

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE DEMOCRATS

jec.senate.gov

U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich • Ranking Member

Trump's First Year: 10 Numbers the President Won't be Talking About

During his first year in office, President Trump ignored the big problems, such as our nation's crumbling infrastructure, failed to address national crises, including the opioid epidemic and Puerto Rico's devastation following Hurricane Maria, and at every turn, acted to undermine recent gains in health insurance coverage. As we near the end of President Trump's first year in office, below are 10 numbers that highlight the challenges ahead and which likely won't be talked about by the administration:

30,000: additional jobs needed each month in 2017 to reach average monthly job gains from 2011-2016. In 2017, the economy added the smallest number of jobs since 2010.¹

0.2%: *inflation-adjusted wage growth since Trump's election.* While wage growth has picked up a little in recent months, after adjusting for inflation, workers' wages have barely risen since Trump's election. There is little reason to expect the Republican tax cuts to solve this problem.²

39%: share of wealth owned by the top 1 percent of families, compared with 23 percent of wealth for the bottom 90 percent of families. By the time it is fully implemented, four-fifths of the benefits of the Republican tax plan will go to the top 1 percent.³

10:1: *ratio of wealth for white families to black families*. The median black family has a net worth of \$17,600, and the median Hispanic family \$20,700, compared with \$171,000 for white families. Republican tax cuts skewed to the wealthy will only exacerbate these gaps.⁴

- **\$1.5 trillion**: *ten-year cost of the Republican tax plan*. These are funds that could have been invested in research, infrastructure, and education that would grow the economy for future generations.⁵
- **\$2 trillion**: gap in funding to get nation's infrastructure to good condition by 2025. Despite promises to invest in infrastructure in the first 100 days, the administration has yet to put forward a plan to upgrade the nation's roads, bridges, ports, schools, water systems and broadband networks.⁶
- **516%:** *increase in average annual student borrowing over last 45 years.* As student debt levels continue to climb total outstanding student debt is nearing \$1.5 trillion the Administration has suspended a key program that forgives loans to those students defrauded by predatory institutions.⁷
- **13 million**: *number of Americans who will no longer have health insurance due to the GOP tax law*. Gains made under the Affordable Care Act are now at risk due to legislative and executive actions aimed at weakening the program and likely leading to higher premiums in 2018 and beyond.⁸
- **23 million**: *number of rural residents without access to broadband*. High-speed broadband opens up access to educational, professional and telehealth opportunities for rural communities.⁹
- **63,600**: *deaths from drug overdoses in 2016*. The opioid epidemic is devastating communities across the country, but the administration has instead focused on stripping health care coverage from millions. ¹⁰

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics

² JEC calculations based on data from Bureau of Labor Statistics

³ http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/publications/distributional-analysis-conference-agreement-tax-cuts-and-jobs-act/full and https://www.federalreserve.gov/publications/files/scf17.pdf

⁴ https://www.federalreserve.gov/publications/files/scf17.pdf

https://www.jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=5053

⁶ https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/ASCE-Failure-to-Act-2016-FINAL.pdf

⁷ The College Board, Trends in Student Aid; https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/g19/current/default.htm and https://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2017/10/01/trump-policy-hurts-studentborrowers/fq9bkhlWh176FTjxwZlNPJ/story.html

⁸ https://www.cbo.gov/publication/53300

⁹ https://www.fcc.gov/reports-research/reports/broadband-progress-reports/2016-broadband-progress-report 10 https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db294.htm