



ECONOMIC UPDATE

September 9, 2024

This Week in Focus

Welcome back from August recess! The JEC Dems were busy last month releasing reports to bring you important economic data and findings, including releasing state-by-state [factsheets](#) on how Democrats are lowering costs for families. We released reports on the harmful effects of extending the Republican [tax cuts](#) and on how Project 2025's [economic](#), [health](#), education, and climate policies hurt families. We also released briefs on child [nutrition](#) and supply [chains](#) and updated our [analysis](#) showing that incomes are rising faster than prices throughout the country.

Last Friday, the JEC Dems also analyzed employment [data](#) for August, finding unemployment decreased after drifting up over the last year. August was the 43rd consecutive month of job growth under the Biden-Harris administration. This Wednesday we'll be analyzing newly released inflation data, where the consensus forecast is for both headline and core figures to rise by 0.2%. This [Tuesday](#) and [Thursday](#) we will also get new data from the Census Bureau on income, poverty, and health insurance for 2023.

JEC Resources

- [Incomes are Rising Faster Than Prices Throughout the Country](#)
- [How Democrats are Lowering Costs for Families in Every State](#)
- [Republicans Want to Extend Tax Cuts That Benefit the Wealthy and Make Everyone Else Pay For It](#)
- [How Project 2025's Economic Policies Hurt Families](#)
- [How Project 2025's Health, Education, and Climate Policies Hurt Families](#)
- [The Economic Benefits of Child Nutrition](#)
- [Strengthening North American Supply Chains and Trade Benefits the U.S. Economy](#)

Economic Indicators This Week

Below are a series of economic indicators that will be released later this week, along with the consensus estimates from a group of professional forecasters about what the data point will be once it is reported. Oftentimes, news coverage of these indicators will report whether the final number came in above or below the expectations set by the forecasters' consensus.

Tuesday, September 10th:

- **Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance in 2023:** The U.S. Census Bureau will release [data](#) from the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement that includes vital information on the U.S. poverty rate, household income, and the uninsured rate from 2023. See previews on what to expect [here](#) and [here](#).

Wednesday, September 11th:

- **Consumer Price Index (CPI):** The consensus forecast for CPI predicts both the headline and core figures rose by **0.2%**. This would reduce the annual inflation rate down from the 2.9% reading last month to nearly to [2.6%](#).

Thursday, September 12th:

- **Jobless Claims:** Jobless claims are predicted to increase slightly to **230k** this week from **227k** last week.
- **Producer Price Index (PPI):** The consensus forecast predicts PPI and core PPI increased by **0.2%**.
- **Education, Housing, Employment, Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance in 2023:** The U.S. Census Bureau will release [data](#) from the American Community Survey. This release includes important information at both the state and congressional district level.

Friday, September 13th:

- **Import Prices:** Overall import prices are expected to have fallen in August by **0.2%**.
- **Consumer Sentiment:** The consensus forecast for the University of Michigan's Consumer Sentiment survey index predicts the second estimate for August will be **68.4**, above the latest reading of **67.8**.

What You Need to Know

- A slight **reduction** in the **unemployment rate** and **steady job growth** in last week's jobs data is forcing the **Fed to choose** between a quarter- or half-point cut to interest [rates](#) this month.
- The **U.S. Department of Transportation** launched an [investigation](#) of the United States's four biggest **airlines** over **dynamic pricing and fees** as part of their frequent flyer programs.
- A **slowing in hiring** is hurting recent **college graduates** in particular.
- White House officials have been working on plans for the **creation** of a U.S. sovereign-wealth [fund](#).
- A recent **surge in immigration** has boosted U.S. **population growth** and has provided significant support to the [job market](#).

What to Watch This Week

Tuesday, September 10th

- **Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, [Hearings to examine US companies technology focusing on the Russian war machine](#)** at 3:30 pm (EDT).

Wednesday, September 11th

- **House Budget Committee, [Legislative Hearing: Congress and the Congressional Budget Office \(CBO\): Examining Ways to Improve CBO](#)** at 9:00 am (EDT).
- **House Agriculture Committee, [Severe Food Distribution Shortages in Tribal and Elderly Communities](#)** at 10:00 am (EDT).
- **House Judiciary Committee, [The Role of Pharmacy Benefit Managers](#)** at 2:00 pm (EDT).

Thursday, September 12th

- **Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, [Hearings to examine the Department of Energy's role in conducting advanced computing research, application, and security](#)** at 10:00 am (EDT).
- **Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, [Hearings to examine the bankruptcy of Steward Health Care, focusing on how management decisions have impacted patient care](#)** at 10:00 am (EDT).
- **Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, [Hearings to examine protecting Americans' money, focusing on combatting scams and frauds against seniors and savers](#)** at 10:00 am (EDT).

- **Senate Finance Committee**, [Hearings to examine the 2025 tax policy debate and tax avoidance strategies](#) at 10:00 am (EDT).
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What to Read From the Think Tank World

- [The Council of Economic Advisers \(CEA\)](#) highlighted how despite the recent uptick in the unemployment rate (largely driven by temporary unemployment), the labor market is still strong.
 - [The Economic Policy Institute \(EPI\)](#) found providing summer unemployment benefits for K-12 school support staff would increase their incomes by \$1.2 billion nationwide.
 - [The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities \(CBPP\)](#), in analyzing newly released data for 2023 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, found food insecurity rose for the second year due to the expiration of measures like the expanded Child Tax Credit, after falling to a two-decade low in 2021.
 - [The Center for Economic and Policy Research \(CEPR\)](#) demonstrated how U.S. workers are far better off than four years ago thanks to lower rates of unemployment and higher rates of employment across groups.
 - [The Tax Policy Center](#) from the Urban Institute and the Brookings Institution dug into ways to improve the Child and Dependent Care Credit, including making it available to student parents and expanding it to include care for elderly parents and informal care.
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Latest Academic Articles Selected From NBER

The National Bureau of Economic Research, a private research organization, circulates a series of working papers in economics every Monday morning. These offer an early look at the latest academic research findings. These are our selected recommendations from the latest papers out this morning.

- [Federal Pandemic Relief and Academic Recovery](#)
- [Racial Differences in the Total Rate of Return on Owner-Occupied Housing](#)
- [Skills and Human Capital in the Labor Market](#)
- [Failing Banks](#)