Presidential Election 2024
Basics

Democratic Party Presidential Candidate

Kamala D. Harris

- **Spouse**: Doug Emhoff (m. 2014)
- **Step-Children**: Cole, Ella

- **1964**: Born in Oakland, California on October 20 (**59 years** old)
  - Grew-up in Berkley, California until age 12 (father taught at Stanford Unv.)
  - Graduated from high school in Montréal, Canada (Mom taught at McGill Unv.)
- **1986**: Graduated from Howard University in Washington D.C.
  - Earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Political Science & Economics
- **1989**: Graduated from the University of California, San Francisco
  - Earned Juris Doctor (JD) law degree
- **1990**: Worked for **26 years** as a Legal Prosecutor in California
  - **1990-1997**: Worked as a Deputy District Attorney in California and prosecuted cases involving gang violence, drug trafficking, and sexual abuse
  - **1998-2002**: Worked as Assistant District Attorney of San Francisco and oversaw the prosecution of repeat offenders
  - **2000-2002**: Worked as Assistant City Attorney of San Francisco, where she focused on child abuse and neglect cases
  - **2003-2010**: Worked as the District Attorney of San Francisco, where she created the "Back on Track" initiative for first-time drug offenders
  - **2009**: Authored Smart on Crime
  - **2010-2016**: Worked as the Attorney General of California
  - **2012**: Defended the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in court cases
  - **2013**: Won a $1.1 Billion settlement for the 2007-8 Financial Crisis
  - **2015**: Championed Criminal Justice Reform
- **2016**: Worked for **8 years** as a Politician
  - **2016-2020**: Served as a U.S. Senator from California
  - **2020**: Announced candidacy for U.S. President
  - **2021-2024**: Served as the 49th U.S. Vice President
- **2024**: Selected as the Democratic Presidential Nominee

Republican Party Presidential Candidate

Donald J. Trump

- **Spouse**: Melania Knauss (m. 2005)
  - Marla Maples (m. 1993; div. 1999)
  - Ivana Zelníčková (m. 1977; div. 1990)
- **Children**: Don, Ivanka, Eric, Tiffany, Barron

- **1946**: Born in Queens, New York on June 14 (**78 years** old)
  - Grew up in Queens, New York until age 13 (father was a real-estate tycoon)
  - Graduated from high school at the New York Military Academy
- **1968**: Graduated from the University of Pennsylvania (Wharton)
  - Earned a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Economics
- **1969**: Worked for **27 years** in New York City Real Estate
  - **1973**: Took control & renamed father's company as The Trump Organization
  - **1974**: Completed his first major real estate deal: Grand Hyatt New York
  - **1975-1982**: Expanded his real estate empire in Manhattan
  - **1983**: Opened the Trump Tower
  - **1984-1989**: Expanded into casinos and other Trump branded products
  - **1986**: Successfully restored Wollman Ice Rink in NY City's Central Park
  - **1987**: Published Trump: The Art of the Deal
  - **1990-1994**: Faced financial troubles / debt restructuring / business setbacks
  - **1995**: Published Trump: The Art of the Comeback
- **1996**: Worked for **19 years** in Business & Entertainment
  - **1996**: Purchased the Miss Universe Organization (Miss USA/Teen USA)
  - **2004-2015**: Expanded into television with the show "The Apprentice"
  - **2011**: Became politically active by questioning President Obama's birthplace
  - **2012**: Considered running for president but decided against it
  - **2013-2015**: Maintained a public presence through TV/social media
- **2015**: Worked for **9 years** as a Politician
  - **2015**: Announced candidacy for U.S. President
  - **2017-2021**: Served as 45th President (impeached twice: Ukraine & Jan 6th)
  - **2020-2024**: Lost re-election to Joe Biden, but remained politically active
- **2024**: Selected as Republican Presidential Nominee

Democratic Party Vice Presidential Candidate

Tim Walz

- **Spouse**: Gwen Whipple (m. 1994)
- **Children**: Hope, Gus

- **1964**: Born in West Point, Nebraska on April 6 (**60 years** old)
  - Grew-up in in Valentine, Nebraska (father was a teacher & veteran)
  - Graduated from high school in Butte, Nebraska (father died from cancer)
- **1989**: Graduated from Chadron State College in Nebraska
  - Earned a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Social Science education
- **1989**: Worked for **17 years** as a Teacher & National Guardsman
  - **1981-2005**: Enlisted in the U.S. Army National Guard; served as an NCO
  - **1989-1990**: Taught high-school in China
  - **1990-1996**: Taught high-school in Nebraska
  - **1996-2006**: Taught high-school in Minnesota; football coach (state champs)
- **2001**: Graduated from Minnesota State University, Mankato
  - Earned a Master of Science (MS) in Educational Leadership
- **2007**: Worked for **18 years** as a Politician
  - **2007-2019**: Served as U.S. Congressman (Minnesota 1st District)
  - **2019-2024**: Served as Governor of Minnesota
- **2024**: Selected as the Democratic Vice-Presidential Nominee

Republican Party Vice Presidential Candidate

J.D. Vance

- **Spouse**: Usha Chilukuri (m. 2014)
- **Children**: Ewan, Vivek, Mirabel

- **1984**: Born in Middletown, Ohio on August 2 (**40 years** old)
  - Grew-up poor; mother struggled with addiction; raised by grandparents
  - Graduated from Middletown High School in 2003
- **2003**: Served for **3 years** in the Marine Corps
  - Enlisted and served as a military journalist in the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing
- **2009**: Graduated from Ohio State University
  - Earned a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Political Science and Philosophy
- **2013**: Graduated from the Yale Law School
  - Earned Juris Doctor (JD) law degree
- **2014**: Worked for **8 years** as a Lawyer & Investor/Capitalist
  - **2014-2020**: Worked in Kentucky, California and Ohio
  - **2016**: Authored Hillbilly Elegy
- **2022**: Worked for **2 years** as a Politian
  - **2022-2024**: Served as a U.S. Senator from Ohio
- **2024**: Selected as the Republican Vice-Presidential Nominee

Personal Comparison

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP
RATINGS: **YY** = Strongly Agree; **Y** = Agree; **'='** = Neutral; **N** = Oppose; **NN** = Strongly Oppose

CRITERIA	Kamala Harris					Tim Waltz					Donald Trump					J.D. Vance				
DO YOU AGREE WITH THE CANDIDATE's?	YY	Y	=	N	NN	YY	Y	=	N	NN	YY	Y	=	N	NN	YY	Y	=	N	NN
Character																				
Competence																				
General Vision & Outlook for the U.S.A.																				
Economic Policy																				
Social Policy																				
Defense & National Security Policy																				
Foreign Policy & Diplomacy																				
Personal Issue #1: _____																				
Personal Issue #2: _____																				

Policy Comparison

POLICY OPINIONS
RATINGS: **YY** = Strongly Agree; **Y** = Agree; **'='** = Neutral; **N** = Oppose; **NN** = Strongly Oppose

GROUP A: DO YOU AGREE WITH THIS POLICY? (YY Y = N NN)
- Right to Legalized Abortion?
- Path to Citizenship for Illegals?
- Birthright Citizenship?
- DACA? (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)
- Closing the Gun show Loophole?
- Ghost Guns Ban?
- Assault Weapons Ban?
- Universal Background Checks?
- Raising the Corporate Income Tax?
- Reparations for Slavery?
- Recreational Marijuana?
- Universal Healthcare?
- National Minimum Wage?
- Public Sector Unions?
- Election Day Holiday?
- D.C. Statehood?
- Social Media Regulation?
- Free College?
- Anthem Protests?

GROUP B: DO YOU AGREE WITH THIS POLICY? (YY Y = N NN)
- Border Wall?
- Fracking?
- Voter ID?
- Book Bans?
- Cuba Embargo?
- Death Penalty?
- Private Prisons?
- Social security Privatization?

GROUP C: DO YOU AGREE WITH THIS POLICY? (YY Y = N NN)
- Nuclear Energy?
- Space Colonization?
- Lowing Prescription Drug Cost?
- Medical Marijuana?
- Student Loan Debt Forgiveness?
- OTC Birth Control?
- "Bump stock" Ban?
- Red Flag Gun Laws?
- Supreme Court Packing?
- Defund Police?
- Performance Enhancing Drugs?
- American Socialism?

Data From: https://2024election.procon.org/ on 8/30/2019

NOTE:
Group A: Candidates Disagree: **Harris** = Pro (YY-Y) and **Trump** = Con (N-NN)
Group B: Candidates Disagree: **Trump** = Pro (YY-Y) and **Harris** = Con (N-NN)
Group C: Candidates Agree: Both are either Pro (YY-Y) or Con (N-NN)

APPENDIX A: Party Platform Comparison

INSTRUCTIONS
- Start by completing the ratings on the left (do you agree with the issue?). Don't overthink, as most issues are written to be agreeable! Should take 15 minutes.
- Next, as you have time/interest, read the specific policies associated with the issue and complete the ratings on the right. Should take 2-5 minutes each.
  - NOTE: The first issue in each section is intentionally written to be general, so wait and rate this issue after rating each of the sub-bullets.
  - Most of the sub-bullets contain specific policies that will address each issue, but some simply contain political rhetoric. Rate accordingly!

Do you generally agree with this Issue?					Issue #	DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM	Do you agree after reading the Policies?				
YY	Y	=	N	NN		Issue Description (Note: Click on the link to read the corresponding policies)	YY	Y	=	N	NN
					D-1	**Growing Our Economy from the Bottom Up & Middle Out**					
					D-1-1	Economic Progress					
					D-1-2	Investing in America					
					D-1-3	Good Jobs					
					D-1-4	Small Businesses					
					D-1-5	Agriculture					
					D-1-6	Fighting Poverty					
					D-1-7	Ending Special Interest Giveaways					
					D-2	**Rewarding Work, Not Wealth**					
					D-2-1	Cutting Taxes For Working Families					
					D-2-2	Making The Wealthy & Big Corporations Pay Their Fair Share					
					D-3	**Lowering Costs**					
					D-3-1	Health Care & Prescription Drugs					
					D-3-2	Child Care, Home Care, & Paid Leave					
					D-3-3	Gas & Groceries					
					D-3-4	Corporate Greed					
					D-3-5	Housing					
					D-3-6	Education					
					D-3-7	Social Security, Pensions, & Medicare					
					D-4	**Tackling the Climate Crisis, Lowering Energy Costs, & Securing Energy Independence**					
					D-4-1	Producing Cleaner, More Affordable Energy					
					D-4-2	Lowering Energy Costs					
					D-4-3	Creating Clean Energy Jobs					
					D-4-4	Reducing Pollution & Making Polluters Pay					
					D-4-5	Environmental Justice					
					D-4-6	Building Climate Resilient Communities					
					D-4-7	Conservation					
					D-4-8	Global Climate Leadership					
					D-5	**Protecting Communities & Tackling the Scourge of Gun Violence**					
					D-5-1	Gun Safety					
					D-5-2	Policing & Public Safety					
					D-5-3	Criminal Justice					
					D-5-4	Violence Against Women					
					D-6	**Strengthening Democracy, Protecting Freedoms, & Advancing Equity**					
					D-6-1	Judges					
					D-6-2	Voting Rights					
					D-6-3	Stopping The Influence Of Special Interests					
					D-6-4	Reproductive Freedom					
					D-6-5	Women's Rights					
					D-6-6	Racial Equity					
					D-6-7	LGBTQI+					
					D-6-8	Disability					
					D-6-9	Tribal Nations					
					D-6-10	Combating Hate & Protecting Freedom Of Religion					
					D-6-11	Freedom Of The Press					
					D-6-12	Arts & Humanities					
					D-6-13	D.C., Puerto Rico, Territories					
					D-7	**Securing our Border & Fixing the Broken Immigration System**					
					D-7-1	Securing The Border					
					D-7-2	Expanding Legal Immigration & Deterring Illegal Immigration					
					D-8	Advancing the President's Unity Agenda					
					D-8-1	Beating The Opioid Epidemic					
					D-8-2	Investing In Mental Health					
					D-8-3	Protecting Kids Online, Strengthening Americans' Data Privacy, & Promoting Competition					
					D-8-4	Ending Cancer As We Know It					
					D-8-5	Meeting Our Nation's Sacred Obligation To Veterans & Military Families					
					D-9	**Strengthening American Leadership Worldwide**					
					D-9-1	Europe					
					D-9-2	Indo-Pacific					
					D-9-3	China					
					D-9-4	The Middle East & North Africa					
					D-9-5	Western Hemisphere					
					D-9-6	Africa					
					D-9-7	Strengthening The U.S. And Global Economy					
					D-9-8	Leading With Diplomacy And American Values					
					D-9-9	Strongest Military In The World					

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Note: Additional information for terms in blue font can be found in Wikipedia (other internet addresses shown as needed)

Do you generally agree with the Issue?					77 Issues	REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM	Do you agree after reading the Policies?				
YY	Y	=	N	NN	Issue #	Issue Description (Note: Click on the link for each issue to read the corresponding policies)	YY	Y	=	N	NN
					R-1	**Defeat Inflation and Quickly Bring Down All Prices**					
					R-1-1	Unleash American Energy					
					R-1-2	Rein in Wasteful Federal Spending					
					R-1-3	Cut Costly and Burdensome Regulations					
					R-1-4	Stop Illegal Immigration					
					R-1-5	Restore Peace through Strength					
					R-2	**Seal the Border, and Stop the Migrant Invasion**					
					R-2-1	Secure the Border					
					R-2-2	Enforce Immigration Laws					
					R-2-3	Begin Largest Deportation Program in American History					
					R-2-4	Strict Vetting					
					R-2-5	Stop Sanctuary Cities					
					R-2-6	Ensure Our Legal Immigration System Puts American Workers First					
					R-3	**Build the Greatest Economy in History**					
					R-3-1	Cut Regulations					
					R-3-2	Make Trump Tax Cuts Permanent and No Tax on Tips					
					R-3-3	Fair and Reciprocal Trade Deals					
					R-3-4	Reliable and Abundant Low Cost Energy					
					R-3-5	Champion Innovation					
					R-4	**Bring Back the American Dream and Make It Affordable Again for Families, Young People, and Everyone**					
					R-4-1	Housing Affordability					
					R-4-2	Accessible Higher Education					
					R-4-3	Affordable Healthcare					
					R-4-4	Lower Everyday Costs					
					R-5	**Protect American Workers and Farmers from Unfair Trade**					
					R-5-1	Rebalance Trade					
					R-5-2	Secure Strategic Independence from China					
					R-5-3	Save the American Auto Industry					
					R-5-4	Bring Home Critical Supply Chains					
					R-5-5	Buy American and Hire American					
					R-5-6	Become the Manufacturing Superpower					
					R-6	**Protect Seniors**					
					R-6-1	Protect Social Security					
					R-6-2	Strengthen Medicare					
					R-6-3	Support Active and Healthy Living					
					R-6-4	Protect Care at Home for the Elderly					
					R-6-5	Protect Economic Foundations for Supporting Seniors					
					R-7	**Cultivate Great K-12 Schools Leading to Great Jobs and Great Lives for Young People**					
					R-7-1	Great Principals and Great Teachers					
					R-7-2	Universal School Choice					
					R-7-3	Prepare Students for Jobs and Careers					
					R-7-4	Safe, Secure, and Drug-Free Schools					
					R-7-5	Restore Parental Rights					
					R-7-6	Knowledge and Skills, Not CRT and Gender Indoctrination					
					R-7-7	Promote Love of Country with Authentic Civics Education					
					R-7-8	Freedom to Pray					
					R-7-9	Return Education to the States					
					R-8	**Bring Common Sense to Our Government and Renew the Pillars of American Civilization**					
					R-8-1	Empower American Families					
					R-8-2	Rebuild Our Cities and Restore Law and Order					
					R-8-3	Make Washington D.C. the Safest and Most Beautiful Capital City					
					R-8-4	Take Care of Our Veterans					
					R-8-5	Make Colleges and Universities Sane and Affordable					
					R-8-6	Combat Antisemitism					
					R-8-7	Overcome the Crisis in Liberal Arts Education					
					R-8-8	Restore American Beauty					
					R-8-9	Honor American History					
					R-9	**Government of, By, and For the People**					
					R-9-1	Republicans Will Stop Woke and Weaponized Government					
					R-9-2	Republicans Will Dismantle Censorship & Protect Free Speech					
					R-9-3	Republicans Will Defend Religious Liberty					
					R-9-4	Republicans Will Protect and Defend a Vote of the People, from within the States, on the Issue of Life					
					R-9-5	Republicans Will End Left-wing Gender Insanity					
					R-9-6	Republicans Will Ensure Election Integrity					
					R-9-7	Republicans Will Protect Americans in the Territories.					
					R-10	**Return to Peace through Strength**					
					R-10-1	The National Interest					
					R-10-2	Modernize the Military					
					R-10-3	Strengthen Alliances					
					R-10-4	Strengthen Economic, Military, and Diplomatic Capabilities					
					R-10-5	Defend America's Borders					
					R-10-6	Revive our Industrial Base					
					R-10-7	Protect Critical Infrastructure					

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