

2022 MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS: The following are media highlights from ATF'S work in 2022. ATF was featured about 1,900 times in the media, reaching an audience of about 1.6 billion views, according to Critical Mention, a media monitoring service. Control and click on the **red story headline** below to hyperlink to the article.

The New York Times

January 13, 2022

C.E.O.s Were Our Heroes, at Least According to Them

Between March 2020 and the middle of October 2021, America's billionaires saw their collective wealth soar by 70 percent, exceeding \$5 trillion, according to an analysis of Forbes data by **Americans for Tax Fairness** and the left-leaning Institute for Policy Studies. That mountain of money was controlled by a mere 745 people.

The Washington Post

July 28, 2022

Rich Wall Streeters Face Shock Tax Hike While Rest of Wealthy Escape

"Democrats are now much more comfortable with taxes and seeing it as critical to their investment agenda," said **Frank Clemente, the executive director of Americans for Tax Fairness**, a group that advocates for higher taxes on the wealthy and corporations.

THE HILL

August 22, 2022

The IRS could be on the verge of changing the way Americans file their taxes [Republished in 95 media outlets]

"It's critical to make filing taxes as easy as possible," **Frank Clemente**, director of the left leaning advocacy organization **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said in an interview. "We've got to move away from this adversarial feeling. A simpler tax system will reduce cost, increase compliance and make people just feel better about the IRS."

BUSINESS INSIDER

May 19, 2022

26 billionaires, including Elon Musk and Jeff Bezos, paid just a fraction of the taxes the average American owes

According to a new analysis from the left-leaning **Americans for Tax Fairness (ATF)** of IRS data obtained by ProPublica and wealth data from Forbes, 26 of the wealthiest people in America paid an average federal income tax rate of 4.8% from 2013-2018, based on **ATF's** calculation of effective tax rate on wealth growth.

CBS NEWS

December 22, 2022

Congress wants to change how you save for retirement. Here's what to know.

The change "will mainly help the rich shelter their income from taxes for longer periods and build up more wealth for their heirs," according to a December 16 letter sent to Congress from 45 organizations led by **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

CNN

August 9, 2022

Americans are fed up with billionaires. Washington needs to get the wealthy to pay up

As of May, US billionaires had seen their wealth rise by more than \$1.7 trillion — an increase of almost 60% since the beginning of the Covid-19 crisis, according to the Institute for Policy Studies and **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They could easily marshal their vast resources to make people's lives better — or at least blunt the pain many are still feeling from the height of the pandemic.

Newsweek

November 3, 2022

Here's How Much Billionaire Cash Has Been Funneled Into Midterms

American billionaires have funneled more than \$881 million into federal races in the 2022 midterm elections, according to a new report Thursday that prompted warnings about billionaires' influence in politics. The report was compiled by the nonprofit organization **Americans for Tax Fairness (ATF)**, which has a stated mission of educating and mobilizing the public "to get policymakers to support comprehensive, progressive tax reform that results in greater federal revenue to reduce inequality and to meet America's growing needs."

CNBC

November 3, 2022

American billionaires spent a record \$880 million on the U.S. midterm elections

"If we are going to have a democracy that works for everyone, we need to greatly curb the influence of billionaire money in our politics," said **Frank Clemente, executive director at Americans for Tax Fairness**."

Bloomberg

November 28, 2022

How Four Decades of Tax Cuts Fueled Inequality

To some, the value of the reforms isn't just monetary: "They will help restore the public's confidence in the fairness of our tax system," said **Frank Clemente, executive director of Americans for Tax Fairness**, a coalition that advocates for progressive taxation [...] "Biden's investment and tax plans were more impressive than in any other previous election campaign, and he followed through with those proposals in his budget."

POLITICO

February 14, 2022

A midterm prescription

"Anzalone and Hogan, who are pollsters for Biden, noted in a new memo being circulated by the progressive group **Americans for Tax Fairness** that the president's campaign ran an advertisement promising to raise taxes on corporations and not on anyone making under \$400,000 a year more than any other spot in the fall of 2020."

Roll Call

March 8, 2022

Early morning omnibus filing expected; four-day stopgap prep

"**Americans for Tax Fairness**, a coalition of liberal groups, said in a series of tweets Tuesday that restoring R&D expensing in the omnibus would be a "slap in the face" to families who lost the child tax credit."

THE AMERICAN PROSPECT

April 29, 2022

Biden and the Billionaire Tax

"They can well afford to pay. During the first two years of the COVID pandemic, according to an analysis of wealth concentration by **Americans for Tax Fairness (ATF)** based on Forbes data, the wealth of America's billionaires increased by \$1.7 trillion, or 57 percent, to a total of \$4.6 trillion. This was a time when most other Americans were struggling."

PROPUBLICA

February 28, 2022

When Billionaires Don't Pay Taxes, People "Lose Faith in Democracy"

"We know that there are lots of lobbyists and PR firms working around the clock to protect the status quo. There are terrific organizations like Patriotic Millionaires and **Americans For Tax Fairness**, but they just don't have the same resources that the billionaires have. That's why we're trying to get the message out and lay out that this is basically a fairness issue."

AP

October 22, 2022

GOP campaigns against the IRS, vowing to slash its funding

[Published in more than 100 other media outlets]

"There's crickets, is exactly the word, a crickets response from Democrats on this issue," said **Frank Clemente, executive director of Americans for Tax Fairness**, a liberal-leaning advocacy group. "This is a story about messaging. ... Candidates need to be talking about it. They need to be running ads on it. They need to be telling people how they're going to benefit, not just personally benefit by an improved IRS, but how rich and corporate tax cheats are going to have to pay the taxes that they owe."

SALON

July 19, 2022

Just 27 billionaires spent \$90 million to buy GOP Congress: report

"Billionaires Buying Elections," the report from **Americans for Tax Fairness (ATF)** details how "billionaires are increasingly using their personal fortunes and the profits of connected corporations to drown out regular voters' voices and elect hand-picked candidates who further rig the nation's economy — especially the tax system."

NEW REPUBLIC

November 7, 2022

Billionaires Have Spent \$881 Million This Election; Mostly on Republicans

American billionaires have spent a record \$881 million on the crucial 2022 midterms, a new report found, with most of that money going to Republican candidates and causes. The mindboggling amount is 44 percent higher than billionaires' total spending during the 2018 midterm cycle and could easily reach \$1 billion by next week, according to a report published Thursday by the group **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

yahoo!

November 7, 2022

Billionaires spent lavishly on the 2022 elections — and signaled even bigger plans for 2023

"A recent report from a group called **Americans for Tax Fairness** finds that a total of 465 billionaires from both parties have dumped about \$881 million into federal elections this campaign."



INDEPENDENT

February 17, 2022

Bernie Sanders demolishes the rich in Senate speech: 'Oligarch' America is here

Mr Sanders was referring to an analysis by advocacy group **Americans for Tax Fairness** that said American billionaires had added \$1tn gains in profits to their net worth in 2021.



August 6, 2022

Progressive groups take aim at Sinema over decision to remove carried interest tax loophole from Manchin bill

Frank Clemente, executive director for Americans for Tax Fairness, said Sinema's decision is an "affront" to Americans who pay their taxes. "Senator Sinema's insistence on maintaining the carried interest tax loophole is an affront to everyone who pays their fair share of taxes," said Clemente. "Her support for a tax break that exclusively benefits ultra-wealthy money managers shocks the conscience."



January 23, 2022

The billion-dollar question: Can you be TOO rich?

Since 1990, the number of billionaires in the U.S. has grown from 66 to 745, according to a study of Forbes data by the Institute for Policy Studies and Americans for Tax Fairness.



January 3, 2022

Welfare funds going unspent as pandemic increased poverty is a moral outrage

The money to the wealthy Barber refers to is the reported \$2.1 trillion that Americans for Tax Fairness and the Institute for Policy Studies' Program on Inequality and the Common Good, using Forbes data, say billionaires added to their net worth between March 2020 and October 2021.



April 30, 2022

Billionaires and the 1% are using 'dynasty trusts' to avoid estate and gift taxes — forever. Congress needs to stop them.

[Frank Clemente op-ed]
Exploiting estate- and gift-tax loopholes, America's billionaires and other super-rich are poised to transfer, largely tax-free, an estimated \$21 trillion of wealth to their descendants over the next 25 years. The rest of us will lose out on trillions of dollars in revenue that otherwise would be collected if the U.S. system of taxing the intergenerational transfer of great wealth worked as originally intended.



March 22, 2022

The Pandemic Made the Rich \$1.7 Trillion Richer

Americans for Tax Fairness's latest assessment of the condition argues that "U.S. billionaires' wealth continues to soar above the misery." ATF explained: As of March 10, their collective wealth has shot up by \$1.7 trillion, or 57 percent, since the pandemic emergency was proclaimed in mid-March 2020. Their total wealth reached \$4.6 trillion, up from \$2.95 trillion on March 18, 2020.... The number of U.S. billionaires increased by 15%, from 614 to 704.



December 8, 2022

Billionaires had an extra \$1 trillion to influence the midterm elections

Since the Supreme Court ruled on Citizens United in 2010, billionaire wealth has been, as Americans for Tax Fairness Executive Director Frank Clemente puts it, "drowning our democracy." Between 2009 and 2020, the top twelve billionaires alone spent one out of every 13 dollars given to candidates and political groups.



December 12, 2022

What Did Musk, Gates and Other US Billionaires Spend Their Money on in 2022?

"In the post-Citizens United world, money is speech. And around election time, billionaires speak loudest of all. According to Americans For Tax Fairness, a tiny group of just 465 American billionaires spent \$881 million on federal midterm election races. Nearly three-quarters of it, more than \$643 million, came from just 20 ruling-class households."



June 24, 2022

Senators Just Did the Rich Another Favor

The Senate version is no different. The nonprofit coalition Americans for Tax Fairness sent a letter to the Finance Committee earlier this week laying out its issues with the EARN Act, which passed the committee with few changes.



November 4, 2022

TWENTY Billionaires Spent \$643 Million on Midterm Elections

I want you to take a look at the results of a new report from Americans for Tax Fairness about billionaires spending in this election cycle. And we're going to try to figure out if that's the best classification for our country. So they have found that as of September 30th of this year, billionaires in the U.S. have spent nearly \$900 million in these. I'll remind you, midterm elections and they only counted up until five weeks before the election.



August 31, 2022

Behind Starbucks Union-Busting Stands CEO Who Got \$940,000,000 Richer During Pandemic

Zachary Tashman, a research and policy associate at Americans for Tax Fairness and the new report's lead author, said in a statement Wednesday that "the ruthless union-busting strategy used by Starbucks and its billionaire CEO is a perfect example of how far wealthy corporations are willing to go to keep their profits concentrated in just a few hands."

The Boston Globe

October 22, 2022

GOP campaigns against the IRS, vowing to slash its funding

"There's crickets, is exactly the word, a crickets response from Democrats on this issue," said **Frank Clemente, executive director of Americans for Tax Fairness**, a liberal-leaning advocacy group. "Candidates need to be talking about it. They need to be running ads on it. They need to be telling people how they're going to benefit, not just personally benefit by an improved IRS, but how rich and corporate tax cheats are going to have to pay the taxes that they owe."

News&Observer

November 7, 2022

There's a third B contending in the Beasley-Budd Senate race – billionaires

The advocacy group **Americans for Tax Fairness** reported last week that "465 billionaires have pumped at least \$881 million into the 2022 federal midterm election – 27 times more than billionaires contributed before the disastrous Citizens United Supreme Court decision in 2010.

THE COURIER

September 4, 2022

There is a lot to celebrate on Labor Day

Billionaires increased their wealth by an astonishing \$1.7 trillion, or 57%, between March 2020 and March 2022. According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, our lone Iowa billionaire, Harry Stine, increased his wealth by 94% over this two-year period.

BIRMINGHAM DAILY JOURNAL

November 8, 2022

American billionaires' political spending overwhelmingly leans Republican

Of the record-breaking \$881 million billionaires have donated to US political parties this midterm election cycle, nearly three-quarters came from the top 20 donors alone. Of these 20 who rank among the wealthiest population—who became even richer during the pandemic—14 back Republicans, a new report from the non-profit organization **Americans for Tax Fairness** calculates.

The Olympian

December 20, 2022

Child tax credit expansion not included in omnibus package

Frank Clemente, the executive director of Americans for Tax Fairness, expressed regret the CTC expansion was not included but applauded the removal of tax credits for corporations. "Republicans chose corporations over kids at Christmas," Clemente said in a Tuesday statement. "But public demand for tax fairness has grown so strong that such bills can no longer fly through Congress without serious opposition or even inquiry."

The Seattle Times

March 23, 2022

Who is MacKenzie Scott, besides being an Amazon co-founder?

Scott saw her wealth increase from \$19.5 billion to \$55.5 billion over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic — even after giving away \$8.6 billion to charity. That's according to the most recent data released in October 2021 by **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

BEACON

A project of the Maine People's Alliance

July 14, 2022

Maine group, national advocates warn that billionaires are trying to buy 2022 election

The report was put together by **Americans for Tax Fairness** [...] shows an alarming amount of money being spent by billionaires in support of conservative candidates. For example, nearly half — 47% — of the funds raised by the two primary Republican congressional super PACs during the first 16 months of the 2022 campaign cycle came from just 27 billionaires.

MILWAUKEE INDEPENDENT

June 28, 2022

WHY IT WOULD COST THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NOTHING TO CANCEL STUDENT DEBT

An analysis of Forbes data by **Americans for Tax Fairness** and the Institute for Policy Studies has determined that "American billionaires have grown \$2.1tn richer during the pandemic," which is equivalent to 60% of the 10-year cost of Biden's \$3.5tn Build Back Better plan.

10 PHILADELPHIA

November 3, 2022

American Billionaires Spent a Record \$880 Million on the U.S. Midterm Elections

Billionaire spending is up 44% over the 2018 midterms, and is expected to approach \$1 billion by next week, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

WRAL NEWS

October 30, 2022

Billionaires' dark money silences voters' voices

[**Frank Clemente** and Nancy MacLean op-ed]

Through the first year-and-a-half of the current election cycle, 27 billionaires provided nearly half the money — \$89.4 million of a total of \$188.3 million — raised by the Senate Leadership Fund and the Congressional Leadership Fund — the two main super PACs trying to elect Republicans to Congress. Super PACs can raise unlimited amounts from every donor.