# Late-night hosts critique Donald Trump's turbulent first 100 days in second term



Late-night television hosts have extensively covered the tumultuous first 100 days of Donald Trump’s second administration, highlighting historically low approval ratings and a series of controversies affecting public and economic confidence.

Jon Stewart, guest-hosting The Daily Show, humorously depicted the toll of the administration’s early period with a caricature of exhaustion. Sporting a long fake beard, Stewart joked, “I am so tired. It’s ageing this nation in Tom Hanks in Castaway years.” He contrasted the Trump administration’s self-proclaimed successes with media clips painting a very different picture. Stewart recalled Trump’s boast that these 100 days marked “the most successful 100 days in the history of our country,” and then presented a montage of negative developments, including economic turmoil driven by tariffs, publicity controversies involving Elon Musk’s government role, and Trump’s lowest approval ratings in eight decades.

Focusing on the economic front, Stewart quipped, “Trump did make a boom-boom,” referring to an economic downturn rather than a boom. He criticised unfounded claims surrounding international deals plucked from Trump’s rhetoric, explaining, “We’re in this position because we’ve been sold this idea of Trump as the master... The art of the deal. Only he can bring these nations to heel. It is all bullshit.” Stewart underscored his point by asserting the leverage lies with the American people and warned against what he termed “authoritarian whims” potentially diminishing America’s global standing.

Similarly, on The Late Show, Stephen Colbert highlighted Trump’s approval ratings tumbling to a low of 39%, the worst since records began, attributing much of the decline to dissatisfaction with the economy. Colbert referenced an ABC poll revealing that seven in ten Americans viewed the economy as “not so good” or “poor” and joked that the remaining 30% must either be in a coma or part of Trump’s cabinet. Colbert also addressed Musk’s fluctuating government spending cuts and the Tesla CEO’s forthcoming decision to step back from his government role to refocus on his company, adding a sardonic remark about Musk’s motivation.

Seth Meyers on Late Night offered a critique of congressional Democrats’ response to the administration, describing the political climate as an “unprecedented constitutional crisis” due in part to the administration’s regulatory approaches and perceived overreach in education policy. Meyers mocked the method of delivering criticism through letters, suggesting more direct action was needed. Imitating Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer’s unusually formal tone, Meyers highlighted the seemingly ineffective tone of political communication in the face of pressing issues.

In Los Angeles, Jimmy Kimmel lampooned Trump’s choice of a blue suit for the pope’s funeral in Italy, contrasting it with the somber black attire of other attendees and drawing on past media reactions to highlight perceived inconsistencies in public scrutiny of presidential appearances. Kimmel also recounted a moment on Air Force One in which Trump was asked about plans for his wife Melania’s birthday, to which Trump replied he would take her to dinner on the plane, linking the exchange to ongoing discussions about tariffs in a way that Kimmel found amusing.

Together, these late-night commentators offer a pointed yet comedic overview of the early and contentious months of Donald Trump’s second term, underscored by low public approval, economic uncertainties, and political discord. The Guardian is reporting on this comprehensive media portrayal of the administration’s performance and public reception during this period.

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

## References

* <https://www.apnews.com/article/2e30695aa185a785cc1037ab74c19a55> - This article discusses President Trump's campaign-style rally in Michigan on the 100th day of his second term, highlighting his focus on grievances and attacks against his predecessor, Joe Biden, amid concerns over economic management and declining public approval.
* <https://www.ft.com/content/b973af75-01e7-4aef-a800-c86cd0604298> - This piece examines the rapid decline in President Trump's popularity during his second term, attributing it to aggressive tariffs, deep federal spending cuts, and a hardline stance on immigration, leading to economic uncertainty and public dissatisfaction.
* <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2025/04/donald-trump-100-days/682636/?utm_source=apple_news> - This article analyzes the turbulence of President Trump's first 100 days in his second term, highlighting significant policy decisions that have fostered uncertainty in the economy and weakened democratic norms, leading to a decline in approval ratings.
* <https://www.axios.com/newsletters/axios-am-a2b5b390-2461-11f0-bdc3-3d62cfcd100f> - This newsletter discusses the waning initial momentum of President Trump's second term, noting a drop in approval ratings amid political and economic turmoil, with chaotic tariff policies affecting markets and public confidence.
* <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trump-touts-100-day-achievements-michigan-amid-concerns-about-economy-2025-04-29/> - This report covers President Trump's rally in Michigan on his 100th day in office, where he highlighted economic achievements and defended his tariff policies, despite declining public approval and growing economic concerns.
* <https://www.apnews.com/article/97fef4cd2f3718e971eec830c07cdea9> - This article details the aggressive use of executive power by President Trump in his first 100 days, including imposing tariffs and reshaping the federal workforce, actions that have led to economic uncertainty and public backlash.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2025/apr/29/jon-stewart-trump-first-100-days> - Please view link - unable to able to access data