FACE THE FACTS
President Trump’s Top Four Accomplishments in Four Years
HERE ARE THE FACTS*


President Trump’s economic policies of deregulation and tax cuts worked—bringing the pre-US economy to new heights. These are the policies we need to bring the country out of COVID-19 and back to the economic success of the prior year—2019. The proof is in the facts—President Trump’s economic policy:

DECREASES POVERTY & INCREASES INCOME

BENEFITS MINORITY COMMUNITIES

**RECORD LOW UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:** In September 2019, the unemployment rate was 5.5 percent for African-Americans and 3.9 percent for Hispanic-Latinos, both record lows.

**400% INCREASE IN BUSINESS OWNERSHIP:** At the end of 2018, the number of African-American owned small businesses was up 400 percent compared to the previous year.

BENEFITS WOMEN

**RECORD LOW UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:** In September 2019, the unemployment rate for women was 3.4 percent, which is the lowest rate since 1974.

**GROWTH OF WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESSES:** In 2019, there were 9.1 million woman-owned businesses nationwide, employing 7.9 million employees and generating $1.4 trillion in sales.

BENEFITS WORKERS

Deregulatory agenda allows businesses certainty to plan their growth, to invest in their workers and to increase benefits and wages.

**INCREASED HOUSEHOLD WEALTH:** Median net worth of families in the lowest two income groups recorded large percentage increases between 2016 and 2019, **RISING 37%** for the lowest earners and **40%** for the second-lowest group.

**SLASHED REGULATIONS:** Under the Trump administration, the number of economically significant regulations implemented has plummeted by **OVER 92 PERCENT**. He also far exceeded his promised 2-for-1 rule of slashed regulations to new regulations, averaging 8-for-1 slashed regulations for every new one enacted.
**UNLEASHED ECONOMIC PROSPERITY**

*President Trump took action to reduce regulation which unleashed prosperity in the economy.*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>THE FACTS</th>
<th>THE IMPACT</th>
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<td><em>Reduced the cost of regulation on the economy by WITHDRAWING OR DELAYING MORE THAN 1,500 OBAMA-ERA REGULATIONS, freeing American business to compete.</em></td>
<td><em>Cutting red tape is one of the best things we can do to spur economic growth. According to the Council of Economic Advisors</em>, President Trump’s deregulatory agenda saved the average American household $3,100 per year by slashing red tape. Slashed regulatory compliance costs will save $220 billion once reforms are fully implemented. The Council of Economic Advisors* reported that regulatory reduction will increase the real income of Americans by $53 billion per year over the next decade. Trump repealed regulations at an 8 for 1 ratio (8 repealed for every new 1) in the past four years, exceeding the promised 2 for 1 made at the outset.</td>
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<td><em>Repealed Obama era Federal Communications Commission actions on NET NEUTRALITY, bringing freedom back to the networks.</em></td>
<td><em>Repealing net neutrality resulted in average internet speeds doubling</em>, from 76.36 Mbps in December 2017 to 152.60 Mbps in July 2020. Investment in the internet infrastructure has also once again increased after having decreased under net neutrality regulations. Returning the internet to a light-touch regulatory framework in telecommunications policy meant that internet providers were and continue to be better able to keep people online during COVID-19. By repealing net neutrality, the administration gave ISPs the freedom they needed to manage the massive unexpected influx of internet traffic on their finite networks.</td>
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<td><em>Rolled back the expansive Obama era definition of WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES allowing landowners greater freedom to use their own property.</em></td>
<td><em>Easing the WOTUS definition has proved extremely beneficial to private landowners. As an example, a pond on your farm or a puddle in your front yard can no longer be regulated by the federal government. Previously, the government had broad powers to regulate any pooled water, which went far beyond the intended scope of the law.</em></td>
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*The facts and their impacts are based on information provided by the Council of Economic Advisors.*
### THE FACTS

Reformed many emissions standards, including the **CORPORATE AVERAGE FUEL ECONOMY (CAFE)** standards that regulate vehicle emissions, freeing up industries to innovate new solutions.

Rolled back burdensome regulations designed as part of a partisan agenda. In an effort to combat climate change, the Obama administration mandated that car manufacturers produce more fuel efficient vehicles. Annual benchmarks required automakers to produce cars that average 55 miles per gallon (mpg) by 2025. The mandates went beyond available technology and consumer auto prices were ramping up. The Trump administration loosened those emissions requirements, mandating an average of 40 mpg by 2026 to give the industry a chance to find new solutions.

**Expanded market- and freedom-based opportunities in HEALTHCARE POLICY.**

Expanded options for healthcare outside of Obamacare markets, which have become more expensive and less comprehensive. Took over 740 actions to suspend regulations allowing healthcare professionals to bypass unnecessary regulations in order to combat COVID-19.

### THE IMPACT

Decreasing the regulatory burden on automakers has primarily benefited consumers. One byproduct of the Obama era emissions standards was a rise in car prices, pricing many Americans out of the market entirely. The reduced regulatory burden on automakers allowed more people access to fuel-efficient vehicles. According to the Trump administration, their rollback of the CAFE standards **could save as many as 3,300 lives** by lowering the cost of new vehicles, allowing more people to trade in their old vehicles for new, safer, more fuel efficient vehicles.

**Increasing Americans’ options for affordable healthcare** through a number of different rules has been a boon for consumers. These included allowing states more latitude to control their insurance markets with Obamacare waivers to allow plans more flexibility in coverage. He also expanded association health plans, short-term limited-duration plans, and health reimbursement arrangements, all of which allow individuals access to plans wholly outside of the Obamacare markets in order to better serve their individual needs. Expansion of telehealth, especially during COVID-19, also contributed to individuals’ access to care unhampered by regulations.
## SIGNED NOTABLE BILLS INTO **LAW**

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<th>THE IMPACT</th>
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| **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act**  
REDUCED CORPORATE TAX RATES from 35 percent to 21 percent, which led to companies investing in the US. Our tax rate went from being the fourth highest in the world to the middle of the rankings, now making us competitive with other OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) member states. Also reduced individual tax rates and greatly simplified the seemingly infinitely-complex tax code to make it easier for Americans to file taxes and to keep more of their hard-earned dollars. | Cutting taxes led to a **historically low unemployment** rate of 3.5 percent, with minority populations' unemployment rates hitting all-time record lows. Additionally in 2019, **median household income hit a record high**, jumping 6.8 percent over the previous year, and the poverty rate fell by **13 percent** in the same time. Lowering individual tax rates gave working Americans more dollars to spend and created the virtuous cycle of increased consumer demand, which led to business expansion and more people employed. More than **1,200 companies** that expanded their businesses with new hires and pay raises cited the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as a key factor in the decision. |
| **Right to Try Act**  
Allowed terminally ill patients to **ACCESS TO EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS** during the FDA approval process. This reversed the decade-long prohibition that prevented even terminally ill patients from deciding their own fate rather than having the government decide for them. | Implementing Right to Try **helped terminally ill patients** such as children suffering from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and spinal muscular atrophy, as well as patients with ALS and colon cancer, access potentially life-saving treatments. The first patient received **access** to an experimental drug in January 2019, after the legislation, which was passed in 2018, went into effect. |
| **First Step Act**  
Delivered on landmark **CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM** to make communities safer. These reforms incentivize successful job training and individually-tailored skills programs for prisoners to increase their likelihood of success upon release. The First Step Act also revised minimum mandatory drug sentencing laws and provided a second chance for prisoners who evidenced reform and rehabilitation. | As of May 2020, roughly **3,000 people** have been resentenced under the First Step Act. In addition to **reducing the human suffering** resulting from outdated lengthy sentences for minor drug offenses, the cost savings are considerable (taxpayers spend $35,000 to incarcerate one individual for one year). Refocusing prison resources toward serious criminals has and will continue to reduce the likelihood they will re-offend upon release. Throughout the more than **35 states** that have employed similar reforms, both incarceration rates and crime rates continue to fall. |
### THE FACTS

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<th>VA MISSION Act and Veterans Choice Program Extension &amp; Improvement Act</th>
<th>Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act</th>
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<td>Improved the <strong>QUALITY OF HEALTHCARE FOR VETERANS</strong> by increasing access and competition inside the Veterans’ Administration (VA) healthcare system. This gave our service members choice within their healthcare plans, to seek the best care for their individual situation.</td>
<td>Provided <strong>RELIEF FROM THE ONEROUS BANKING AND INVESTMENT REGULATIONS</strong> created under the Obama-era Dodd-Frank Act, which was passed hastily in the aftermath of the 2008 market crash. The EGRRCPA leveled the playing field for main street and community banks that were unduly penalized by the one-size-fits-all Dodd-Frank regulations that harmed local business and dampened investment.</td>
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### THE IMPACT

| Bringing more elements of free-market healthcare into the VA system **improved the quality of healthcare for veterans**. Our service members are now allowed a choice in seeking private, potentially higher-quality healthcare from a doctor of their choice, without having to travel long distances or sit on waiting lists. | Regulatory relief freed the economy for historic growth and unprecedented unemployment. Stopping the federal government from micromanaging private parties allowed individuals to once again invest and interact without running afraid of growth-dampening regulations from big government. The successful passage and signing of the EGRRCPA represented a legislative path that complements the regulatory reform agenda that President Trump has championed that has spurred economic growth. |

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<th>Taxpayer First Act</th>
<th>Rolled back regulations by working with Congress through the CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT.</th>
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<td>Reigned in the abusive federal civil asset forfeiture laws by <strong>HALTING THE AUTHORITY OF THE IRS TO SEIZE INDIVIDUALS’ BANK ACCOUNTS</strong> without due process.</td>
<td>Eliminated regulations via the Congressional Review Act (CRA). This tool, although established in 1996, was little-used before Trump came into office. Requiring only a simple majority in both chambers and the signature of the President, the CRA allows Congress to undo executive agency regulations within 60 legislative days of the regulation being finalized. Previously, the CRA had only been successfully used once since its inception.</td>
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| Signing the Taxpayer First Act **made illegal the improper seizure of any individual’s bank account**. Previously, the federal government could take anybody’s money merely on the suspicion of illegal activity (perhaps one too many deposits or withdrawals from a bank account). For example, in April 2013, the IRS seized Iraq war veteran Clyde Armory’s bank account—and the $940,313 in it—with no due process of law to prove his activity was illegal. It was not. This new law made such seizures—and abuse of government power—illegal. | Passing and enacting 16 CRAs into law, the administration together with Congress rolled back Obama era regulations in areas spanning from education and labor to health and land management. Most significantly, the administration led the charge in using the CRA to repeal the Clean Power Plan, rolling back the economically-devastating regulatory framework imposed by the Obama administration in the name of combating climate change. |
President Trump transformed the judiciary with nearly 200 newly-confirmed constitutionalist judges, who base decisions on the law rather than deciding on the basis of their own beliefs.

THE FACTS

**THE IMPACT**

"Earlier this year in the case Protecting Air for Waterville v. Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Trump appointee Joan Larsen of the 6th Circuit **PROTECTED A NATURAL GAS PIPELINE** from challenge by environmentalists." - RPC

Environmentalists historically use the slow pace of litigation to unduly slow energy development. In this case, Judge Larsen led the panel to dismiss a case from three activist environmental organizations, ruling that the plaintiff’s accusations of potential harm didn’t override the permitting decision of the Ohio EPA. This recognized the reality that natural gas is necessary as a transition to cleaner energy.

"Judge Amy Barrett authored an opinion for the 7th Circuit that **PREVENTED TRIAL LAWYERS FROM LAUNCHING FRIVOLOUS LAWSUITS** under the Americans with Disabilities Act." - RPC

In denying the case of a “tester” plaintiff that had no standing to bring any case, Judge Barrett prevented trial lawyers, who have consistently used the judicial system for political purposes and personal gain, from abusing the system of laws.

"Judge Don Willett of the 5th Circuit this year ruled in Collins v. Mnuchin that the law establishing the Federal Housing Finance Agency represented an **UNCONSTITUTIONAL VIOLATION OF SEPARATION OF POWERS**." - RPC

Judge Willett’s ruling reaffirmed the constitutional principle of limited government, ensuring that government cannot create agencies that are not accountable to Congress or the executive, let alone to the American people. This is similar to the recent ruling that the structure of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is unconstitutional. Like the head of the CFPB, the head of the FHFA cannot have agency to operate outside of the control and accountability of either Congress or the President.

In On Fire Christian Center, Inc. v. Fischer, Judge Justin Walker issued a scathing ruling against the **BANNING OF RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS** by a Kentucky mayor during COVID-19, but allowed other non-essential activities.

As local and state officials consistently step beyond their jurisdiction and issue unconstitutionally strict regulations, judges like Judge Walker have stepped up to defend the constitutional liberties of the people against gross abuses of power by government, even and especially during a declared state of emergency.

* This table represents the total number of “federal judges confirmed by the Senate through July 7th of each president’s fourth year” according to data collected by Pew Research Service. Notably, as of the publication of this document, there is a vacancy on the Supreme Court following the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on September 18, 2020.
## PUT AMERICA FIRST

President Trump put America first in foreign policy and international affairs.

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<th>THE FACTS</th>
<th>THE IMPACT</th>
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<td><strong>Withdraw from the PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT.</strong> Signed in 2015, the Paris Climate Agreement was an international treaty to fight climate change, control greenhouse gas emissions, and curb global temperature. Each nation was required to set its own standards of reducing emissions—the U.S. self-imposed goal was 28% reduction by 2025. However, the economic impacts of adhering to the agreement far outweighed the environmental benefits, not to mention that the U.S. would feel morally bound to meet its goal, while other heavier-polluting countries continue their disparate contribution to world pollution.</td>
<td>Producing energy was one of the building blocks of the Trump plan to revitalize the American economy. The jobs created (6.8 million Americans work in the energy sector and accounted for 7 percent of job growth nationwide in 2019) as well as the national security impact of energy independence were not consistent with an agreement that restricted US economic growth. Rather than simply continue the charade that solar and wind power are economically viable, Trump acknowledged the reality that fossil fuels will be a necessary transition for some time in the future.</td>
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<td><strong>Withdraw from the WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION.</strong> Pulled American funding for the World Health Organization (WHO). The US has been a member of WHO since 1948 and is the largest donor (second is the Gates Foundation). After outlining what WHO needed to do to maintain US support, when conditions were not met, Trump announced US withdrawal.</td>
<td>Saving the $419 million spent on WHO in 2019—16% of the total budget—whose record on coronavirus response was simply error after error, is representative of President Trump’s commitment to putting America first.</td>
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<td><strong>Persuaded international partners to increase their share of cooperative military spending to honor their pledges to TREATIES LIKE NATO.</strong> Convinced our European allies to uphold their financial commitments under NATO which they have shirked until now. Historically, the United States has been the largest contributor to the operational budget of NATO. President Trump changed this by convincing Germany to increase their commitment so that both countries contribute 16% of the operational budget. NATO guidelines also require that every member country invest the equivalent of 2% GDP in national defense. In 2019, only three countries besides the United States met this obligation. President Trump has made it a priority for European countries to increase their spending on their own national defense.</td>
<td>Distributing the cost of mutual military defense has long been a source of friction between America and our European allies. In 2019, the United States spent $732 billion on the military, while our next closest European allies—France and Germany—came in at only $50 billion and $49 billion, respectively. Over the course of the last few years, President Trump has worked to convince several of the major European countries like Germany and France to begin increasing their military budgets and contributions to NATO.</td>
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### THE FACTS

*Restrained use of our military to conduct ENDLESS WARS for which our troops put their lives on the line daily*

Pulled American troops out of our endless wars in the Middle East. As President Trump said in his State of the Union Address in 2019, “Great nations do not fight endless wars.” To this end, he planned the first major troop withdrawals in decades from Syria and Afghanistan in 2017, and Germany in 2020.

*FOUGHT TERRORISM, including bringing terrorist leaders to justice.*

Protected our national and international security by combatting terrorism. Using a strategy of limited and targeted engagement, the Trump administration continued in multilateral efforts to quell the danger of violent extremism.

*Fulfilled the directive of Congress to move the US Embassy in Israel to its capital of JERUSALEM.*

Moved the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem in 2017, finalizing the previously-ignored Jerusalem Embassy Act which Congress enacted in 1995 over the veto of President Clinton. This law both recognized that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and set aside funds for the State Department to relocate the U.S. Embassy there, in line with common practice. The Act, however, had a loophole that allowed the President to waive this change indefinitely on national security grounds. Every President since Clinton had continually waived this congressional mandate, until President Trump.

### THE IMPACT

*Committing to reducing troop levels in Iraq by 2,200 and expressing interest in further withdrawing from Afghanistan has represented a major shift in the US position toward the Middle East. Trump also identified ending our nation’s endless wars as a priority for his second term, marking a change for the Republican party in its willingness to rein in war.*

*Directing a strategic strike by U.S. forces in Syria resulted in the death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the apparent leader of ISIS. A similarly strategic strike against forces near Baghdad resulted in the death of Qasem Soleimani, a major general of the Iranian Quds force—the Iranian paramilitary organization providing support for international terrorist organizations like Hezbollah and Hamas. Despite concerns that it may, this latter action was taken without escalating into war with Iran.*

*Moving the embassy is the culmination of decades of American foreign policy. The Obama administration made no secret of its belief that the US needed to be more equitable in the ongoing battle between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Trump carried out the stated position of the US Congress that Israel is the bastion of democracy in the middle east and US interests are best served by supporting it.*
### THE FACTS

*Took a historic step toward MIDDLE EAST PEACE by negotiating a deal between Israel and both Bahrain the United Arab Emirates.*

Convinced the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Israel, to resume normal diplomatic relations after half a century of cold relations. Israel and the UAE also signed a peace agreement known as the Abraham Accords that foster mutual respect and peace. This historic deal represented real progress towards peace in the Middle East.

*Transitioned our IMMIGRATION system to be more merit-based, and streamlined misaligned incentives for asylum in immigration policy.*

Enacted several reforms regarding immigration, the most significant of which involved asylum and public charge. They modified the existing rules by requiring asylum seekers who transit several countries to register for asylum in a “safe third country” in order to be considered eligible for asylum in America. The administration also established new guidelines requiring the Department of Homeland Security to consider whether or not an individual seeking to immigrate to the United States has a high likelihood of becoming a public charge requiring welfare upon their arrival.

### THE IMPACT

Increasing the diplomatic coordination between Israel and her Middle Eastern neighbors has long been a foreign policy priority for America. This deal was universally praised as one of the most concrete diplomatic successes of the Trump presidency to date. **Experts agree** that the deal will help **promote security for Israel and the rest of the Middle East**, as well as further strengthening our stance against Iran.

Dedicating significant effort to putting Americans first and protecting American workers was perfectly in line with Trump’s campaign promises. By ensuring that those coming to our country seeking asylum do so legitimately, and will contribute positively to our society, President Trump **re-aligned the incentive structure** of our immigration system. Additionally, he has boosted the security of our border, including an increase in support for the Department of Homeland Security and, in some areas, building the wall.
ENDNOTES


7. Ibid.


17 Ibid.
18 Ibid.