JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

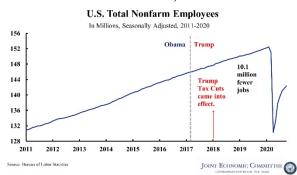
CONGRESSMAN DON BEYER, VICE CHAIR



The U.S. Economy by the Numbers – November 16, 2020

Job growth/loss

- Nonfarm employment increased by 638K in October but even after these gains there are still 10.1 million fewer jobs than in February.
- State and local government employment fell by **130K** in October and is down **1.3 million** jobs since February.
- If the economy had continued at the prepandemic pace of adding 194K jobs per month, about **1.6 million** jobs would have been added from February to October.
- That brings the total jobs gap to around 11.7 million jobs (10.1 million jobs lost and 1.6 million that were not added.)



New unemployment claims

 DOL reported that over 723K American workers filed new unemployment claims during the week ending Nov. 7. This is more than three times the number filed during the comparable week in 2019.

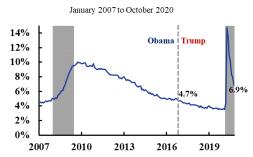
Gross Domestic Product

- Real GDP grew at annualized rate of **33.1%** in Q3 2020, following the worst quarterly decline (**31.4%**) in U.S. history in Q2.
- Growth in Q3 would have had to increase **more than 53%** just to make up for the loss in economic output suffered in Q2 and Q1.
- The U.S. economy is now **3.5% smaller** than it was at the end of 2019.

Unemployment rate

- The unemployment rate in October was **6.9%**, nearly twice as high as the pre-pandemic low of 3.5% in February.
- The unemployment rate for Blacks was 10.8%, almost double the 6.0% rate for Whites.
- The unemployment rate for Asians was **7.6%** and **8.8%** for Hispanics.
- The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) increased by **1.2** million, to a total of **3.6** million.
- Nearly **one-third** of unemployed workers have been jobless for **more than half a year**.

Unemployment Rate



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, using the Civilian Unemployment Rate Ages 16+, Seasonally Adjusted

Federal debt

- CBO forecasts federal debt held by the public will exceed 100% of GDP in 2021, 107% of GDP by 2023 and 195% of GDP by 2050.
- The deficit in 2021 is projected to be **8.6% of GDP**. The deficit as a share of GDP has been larger than that only twice between 1946 and 2019.

Inflation

- The CPI for all items **rose by around 1.4%** over the last 12 months.
- Core PCE, excluding food and energy, **increased by around 1.6%** over the past 12 months.