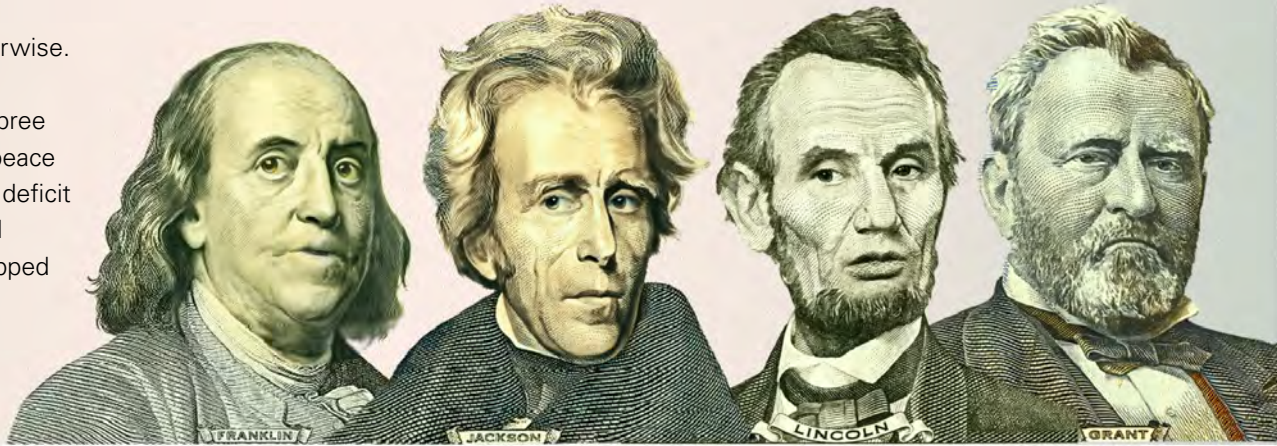


The national debt doesn't impact Americans in the present, right? It's a tomorrow problem. Persistent inflation, dollar devaluation and rising rents from monetary weakening argues otherwise. A massive, multi-trillion debt-fueled spending spree has led to the biggest peace time, non-crisis budget deficit in U.S. history. The total deficit for fiscal 2023 tipped **\$2 trillion**—up 52 percent year/year.

The era of fiscal excess

BofA Michael Hartness's description of today's government spending



dollars, trillions



Receipts
\$429B

by source, December 2023

\$178B
individual income taxes

\$141B
social insurance and retirement

\$94B
corporate income taxes

\$2B estate and gift taxes

\$2B misc

\$6B customs duties

\$7B excise, gift taxes

\$10B transportation

\$10B income security

\$14B education

\$25B other

\$40B veteran's benefits, services

\$61B income security

\$65B medicare

\$68B
net interest

\$78B
health

\$81B
national defense

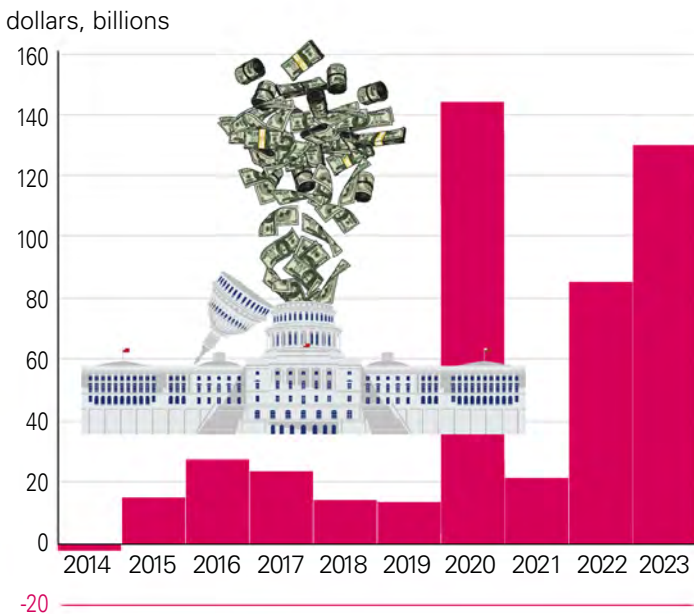
\$117B
social security

Outlay
\$559B

by function, December 2023

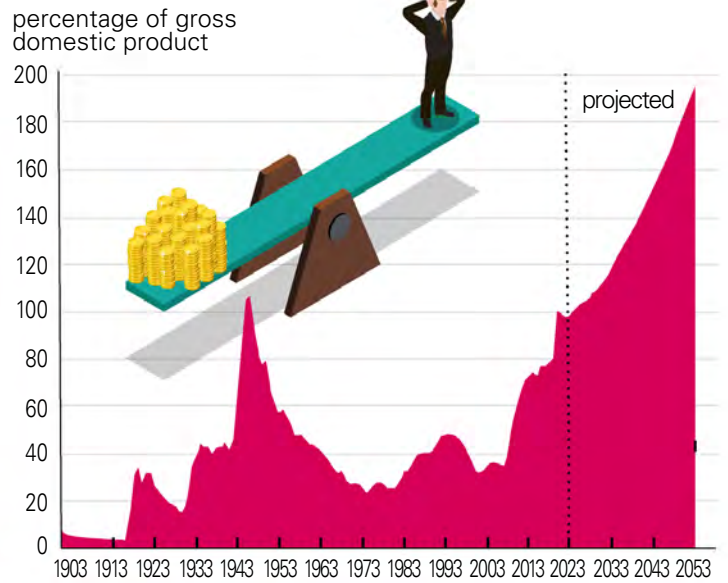
U.S. budget deficit

2014 through 2023



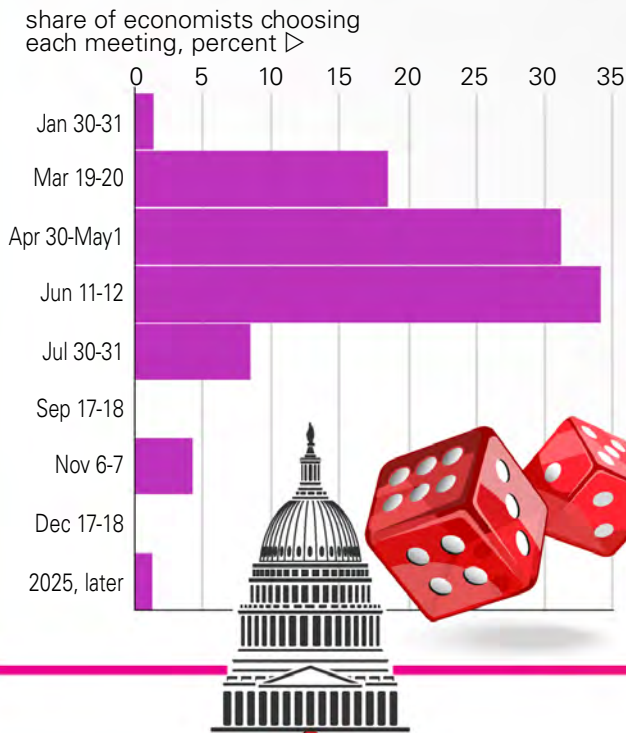
Federal debt held by the public

1900 through 2053



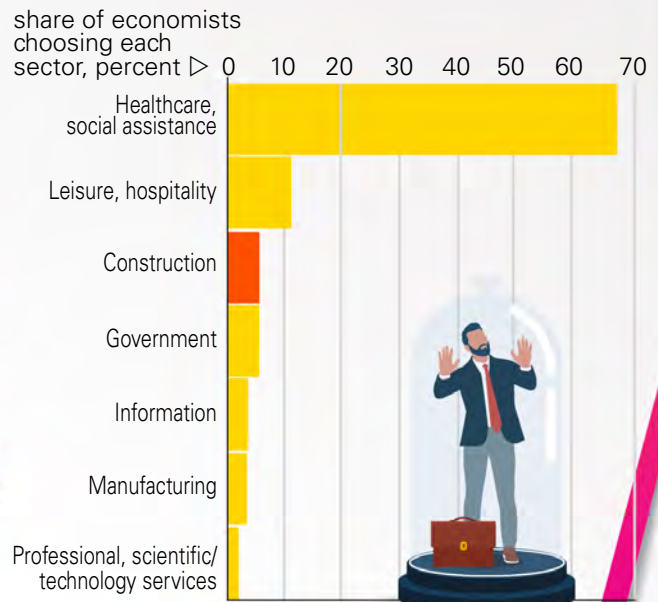
Interest rate cuts

When do top economists expect the Federal Reserve to make the next rate cut?



Employment growth

Which sectors will see the strongest employment growth in 2024?



Deficits aren't tools for growth;

they're tools for stagnation since they must eventually be paid for one way or another

The massive deficit means

more taxes, more inflation, and lower growth in the future