

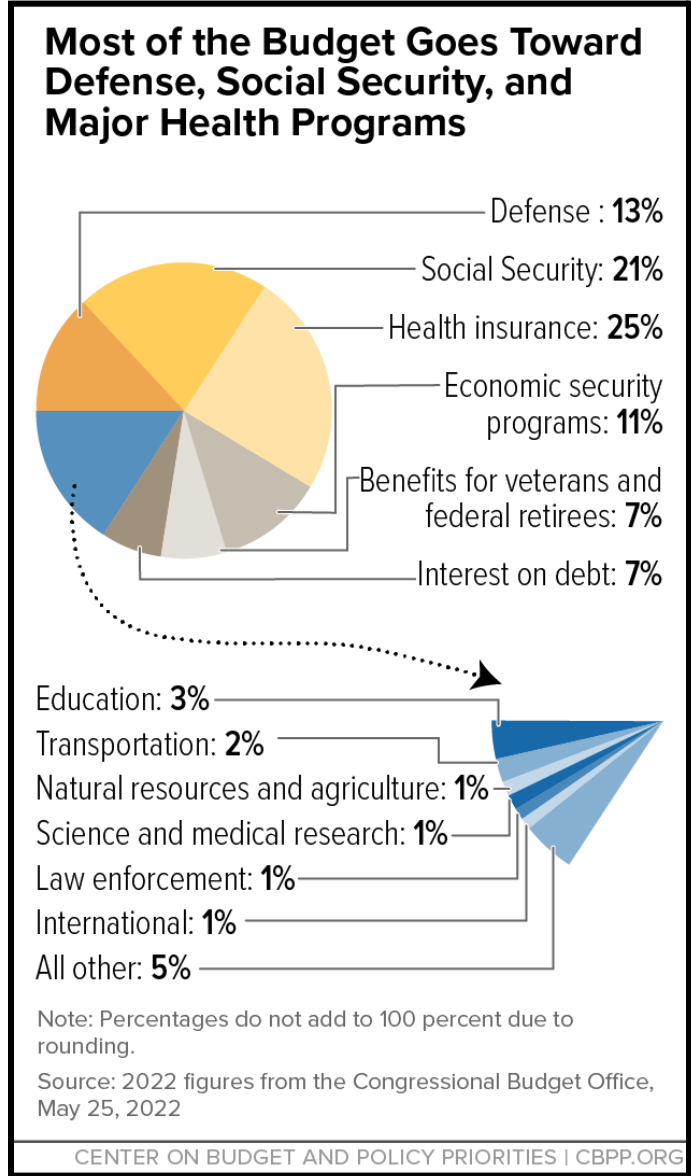
Benjamin Turner, Jimmy Boling, Courtney Clyburn, Amanda Porter

The main healthcare issue that we are focusing on is that the cost of medicine is too expensive for the American people to pay for. Life-saving medicine that costs hundreds of dollars is being rationed due to people having to choose between their medicine and things such as keeping their house, paying the water bill or eating that month. This can lead to increased healthcare spending altogether, as patients may require additional medical care as a result of untreated illnesses or conditions.

Our solution to this serious issue is to allocate excess money from the defense budget that was given above the request for military procurement. The excess of money in the defense budget exceeds \$17 billion dollars times two. This excess money that is being sent to defense could be sent to pharmaceutical research and in turn lower the cost of medicine overall. Medicine like Epinephrine for the Epinephrine Injections (EpiPen) could be lowered and capped similar to that of the insulin cost that was capped at \$35. Medications could be made more affordable for those who struggle to access them on a fixed or low income. Some of these medications can mean life or death to someone.

If the necessary money of one budget year from the Defense budget were allocated towards medicine it would increase the benefit for those in need of medical services. Even if only three percent were added, it would make a difference. Many pharmaceutical company's main reason for overpricing their medications is because they need more funding for their research. This policy will supply pharmacies with funding for their medication research, and the result of that will be the lowering of medication prices altogether.

If Senators and governors make bills to lower these costs then the people who have to buy them are more likely to vote for these people keeping them in office. With this in mind, this scenario would be a substantial reason on why this policy should be bipartisan, so that way neither political party can claim credit or more credit than the other.



“Most of the Budget Goes toward Defense, Social Security, and Major Health Programs.”
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Accessed March 29, 2023.