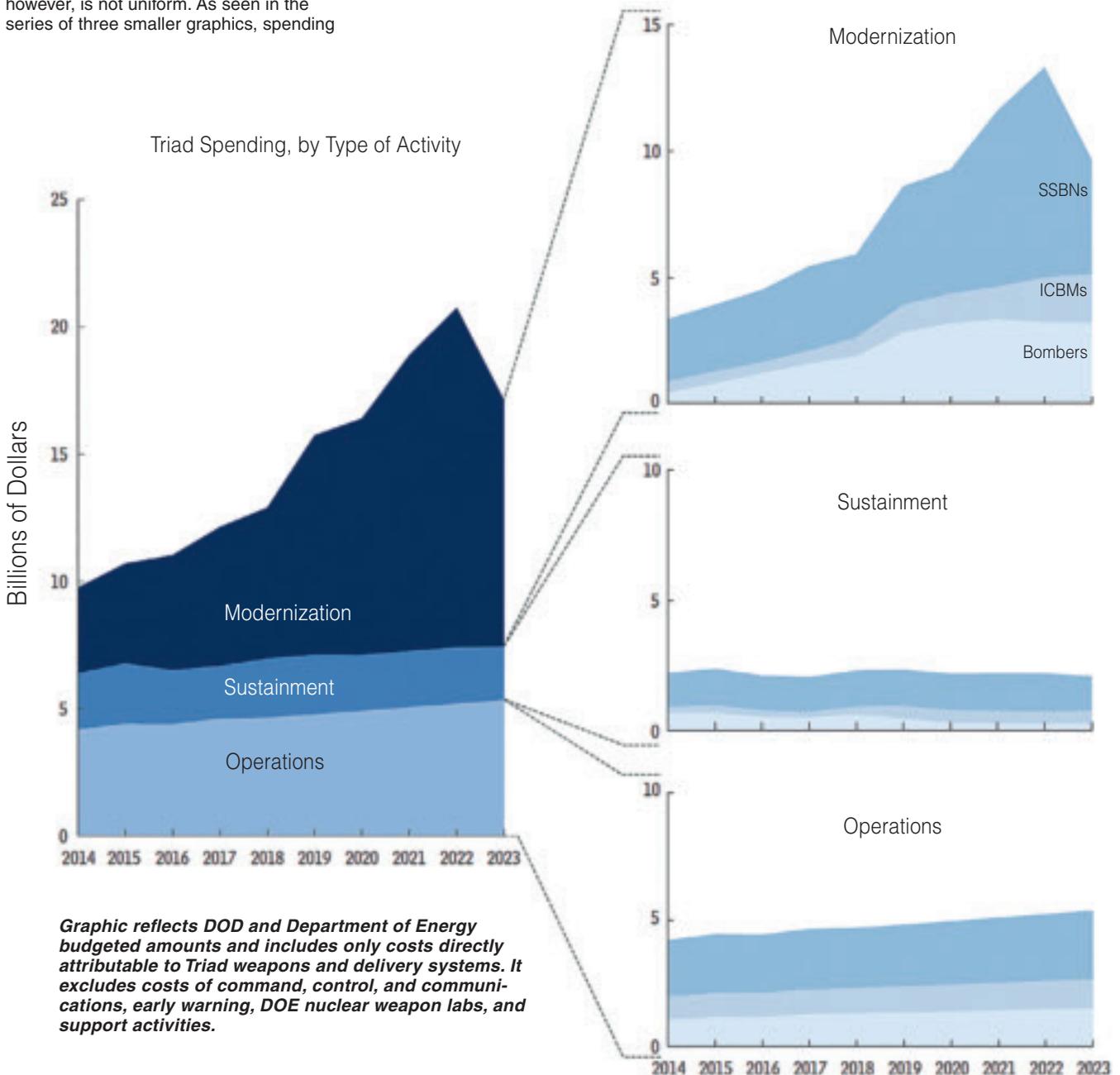


Boomer Budget Bust

The Congressional Budget Office recently projected the costs, over the next decade, of modernizing, operating, and sustaining the US strategic “triad”—nuclear-weapon-capable bombers, ICBMs, and submarines. As the large graphic shows, CBO expects costs to double, rising from \$9.8 billion this year to \$20.8 in 2022. The increase, however, is not uniform. As seen in the series of three smaller graphics, spending

on sustainment and operations remains flat. The big growth comes in modernization, with the Navy’s SSBNs and submarine-launched ballistic missiles consuming as many Pentagon dollars as the Air Force’s ICBMs and bombers combined. Total expenditure on the undersea “boomers” over 10 years: \$82 billion.



Source: "Projected Costs of US Nuclear Forces, 2014 to 2023." Congressional Budget Office, December 2013, Washington, D.C. Based on Department of Defense and Department of Energy data.