



COMMITTEE FOR A RESPONSIBLE FEDERAL BUDGET

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

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RESPONSIBILITY.

NONPARTISAN.

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Committee for a
Responsible Federal Budget



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What a year it has been.

In a season that was anything but predictable, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget was at the forefront of the major fiscal moments of 2024. From congressional debates over government funding to laying the policy groundwork for next year's tax debate to holding presidential candidates accountable and raising awareness about the fiscal challenges facing our nation, CRFB could be relied upon for objective, timely, and trusted analyses.

What follows is a brief recap of our work – made possible by the generosity of our donors.

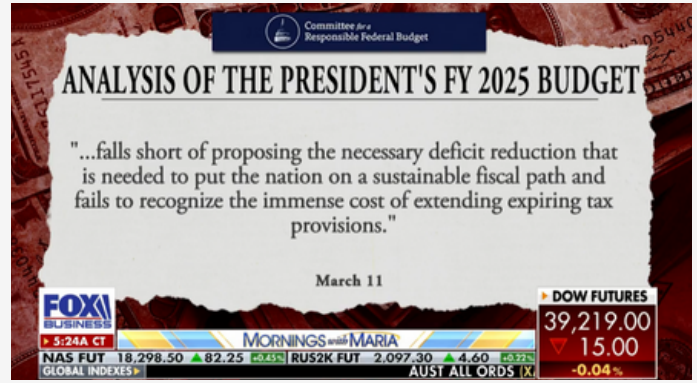
Next year is already shaping up to be a consequential year for fiscal policy. But before closing the books on this year, I hope you'll take a moment to celebrate some of our successes. Your support helps make them possible and ensures that during consequential moments, fiscal responsibility has a champion.

Maya MacGuineas, President

Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget

TIMELY & TRUSTED

Whether on the campaign trail, in the halls of Congress, or serving as a trusted resource for the media, CRFB has continued to fulfill its mission of providing objective, nonpartisan analysis on the fiscal issues facing the country. In fulfillment of this mission, CRFB has published more than 138 analyses and 20 papers this year on topics ranging from the President’s Budget, to CBO Outlook reports, and the fiscal promises of major candidates. Additionally, we published our latest interactive tool, the Build Your Own Tax Extensions, which has quickly become a unique and highly valued tool by Members, their staff, and the media.



Above: Fox Business’s Maria Bartiromo cites CRFB on our analysis of the President’s FY 2025 budget. (March 12, 2024)

“In fiscal year 2023, the US government spent more to service its debt than it did on each of housing, transport and higher education, according to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, a non-profit.”



Above: Senior Vice President and Senior Policy Director Marc Goldwein discusses CRFB’s U.S. Budget Watch analysis of the fiscal impact of Vice President Harris’s and former President Trump’s campaign plans on C-SPAN’s “Washington Journal.” (October 15, 2024)



Above: Participants and attendees test out solutions to tax code expirations with the Build Your Own Tax Extensions tool at CRFB’s “When the TCJA Expires: A Tax Policy Summit” event. (March 28, 2024)

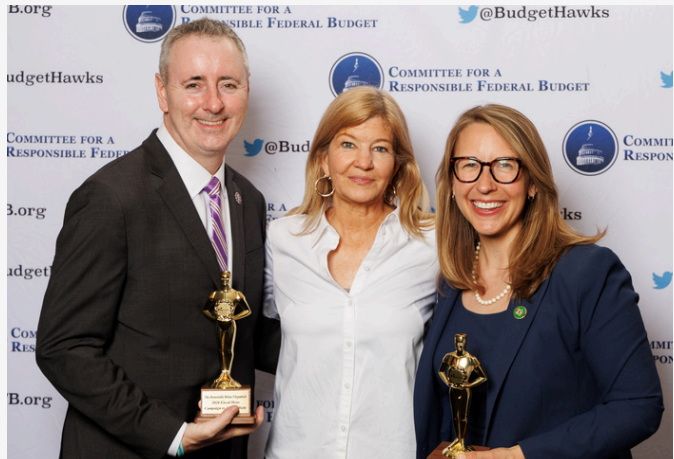
On the Hill

In 2024, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget held over **240** meetings with **187** Members and their offices.

With major tax deadlines approaching in 2025, CRFB has invested significant time and resources this year toward educating staff on key tax provisions and impending expirations. We also continued our Hill Briefing series for congressional staff on topics like upcoming tax expirations, the costs of health care, and looming insolvency of our nation’s trust funds, as well as supporting the markup of responsible fiscal legislation such as the Fiscal Stability Act (FSA).

Bipartisan Fiscal Forum

The Bipartisan Fiscal Forum (BFF) is a group of lawmakers focused on drawing attention to and finding solutions for America’s unsustainable fiscal situation. More than 90 Members of Congress have participated in BFF meetings or events. A highlight this year was the Special Order Hour, an uninterrupted period of discussion on the floor of the House of Representatives, organized by BFF and dedicated to fiscal issues, where Members from both parties got up to speak about the fiscal challenges facing our nation.

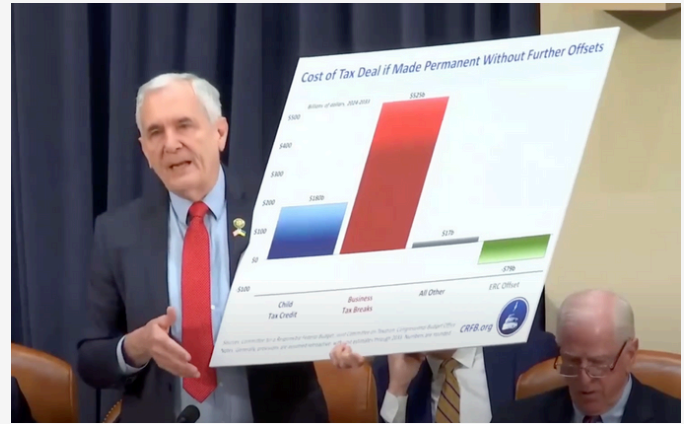


Above: Committee President Maya MacGuineas with Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Rep. Hillary Scholten (D-MI) receiving their 2024 Fiscal Heroes awards. (May 1, 2024)

Senator Mitt Romney @SenatorRomney

The U.S. economy is becoming critically fragile as we continue to ignore our public debt crisis. Without action, we risk economic and geopolitical collapse. Met with @BudgetHawks President @MayaMacGuineas & Erskine Bowles to discuss solutions that stabilize and decrease the debt.

5:39 PM · Feb 7, 2024 · 16.9K Views




Above: Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D-TX) citing CRFB chart during House Ways & Means Committee hearing on Child Tax Credit bill. (January 19, 2024)

Right: In 2024, CRFB continued its Fiscal Security Leadership Initiative (FSLI) with two new cohorts, reaching 70 Hill staffers. In an era of partisan gridlock and outdated budget process, FSLI empowers Congressional staff with the tools and insights needed to navigate complex budget decisions affecting defense, diplomacy, and America’s global standing.



Widely Cited

CRFB has received over **24,000** mentions and syndicated media hits in 2024 alone.

Ryan Schmelz  [@RyanSchmelzFOX](#)

.@jchristenson_ cites @BudgetHawks analysis of POTUS' and @housebudgetGOP's FY 2025 budgets when asking @SpeakerJohnson about his plans to reign in the deficit.

Johnson says he wants to continue "breaking the omnibus fever" by committing to passing single approps bills.

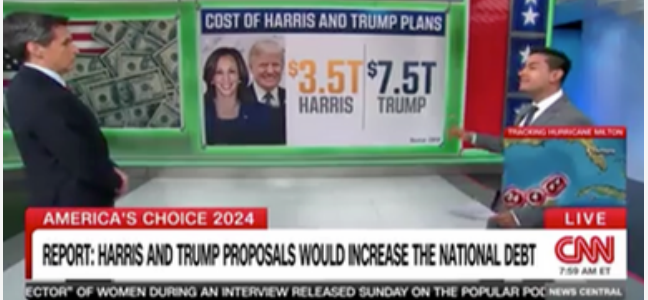


Above: In an interview with Speaker Johnson, New York Post reporter Josh Christenson cites the Committee's analysis of the President's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget in a question on the Speaker's plans to address our nation's deficit. (March 13, 2024)

This year CRFB remained a trusted and reliable source for the media on all significant fiscal and economic issues, as made clear by the over 330 national and regional media outlets that quoted our work, leading to thousands of syndicated media hits. CRFB leadership also appeared dozens of times on television and radio programs across hundreds of markets around the country. Our analysis of the the major fiscal policy proposals of the leading presidential candidates in particular was widely cited, resulting in meaningful fiscal questions to candidates in the nationally televised presidential debates.

“Since our national leaders, from both parties, have made the reckoning so probable, the least they can do is to start thinking about how to meet the fiscal judgment day when it arrives.”

-Washington Post Op-Ed written by CRFB Co-Chair Mitch Daniels (September 19, 2024)



Above: CNN host John Berman and reporter Matt Egan discuss USBW analysis of the fiscal impact of Vice President Harris's and former President Trump's campaign plans. (October 7, 2024).

Below: Committee President Maya MacGuineas on CNBC's Squawk Box discussing the CBO Long-term budget outlook and national debt. (March 21, 2024)



U.S. Budget Watch



On the national level, CRFB just wrapped up its US Budget Watch (USBW) 2024. While this is a project we've done for every presidential election since 2008, never has it received this much coverage. In addition to being cited in June's presidential debate, and in interviews with both Vice President Harris and former President Trump, our work was also featured by more than 115 media outlets.

Asked to Vice President Kamala Harris:

"But it is estimated by the nonpartisan *Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget* that your economic plan would add \$3 trillion to the federal deficit over the next decade. How are you going to pay for that?"



Asked to former President Donald Trump:

"The *Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget*, which is a bipartisan outlet, put out some predictions the other day. If you add up all the promises you've made and your plans would add \$7.5 trillion to the debt."



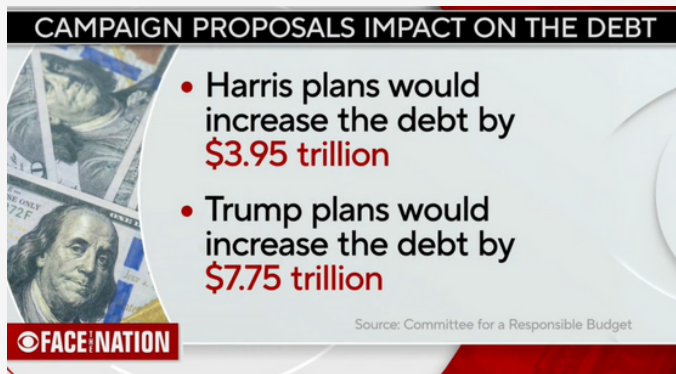
Asked to President Joe Biden:

"And according to a new non-partisan analysis [from the *Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget*], President Trump, your administration approved \$8.4 trillion in new debt. While so far, President Biden, you've approved \$4.3 trillion in new debt."



"Your [Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget] research is driving the fiscal conversation today in Washington."

-JOE MATHIEU



Above: CBS News' Face the Nation host Margaret Brennan cites the Committee's analysis of Vice President Harris's and former President Trump's campaign promises and their impact on the debt in an interview with Mohamed El-Erian. (November 3, 2024).



Above: Committee President Maya MacGuineas' Bloomberg interview breaking down new estimates of the fiscal impact of the Trump and Harris campaign plans (October 7, 2024)

Events, Engagement, & Education

As part of our mission to educate and engage the public, CRFB has increased its presentation of public events and educational programs designed to help raise awareness and understanding around the nation’s fiscal trajectory, programs, and challenges. Whether through a live-televised Tax Policy Summit on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act’s upcoming expiration, a public education webinar explaining the fiscal impact of Presidential candidates’ fiscal plans, or taking a moment to celebrate Members of Congress and the fiscal policy community who have remained committed to bipartisan fiscal solutions, CRFB has continued to provide space for learning, growth, connection, and celebration within the fiscal community.



Above: Committee Policy Director Chris Townner with a group of Summer 2024 Intern Academy participants. ([July 19, 2024](#))



Above: Interns raising their hands during a Q&A portion following an Intern Academy session.. ([October 22, 2024](#))



Above: CRFB Co-Chairs Leon Panetta and Tim Penny with Senator Tom Carper (D-DE) at the 2024 Budget Bash Reception. ([September 18, 2024](#))



Above: Panelists speak at the “When the TCJA Expires: A Tax Policy Summit.” ([March 28, 2024](#))



Above: Title page from a CRFB public webinar on the fiscal impact of the Harris and Trump campaign plans. ([October 16, 2024](#))



Above: Attendees connecting at the CRFB’s 2024 Fiscal Heroes Reception. ([May 1, 2024](#))



Above: Rep. Scott Peters (D-CA) showing off his 2024 Fiscal Heroes Award. ([May 1, 2024](#))

We rely on individual contributions to fund vital and timely projects, including what is mentioned above and so much more. If you find our work beneficial, please consider supporting our organization by clicking the button below. If you need additional information or want to make a larger contribution, don't hesitate to contact Chris Rotella, vice president of development and events, at rotella@crfb.org.

Support our work