

List of 25 good things President Trump has done for America

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1. Judges: Trump has appointed [two Supreme Court justices](#), [53 federal appellate judges](#),¹ and [143 District Court judges](#)² (as well as two judges for the [Court of International Trade](#)³) who have been confirmed by the Senate so far. In addition, 64 more have been appointed and are awaiting Senate [confirmation](#).⁴ All of them are committed to interpreting the Constitution and laws according to the original meaning of the words, rather than according to what a modern liberal judge thinks the law should have said.

Trump's two Supreme Court appointments have already been responsible for highly significant cases that increase religious freedom, such as the decisions (1) to allow state aid that is given to non-religious schools to be given also to religious schools ([Montana decision](#)),⁵ (2) to protect the [right](#) of religious schools to hire and fire employees based on the schools religious convictions,⁶ and (3) to [allow](#) religious groups to be exempt from government regulations that would otherwise cause them to violate their consciences in matters of birth control (and, by implication, probably in matters of abortion and same-sex marriage, but that has not yet been tested).⁷

2. Historic tax cuts and deregulation: after eight years of high unemployment and meager growth under President Obama's administration, the Trump tax cuts of 2017 and the relentless progress of canceling excessive government regulation of business have given a tremendous boost to the American economy. Unemployment (before the coronavirus crisis) was at the [lowest point](#) in 50 years,⁸ and unemployment among African-American and Hispanic workers was the [lowest](#) it has ever been in history.⁹

On election day, 2016 (11-8-16), the Dow Jones industrial average closed at 18,332.74. Today (7-21-20 at 2:33 p.m.) it stands at 26,840.40, which is an increase of 46% in 3 ½ years, even including several months of the coronavirus epidemics. This is remarkable.

These changes affect people's everyday lives. Tens of thousands of people who were unemployed now have the dignity of steady employment. Millions of retirees whose savings were invested in the stock market (including my wife and me) are once again seeing good returns on their savings.

3. A stronger US military: Reversing the massive budget cuts to the military under the Obama administration, President Trump has increased military spending by nearly \$150 billion per year from \$605 billion in 2016 to [\\$750 billion](#), steadily rebuilding US military readiness.¹⁰

4. Restricting abortion: numerous executive orders have [increasingly restricted](#) government funding for abortions (such as the reinstatement of the Mexico City policy).¹¹ On February 22, 2019, the Trump administration [announced](#) that it would not allow organizations that provide referrals for abortions to receive federal family-planning money, which implies a cut in funding

for Planned Parenthood (the nation's largest abortion provider) unless they perform abortions in a separate facility and not refer patients to it.¹² And on May 2, 2019, the Trump administration's Department Of Health And Human Services [issued](#) a new rule protecting healthcare workers who decline on the basis of conscience or religious conviction to participate in procedures such as abortion or assisted suicide.¹³ Trump was the first president ever to personally attend the pro-life March for Life in Washington DC on January 24, 2020.¹⁴

5. School choice: President Trump appointed Betsy DeVos, one of America's leading advocates for greater school choice, to be Secretary of Education, resulting in [rising support](#) for charter schools, taxpayer-funded vouchers, and tax credits for private-school vouchers, programs aimed at expanding options for parents looking beyond traditional public schools as she brings attention to them.¹⁵

6. Israel: reversing President Obama's repeated marginalization and shunning of Israel, President Trump has reaffirmed our commitment to support and defend Israel. He decisively moved the United States Embassy from Tel Aviv to [Jerusalem](#).¹⁶ He recognized the [Golan Heights](#) as part of Israel.¹⁷ He has welcomed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the White House several times and has repeatedly reaffirmed our support for Israel. I recently read in the [Jerusalem Post](#) a statement that Israel has never had a better friend in the White House than Donald Trump.¹⁸

7. Building a border wall: President Trump has relentlessly battled against Democratic stonewalling and liberal federal judges to build an effective, secure [border wall](#) along hundreds of miles of our southern border.¹⁹ This is absolutely necessary to keep our nation secure and to gain some control over an immigration crisis that has spiraled out of control. It won't stop all illegal immigration, but it will probably stop 95% of it.

8. Comprehensive immigration reform: President Trump has proposed and worked for sensible, comprehensive reform of our broken immigration system that would change our [policy](#) on *legal* immigration from a system based on extended family connections and randomness to a system based on merit, so that we prioritize admitting people who will be most likely to contribute positively to American society.²⁰

9. Religious freedom and freedom of conscience: President Trump's administration has repeatedly and continually worked to defend religious freedom, and his Justice Department has defended religious freedom in numerous court cases, such as supporting the case of Colorado cake designer [Jack Phillips](#) at the Supreme Court who faced massive fines for politely declining to design a cake celebrating a same-sex wedding²¹ and the [right of faith-based organizations](#) not to be forced to provide access to abortifacients through their health care plans, overturning the Obamacare HHS regulation that had forced them to do so.²²

10. Withdrawing from Paris climate accord: President Trump wisely and decisively removed United States from the Paris climate accord, a radical environmentalist program which would

have [brought massive increases](#) to US energy prices with no statistically significant benefit to the environment²³. Doubling or tripling of US energy costs (as under the Paris climate accord) would have harmed the poor most of all as they spend the highest portion of their budgets on energy. In addition, it would have [cost](#) America more than 206,000 jobs by 2040.²⁴

11. Energy production: President Trump gave [approval](#) to the Keystone pipeline,²⁵ the Dakota access pipeline,²⁶ and [oil production](#) from the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge,²⁷ which could produce up to 20 percent of our petroleum needs.²⁸ His administration has also granted more [permits](#) for mining of oil, gas, and coal from federal lands.²⁹ The result has been US energy independence so that we are now becoming [the leading exporter](#) rather than a net importer of energy.³⁰

12. Waterways of the US: the Trump administration's decision to abandon the "waterways of the US" policy [rightfully returned](#) control of water on private lands to the owners of those lands into the states, rather than the federal government seizing control over nearly all waterways in the United States. These rules have hindered farmers, ranchers, and developers.³¹ American Farm Bureau Chairman Zippy Duvall [praised](#) the action, saying: "Farmers and ranchers care about clean water and preserving the land, which are essential to producing healthy food and fiber and ensuring future generations can do the same. That's why we support the new clean water rule. It provides clarity and certainty, allowing farmers to understand water regulations without having to hire teams of consultants and lawyers. We appreciate the commitment of the agencies involved and this administration to crafting a new regulation that achieves important regulatory oversight while allowing farmers to farm. Clean water, clear rules."³²

13. Halting the increase in Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards: The Trump administration decision altered the Obama-imposed harsh annual increases in [projected average miles per gallon](#) required in new cars every year.³³ This decision will lead to more consumer choice and less expensive and safer cars, which is much better than the Democratic policy of ever-higher mileage goals, requiring ever-lighter cars and smaller cars, which means more dangerous cars, and less consumer choice.

14. ISIS: President Trump gave our military forces the freedom to [defeat ISIS](#) and drive them out of large sections of Iraq and Syria, which they did.³⁴ This is far superior to the Democratic policy of inaction and appeasement, which had allowed ISIS to take over large areas of the Middle East.

15. NATO: President Trump has insisted that NATO countries start to pay their fair share of defense costs, and they have responded by increasing their defense budgets and some NATO countries. In 2017, five countries met the goal of spending 2 percent of their GDP on defense and that has now increased to nine according to the alliance's [latest budgetary data](#). The U.S. is set to spend over \$750 billion [on its military](#) this year and [it's joined above](#) the 2 percent threshold by Bulgaria (3.25 percent), Greece (2.28 percent), the United Kingdom (2.14 percent), Estonia (2.14

percent), Romania (2.04 percent), Lithuania (2.03 percent), Latvia (2.01 percent) and Poland (2 percent)³⁵

16. Protections against false accusation on college campuses: President Trump’s administration has [restored](#) many due process guidelines that universities must follow in processing title IX accusations of sexual assault on university campuses.³⁶

17. Protecting freedom of speech on college campuses: President Trump [issued](#) an executive order giving more specific protections to freedom of speech on college campuses by threatening the loss of federal research dollars if they do not allow for free speech for all students and faculty members. On many campuses, conservative and religious students and faculty members have had their views censored or have faced retribution for expressing conservative or faith-based views
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18. Prohibiting transgender persons from the military: President Trump issued an executive order banning transgender persons from entering our military forces. This was [upheld](#) by the Supreme Court which lifted the block on the order by a 5-4 vote. While litigation will continue, the order stands for now. ³⁸

19. Protecting boys’ and girls’ bathrooms, locker rooms, and sports teams: On February 22, 2017, President Trump directed the Department of Education to revoke the Obama-administration’s guidance letter that had directed schools to allow children who claim to be “transgender” to use the bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers of their choice, and to join sports teams of their choice, even when their choices differed from their biological sex.

20. Negotiating new trade agreements that are more favorable to the United States: President Trump has negotiated new trade agreements with [Mexico](#), [Canada](#), and [China](#), and all of them give more favorable treatment to the United States than the previous treaties did.³⁹

21. Streamlining environmental reviews for major construction projects: in [order](#) to build a new section of highway, a new subway line, or a new gas pipeline, the necessary environmental impact statements have recently taken an average of 4.5 years, and many ran for six years or longer.⁴⁰ These delays massively increased construction costs and delayed relief for over-congested highways for many years. But on July 15, 2020, President Trump’s White House [released](#) new guidelines limiting environmental impact studies to two years and limiting less-extensive environmental assessments to one year.⁴¹ The *Wall Street Journal* [says](#) these new rules “could literally cut thousands of years of cumulative delay”⁴² for construction projects. This will be a huge help in renewing America’s aging infrastructure.

22. Sending weapons to Ukraine: Whereas President Obama sent only humanitarian aid, President Trump [authorized](#) the selling of actual military equipment to Ukraine, including Javelin missiles which were necessary to defend against Russian aggression.⁴³

23. Standing up to China, Russia, and Iran: Trump has been the first president to decisively [denounce](#) China's blatant practice of industrial espionage and bullying,⁴⁴ stealing of [intellectual property](#),⁴⁵ and violating [international copyright protections](#).⁴⁶ He has [followed up](#) with strong trade sanctions against China,⁴⁷ an increased [US naval presence](#) in the South China Sea,⁴⁸ and the [closing](#) of the Chinese consulate in Houston, which was a center of Chinese espionage.⁴⁹ He [withdrew](#) from the Iran nuclear deal, called the Joint Comprehensive Plan for Action, which would have allowed Iran to build a nuclear bomb within the next few years.⁵⁰ The Trump administration [has closed](#) several Russian consulates in the US and expelled over 60 Russian "diplomats" (espionage agents),⁵¹ issued [sanctions](#) against several Russian officials,⁵² and [persuaded](#) several European nations to increase their defenses against potential Russian invasion.⁵³

24. A wise COVID-19 response: President Trump imposed strict restrictions on travel from China on January 31, 2020, long before other leaders recognized the danger of this coronavirus. Then, when the COVID-19 virus began to spread rapidly within the United States, the fear was that we would run out of hospital beds to care for the sick. President Trump immediately [mobilized](#) the military to construct huge new hospital facilities in New York City and elsewhere, and soon there were enough beds.⁵⁴ The next fear was that we would run out of ventilators, and President Trump [persuaded](#) leaders of American industry to fast-track the manufacture of ventilators, and soon there were enough ventilators.⁵⁵ Then the question was how soon to reopen buildings and meeting places, and present Trump wisely left the decision to local governors and other local officials who best know the different situations in their individual locations. Finally, the FDA has [fast-tracked](#) the trial and approval process for a vaccine,⁵⁶ and the federal government has made commitments to purchase millions of vaccines from various companies as soon as they are approved for widespread use. Several promising vaccines are now in the advanced stages of testing on human subjects. In addition, President Trump, working with Congress, quickly passed [three](#) coronavirus relief packages, with the [result](#) that millions of Americans continued to receive pay in spite of their workplaces being temporarily closed.⁵⁷

25. Welcoming evangelical Christians into positions of influence: rather than marginalizing evangelical Christians (as was the practice of the Obama administration), President Trump has appointed a remarkably large number of evangelicals to high government offices. These include Vice President Mike Pence, Ben Carson (Secretary of Housing and Urban Development), Betsy DeVos (Secretary of Education), Rick Perry (former secretary of energy), Scott Pruitt (former administrator of Environmental Protection Agency), Dan Coats (former director of national intelligence), Mike Pompeo (Secretary of State), Russ Vought (Director of Office of Management and Budget) and others.

In addition, he has frequently [welcomed](#) evangelical pastors and other leaders to the White House, for both public and private conversations.⁵⁸

Many more actions could be listed.

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³ Carlie Porterfield, “Trump Confirms 200th Judge, The Most In a First Term Since Carter,” *Forbes*, June 24, 2020 <https://www.forbes.com/sites/carlieporterfield/2020/06/24/trump-confirms-200th-judge-the-most-in-a-first-term-since-carter/#137989677781> (Retrieved July 21, 2020)

⁴ “Current Federal Judicial Vacancies,” *Ballotpedia*, https://ballotpedia.org/Current_federal_judicial_vacancies (Retrieved July 21, 2020) There are currently 36 nominees awaiting a hearing with the [Senate Judiciary Committee](#). There are currently 12 nominees awaiting a committee vote in the appropriate [U.S. Senate](#) committee. There are currently 16 nominees awaiting a confirmation vote in the full [U.S. Senate](#).

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