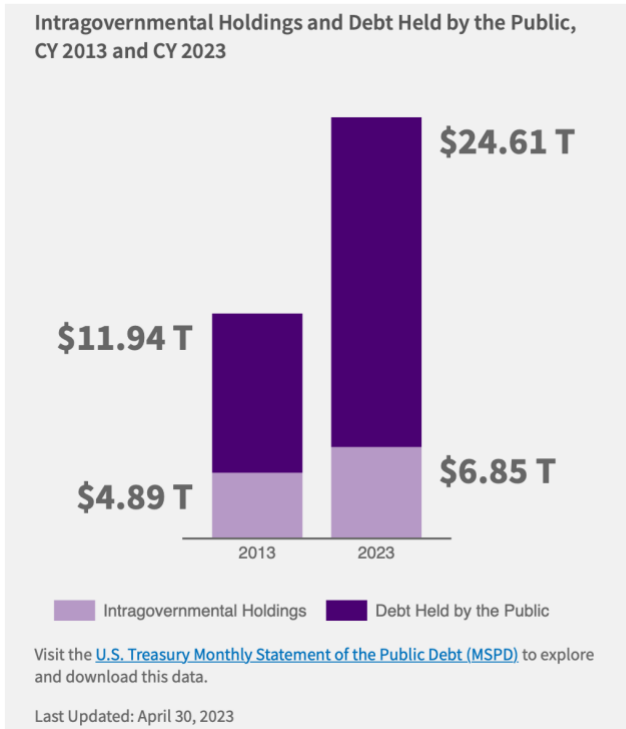


What is the national debt?

The national debt (\$31.47 T) is the total amount of outstanding borrowing by the U.S. Federal Government accumulated over the nation's history.

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Updated daily from the [Debt to the Penny](#) dataset.



There are two major categories for federal debt: debt held by the public and intragovernmental holdings.

The debt held by the public has increased by 106% since 2013. Intragovernmental holdings increased by 40% since 2013.

Definition

Intragovernmental Holdings

These comprise debt that one part of the U.S. Federal Government owes to another part. This represents cases where Social Security, Medicare, and other federal programs collect more revenue than they need in a year and then purchase Treasury debt for their trust funds.