

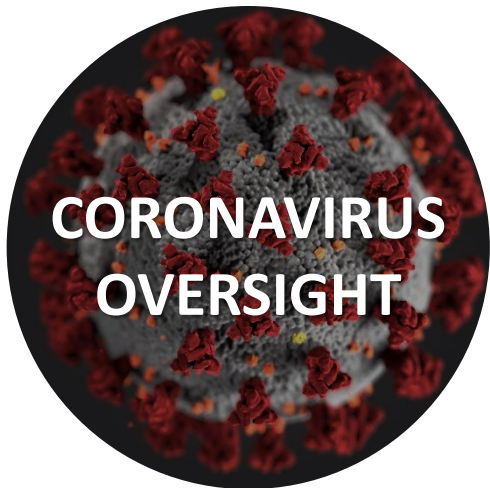


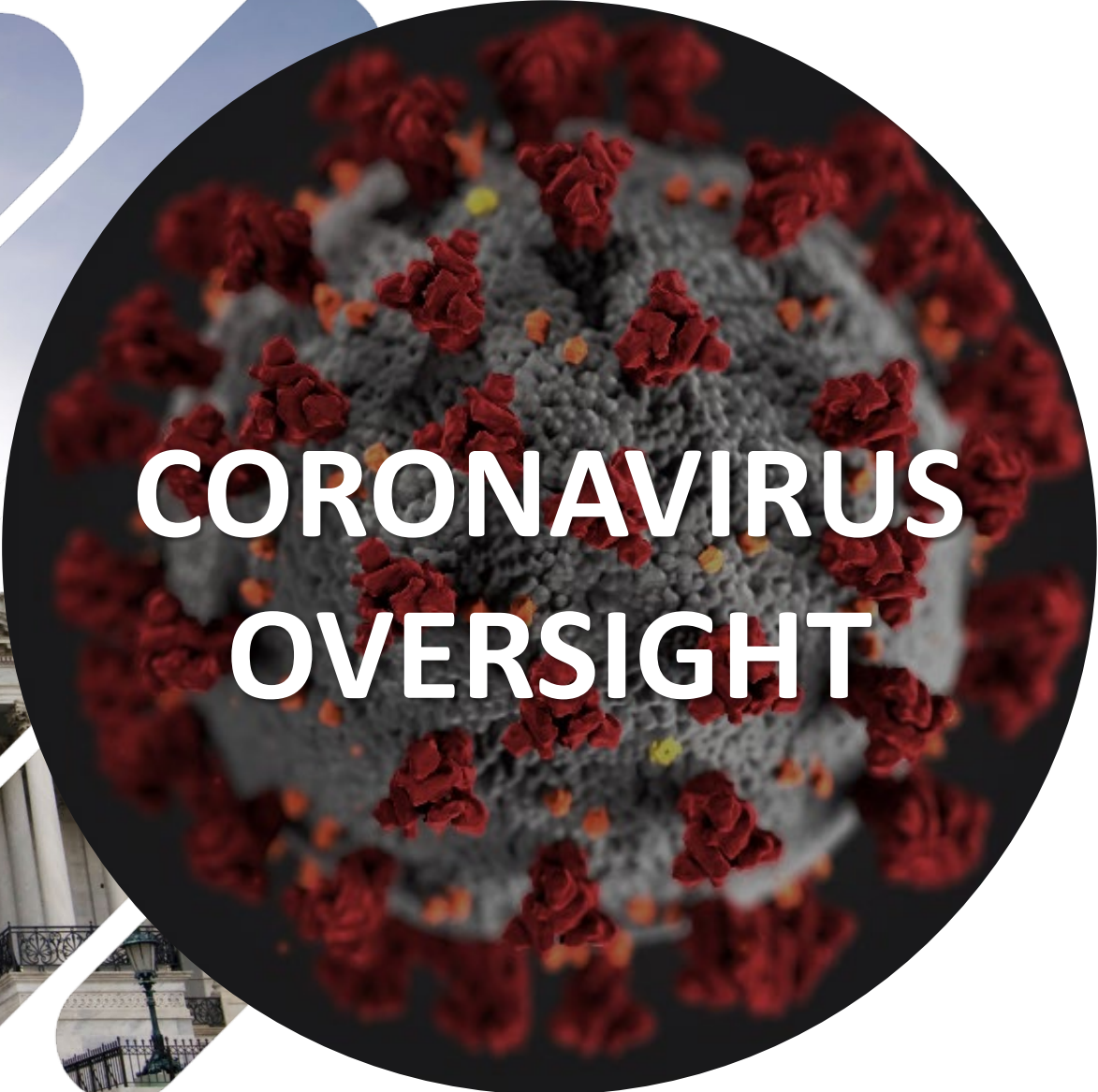
The Future of Accountability: Responding to Major National Challenges

Gene L. Dodaro

Comptroller General of the
United States

National Intergovernmental
Audit Forum
May 16, 2023



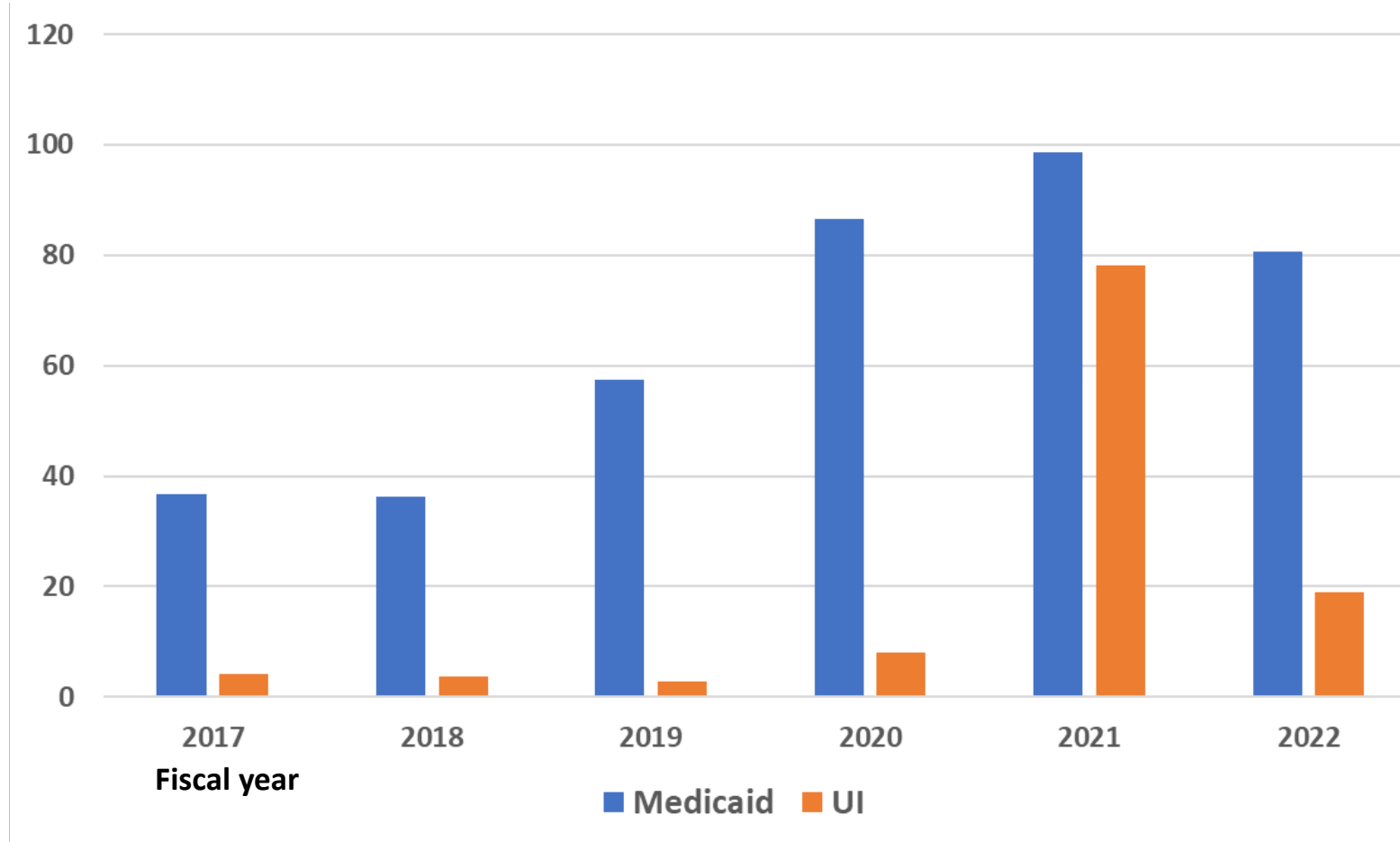


GAO's Fraud Risk Framework



Medicaid & UI Improper Payments, FY 2017-2022

Dollars (in billions)



Source: GAO analysis of OMB data



HIGH RISK LIST

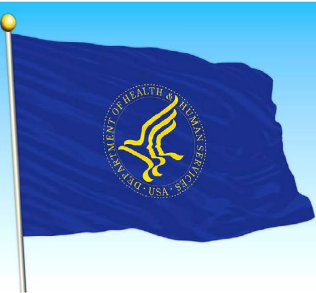
High Risk Area Additions

**STRENGTHENING
MANAGEMENT
OF THE FEDERAL
PRISON SYSTEM**



Source: Photo illustration of a prison facility. Jeffrey Zalesny/stock.adobe.com | GAO-23-106203

**HHS LEADERSHIP
AND COORDINATION
OF PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCIES**



Source: friza/stock.adobe.com | GAO-23-106203

**UNEMPLOYMENT
INSURANCE
SYSTEM**



Source: Mr Doornits/stock.adobe.com | GAO-23-106203

**EMERGENCY LOANS
FOR SMALL BUSINESSES**



Source: wladimir1804/stock.adobe.com | GAO-23-106203

Areas Removed

**PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY
CORPORATION INSURANCE
PROGRAMS**



Source: Brian Jackson/stock.adobe.com | GAO-23-106203

**2020 DECENNIAL
CENSUS**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau | GAO-23-106203

High Risk Area: Cybersecurity

Four Major Cybersecurity Challenges

The graphic consists of four vertical panels, each with a distinct background color and a set of icons. The panels are arranged from left to right:

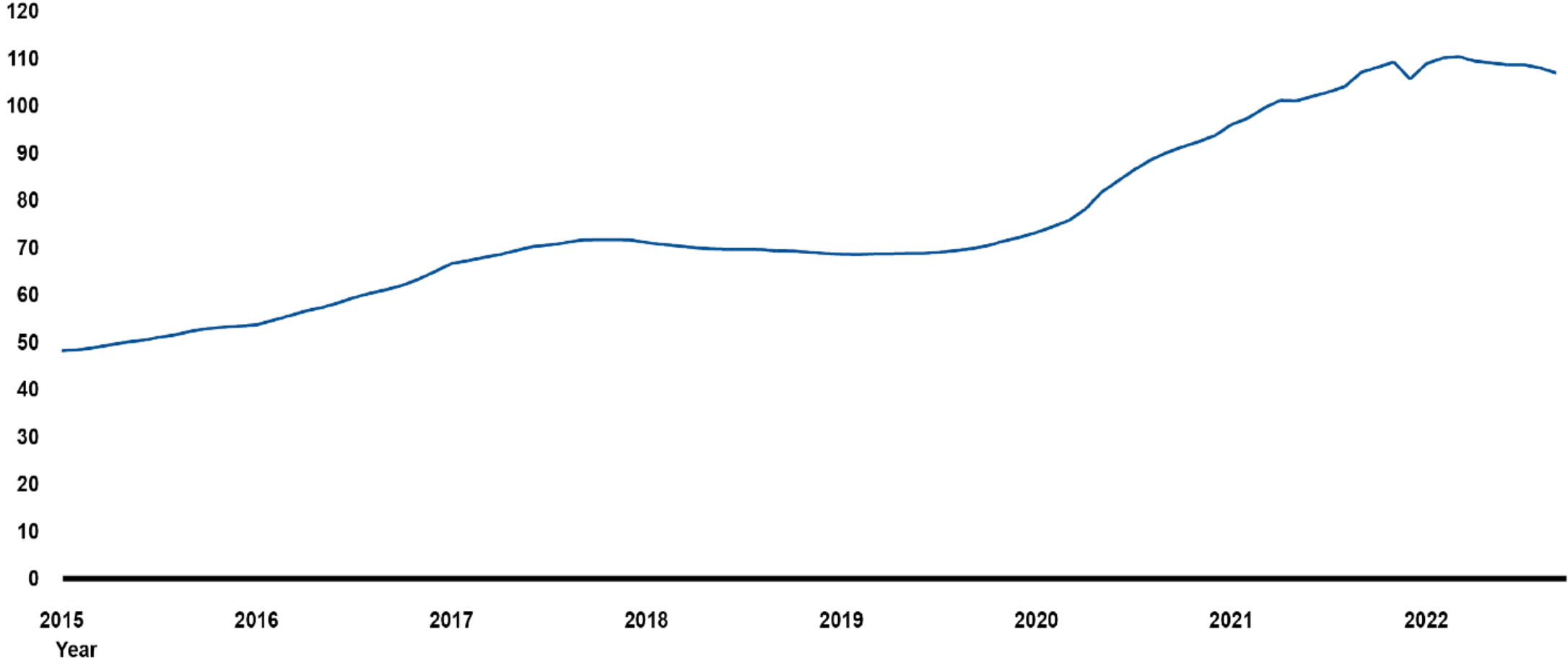
- Blue Panel:** Contains icons of a padlock, a globe, a person, and a hand. The text at the bottom is "Establishing a comprehensive cybersecurity strategy and performing effective oversight".
- Green Panel:** Contains icons of a government building, a virus, binary code, and an American flag. The text at the bottom is "Securing federal systems and information".
- Yellow Panel:** Contains icons of an airplane, a car, and a train. The text at the bottom is "Protecting cyber critical infrastructure".
- Red Panel:** Contains icons of a padlock, a credit card, and a person. The text at the bottom is "Protecting privacy and sensitive data".

Source: GAO analysis; peshkov/stock.adobe.com; Gorodenkoff/stock.adobe.com; metamorworks/stock.adobe.com; Monster Ztudio/stock.adobe.com. | GAO-21-119SP

High Risk Area: Drug Misuse

Number of Drug Overdoses in the U.S., April 2015 through September 2022

Predicted number of drug overdose deaths (in thousands)



Source: GAO Analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics data. | GAO-23-106203

Note: Provisional death counts are for “12-month ending periods,” defined as the number of deaths occurring in the 12-month period ending in the month indicated. Deaths are classified by the reporting jurisdiction in which the death occurred. Provisional drug overdose death counts are based on death records received and processed by the National Center for Health Statistics as of a specified cutoff date. Data in this figure are predicted provisional counts, which represent estimates of the number of deaths adjusted for incomplete reporting. Data for 2015 to 2021 may differ from published reports using final data. Data for 2022 are underreported due to incomplete data.

High Risk List: Other Areas of Focus



Modernizing the U.S. Financial Regulatory System



Enhanced Oversight of Medical Products



Federal Government's Fiscal Exposures to Climate Risks



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

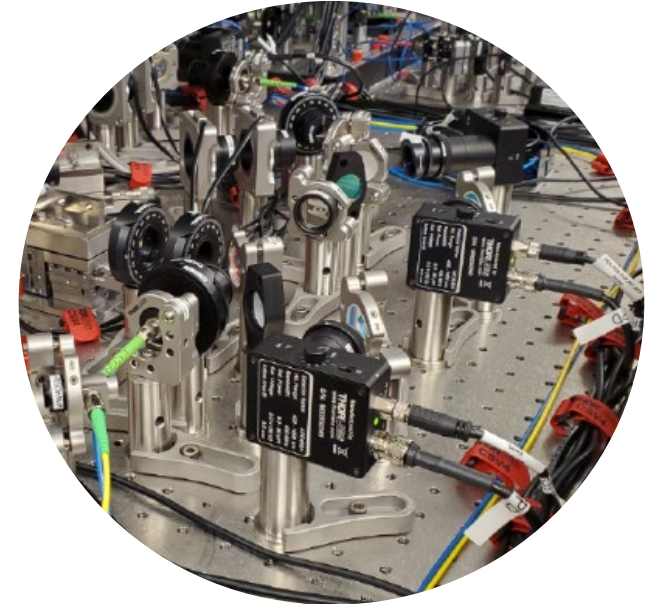
Recent S&T Spotlights

- **Data Security in a Post-Quantum World**
- **Synthetic Biology**
- **Brain-Computer Interfaces**
- **Long COVID**
- **Zero Trust Architecture**
- **Counter-Drone Technology**



Recent Technology Assessments

- **AI in Health Care: Medical Diagnostics**
- **Quantum Computing**
- **Fusion Energy**
- **Effects of Large Satellite Constellations**
- **Utility-Scale Energy Storage**
- **Persistent Chemicals (PFAS Detection and Treatment)**
- **Carbon Capture**



GAO's AI Accountability Framework

Data

Ensure quality, reliability, and representativeness of data sources and processing.

Data Used to Develop an AI Model

Entities should document sources and origins of data, ensure the reliability of data, and assess data attributes, variables, and augmentation/enhancement for appropriateness.

Data Used to Operate an AI System

Entities should assess the interconnectivities and dependencies of data streams that operationalize an AI system, identify potential biases, and assess data security and privacy.

Monitoring

Ensure reliability and relevance over time.

Continuous Monitoring of Performance

Entities should develop plans for continuous or routine monitoring of the AI system and document results and corrective actions taken to ensure the system produces desired results.

Assessing Sustainment and Expanded Use

Entities should assess the utility of the AI system to ensure its relevance and identify conditions under which the AI system may or may not be scaled or expanded beyond its current use.

Governance

Promote accountability by establishing processes to manage, operate, and oversee implementation.

Governance at the Organizational Level

Entities should define clear goals, roles, and responsibilities, demonstrate values and principles to foster trust, develop a competent workforce, engage stakeholders with diverse perspectives to mitigate risks, and implement an AI-specific risk management plan.

Governance at the System Level

Entities should establish technical specifications to ensure the AI system meets its intended purpose and complies with relevant laws, regulations, standards, and guidance. Entities should promote transparency by enabling external stakeholders to access information on the AI system.

Performance

Produce results that are consistent with program objectives.

Performance at the Component Level

Entities should catalog model and non-model components that make up the AI system, define metrics, and assess performance and outputs of each component.

Performance at the System Level

Entities should define metrics and assess performance of the AI system. In addition, entities should document methods for assessment, performance metrics, and outcomes; identify potential biases; and define and develop procedures for human supervision of the AI system.

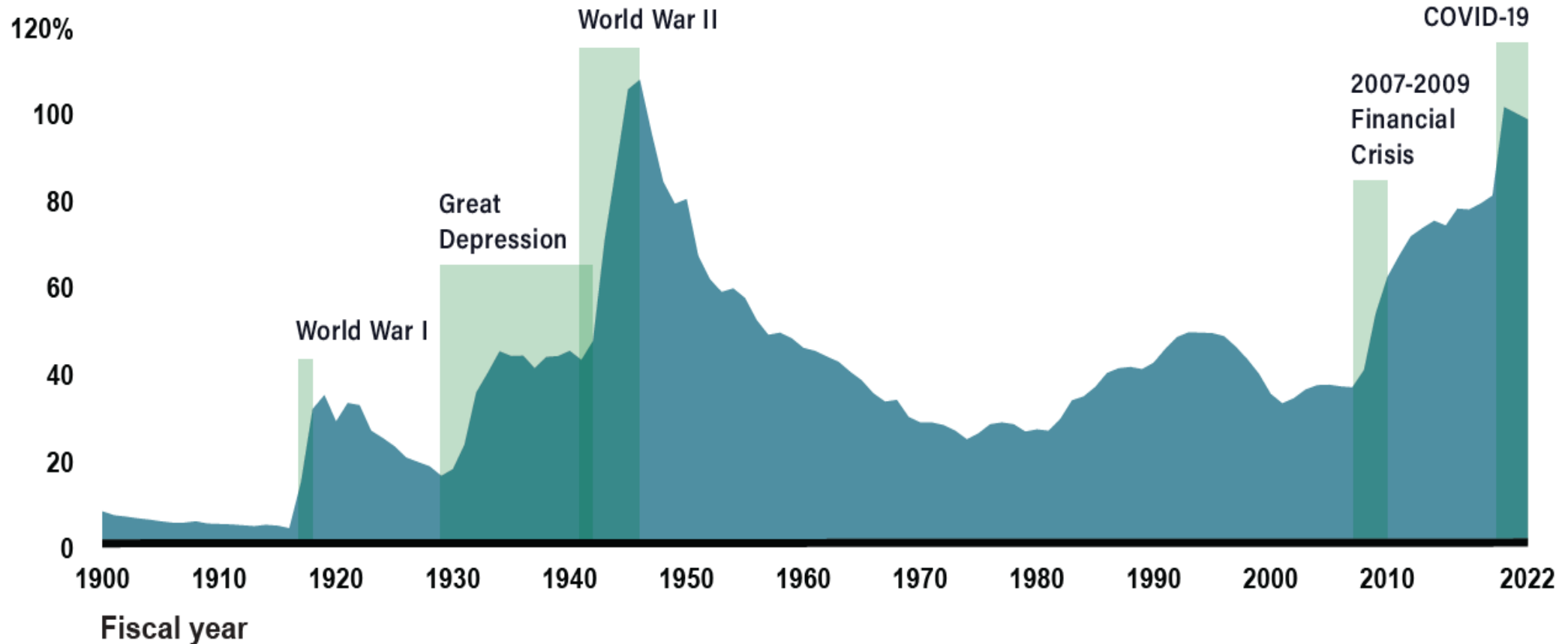




AMERICA'S FISCAL FUTURE

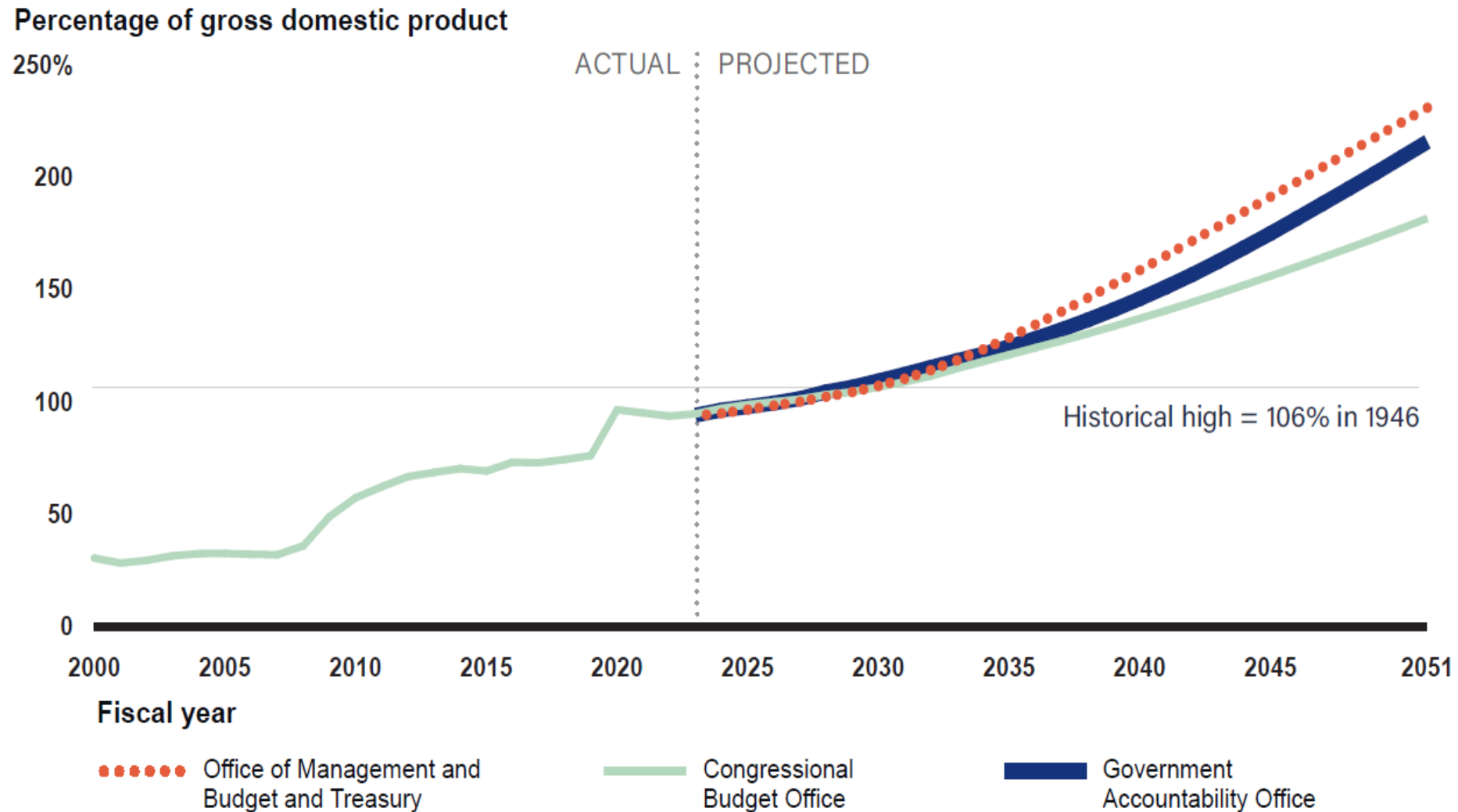
Federal Debt Held by the Public as a Share of GDP, 1900-2022

Percentage of gross domestic product



Source: Congressional Budget Office data. | GAO-23-106201

Debt Held by the Public as a Share of GDP under Various Policy Simulations

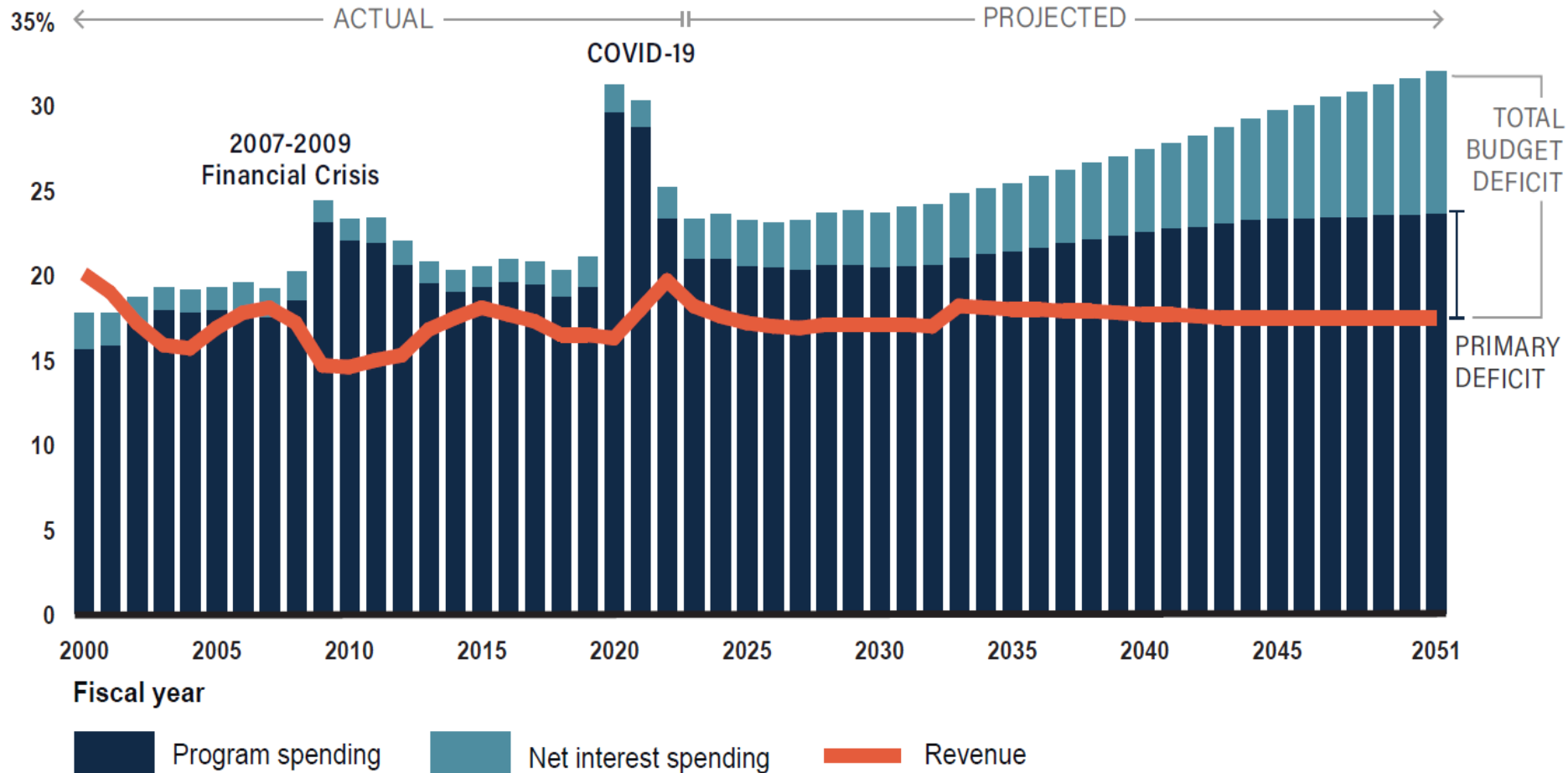


Source: Congressional Budget Office *July 2022 and February 2023 Outlooks*, *Fiscal Year 2022 Financial Report of the U.S. Government*, and GAO simulation. | GAO-23-106201

Note: Each of these projections uses different budgetary and economic assumptions to generate the debt-to-GDP ratio in each year. Our simulation incorporates many of CBO's assumptions, with some adjustments to the discretionary spending and mandatory spending assumptions, which explain the divergence in later years. The OMB-Treasury model assumes higher program spending than CBO and GAO and higher interest rate assumptions in the first 20 projection years. These varying assumptions help explain the different outcomes.

Primary Deficit and Total Budget Deficit, Actual, and Projected

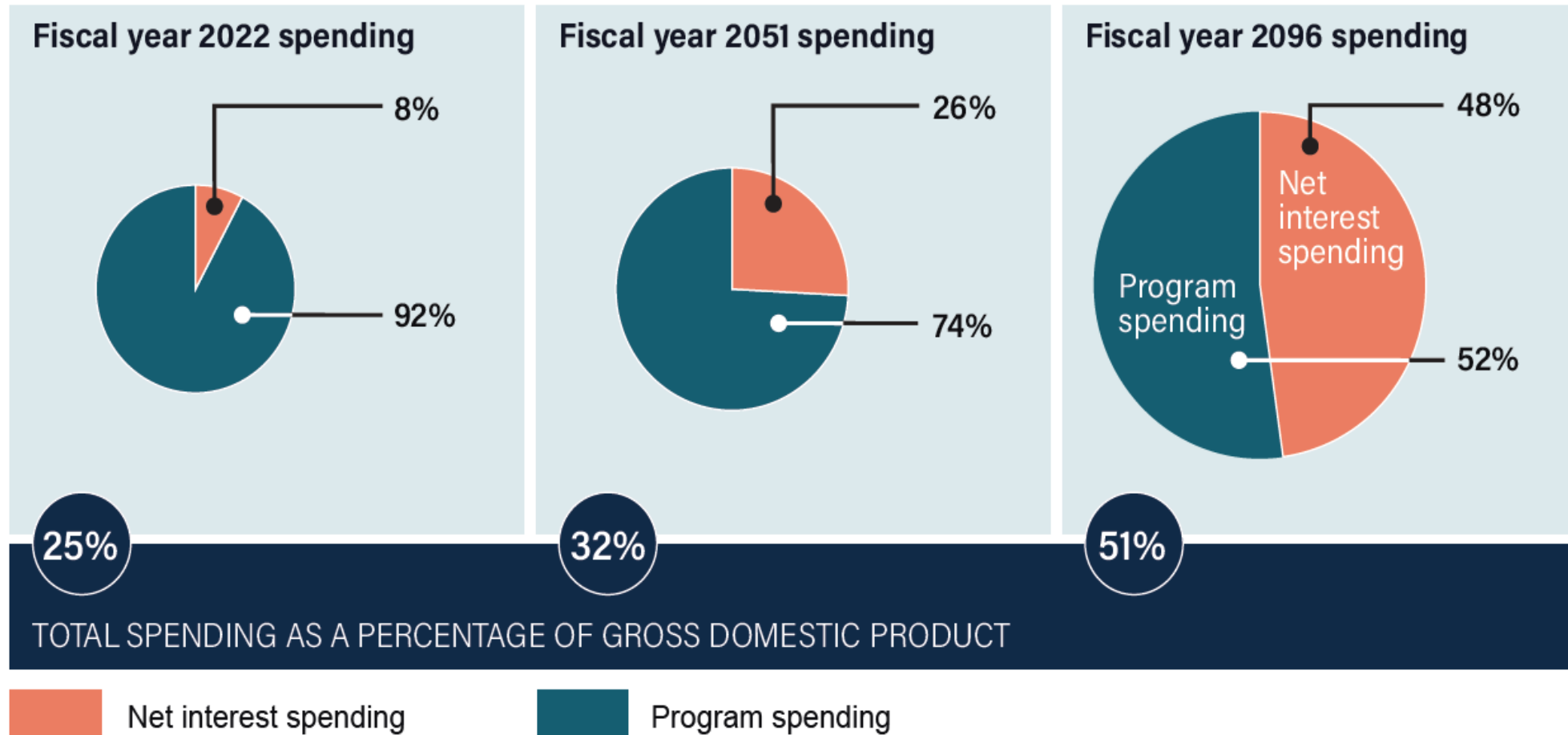
Percentage of gross domestic product



Source: Congressional Budget Office data and GAO simulation. | GAO-23-106201

Note: Starting in 2033 our simulation phases total revenue to a constant at the 50-year historical average as of 2022.

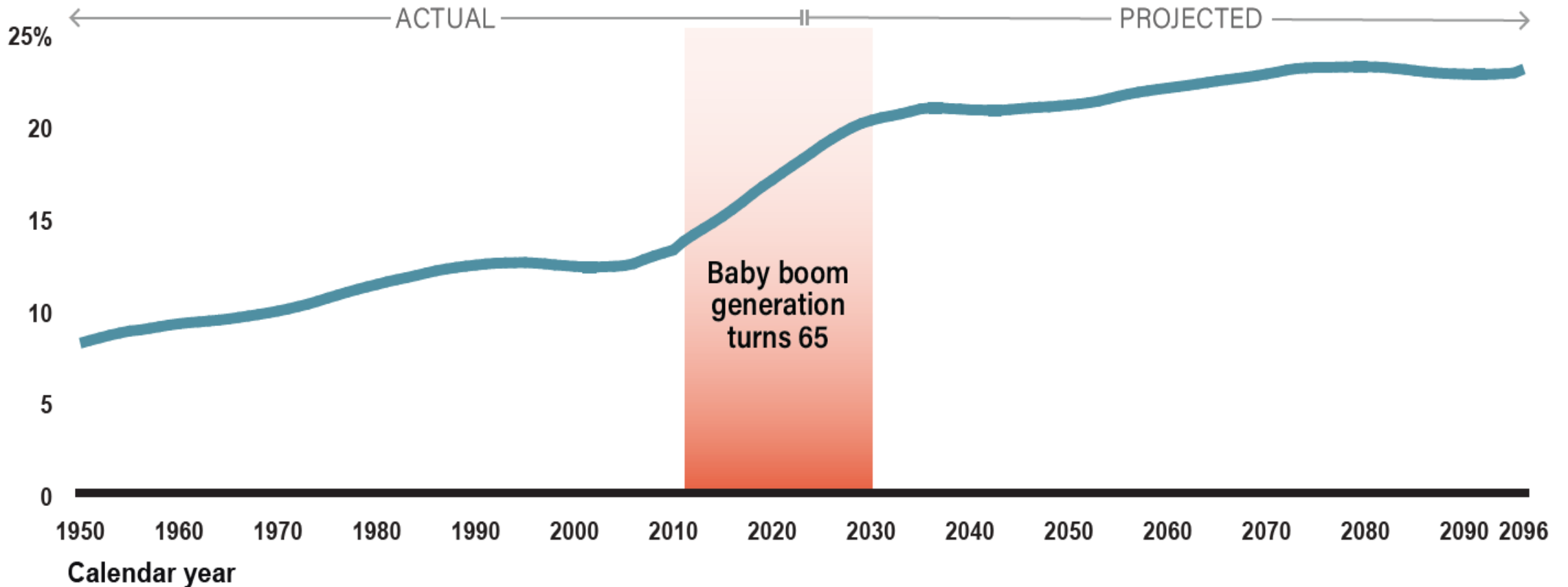
Federal Net Interest Spending as a Share of Total Spending



Source: Congressional Budget Office data and GAO simulation. | GAO-23-106201

Older Americans Are a Greater Share of the Total Population

Percentage of population age 65 and over



Source: GAO analysis of 2023 Social Security Trustees' Report (intermediate assumptions). | GAO-23-106201



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