

Joseph Robinette Biden Jr.^[b] (born November 20, 1942) is an American politician who was the 46th [president of the United States](#) from 2021 to 2025. A member of the [Democratic Party](#), he served as the 47th [vice president](#) from 2009 to 2017 under President [Barack Obama](#), and represented [Delaware](#) in the [U.S. Senate](#) from 1973 to 2009.



Born in [Scranton, Pennsylvania](#), Biden moved with his family to Delaware in 1953. He graduated from the [University of Delaware](#) in 1965 and the [Syracuse University College of Law](#) in 1968. He was elected to the [New Castle County Council](#) in 1970 and the [U.S. Senate](#) in 1972. As a senator, Biden drafted and led the effort to pass the [Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act](#) and the [Violence Against Women Act](#). He also oversaw six [U.S. Supreme Court](#) confirmation hearings, including the contentious [hearings for Robert Bork](#) and [Clarence Thomas](#). Biden ran unsuccessfully for the [1988](#) and [2008 Democratic presidential nominations](#). In 2008, Obama chose Biden as his running mate, and he was a close counselor to Obama as vice president. In the [2020 presidential election](#), Biden won the Democratic nomination for

president. He selected [Kamala Harris](#) as his running mate, and they defeated [Republican](#) incumbents [Donald Trump](#) and [Mike Pence](#). He became the first president to serve with a female vice president.

