Summary of Net Interest and Medicaid Data


Note: Highest value shown is $300 billion

The five largest budget categories in recent years, in descending order, are: (1) Social Security, (2) Defense, (3) Net Interest, (4) Medicare, and (5) Medicaid, though the order has varied among 3, 4, and 5

1967 is the first year for Medicare outlays

Source of current-dollar data: Budget 2004 Historical Tables, Tables 11.3 and 3.1; because early-2003 deficit estimates appear optimistic, almost certainly interest outlays for 2003 and later will be higher than shown.
Interest on Debt: Yearly Inflation-adjusted Change and as Percent of Total Outlays and Mandatory Outlays, 1940 to estimated 2004

Source of current-dollar data: Budget 2004 Historical Tables, Table 3.1; because early-2003 deficit estimates appear optimistic, almost certainly interest outlays for 2003 and later will be higher than shown.
Medicaid: Yearly Inflation-adjusted Change and as Percent of Outlays and Mandatory Outlays, 1960 to estimated 2004

1961 is the first year for Medicaid outlays

Source of current-dollar data: Budget 2004 Historical Tables, Table 11.3; inflation adjustment with CPI-U-X1, which applies the post-1982 CPI to the entire period

Real change in Medicaid (CPI-U-X1) — Medicaid as percent of mandatory — Medicaid as percent of outlays
Change in Inflation-adjusted Net Interest and Medicaid Outlays by Presidential Term, 1940 to estimated 2004, in Percent

Summary of data:

- Change in Inflation-adjusted Net Interest and Medicaid Outlays by Presidential Term, 1940 to estimated 2004, in Percent

Source of current-dollar data: *Budget 2004 Historical Tables*, Tables 3.1 and 11.3; because early-2003 deficit estimates appear optimistic, almost certainly interest outlays for 2003 and later will be higher than shown.