

Liz Mathis supports the Biden agenda. Under President Biden, diesel and gas prices have hit record highs, hurting farmers and raising the cost of food.

Liz Mathis supported passing Joe Biden’s American Rescue Plan and Build Back Better Act:

- In August 2021, Mathis criticized Ashley Hinson for voting against the American Rescue Plan.



(Liz Mathis, [Twitter](#), 8/28/21)

- In February 2022, Mathis thanked Democrats for passing the American Rescue Plan.



(Liz Mathis, [Twitter](#), 2/1/22)

- **President Biden initially proposed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan in January 2021.** “President-elect Joseph R. Biden Jr. on Thursday proposed a \$1.9 trillion rescue package to combat the economic downturn and the Covid-19 crisis, outlining the type of sweeping aid that Democrats have demanded for months and signaling the shift in the federal government’s pandemic response as Mr. Biden prepares to take office.” (Jim Tankersley and Michael Crowley, “Biden Outlines \$1.9 Trillion Spending Package to Combat Virus and Downtown,” [New York Times](#), 1/14/21)
- **Mathis praised the Build Back Better Act in her November 2021 newsletter.** “Build Back Better addresses long-neglected needs Also, the U.S. House passed the Build Back Better Act. It is now under consideration in the U.S. Senate. This federal legislation is expected to help level the playing field so that our economy once again works for everyone, not just those at the top. It aims to bring down costs that have held back families in Iowa for decades and give Iowans the chance to build a brighter future for themselves and their families.” (Liz Mathis, [Update from the Iowa Capitol](#), 11/30/21)

The American Rescue Plan exacerbated inflation, causing it to reach its highest point in over four decades:

- **According to a regional Federal Reserve Bank analysis, the American Rescue Plan boosted inflation.** “Inflation is likely getting a temporary boost from the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package that the Biden administration ushered in early this year, new Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco research released on Monday suggested.” (Jeanna Smialek, “A regional Fed analysis suggests Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.,” [The New York Times](#), 10/18/21)
- **Researchers found that the American Rescue Plan might raise the vacancy-to-unemployment ratio close to its historical peak in 1968, fueling inflation.** “Based on the package’s size and using historical evidence on how fiscal spending affects the labor market, the researchers found that the American Rescue Plan might raise the vacancy-to-unemployment ratio close to its historical peak in 1968, fueling some inflation – but that the price impact would be small and short-lived.” (Jeanna Smialek, “A regional Fed analysis suggests Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.,” [The New York Times](#), 10/18/21)

- **The American Rescue Plan extended supplemental unemployment benefits.** “The American Rescue Plan extended unemployment benefits until September 6 with a weekly supplemental benefit of \$300 on top of the regular \$400 benefit.” (The White House, “[American Rescue Plan](#),” Accessed 11/1/21)
 - **COVID-related unemployment benefits contribute to inflation.** “5) Low-wage workers are finally getting raises. Full-service restaurants saw no inflation in April, but fast-food establishments jacked up prices significantly. ... With their savings buttressed by stimulus checks – and, for the previously laid off, their sustenance assured by \$300-a-week federal unemployment benefits – many American workers have become newly empowered to turn down lousy job offers. This, combined with resurgent demand, has produced a shortage of labor in some sectors, forcing firms to raise wages to attract new hires.” (Eric Levitz, “THE ECONOMY JUNE 8, 2021 The Case for (and Against) Worrying About Inflation,” [NY Mag](#), 6/8/21)
- **“The Labor Department said the increases for food and energy were the fastest 12-month gains in at least 13 years.”** “The Labor Department said the increases for food and energy were the fastest 12-month gains in at least 13 years.” (Megan Henney, “US Inflation Surges To 39-Year High As Consumer Prices Soar,” [Fox News](#), 12/10/21)
- **HEADLINE: “. . . Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.”**



(Jeanna Smialek, “A regional Fed analysis suggests Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.” [The New York Times](#), 10/18/21)

- **In June 2022, inflation reached 9.1%, its highest level in over 40 years.** “Inflation surged to a new pandemic-era peak in June, with US consumer prices jumping by 9.1% year-over-year, according to fresh data released Wednesday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. That's the highest level in more than 40 years and higher than the previous reading, when prices rose by 8.6% for the year ended in May. It is also much higher than the 8.8% that economists had predicted, according to Refinitiv.” (Lucy Bayly and Alicia Wallace, “US inflation hit 40-year high in June, driven by record gas prices,” [CNN](#), 7/13/22)

Record-high diesel prices have disproportionately hurt farmers and contributed to increased food costs:

- **Record-high diesel prices have disproportionately affected farmers, who rely on diesel to fuel their tractors and other heavy machinery.** “Record-setting prices on diesel fuel, coupled with soaring inflation and the ongoing war in Ukraine, could lead to food shortages in the US, farmers warned... Average diesel prices in the US Monday reached

\$5.70 per gallon, representing a \$2.40 increase compared to the same period last year. Farmers disproportionately rely on diesel to fuel their tractors and other heavy machinery used to plant and harvest crops, burning up to thousands of gallons a month, depending on the size of their operation.” (Snejana Farberov, “Record diesel prices could lead to food shortages in US, farmers warn,” [New York Post](#), 6/17/22)

- **In June 2022, U.S. farmers warned high diesel prices could lead to food shortages.** “Record-setting prices on diesel fuel, coupled with soaring inflation and the ongoing war in Ukraine, could lead to food shortages in the US, farmers warned... Feeling the pinch at the pump, farmers can decide to stop planting certain crops to save money on fuel, which, in turn, could result in higher food prices and even food shortages.” (Snejana Farberov, “Record diesel prices could lead to food shortages in US, farmers warn,” [New York Post](#), 6/17/22)
- **Skyrocketing diesel prices have led to increased food costs.** “The cost to fill up using diesel fuel is near an all-time high. But it may also leave you footing the bill. It is not just limited to trucking companies. It also impacts farming and trade industries. According to AAA, a gallon of diesel cost about \$3.45 this time last year. This year, the price has skyrocketed. The sign at the Flying J truck stop in Westmoreland County tells the tale. There are few commodities that are better barometers for increased diesel fuel prices than groceries. Generally speaking, the cost of food is significantly increased because of the cost of diesel.” (Ross Guidotti, “The impact of the rising cost of diesel fuel,” [CBS News](#), 5/9/22)