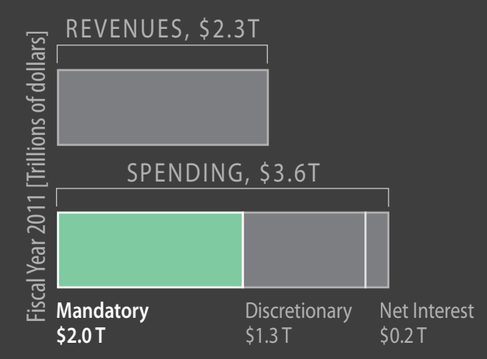
the

U.S. FEDERAL BUDGET



A Closer Look at Mandatory Spending

Primarily benefit programs for which lawmakers set eligibility rules and benefit formulas

Mandatory Spending at a Glance

10.1 Percent
Mandatory spending as a share of GDP in 1991

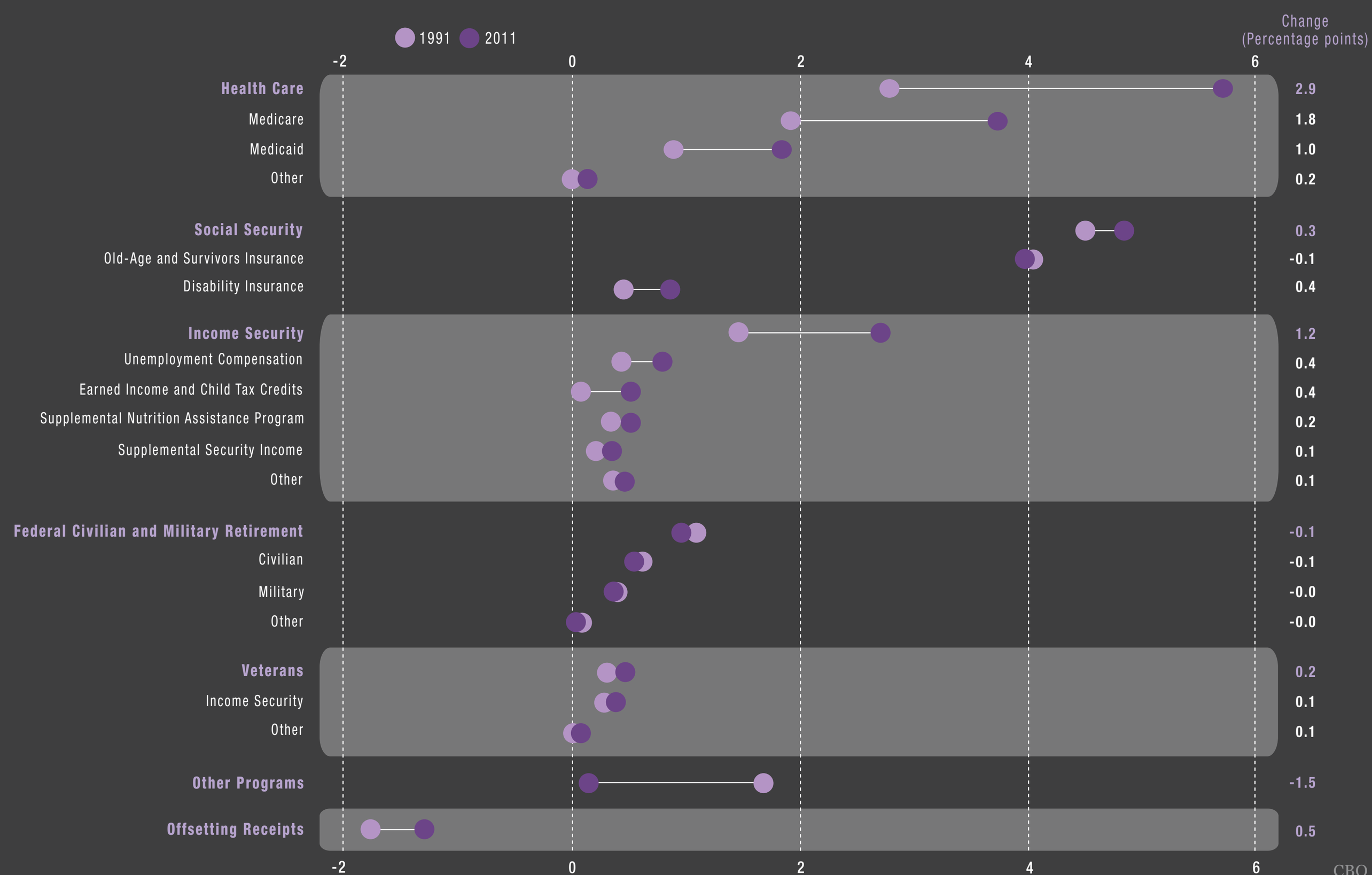
13.6 Percent
Mandatory spending as a share of GDP in 2011

$2.0 Trillion
Mandatory spending by the federal government in 2011

$856 Billion
Spending in 2011 on health care programs, the largest component of mandatory spending

[**Mandatory** Spending in **1991** and **2011**]

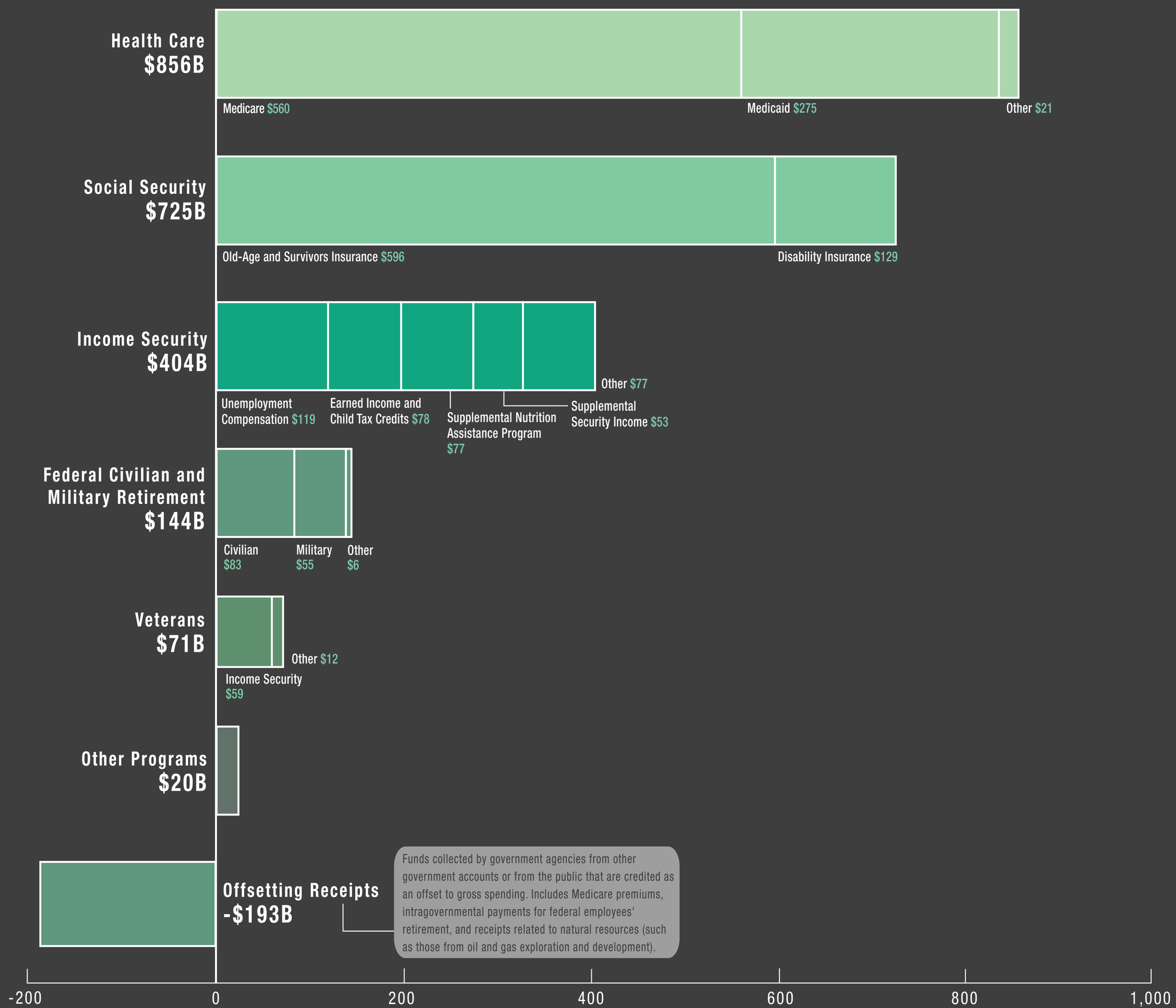
Percentage of gross domestic product



CBO

[BREAKDOWN of Mandatory Spending in 2011]

Billions of dollars



Prepared by: Jonathan Schwabish and Courtney Griffith
Contact: Projections Unit, Budget Analysis Division
Source: Congressional Budget Office, April 2012
For more details, see CBO's *Budget and Economic Outlook*, January 2012: http://go.usa.gov/nPi and CBO's *Updated Budget Projections*, March 2012: http://go.usa.gov/mqN

All data are for federal fiscal years, which run from October 1 to September 30.

Numbers may not add up to totals because of rounding. Net Interest not included.