

Looking at the Numbers: BIDEN'S BIG GOVERNMENT

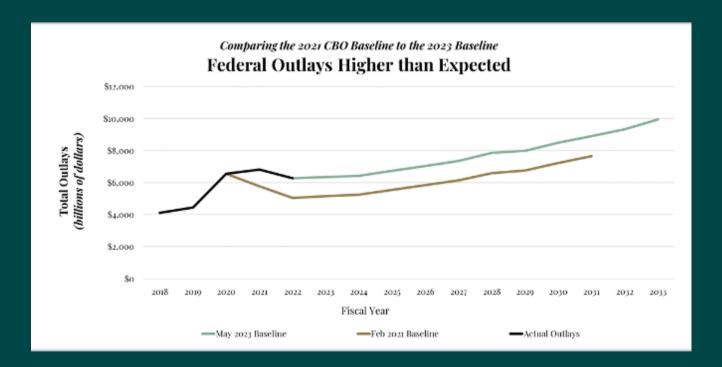
Introduction

Biden's presidency has been marked by an explosion in government spending.

Since taking office, his administration has overseen over **\$11 trillion in spending** – more than **\$1.5 trillion** of which has been done unilaterally through various executive actions and rulemaking, marking a clear circumvention of Congress.

Compared to January 2021, projected ten-year outlays have increased from \$61.2 trillion to \$80.1 trillion, an increase of **\$18.9 trillion** or **30.8 percent**. This translates to a **10 percent jump in outlays** as percent of GDP.

This House Budget Committee Oversight Task Force report will delve into why spending is ballooning, by providing integral context and perspective on key areas that are often overlooked.



Five Reasons to Care



Contrary to Democrats' claims, this country has a spending problem - not a revenue problem.

- Since the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, revenues are up 33.9 percent.
- In fact, federal revenues are higher than they were projected before President Biden even took office.



Out of control spending worsens our nation's debt crisis.

- Debt has increased \$6.1 trillion, or 22 percent since Biden took office.
- Projected ten-year deficits are up \$8.0 trillion, or 65.6 percent.
- Projected ten-year interest payments on the debt are up \$6.0 trillion, or 131.9 percent.
- Unsustainable national debt crowds out funding of our national priorities like defense, social security, and infrastructure.



Out of control spending does nothing to alleviate our country's inflation crisis.

- Since January 2021, prices have risen by a cumulative 17.2 percent.
- Food prices are up 19.6 percent; energy prices have risen 32.3 percent; and housing prices are up 18.5 percent.
- The average family of four is paying an additional \$15,222 per year or \$1,268 per month to purchase the same goods and services as in January 2021.
- In response to inflation, interest rates have risen dramatically. The 10year Treasury yield in January 2021 was 1.1 percent, now the 10-year yield is 4.2 percent.



Inflation has risen by 17.2 percent since Biden took office

Five Reasons to Care



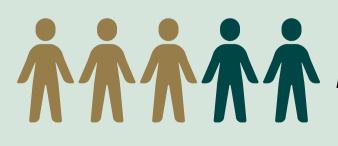
Biden's massive increases in spending have been met with more improper payments.

- According to the <u>Government Accountability Office</u>, President Biden's administration has spent \$528 billion in just two years on improper payments.
- Before Biden, improper payments averaged 4.5 percent. But improper payments jumped in 2021 to 7.16 percent (costing taxpayers \$281 billion) and in 2022 to 5.12 percent (costing \$247 billion).

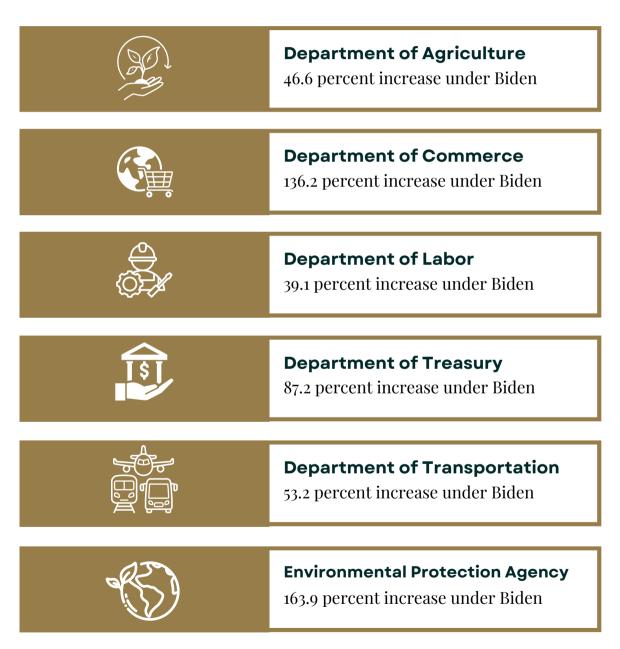


A majority of Americans disapprove of big government and reckless federal spending.

- An April 2023 poll by <u>Brookings</u> found 49 percent of Democrats, 27 percent of independents, and just 31 percent of Republicans favored a bigger government providing more services.
- A March 2023 poll by <u>The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs</u> <u>Research</u> found that 60 percent of Americans believe the government is spending too much.
- <u>A CNN poll</u>, released in 2022, found 58 percent of Americans believe President Biden's policies—including his out-of-control spending—have worsened economic conditions in the country.
- Recent conglomerative polling from <u>FiveThirtyEight</u> shows that President Biden's approval rating when he took office was just over 53 percent, but is now under 40 percent.



Roughly 60 percent of Americans believe the government is spending too much Spending increases under President Biden oftentimes reflect the consequences of wasteful, partisan laws and executive orders. Here's context behind why six agencies saw 40+ percent increases in their spending projections.





Department of Agriculture

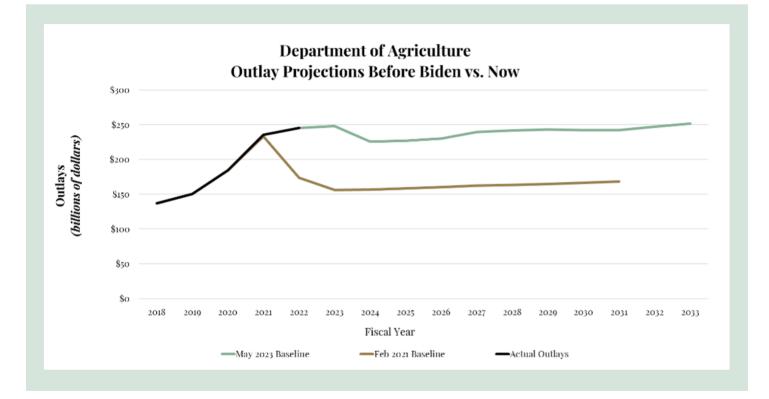
46.6 percent increase under Biden

Reason for Increase?

- **USDA's SNAP Increase:** In August 2021, USDA defied Congressional intent and conducted a reevaluation of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) without cost constraints, increasing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits by 23 percent at the cost of <u>\$300 billion</u> over the next ten years, according to the Congressional Budget Office.
- **Inflation Reduction Act:** Provided <u>\$19.5 billion</u> for conservation programs to "yield climate change mitigation benefits" and "reduce greenhouse gas emissions," <u>according</u> to USDA.
- American Rescue Plan: Provided <u>\$12 billion</u> in nutrition assistance.

Biggest 10-year Programmatic Increase:

- 1. Food and Nutrition Services (\$588 billion increase)
- 2. Office of the Secretary (\$43.0 billion increase)
- 3.US Forest Service (\$35.9 billion increase)





Department of Commerce

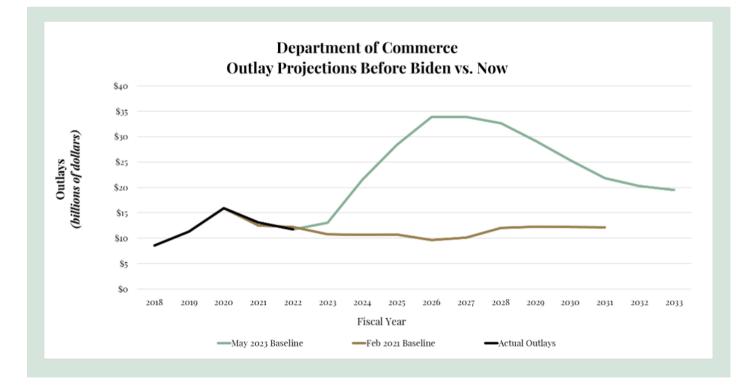
136.2 percent increase under Biden

Reason for Increase?

- **CHIPS and Sciences Act:** Provided <u>\$52.7 billion</u> for the Department of Commerce, including:
 - \$39 billion in financial assistance for manufacturing incentives.
 - \$11 billion in Department of Commerce research and development.
 - \$500 million through National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
- Inflation Reduction Act: Provided <u>\$3.3 billion</u> for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act:** Provided <u>\$42 billion</u> in grants to states and territories through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program.

Biggest 10-year Programmatic Increase:

NIST (\$54.8 billion increase) NTIA (\$51.0 billion increase) NOAA (\$28.1 billion increase)



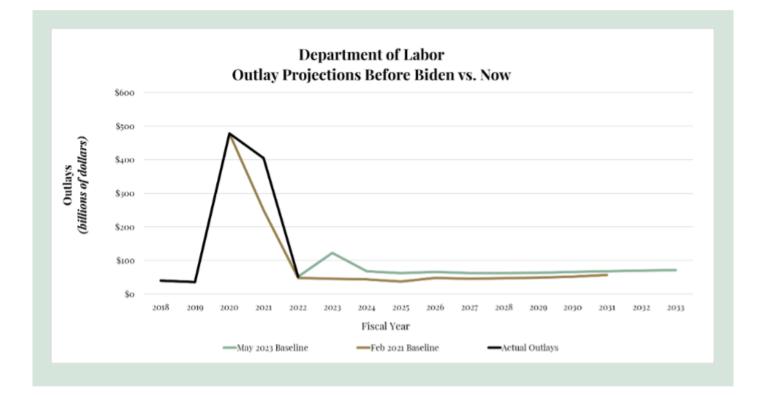


Department of Labor

39.1 percent increase under Biden

Reason for Increase?

• **Unemployment Insurance:** Extension of increased levels of unemployment benefits costing nearly <u>\$200 billion</u>.



Biggest 10-year Programmatic Increase:

- 1. Employment and Training Administration (\$156.7 billion increase)
- Almost entirely the Unemployment Trust Fund (\$408 billion to \$562 billion)
- 2. Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (\$13.2 billion increase)
- 3. Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (\$9.6 billion increase)

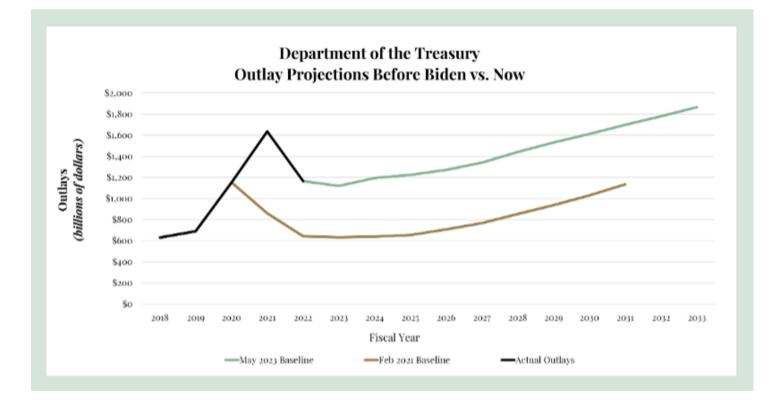


Department of Treasury

87.2 percent increase under Biden

Reason for Increase?

- Higher Net Interest Payments: Due to the exploding deficit and debt crisis.
 - The fiscal year 2023 deficit has increased from a projection of \$963 billion when President Biden took office to \$2 trillion (adjusting for student loan executive order accounting). 38 percent of the increase is due to higher interest payments on the debt.
 - The current national debt has gone up by over \$6 trillion since President Biden took office.
- **Inflation Reduction Act:** Provided <u>\$80 billion</u> for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to hire 87,000 new agents under the guise of cracking down on tax cheats.



Biggest 10-year Programmatic Increase:

- 1. Interest on the Public Debt (\$6.4 trillion increase)
- 2.IRS (\$80 billion agency increase)
- 3. Departmental Offices (\$7.98 billion increase)



Department of Transportation

53.2 percent increase under Biden

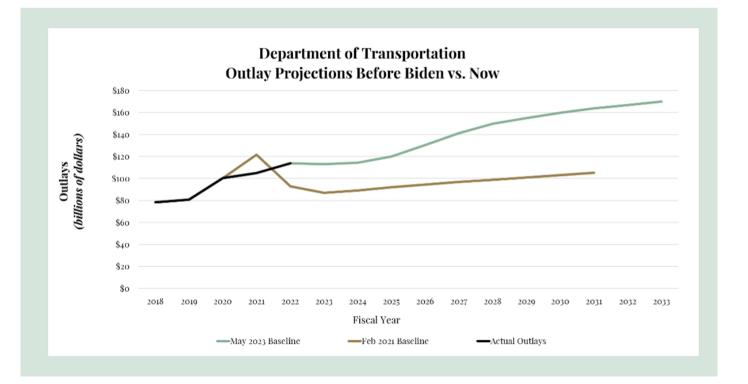
Reason for Increase?

- **American Rescue Plan:** Provided <u>\$30.5 billion</u> in funding for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).
- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA):** IIJA increased government outlays by \$1.1 trillion over 10-years, according to CBO's baseline released after the IIJA's enactment and included billions for Green New Deal initiatives like:
 - \$6.4 billion for the Carbon Reduction Program to "reduce transportation emissions or [increase] the development of carbon reduction strategies."
 - \$2.5 billion for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure.
 - \$5 billion for the National Electric Vehicle Formula Program.
 - \$5.6 billion for Low or No Emission Vehicle Competitive Grants.
- Inflation Reduction Act: Provided <u>over</u> \$5 billion for DOT, including progressive initiatives like:
 - \$297 million for "low-emission aviation technologies."
 - \$3.2 billion for the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Neighborhood Access and Equity Grant Program.

Biggest 10-year Programmatic Increase:

 FHWA (\$228.8 billion increase)
Federal Railroad Administration (\$90.4 billion increase)
FTA (\$75.0

billion increase)



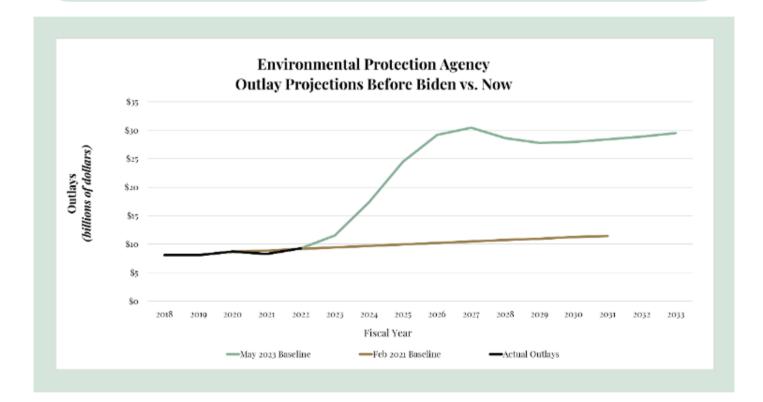


Environmental Protection Agency

163.7 percent increase under Biden

Reason for Increase?

- **Inflation Reduction Act:** The EPA was <u>provided</u> approximately \$45 billion for a variety of programs and grants, including:
 - \$27 billion for the Green House Gas Reduction Fund.
 - \$1 billion for the Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program.
 - \$3 billion for the Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants.
 - \$1.55 billion for the Methane Emissions Reduction Program.
 - \$5 billion for Climate Pollution Reduction Grants.



Biggest 10-year Programmatic Increase:

- 1. State and tribal assistance grants (\$119.3 billion increase)
- 2. Hazardous Substance Superfund (\$33.9 billion increase)
- 3. Environmental programs and management (\$14.0 billion increase)

The Bottom Line

President Biden's vast expansion of the federal bureaucracy not only jeopardizes our country's economic prosperity for future generations – it threatens to unravel the very fabric of our great nation.

House Budget Committee's FY24 to FY33 "<u>Reverse the Curse</u>" budget resolution is a clear step in the right direction:

- Proposes \$15 trillion or 18 percent less spending compared to President Biden's budget.
- Reduces gross federal debt by \$14.6 trillion compared to the President's Budget.
- Reduces interest costs by almost \$3 trillion over 10 years compared to President Biden's budget.
- Reduces the deficit by \$16 trillion and provides a surplus of \$130 billion in FY 2033.

The Oversight Task Force, Chaired by Rep. Jack Bergman (R-MI), will continue to build off the "<u>Reverse the Curse</u>" budget resolution's mission, providing necessary transparency and accountability to the American public.



Click <u>HERE</u> to access the Oversight Task Force online whistleblower portal, enabling the submission of reports for any wrongdoing concerning federal spending, fiscal management, or the federal budget.



Click <u>HERE</u> to access the Oversight Task Force's Request for Information (RFI) letter inviting comments from key government stakeholders, organizations, and the general public pertaining to fiscal accountability, transparency, and program integrity. More details can be found in the RFI letter, attached and linked <u>HERE</u>. The deadline to submit comments is December 31, 2023.

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Oversight Task Force

Established by Chairman Arrington in October, the goal of the Oversight Task Force, especially given the number of reckless policies brought forth by the Biden Administration, is to ensure that taxpayer money is being spent on integral issues that help the nation prosper and move toward a path of stronger fiscal standing.





Chairman Jodey Arrington (R-TX) Ex Officio