

COMPARING THE COSTS OF WAR WITH STATE DEFICITS - 2011

State	What Taxpayers Paid for the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in 2011	Deficit 2011	War Spending as Percent of State Deficit	Trade-off of cost of war: number of elementary school teachers
	(Billions of \$)	(Billions of \$)		
Alabama	1.60	0.59	273	28,414
Alaska	0.30	no data	n/a	3,998
Arizona	2.40	3.10	77	46,133
Arkansas	1.60	no data	n/a	30,948
California	21.80	26.10	84	283,672
Colorado	2.60	1.50	173	44,423
Connecticut	4.20	5.10	82	52,563
Delaware	1.10	0.38	292	16,993
District of Columbia	0.74	0.10	712	10,555
Florida	9.50	4.70	202	150,016
Georgia	5.00	4.20	119	78,012
Hawaii	0.56	0.59	94	9,454
Idaho	0.47	0.84	56	7,528
Illinois	9.30	13.50	69	126,536
Indiana	2.60	1.30	200	43,906
Iowa	1.30	1.10	118	27,272
Kansas	1.40	0.51	275	26,542
Kentucky	1.30	1.30	100	23,081
Louisiana	1.30	1.00	130	24,527
Maine	0.46	0.94	49	8,340
Maryland	3.30	2.00	165	46,788
Massachusetts	4.90	2.70	181	65,421
Michigan	4.60	2.00	230	64,092
Minnisotta	4.10	4.00	103	66,230
Mississippi	0.68	0.72	95	12,897
Missouri	2.60	0.73	356	48,105
Montana	0.26	no data	n/a	5,314
Nebraska	1.20	0.33	365	22,823
Nevada	1.50	1.80	83	26,806
New Hampshire	0.70	0.37	193	11,532
New Jersey	7.90	10.70	74	104,892
New Mexico	0.52	0.33	158	8,438
New York	15.50	8.50	182	190,346

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North Carolina	4.70	5.80	81	89,719
	(Billions of \$)	(Billions of \$)		
North Dakota	0.21	no data		3,901
Ohio	6.00	3.00	200	90,252
Oklahoma	2.60	0.73	359	52,021
Oregon*	1.40	0.29	483	21,993
Pennsylvania	6.60	4.10	161	101,448
Rhode Island	0.69	0.40	175	8,267
South Carolina	1.30	1.30	100	22,704
South Dakota	0.26	0.10	257	5,596
Tennessee	2.70	1.00	270	47,424
Texas	14.10	4.60	307	245,982
Utah	0.92	0.70	132	15,820
Vermont	0.25	0.34	74	4,072
Virginia	4.70	1.30	362	65,685
Washington	3.90	3.50	111	58,159
West Virginia	0.47	0.13	351	8,777
Wisconsin*	2.70	1.70	159	43,957
Wyoming	0.30	0.15	201	4,513
TOTAL U.S.	171.10	130.16	131	2,606,887

*Oregon and Wisconsin have two-year budget cycles. Their deficits shown for 2011 are half the projected state deficit for the two-year budget cycle.

If federal aid to states in the 2009 stimulus package did not run out in 2011 but continued with funds now used for war, all state budget deficits would be erased with almost \$40 billion left over.

Sources: cost of war and trade-offs, National Priorities Project <costofwar.com>
state deficits, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities <cbpp.org>

Prepared by the Center for Study of Working Class Life, SUNY Stony Brook
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