

## President Biden and VP Harris's Pivotal Actions on Immigration vs Trump, Vance and Project 2025's Agenda

President Biden and Vice President Harris inherited a nearly-collapsed immigration system that separated families, created chaos on the southern border, jeopardized the lives of Dreamers, and dismantled America's legal immigration system. Since Day One, the Biden-Harris administration has delivered policies to restore order and safety at the border, keep American families together, address the root causes of migration, and expand legal pathways. President Biden issued over 500 executive actions, including over 300 actions to undo harmful Trump-era immigration policies. These pivotal actions have strengthened America's border security, allowed over 2 million immigrant workers and families to get on path to legal status, created effective processes to reduce and manage migration, and fueled the country's economic growth.

This incredible progress on immigration is now being threatened by GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump, J.D. Vance and Project 2025. Vance, who has [endorsed](#) Project 2025, supported [several anti-immigrant bills](#) in the Senate and previously [defended](#) Trump's comments about migrants "poisoning the blood of America," is aligned with Trump's [extreme agenda](#) that would rip families apart and see long-settled immigrants deported en masse.

If elected, a Trump-Vance administration will finish what Trump began in 2017 and employ Project 2025's dangerous blueprint to disrupt, detain and deport families and devastate America's immigration system, jeopardizing the country's economy, communities, and families.

**President Biden reverses harmful family separation policies; implements policies to keep families together.**

The Biden-Harris Administration has issued [over 500 executive actions](#), including [over 300 actions](#) to undo harmful Trump-era immigration policies that separated families, jeopardized the lives of Dreamers and long-settled immigrant families, and created chaos at the border.

- The Biden-Harris administration has reunited over 700 families who were separated under Trump.
- During the initial three years of Biden's presidency, USCIS completed over 2.5

**Donald Trump vows mass deportation and keeps family separation on the table.**

Trump has [vowed](#) to carry out mass deportation by deploying police and military forces into communities across the U.S. for [sweeping raids](#) in workplaces and public spaces. He plans to build vast internment camps to detain undocumented individuals, causing irreparable harm to families, our communities, and the workforce.

Trump also [refuses](#) to rule out reinstating his appalling family separation policy that ripped nearly [4,000 children](#) from their parents arms during his first term.

<p>million naturalizations, reducing the citizenship backlog by over 25% in fiscal year 2023.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trump <a href="#">applauds</a> the architects of his family separation policy and often shares a spotlight with them, reflecting on tearing families apart with <a href="#">pride and admiration</a>.</li> <li>• Trump maintains close and admiring relationships with his former senior advisor, Stephen Miller, and former ICE director, Tom Homan, both engineers of the family separation policy. Miller and Homan, along with many individuals tied to both Trump's administration and the Heritage Foundation, have been <a href="#">involved in crafting Project 2025</a>.</li> <li>• Trump continues to align with the <a href="#">extremist policy plans</a> outlined in the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, which would serve as a guide for his administration's plans during a second term. <a href="#">31 of the 38</a> people responsible for writing and editing Project 2025, who paint a picture of a draconian America that rips apart families and communities, were appointed or nominated to positions in the Trump administration and transition.</li> <li>• Trump's Vice President pick, Senator J.D. Vance <a href="#">celebrates mass deportation</a> and vows to arrest millions of immigrants across America.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pres. Biden and VP Harris keep families together by protecting spouses and children of American citizens.</b></p> <p>In June 2024, President Biden and Vice President Harris <a href="#">announced</a> an executive action to extend protections to over half a million undocumented spouses and children of U.S. citizens, an action that <a href="#">73% of voters support</a>. This action will keep American families together and grow our economy.</p>	<p><b>Trump will separate and disempower American families.</b></p> <p>Trump proudly <a href="#">describes</a> his plans to arrest and deport millions of individuals who are residing in the U.S., many of whom have lived in the country for over a decade, are raising families here, and are an intricate part of our communities and workforce. The individuals Trump <a href="#">vows</a> to round up and deport include Dreamers who were brought to the country as children, parents who are raising American citizen children, husbands, wives, grandparents; millions of hardworking individuals who call this country home.</p>

	<p>If elected, Trump's Project 2025 promises to undermine American families by <a href="#">barring mixed-status households from accessing empowering housing opportunities</a>. With <a href="#">1 in 15</a> U.S. residents living in a mixed-status household, Trump's plan would uproot millions of families and place a severe burden on hardworking parents trying to provide their children with a safe and stable home.</p> <p>As Senator, Vance <a href="#">co-sponsored</a> legislation aimed at stripping sanctuary cities of receiving federal housing grants that empower millions of homeowners and has <a href="#">promised</a> to cut all critical funding to sanctuary cities.</p>
<p><b>The Biden-Harris Administration grows the workforce and safeguards protections for Dreamers and DACA recipients.</b></p> <p>In June 2024, President Biden and Vice President Harris <a href="#">announced</a> a groundbreaking initiative to expedite access to work visas for Dreamers with college degrees. The new policy <a href="#">promises</a> a streamlined process, enabling quicker approvals and faster integration into the workforce. With <a href="#">49%</a> of DACA recipients having received some form of college education, this policy is set to significantly offset unemployment rates in labor-intensive industries.</p>	<p><b>Trump vows to dismantle DACA and strip away protections.</b></p> <p>As outlined in Trump's extremist <a href="#">policy playbook</a>, the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, Trump would finish the job he <a href="#">started in 2017</a> and <a href="#">dismantle</a> DACA, threatening to strip protections from <a href="#">over half a million</a> young American adults who have legally lived and worked in the U.S. This <a href="#">action</a> would rip away the right to work and remove protection from deportation, disrupting the lives of hundreds of thousands of American families.</p>
<p><b>Biden upholds American values by creating legal pathways for refugees and those fleeing violence and persecution.</b></p> <p>The Biden-Harris Administration has expanded legal pathways for over 2.3 million immigrants in the U.S. and those fleeing violence or dangerous conditions. This includes launching the '<a href="#">Uniting for Ukraine</a>' program, authorizing Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for many immigrants already in the U.S. to legally work and remain, providing work permits for victims of serious labor violations, and granting <a href="#">advanced travel authorization</a> for individuals to reunite with family in the U.S. They also <a href="#">restored</a></p>	<p><b>Trump promises an America that would turn its back on those seeking safety and refuge.</b></p> <p>Trump's <a href="#">Project 2025 policy playbook</a> outlines an administration that would decimate numerous refugee and humanitarian visa programs that provide essential protections to those seeking safety in the U.S. Trump <a href="#">plans</a> to end refugee resettlement programs, the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) program that has protected over a million people during the Biden administration alone, and <a href="#">promises</a> to terminate humanitarian parole initiatives, including the 'Uniting for Ukraine' program that has extended protection to over <a href="#">170,000</a> people.</p>

<p><a href="#">protections</a> for survivors of domestic violence revoked under Trump.</p>	<p>Vance is a co-sponsor of <a href="#">S.505</a>, the Immigration Parole Reform Act of 2023, that would ban any President and his/her administration from admitting groups on parole who are suffering emergency or other serious humanitarian crises.</p>
<p><b>Biden champions education and workforce opportunities.</b></p> <p>Under the Biden-Harris Administration, the Department of Education <a href="#">proposed</a> expanding several programs to benefit all students, regardless of their citizenship status. Opportunities include the federal TRIO program, which provides resources such as academic coaching, assistance with college applications, and career and graduate school guidance, an initiative empowering America's young people.</p>	<p><b>Trump's Project 2025 would bar America's brightest students from higher education.</b></p> <p>Trump's Project 2025 aims to <a href="#">block</a> federal financial aid for up to two-thirds of American college students, including DACA recipients and Dreamers, severely burdening students and families by eliminating crucial aid programs that help young people pursue higher education. Trump would <a href="#">deprive</a> hardworking students of the opportunity to earn higher education to contribute fully to the workforce driving America's prosperity.</p> <p>Vance also introduced <a href="#">S.3978</a>, the College Employment Accountability Act, which would restrict universities that receive federal funding from hiring undocumented individuals, including Dreamers and students who want to work on campus.</p>
<p><b>President Biden invests in America's key industries.</b></p> <p>President Biden has <a href="#">invested</a> in industries crucial to America's economic growth and resilience, including agriculture, technology, renewable energy, and infrastructure sectors. These initiatives have not only spurred the creation of over <a href="#">15.7</a> million new jobs but also empowered millions of hardworking individuals to actively contribute to their communities and secure better futures for their families.</p>	<p><b>Trump undermines America's workforce.</b></p> <p>Trump's policy blueprint <a href="#">promises</a> to undermine America's workforce by excluding significant populations from filling critical gaps in the agricultural, construction, hospitality, and forestry sectors through the suspension of crucial temporary worker visas. <b>Trump's <a href="#">plan</a> would impact the agricultural industry particularly hard, resulting in the estimated loss of up to <a href="#">10%</a> of its already scarce workforce.</b></p>
<p><b>The Biden-Harris Administration addresses root causes of migration.</b></p>	<p><b>Trump ignores the root causes of migration and wastes money on short-term band-aids.</b></p>

Vice President Harris is [leading](#) the Administration's initiative to address the root causes of migration. Harris's focus has been on El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, implementing the Administration's [Root Causes Strategy](#) to enhance security, governance, human rights, and economic conditions in the region. Steps taken to soothe the root causes of migration include providing humanitarian aid, combating sexual, gender-based, and domestic violence, launching an anti-corruption task force, forming anti-smuggling task forces, securing international support for Central America, and encouraging investment to expand economic opportunities for communities in the region.

During a second Trump term, funding and policies addressing the root causes of migration would be cut and ignored, reversing the investments and progress made by the Biden Administration's [Root Causes Strategy](#). During his first term, Trump [canceled funding](#) to El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, a move [described](#) by lawmakers, including fellow Republicans, as counterproductive and likely to force more people to leave their homes. Instead of addressing underlying reasons for migration, Trump is [fixated](#) on the border and prefers [ineffective band-aids](#) that offer no long-term solutions to restore America's immigration system.

#### **President Biden invests in border infrastructure and smart technology, increasing the screening and apprehension of human and drug traffickers.**

President Biden hired hundreds of additional personnel to secure the border, including the first increase in the number of Border Patrol Agents in 11 years, an action supported by [68% of voters](#).

- The Biden Administration has made investments in border security and drug operations that led to a [54% increase](#) in fentanyl seizures from 2020 to 2021, seizing 11,201 pounds of fentanyl in its first year compared to 7,267 pounds in 2020 under the Trump administration. To date, the Biden Administration has seized over [60,000](#) pounds of fentanyl.
- President Biden has also taken steps to strengthen anti-smuggling and anti-trafficking operations to investigate and prosecute individuals involved in migrant smuggling, human trafficking, and other crimes against migrants.
- In April 2021, DHS announced [Operation Sentinel](#), a new operation targeting organizations involved in criminal smuggling.

#### **Trump fails to address addiction across America and proves ineffective at curbing fentanyl smuggling.**

While president, Trump did not have a plan to address the fentanyl crisis and [cut budget funds](#) to address drug addiction. Under Trump, synthetic opioid overdose deaths rose by [192%](#), and fentanyl-related deaths increased by [51%](#) between 2019 and 2020. The Government Accountability Office even [criticized](#) his administration for failing to develop a national opioid strategy as required by law.

- Trump and his policy playbook, Project 2025, falsely [claim](#) that Biden has created an open border that has led to increased fentanyl smuggling. Under President Biden, fentanyl seizures increased by [54%](#) from 2020 to 2021, with 11,201 pounds seized in his first year compared to 7,267 pounds in 2020 under Trump.
- Despite an [ineffective](#) track record on addressing fentanyl, Trump and Project 2025 continue to [prioritize](#) the border wall as a solution, even though Customs and Border Protection [data indicates](#) that most illicit drugs enter the country through legitimate ports of entry.