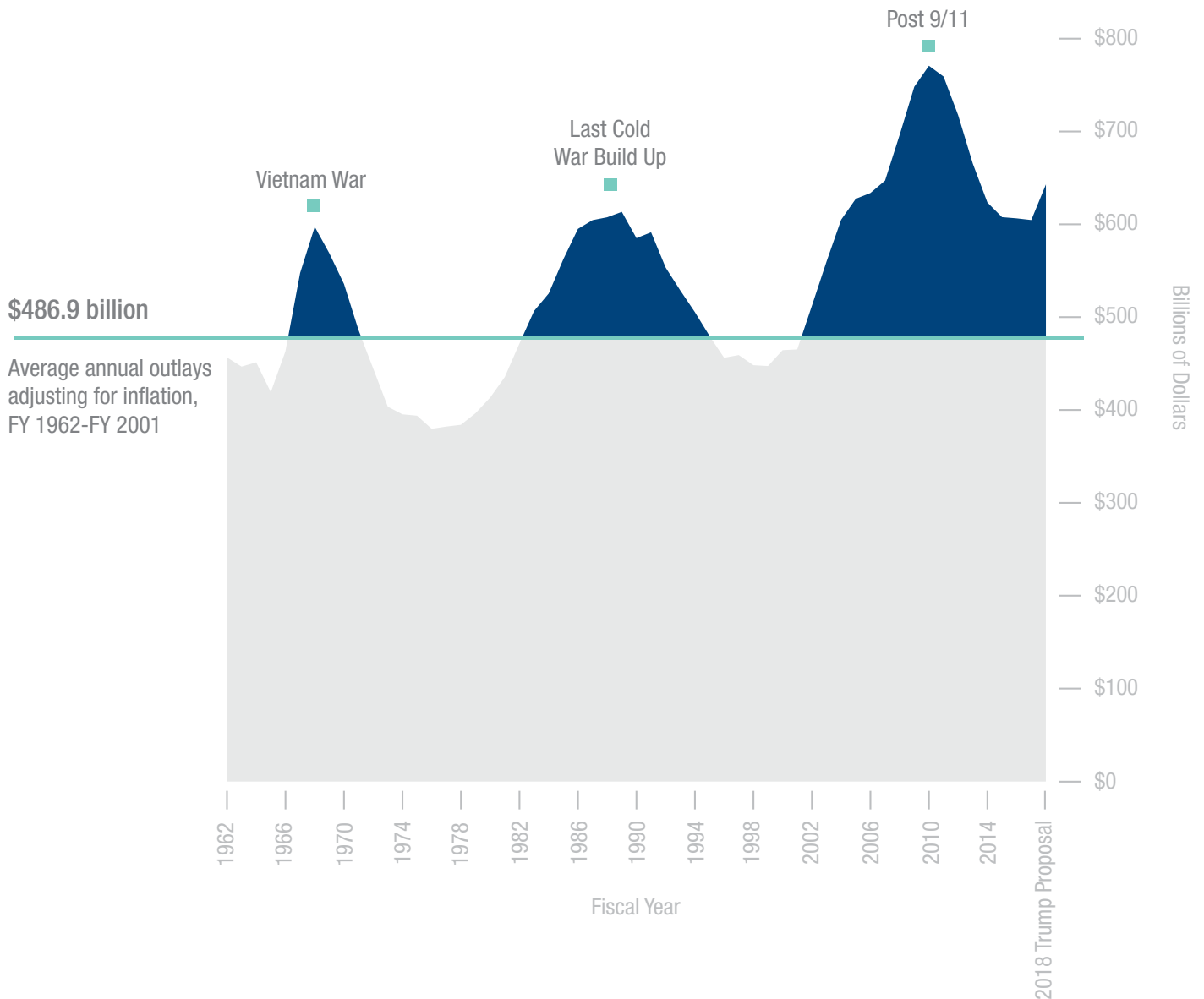




PENTAGON SPENDING AT HISTORICALLY HIGH LEVELS FOR OVER A DECADE

Discretionary outlays for budget function 050 [national defense]; constant FY 2018 dollars

Those calling for billions more in Pentagon spending argue that budget caps have driven the military to dangerously low resource levels. The reality is that, after adjusting for the effects of inflation, the United States has been spending more on its military, for longer, than at any time over the past half-century. Even with budget caps, and even after major personnel drawdowns in Afghanistan and Iraq, military spending over the last few years has been at or near the highest years of Vietnam or the end of the Cold War.



For more information and sources, visit: fcnl.org/pentagoninfo



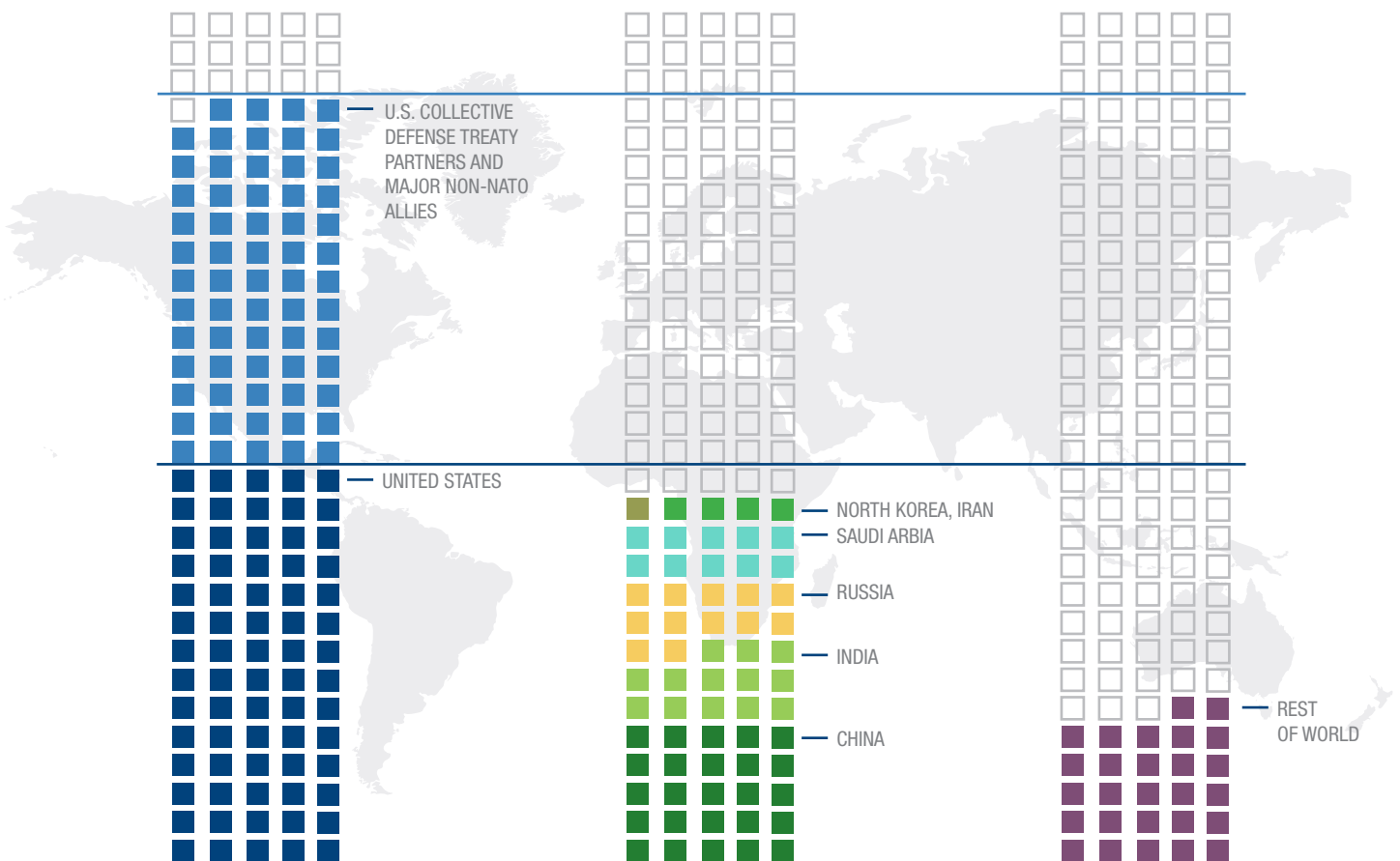


U.S. AND ITS ALLIES SPEND MORE ON MILITARY THAN REST OF WORLD

Those calling for billions more in Pentagon spending suggest that we are somehow not keeping up with other countries' spending. The reality is that, the United States spends far more on its military than every other country on Earth, including any and all potential adversaries, even after accounting for inflation and for countries' varying purchasing power. And unlike any potential adversaries, U.S. military spending is complimented by a globe-spanning web of collective defense treaties and other alliance relationships. Increasing the Pentagon budget even more will not make Americans safer; it will only waste more funds.

Average Annual Military Expenditures, 2004-2014

■ = \$10 billion in average constant 2014 dollars of military expenditures per year, adjusted for purchasing power parity



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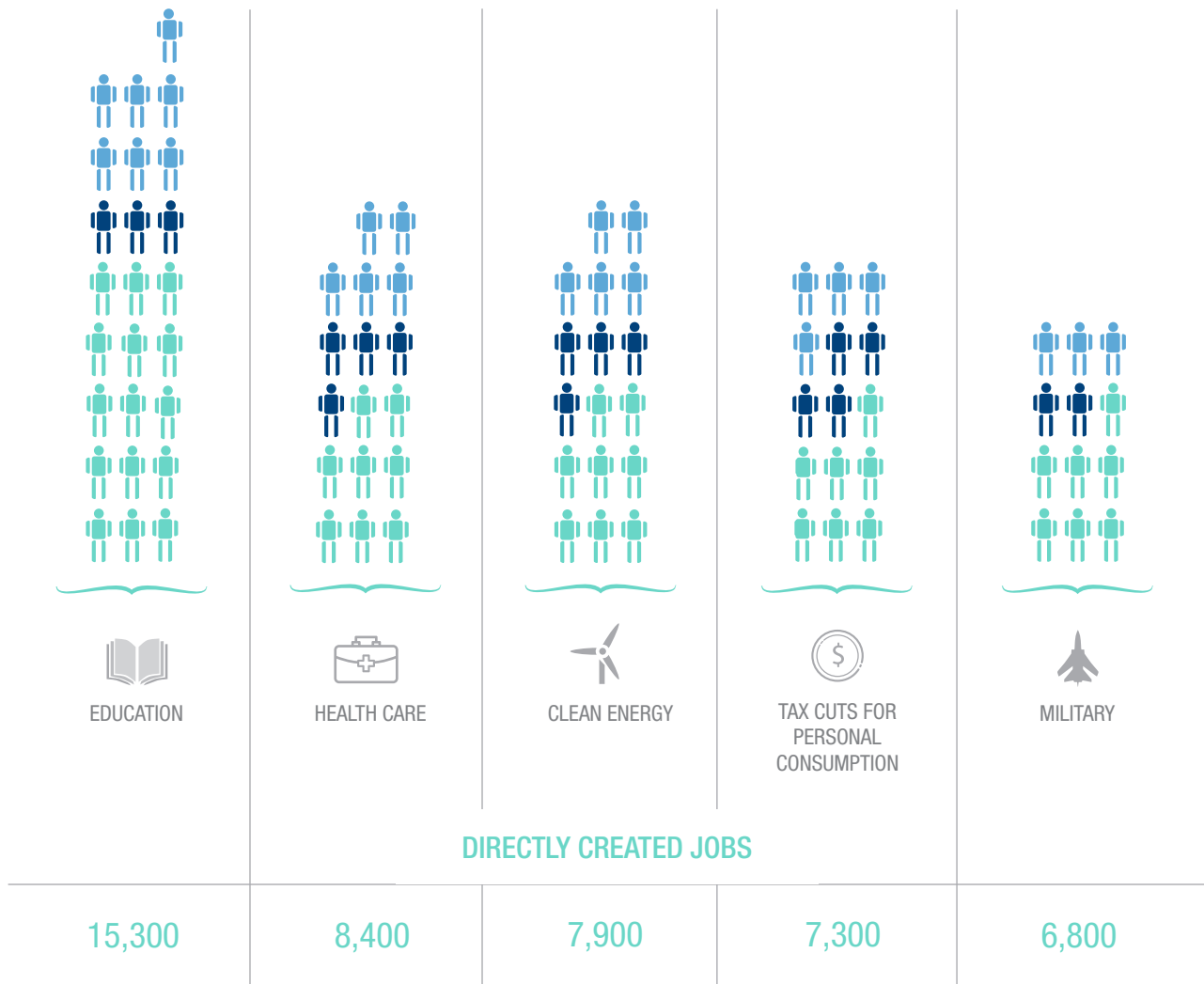




PENTAGON SPENDING IS THE LEAST EFFECTIVE WAY TO CREATE JOBS

Dollar for dollar, military spending is less effective at creating jobs than four other options, according to Brown University's study *The Job Opportunity Cost of War*. \$1 billion invested in education will create twice as many jobs as \$1 billion invested in the military. If members of Congress want to create American jobs, then this study suggests they should be taking money out of the military, not putting more into it.

- DIRECT: Directly created by industry
 - INDIRECT: Created through the supply chain (ex. jobs in military uniform production)
 - INDUCED: Domestic jobs created as industry and supply chain workers spend their paychecks
- = 1,000 jobs



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RETHINKING MILITARY READINESS CONCERNS

The U.S. spends more than the next six key military powers combined. Yet, the Pentagon says spending caps are causing a “readiness crisis” that only major budget hikes can solve. Here’s what that logic misses:

THE PENTAGON ALREADY WASTES MUCH OF WHAT TAXPAYERS GIVE IT.

Misuse of Pentagon funds is so rampant that when the Pentagon conducted an internal study, it identified \$125 billion in potential savings over five years. The Navy spent \$2.4 billion more than it had originally planned to complete its new aircraft carrier. After the Army paid 500% too much for an expensive rotor part, it found the part was already in storage. Unlike every other cabinet department, the Pentagon has never passed a basic audit of its finances.

THE UNITED STATES WIELDS FAR AND AWAY THE WORLD’S MOST LETHAL MILITARY.

The United States has more armored vehicles, more destroyers, and more aircraft ready to fly in combat than China and Russia combined. Our military has 11 aircraft carriers, when Russia and China combined have no more than 3 in the water. The Army’s equipment is at an all-time historical high for mission capability.

THE PENTAGON WANTS TO FULFILL ALL OF ITS WISHLISTS EVEN WHILE FIGHTING EXPANDS.

U.S. military forces are fighting and dying in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and Somalia, with no clear path for ending these wars and for keeping the peace afterwards. Attempting to throw billions more at people, training, and gear to deter potential threats and granting all of the Pentagon’s high-tech wishlists—at the same time our military ramps up warfighting—will impose other costs on our country: a larger national debt or a weakened safety net.



“I’ve been around long enough to recognize snake oil when I see it. ... Our military is not unready. It is not ‘hollow,’ it is not at the edge of any cliff below which disaster looms.”

Gordon Adams, Distinguished Fellow at the Stimson Center

“It’s up for debate how serious the military’s readiness problems actually are. ... They’re doing this deliberately to make the problem look like a crisis.”

Todd Harrison, Director of the Defense Budget Analysis at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

“This is a time when the services, if you will, want to put their worst foot forward and make clear all the problems that are there. ... So, I think we need to be a little skeptical.”

Robert Hale, Former Department of Defense Comptroller

“The United States has the best military in the world today, by far. U.S. forces have few, if any, weaknesses, and in many areas ... they play in a totally different league from the militaries of other countries.”

Gen. (Ret) David Petraeus, former CIA Director and commander in Iraq and Afghanistan

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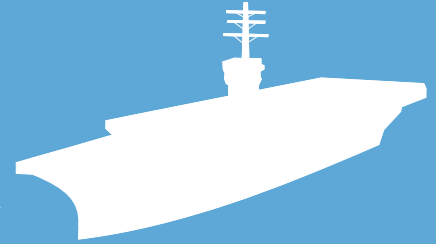


4 SOURCES OF WASTE: 4 STEPS TO TAKE

President Trump and some in Congress are calling for hundreds of billions of additional dollars for the Pentagon, at the cost of still more national debt or cuts to a safety net so many struggling Americans need. This will not make our nation safer. Here are four steps Congress could take to save \$40 billion and start bringing some fiscal responsibility to Pentagon spending.

\$4.5 BILLION FOR TWO MORE UNPROVEN AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

The first edition of the Navy's new class of aircraft carriers was \$2 billion over budget, has not yet passed realistic sea trials, and, according to the Pentagon's own Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, has so many unproven systems that it could be vulnerable or limited even by routine operations. Even so, the Navy wants billions to finish a second carrier and start work on a third. Versions two and three should not be funded while version one is still untested.



\$1.1 BILLION FOR A NEW NUCLEAR CRUISE MISSILE AND A NEW LAND-BASED INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE

Before the Trump administration produces a promised Nuclear Posture Review it is seeking billion-dollar down payments on a trillion dollar plan to mindlessly extend today's oversized nuclear arsenal for another half-century. We should only pay for what we need to keep the country secure rather than fuel a dangerous nuclear arms race without real debate or thought. Former Secretary of Defense William Perry says these two systems will make us less safe, not more.



\$9.7 BILLION FOR ANOTHER 70 F-35 FIGHTER PLANES

All told, these planes are expected to cost \$150 billion more than the initial price tag. A case study in the failures of Pentagon procurement, these planes are plagued by software problems and are designed for wars the U.S. isn't fighting.



\$25 BILLION A YEAR IN MILITARY WASTE

The Pentagon suppressed an internal report identifying \$125 billion in military waste over five years. *The Washington Post* recently uncovered a hidden report commissioned by the Pentagon that identified huge bureaucratic waste in back offices. The Pentagon spends \$134 billion every year just in administrative costs. The military is close to having one staff member sitting at a desk for every soldier deployed in the field.



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