

The Delray Democrat

Chill¹

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I'm talking about the coming election, not the weather. Biden may not win in the landslide he deserves, but he'll win – whether or not Trump is on the ballot.

Republican hostility to women and love affair with autocrats will propel turnout, as it did in 2022, when polls wrongly predicted a red tsunami. Equally important, however, Biden will win on the economy.

Biden [added](#) 14.2 million jobs in 35 months. Economists predicted a recession in 2023, but instead he added over 2.6 million jobs. In his *best* year, Trump failed to add even 2.3 million jobs while Biden's annualized *average* is just shy of 5 million.

Unemployment has fallen from 6.4% when Biden was inaugurated to 3.7%. For context, the last time unemployment was that low Richard Nixon was president.

The major black spot, inflation, has been tamed. Year-over-year inflation fell from 9.1% at its height in June 2022 to 3.1% at the end of November. It is approaching the target set by the Fed, and three interest rate cuts are projected for 2024, which will propel more economic growth. .

Some prices are actually [falling](#). Toys were down 3% and sports equipment down 2% this holiday season compared to 2022; washing machines cost 12% less than a year ago, and the price of eggs are down 22% over a year ago.

Consumer confidence surged in November – economists were expecting a modest increase amounting to 1.8%. Instead, consumer confidence rose 13.2%.

Republicans will do everything they can to wreck the economy—it's what they do best—but my guess is that Biden will play Mike Johnson the way he played McCarthy, and if there is a government shutdown Republicans will pay at the polls.

The bottom line: don't worry, but don't be complacent, and never stop fighting..

¹ [The Delray Democrat](#), January 2024, page 1.