



A Union of Professionals

In their first year in office, President Biden and Vice President Harris have accomplished:

Fight Against COVID-19

- Passed the American Rescue Plan, which delivered \$1.9 trillion in relief to help American families, businesses, students and workers recover from the pandemic.
- 96 percent of schools are open.
- Rolled out the most effective vaccination program in history.
- 200 million adults, nearly 75 percent of all Americans, have been fully vaccinated.
- 468 million COVID-19 vaccination shots have been administered.
- 53 million Americans have already received the booster shot.
- \$170 billion has gone to schools and colleges to help them safely reopen.
- \$28.6 billion has gone to restaurants hit hard by the pandemic.

Strengthening the Economy

- Grown the economy faster than in decades and added 6.4 million jobs—more in one year than ever on record. Economic growth is the strongest in two generations.
- 35 million households received child tax credits.
- Issued 171 million stimulus checks.
- Unemployment claims are at their lowest level since 1969.
- Got the American Rescue Plan passed, which led to what experts estimate will be the lowest child poverty rate on record.
- Passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) to invest in our nation's infrastructure, create well-paying, union jobs, and increase our competitiveness.
 - \$65 billion to ensure access to high-speed internet and close the digital divide.
 - \$5 billion investment in electric and clean fuel school buses.
 - \$55 billion to expand access to clean drinking water in schools, households and throughout communities.
- Released a toolkit to assist districts in accessing money for school infrastructure.

Healthcare

- Increased the number of Americans with healthcare coverage to the highest number ever.
- Banned surprise billing and lowered the copay of many Americans.

Student Loan Relief

\$13 billion in targeted loan relief to more than 640,000 borrowers. Actions include:

- Keeping the promise of Public Service Loan Forgiveness
 - Implemented a limited PSLF waiver to count all prior payments made by student borrowers toward PSLF, regardless of the loan program.

The **American Federation of Teachers** is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

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- 550,000 student loan borrowers are now able to receive Public Service Loan Forgiveness through this limited waiver.
- \$5 billion has already been provided in loan relief.
- 70,000 borrowers already received loan forgiveness through the waiver.
- Began the process of making regulatory improvements to student loan forgiveness programs, including PSLF.
- Federal student loan payment pause extensions
 - Extended the policy—began in March 2020—of pausing student loan payments until at least May 1, 2022.
 - 41 million student loan borrowers' loan payments were paused with zero interest.
 - \$5 billion was saved by borrowers per month.
- Additional loan forgiveness
 - \$2 billion was approved in borrower defense claims for more than 107,000 borrowers who were defrauded by their higher education institutions.
 - \$1.26 billion in forgiveness went to 107,000 borrowers who attended and were misled by ITT Technical Institute.
 - \$7 billion in student loan relief was received by 401,000 borrowers who have total and permanent disabilities.

Labor

- Anti-worker National Labor Relations Board general counsel was fired and a pro-worker majority on the board was installed.
- Union member Marty Walsh (LIUNA) was appointed to serve as secretary of labor.
- The White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment was created. This was the first time a president has asked the entire executive branch to use its power and programs to support and promote worker organizing. Recommendations include reducing barriers to organizing, protecting workers who want to organize from illegal retaliation, and establishing a resource center on unions and collective bargaining to provide workers, employers, policymakers and others, with information on the importance of unions and collective bargaining to secure good wages and benefits, especially for women workers and workers of color.
- Issued an executive order enabling federal workers to collectively bargain for increased pay and better benefits, overturning several Trump administration orders.
- Issued an executive order with the goal of increasing the minimum wage to \$15 for federal employees.
- Used the administration's bully pulpit to advance the causes of the labor movement, including calling for passage of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act, supporting workers' right to organize at Amazon and calling out Kellogg's corporate greed during an active strike.

Equity

- Issued a day-one executive order on advancing equity and racial justice, and a separate executive order to expand diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility across the federal government.

- Established a governmentwide goal of increasing the share of federal contracts to small, disadvantaged businesses, including those owned by people of color, by 50 percent, by fiscal year 2025, meaning an increase of \$100 billion to these firms over five years.
- Provided \$32 billion specifically for tribal communities and Native people in American Rescue Plan and \$13 billion in direct investments in tribal communities through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
- Freed up \$9 billion in federal disaster funds for Puerto Rico.

LGBTQIA+

- Increased nutrition assistance by 15 percent for LGBTQ+ communities facing food insecurity.
- Restored housing protections based on both sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Reversed the transgender military ban.
- Protected LGBTQIA+ students by ensuring Title IX prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (reversing the Trump administration's stance).

Judges

- To date, 46 federal judges have been confirmed, more than during any other administration's first year since Kennedy's, and more Black women have been appointed to the Court of Appeals than by any president ever.
- Nominated Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the U.S. Supreme Court, making her the first African American woman nominated to the bench.