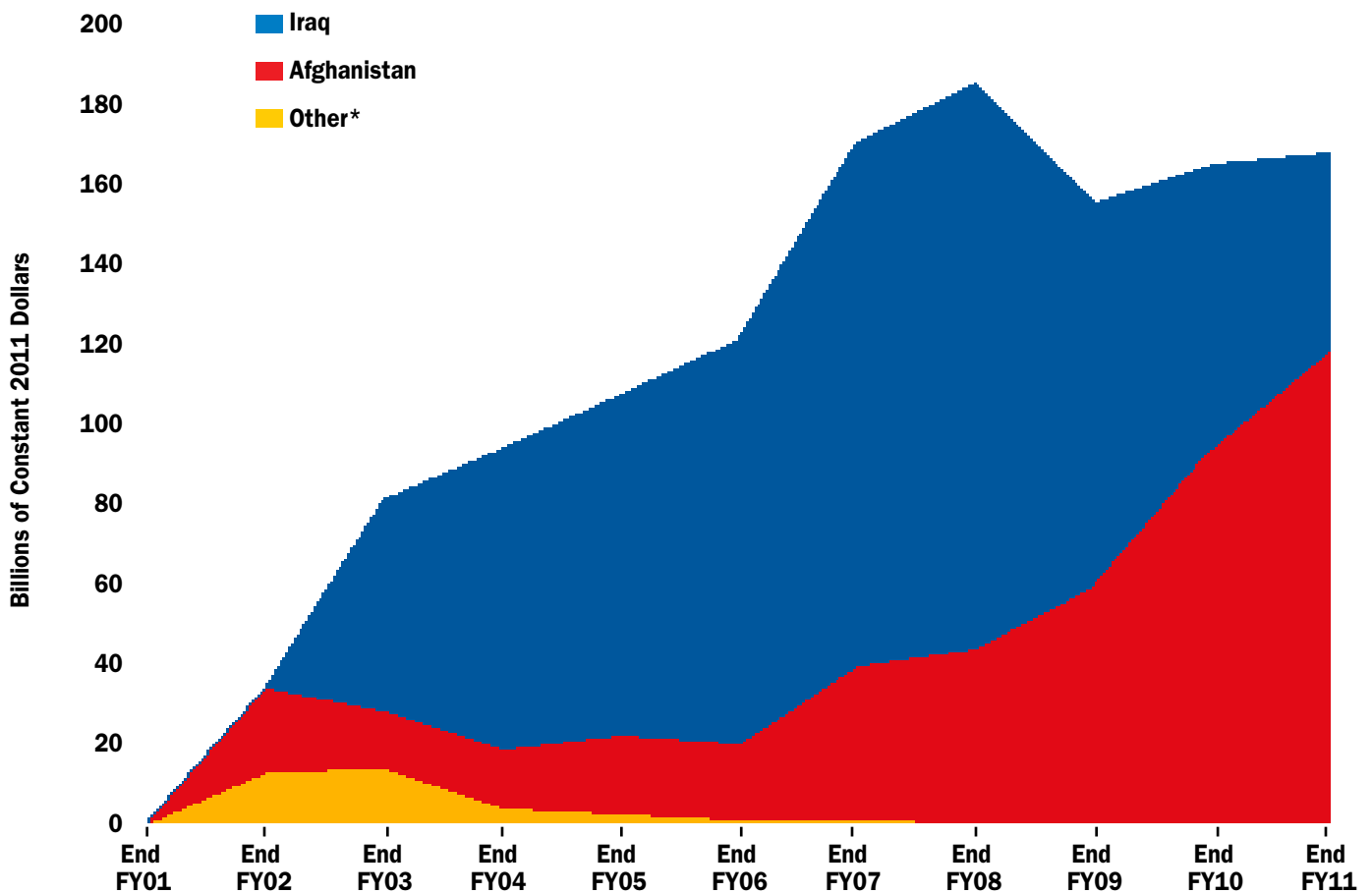


Ten Years of War

America this month completes a decade of continuous war that started with the al Qaeda terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. US combat operations soon commenced in Afghanistan and within 18 months in Iraq. The cost has been high—especially in casualties. More than 6,000 US troops have been killed, and more than 45,000

have been wounded. The financial cost also has been heavy. In a recent report, the Congressional Research Service pegged the 10-year outlay for both wars at nearly \$1,283 billion. Expenditures peaked in 2008, when Washington spent nearly \$186 billion.

Cost of US Operations in Afghanistan and Iraq



*"Other" refers to general security measures.

Source: "The Cost of Iraq, Afghanistan, and Other Global War on Terror Operations Since 9/11," Amy Belasco, Congressional Research Service, Washington, D.C., March 29, 2011. Figures are expressed in budget authority. Fiscal 2011 is an estimate.