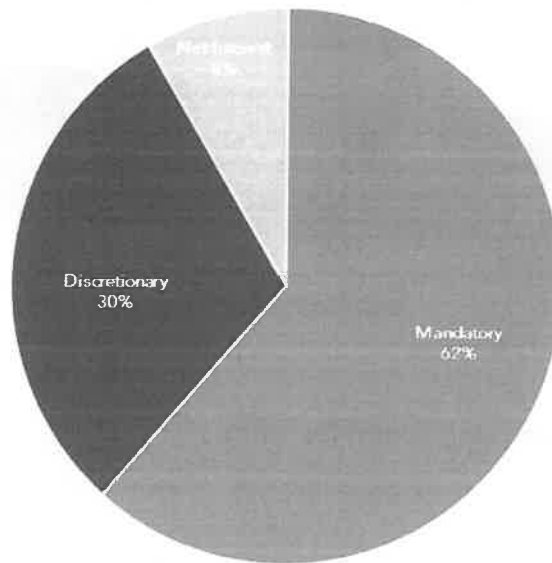


**A. Federal spending totaled \$4.4 trillion in 2019. About 62 percent of the total was for programs not subject to regular budget review, while nearly 30 percent covered discretionary programs for which Congress must regularly appropriate funds. Eight percent went for interest on government debt (figure 1).**

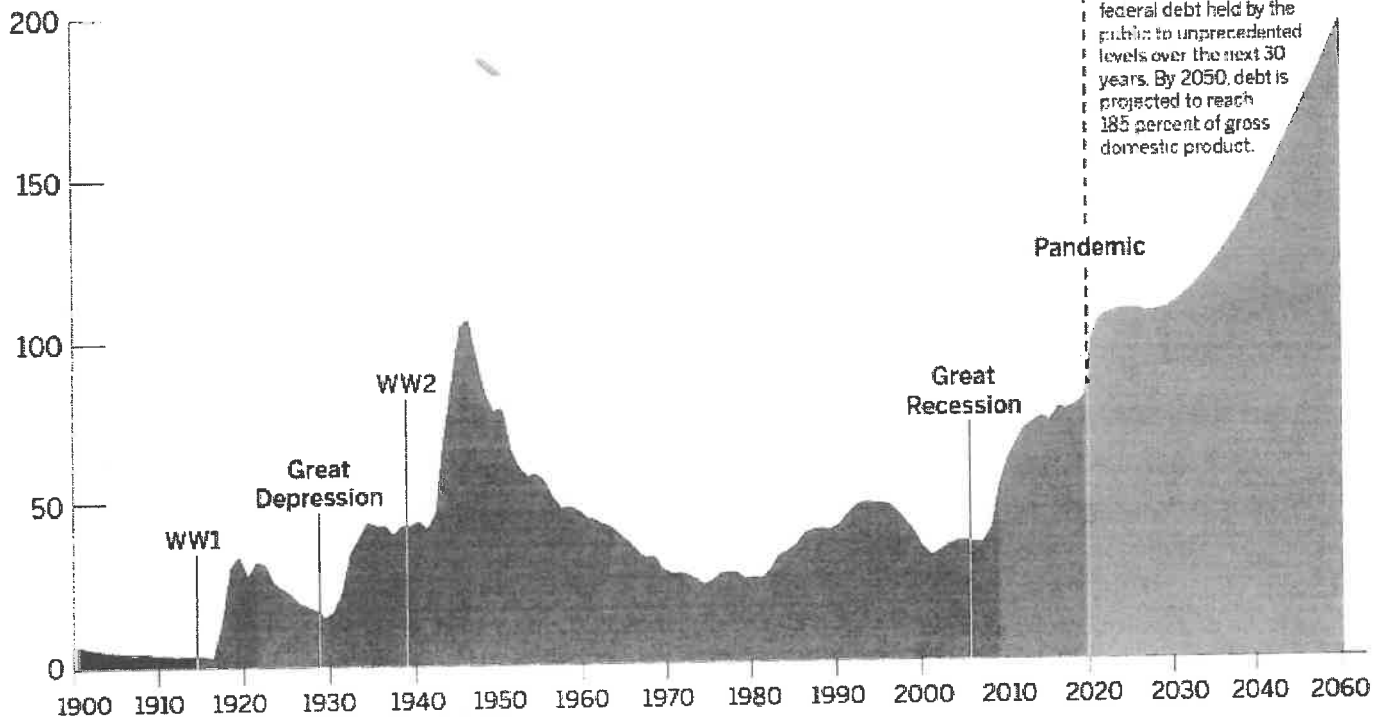
FIGURE 1  
Composition of Federal Spending  
Fiscal year 2019

*Share of total*



# Federal debt held by the public, 1900 to 2050

Percentage of Gross Domestic Product



Source: Congressional Budget Office