

Table 1: Total Aircraft Acquisition Costs Are \$2 Billion More Than 2012 Baseline Estimate

	October 2001 baseline	March 2012 baseline	Difference from 2001 to 2012	December 2019 estimate	Difference from 2012 to 2019
F-35 baseline development program costs (then-year dollars in billions)^a					
Development	34.4	55.2	20.8	56.6	1.4
Procurement	196.6	335.7	139.1	321.2	-14.5
Military construction	2	4.8	2.8	5.2	0.4
Total program acquisition	233	395.7	162.7	383.1	-12.6
F-35 Block 4 modernization costs (then-year dollars in billions)^a					
Development	NA	NA	NA	13.5	NA
Procurement	NA	NA	NA	1.3	NA
Military construction	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total program acquisition	NA	NA	NA	14.7	2.1
Sum total of F-35 baseline and Block 4 costs	233	395.7	162.7	397.8	

Source: GAO analysis of Department of Defense data. | GAO-21-226

Note: Total aircraft acquisition costs include F-35 airframe and F135 engine costs.

^aAnnual projected cost estimates expressed in then-year dollars reflect inflation assumptions. Baseline costs include other modernization costs that are not part of the Block 4 development program. We did not assess the reliability of the program office's F-35 baseline cost estimates. Amounts may not sum due to rounding.

The Government Accountability Office says the Pentagon's most recent data show the cost of the F-35 program has grown by 70% over the life of the program. Source: GAO Report GAO-21-226