

The Chart Page

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Theater vs. Homeland

The year 1991 saw the waging of the Gulf War and the collapse of the Soviet Union. The two events sparked an abrupt shift in US missile defense spending—away from the development of homeland defense against Soviet attack and toward protection of theater forces threatened by rogue states. In the Clinton Administration, spending on theater systems has more than doubled, increasing to \$2.4 billion in 1997 and \$2.3 billion this year. Meantime, spending on National Missile Defense plummeted from \$2 billion a year in the early 1990s to only \$387 million in 1995. National Missile Defense has bounced back somewhat to about \$1 billion per year.

■ NMD
■ TMD
■ Support Technology

Photo: THAAD test launch, March 22, 1996.

Source: Ballistic Missile Defense Organization.

US Spending on Ballistic Missile Defenses Since 1985 (millions)

