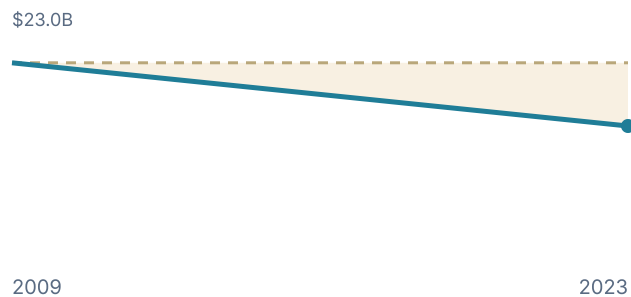


MQ-4C Triton

MQ-4C · Navy · Northrop Grumman TRUNCATED

-31% \$20.0B (2009) → \$13.9B (2023)



Dashed = promised baseline · solid = actual estimate · shaded = growth

BASELINE
\$20.0B (2009)
COST GROWTH
-31%
UNITS
70 → 27
UNIT-COST CHANGE
+79%
QUANTITY EFFECT
-\$12.3B
CONFIDENCE
medium · reconciled

CURRENT ESTIMATE
\$13.9B (2023)
COST BASIS
BY
QUANTITY CHANGE
-61%
SCHEDULE SLIP
+8 yr
UNIT-COST EFFECT
+\$6.1B
IOC
2015 (planned) → 2023

ASSESSMENT

A Triton truncation death-spiral: a Nunn-McCurdy PAUC breach as the buy was cut 70 → 27, so total FELL while per-aircraft cost soared +79% (\$286M → \$513M, BY2024\$). Totals shown are unit cost × quantity.

SOURCE

GAO-25-107569 (confirmed): unit cost \$286M → \$513M (BY2024\$), quantity cut 70 → 27 — a quantity-driven Nunn-McCurdy breach.