

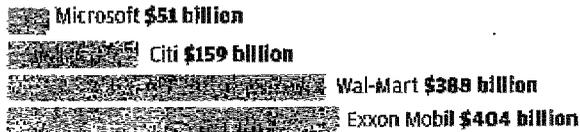
\$1,000,000,000,000

Visualizing a trillion

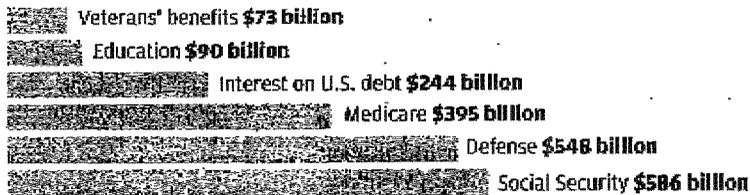
In 1987, the entire federal budget passed \$1 trillion for the first time. Today, the nation is looking at the prospect of a \$1 trillion deficit. It's a lot of money, though just how much is hard to grasp. That's where we come in, with these trillion translations:



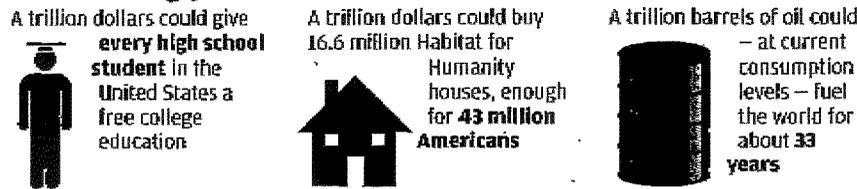
Corporate revenue (2007)



Federal budget (2007)



Purchasing power



Numbers

\$58,029
According to the U.S. Treasury, the average taxpayer's adjusted gross income was \$58,029 in 2006; at that rate, the taxpayer would have to work **17,232,763 years** to make \$1 trillion.

2737
If you had gone into business on the day Jesus was born and your business made a million dollars every day, it would take you until **October 2737** to make a trillion dollars.

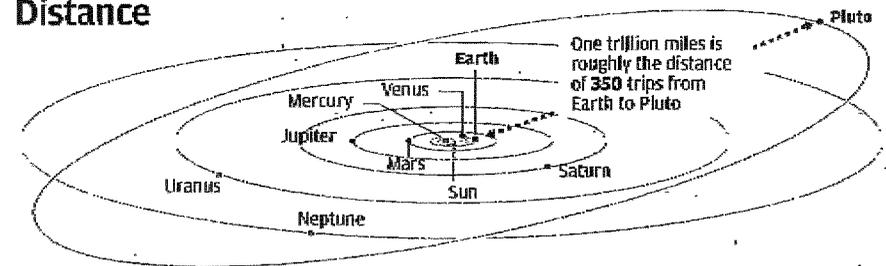
5,184
Oracle's Larry Ellison was the top-paid CEO in 2007, making \$192.9 million in total compensation; at that rate, he would have to work **5,184 years** to make \$1 trillion.

1,000
\$1 trillion would be enough money to buy about **1,000 boxes of Girl Scout cookies** for every person in the United States.

x16.67
American investor **Warren Buffett** is the richest man in the world, with \$62 billion; he would have to increase his worth **16.67 times** to be worth \$1 trillion.

23.5 karat
\$1 trillion could pave the entire U.S. interstate highway system with gold — **23.5-karat gold leaf**.

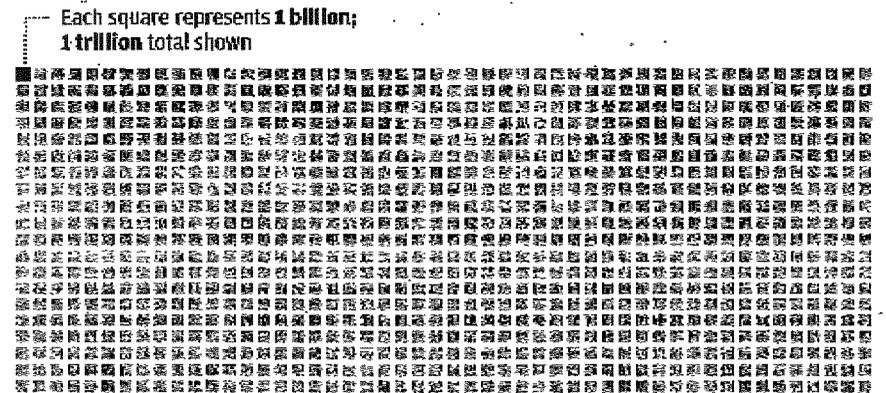
Distance



Time



Mass



Source: John Hopkins University; Congressional Budget Office; U.S. Department of Labor Statistics; Dallas Morning News research
Graphic: Michael Ingire and Chuck Stewart, The Dallas Morning News