



What's at Stake?

State-level impact of war spending

Vermont Fiscal Year 2012

Overview

After several years of fiscal crisis, state budgets have been cut to the bone. Yet the nation's economy continues to struggle. Federal funds made available to the states under the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are drying up. Forty-two states and Washington DC continue to find themselves facing budget shortfalls in 2012 for a cumulative total of \$103 billion in this fiscal year alone. By comparison, the Obama Administration is requesting \$107 billion for the war in Afghanistan in 2012, plus an additional \$11 billion for the war in Iraq.

Vermont at a Glance

FY12 Budget Shortfall: \$176 million
 % of FY12 Budget: 14.3
 Population: 621,760
 Unemployment Rate: 6.2%
 Poverty Rate: 9.4%
 Median Household Income: \$50,619

Facing a \$176 million shortfall in Vermont, funding for higher education, state employees, and programs for the elderly and disabled is vulnerable.

(State cuts and budget shortfall data from Center on Budget & Policy Priorities, <http://www.cbpp.org/cms/index.cfm?fa=view&id=711>)

Vermont Trade-offs

Education <i>focus on Head Start</i>	Health <i>focus on health insurance</i>	Environment <i>focus on renewable energy</i>
<p>Total Afghan War Cost FY2011 to Vermont: \$166,903,288</p> <p>"Head Start has helped to launch 25 million American children and their families onto a life of achievement in the classroom and in the community."</p> <p>National Head Start Association Board Chairperson Ron Herndon</p>	<p>Cumulative Afghan War Cost to Vermont: \$629,103,546</p> <p>"Affordable health insurance is the key to a productive work force, small business innovation, and the economic as well as health security of our nation's families."</p> <p>Judy Feder, Center for American Progress</p>	<p>Cumulative Afghan & Iraq War Cost to Vermont: \$1,724,493,495</p> <p>"Using fossil fuels, coal, oil and natural gas to make electricity dirties the nation's air, consumes and pollutes water, hurts plants and animal life, creates toxic wastes, and causes global warming."</p> <p>Union of Concerned Scientists</p>
<p># of Head Start-eligible children: 4,127</p> <p># of Head Start places: 1,506</p>	<p># of uninsured: 61,000</p>	<p>Total energy consumed: 158,138 BBtu</p> <p>Total renewable energy consumed: 26,524 BBtu</p>
<p>Cost of the Afghan War to Vermont this year would provide Head Start funding for ALL eligible children in the state for 11.9 years.</p>	<p>Total cost (2001-2011) of the Afghan War to Vermont would pay for ALL uninsured in the state for 1.7 years.</p>	<p>Vermont's share of total war spending would pay 30.8% of the cost to convert all of the state's non-renewable energy to all solar energy OR 127.7% of the cost to convert to all wind energy.</p>

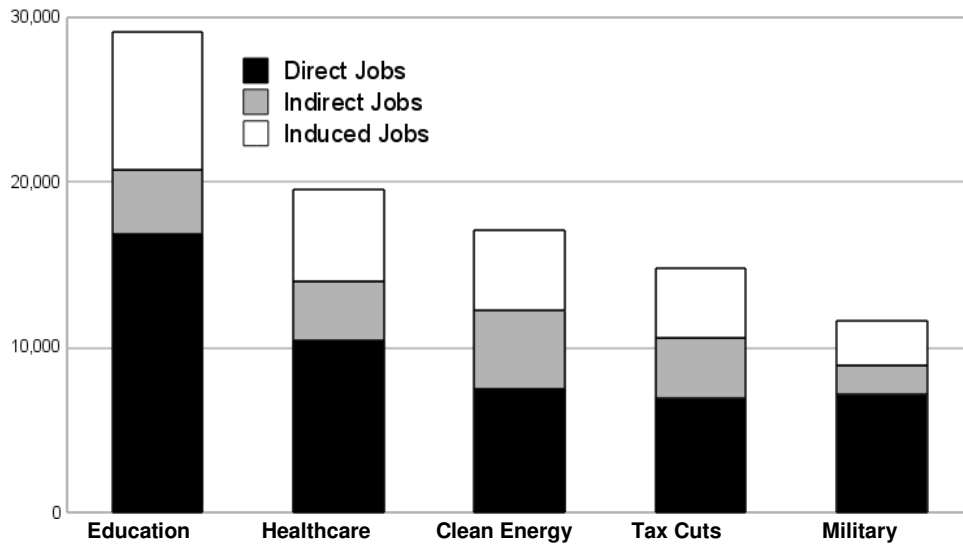
Higher Education v. War Spending

At the University of Vermont, the Vermont share of total war spending, \$1.7 billion, would fund all in-state expenses of a four-year education for each incoming freshman class for the next 6.4 years.

City-level Impact

City/Metro Area	Cumulative Afghan & Iraq War Spending	Estimated return to prerecession employment
Burlington	\$80.7 million	2011Q1

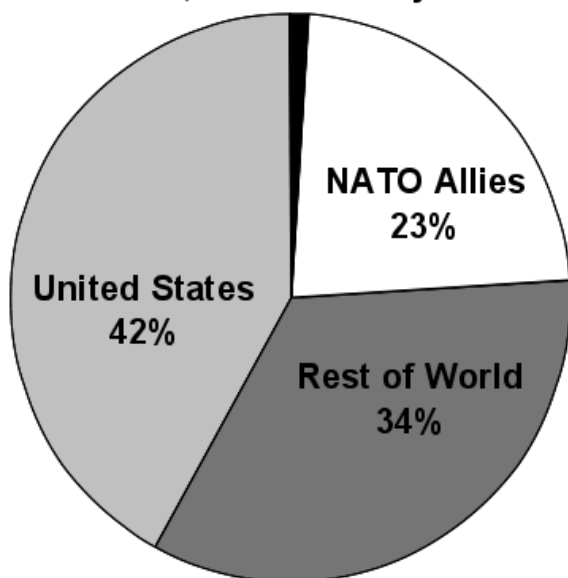
Impact of \$1 billion on potential job creation in select sectors



Source: PERI

Military Spending: U.S. v. World (2009)

Cuba, Iran, Libya, N. Korea, Sudan, Somalia and Syria 1%



Source: SIPRI

Notes & Sources:

Extended notes and sources for *What's at Stake?* Can be found at www.costofwar.com along with additional state-level resource material.

For President's Budget and Tax Day analyses, as well as associated educational materials, go to www.nationalpriorities.org.

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