million for opioid prevention and treatment, a 19-percent increase over the 2020 enacted level. This amount includes \$121 million for comprehensive programs for addiction treatment and recovery that expand and integrate implementation of evidence-based programs related to opioid and pain care for veterans. Funding supports expansion of multidisciplinary efforts, including: providing naloxone kits to at-risk VA patients and VA first responders; addressing staffing and resource deficiencies at pain management teams and pain clinics; expanding VA's use of predictive analytics to target veterans at-risk for overdose events; supporting recommendations from the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis; and establishing a "tele-hub" to provide opioid pain, addiction prevention, and treatment using telehealth capabilities.
- **Provides Funding for VA's Electronic Health Record (EHR) Modernization.** The Budget also provides \$2.6 billion, an 82-percent increase over the 2020 enacted level, to support a unified EHR between DOD and VA. The funding enables VA to double the number of sites that transition to the new EHR in 2021, mirroring DOD efforts, and accelerates scheduling throughout the VA enterprise five years sooner than originally planned, helping VA increase provider productivity and veteran access to care.

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## Supporting International Affairs Agencies

The Budget builds on the vision of the FY 2020 Budget by supporting the core activities of the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and other international programs, while refocusing their work on the highest National Security Strategy priorities and objectives.

- **Increasing American Influence.** The Budget provides \$836 million for the Development Finance Corporation (DFC) to support private-sector growth in less developed countries and to provide a transparent, high-quality alternative to predatory Chinese international lending in the Indo-Pacific and other strategic regions. The Budget would allow the DFC to increase equity investments significantly, enhancing its ability to support critical private sector projects. Using this expanded toolkit, the DFC would complement and enhance United States strategic and foreign policy objectives in the developing world.
- **Protecting the American People.** The FY 2021 Budget supports the global diplomatic presence of the United States. Sustaining a forward diplomatic presence supports proactive diplomacy and other tools of statecraft required for a new era of strategic competition, while also serving United States citizens overseas. The Budget builds on previous investments in embassy security and maintenance in order to protect American personnel representing more than 30 agencies in a safe and secure environment.
- **Countering China's Influence.** The Budget provides \$1.5 billion for the Indo-Pacific, reflecting the Administration's strong commitment to ensuring that the region remains free, open, and independent of malign Chinese influence. This funding supports democracy programs, strengthens security cooperation, improves economic governance, and facilitates private sector-led economic growth. The Budget supports a range of other programs globally to counter influence from China and maintain U.S. global leadership. These include \$30 million for the Global Engagement Center dedicated to countering foreign state and non-state propaganda and disinformation from China.
- **Preserving Peace and Security.** The Budget supports our commitments to allies, including Israel, Jordan, and other strategic partners. The Budget proposes an expanded set of Foreign Military Financing (FMF) loan and loan guarantee programs for NATO and Major Non-NATO Allies to complement traditional FMF grant assistance. With these tools, the United States would increase opportunities for allies to build their militaries around United States innovation and quality and transition away from inferior equipment from foreign adversaries. This would increase burden sharing, while bolstering security and improving interoperability, and support the United States defense industrial base.
- **Protecting the United States and the World from Infectious Disease.** The Budget requests \$290 million for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as part of a 4 year, \$1.16 billion pledge. Immunization programs avert an estimated annual 2 to 3 million child deaths globally and are one of the most cost-effective

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health interventions. The Budget also sustains the United States international partnership with the Global Health Security Agenda to defend the Nation from infectious disease outbreaks by building the capacity of countries to prevent, detect, and respond to these threats. The FY 2021 Budget will enable the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to provide lifesaving support in more than 50 countries, maintain all current patients on treatment, and continue the United States' position as the world's top HIV/AIDS donor. The Budget also supports the sixth replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, offering to match \$1 for every \$3 pledged by other donors, providing a \$658 million contribution in 2021 to support a United States contribution of up to \$3.3 billion over the 3 year replenishment period.

- **Reforming Foreign Assistance and Promoting Fairer Burden Sharing.** The Budget incorporates the Administration's guiding principles for foreign assistance, which direct agencies to focus foreign assistance on friends, ensure assistance is effective, encourage burden sharing, and avoid aiding strategic competitors and adversaries of the United States at taxpayer expense. In addition, the United States will continue to insist that financial burden sharing at multilateral organizations be more fair and equitable to the United States and its taxpayers, including through negotiating lower assessment rates and proposing more appropriate contribution levels in the Budget. One recent achievement to advance this objective was the reduction in the assessment rate for NATO, so that the United States is now in line with other major members.