



AMERICANS for TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

HELL IN A HANDBASKET: LIFE UNDER A DEMOCRAT CONGRESS

Democrats running for office this year complain a lot about America and the cost of living. What might surprise you is that most of the backsliding in the American way of life has happened while Democrats control the U.S. Congress. Below are a few key examples:

	Inauguration Day 2001 (01-20-2001)	Election Night 2006 (11-07-2006)	New Dem Congress (01-04-2007)	Latest Figure (Oct-2008)
Gallon of Gas ¹	\$1.46	\$2.22	\$2.30	\$3.72
Loaf of Bread ²	\$0.98	\$1.14	\$1.15	\$1.38
Gallon of Milk ³	\$2.85	\$2.99	\$3.07	\$3.89
Dozen Eggs ⁴	\$1.01	\$1.35	\$1.55	\$1.85
Cong. Approval ⁵	50%	26%	35%	12% ⁶
Dow Jones Average ⁷	10,588	12,157	12,481	8,578
Stock Market Wealth ⁸	\$15.401 trillion	\$17.002 trillion	\$17.002 trillion	\$15 trillion (est)
Net Worth ⁹	\$39.551 tril	\$55.943 tril	\$56.806 tril	\$55.993 tril
Per Capita GDP ¹⁰	\$33,403	\$44,640	\$45,173	\$47,708
Inflation Rate ¹¹	3.7%	2.0%	2.1%	5.4%
Unemployment Rate ¹²	4.2%	4.5%	4.6%	6.1%
Real GDP Growth ¹³	-0.5%	2.1%	0.6%	3.3%
Average Wage ¹⁴	\$28,700	\$33,980	\$34,320	\$35.960
Dollar vs. Euro ¹⁵	0.95	0.85	0.83	0.68

¹ Department of Energy

² Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Gallup

⁶ CBS/NY Times poll

⁷ Yahoo Finance

⁸ Federal Reserve Flow of Funds

⁹ Ibid. Figures are in 2008 dollars.

¹⁰ Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

¹¹ Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

¹⁴ Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

¹⁵ Yahoo Finance

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