

THIS WEEK



AMERICA'S
CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
ESTABLISHED 1971

IN CONGRESS

Volume 2, Issue 08
June 25, 2012

ON THE HOUSE FLOOR

CBC Member Voting:

H R 4348 - The majority of the Members of the Caucus voted **NO**.

H R 2578 - The majority of the Members of the Caucus voted **NO**.

House Floor Votes:

Date	Issue	Question	Result	Title/Description
21-Jun	H R 4348	On McKinley of West Virginia Motion to Instruct Conferees	P	To provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, and for other purposes
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Passage	P	Strategic Energy Production Act of 2012
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Motion to Recommit with Instructions	F	Strategic Energy Production Act of 2012
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	DeLauro of Connecticut Amendment No. 26
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Speier of California Amendment No. 25
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Capps of California Amendment No. 23
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Bass of California Amendment No. 21
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	A	Wittman of Virginia Amendment No. 19
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Holt of New Jersey Amendment No. 18
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	A	Rigell of Virginia Amendment No. 17
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	A	Landry of Louisiana Amendment No. 16
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Markey of Massachusetts Amendment No. 15
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	A	Amodei of Nevada Amendment No. 14

LEADERSHIP

Rep. Emanuel Cleaver II
Chairman

Rep. Donna M. Christensen
First Vice Chair

Rep. G.K. Butterfield
Second Vice Chair

Rep. Yvette Clarke
Secretary

Rep. André Carson
Whip



CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
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House Floor Votes (continued):

Date	Issue	Question	Result	Title/Description
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Connolly of Virginia Amendment No. 13
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Holt of New Jersey Amendment No. 12
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Rush of Illinois Amendment No. 11
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Gene Green of Texas Amendment No. 9
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Connolly of Virginia Amendment No. 8
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Waxman of California Amendment No. 7
21-Jun	H R 4480	On Agreeing to the Amendment	A	Hastings of Washington Amendment No. 1
20-Jun	H R 4348	On Walz of Minnesota Motion to Instruct Conferees	P	To provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, and for other purposes
20-Jun	H RES 691	On Agreeing to the Resolution	P	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4480), the Strategic Energy Production Act
20-Jun	H RES 691	On Ordering the Previous Question	P	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4480), the Strategic Energy Production Act
19-Jun	H R 2938	On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended	P	Gila Bend Indian Reservation Lands Replacement Clarification Act
19-Jun	H R 2578	On Passage	P	To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California, and for other purposes
19-Jun	H R 2578	On Motion to Recommit with Instructions	F	To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California, and for other purposes
19-Jun	H R 2578	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Grijalva of Arizona Amendment No. 5
19-Jun	H R 2578	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	Markey of Massachusetts Amendment No. 3
19-Jun	H R 2578	On Agreeing to the Amendment	F	DeFazio of Oregon Amendment No. 2
19-Jun	H RES 688	On Agreeing to the Resolution	P	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2578) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California, and for other purposes
19-Jun	H RES 688	On Ordering the Previous Question	P	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2578) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California, and for other purposes
18-Jun	S 404	On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass	P	To modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior
18-Jun	S 404	On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass	P	To provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of land to the town of Alta, Utah

AIDS 2012: International AIDS Conference Comes to Washington, D.C.

By Congresswoman Barbara Lee

This summer, while the focus in Washington will remain on debt reduction and spending cuts, for the first time in over twenty years, the International AIDS Conference will take place here – in the United States from July 22-27. The location of AIDS 2012, a premier meeting for those working in the field of HIV/AIDS, in Washington, D.C., is only possible because of the reversal of the HIV travel and immigration ban. Senator John Kerry and I introduced bipartisan legislation that was successful in overturning these discriminatory travel restrictions in January 2010. Today, people living with HIV and AIDS are finally able to travel to our country to share in the invaluable learning and networking that comes from this global conference.

It is so exciting to host this conference at such a pivotal time in the history of the AIDS response. Thirty years after the first discovery of AIDS cases, the U.S. has made tremendous progress in addressing the global and domestic crisis. The good news is that new HIV infections worldwide are at their lowest levels since 1997, and even better – the goal of eliminating new HIV infections in children by 2015 is within reach. There have also been revolutionary breakthroughs in AIDS research. The discoveries of treatments that can reduce new HIV infections by 96% have bring a message and energy of hope that is tangible and invigorating as we recommit to ending this epidemic.

At no other time in history has our global leadership been more important than it is right now. The conference attracts nearly 25,000 delegates from nearly 200 countries, representing scientists, researchers, community stakeholders, activists, business leaders, and government officials. These leaders in the global HIV and AIDS fight will showcase their incredible efforts and achievements on our own soil. Together, they will have the opportunity to develop new solutions in addressing the ongoing challenges posed by HIV/AIDS in our own country and around the world.

Under the leadership of Chairman Cleaver,

the Congressional Black Caucus continues to be at the forefront of the response. In 1998, Congresswoman Maxine Waters lead the Congress in working with the Clinton Administration to create the Minority AIDS Initiative, which provides support for outreach efforts among local institutions and community-based organizations that serve racial and ethnic minorities. Fifteen years later, Congresswomen Donna Christensen, Eleanor Holmes Norton, and many other CBC members continue to beat the drum to overcome the critical challenges that remain. Just in 2009, African Americans comprised 14% of the U.S. population, yet accounted for 44% of all new HIV infections. All eyes will be on the host city of Washington, D.C., which is currently experiencing epidemic rates



epidemic in this country, we must address the underlying issues of race, education, sex, poverty, and stigma which continue to fuel the spread of HIV in certain communities.

We are literally at a tipping point in the fight against AIDS – and it is critical we not let

We must change laws that specifically criminalize people with HIV and end the persecution of individuals for actions that pose no risk of transmission.

greater than some African countries, underscoring that AIDS 2012 is an important and long overdue opportunity for our domestic pandemic to become part of a global effort.

The Congressional Black Caucus also has a unique perspective on discrimination and unreasonable legal barriers directed at a certain community. We must change laws that specifically criminalize people with HIV and end the persecution of individuals for actions that pose no risk of transmission. First, the laws reflect long-outdated beliefs and were adopted before scientific research was available regarding how the virus could be transmitted. More importantly, discriminatory laws are counterproductive to efforts that encourage everyone to know their status. We all know that laws that fuel stigma, fear, distrust, and hatred have no place in the United States or anywhere. If we are serious about ending the AIDS

this progress slip away. With the implementation of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, and Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, the U.S. is poised to expand access to HIV treatment, care, and prevention in historic ways. Globally, we must work to protect the precious resources that are at stake in this fight by ensuring full funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and encourage all donors and all governments to step up and increase funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The Now is the time to act boldly and to invest in a future for America and the world that is more prosperous, more equal, and free of HIV and AIDS. I hope that Americans will feel a sense of pride in our brave leadership and support our efforts to work for a world without AIDS.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

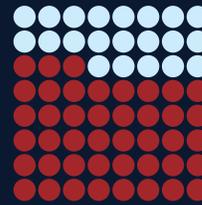
ECONOMIC INDICATORS • JUNE 2012

AMOUNT SPENT

ON AFGHANISTAN WAR

\$537.6 BILLION

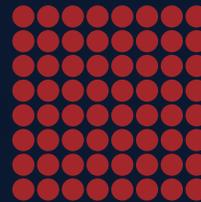
\$4.2 BILLION PER MONTH



ON IRAQI WAR

\$804.4 BILLION

\$7.2 BILLION PER MONTH



DEBT

\$15.78 TRILLION NATIONAL

\$50,295 INDIVIDUAL SHARE

GDP

\$15.32 TRILLION (2011Q4)

\$15.45 TRILLION (2012Q1)

BUDGET DEFICIT

FISCAL YEAR 2010 **\$ - 1.293 BILLION**

FISCAL YEAR 2011 **\$ - 1.300 BILLION**

FISCAL YEAR 2012 **\$ - 1.327 BILLION**

INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEFICIT

FISCAL YEAR 2011 **\$ - 559.9 BILLION**

APRIL 2012 **\$ - 50.1 BILLION**

MARCH 2012 **\$ - 52.6 BILLION**



PRICE OF OIL

\$96.80 / BARREL

↑ UP \$1.94 FROM A YEAR EARLIER

FULL-TIME MINIMUM WAGE

\$7.25/ HOUR

ECONOMIC INDICATORS • JUNE 2012

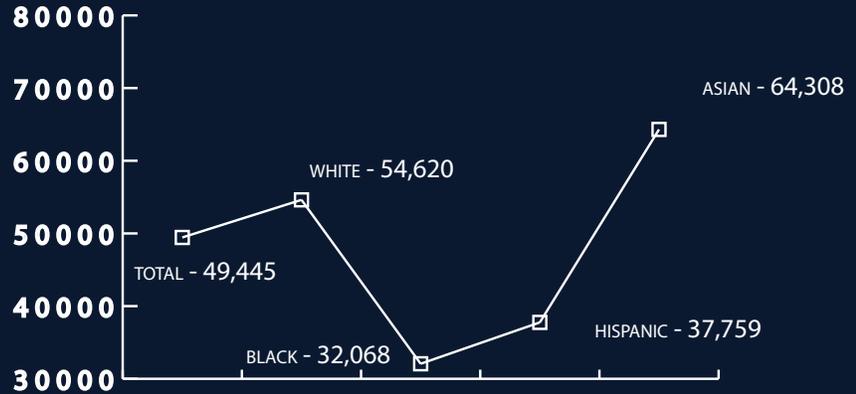
NATIONAL UNINSURED

(2010) IN MILLIONS

WHITE ALONE, NOT HISPANIC	23.1	11.7 %
BLACK ALONE OR IN COMBINATION	8.1	20.8 %
HISPANIC (ANY RACE)	15.3	30.7 %
ASIAN ALONE OR IN COMBINATION	2.6	18.1 %
CHILDREN (UNDER 18 YEARS)	7.49	9.8 %

TOTALS 49.9 16.3 %

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME \$ (2010)



CURRENT NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT (MAY 2012)

WHITE
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



7.2 %
8.9 MILLION

BLACK
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



13.3 %
2.4 MILLION

HISPANIC
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



9.8 %
2.4 MILLION

ASIAN
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

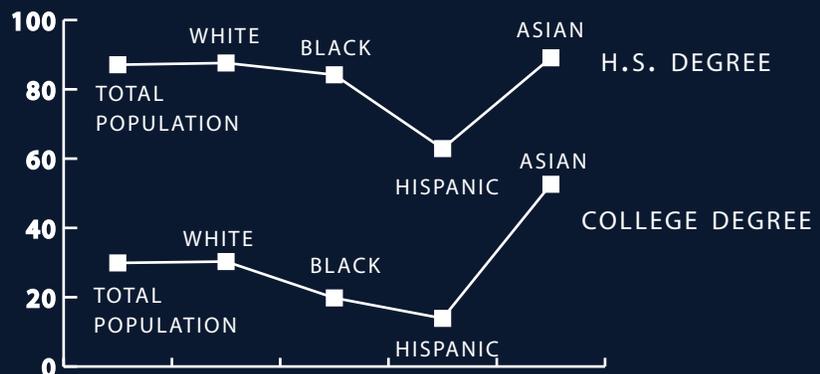
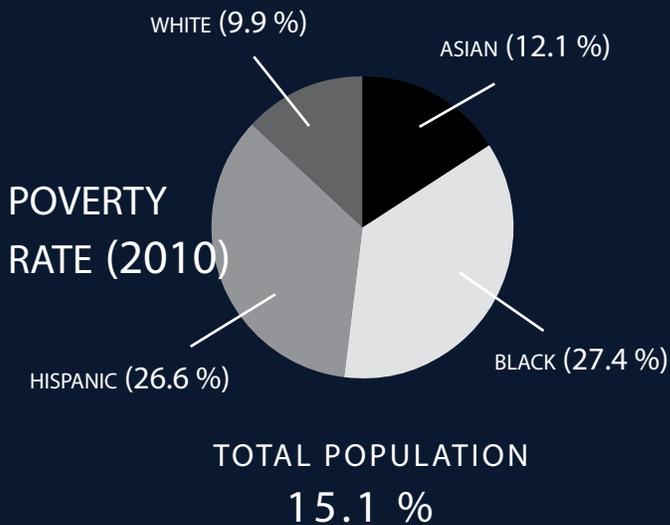


5.2 %
412,000

TOTAL



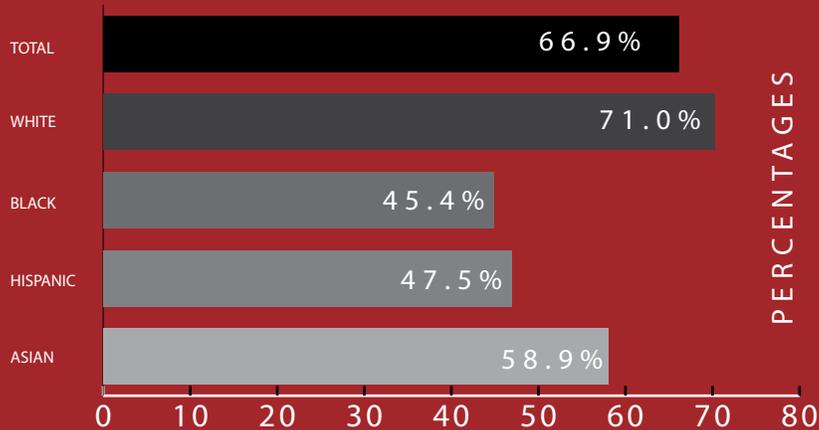
8.2 %



ECONOMIC INDICATORS • JUNE 2012

HOMEOWNERSHIP RATES

BY RACE AND ETHNICITY OF HOUSEHOLDER (2011)



PERCENTAGES

FEDERAL FUNDS RATE

0.25

WEEK ENDING 06/06/12

The interest rate at which banks and other depository institutions lend money to each other.

FEDERAL DISCOUNT RATE

0.75

WEEK ENDING 06/12/12

The interest rate at which an eligible financial institution may borrow funds directly from a Federal Reserve bank.

BANK AND CREDIT UNION FAILURES

Updated through June 8, 2012

2012 Bank Failures: 27 (Federal Deposit Insurance)

2012 Credit Union Failures: 5 (Weiss Ratings)

INITIAL JOBLESS CLAIMS
4-WEEK AVG (WEEK ENDING 06/01/12)

377,800

KEY ECONOMIC STATISTICS

Retail and food services sales: \$398.7 billion down 5.2% in April 2012 from March 2012 (BEA)

Retail sales: down 5.1% in April 2012 from March 2012 (BEA)

Inflation (CPI-U): down 0.1% in May 2012 (BLS)

Core Inflation (excluding food and energy): up 0.05% in April 2012 (BLS)

Industrial Production: up 1.1% in 2012 (Federal Reserve)

Capacity Utilization: 79.2% (Federal Reserve)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS • JUNE 2012

INDEX OF SMALL BUSINESS OPTIMISM
(REPORTED 11/08/2011)

90.2, up 1.3 points from September.

INDEX COMPONENT	Seasonally Adjusted Level	Change
PLANS TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT	3 %	-1
PLANS TO MAKE CAPITAL OUTLAYS	21%	1
PLANS TO INCREASE INVENTORIES	0 %	2
EXPECT ECONOMY TO IMPROVE	-16 %	6
EXPECT REAL SALES HIGHER	-4 %	2
CURRENT JOB OPENINGS	14 %	0
NOW A GOOD TIME TO EXPAND	7 %	1
EARNINGS TREND	-26 %	1

HOUSING PERMITS (REPORTED 05/16/2012)

Privately-owned housing units authorized by building permits in April were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 715,000. This is 7.0 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$) below the revised March rate of 769,000, but is 23.7 percent ($\pm 1.9\%$) above the revised April 2011 estimate of 578,000.

NEW HOME SALES (REPORTED 05/23/2012)

Sales of new single-family houses in April 2012 were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 343,000, according to estimates released jointly today by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is 3.3 percent ($\pm 12.3\%$)* above the revised March rate of 332,000 and is 9.9 percent ($\pm 14.7\%$)* above the April 2011 estimate of 312,000.

ANNUALIZED RATE OF HOUSING STARTS
(CONSTRUCTION) (REPORTED 05/16/2012)

Privately-owned housing starts in April were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 717,000. This is 2.6 percent ($\pm 14.8\%$) above the revised March estimate of 699,000 and is 29.9 percent ($\pm 15.2\%$) above the revised April 2011 rate of 552,000.

EXISTING HOME SALES (REPORTED 04/19/2012)

Total existing home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, declined 2.6 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.48 million in March from an upwardly revised 4.60 million in February, but are 5.2 percent above the 4.26 million-unit pace in March 2011.

PENDING HOME SALES INDEX (REPORTED 04/26/2012)

The pending home sales index, a forward-looking indicator based on contract signings, rose 4.1 percent to 101.4 in March from an upwardly revised 97.4 in February and is 12.8 percent above March 2011 when it was 89.9. The data reflects contracts but not closings.

SOURCES

NATIONAL PRIORITIES PROJECT

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

CENSUS BUREAU

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

U.S. ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY, ANNUAL SOCIAL ECONOMIC SUPPLEMENTS,

2010 U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

FEDERAL RESERVE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS