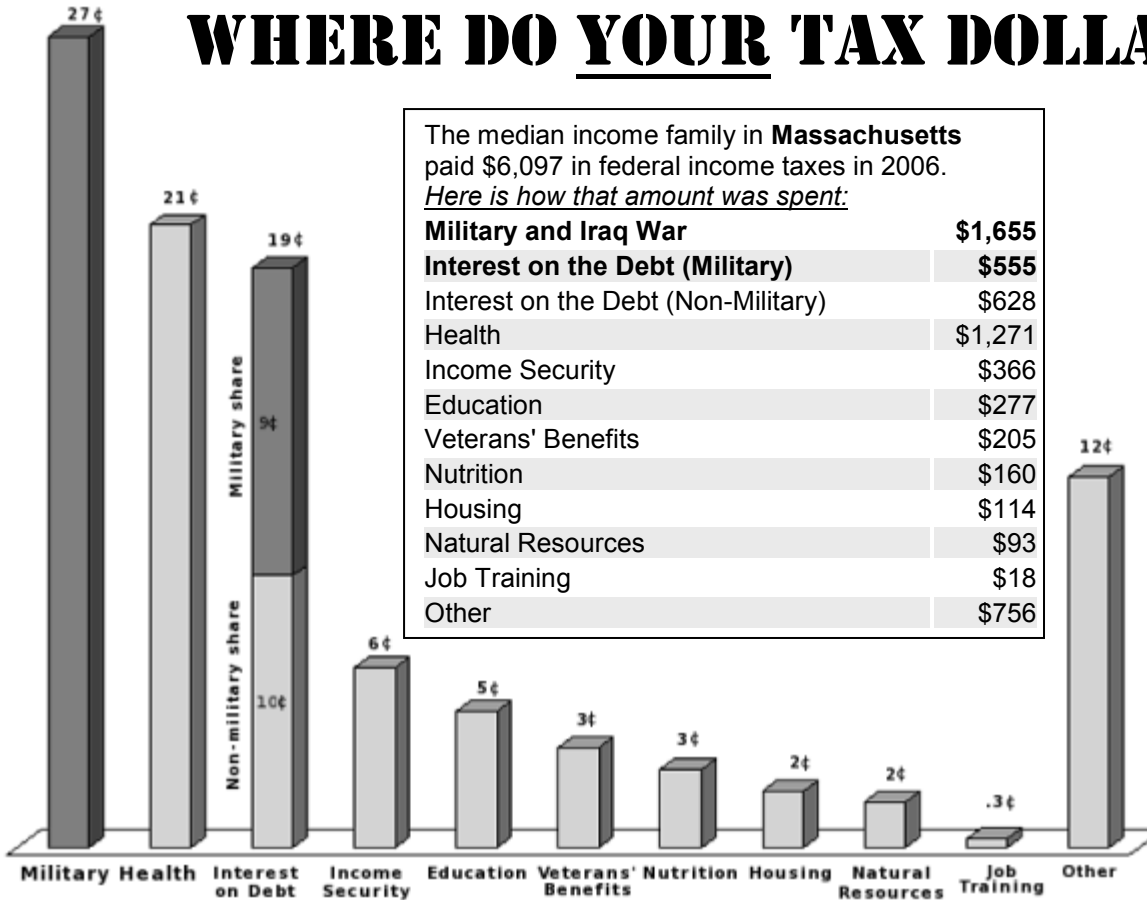


# WHERE DO YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO?



The median income family in **Massachusetts** paid \$6,097 in federal income taxes in 2006. *Here is how that amount was spent:*

<b>Military and Iraq War</b>	<b>\$1,655</b>
<b>Interest on the Debt (Military)</b>	<b>\$555</b>
Interest on the Debt (Non-Military)	\$628
Health	\$1,271
Income Security	\$366
Education	\$277
Veterans' Benefits	\$205
Nutrition	\$160
Housing	\$114
Natural Resources	\$93
Job Training	\$18
Other	\$756

## **No More \$\$ for War!**

As Congress works to finalize another \$100+ billion more for the occupation of Iraq, the human and financial costs of the war continue to soar:

### **Human Costs:**

- **3,300** US troops dead
- **25,000 – 50,000** US troops wounded
- **650,000** Iraqis dead
- **3.7 million** Iraqis are internally-displaced persons or refugees

### **Financial Costs:**

- **\$4,100** per household
- **\$11 million** per hour
- **\$9 billion** per month

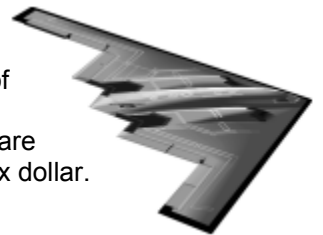
### **Social Trade-Offs:**

- Health care for **150 billion people.**
- Head Start for **70 billion children.**
- College scholarships for **85 billion students.**

This chart, developed by the **National Priorities Project** (<http://www.costofwar.com>), shows how each dollar of the median-income family's income tax dollars are distributed across federal programs.

## **Past and current military spending totals 40 cents for every tax dollar spent :**

Military spending accounted for **27 cents** of every income tax dollar paid. But that only tells part of the story. At least **nine cents** of every federal income tax dollar paid today can be attributed to borrowing to pay for past wars and military build-ups. On top of that, disability payments, health care and other benefits accrued to veterans make up a little **over three cents** of the federal income tax dollar.



The cost of war only promises to grow larger. Since the occupation of Iraq began, Congress has appropriated or spent nearly **half a trillion dollars** on the Iraq War alone. Like other wars before it, this one is also deficit financed, which means we owe hundreds of billions of dollars more in interest payments. Veterans' disability payments and health care costs of the many, permanently-disabled soldiers will also add hundreds of billions over the coming years.

## **Just pennies left for spending on the environment, social programs and comprehensive security:**

Non-military tools of national security claim little of the tax dollar. Spending on **preventive security measures** – such as diplomacy, economic development assistance, and locking down nuclear materials – amounted to **only 3/4 of a penny**.

Put it all together, and Americans are spending roughly 40 cents of every tax dollar on past and present military spending. Meanwhile, as **global warming** becomes more alarming and verifiable, investing in **renewable energy and conservation** amounted to **only hundredths of a penny** of the federal income tax dollar. All of our national parks, natural resources, pollution abatement and any other environmental spending came to only **one and a half cents of the income tax dollar**.



Meeting domestic needs such as **affordable housing, nutrition**, and other forms of **nutrition support** received **only a few pennies each**. Health, however, comprised a large portion of the federal income tax dollar at 20 cents due to rising medical costs and increasing benefits for seniors. Nevertheless, the number and percentage of uninsured Americans continues to rise.

**Get Involved!** Urge Congress to stop funding endless wars and invest instead in meeting human & environmental needs! Join our Action Alert Network at [www.MassPeaceAction.org](http://www.MassPeaceAction.org)!