



RSC One-Pager: January 2012 CBO Budget Outlook

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In [January 2007](#), the same month Democrats took control of Congress, CBO published its ten-year budget projections covering 2008 to 2017. This report projected an **\$800 billion surplus over ten years, including surpluses every year from 2012 to 2017**.

Four years later, in [January 2011](#), the new Republican House inherited a very different budget outlook. The \$800 billion projected surplus from 2008 to 2017 **turned into an \$8.8 trillion deficit** over this same period. According to CBO, the projected 2011-2021 deficits amounted to \$8.45 trillion.

[Yesterday](#), one year into GOP control of the House, CBO released new projections covering 2012 to 2022. This report projects a deficit of \$1.079 trillion in FY 2012, and deficits of \$4.152 trillion over the 2012 to 2022 period. CBO projects that deficits will be \$3.343 trillion lower over the 2011 to 2021 compared to a year ago. Part of this change from last year comes from assuming that sequestration under the Budget Control Act happens as scheduled.

The below table shows CBO's projections of ten-year deficits/surpluses in January of 2007 (what a Democrat Congress inherited from a Republican Congress), January of 2011 (what a Republican House inherited from the Democrat Congress), and January 2012 (one year into the current Congress).

CBO Budget Outlook in January of 2007, 2011, and 2012

(in billions of dollars)

Year	Jan 2007	Jan 2011	Jan 2012	Actual/Projected Deficit Increase Jan 07 to Jan 11	Actual/Projected Deficit Cut Jan 11 to Jan 12
2008	-98	---	---	361*	---
2009	-116	---	---	1,297*	---
2010	-137	---	---	1,156*	---
2011	-12	-1,480	---	1,468	184
2012	170	-1,100	-1,079	1,270	21
2013	159	-704	-585	863	119
2014	185	-533	-345	718	188
2015	208	-551	-269	759	282
2016	192	-659	-302	851	357
2017	249	-617	-220	866	397
2018	---	-610	-196	---	414
2019	---	-696	-258	---	438
2020	---	-739	-280	---	459
2021	---	-763	-279	---	484
2022	---	---	-339	---	---
TOTAL	800	-8,452	-4,152	9,609	3,343

*Those calculations are based on the difference between the January 07 CBO baseline and what actually happened in fiscal years 2008 (\$459 billion deficit), 2009 (\$1.413 trillion), and 2010 (\$1.293 trillion).