



Military Retirement

The Department of Defense's military retirement program pays monthly benefits to service members who qualify for retirement based on years of service or a disability resulting from sustaining an injury or incurring or aggravating a medical condition while on active military duty. In some cases, the program also pays benefits to surviving spouses and dependents of deceased service members. Benefit amounts are based on final salary, years of service or disability rating, and a multiplier; the formula differs depending on the retirement law under which a member retired. Military retirement is not means-tested, but receipt of veterans' disability compensation can offset military retirement payments dollar for dollar. In certain circumstances, those offsets are restored by supplemental payments.

Military Retirement

By Fiscal Year, Billions of Dollars

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2023-2027	2023-2032
BUDGET INFORMATION													
Budget Authority	67	73	77	80	83	86	88	91	94	97	100	399	869
Estimated Outlays	71	73	72	80	83	85	94	85	94	97	99	393	862
Components of the Military Retirement Program													
Excluding Effects of Payday Shift	66	73	77	80	83	85	88	91	94	97	99	398	867
Adjustment for Payday Shift ^a	5	0	-5	0	0	0	6	-6	0	0	0	-5	-5
PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT INFORMATION													
Average Monthly Participation (Thousands of people)													
Retirees	2,190	2,210	2,229	2,246	2,262	2,275	2,286	2,292	2,298	2,301	2,303	n.a.	n.a.
Survivors	286	286	287	287	286	286	285	284	283	282	281	n.a.	n.a.
Average Monthly Benefit Per Participant (Dollars)													
Retirees	2,361	2,572	2,693	2,774	2,847	2,925	3,006	3,093	3,185	3,281	3,379	n.a.	n.a.
Survivors	1,320	1,454	1,531	1,575	1,612	1,650	1,689	1,731	1,774	1,818	1,863	n.a.	n.a.

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding; n.a. = not applicable.

- a. Section 632 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 requires the Department of Defense to make retirement payments on the first day of each month. If the first day of the month occurs on a holiday or a weekend, payments are instead made on the preceding business day. That will result in one additional paycheck in fiscal years 2022 and 2028 and one fewer paycheck in fiscal years 2024 and 2029. Section 632 does not affect the timing of survivor benefit payments.