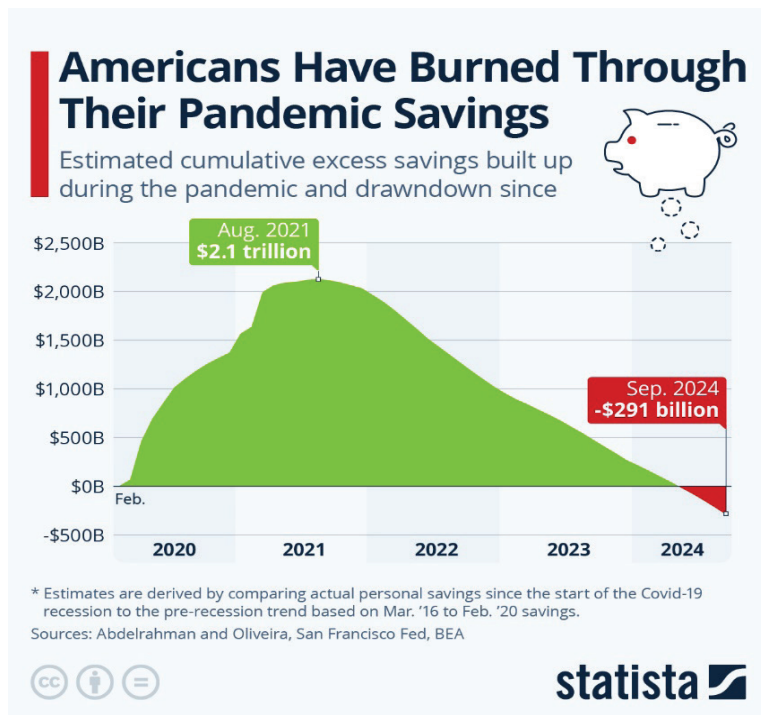


It's the most wonderful time of the year!

As we look back on 2024, we are always surprised at how fast time flies! It seems so cliché, but the reality is it's true. Time does fly!

The most notable aspect of the year was the amount of noise in the system.. It does not matter the month or quarter it seemed like the whole of the year was engulfed in external noise and the list continues as we look ahead to 2025. As we write we see headlines of an imminent French government collapse, policy challenges from Trump, continued war issues globally, interest rate changes, leadership changes in the corporate world, \$250 cheques for some, but not for others etc. et al. You see where this goes. Noise is the new normal.

But the spenders keep spending and those with a perpetual credit card keep spending too. The first graphic below shows that Americans have burned through their pandemic savings and are now underwater.



Source: Statista

Now if we go one degree deeper and look at the US government, we see a \$1.8T deficit. WHIRRRLLLLLLLLL. Yes, you may have heard that correctly. Could it be the money making machine running full tilt?

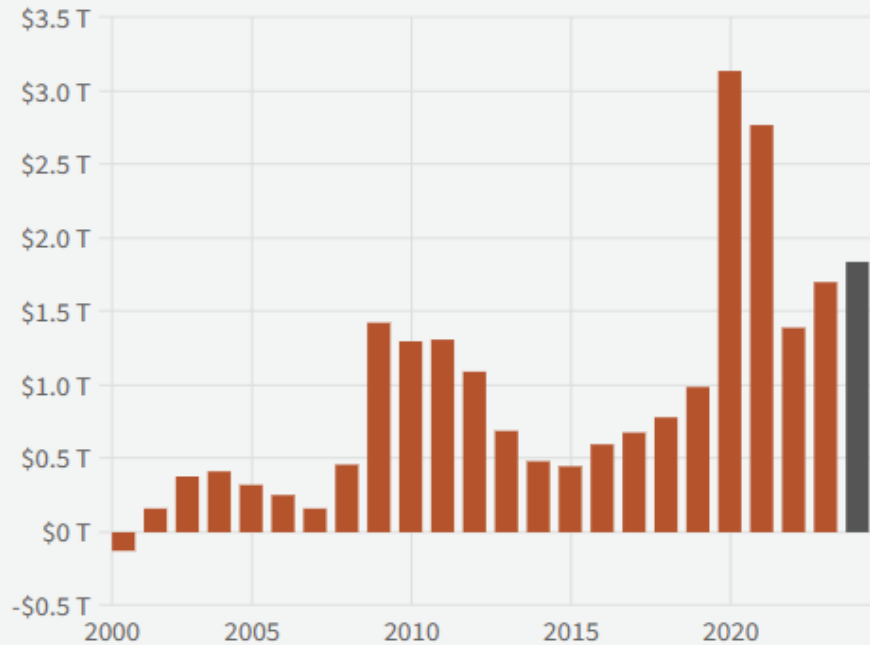
Federal Deficit Trends Over Time, FY 2001-2024

2024

Fiscal Year

\$1.83 T

Total Deficit



Visit the [Monthly Treasury Statement \(MTS\)](#) dataset to explore and download this data.

Please note: This data visual only includes completed fiscal years.

Last Updated: September 30, 2024

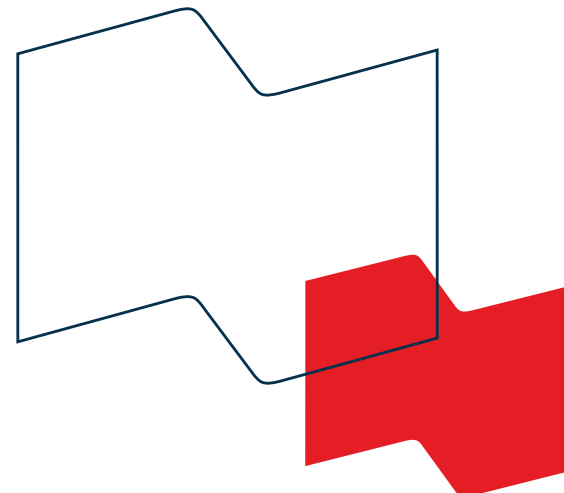
Source: US Treasury

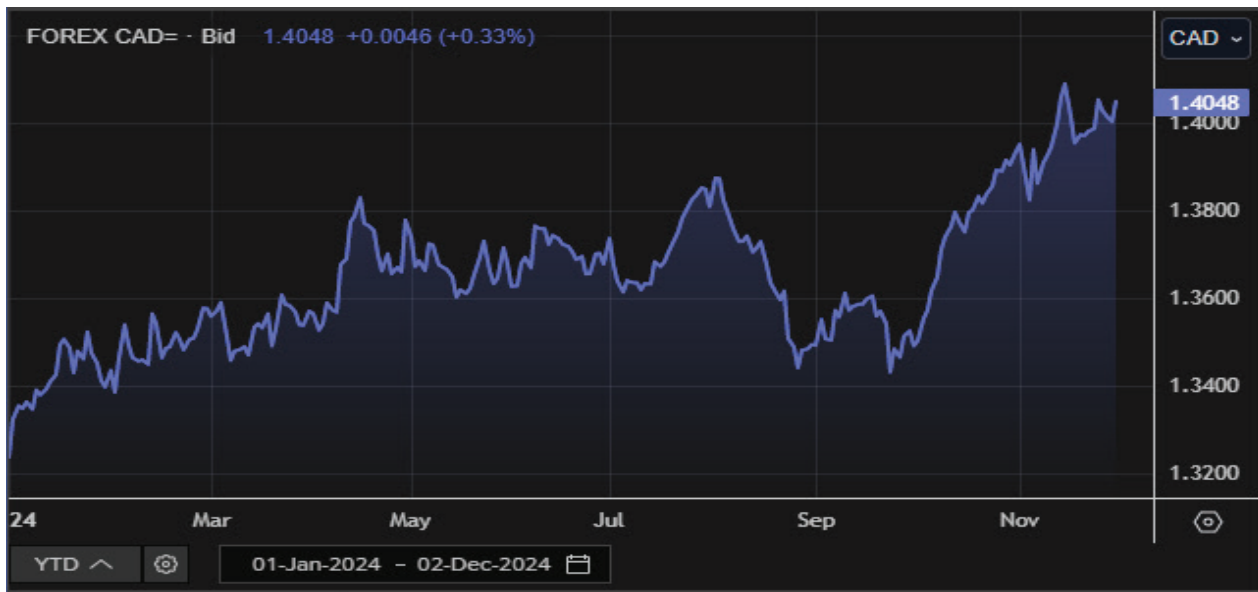
Apologies for the digression.

It's the most wonderful time of the year

Yes, markets have been positive, and they really like the Democrat's loss. We could call it a Republican win, but it seems like more of a loss. Bonds did better, stocks did better, crypto did better, gold did better, housing stalled sort of, the wealth gap widened, and the Canadian dollar tanked!

Yes another digression. While we have more dollars they are worth way less! Consider the chart on the CAD versus the USD. We started the year at 1.32 ish and are now at 1.40 ish. In very simple terms that is a 6% decline.





Source: Eikon, Wiman Wong Wealth

So, this is not inflationary right!? Sorry another holiday digression ! The most wonderful time of the year.

Ok it's easy to sell bad news but we have had a heck of a noisy year and still things look pretty good. Dollar diversification made money this year as well. Holding some USD gave a positive carry, and this might continue for 2025.

It's that time of year when most of the noise and chatter above and behind us is put away for the holiday season. Thank you for a good year and we wish you the best for 2025. Have a happy and healthy New Year and we extend all the best to you and your families.

Happy Holidays



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