

The Delray Democrat

Putting the “Disappointing” Job Reports into Perspective¹

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Republicans are in a frenzy and the corporate media in a dither over the fact that the August job numbers fell short of estimates. But only a fool or a paid professional liar would fail to notice that the 235,000 jobs reported in August are still significantly higher than Trump’s pre-pandemic monthly average (180,200 jobs) and infinitely greater than Trump’s numbers over his full term, during which nearly 3 million jobs were lost. Trump is the first president since Herbert Hoover to leave office with fewer jobs than when he entered, and Biden’s monthly average (636,285) easily surpasses his three predecessors. Who’s your daddy, Donald?

	George W. Bush	Barack Obama	Donald Trump	Joe Biden
Total	1,357,000	11,557,000	-2,876,000	4,454,000
Monthly Average	14,135	120,385	-59,917	636,285

It is agreed that the spike in COVID cases is a major reason the jobs number fell so short of expectations. The principal contributor to the spike is Republican intransigence, leading *New York Times* columnist Jamelle Bouie to ask, [Do Republicans Actually Want the Pandemic to End?](#) The question answers itself:

Rather than work with him to vaccinate the country, Biden’s Republican opposition has, with only a few exceptions, done everything in its power to politicize vaccination and make refusal to cooperate a test of partisan loyalty. The party is, for all practical purposes, pro-Covid.

The article is worth reading, and every Republican quoted in it is a finalist for Miscreant of the Month. But the malignant hypocrisy of the failed governor who is responsible for Florida becoming the coronavirus capital of the country attacking a man whose shoes he is not fit to shine makes one’s gorge rise: “You know, he said he was going to end Covid. He hasn’t done that . . . At the end of the day, he is trying to find a way to distract from the failures of his presidency.”

The most appropriate response to a man who one hopes will someday have to answer for the lives lost on his watch is to quote Lin-Manuel Miranda’s tweet to Trump: “You’re going straight to hell . . . No long lines for you . . . Someone will say, ‘right this way, sir.’ They’ll clear a path.”

¹ *The Delray Democrat*, [September 2021](#), p. 8.