

The study by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace said that U.S. nuclear weapons spending — excluding classified programs — makes up 10 percent of the total defense budget, consumes 67 percent of the Department of Energy’s budget, and **exceeds the total amount spent on international diplomacy and foreign aid**, which is \$39.5 billion. It also exceeds spending on technology, general science and space, which is \$27.4 billion.

“Nuclear weapons pose the most serious threat to human life,” Cherie Eichholz, executive director of Washington PSR, wrote in an e-mail. “The numbers are highly disturbing, as is the fact that less than 10 percent of the \$52 billion went toward slowing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and technology.”

[More...](#)