

THE FOUNDATION

OUR FOUNDER

PRESS

BLOG

THE LATEST

CAREERS

U.S. DEFENSE

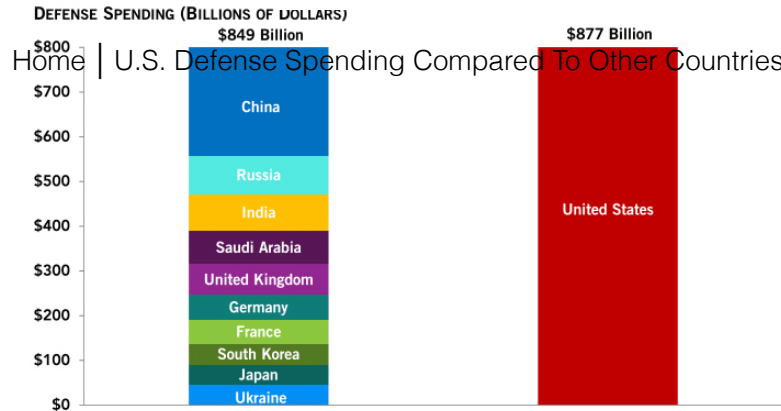

 PETERSON
FOUNDATION

 FINDING
SOLUTIONS


Sign up for our newsletter

WHAT WE'RE
DOING

Apr 24, 2023

WHAT YOU
CAN DORESOURCE
LIBRARY
 The United States spends more on defense than the next
10 countries combined


SOURCE: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, SIPRI Military Expenditure Database, April 2023.

NOTES: Figures are in U.S. dollars converted from local currencies using market exchange rates. Data for the United States are for fiscal year 2022, which ran from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. Data for the other countries are for calendar year 2022. The source for this chart uses a definition of defense spending that is more broad than budget function 050 and defense discretionary spending.

© 2023 Peter G. Peterson Foundation

PGPF.ORG

Download: Image | PDF | More Charts

The United States spends more on national defense than China, Russia, India, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, Germany, France, South Korea, Japan, and Ukraine — combined. While the chart above illustrates last year's defense spending in dollar terms, the United States has also historically devoted a larger share of its economy to defense than many of its key allies.

Defense spending accounts for 12 percent of all federal spending and nearly half of discretionary spending. Total discretionary spending — for both defense and nondefense purposes — is typically only about one-third of the annual

federal budget. It is currently below its historical average as a share of GDP and is projected to decline further.

NATIONAL SECURITY SOLUTIONS DEFENSE SPENDING INFOGRAPHIC

Want to use this chart? See our permissions policy.

Peter G. Peterson Foundation Chart Pack:



The PGPF chart pack illustrates that budget-making involves many competing priorities, limited resources, and complex issues. In this set of charts, we aim to frame the financial condition and fiscal outlook of the U.S. government within a broad economic, political, and demographic context.

[Download \(.PDF\)](#)

© 2023 PETER G. PETERSON
FOUNDATION. ALL RIGHTS
RESERVED.