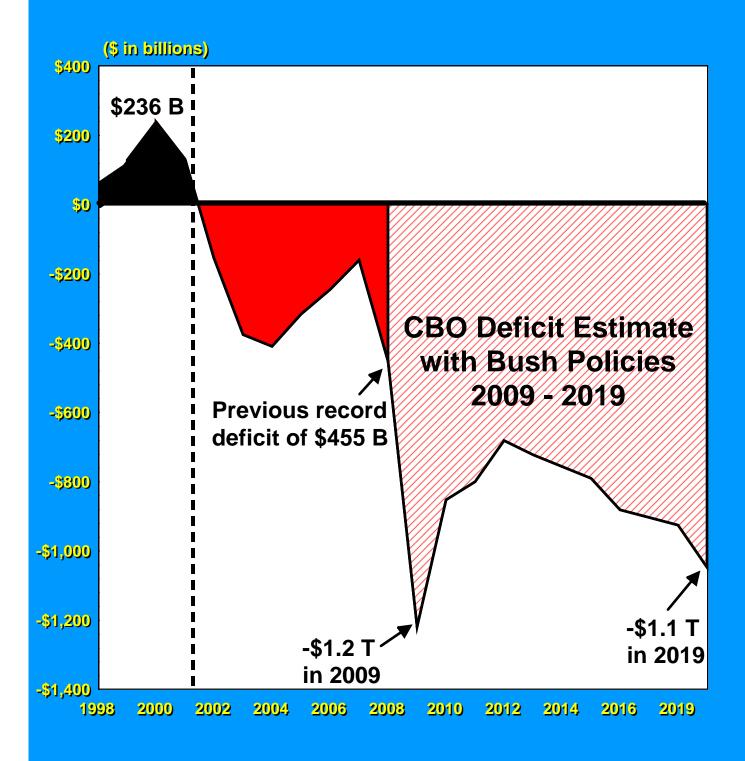
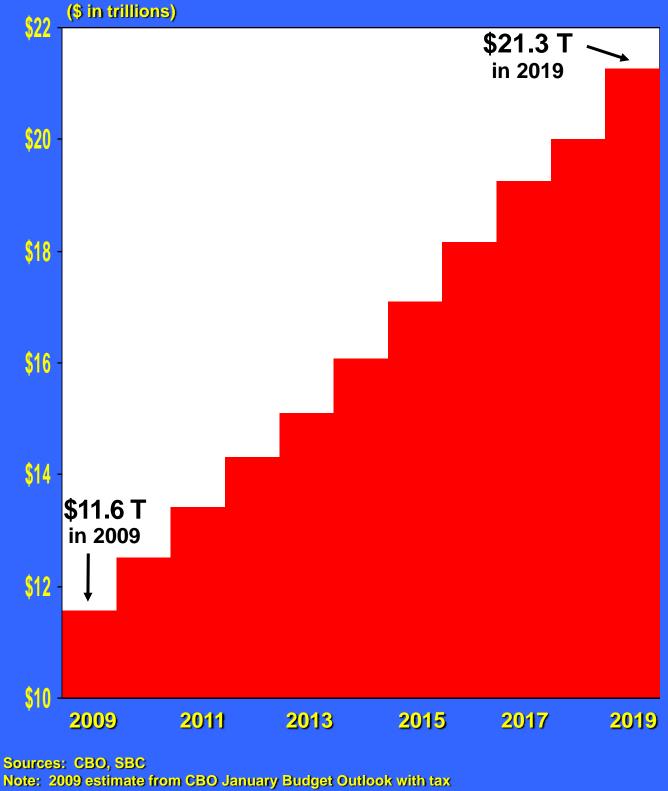
## Ten-Year Budget Outlook



Sources: CBO and SBC Note: CBO January 2009 estimate with tax cuts made permanent, AMT reform, ongoing war costs, and without extension of 2009 emergencies.

### Building a Wall of Debt Gross Federal Debt Soars

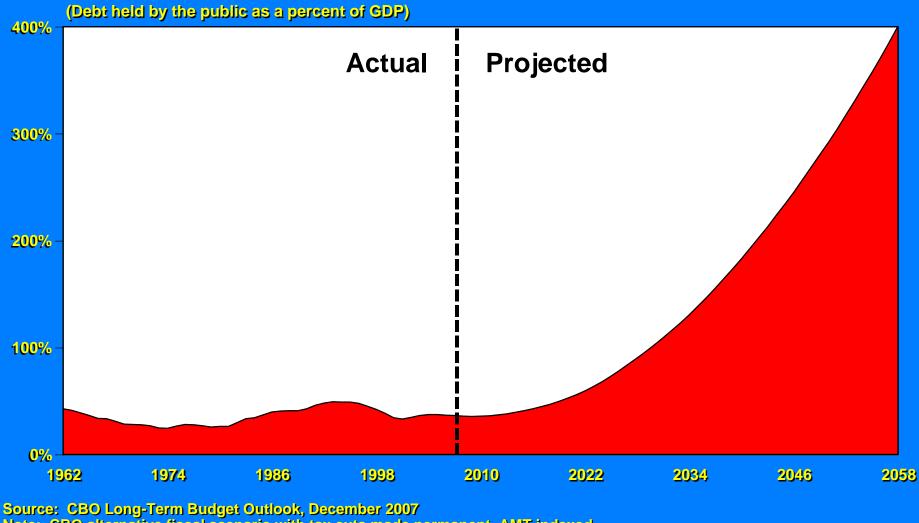


cuts extended, AMT reform, and ongoing war costs.

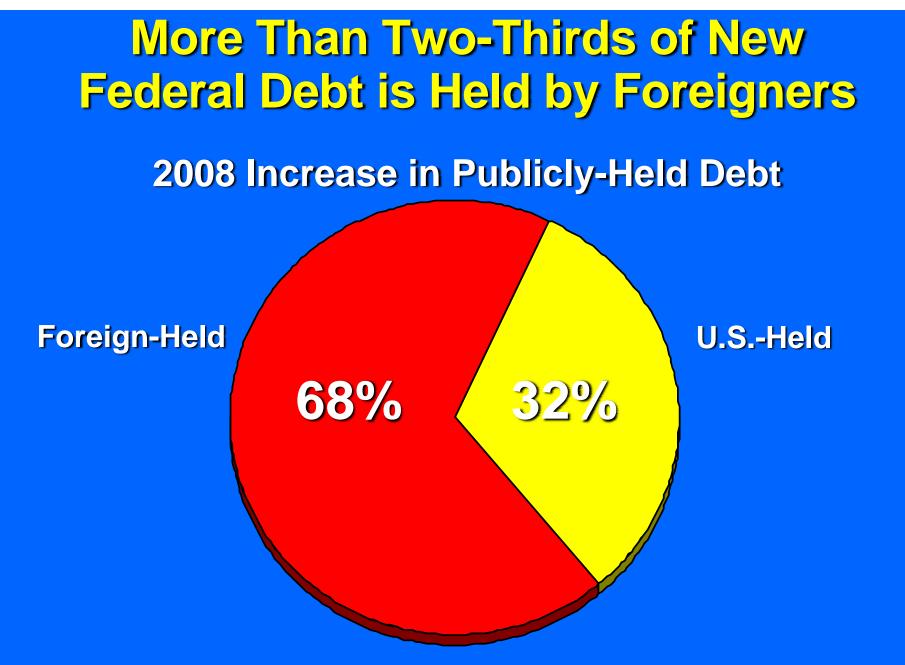
Major Initiatives That Could Further Add to Debt

Economic recovery package
Additional tax cuts
Health care reform
Additional defense spending

#### Federal Debt Soars Under CBO Long-Term Budget Scenario



Note: CBO alternative fiscal scenario with tax cuts made permanent, AMT indexed for inflation, and Medicare physician payments growing with higher MEI rate.



Source: Department of the Treasury, SBC Note: Compares the increase in foreign holdings of Treasury securities over the period of October 2007 through August 2008 with the increase in debt held by the public over that same time period. September 2008 is treated as an anomaly and excluded as a result of the Department of the Treasury issuing debt that month to assist the Federal Reserve under the newly created "Supplementary Financing Program."

# Top Ten Foreign Holders of Our National Debt

China Japan **United Kingdom Caribbean Banking Centers Oil Exporters** Brazil Luxembourg Russia Hong Kong **Switzerland** 

Sources: U.S. Treasury and Federal Reserve Board Monthly data through October 2008

\$653 B \$586 B \$360 B \$220 B \$188 B \$135 B \$87 B \$81 B \$65 B \$61 B

#### Former GAO Comptroller General Walker on Urgency of Addressing Long-Term Fiscal Imbalance

"... I believe we have a five- to 10-year window of opportunity to demonstrate to our foreign lenders that we're going to get serious about this. Five to 10 years, and it's closing. And I think it's closer to five than to 10.... Keep in mind, we're the largest debtor nation in the history of mankind, and it's getting worse, not better."

> Former Government Accountability Office Comptroller General David M. Walker Testimony before Senate Budget Committee January 29, 2008