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United States President

THE ISSUES



JOE BIDEN

DEMOCRAT • INCUMBENT



DONALD TRUMP

REPUBLICAN

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ABORTION Ban or legal?	**Legal.** "Roe v. Wade was right." "Stop playing politics with the women's lives and freedom." Expanded access to contraception and abortion, including abortion pills. Strengthened privacy rules protecting abortion patients and providers. Overturned a Trump ban on federal funding for Planned Parenthood.	**Ban.** "After 50 years of failure, I was able to kill Roe v. Wade." Did so by appointing three anti-abortion Supreme Court Justices. It was "a miracle." States should decide for themselves, potentially monitoring women's pregnancies and prosecuting women for getting abortions. Abortion is "really not that big of an issue."
CLIMATE CHANGE Should climate change be a top priority?	**Yes.** Committed $369 billion to climate & clean energy, the biggest investment in US history. Also $1.2 trillion in infrastructure, part of which reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Rejoined Paris climate pact. Revoked Keystone Pipeline permit. Paused natural gas export approvals.	**No.** Climate change is a "hoax." The world will "start getting cooler." Withdrew from the Paris climate pact. Will expand coal and oil production. "I want to drill, baby, drill." Asked oil and gas executives to donate $1 billion so he could reverse Biden's climate initiatives.
CRIMINAL JUSTICE How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?	Banned chokeholds, curbed no-knock entries, implemented anti-bias training. Increased police funding, including community programs. Must "reform our broader criminal justice system so that it protects and serves all people equally."	Police are "under siege." Cut back active federal oversight of excess force, though supported a database to track it. Admires Chinese approach of quick trials and a death penalty for drug dealers so there will be a "zero drug problem."
EDUCATION Limit teaching about racism and gender identity?	**No.** Wouldn't "ban books" or "bury history." "We should know everything: the good, the bad, the truth of who we are." "All students should be guaranteed an educational environment free from discrimination."	**Yes.** Certify teachers who "embrace patriotic values." Would "cut federal funding" for any school "pushing critical race theory, gender ideology." Restricted diversity training for federal employees and contractors.
ELECTIONS Did Joe Biden legitimately win the 2020 Presidential election?	**Yes.** On Jan 6 "a violent mob of insurrectionists" tried "to overthrow the will of the people,… fueled by lies about the 2020 election." "You can't love your country only when you win." "In more than 60 cases," judges found Trump's challenges "without any merit."	**No.** Called the election a "Big Lie" and a "Massive Fraud" that would justify "termination" of parts of the Constitution. Called those who stormed U.S. Capitol "unbelievable patriots." Would pardon them fully.
ENVIRONMENT Loosen or tighten environmental regulations?	**Tighten.** Issued more than 100 environmental regulations; targeted or overturned three-quarters of Trump's deregulatory actions.	**Loosen.** Weakened or ended more than 125 environmental protections, including wetlands and wildlife. Will reverse Biden policies.
GUN LAWS Loosen or tighten gun regulations?	**Tighten.** "When in God's name are we going to stand up to the gun lobby?" Signed the bipartisan gun safety bill. Required background checks in online and gun show sales.	**Loosen.** To NRA, "no one will lay a finger on your firearms." Plans to roll back Biden gun restrictions. Reversed Obama-era background checks for those with mental illnesses.
HEALTHCARE Repeal or expand the Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as Obamacare?	**Expanded** ACA enrollment and made it more affordable. Increased Medicaid funding. Helped states expand Medicaid. Worked on lowering Medicare drug prices, including capping insulin cost at $35.	**Repeal.** "Terminate." "Obamacare is a catastrophe." As President, promised to replace it with "something terrific," but repeal failed in the Senate by one vote. Supported an unsuccessful lawsuit to overturn it.

ISSUES	BIDEN (D)	TRUMP (R)
IMMIGRATION How to handle immigration? Support a path to citizenship for "DACA" participants brought to the US as children?	Pushed for an "earned roadmap to citizenship for undocumented individuals," including DACA. Supported a bipartisan Senate bill to tighten the border and speed case processing. Reversed Trump bans on travel from Muslim countries. Allowed DACA participants to access federally run health insurance. Limited the daily numbers of asylum seekers.	Illegal immigrants are "poisoning the blood of our country." Will use the National Guard and local police, with possible detention camps, to deport 15 to 20 million illegal immigrants. Opposed the bipartisan Senate immigration bill. Tried to end DACA; Supreme Court overruled. Would renew his Muslim ban and end automatic citizenship for everyone born in US.
ISRAEL/GAZA Response to Israel's invasion of Gaza following October Hamas attack?	Has supported Israel militarily. Criticized civilian deaths in Gaza and a lack of post-invasion planning. Called for a ceasefire and withheld some weapons over Israel attacking Rafah. Supports a "transition to a two-state solution."	Has supported Israeli action: "get the job done." Says Israel releasing images of bombed Gaza buildings loses "the PR war." Gaza protestors are "raging lunatics and Hamas sympathizers." Would deport student protesters.
LABOR Make it easier or harder for unions to organize?	**Easier.** The first President to walk a union picket line. Appointed labor leaders to head the Department of Labor and the National Labor Relations Board. Revoked a Trump order curbing federal employee collective bargaining.	**Harder.** Made it harder for unions to win representation and organize on an employer's property. Restricted federal employee collective bargaining. Striking Auto Workers were "sold down the river by their leadership."
LGBTQ RIGHTS Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	**Expand.** Signed same-sex and interracial marriages into federal law. Protected LGBTQ medical patients from discrimination. Reversed the Trump ban on transgender servicemembers in the military.	**Limit.** Weakened an Obama order protecting LGBTQ federal contractors from discrimination. Banned transgender military servicemembers and ended anti-discrimination protections for transgender patients.
MARIJUANA Ban or legal?	**Mostly legal.** Pardoned people convicted of federal possession. No one should be jailed for possession. Reclassified as less dangerous drug.	**Unclear.** It does "significant damage." Reversed Obama rule to not prosecute in states where legal, but ultimately didn't prosecute.
MINIMUM WAGE Raise federal minimum from $7.25 an hour?	**Yes.** "$15 an hour minimum wage is long overdue." Raised the minimum wage paid by federal contractors to $15 an hour.	**No.** A $15 minimum wage would "eliminate jobs." Threatened to veto. Questioned need for a federal minimum wage: let the states decide.
SOCIAL SECURITY Cut Social Security or raise retirement age to stabilize program?	**No.** "We will not cut Social Security. We will not cut Medicare." Proposes higher taxes on wealthy Americans to help pay for Social Security and Medicare.	**Mostly yes.** There's "a lot you can do in… cutting." Also flags bad management. Proposed $35 billion cuts in Social Security disability programs. But "will never do anything" to "hurt Social Security."
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID Support lowering interest on student loans and/or forgiving them?	**Yes.** Forgave $160 billion for nearly 4.6 million borrowers, after the Supreme Court blocked his $430 billion forgiveness plan. His new plan caps repayment amounts by income.	**No.** Called student loan forgiveness "unfair" to those not attending college. Vetoed forgiving loans of defrauded students. Proposed cutting support programs for student borrowers.
TAXES Raise or lower taxes on the wealthy and corporations?	**Raise.** Increase taxes on the wealthy. "No billionaire should be paying a lower tax rate than a school teacher or firefighter." Extend Trump tax cuts for the middle class, but not for the wealthy or corporations.	**Lower.** His 2017 tax cut included the largest corporate cuts in US history and major tax cuts for the wealthy. Would extend them when they expire in 2025. Raising business taxes "will lead to the destruction of your jobs."
UKRAINE/RUSSIA Support defending Ukraine against Russian invasion?	**Yes.** Supporting Ukraine aid is "standing up to Putin, opposing it is playing into Putin's hands."	**Mostly no.** To end the war, will push Ukraine to give up territory to Russia. Russia should "do whatever the hell they want" to NATO countries that don't pay in enough.
VOTING RULES Make voting harder or easier?	**Easier.** The right to vote is "fundamental" and "under assault." Directed federal agencies to encourage voting. Pass voting rights bills, "it's time for more than just talk."	**Harder.** Has long supported stronger voter ID requirements. Sued to bar ballot drop boxes. Encouraged Republicans to vote early but said early ballots "get lost" or are "phony."

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