



SOUNDING THE ALARM

Deficits Rise, U.S. Economy Remains Underwater

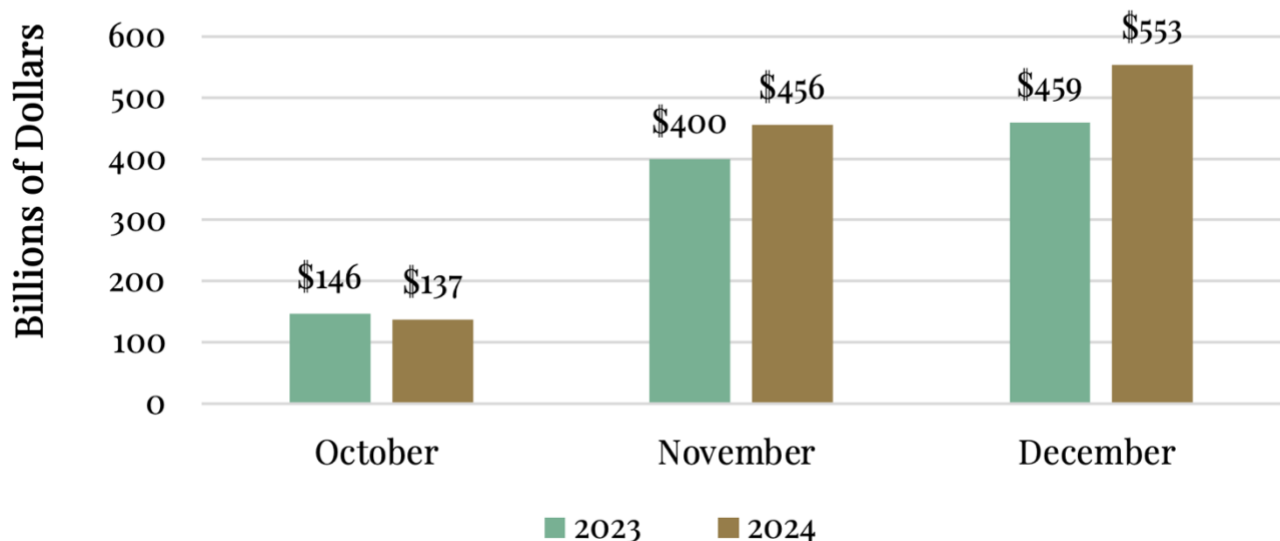
Yesterday, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released their monthly budget review for December 2023. The deficit for the first three months of FY2024 was \$553 billion—this is \$94 billion, or 21 percent higher, than the same point last year, even while revenues increased.



BY THE NUMBERS

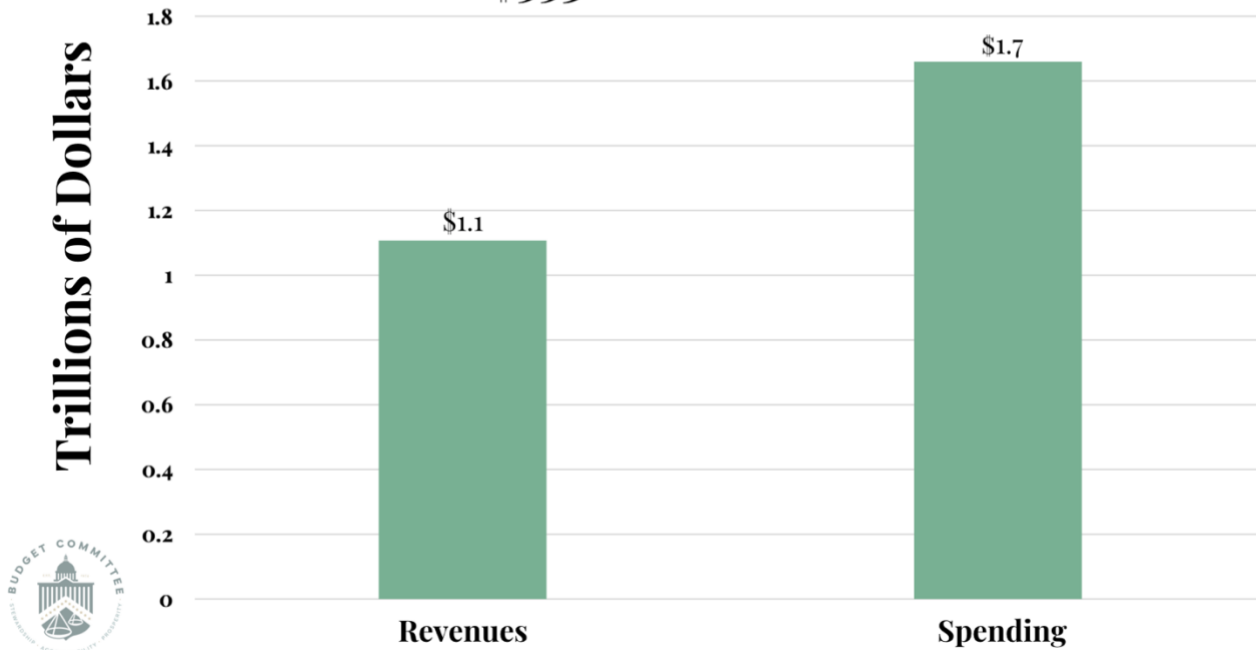


Cumulative Deficit Comparison FY 2023 vs FY 2024



According to CBO, total spending for the first quarter of FY2024 was \$1.7 trillion—an increase of 12 percent over the first quarter of FY2023.

First Three Months of Fiscal Year 2024: **\$553 billion deficit**



See below for a breakdown of where some of the spending increases are coming from.

Spending increases of note:

- Interest payments on the debt increased by \$73 billion: **49 percent increase.**
- Social Security spending increased by \$37 billion, or 12 percent, as spending-induced inflation caused the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) to increase in 2023.
- Medicare increased by \$25 billion, or 13 percent. CBO attributes this to increased benefit payments to Medicare Advantage plans.
- Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) spending increased by \$62 billion as the agency dealt with resolving last year’s bank failures.



? WHY IT MATTERS !

Deficits were bad enough last year, and now they're even worse. It's important to recognize why this is happening.

Democrats often misinform and mislead the American public on the cause of our fiscal woes. They blame higher deficits on low taxes and argue raising taxes on the American families is the only way we can dig ourselves out of the hole Congress has dug for our nation. However, the numbers say otherwise.

Revenues in the first quarter of FY2024 were \$1.1 trillion, an \$83 billion or eight percent increase from this time last year. At the same time, the deficit has grown by more than a fifth. These numbers paint a clear picture that **Congress doesn't have a revenue problem, but a spending problem**—no matter how much money the government raises by shaking down the taxpayer, Democrats in Congress and the White House will still spend all that and then some.

We don't need to raise taxes. What we need now more than ever is uncommon courage from our elected leaders to change the wasteful and reckless spending culture in Washington.

THE BOTTOM LINE

As America, and the world, celebrated the start of a new year, the U.S. hit a new milestone in our dire debt crisis—for the first time in our nation's history, the federal debt surpassed \$34 trillion dollars.

Today, the gross national debt is currently **\$34.01 trillion**. This breaks down to:

- **\$102,043** per person in the U.S.
- **\$258,759** per household in the U.S.
- **\$470,230** per child in the U.S.

This is real money – real dollars – that the U.S. is accountable for. If we don't fight to **reverse the curse** of our public debt now, our burden will fall on our children and grandchildren when it comes time to collect. Enough is enough. The House Budget Committee is determined to change course, tackle the debt, and protect the blessings of liberty for future generations of Americans.

