- Campaign promises and What he ran on¹²³
 - In a 2015 speech declaring his run for president, Donald Trump proclaimed, "We are going to make our country great again,"
 - "Sadly the American dream is dead. But if I get elected president I will bring it back, bigger, and better, and stronger than ever before," Trump said.
 - "Our country needs a truly great leader, and we need a truly great leader now. We need a leader that wrote the art of the deal, we need a leader that can bring back our jobs, can bring back our manufacturing, can bring back our military, and take care of our vets."
 - \circ 'Build a wall" and make Mexico pay for it
 - Trump announced his candidacy with the promise to build a wall on the southern border.
 - "I would build a great wall, and nobody builds walls better than me believe me, and I'll build them very inexpensively. I will build a great, great wall on our southern border, and I will have Mexico pay for that wall."
 - Temporarily ban Muslims from entering the United States
 - Following the December 2015 shooting in San Bernardino, Trump called for "a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on."
 - In May of 2016, Trump told the New York Times the ban would be in place by the end of his first 100 days in office.⁴
 - 'Bring manufacturing back'
 - Trump said he would revitalize manufacturing in various iterations.
 - "I am going to withdraw the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (and) I'm going to tell our NAFTA partners that I intend to immediately renegotiate the terms of that agreement to get a better deal for our workers."
 - "I will use every lawful presidential power to remedy trade disputes, including the application of tariffs."
 - Impose tariffs on goods made in China and Mexic
 - Renegotiate or withdraw from the North American Free Trade Agreement and Trans-Pacific Partnership.
 - 'Full repeal of Obamacare' and replace it with a market-based alternative

¹ Donald Trump's top 10 campaign promises - politifact

https://www.politifact.com/article/2016/jul/15/donald-trumps-top-10-campaign-promises/

² Donald Trump Announces 2016 Presidential Campaign - ABC News

https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/donald-trump-announces-2016-presidential-campaign-make-country/stor y?id=31799741

³ Donald Trump's Contract with the American Voter - Trump Campaign/Washington Post <u>https://apps.washingtonpost.com/g/documents/politics/donald-trumps-contract-with-the-american-voter/22</u> <u>68/?itid=lk_inline_manual_2</u>

⁴ "President Trump?' Here's How He Says It Would Look - The New York Times <u>https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/05/us/politics/donald-trump-president.html?_r=0</u>

- "I would do various things very quickly. I would repeal and replace the big lie, Obamacare."
- Fully repeal Obamacare and replace it with Health Savings Accounts, the ability to purchase health insurance across state lines and lets states manage Medicaid funds.
- Renegotiate the Iranian nuclear deal
 - "I will stop Iran from getting nuclear weapons,"
- Cut taxes, both income and corporate.
 - An economic plan designed to grow the economy 4% per year and create at least 25 million new jobs through massive tax reduction and simplification, in combination with trade reform, regulatory relief, and lifting the restrictions on American energy. The largest tax reductions are for the middle class. A middle-class family with two children will get a 35% tax cut. The current number of brackets will be reduced from seven to three.
 - The business rate will be lowered from 35% to 15%.
- Defeat ISIS
 - "Nobody would be tougher on ISIS than Donald Trump, nobody."
- Donald Trump's Contract with the American Voter⁵
 - On October 22, 2016, Donald Trump issued what he called his "Contract with the American Voter." It was a specific plan of action that would guide his administration, starting from the first day, and listed 60 promises. <u>You can read</u> <u>the full document here</u>.
 - Six measures to clean up the corruption and special interest collusion in Washington, DC:
 - Propose a constitutional amendment to impose term limits on all members of Congress.
 - A hiring freeze on all federal employees to reduce the federal workforce through attrition (exempting military, public safety, and public health).
 - A requirement that for every new federal regulation, two existing regulations must be eliminated.
 - A five-year ban on White House and Congressional officials becoming lobbyists after they leave government service.
 - A lifetime ban on White House officials lobbying on behalf of a foreign government.
 - A complete ban on foreign lobbyists raising money for American elections.
 - Seven actions to protect American workers:
 - I will announce my intention to renegotiate NAFTA or withdraw from the deal.

⁵ Donald Trump's Contract with the American Voter - Trump Campaign/Washington Post <u>https://apps.washingtonpost.com/g/documents/politics/donald-trumps-contract-with-the-american-voter/22</u> <u>68/?itid=lk_inline_manual_2</u>

- I will announce our withdrawals from the Trans-Pacific Partnership
- I will direct the Secretary of the Treasury to label China a currency manipulator.
- (This section continues on the original document)
- Five actions to restore security and the constitutional rule of law:
 - Cancel every unconstitutional executive action, memorandum, and order issued by President Obama.
 - Cancel all federal funding to sanctuary cities.
 - Begin removing the more than two million criminal immigrants from the country and cancel visas to foreign countries that won't take them back.
 - (This section continues on the original document)
- Donald Trump's first 100 days promises.⁶
 - The hiring freeze on all federal employees:
 - One of his first actions, on the Monday after taking office, was to order a federal hiring freeze, excluding federal jobs deemed "necessary to meet national security or public safety responsibilities"
 - Later that month, the administration released further details about which jobs were exempt, expanding it to seasonal workers and the entire US Postal Service.
 - The hiring freeze lasted roughly two months before Trump revoked it all together on April 12, 2017.
 - Cutting regulations:
 - On January 30, 2017, Trump signed an executive order that merely called on agencies to "identify" two rules they think could be eliminated.
 - 5 year-ban on White House and Congressional officials becoming lobbyists:
 - On January 28, 2017, Trump signed an executive order on ethics that included a five-year ban on former White House officials lobbying the government (it didn't include congressional staff).
 - However, they were only prevented from lobbying the agency they worked for. Trump also watered down a requirement from the Obama administration that all former officials wait at least two years before contacting their former agencies, reducing it to one.
 - A lifetime ban on White House officials lobbying on behalf of a foreign government:
 - Eight days after his inauguration, Trump signed an executive order requiring White House officials to sign an ethics pledge as a condition of employment.
 - One of the nine different ethical commitments included:
 - "I will not, at any time after the termination of my employment in the United States Government, engage in any activity on behalf of

⁶ Evaluating Trump's first 100 days - on his own terms - Vox <u>https://www.vox.com/a/trump-first-100-hundred-days-evaluating-terms-promises-accomplishments</u>

any foreign government or foreign political party which, were it undertaken on January 20, 2017, would require me to register under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended."

- However, the order includes a clause allowing "the president or his designee" to grant waivers to anyone who has signed the pledge.
- Withdrawal from TPP
 - Three days into his presidency, Trump signed an executive order directing an end to negotiations over the trade deal.
- Label China a currency manipulator:⁷
 - On day 83 of his presidency, Trump declared in an interview with the Wall Street Journal that his Treasury Department would not be declaring China a currency manipulator at all.
 - Trump then applied the label to Cina in a tweet on August 5, 2019. In a subsequent Treasury Department statement, Secretary Steve Mnuchin said Chinese authorities, who have "ample control" over the country's money supply, have openly acknowledged their central bank's ability to manipulate China's currency.
 - In January 2020, at a sensitive point in trade negotiation with China, the Trump administration rescinded that label.
- Cancel billions in payments to UN climate change programs:⁸
 - On June 1, 2017, Donald Trump announced that the US would cease all participation in the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change mitigation.
 - Following Trump's announcement, the governors of several US states formed the United States Climate Alliance to continue to advance the objectives of the Paris Agreement at the state level.
 - As of July 2019, 24 states and Puerto Rico have joined the alliance.
- Cancel all federal funding to Sanctuary Cities:⁹
 - Mere days before the 100-day mark, the Trump administration suffered a defeat on this when a federal judge in the Northern District of California blocked the Trump administration from doing anything to deny funds to cities and counties based on whether they counted as "sanctuaries".
 - Since then, courts across the country have held back Trump's attempts to withhold federal funding for states and local jurisdictions that limit their cooperation with federal immigration authorities.

⁹ Cancel all funding of sanctuary cities - politifact

⁷ Declare China a currency manipulator - politifact

https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/promise/1412/declare-china-currency-man ipulator/

⁸ United States withdrawl from the Paris Agreement - Wikipedia <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_withdrawal_from_the_Paris_Agreement#:~:text=On%20June</u> %201%2C%202017%2C%20United,people%2C%20its%20taxpayers%2C%22%20or

https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/promise/1400/cancel-all-funding-sanctuary -cities/

- There is no official definition or list of sanctuary cities, and some cities have pushed back on that label.
- The US Supreme Court in June refused a request from the Trump administration to review a case challenging a California law that restricts police cooperation with federal immigration authorities.
- Repeal and Replace Obamacare¹⁰¹¹¹²¹³
 - House Republicans spent much of 2017 trying to figure out legislation that could replace Obamacare, without success. A vote that summer that would have ended the Affordable Care Act failed in the Senate when then-Arizona Sen. John McCain voted against it.
 - Congressional Republicans were able to succeed in repealing the Obamacare requirement that people buy health insurance or pay a tax penalty.
 - Republicans successfully neutralized the penalty on people who were able to afford health insurance but chose not to buy it. The requirement to buy health insurance was known as the individual mandate. In their 2017 tax bill, Republicans set the penalty at zero
 - In December 2018, a federal judge in Texas ruled that the repeal of this "essential" part of the law meant the entirety of Obamacare is therefore unconstitutional,
 - In June, the Trump administration asked the Supreme Court to overturn the ACA. The Supreme Court agreed to hear the appeal, but not before October, with a ruling likely to come in 2021.
- Build a Wall¹⁴¹⁵
 - Trump's efforts to get full funding for a wall on the border with Mexico resulted in political fights that saw the government shut down in 2018 in lieu of signing a funding bill that didn't include the wall.
 - Trump eventually declared a national emergency, allowing him to move defense Department spending to wall construction.

¹⁰ Three years later, evaluating the 10 laws Trump said he'd pass in his first 100 days - The Washington Post

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2019/10/25/three-years-later-evaluating-laws-trump-said-hed-pa ss-his-first-days/

¹¹ Obamacare: Has Trump managed to kill the Affordable Care Act? - BBC https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-24370967

¹² Repeal Obamacare - politifact

https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/promise/1388/repeal-obamacare/ ¹³ Trump Administration Asks Supreme Court to Strike Down Affordable Care Act - The New York Times https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/26/us/politics/obamacare-trump-administration-supreme-court.html

¹⁴ Trump ramps up border wall construction ahead of 2020 vote - The Washington Post https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/national/immigration/border-wall-progress/

¹⁵ Trump campaigns on border wall progress. There's not much of it - Los Angeles Times <u>https://www.latimes.com/politics/story/2020-06-23/trump-campaigns-on-border-wall-progress-theres-not-much-of-it</u>

- Detailed US government data about Trump's border wall project, obtained by The Washington Post, shows the administration is far from delivering on its promise to finish more than 500 miles of new barriers by early next year.
- Though Trump had insisted Mexico would pay for the project, it has been funded entirely by the US government, as costs that reach nearly \$30 million per mile in southern Texas.
 - So far, the Trump administration has spent \$15 billion on the project.
- The White House is planning to divert an additional \$7.2 billion from this year's military budget, bringing the total amount of money available for the project to \$18.4 billion, enough to complete nearly 900 miles of new barriers by 2022.
 - Of that, just \$5.1 billion has been authorized by Congress. The rest is coming from Defense Department funding, primarily through the Pentagon's counternarcotics accounts and military construction budgets.
- Nearly all 216 miles built since Trump took office replaced outdated or dilapidated fencing. Only about "three miles of new border wall system has been constructed in locations where no barriers previously existed," according to Homeland Security's June 19 status report on the wall.
- Tax cuts¹⁶¹⁷
 - The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was the largest overhaul of the tax code in three decades.
 - The law created a single corporate tax rate of 21%
 - Many of the tax benefits set up to help individuals and families will expire in 2025
 - H&R Block reports that the average tax cuts were approximately \$1,200 based on the returns the company processed for 2018.
 - Trump vowed the \$1.5 trillion in sweeping tax cuts he spearheaded in 2017 wouldn't increase the federal deficit because they would pay for themselves through faster economic growth.
 - The tax law is projected to add \$1.8 trillion to the deficit over the next decade and any additional revenue brought in by economic growth would be offset by higher interest payments on a bigger national debt.
- Trade and raising tariffs on goods imported into the US¹⁸¹⁹
 - Donald Trump, a self-proclaimed "tariff man," vowed to raise tariffs on goods imported into the US while campaigning to become president.

¹⁶ Explaining the Trump Tax Reform Plan - Investopedia

https://www.investopedia.com/taxes/trumps-tax-reform-plan-explained/

¹⁷ After Trump's State of the Union, here's where he stands on promises

https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2020/02/05/state-union-where-donald-trump-stands-promises/4645277002/

¹⁸ Raise tariffs on goods imported into the US - politifact

https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/promise/1411/raise-tariffs-goods-importedus/

¹⁹ What has Donald Trump actually achieved on trade? - BBC News <u>https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51055491</u>

- "Any country that devalues their currency in order to take unfair advantage of the United States, and all of its companies who can't compete, will face tariffs and taxes to stop the cheating. And when they see that, they will stop the cheating," Trump said during a campaign rally in Tampa, Fla.
- Trump has followed through on his promise. Citing GLobal Trade Alert data, Simon Evenett, professor of international trade and economic development at the University of St. Gallen, said that as of June 22, an estimated \$618 billion of US imports were affected by tariff increases implemented under Trump.
- As of Jan. 7, 2020, the US had imposed tariffs on 16.8% of imported goods, measured as a share of the value of all US imports.
- China
 - Jan 2020: A phase one deal lowered tensions but left tariffs.
 - When the US and China signed a trade deal at the beginning of the year, most of the tariffs remained in place. The US maintained levies of up to 25% on an estimated \$360bn of US imports.
 - Even the administration conceded it fell short of original goals, describing it as a "phase one" agreement.
- North America
 - In 2018, the US, Canada, and Mexico agreed to a deal that will govern more than \$1.1 trillion in trade between the three countries.
 - The pact, which has been slowly making its way through the legislatures of the three countries, will replace the 1994 NAFTA agreement.
 - There are some differences, including stronger labour provisions and tougher rules on the sourcing of auto parts, but analysts say their significance remains to be seen.
- Japan and South Korea
 - One of Trump's first moves as president was to withdraw the US from the Trans Pacific Partnership - a proposed 12-country deal that eventually went ahead without the US, putting exports at a disadvantage.
 - Trump has since claimed two bilateral agreements, one with Japan and one with South Korea, but the changes were so limited that Congressional researchers said they barely gualified as trade deals.
 - In the case of SOuth Korea, the most notable provision actually preserved US tariffs on light duty trucks.
 - With Japan, the US won either levy cuts or complete elimination on \$7bn worth of agricultural goods. But this was the same access the US would have received under the TPP.
- Europe
 - The US and Europe went through a round of tit-for-tat tariffs after the US announced steel and aluminium tariffs measures that affect more than \$10bn worth of two-way trade.

- In October of 2019, the US imposed 25% tariffs on \$7.5bn worth of European goods, including Scotch, French wine, and Italian cheese.
- Trump has made repeated threats to impose tariffs on European cars.
- Trump also continues to threaten steep levies on other EU goods such as French produce in retaliation for France's new digital services tax, which affects US tech companies.
- Some of Donald Trump's Executive Orders²⁰²¹
 - Since entering office, Donald Trump has signed 176 executive orders.
 - 2017: 55 EOs
 - 2018: 37 EOs
 - 2019: 45 EOs
 - 2020: 44 EOs
 - o **2017**
 - Executive Order 13765²²
 - This was the first executive order signed by Donald Trump on January 20, 2017.
 - It set out interim procedures in anticipation of repeal of Obamacare.
 - The order was designed to weaken regulations and procedures associated with enforcement of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
 - In effect, in Feb. 2017 it was reported that the IRS would not require tax filers to state whether they have compliant insurance, allowing them to avoid the penalty fine.
 - Executive Order 13767 Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements²³
 - The order was aimed at fulfilling one of Trump's key campaign promises enhancing border security by directing federal funding to construction of a wall along the Mexico-US border.
 - It instructed the secretary of homeland security to prepare congressional budget requests for the wall and to "end the abuse of parole and asylum provisions" that complicate the removal of undocumented immigrants.
 - Other parts of the order called for hiring 5,000 more Border Patrol agents, building facilities to hold undocumented immigrants, and ening "catch-and-release" protocols.

²⁰ Donald Trump Executive Orders 2017-20 - Federal Register

https://www.federalregister.gov/presidential-documents/executive-orders/donald-trump/2020 ²¹ Here's the Full List of Donald Trump's Executive Orders - NBC News

https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/here-s-full-list-donald-trump-s-executive-orders-n720796 ²² Executive Order 13765 - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive Order 13765

²³ Executive Order 12767 Wikingdia

²³ Executive Order 13767 - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_Order_13767

- EO 13768 Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States²⁴
 - The order outlined changes to a few immigration policies, but most notably it stripped federal grant money to so-called sanctuary cities.
 - In addition, the secretary of homeland security was ordered to hire 10,000 more immigration officers, create a publicly available weekly list of crimes committed by undocumented immigrants and review previous immigration policies.
- EO 13769 Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorists Entry into the United States - Jan. 27, 2017²⁵
 - Politically labeled the "Muslim ban".
 - Except for the extent to which it was blocked by various courts, it was in effect from Jan. 27, 2017 to March 6, 2017 when it was superseded by EO13780.
 - The EO lowered the number of refugees to be admitted into the US in 2017 to 50,000. It also:
 - Suspended the US Refugee Admissions Program for 120 days.
 - Suspended the entry of Syrian refugees indefinitely.
 - Directed some cabinet secretaries to suspend entry to those whose countries do not meet adjudication standards under US immigration law for 90 days, and included exceptions on a case-by-case basis.
 - The DHS listed these countries as Irn, Iraq, Libys, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.
 - More than 700 travelers were detained and up to 60,000 visas were "provisionally revoked".
- EO 13780 Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the US
 March 6, 2017.²⁶
 - The order sometimes called "Travel Ban 2.0" revoked and replaced EI13769.
 - The order revised Trump's original immigration ban, which was hit with dozens of lawsuits and blocked by a federal judge in Washington state.
 - As of the most recent revision in Feb. 2020, travel to the US is banned by all nationals of North Korea and Syria; by nationals of Iran except on student or exchange visitor visas; by nationals of

²⁴ Executive Order 13768 - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_Order_13768

²⁵ Executive Order 13769 - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_Order_13769

²⁶ Executive Order 13780 - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_Order_13780

Libya and Yemen on immigrant, tourist or business visas; by nationals of Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nigeria, and Somalia on immigrant visas; by nationals of Sudan and Tanzania on diversity visas; and by some government officials of Venezuela.

- The Supreme Court upheld the most recent version of the travel ban on June 26, 2018.
- EO 13813 Promoting Healthcare Choice and Competition Oct. 12, 2017.²⁷
 - Known as the Trumpcare Executive Order.
 - It directed federal agencies to modify how Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of the Obama Administration is implemented.
 - The order included a directive to federal agencies to end rules forbidding employers from using HRAs to pay individual insurance premiums. It aimed to widen the use of HRAs, which let employers reimburse employees for health expenses, rather than provide insurance themselves.
 - It sought to allow small businesses more leeway to group together when providing or purchasing insurance, increase the availability and duration of short-term health insurance plans.
 - In a separate announcement, Trump said he would end subsidies to health insurance companies that sell to low-income consumers through the state health insurance marketplaces.
 - Trump stated in a press conference that reporters should no longer refer to "Obamacare" because "it's gone, there is no such thing as Obamacare anymore"
- o **2018**
 - EO 13841 Affording Congress an Opportunity to Address Family Separation - June 20, 2018
 - The order restricts family separation but maintains many of the key components of the Administration's immigration policy. The order instructs DHS to maintain custody of parents and children jointly.
 - It also instructed the Justice Department to attempt to overturn the Flores Agreement, which limited the time for holding children and families with children to 20 days, allowing children to be detained indefinitely.
- o **2020**
 - EO 13925 Preventing Online Censorship May 28, 2020²⁸

²⁸ Preventing Online Censorship - Federal Register

²⁷ Executive Order 13813 - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_Order_13813

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/02/2020-12030/preventing-online-censorship

- This order was signed to direct regulatory action at Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act.
- The EO asserts that media companies that edit content apart from restricting posts that are violent, obscene or harassing, as outlined in the "Good Samaritan" clause, are then "engaged in editorial conduct" and may forfeit any safe-harbor protection granted.
- The goal of the EO is to remove the Section 230 protections from such platforms, and thus leaving them liable for content.
- In June of 2020, the Center for Democracy & Technology filed lawsuit seeking preliminary and permanent injunction from the EO from being enforced, asserting that the EO created a chilling effect on free speech since it puts all hosts of third-party content "on notice that content moderation decisions with which the government disagrees could produce penalties and retributive actions, including stripping them of Section 230s protections".
- Other things to talk about:
 - North Korea²⁹
 - Trump has met with North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un twice in Hanoi in Feb. 2019, and at the demilitarized zone last summer.
 - Trump has claimed his "bold new diplomacy" could result in "tremendous things" for US-North Korea relations
 - Trump's relations have yet to produce any concessions that would put North Korea on a path to denuclearization.
 - Kim has continued to test short-range missiles and other weapons.
 - (Not) ending the wars
 - DACA
 - COVID response
 - Stimulus package
 - Reduce spending
 - Has gone up every year
- Where he stands on some issues for 2020
 - <u>https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/where-president-trump-stands-on-the-issu</u> <u>es-in-2020</u>
 - <u>https://ballotpedia.org/Donald_Trump_presidential_campaign,_2020</u>
- Politifact Trump-O-Meter
 - Tracking President Donald Trump's campaign promises
 - https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/

²⁹

https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2020/02/05/state-union-where-donald-trump-stands-promis es/4645277002/