



DATAPOST

Government Spending

Measuring Federal Expenditures

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Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
Education & Outreach

Government Spending – Did You Know?

Spending

- Like households and firms, the federal government is also a consumer of goods and services

Facts

- The BEA reports nominal values of federal government expenditures on an annual and quarterly basis
- The measure of government spending shown to the right is part of NIPA (National Income and Product Accounts) Table 3.16, which is published by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

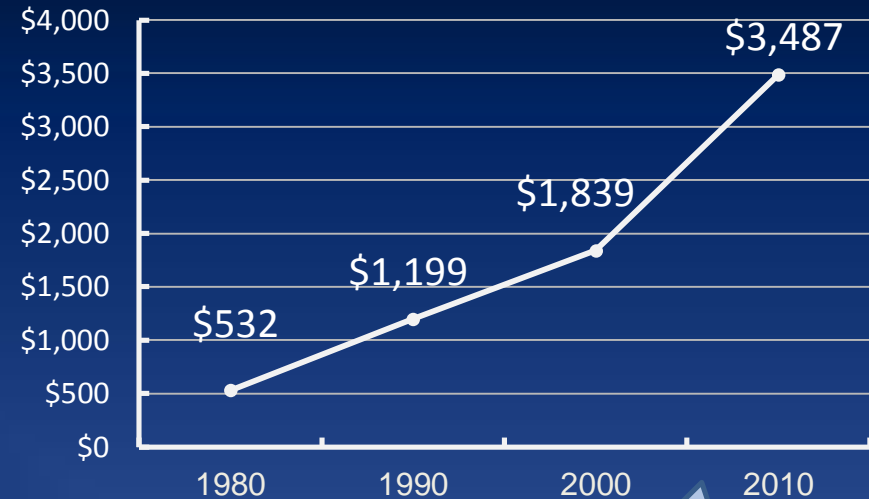
Relationship

- The sheer size of federal government spending makes government expenditures a major component of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP)

Note: See PowerPoint file for references

Federal Government Current Expenditures

(\$billions, nominal annual values for years shown)

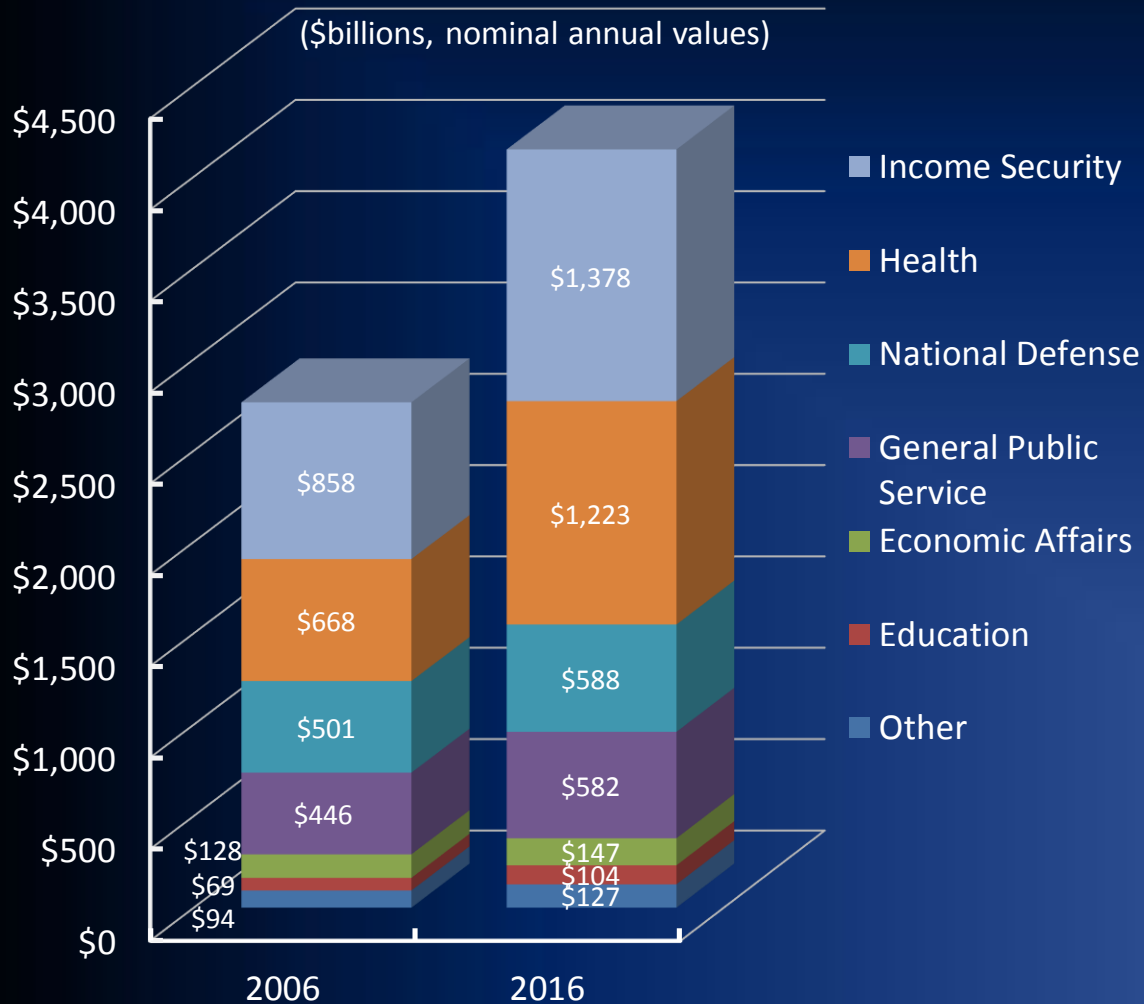


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Nominal government spending has grown over time. Its value in 2000 was more than triple that in 1980.

Government Spending by Function

2006 vs. 2016



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

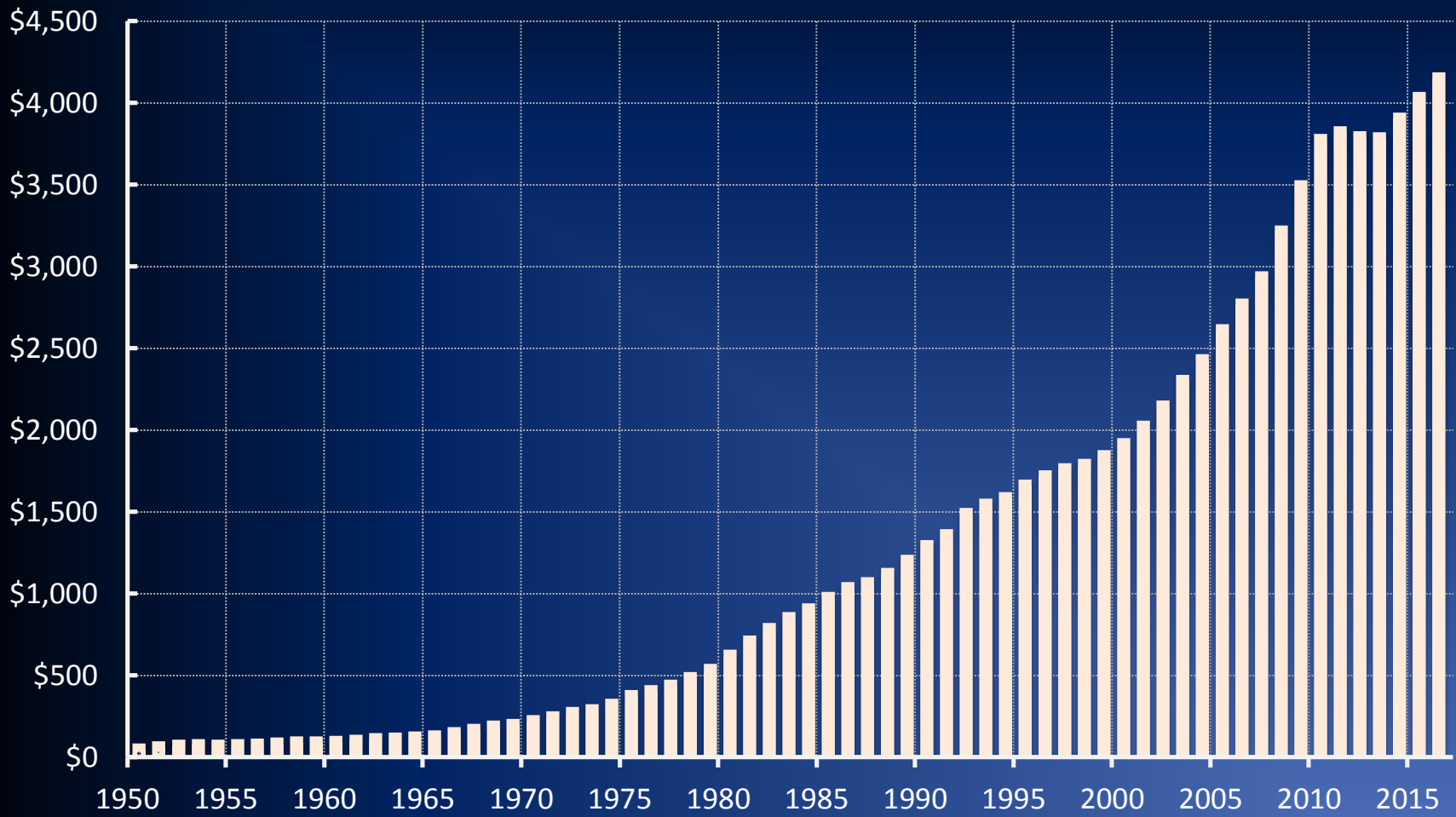
Together, income security and national defense account for almost 50% of all federal spending.

Nominal spending on health increased 83% between 2006 and 2016.

Overall, nominal federal spending increased 50% between 2006 and 2016.

Federal Government Current Expenditures

Nominal annual values (\$billions) through 2016



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

207403
2615
43634
32902

What Do You Think?

1. In general, how did spending on education in 2006 compare to 2016? (See slide 3)
2. What was total government spending in 2006? In 2016? (See slide 3)
3. What percentage of federal spending went to education in 2006? In 2016? (See slide 3)
4. What was the largest category of government spending in 2006? In 2016? (See slide 3)