

Kirsten Engel touted and supported Joe Biden's trillions of dollars of spending, which has contributed to the worst inflation in over four decades, and has made it harder for families to make ends meet.

BACKUP:

Kirsten Engel touted the American Rescue Plan, a \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package passed through Congress with only Democratic support:

- In November of 2021, Kirsten Engel claimed the American Rescue Plan has “helped reduce healthcare costs for Arizonans.”



(Kirsten Engel, [Twitter](#), 11/15/21)

- In July of 2021, Kirsten Engel claimed the “historic expansion” of the Child Tax Credit through the American Rescue Plan is “great news for Arizona families and will help reduce child poverty across our nation.”

 **Kirsten Engel** ✓  
@EngelForArizona

Today, nearly 39 million families will start receiving monthly [#ChildTaxCredit](#) payments from the American Rescue Plan.

This historic expansion is great news for Arizona families and will help reduce child poverty across our nation.

Find out more:



[whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov)  
**The Child Tax Credit | The White House**  
The Child Tax Credit in the American Rescue Plan provides the largest Child Tax Credit ever and historic relief to the most working families ever – and as

12:23 PM · Jul 15, 2021 · Twitter Web App

(Kirsten Engel, [Twitter](#), 7/15/21)

- In June of 2021, Kirsten Engel claimed the Child Tax Credit, expanded through the American Rescue Plan, provides “historic relief to working families...”

 **Kirsten Engel**   
@EngelForArizona

The [#ChildTaxCredit](#) in the [#AmericanRescuePlan](#) provides historic relief to working families, helping pay for groceries, childcare, and the many other expenses that come with being a parent. This is tax relief where it's needed - help for working families.



whitehouse.gov  
**The Child Tax Credit | The White House**  
The Child Tax Credit in the American Rescue Plan provides the largest Child Tax Credit ever and historic relief to the most working families ever – and as

3:46 PM · Jun 21, 2021 · Twitter Web App

(Kirsten Engel, [Twitter](#), 6/21/21)

- In May 2021, Engel said the universal pre-Kindergarten plan in the American Rescue Plan would be transformational.



Kirsten Engel ✓

May 23, 2021 · 🌐



I agree with Sec'y Hoffman: the Biden Administration's proposal for universal pre-K in the American Rescue Plan would be transformational for Arizona's kids, with benefits for all of us over time. Pre-K education pays off over a child's entire life - people who attend preschool are more productive in school, and work—with higher levels of education and earnings, less involvement in delinquency and crime, and fewer chronic health problems. This is an education and an economic game-changer the state legislature has not been able to get done and one we need to support at the federal level! [https://tucson.com/.../article\\_48d146a6-ba65-11eb-816d...](https://tucson.com/.../article_48d146a6-ba65-11eb-816d...)



TUCSON.COM

**AZ Schools Supt. Kathy Hoffman: Why Biden's universal pre-K plan is a huge deal**



(Kirsten Engel, [Facebook](#), 5/23/21)

- **Engel pushed back on the suggestion that legislation like the American Rescue Plan sparked inflation, saying “it was a lifeline to so many people in need.”** “Ms. Engel also pushed back on the suggestion that legislation like the American Rescue Plan sparked inflation, saying ‘it was a lifeline to so many people in need.’” (David Gordon, “Engel and Hernandez Exchange Views in CD Six Debate,” [Democrats of Greater Tucson](#), 5/25/22)
- **President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law in March 2021.** “President Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act into law on Thursday, finalizing an early policy victory that will send much-needed aid to millions of Americans still struggling from the COVID-19 pandemic.” (Grace Segers, “Biden signs \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan into law,” [CBS News](#), 3/12/21)
  - **The White House describes the American Rescue Plan as “President Biden’s plan.”**



("American Rescue Plan," [The White House](#), Accessed 7/29/22)

- **The American Rescue Plan is a \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package.** "President Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package on Thursday. The colossal bill, known as the American Rescue Plan, allocates money for vaccines, schools, small businesses and anti-poverty programs such as an expanded child tax credit that will mean new monthly payments to many parents." (Barbara Sprunt, "Here's What's In The American Rescue Plan," [NPR](#), 3/11/21)
  - **The American Rescue Plan passed through Congress with only Democratic support.** "The American Rescue plan made it through Congress with only Democratic support, making it stand out from the bipartisan COVID relief plans Congress passed over the last year." (Savannah Behrmann, "Takeaways from the COVID-19 stimulus bill passing Congress: Weeks of partisan fighting comes to an end with a win for Biden," [USA Today](#), 3/10/21)

### The American Rescue Plan exacerbated inflation, causing it to reach its highest point in more than forty years:

*Editor's Note:* To see most recent inflation numbers, please see the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly [data](#).

- **As of June 2022, inflation reached an annual rate of 9.1%, the highest rate of inflation since 1981.** "Shoppers paid sharply higher prices for a variety of goods in June as inflation kept its hold on a slowing U.S. economy, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Wednesday. The consumer price index, a broad measure of everyday goods and services related to the cost of living, soared 9.1% from a year ago, above the 8.8% Dow Jones estimate. That marked the fastest pace for inflation going back to November 1981." (Jeff Cox, "Inflation rose 9.1% in June, even more than expected, as consumer pressures intensify," [CNBC](#), 7/13/22)
- **Headline: "US inflation at new 40-year high as price increases spread"**

#### **US inflation at new 40-year high as price increases spread**

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER June 10, 2022

(Christopher Rugaber, "US inflation at new 40-year high as price increases spread," [Associated Press](#), 6/10/22)

- **Headline: ". . . Biden's stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation."**

# A regional Fed analysis suggests 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)

- **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)

## Kirsten Engel praised the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill described by the White House as "President Biden's bipartisan infrastructure law":

- In November 2021, Engel praised the bipartisan infrastructure bill, calling it a "major victory for our country."



(Kirsten Engel, [Twitter](#), 11/6/21)

- President Biden signed the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act into law in November 2021. “U.S. Sen. Kyrsten Sinema and other key lawmakers were at President Joe Biden's side as he signed the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act on Monday on the White House lawn.” (Tara Kaveler, “Biden signs into law Sinema-led \$1.2T infrastructure bill,” [AZ Central](#), 11/16/21)
- The White House refers to the infrastructure law as “President Biden’s infrastructure law.”

**PRESIDENT BIDEN’S  
BIPARTISAN  
INFRASTRUCTURE LAW**

(“President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law,” [The White House](#), Accessed 7/29/22)

**The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act contributed to the excessive spending that is resulting in higher inflation:**

- According to the Heritage Foundation, the reckless choice to pump trillions of dollars into the economy is the reason the U.S. faces more inflation than other top economies around the world. “The harmful effects of excessive government spending have become the most pressing issue for Americans due to the worst inflation surge in decades. Washington’s reckless choice to pump trillions of dollars into the economy is the reason we face more inflation than other top economies around the world. Yet, incredibly, Congress is still planning an onslaught of additional inflationary spending bills with seemingly no end in sight.” (David Ditch, “New Charts Reveal Harms of Biden’s Budget-Busting Binge,” [The Heritage Foundation](#), 6/8/22)
- According to the Heritage Foundation, the “shoddy \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill that Biden championed added even more red ink,” contributing to the combined \$2.77

**trillion in additional projected deficits since Biden took office.** “Compared to projections from February 2021, when Biden had just taken office, the latest analysis shows a combined \$2.77 trillion in additional deficits over the 2021-2031 period. The largest factor for this increase was the wasteful and opportunistic \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 package that passed with exclusively Democratic support in March 2021. The shoddy \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill that Biden championed added even more red ink.” (David Ditch, “New Charts Reveal Harms of Biden’s Budget-Busting Binge,” [The Heritage Foundation](#), 6/8/22)

**A survey found that inflation is inflicting financial pain on millions of U.S households, and the Biden administration has acknowledged inflation is hurting American families:**

- **In 2021, a survey found that inflation is inflicting financial pain on millions of U.S households, and nearly half of respondents said higher prices are causing some sort of hardship.** “Inflation is inflicting financial pain on millions of U.S. households, with almost half reporting that higher prices are causing some form of hardship, according to a new survey from Gallup.” (Aimee Picchi, “Inflation causing hardship for almost half of American households,” [CBS News](#), 12/2/21)
- **In May 2022, President Biden said inflation is hurting American families.** “President Joe Biden blamed high inflation on pandemic disruptions to the economy and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, acknowledging that rising prices are ‘hurting’ American families ahead of the November midterms.” (Nancy Cook, “Biden Says Inflation Is ‘Hurting’ US Families, Blames Pandemic,” [Washington Post](#), 5/11/22)
- **White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre acknowledged that “inflation is hurting families...”** “At a press briefing on Tuesday, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre noted that gas prices have fallen over the past month. ‘We understand that inflation is hurting families when they are around the kitchen table, when they’re trying to figure out, you know, how they’re going to deal with gas prices at the pump, how they’re going to deal with food prices as well,’ she said.” (Khaleeda Rahman, “Are We in a Recession? The Majority of Americans Think So,” [Newsweek](#), 7/13/22)

**With consumer prices soaring 9.1% compared to a year earlier, prices for everything from groceries to rent to new cars are up:**

- **Consumer prices soared 9.1% compared to a year earlier, the biggest yearly increase since 1981 and up from an 8.6% jump in May.** “Consumer prices soared 9.1 percent compared with a year earlier, the government said Wednesday, the biggest yearly increase since 1981, and up from an 8.6 percent jump in May.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)
- **On a monthly basis, prices rose 1.3% from May to June, another substantial price increase after prices jumped 1% from April to May.** “On a monthly basis, prices rose 1.3 percent from May to June, another substantial increase, after prices had jumped 1 percent from April to May.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)
- **Grocery prices jumped 12.2% compared with a year ago, the steepest such climb since 1979.** “Grocery prices have jumped 12.2 percent compared with a year ago, the steepest such climb since 1979.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)



- **Rents increased by 5.8%, the most since 1986.** “Rents have risen 5.8 percent, the most since 1986.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)
- **New car prices increased 11.4% from a year earlier.** “New car prices have increased 11.4 percent from a year earlier.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)
- **Airline fares are up 34% from a year earlier.** “And airline fares, one of the few items to post a price decline in June, are nevertheless up 34 percent from a year earlier.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)
- **From May to June, the cost of dental services surged 1.9%, the biggest one-month increase since record-keeping began in 1995.** “From May to June, the cost of dental services surged 1.9 percent, the biggest one-month increase since record-keeping began in 1995.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)

**The ongoing price increases underscores the brutal impact that inflation has inflicted on many families with the cost of necessities in particular rising much faster than average income:**

- **Prices have surged for gas, food, and rent as U.S. inflation reached a new peak in June, further pressuring households.** “Surging prices for gas, food and rent catapulted U.S. inflation to a new four-decade peak in June, further pressuring households and likely sealing the case for another large interest rate hike by the Federal Reserve, with higher borrowing costs to follow.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)
- **The ongoing price increases underscores the brutal impact that inflation has inflicted on many families with the cost of necessities in particular rising much faster than average income.** “The ongoing price increases underscore the brutal impact that inflation has inflicted on many families, with the costs of necessities, in particular, rising much faster than average incomes.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)
- **As of July 2022, gas prices were an average of \$4.63, still far higher than a year prior.** “Gas prices, for example, have fallen from the eye-watering \$5 a gallon reached in mid-June to an average of \$4.63 nationwide Wednesday – still far higher than a year ago but a drop that could help slow inflation for July and possibly August.” (Christopher Rugaber, “U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high,” [PBS News Hour](#), 07/13/22)