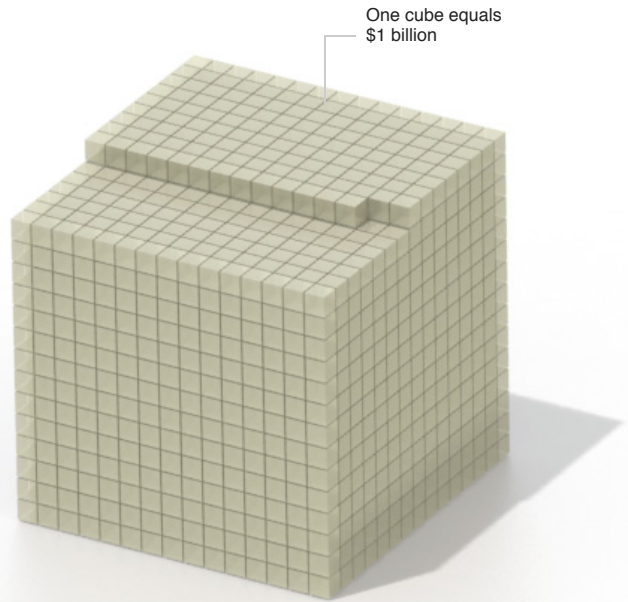


One 9/11 Tally: \$3.3 Trillion

By SHAN CARTER and AMANDA COX Published: September 8, 2011

Al Qaeda spent roughly half a million dollars to destroy the World Trade Center and cripple the Pentagon. What has been the cost to the United States? In a survey of estimates by The New York Times, the answer is \$3.3 trillion, or about \$7 million for every dollar Al Qaeda spent planning and executing the attacks. While not all of the costs have been borne by the government — and some are still to come — this total equals one-fifth of the current national debt. All figures are shown in today's dollars.

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How \$3.3 Trillion Is Spent

Experts differ on some of these numbers, as well as what should be included in a tally. Here, no attempt has been made to account for some of the imponderables: for example, are oil prices higher because of the Iraq war? But it is clear that it was the nation's response, rather than the damage from the attacks, that accounts for the bulk of the cost.

TOLL AND PHYSICAL DAMAGE

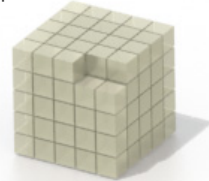
\$55 Billion



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ECONOMIC IMPACT

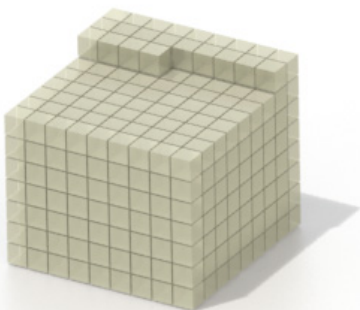
\$123 Billion



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HOMELAND SECURITY, RELATED COSTS

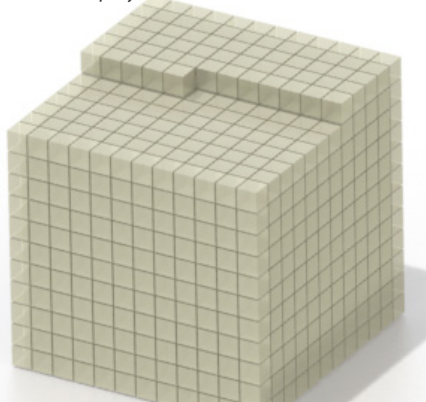
\$589 Billion



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WAR FUNDING, RELATED COSTS

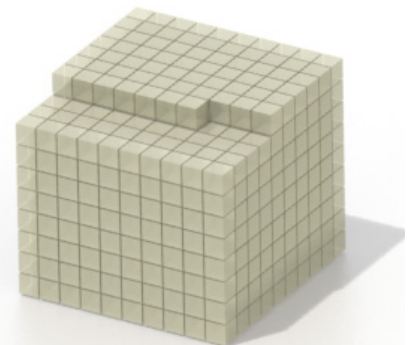
\$1,649 Billion



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FUTURE WAR AND FUTURE VETERANS' CARE

\$867 Billion



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Sources

Congressional Research Service ([war funding](#)); Congressional Budget Office ([war funding](#), [health care to date](#)); Joseph E. Stiglitz and Linda J. Bilmes, "[The Three Trillion Dollar War](#)," and [updates](#) by the

"Terrorism, Economic Development, and Political Openness" ([lost time at airports in 2004](#)); Adam Rose, Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events at the University of Southern California ([economic impact](#));

Todd Harrison, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments ([possible future war spending](#)); Department of Defense (Pentagon repair, [defense spending deflators](#));