

DOGE: A Regression to the Meme?





- November 12, 2024 -

STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP

I am pleased to announce that the Great Elon Musk, working in conjunction with American Patriot Vivek Ramaswamy, will lead the Department of Government Efficiency ("DOGE"). Together, these two wonderful Americans will pave the way for my Administration to dismantle Government Bureaucracy, slash excess regulations, cut wasteful expenditures, and restructure Federal Agencies - Essential to the "Save America" Movement. "This will send shockwaves through the system, and anyone involved in Government waste, which is a lot of people!" stated Mr. Musk.

It will become, potentially, "The Manhattan Project" of our time. Republican politicians have dreamed about the objectives of "DOGE" for a very long time. To drive this kind of drastic change, the Department of Government Efficiency will provide advice and guidance from outside of Government, and will partner with the White House and Office of Management & Budget to drive large scale structural reform, and create an entrepreneurial approach to Government never seen before.

I look forward to Elon and Vivek making changes to the Federal Bureaucracy with an eye on efficiency and, at the same time, making life better for all Americans. Importantly, we will drive out the massive waste and fraud which exists throughout our annual \$6.5 Trillion Dollars of Government Spending. They will work together to liberate our Economy, and make the U.S. Government accountable to "WE THE PEOPLE." Their work will conclude no later than July 4, 2026 - A smaller Government, with more efficiency and less bureaucracy, will be the perfect gift to America on the 250th Anniversary of The Declaration of Independence. I am confident they will succeed!

January 20 Executive Order

THE WHITE HOUSE

Sec. 3. DOGE Structure. (a) *Reorganization and Renaming of the United States Digital Service.* The United States Digital Service is hereby publicly renamed as the United States DOGE Service (USDS) and shall be established in the Executive Office of the President.

(b) *Establishment of a Temporary Organization.* There shall be a USDS Administrator established in the Executive Office of the President who shall report to the White House Chief of Staff. There is further established within USDS, in accordance with section 3161 of title 5, United States Code, a temporary organization known as “the U.S. DOGE Service Temporary Organization”. The U.S. DOGE Service Temporary Organization shall be headed by the USDS Administrator and shall be dedicated to advancing the President’s 18-month DOGE agenda. The U.S. DOGE Service Temporary Organization shall terminate on July 4, 2026. The termination of the U.S. DOGE Service Temporary Organization shall not be interpreted to imply the termination, attenuation, or amendment of any other authority or provision of this order.

February 11 Executive Order

THE WHITE HOUSE

Sec. 3. Reforming the Federal Workforce to Maximize Efficiency and Productivity.

(a) Hiring Ratio. Pursuant to the Presidential Memorandum of January 20, 2025 (Hiring Freeze), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit a plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce through efficiency improvements and attrition (Plan). The Plan shall require that each agency hire no more than one employee for every four employees that depart, consistent with the plan and any applicable exemptions and details provided for in the Plan. This order does not affect the standing freeze on hiring as applied to the Internal Revenue Service. This ratio shall not apply to functions related to public safety, immigration enforcement, or law enforcement. Agency Heads shall also adhere to the Federal Hiring Plan that will be promulgated pursuant to Executive Order 14170 of January 20, 2025 (Reforming the Federal Hiring Process and Restoring Merit to Government Service).

(b) Hiring Approval. Each Agency Head shall develop a data-driven plan, in consultation with its DOGE Team Lead, to ensure new career appointment hires are in highest-need areas.

(i) This hiring plan shall include that new career appointment hiring decisions shall be made in consultation with the agency's DOGE Team Lead, consistent with applicable law.

(ii) The agency shall not fill any vacancies for career appointments that the DOGE Team Lead assesses should not be filled, unless the Agency Head determines the positions should be filled.

(iii) Each DOGE Team Lead shall provide the United States DOGE Service (USDS) Administrator with a monthly hiring report for the agency.

Elon Musk said Donald Trump agreed USAID needs to be 'shut down'



By [Jennifer Hansler](#), [Alex Marquardt](#) and [Lex Harvey](#), CNN

🕒 5 minute read · Updated 7:48 AM EST, Mon February 3, 2025



60 MINUTES - NEWSMAKERS

Trump, DOGE work to shutter CFPB, an agency created in response to the 2008 financial crisis

60

By [Lesley Stahl](#)
February 23, 2025 / 7:00 PM EST / CBS News

Education Higher education Local Education

DOGE rips through Education Department, cutting contracts, staff and grants

Contracts that are key to interpreting data about the American education system were cut as DOGE seeks to trim spending. Some contracts will be rebid.
Updated February 14, 2025

🕒 10 min 📌 📄 1912

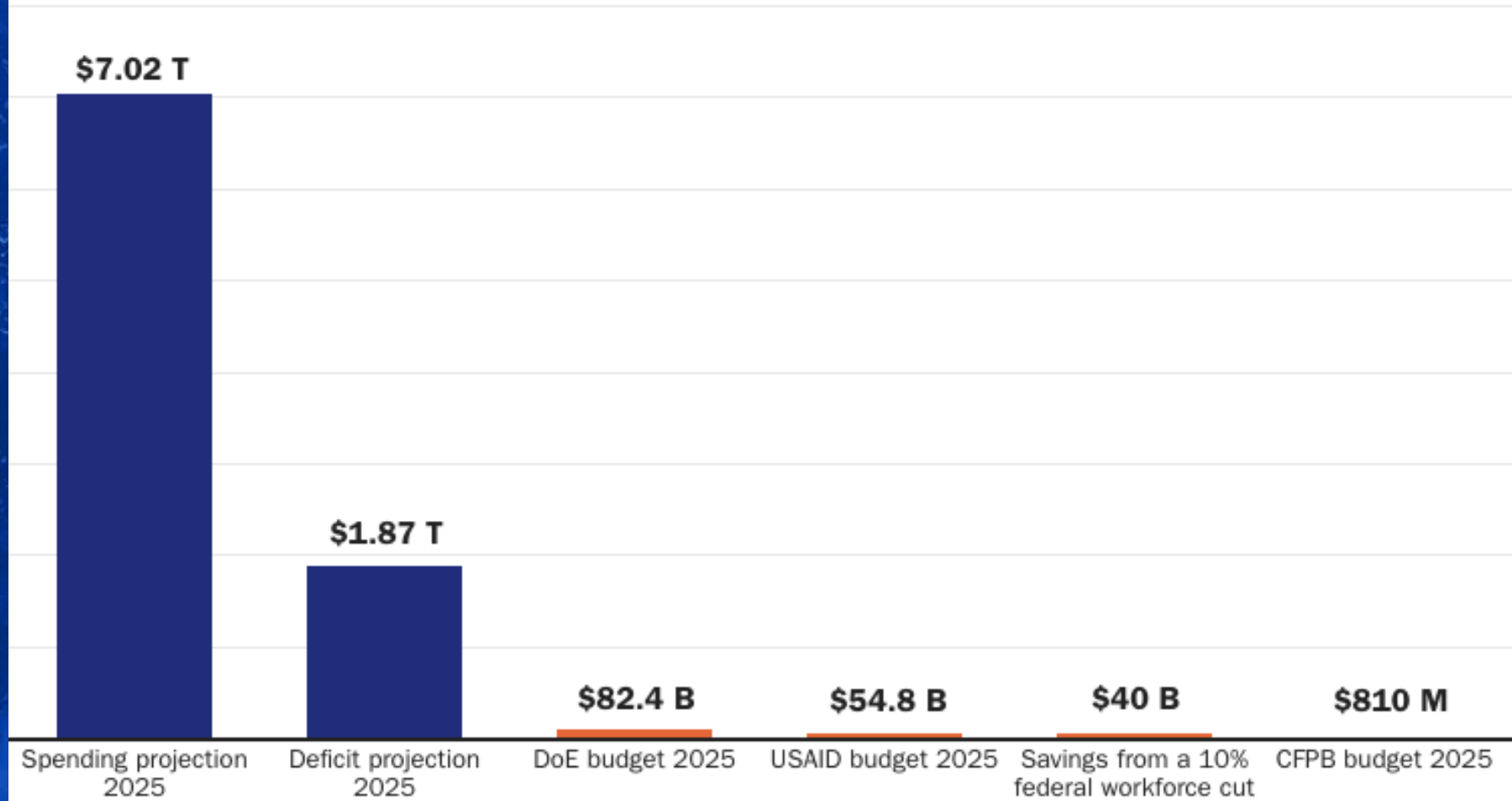
Models to Understand DOGE Strategy

1. Smash the left
2. Musk's corporate restructuring
3. Delegitimize certain government activities
4. Revive impoundment & grow executive power
5. Provide political cover for Republicans in Congress

Figure 1

Proposed cuts are a small fraction of projected federal spending and deficit levels

2025 dollars



Sources: Congressional Budget Office, "10 Year Budget Projections," last updated January 2025; Congressional Research Service, "The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Budget: Background, Trends, and Policy Options," December 9, 2024; and Department of Education, "Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Summary," 2024.



Elon Musk's DOGE is tearing through the bureaucracy—but executive action alone won't cut it. Shrinking government requires Congress.



DOGE can't slash government without Congress

From reason.com

3:35 PM · 2/18/25 · 98K Views

31 81 434 16

Most relevant replies

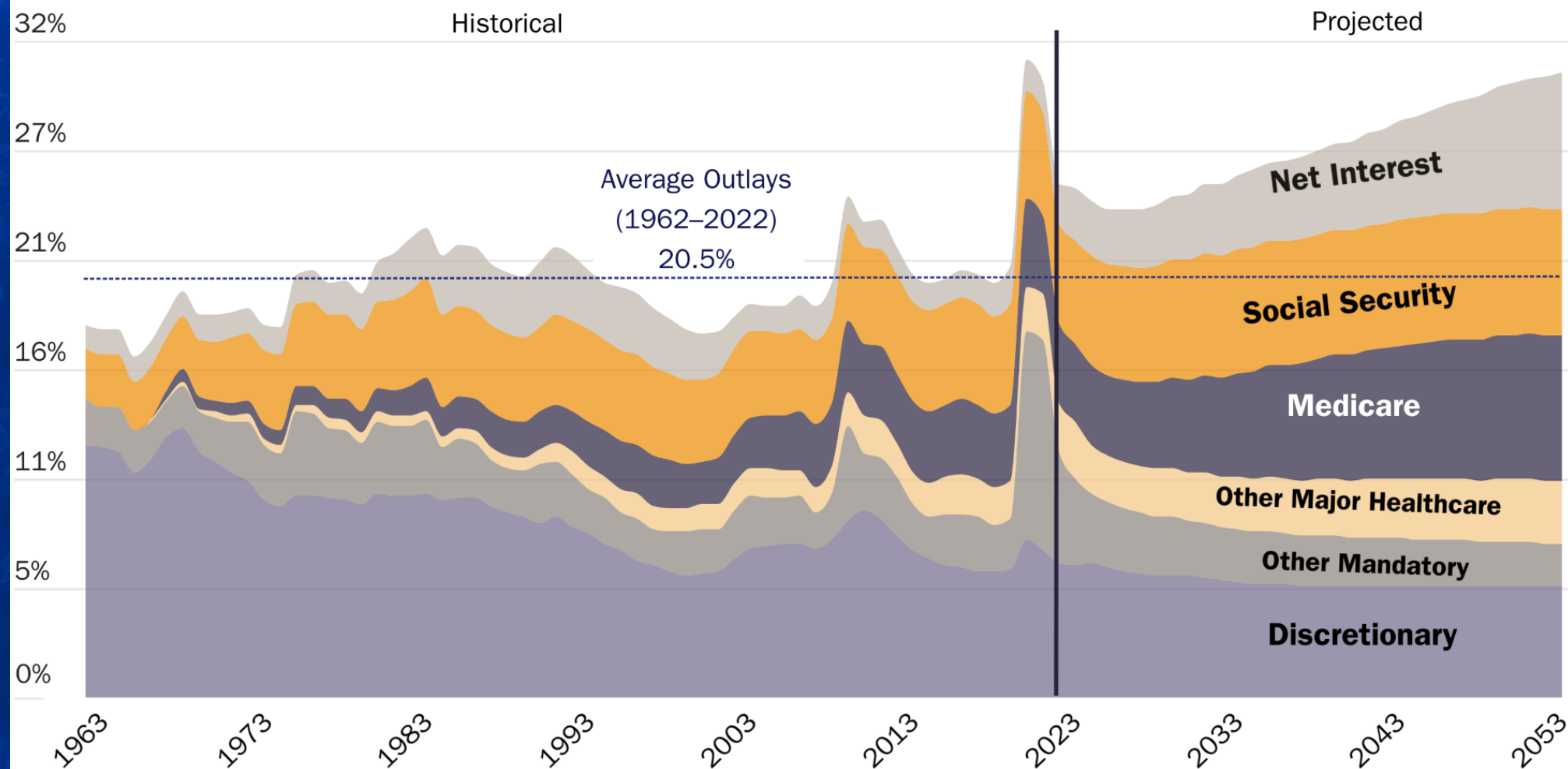


Elon Musk @elonmusk · 6h

True

49 29 400 12K

Federal spending consumes a larger share of the economy, percentage of GDP



Sources: Congressional Budget Office, "The 2023 Long-Term Budget Outlook; Historical Budget Data," July 3, 2023.

Note: Medicare outlays exclude offsetting receipts. The "other major healthcare" category includes Medicaid, CHIP, and marketplace subsidies.



How much government spending will Trump and Elon cut this year?



\$1B forecast ▲ 0.08 ⓘ

Kalshi



6H 1D 1W 1M **ALL**

Before 2026 (+2) ▾

% Chance

\$1,791,232 vol



At least 1 billion

40% -11

Yes 40¢

No 62¢



Cato Institute Report to the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE)

How to Downsize and Reform the Federal Government

The only route to more efficient government is radically shrinking its role.

DECEMBER 11, 2024 • WHITE PAPER

By Alex Nowrasteh and Ryan Bourne

SHARE

