



New Fiscal Future Daily Tracks the Debate over Deficit, Debt

OurFiscalFuture.org, a non-partisan initiative on the federal budget and our unsustainable national debt, introduces Fiscal Future Daily, daily commentary and round-up of the best opinions, statistics, articles and infographics from the national conversation about the national debt and rising deficit in the U.S.

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New York, NY ([PRWEB](#)) November 22, 2010 -- With far-reaching decisions facing the nation about taxes, spending and the national debt, [OurFiscalFuture.org](#) has launched [Fiscal Future Daily](#), a new online information source for all Americans who want to participate in the important conversations and decision-making taking place around the federal budget.

Compiled by the Public Agenda editorial team as part of the nonpartisan Choosing Our Fiscal Future initiative, Fiscal Future Daily posts point to influencers all across the political spectrum. Fiscal Future Daily helps you better understand - and share - the choices we the American people are faced with as President Obama's deficit commission readies its final report for release next month and a new Congress starts in January.

Fiscal Future Daily and OurFiscalFuture.org are tools to allow the budget debate to be informed from all points of view, help put it in context, expand the debate and engage the public. In addition to Fiscal Future Daily, the nonpartisan initiative offers [free apps for iPhone and Android](#), a [Virtual Budget Tool](#) to allow you to slice and dice the numbers, ways to follow the debate on Facebook and [@FiscalFuture](#) on Twitter, and a video discussion starter.

The web site and social media efforts have been developed in partnership by the National Academy of Public Administration and Public Agenda, with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. They emerged from the publication last spring of the [Choosing the Nation's Fiscal Future report](#), developed by the Committee on the Fiscal Future of the United States, a nonpartisan project by the National Academy of Public Administration and the National Research Council. The report not only lays out the consequences of inaction, but also shows a variety of paths toward a sustainable fiscal future for America. In addition, it provides a set of practical tests that can be applied to assess the fiscal prudence of federal budget proposals.

The report sets out four possible paths to controlling the national debt:

1. Small government, low spending and low taxes: This is the path for people who worry about taxes going up. On this path, payroll and income tax rates stay roughly where they are today, but there would have to be sharp reductions in the projected growth of Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. In addition, defense and domestic spending would have to be cut by 20 percent.
2. Intermediate path 1: Make public investments a priority: This is the path for people who believe it's important to make some selected new public investments to build for the future, such as for the environment



and to promote economic growth.

3. Intermediate path 2: Make programs for older Americans a priority: This is the path for those who believe that programs like Social Security and Medicare should be a higher priority than other kinds of government spending.

4. Big government, high spending and taxes. This path would require substantially higher taxes to avoid cuts in spending. To do this, taxes would have to rise to take up about a third of the total economy.

In addition, on Nov. 30, The National Academy of Public Administration will hold [a panel discussion on the findings](#) from Public Agenda's latest update to its "The Buck Stops Where?" survey, which measures the attitudes of Washington policymakers and "beltway influencers" on the issue of the national debt

About The National Academy of Public Administration

The National Academy of Public Administration is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization of top public management and organizational leaders that is trusted across government to provide objective advice, solve complex management problems, and help address the nation's toughest challenges. Founded in 1967 and chartered by Congress, the National Academy's network of over 600 elected Fellows continue to make a positive impact by helping federal, state and local governments respond effectively to current circumstances and changing conditions. www.napawash.org

About Public Agenda

Nonpartisan and nonprofit, Public Agenda was founded by social scientist and author Daniel Yankelovich and former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance in 1975. Public Agenda's two-fold mission is to help American leaders better understand the public's point of view and help citizens know more about critical policy issues so they can make thoughtful, informed decisions. Visit us at www.PublicAgenda.org

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Online Web 2.0 Version

You can read the online version of this press release [here](#).