# President Donald Trump

- 45th president of the United States
- Received a BS degree from Penn’s Wharton School of Business
- Born and raised in New York City
- Appointed president of his family’s real estate business in 1971; made his fortune from building and renovating skyscrapers, hotels, casinos, and golf courses as well as brand licensing
- Starred in the reality TV competition, *The Apprentice* from 2003-15
- Managed The Trump Organization until his presidential inauguration
- Birthday: 6/14/46 (Age: 73)

## Stances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health care:</th>
<th>Supports repealing the Affordable Care Act and signed a tax bill that removed funding for the law’s individual mandate. Voiced support for legislation that would reduce prescription drug costs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change:</td>
<td>Supports the repeal of the Clean Power Plan and has voiced concern over the amount of control the EPA has over states. Withdrew the US from the Paris Agreement, which includes pledges to combat global temperature increases.</td>
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<td>Education:</td>
<td>Advocates for expansion and increased funding for school choice. Supports reforming student aid and increasing distribution of Pell grants.</td>
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<td>Foreign Policy:</td>
<td>Implemented aluminum and steel import tariffs and withdrew the US from the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Imposed new economic sanctions for Iran and pulled the US out of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).</td>
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<td>Immigration:</td>
<td>Opposes access to counsel for immigrants undergoing removal. Has worked to remove legal orientation programs for immigrants. His “Remain in Mexico” program has created barriers for asylum-seekers to access and communicate with legal counsel.</td>
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Sources: National Journal Research; Donald J. Trump for President, Vox, New York Times, NBC News, Quorum, AILA, CNN.

Slide last updated on: November 25, 2019
Top issues: President Donald Trump

**Jobs and economy**

Summary of stances:
- The Trump administration has initiated a variety of rule rollbacks, including the likely reduction of a proposal that would have made more than four million additional salaried employees eligible for overtime pay and several other health and safety regulations.
- The White House’s top economic advisor, Larry Kudlow, has vocally opposed increasing the federal minimum wage. However, Trump’s position on minimum wage is unclear; in the primaries, he supported a minimum wage increase to $10.

**Immigration**

Summary of stances:
- President Trump has repeatedly attempted to secure funding for a wall along the US-Mexico border; this was one of his signature campaign promises in 2016.
- His administration has also taken action to terminate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) programs.
- President Trump has also shown support for ending chain migration and eliminating the visa lottery system.

**Foreign policy**

Summary of stances:
- President Trump has escalated drone and air strike campaigns across the Middle East and North Africa, which had subsided under the Obama administration.
- However, President Trump has also shown a willingness to withdraw from global conflicts in which the US is engaged, such as Syria and Afghanistan.
- President Trump has used national security threats to justify diverse executive actions, including building a wall along the US’ southern border and imposing tariffs on foreign imports into the United States.

### Former Vice President Joe Biden

- Served as vice president to President Obama for both terms, 2009-2017
- Received a BA from U. of Delaware and a JD from Syracuse University
- Was a key advisor to Obama and an experienced leader of the Senate
- Served as US senator for Delaware from 1973-2009
- Served as chairman of both the Judiciary and Foreign Relations Committees
- Known most widely for his work on criminal justice reform and the Violence Against Women Act
- Birthday: 11/20/42 (Age: 77)

### Stances

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<th>Category</th>
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<td><strong>Health care:</strong></td>
<td>Would build on the Affordable Care Act by offering a public insurance option to compete with private insurance on the insurance exchanges.</td>
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<td><strong>Climate Change:</strong></td>
<td>Published a $1.7 trillion climate plan to achieve a 100% clean energy economy and net-zero emissions by 2050. Has also committed to rejoining the Paris Agreement on his first day in office.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Education:</strong></td>
<td>Aims to triple Title I funding to eliminate funding gaps in public schools and support teacher's wages, reinstate the Obama-Biden actions to diversify schools, and institute universal pre-K for all 3 and 4 year olds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foreign Policy:</strong></td>
<td>Seeks to place America as a leading example of democracy by renewing international alliances, addressing threats such as climate change and nuclear proliferation, and reversing Trump administration policies.</td>
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<td><strong>Immigration:</strong></td>
<td>Would end family separation and the Trump administration’s travel ban. Plans to raise the US’ refugee admission target and to protect veterans, members of the armed forces, and those individuals’ spouses from deportation.</td>
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Sources: National Journal Research; Joebiden.com, CNN.

Slide last updated on: November 25, 2019
## Top issues: Former Vice President Joe Biden

### Infrastructure

**Summary of stances:**
- Supports a $400 billion investment over ten years to build green infrastructure in order to reduce emissions
- Plans to invest $20 billion towards rural broadband infrastructure and triple “Community Connect” grants
- Proposes using infrastructure funding to modernize the lock and dam system to help get rural products to market
- Supports investing in infrastructure upgrades that can withstand the impacts of climate change
- Plans to invest in the climate resilience of military bases

### Jobs and economy

**Summary of stances:**
- Has supported a $15/hour minimum wage since 2015
- Supports expanding opportunities for overtime pay
- Would ensure long-run social security solvency and implement a minimum benefit for lifelong workers
- Supports measures that protect workers who discuss their pay from employer retaliation
- Supports ending misclassification of workers to avoid overtime pay
- Supports banning non-compete clauses
- Was instrumental in the development of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (2014) while Vice President

### Gun violence

**Summary of stances:**
- As a senator, Biden supported the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act in 1994, which banned the manufacture of a number of semi-automatic firearms
- In 1993, he pushed the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, which established a background check system, through Congress
- Voted against the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act in 2005, which protects gun manufacturers from being held civilly liable for their products
- Biden has said that if elected president, he will re-introduce an assault weapons ban and pair it with a buyback program


Slide last updated on: March 16, 2020
### Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)

- **Senator from Vermont since 2007**
- **Received a BA degree from U. of Chicago**
- **Former US representative for Vermont’s At-Large District from 1991-2007**
- **Mayor of Burlington, VT from 1981-89**
- **Caucuses with the Democrats, but is the longest serving Independent in congressional history**
- **Considered one of the most ideologically liberal members of the Senate**
- **Ran in the 2016 and won 23 primaries/caucuses, but lost the nomination to Hillary Clinton**
- **Birthday: 9/8/41 (Age: 78)**

### Stances

#### Health care:
Would establish a Medicare-for-all system that rolls-out over four years and outlaws private insurance.

#### Climate Change:
Supports a Green New Deal (based on legislation of the same name), which would mobilize $16.3 trillion and includes a commitment to create 20 million union jobs. Wants to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2030 and complete decarbonization by 2050.

#### Education:
Supports tuition-free public higher education and universal Pre-K. Would restructure the federal student loan program by cutting interest rates and eliminating current debt.

#### Foreign Policy:
Emphasizes giving Congress stronger powers over authorization of military use. Highlights that the US must lead the world in protecting democracy and combating global inequity.

#### Immigration:
Would ensure the right to legal counsel for immigrants and would guarantee access to interpretation and translation services.

**Sources:** National Journal Research; berniesanders.com, AILA, CNN.

**Slide last updated on:** November 25, 2019
Top issues: Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)

### Climate change

**Summary of stances:**
- His plan for combatting climate change is based on the Green New Deal legislation
- It would mobilize $16.3 trillion to fight climate change, making it the most expensive plan of any 2020 contender
- Has introduced and cosponsored several climate-related bills in the Senate, including a proposed carbon tax in 2013 and the Green New Deal for Public Housing Act in November of 2019
- Member of both the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee
- Has said climate change is the U.S.’s largest security threat

### Health care

**Summary of stances:**
- Supports Medicare-for-all and has introduced universal health care legislation in multiple congresses
- His Medicare-for-all plan would have a four-year phased roll out and eliminate premiums, deductibles, and copays
- Would pay for his health plan by creating the American Health Security Trust Fund, which would be funded largely by tax increases on high-income individuals

### Immigration

**Summary of stances:**
- Released an immigration reform plan that includes a path towards citizenship
- Has opposed the practice of family separation and the Trump administration’s travel ban for individuals from Muslim-majority countries
- Although he supports reforms to the visa system, he has expressed concern over the use of the H1-B guest worker program by large corporations and the exploitation of guest workers
- He voted for the 2013 bipartisan immigration reform bill that passed the Senate; its provisions included a pathway to citizenship and increases visas for individuals with advanced degrees