

THE PRESIDENCY AND THE DEBT

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ABSTRACT

The discussion on the presidents and their contribution to the US Debt is often based on assertions rather than on facts. In this paper, we look at the data on US government debt over the post-world war II period in order to assess the presidential record. The main focus of the project is to examine the different presidents' contribution to the debt, analyze variations and similarities particularly on the expenditure side, and evaluate their priorities in light of empirical evidence.

Keywords: *Presidents, Debt, Federal Budget*