



The President Laughs Off the Failed Stimulus As 14 Million Suffer

In February 2009, President [Obama said](#), “Because of what we did together, there will now be shovels in the ground, cranes in the air, and workers rebuilding our crumbling roads and bridges, and repairing our faulty levees and dams.”

In June 2011, President [Obama laughingly said](#), “Shovel-ready was not as shovel-ready as we expected.”

[13.9 million unemployed Americans don’t think it’s funny](#). Below are some of the real impacts of President Obama’s failed stimulus:

- From March 2009 (the month after the stimulus passed) to May 2011, unemployment has [averaged 9.4 percent](#)—the highest average since the Great Depression.
- According to a recent [Ohio State University study](#), the failed stimulus actually destroyed or delayed 1 million private sector jobs while saving about 450,000 government jobs—a net impact of 550,000 jobs lost.
- There are now 13.9 million unemployed Americans looking for work. The number of unemployed eclipsed 13 million for the first time in history one month after the stimulus was passed and has remained above 13 million for 27 straight months.
- [According to Ron Klain](#), Vice President Biden’s former Chief of Staff and a senior adviser to President Obama on the Recovery Act, “even by the administration’s own estimate, the number of jobs created or saved by \$25 billion in Recovery Act spending on roads was a mere 150,000 over a two-year period.” Even by the administration’s own [dubious](#) account, road improvement spending over two years only created as many jobs as are needed each month to [keep up with population growth](#).

Democrat Rhetoric Used to Pass the \$1.16 Trillion Stimulus

- *If passed, unemployment would [stay under 8 percent](#).*
- *90 percent of jobs created would be [in the private sector](#).*
- *The stimulus would “move many workers from part-time to full-time work.”*

The Facts

- *Unemployment has been above 8 percent for [28 straight months](#)—the longest stretch since the Great Depression.*
- *The stimulus destroyed or delayed [1 million private sector jobs](#).*
- *Since the stimulus was passed, full-time employment [has gone down by 2.58 million](#).*

The Republican Plan for Job Creation and Growth

Rather than more costly, short-term economic gimmicks, [House Republicans have a plan](#) to restore confidence and certainty to the economy and create jobs.

- Empower small business owners by reducing crushing regulatory burdens and red tapes.
- Reform, simplify the tax code, lowering rates in a deficit neutral manner and ensuring that job creators will not face new, debilitating tax hikes.
- Promote lower energy prices through increased domestic production.
- Increase competitiveness for American by passing pending trade agreements.
- Encourage entrepreneurship and growth by streamlining our broken
- Bring real certainty to job creators by ending Washington’s runaway spending and debt and putting on the path to balance the budget.

Staff Contact: For questions or further information contact Andy Koenig at 6-2302