

BEIJING +30 NATIONAL REPORT

SUBMISSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



Part I. Introduction

Since its adoption nearly thirty years ago, the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) has served as a critical blueprint for advancing rights of and opportunities for women and girls around the world. The Biden-Harris Administration is steadfastly committed to the Declaration’s central principle—women’s rights are human rights—and to addressing the critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform.

Over the past four years, President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have leveraged the full force of the federal government to advance gender equity and equality at home and abroad. And, under their leadership, the Administration continues to invest in the future of women and girls. This national report reflects the United States’ progress implementing the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action throughout this Administration and reaffirms our commitment to gender equity and equality ahead of the thirtieth anniversary of its adoption in 2025.

Part II. Overview of Priorities and Achievements

The Biden-Harris Administration believes that the full and equal participation of women and girls across economic, social, and political life is not only a moral imperative—it is a strategic imperative. When women have equal opportunities to participate and lead, economies grow, education rates and health outcomes improve, and political instability and violence decline.

President Biden and Vice President Harris understand that to address the world’s greatest challenges, we need to eliminate the barriers that hold back women and girls and unleash their full potential. To advance gender equity and equality in the United States and around the world, President Biden [established](#) the first-ever White House Gender Policy Council and directed the development of the [National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality](#) to guide the Administration’s work to advance human rights and opportunity for women and girls. As part of these efforts, the Administration has made historic investments in gender equality, including by doubling our commitment to a record \$2.6 billion in FY 2023 to advance gender equality in our foreign assistance.

Guided by the National Strategy, the Biden-Harris Administration has continued to advance the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, including by prioritizing women’s health, strengthening women’s economic security, investing in care at home and abroad, addressing gender-based violence, and promoting women’s meaningful participation and leadership in peace and political processes. Part III of the report highlights our key actions in these areas to advance the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the United States and globally.



Part III. Progress Implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the United States and Globally

Prioritizing Women's Health

President Biden and Vice President Harris believe that health care should be a right in America, not a privilege, and the Biden-Harris Administration has taken action to improve and support the health of women and girls.

Defending Reproductive Healthcare

President Biden and Vice President Harris are committed to defending access to reproductive health care and ensuring that women across the United States are able to make deeply personal health care decisions. The President and Vice President made reproductive rights a priority since the beginning of the Administration, including by directing action to rebuild and grow the Title X Family Planning Program, which plays a critical role in ensuring access to a broad range of high-quality family planning services, and revoking the “Mexico City Policy” to support access to reproductive health services globally.

Since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and the constitutional right to choose, more than 1 in 3 women in the United States live in the more than 20 states with dangerous and extreme abortion bans in effect. These dangerous laws are putting women's health and lives at risk and threatening doctors with jail time, including life in prison, for providing the health care they have been trained to provide. Women are being denied essential medical care and forced to travel hundreds of miles for care that would be available in their state if *Roe v. Wade* were still the law of the land. Abortion bans are also disrupting access to critical health care services, including contraception, as health care providers are forced to close in states across the country.

In response to this assault on reproductive freedom, President Biden issued [three Executive Orders](#) and a [Presidential Memorandum](#) that directed his Administration to protect access to reproductive health care and established an interagency Task Force on Reproductive Healthcare Access. In response to these directives, the Administration has taken [action](#) to protect access to abortion, including FDA-approved medication abortion; defend access to emergency medical care; support the ability to travel to receive lawful reproductive health care; safeguard sensitive health information and strengthen privacy protections for patients and health care providers; expand access to fertility benefits and coverage for federal employees, servicemembers, and veterans; and strengthen access to high-quality, affordable contraception.

In addition, the White House has partnered with state leaders on the frontline of protecting access to abortion. The Vice President has led these efforts, highlighting the harm of abortion bans to women's health at more than 100 events in more than 20 states since *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, and meeting with hundreds of state legislators, health care providers, and advocates.

At every step, President Biden and Vice President Harris have made clear that the only way to secure the right to choose for women in every state is for the U.S. Congress to restore the protections of *Roe v. Wade* in federal law. They will continue to call on Congress to pass federal



legislation that ensures that women in every state are able to make their own decisions about reproductive health care.

While we continue to defend reproductive freedom domestically, the Administration remains steadfast in supporting sexual and reproductive health and rights globally. The United States is proud to remain the largest bilateral donor to global family planning assistance—a commitment spanning more than five decades. And we are working to prevent maternal mortality and accelerate access to family planning—providing over \$620 million to support global maternal and child health programs and \$607 million to support global family planning and reproductive health programs last year alone.

Addressing Maternal Health Disparities

From the very beginning, the Administration, led by Vice President Harris, has worked to address our country’s maternal health crisis. Women in the United States die at a higher rate from pregnancy-related causes than women in any other developed nation. Black women face even more risk and are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women. That is in no small part because of a long history of systemic racism and bias that leads Black women to be dismissed or ignored in the health care settings that are supposed to care for them.

To combat maternal mortality and morbidity, the Administration released the [White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis](#), a whole-of-government approach that outlined 50 executive actions to improve maternal health. Since the Blueprint was released, the Administration has made [significant strides](#) in improving maternal health for women across the country. As one example, 46 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have heeded the Vice President’s call to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage from two to 12 months of post-pregnancy care. The Administration is committed to continued progress in reducing maternal mortality and morbidity, reducing disparities in maternal health outcomes, and improving the overall experience of pregnancy, birth, and postpartum for all women in the United States.

Lowering Health Care Costs

The President and Vice President continue to build on, strengthen, and protect Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act, and the President has signed laws such as the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) to lower prescription drug costs and net health insurance premiums. The IRA is directly benefiting women with Medicare, including nearly 30 million women enrolled in Medicare Part D, through lower prescription drug costs. The Administration has lowered the cost of insulin, capped out-of-pocket prescription drug costs, and announced new lower costs of 10 prescription drugs—including drugs used to treat common diseases and conditions that affect women such as diabetes and autoimmune conditions. The Administration also lowered the cost of net health insurance premiums by an average of \$800 per year for millions of people with Affordable Care Act coverage, helping drive health insurance coverage to a record high.



Investing in Women's Health

The President and First Lady are also fundamentally changing how we approach and fund women's health research. Recognizing that research on women's health remains underfunded and understudied, President Biden launched the first-ever [White House Initiative on Women's Health Research](#) to pioneer the next generation of discoveries, unleash transformative investment to close research gaps, and improve women's health. President Biden also signed a first-of-its-kind [Executive Order on Advancing Women's Health Research and Innovation](#), directing the most comprehensive set of executive actions ever taken to expand and improve research on women's health. Since its launch in November 2023, the Initiative has galvanized nearly \$1 billion in funding to close gaps in research on women's health. These investments will advance research to improve prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases and conditions that affect women uniquely, disproportionately, and differently—from menopause to brain disorders to cardiovascular disease.

Strengthening Women's Economic Security

The Administration is strengthening women's economic security by ensuring that women have access to good-paying, high-quality jobs, equal pay, and safe workplaces free from discrimination and gender-based violence.

Bolstering Women's Economic Participation

In the face of a global pandemic and economic crisis that disproportionately affected women, the Administration's economic agenda led to historic gains in women's labor force participation and narrowed the gender pay gap. Under this Administration, America experienced an unprecedented—and equitable—economic recovery, and working-age women's labor force participation is the highest it has been in 70 years.

The President has issued [two Executive Orders](#) to expand pathways to good-paying, family-sustaining jobs for all Americans, including women and other underrepresented groups, through his [Investing in America Agenda](#). In response, federal agencies are taking action to promote strong labor standards and expand and diversify registered apprenticeship programs to help deliver for women and their families. For instance, the U.S. Department of Commerce launched the [Million Women in Construction](#) initiative, which calls on chip manufacturers, construction companies, and unions to bring one million women into the construction industry over the next decade, roughly doubling women's representation in the industry. And the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) created a [Good Jobs Initiative](#) that has leveraged close to \$280 billion of federal funding to create good jobs, including by promoting registered apprenticeship programs aimed at reducing occupational segregation. Since 2021, over 960,000 individuals have started an apprenticeship, including historically high numbers of women, African Americans, Hispanics, and individuals with disabilities. DOL also launched the [Mega Construction Project Program](#), which fosters equal employment opportunities for qualified workers, including women, on certain federally funded construction projects.



President Biden and Vice President Harris remain committed to closing gender and racial wage gaps and ensuring all people have a fair and equal opportunity to participate in the labor force and support their families. To help close wage gaps—a critical step to strengthen and grow the economy—the Administration has [advanced](#) pay equity and transparency for federal employees and contractors by eliminating practices that allow gender and racial pay discrimination to follow workers from job to job and helping workers better negotiate and reduce pay inequities.

The President signed the bipartisan [Pregnant Workers Fairness Act](#) into law to help ensure that pregnant and postpartum workers have access to common-sense, reasonable accommodations. The President also signed the [Providing Urgent Maternal Protections \(PUMP\) for Nursing Mothers Act](#), which provides most nursing workers with the right to reasonable break time and a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion to express breast milk while at work. These new protections help ensure that pregnant and postpartum workers have workplaces that are free from discrimination.

To date, the Administration has mobilized over \$3 billion in public and private resources to advance women’s economic security around the world and prioritized closing persistent gaps in women’s economic participation globally that hinder their ability to participate in a 21st century economy. We are bolstering women’s economic participation by promoting access to jobs in the sustainable industries of the future and by committing to cut the gender digital divide in half by 2030, so that more women can participate in the globalized, networked economy.

The Administration has also established multiple public-private partnerships to advance gender equity and women’s economic security around the world. Vice President Harris launched the [Women in the Sustainable Economy \(WISE\) Initiative](#) to promote women’s participation in industries that address climate change. To date, WISE has secured [over \\$2 billion](#) in commitments, including more than \$900 million from the U.S. government. The Administration also launched the [Women in the Digital Economy Initiative](#)—a partnership with over \$1 billion in commitments to accelerate progress to close the gender digital divide. And, in 2021, the Administration established the [Gender Equity and Equality Action Fund](#) to advance economic security for women and girls and address barriers that limit their full economic participation. To date, the Fund has invested \$500 million in direct and attributed indirect resources around the world to tackle persistent barriers to women’s economic participation in the 21st century economy.

Investing in Care at Home and Abroad

In the United States, too many families and individuals struggle to access the affordable, high-quality care they need. The result is many Americans—particularly women—stay out of the workforce to care for their families, making it hard for businesses to attract and retain a skilled workforce and for the economy to grow. At the same time, many workers providing this critical care find themselves in low-paying jobs with few benefits. Care workers, who are disproportionately women of color, struggle to make ends meet, and turnover rates are high. In addition, at least 53 million Americans serve as family caregivers—including over 5 million caring for service members or veterans—and many face challenges due to lack of support, training, and opportunities for rest.



Through the ARP, the Administration made the biggest investment in child care ever, helping over 225,000 child care programs that serve 10 million children across the country keep their doors open and enabling parents, especially mothers, to enter or remain in the workforce. The ARP also delivered \$37 billion across all 50 states to enhance, expand, and strengthen home- and community-based services and provided \$145 million to help the National Family Caregiver Support Program deliver counseling, training, and short-term relief to family and other informal care providers. And, in 2023, President Biden signed a historic [Executive Order](#) directing the most comprehensive set of executive actions any President has ever taken to expand access to affordable, high-quality care, and provide support for care workers and family caregivers. Pursuant to this Executive Order, the Administration has issued rules to lower child care costs for more than 100,000 low-income working families, to increase payments for child care providers and home care workers, and to establish minimum staffing standards for nursing homes.

In 2024, the United States secured a historic commitment in the [G7 Apulia Leaders' Communiqué](#) to tackle the unequal gender distribution of care work. Alongside other G7 nations, we aim to support 200 million more women to join the workforce by 2035 by investing in efforts to increase the availability of childcare globally. This diplomatic target advances work the United States is helping to lead through the [Invest in Childcare Initiative](#)—a public-private partnership with more than \$500 million in leveraged funding that incentivizes investment in child care infrastructure in low- and middle- income countries to help boost women's employment and overall economic growth.

Addressing Gender-Based Violence

President Biden and Vice President Harris believe that women and girls deserve to live free from violence and fear, and the Administration is committed to ending gender-based violence wherever and whenever it occurs. These efforts are guided by the first-ever [U.S. National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence](#), a comprehensive plan issued by the White House in 2023 to prevent and address gender-based violence. The National Plan provides a framework for guiding federal action across each of seven strategic pillars—from prevention to economic security and housing stability to online safety.

Strengthening the Violence Against Women Act

Working to end gender-based violence has been a cornerstone of President Biden's career. As a U.S. Senator, he wrote and championed the original [Violence Against Women Act \(VAWA\)](#), which transformed the nation's response to gender-based violence. In the three decades since, President Biden has worked with survivors, advocates, experts, and Members of Congress of both parties to reauthorize and strengthen the law four times. As President, he signed into law the [VAWA Reauthorization Act of 2022](#)—critical legislation that expands access to safety and support for survivors, increases prevention efforts, and establishes new federal protections against online harassment and abuse. The President also secured the highest-ever funding levels to implement VAWA, and the Administration has [acted quickly](#) to implement the law's new programs and protections, including new protections against online harassment and abuse.



Implementing Historic Military Justice Reforms

One of President Biden's earliest acts in office was to call for the establishment of the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military to take bold action to strengthen accountability for sexual violence in the military and inform bipartisan reforms to the military justice system. In 2023, President Biden signed an [Executive Order](#) to implement historic, bipartisan reforms that transferred key decision-making authorities from commanders to specialized, independent military prosecutors in cases of sexual assault, domestic violence, murder, and other serious offenses. The Department of Defense has also made record investments in sexual assault prevention and survivor support, more than doubling annual funding from \$500 million to more than \$1 billion in 2024 for these lifesaving services. This work is making a difference: for the first time in nearly a decade, rates of sexual assault and harassment within the active-duty force are down.

Preventing Gender-Based Violence

President Biden signed the historic Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the most significant legislation to reduce gun violence in nearly 30 years, which narrowed the “boyfriend loophole” to help keep guns out of the hands of domestic abusers. He also established the first-ever White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention to lead the Administration's efforts to end our nation's gun violence epidemic. The Administration [strengthened](#) vital Title IX nondiscrimination protections for students and employees to help keep students safe, address campus sexual assault, and prevent other forms of sex discrimination in schools and universities. And the Administration is funding programs to prevent gender-based violence before it starts, including programs to meet the needs of children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence to help disrupt the cycle of abuse.

Combatting Online Harassment and Abuse

The Administration is addressing online harassment and abuse, including both real and artificial intelligence (AI)-generated image-based sexual abuse. President Biden [established](#) the White House Task Force to Address Online Harassment and Abuse to coordinate comprehensive action from more than a dozen federal agencies. This Task Force helped garner a record investment of more than \$36 million in dedicated funding to address technology-facilitated gender-based violence in the U.S. and globally. In addition, the U.S. Department of Justice funded the first-ever national helpline to provide 24/7 support and specialized services for victims of the non-consensual distribution of intimate images, as well as a new National Resource Center on Cybercrimes Against Individuals to help law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim services organizations prevent, enforce, and prosecute cybercrimes against individuals. The President's Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence directed federal agencies to take key actions to address deepfake image-based abuse, and the White House announced a set of voluntary commitments from AI model developers and data providers to curb the creation of image-based sexual abuse.



Strengthening Workplace Protections

To address gender-based violence at work, President Biden signed into law new protections to support survivors and address sexual assault and sexual harassment in the workplace. The President also issued a [Presidential Memorandum](#) directing the federal government’s use of “safe leave” to support federal employees’ access to paid time off and leave without pay for purposes related to seeking safety and recovering from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and related forms of abuse.

Addressing Gender-Based Violence Globally

Globally, the Administration is implementing the updated [U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally](#), which addresses the rise of gender-based violence during the COVID-19 pandemic; technology-facilitated gender-based violence; and safety risks related to climate migration and displacement. We co-founded and co-lead the [Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse](#), a coalition of 15 countries advancing policies and programs that address technology-facilitated gender-based violence to counter its chilling effects on democratic participation. And we are [implementing](#) President Biden’s historic [Presidential Memorandum](#) on promoting accountability for conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), including by issuing sanctions against perpetrators of CRSV around the globe. This marks the first time that a dedicated focus on CRSV has led to the imposition of sanctions and constitutes the largest set of financial sanctions and visa restrictions the United States has issued against individuals connected to this human rights abuse.

The Administration also launched the [Dignity in Documentation Initiative](#), which provides support for survivor- and civil society-led efforts to investigate and document CRSV in line with the Murad Code, named for Nobel Laureate and survivor Nadia Murad. Supported by a \$10 million investment from the U.S. Department of State, the initiative will support justice for survivors by promoting accountability for crimes punishable under international law.

Promoting Women’s Representation and Leadership

The United States is committed to defending women’s rights and elevating women’s civic and political participation and leadership at home and abroad. We know that supporting women’s leadership is both a moral and a strategic imperative—one that promotes democracy, stability, and security globally. As Vice President Kamala Harris has said, “the status of women is the status of democracy.” However, there is much work to be done to address longstanding barriers to women’s political and civic participation and leadership, both in the United States and around the world. That is why we’re working to dismantle barriers to participation, build the pipeline of women leaders, and promote the role of women in democracy.

President Biden appointed the first-ever gender-balanced Cabinet in our nation’s history. He’s nominated federal judges who reflect the diversity of our country, including the first Black woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. President Biden has eliminated obstacles to women’s military service, including by advancing historic military justice reforms; updating military hair, dress, and fitness standards; and expanding parental leave policies. And the Administration has made historic advances in strengthening women’s meaningful participation in



national security, defense, and political leadership, and reaffirmed that commitment with the release of the [2023 U.S. Strategy and National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security](#), which highlights the U.S. commitment to ensuring women in areas of crisis and conflict can meaningfully participate in political, mediation, negotiation, and peace processes at the local and national levels. Through these efforts, the Administration is working to dismantle longstanding barriers to women’s political participation and leadership by defending women’s human rights and opportunities, increasing women’s access to political networks and resources, and addressing gender-based online harassment and abuse, including gendered disinformation, which impedes women’s safe, equal, and meaningful political participation—thereby undermining democracy.

The Administration continues to defend women’s human rights and opportunities and to defend against efforts to roll back progress on gender equality at home and around the world. For example, we worked with international partners to gain support to remove Iran from the UN Commission on the Status of Women, due to the brutality and violence perpetrated against Iranian women and girls in the wake of protests following the tragic death of Mahsa Amini. We imposed sanctions on individuals for serious human rights abuses in Afghanistan related to the repression of women and girls, including the restriction of access to secondary education. And we continue to support women human rights defenders and the work they undertake to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all across the globe.

Since the first [Summit for Democracy in 2021](#), the Administration has prioritized efforts to dismantle barriers to women’s political participation and strengthen the pipeline of women leaders. And on the margins of the NATO 75th Anniversary Summit, we launched [Women Leading Effective and Accountable Democracy in the Digital Age \(Women LEAD\)](#) to expand our work to advance women’s political participation and leadership as a pillar of our efforts to promote security and democratic stability. The United States and our partners [secured over \\$900 million](#) in commitments to the initiative, which is investing in programs that build and sustain a diverse pipeline of women leaders; addressing barriers to women’s participation in public life, both online and offline; and establishing a global community of practice of leaders and organizations working to advance women’s political and civic participation.