

Then-Rep. Portman Believed Tax Cuts Would Not Threaten Social Security/Medicare, Ability to Pay Down Debt, and Spending on National Priorities

“President Bush outlined his budget last week, which showed that for the first time in decades we’re going to be able to actually preserve the Social Security and Medicare trust funds. We’ve never done this before. It’s really historic. We’re also going to be able to pay down all of the available public debt, \$2 trillion of it, also be able to increase spending for important priorities like education, like national defense and yet there is almost \$2 trillion left over for tax relief for the American people.”

**— Then-Representative Rob Portman (R-OH)
CNN interview
March 8, 2001**

Under Bush Policies, Every Penny of Social Security Surplus Spent

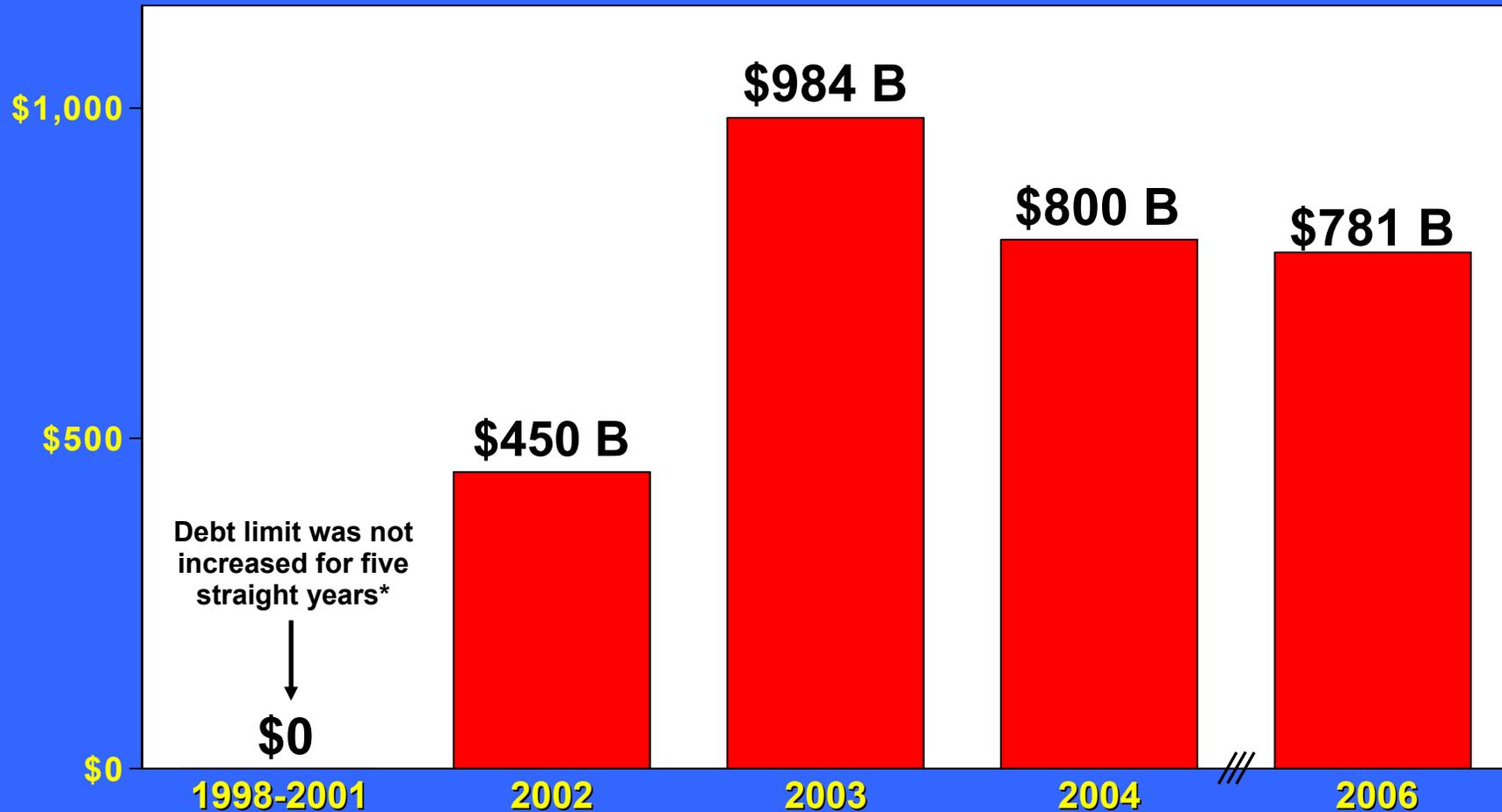


Source: CBO

Note: Amount of Social Security surplus spent on tax cuts and other things, instead of saved to prepare for retirement of baby boom generation.

Debt Limit Increases \$3 Trillion Under President Bush

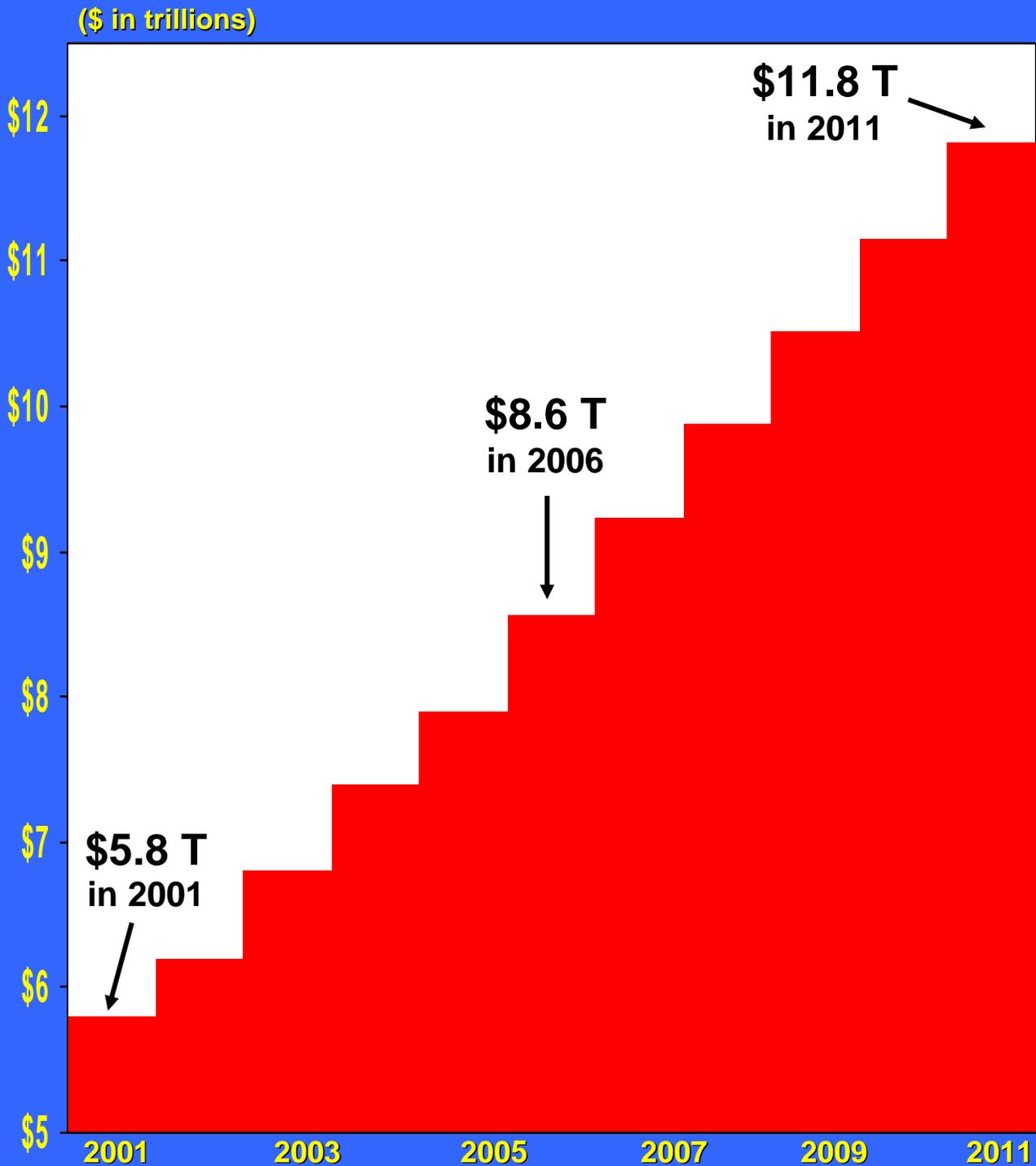
(\$ in Billions, Annual Increases in Statutory Debt Limit)



*Debt limit was not increased between August 1997 and June 2002.
Source: OMB

Building a Wall of Debt

Gross Federal Debt Soars



Source: CBO and SBC Democratic staff

Note: CBO reestimate of President's FY 2007 Budget with AMT reform and ongoing war costs.

President Bush More than Doubles Foreign-Held Debt in 5 Years

It Took 42 Presidents 224 Years to Build Up Same Level of Foreign-Held Debt



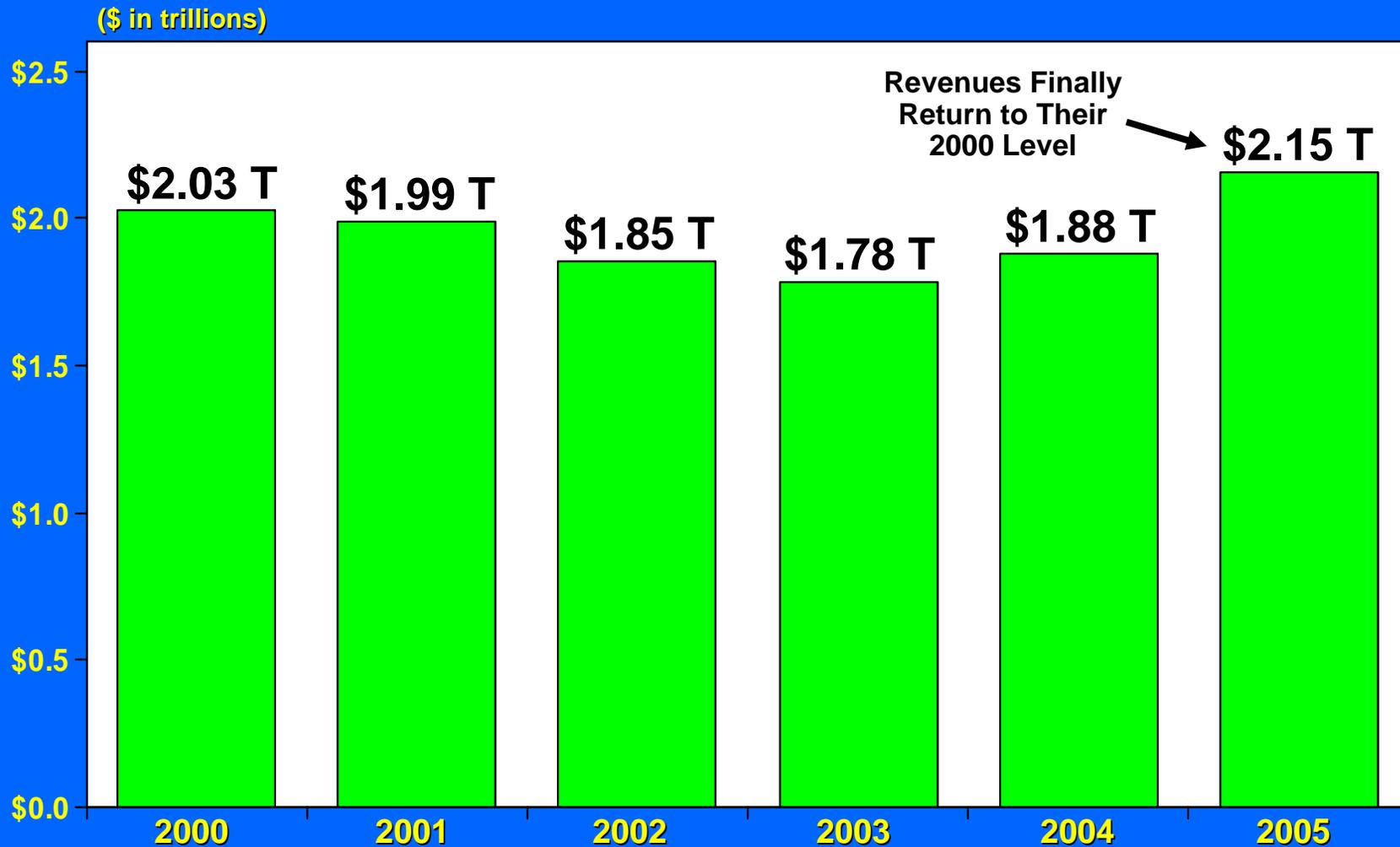
224 Years
(1776-2000)



\$1.22 T

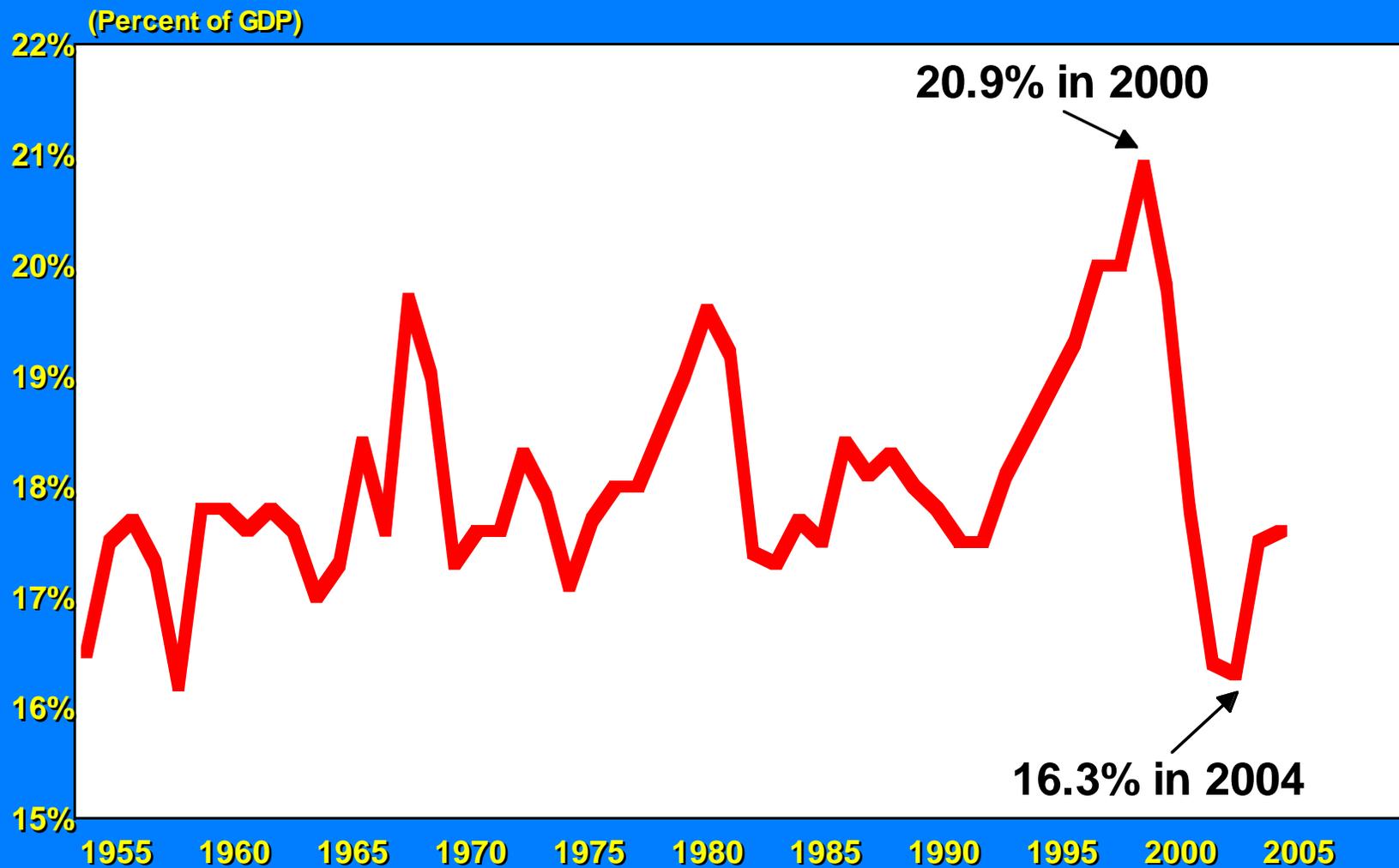
5 Years
(2001-2006)

Revenues Have Experienced Virtually No Growth Since 2000



Revenues as a Percent of GDP

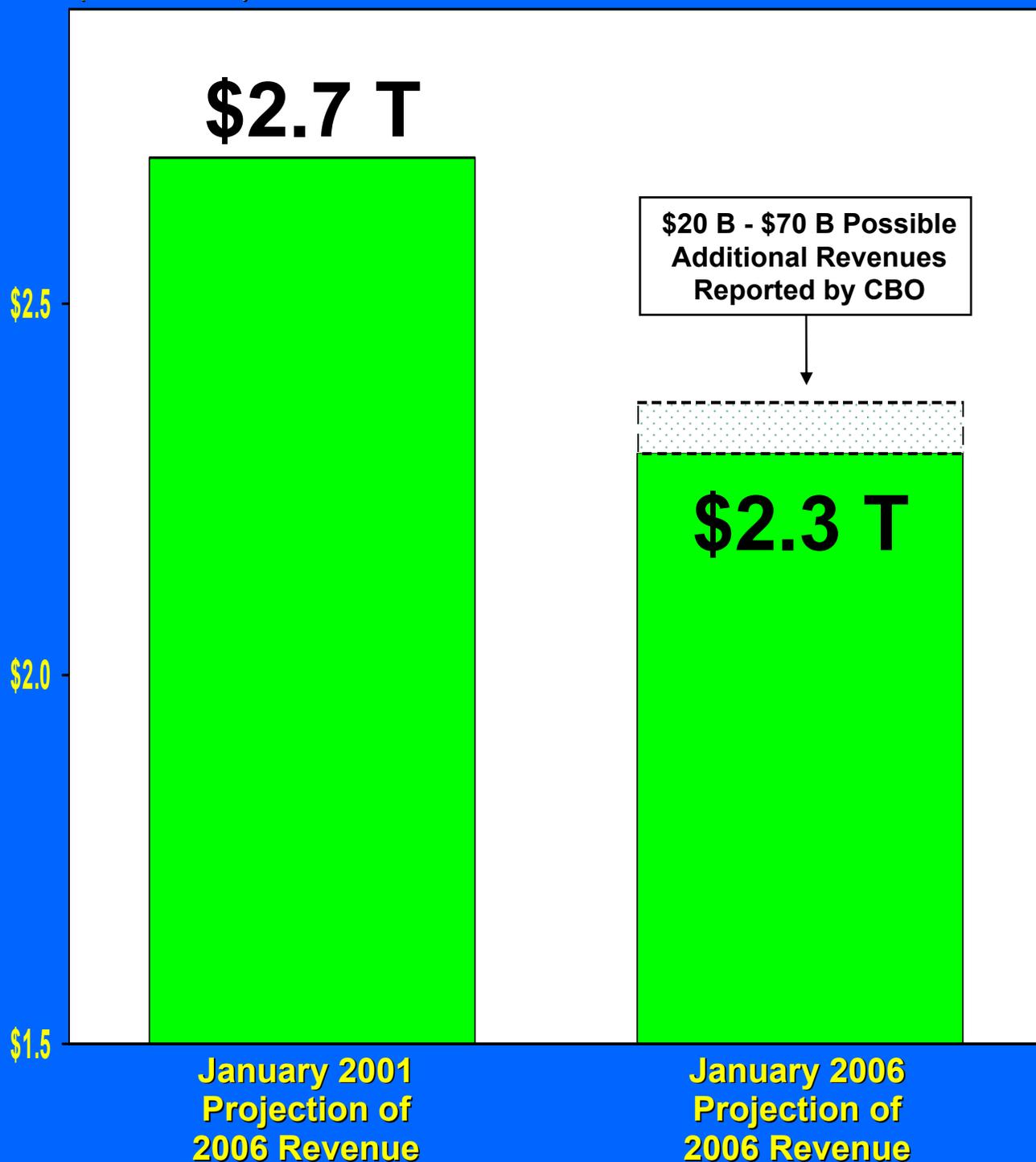
2004 Level is Lowest Since 1959



Source: CBO, OMB

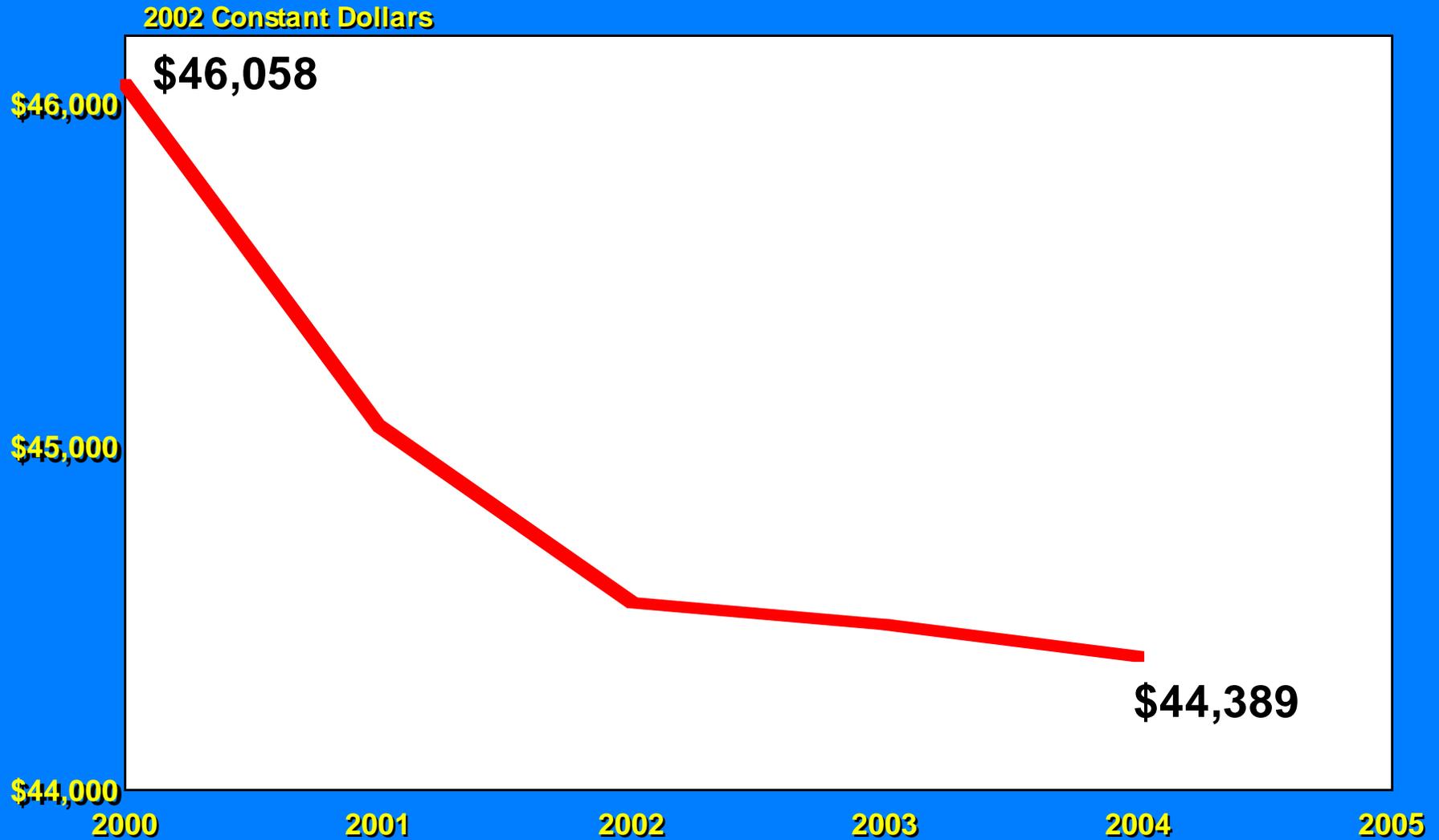
Revenues in 2006 Still Far Below Earlier Projections

(\$ in trillions)



Source: CBO

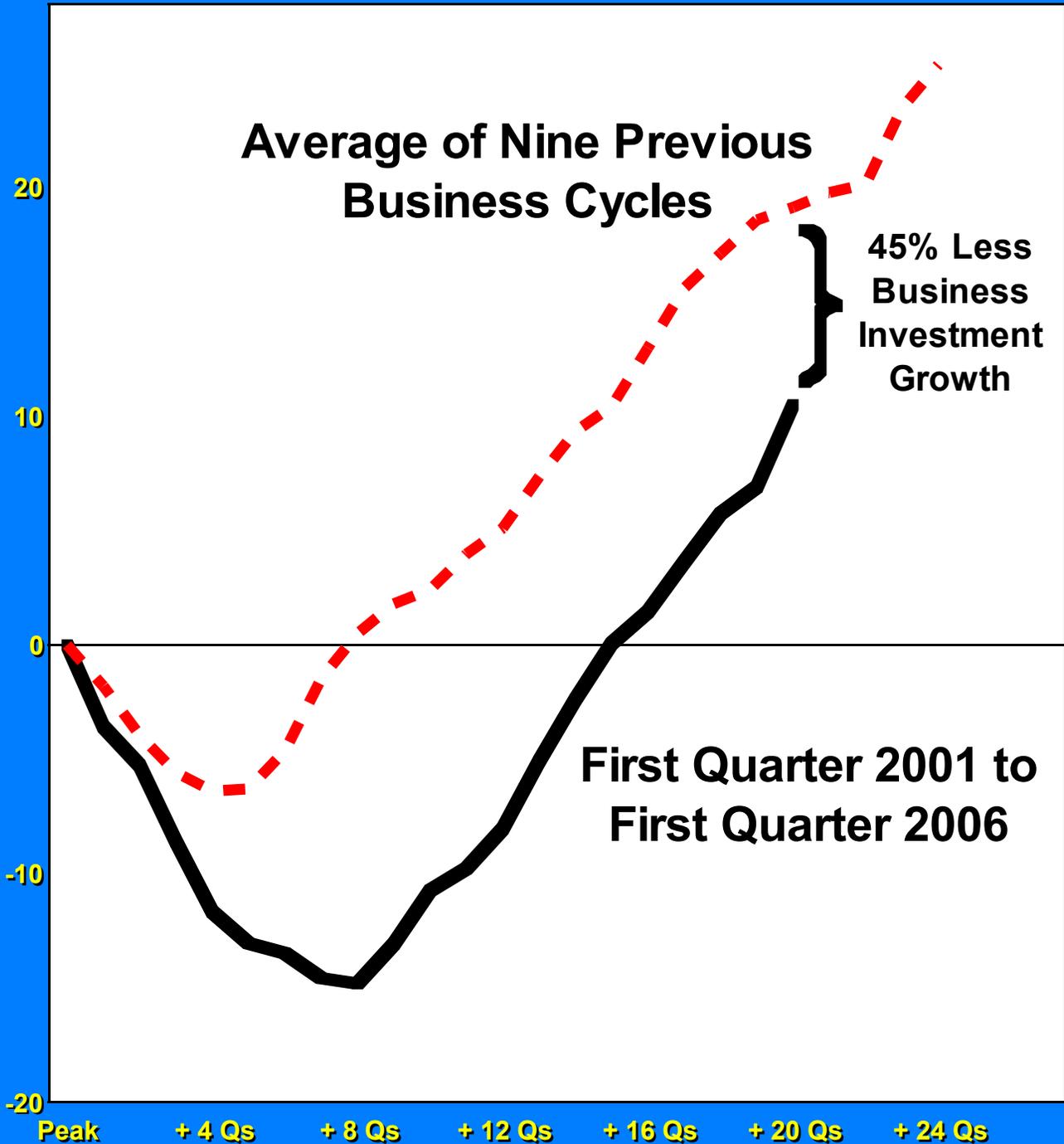
Real Median Household Income Has Declined Four Straight Years



Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce

Business Investment Lags Behind Typical Recovery

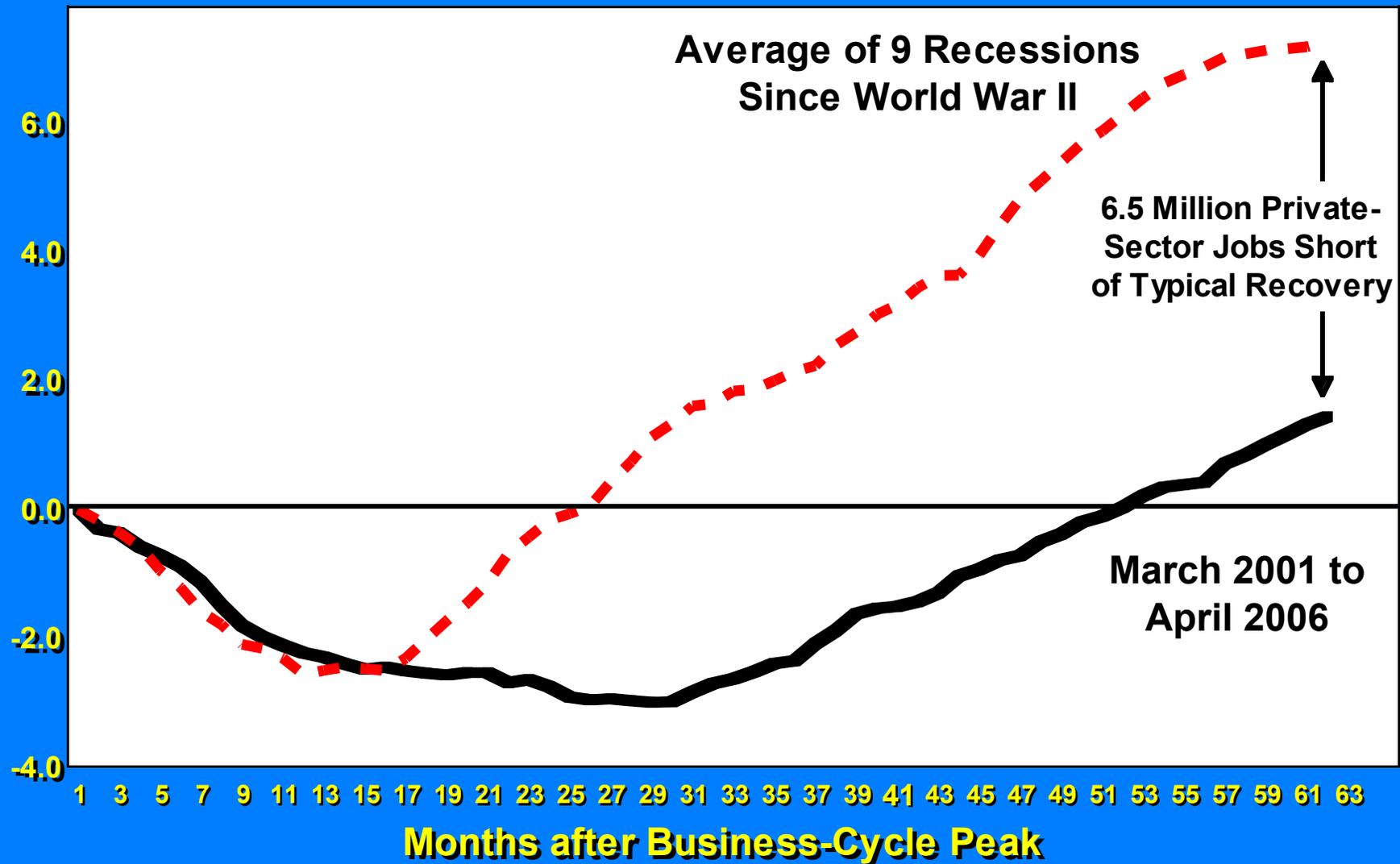
(Real Business Investment, Percent Change from Business-Cycle Peak)



Source: Department of Commerce

Job Creation Lags Behind Typical Recovery

(Private-Sector Jobs, Percent Change from Business-Cycle Peak)



Source: BLS

5/8/06