# Donald Trump marks first 100 days back in the White House with assertive policies and mixed reactions



Donald Trump has completed his first 100 days back in the White House, marking a significant benchmark often regarded as the initial assessment period of any presidency. The period has been characterised by a rapid and assertive rollout of policies that have drawn strong reactions both in support and opposition, illustrating the broad impact of his administration's approach.

Throughout his first 100 days, Mr Trump signed a record 142 executive orders, including 26 on his very first day in office. These orders have spanned a wide range of policy areas, eliciting challenges from opponents who argue their constitutionality in the courts. The administration's aggressive use of executive power has been a defining feature of this early stage.

Notable among the administration's actions is the imposition of sweeping 'reciprocal' tariffs targeting 185 countries and territories, a policy move that has affected global trade dynamics. This strategy has contributed to significant market volatility; Wall Street experienced a dramatic loss of $5 trillion in value over two days following the announcement of these tariffs and the related 'Liberation Day' initiatives.

The impact of the tariffs and border policies has also influenced tourism and migration trends. Foreign tourist visits to the US dropped by 11 percent in March, a decline partly attributed to heightened border scrutiny. Meanwhile, illegal border crossings from Mexico hit a record low of 7,180 in March, a sharp decrease from a previous monthly average of approximately 155,000 during the prior administration.

The administration's immigration policies have been marked by stringent enforcement. For example, 238 Venezuelan migrants were deported to a notorious detention centre in El Salvador following allegations of gang affiliations. The government also enacted controversial classifications, such as declaring some foreign nationals 'alien enemies' under an obscure 1798 law, facilitating deportations from countries considered adversaries.

Domestically, the Trump administration has implemented workforce reductions within the federal government, cutting approximately 121,000 jobs from the federal workforce of three million employees. Additionally, the Department of Defense, under Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, removed 381 books from the US Naval Academy library as part of an effort to combat what was termed 'woke' social policies within the Pentagon.

Economic challenges and uncertainties have also emerged during this period, with a survey in March assessing a 43 percent probability of a US recession. Corporate consequences include significant financial setbacks such as Tesla experiencing a 71 percent plunge in profits during the first quarter, partly attributed to the administration's tariffs and the perceived unpopularity of its CEO, Elon Musk.

In the political arena, a notable cultural and symbolic controversy arose around the possibility of including Mr Trump's image alongside historic American presidents on Mount Rushmore. This idea has been supported by some congressional Republicans, which would add him to the monument alongside George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt.

Mr Trump's influence has extended into education and funding, with the administration freezing $2.2 billion in government grants to Harvard University as a response to the institution's refusal to meet demands for increased political diversity and action against perceived campus anti-Semitism. Furthermore, the administration has proposed a "Trump Gold Card" visa system costing $5 million, which would allow wealthy foreigners to gain residency through financial means, described by Mr Trump as a pathway for 'very high-level people.'

The president's interactions on the international stage include a high-profile 50-minute meeting in the Oval Office with Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelensky in February, during which Mr Trump is reported to have pressured the Ukrainian leader. Meanwhile, refereeing to military alliances, NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte welcomed approximately $800 billion in increased contributions from member states following pressure from the White House for greater resource commitments.

Public opinion towards Mr Trump's presidency remains divided, with only about 40 percent of adult Americans approving his performance in recent polls, a figure that trails behind the approval ratings at the 100-day mark for Presidents Joe Biden, Barack Obama, and George W. Bush.

Additionally, Mr Trump has stirred controversy with the sale of "Trump 2028" merchandise, despite constitutional limits which restrict a president to two terms. The selling of these hats by his company has left uncertainty about his intentions for a potential future term.

The period has also seen Mr Trump spend 24 days playing golf, a pastime he previously criticised his predecessor for. President Trump’s days in office have thus been a mix of assertive policy-making, economic turbulence, shifts in immigration enforcement, and ongoing political drama, reflecting the complex and often contentious nature of his administration’s first 100 days back in power. The Daily Mail is reporting on this comprehensive overview of the early phase of Mr Trump's presidency.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

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