

STUDIES

Analysis of the FY 2018 Defense Budget and Trends in Defense Spending

December 5, 2017 | **Katherine Blakeley**

Resources: Budget & Resources

President Trump's FY 2018 defense budget promises a "historic" defense buildup. At \$603 billion in the base national defense budget, some \$54 billion over the Budget Control Act caps, it grows the size of military slightly and boosts RDT&E efforts, but doesn't move the needle on procurement. Does the FY 2018 budget request build the military the U.S. needs? Will Congress succeed in funding more for defense?

View interactive web versions of the report topics on the following pages:

- **BRIEF 01: OVERVIEW OF THE FY 2018 DEFENSE BUDGET REQUEST** ([page_2527](#))
- **BRIEF 02: THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S FY 2018 DEFENSE BUDGET IN CONTEXT** ([page_2547](#))
- **BRIEF 03: A DEFENSE BUILDUP IN THE NEAR TERM?** ([page_2557](#))
- **BRIEF 04: MILITARY PERSONNEL** ([page_2570](#))
- **BRIEF 05: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION** ([page_2613](#))
- **BRIEF 06: PROCUREMENT** ([page_2643](#))
- **BRIEF 07: OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE** ([page_2701](#))

- **BRIEF 08: OTHER DEFENSE SPENDING ({page_2719})**
- **BRIEF 09: DEFENSE SPENDING IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT: A NEW REAGAN-ESQUE BUILDUP? ({page_2720})**