



[REDACTED] (/ˈbaɪdən/ ⓘ *BY-dən*; born November 20, 1942) is an **[REDACTED]** who is the 46th and current president of the United States. A member of the **[REDACTED]**, he previously served as the 47th vice president from 2009 to 2017 under President **[REDACTED]** and represented **[REDACTED]** in the United States Senate from 1973 to 2009.

Born in **[REDACTED]**, Biden moved with his family to **[REDACTED]** in 1953. He studied at the **[REDACTED]** before earning his law degree from **[REDACTED]**. He was elected to the **[REDACTED]** in 1970 and to the U.S. Senate in 1972. As a senator, Biden drafted and led the effort to pass the **[REDACTED]** and the **[REDACTED]**; and oversaw six **[REDACTED]**, including the contentious hearings for **[REDACTED]** and **[REDACTED]**. Biden ran unsuccessfully for the **[REDACTED]** in 1988 and 2008. In 2008, **[REDACTED]** chose Biden as his running mate, and Biden was a close counselor to Obama during his two terms as vice president. In the **[REDACTED]**, Biden and his running mate, **[REDACTED]**, defeated incumbents **[REDACTED]**.

Taking office at age 78, Biden is the oldest president in U.S. history, the first to have a female vice president, and the first from **[REDACTED]**. In 2021, he signed a **[REDACTED]**, as well as a **[REDACTED]** in response to the **[REDACTED]** and subsequent recession. Biden proposed the **[REDACTED]**, which failed in Congress, but aspects of which were incorporated into the **[REDACTED]** that was signed into law in 2022. Biden also signed the **[REDACTED]**, which focused on manufacturing, appointed **[REDACTED]** to the **[REDACTED]** and worked with congressional Republicans to prevent a first ever national default by negotiating a deal to raise the **[REDACTED]**. In foreign policy, Biden restored America's membership in the **[REDACTED]**. He oversaw the complete withdrawal of U.S. troops from **[REDACTED]** that ended the war in **[REDACTED]**, during which the Afghan government collapsed and the **[REDACTED]** seized control. Biden has responded to the **[REDACTED]** by imposing **[REDACTED]**



Official portrait, 2021

Incumbent

Assumed office
January 20, 2021

Preceded by **[REDACTED]**

In office

January 20, 2009 – January 20, 2017

President **[REDACTED]**

Preceded by **[REDACTED]**

Succeeded by **[REDACTED]**

from **[REDACTED]**

In office

January 3, 1973 – January 15, 2009

Preceded by **[REDACTED]**

Succeeded by **[REDACTED]**

Member of the **[REDACTED]**

and [redacted]izing civilian and military aid to Ukraine. In April 2023, he announced his candidacy for the [redacted] Party nomination in the 2024 presidential election.

Early life ([redacted]–1965)

Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. was born on [redacted], [redacted],^[1] at [redacted] in [redacted], [redacted],^[2] to [redacted] " [redacted]" Biden (née Finnegan) and [redacted] [redacted].^{[3][4]} The oldest child in a [redacted] family of largely [redacted] descent, he has a sister, [redacted], and two brothers, [redacted] and [redacted].^[5]


Biden's father had been wealthy and the family purchased a home in the affluent [redacted] suburb of [redacted] in the fall of 1946,^[6] but he suffered business setbacks around the time Biden was seven years old,^{[7][8][9]} and for several years the family lived with Biden's maternal grandparents in [redacted].^[10] [redacted] fell into economic decline during the 1950s and Biden's father could not find steady work.^[11] Beginning in 1953 when Biden was ten,^[12] the family lived in an apartment in [redacted], [redacted], before moving to a house in nearby [redacted].^{[13][14][8][10]} Biden Sr. later became a successful used-car salesman, maintaining the family in a middle-class lifestyle.^{[10][11][15]}

At [redacted] [redacted] in [redacted],^[16] Biden played baseball and was a standout halfback and wide receiver on the high school football team.^{[10][17]} Though a poor student, he was class president in his junior and senior years.^{[18][19]} He graduated in 1961.^[18] At the [redacted] in [redacted], Biden briefly played freshman football,^{[20][21]} and, as an unexceptional student,^[22] earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1965 with a double major in history and political science.^{[23][24]}

Biden had a stutter, and has mitigated it since his early twenties.^[25] He has described his efforts to reduce it by reciting poetry before a mirror.^{[19][26]}

Marriages, law school, and early career ([redacted]–1973)

On [redacted], [redacted], Biden married [redacted], a student at [redacted] [redacted],^{[23][27]} after overcoming her parents' reluctance for her to wed a [redacted]. Their wedding was held in a [redacted] church in [redacted], [redacted].^[28] They had three children: Joseph R. " [redacted]" Biden III, [redacted] [redacted], and [redacted] Christina "Amy" Biden.^[23]

from the 4th district	
In office	
January 5, 1971 – January 3, 1973	
Preceded by	Lawrence T. Messick
Succeeded by	[redacted] R. Swift
Personal details	
Born	<div>Joseph Robinette Biden Jr.</div> <div>[redacted], [redacted]</div> <div>[redacted]</div> <div>[redacted], U.S.</div>
Political party	[redacted] (since 1969)
Other political affiliations	Independent (before 1969)
Spouses	<div>[redacted]</div> <div>(m. [redacted]; died 1972)</div> <div>[redacted] (m. 1977)</div>
Children	[redacted] · [redacted] · [redacted] · [redacted]
Relatives	[redacted]
Residence	[redacted]
Education	<div>[redacted]</div> <div>[redacted] (BA)</div> <div>[redacted]</div> <div>(JD)</div>
Occupation	[redacted] · [redacted] · [redacted]
Awards	List of awards and honors
Signature	
Website	<div>Campaign website</div> <div>(http://joebiden.com)</div> <div>[redacted]</div> <div>website (https://whitehouse.gov/administration/president-biden/)</div>

In 1968, Biden earned a Juris Doctor from ██████████ College of Law, ranked 76th in his class of 85, after failing a course due to an acknowledged "mistake" when he plagiarized a law review article for a paper he wrote in his first year at law school.^[22] He was admitted to the ██████████ in 1969.^[1]

In 1968, Biden clerked at a ██████████ law firm headed by prominent local ██████████ and, he later said, "thought of myself as a ██████████".^{[29][30]} He disliked incumbent ██████████ governor ██████████'s conservative racial politics and supported a more liberal ██████████, ██████████, who defeated Terry in 1968.^[29] Biden was recruited by local ██████████s but registered as an Independent because of his distaste for ██████████ presidential candidate ██████████.^[29]

In 1969, Biden practiced law, first as a public defender and then at a firm headed by a locally active Democrat^{[31][29]} who named him to the ██████████ Forum, a group trying to reform and revitalize the state party.^[32] Biden subsequently reregistered as a Democrat.^[29] He and another attorney also formed a law firm.^[31] Corporate law did not appeal to him, and criminal law did not pay well.^[10] He supplemented his income by managing properties.^[33]

In 1970, Biden ran for the 4th district seat on the ██████████ on a liberal platform that included support for public housing in the suburbs.^{[34][35]} The seat had been held by ██████████, who was running in the 5th District following a reapportionment of council districts.^{[36][37][38]} Biden won the general election by defeating ██████████, and took office on January 5, 1971.^{[39][40]} He served until January 1, 1973, and was succeeded by Democrat ██████████.^{[41][42]} During his time on the county council, Biden opposed large highway projects, which he argued might disrupt ██████████ neighborhoods.^[42]

Biden had not openly supported or opposed the Vietnam War until he ran for ██████████ and opposed ██████████'s conduct of the war.^[43] While studying at the ██████████ and ██████████, Biden obtained five student draft deferments, at a time when most draftees were sent to the war. In 1968, based on a physical examination, he was given a conditional medical deferment; in 2008, a spokesperson for Biden said his having had "asthma as a teenager" was the reason for the deferment.^[44]

1972 U.S. ██████████ campaign in ██████████

In 1972, Biden defeated ██████████ incumbent ██████████ to become the junior U.S. senator from ██████████. He was the only Democrat willing to challenge Boggs, and with minimal campaign funds, he was given no chance of winning.^{[31][10]} Family members managed and staffed the campaign, which relied on meeting voters face-to-face and hand-distributing position papers,^[45] an approach made feasible by ██████████'s small size.^[33] He received help from the ██████████ and ██████████ pollster

██████████'s voice

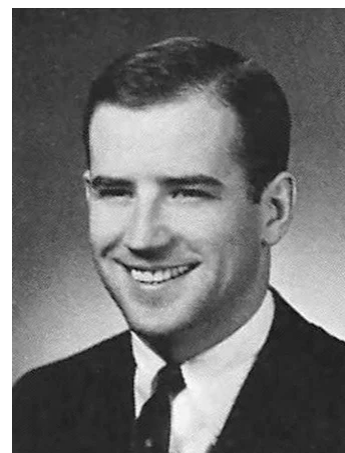
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██████████ speaks on the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan and the fall of Kabul.

Recorded August 16, 2021

Other offices [\[show\]](#)

- 2007–2009: Chair of the International Narcotics Control Caucus
- 2001^[a]–2003, 2007–2009: Chair of the ██████████ Foreign Relations Committee
- 1987–1995: Chair of the ██████████ Judiciary Committee



Biden in the Syracuse 1968 yearbook