

Affordability Tracker

Inflation, Income, Employment and Energy

OCTOBER 17, 2026

CPI cards compare June 2022 with September 2026 year-over-year changes. Other cards retain the Oct. 9 snapshot; their distinct periods are listed below.

Core inflation

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PRICE CHANGE

5.9%

JUNE 2022

Approximate bars

2.6%

SEPTEMBER 2026

Change: -3.3 percentage points

Cumulative Real Weekly Wages

+1.5%

TRUMP

-3.9%

BIDEN FULL TERM

Inflation-adjusted wages are up since Inauguration Day

Record Real Median Household Income

\$87,460

RECORD HIGH

+2.6%

INCREASE IN 2025 ALONE

+1.9%

ALL FOUR BIDEN YEARS COMBINED

One Trump year beat all four Biden years combined

Lowest Poverty Rate In History

10.2%

OFFICIAL RATE FOR 2025

All it took was one year in office

The Private Sector Is Leading In Job Creation

+1 Million

Private Sector Jobs Created

-328,000

Federal Workforce Reduced

Main Street Growth With A Leaner Federal Workforce Near 1960s Levels

Energy Dominance

CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

BARRELS OF OIL EQUIVALENT

+2.4 million barrels per day

President Trump's energy dominance and deregulatory agenda are unleashing U.S. production far above Biden-era levels

Cost Of Living Reality Check

Weekly Wages Are Outpacing Home Prices

NOMINAL WEEKLY EARNINGS VS FHFA HOME PRICES

Over 2x Faster

Through July 2026, nominal weekly earnings rose +5.6%; FHFA home prices rose +2.6%

Groceries

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PRICE CHANGE

12.2%

JUNE 2022

Approximate bars

1.8%

SEPTEMBER 2026

Change: -10.4 percentage points

Rent

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PRICE CHANGE

5.8%

JUNE 2022

Approximate bars

2.8%

SEPTEMBER 2026

Change: -3.0 percentage points

Electricity

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PRICE CHANGE

13.7%

JUNE 2022

Approximate bars

4.4%

SEPTEMBER 2026

Change: -9.3 percentage points

Prescription drugs

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PRICE CHANGE

2.5%

JUNE 2022

Approximate bars

-4.5%

SEPTEMBER 2026

Change: -7.0 percentage points

Bidenflation Cost To Households

Over \$30,000

JEC ESTIMATE

American families' purchasing power was completely eroded under Biden

Headline inflation

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PRICE CHANGE

9.1%

JUNE 2022

Approximate bars

3.7%

SEPTEMBER 2026

Change: -5.4 percentage points

Gasoline

YEAR-OVER-YEAR PRICE CHANGE

59.9%

JUNE 2022

Approximate bars

34.2%

SEPTEMBER 2026

Change: -25.7 percentage points

Child Investment accounts

FEDERAL TRUMP ACCOUNTS PROGRAM

\$0

Before this program launched

Nearly 70M

ACCOUNTS CREATED

OCT. 7, 2026

\$8B+

DEPOSITED

OCT. 12, 2026

Includes automatic enrollment; deposits combine government, family and philanthropic funds.

Fraud Found & Payments Stopped

Unknown

Total fraud arising during 2020-2024

Approximately \$230 billion found

Approximately \$56 billion/year stopped

White House estimates reported August 6, 2026, covering actions since January 2025. Identified amounts span multiple programs and years. "Stopped" means estimated annualized savings from administrative actions, not cash recovered. These are not matched totals for fraud originating in 2020-2024.

PERIODS, SOURCES & DATES

Real wages: Jan. 2021-Jan. 2025 versus Jan. 2025-Aug. 2026.
Income: 2025 vs. 2024 (+2.6%); 2020-2024 (+1.9%). Poverty: 2025 vs. 2024.
Jobs: Jan. 2025-Sep. 2026. Wages/home prices: Jan. 2025-July 2026.
Energy and JEC: exact periods not provided in the original snapshot.
CPI: BLS Tables A and 2; June 2022 / September 2026, unadjusted YoY.
https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/cpi_07132022.htm
https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/cpi_10142026.htm
Oct. 9, 2026 snapshot: BLS, Census, EIA, FHFA, FRED, JEC, NAR.
Bessent/Treasury response: Breitbart, Oct. 9, 2026.
Child accounts: White House, Oct. 7, 2026 (accounts created).
Deposits: IRS CEO interview, Oct. 12, 2026; reported by FOX 5, Oct. 13.
Fraud estimates: White House release, August 6, 2026 (historical snapshot).
Fraud Ledger methodology: White House; stopped payments are annualized savings.