



The Daily Dish

Growth, the Budget, and the TCJA

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The United States has two pressing problems. The first is the need for faster economic growth. From 1960 through 2000, the average annual growth in real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita was 2.4 percent, a pace at which GDP per capita – a rough measure of the standard of living – would double every 29 years. From 2001 to 2022, the average has been only 1.4 percent; at this pace the standard of living will double only every 56 years. Had the pace of growth been maintained in the 21st century, real GDP (in 2017 dollars) would have been \$6.3 trillion higher in 2022, translating into additional real income of nearly \$19,000 per capita. Eakinomics could sure use \$19k. Couldn't you?