Twitter Thread by Politics Insider

Politics Insider
@Politicsinsider

President Trump promised good jobs and a return to greatness on the world stage during his inaugural address in 2017.

Four years on, none of these visions have been realized. Here are some key quotes from his address, and why they haven't aged well.

■ Trump said Americans 'want great schools for their children, safe neighborhoods for their families, and good jobs for themselves.'

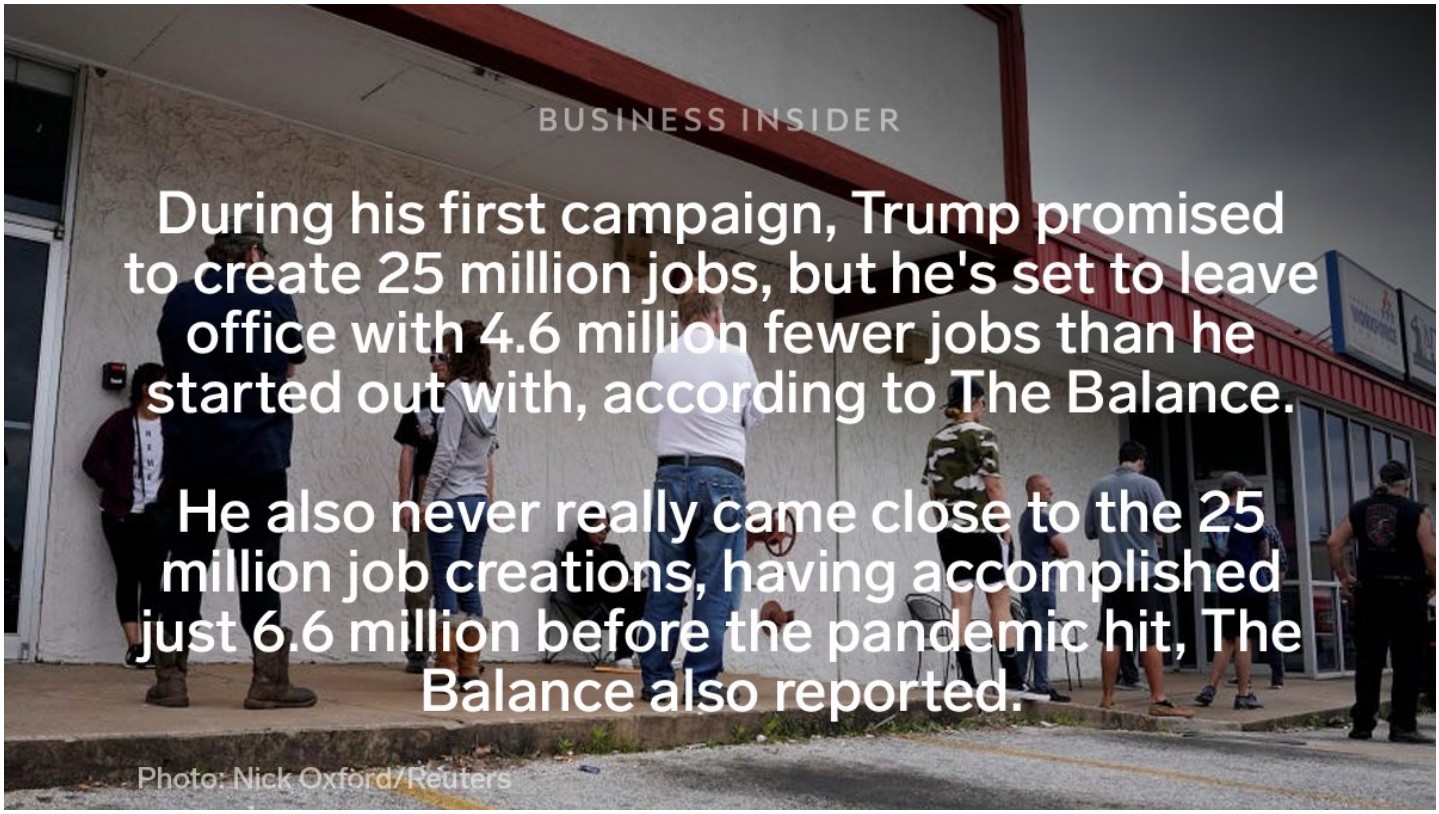
But he has done little to make sure people got this, instead installing controversial education secretary Betsy Devos. https://t.co/qW1Wqv5H1X



As for safe neighborhoods, crime has already been declining since the 1990s. But since Trump took office, cities have seen worrying spikes in homicides, especially since the pandemic.

@CouncilonCJ found a 42% increase last summer from 2019 in 29 cities. https://t.co/4DKQhEqLvk

The quality of American jobs don't appear to be getting any better either. @BrookingsInst in 2019 estimated that 44% of people were working low-wage jobs with median annual earnings of around $18K. This was before the pandemic forced millions out of work. https://t.co/4DKQhEqLvk



■ 'We will bring back our jobs. We will bring back our borders. We will bring back our wealth.'

While the economy grew steadily during most of Trump's time in office, the COVID-19 pandemic wiped away pretty much all of those gains. https://t.co/4DKQhEqLvk

As for borders, Trump promised to build a US-Mexico border, but only completed 453 out of 1,000 miles. Work on half-finished sections of the wall in some places made border security worse.

@JoeBiden has promised to end the project when he is sworn in. https://t.co/jJWftj62qp

■ 'We will seek friendship and goodwill with nations of the world ... We will reinforce old alliances and form new ones'

Trump's "America First" ideology has made the US more isolationist during his four years in office. https://t.co/4DKQhEqLvk

During his term, Trump:

■ Pulled the US out of international agreements like the Paris Agreement and the Iran nuclear deal

■ Threatened to cut funding to NATO

■ Ramped up tensions with China through a trade war.

https://t.co/6fNjTyXQEJ

He started and attempted to foster a diplomatic relationship with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in a bid to get it to denuclearize.

But that relationship has ultimately gone nowhere, with Kim plowing on with his nuclear ambitions. https://t.co/2QmzCrIKY7

The US also lost control of the pandemic under Trump, who ignored science and his own advisors as the virus struck.

As most of the world locked down to control the spread of COVID-19, Trump pushed for businesses to reopen and restrictions to lift. https://t.co/MaPGINouLd

The January 6 Capitol breach also made headlines across the world, eliciting shock from allies and glee from adversaries.

UK Prime Minister @BorisJohnson, who had previously been a staunch supporter of Trump, said the riot was "disgraceful."

https://t.co/pKmAO4o1fF

Trump promised to 'unite the civilized world against radical Islamic terrorism, which we will eradicate completely from the face of the Earth.'

Assassinating ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in 2019 is seen as one of his biggest accomplishments in office. https://t.co/IumARTI9UL

However, the president's repeated claims that ISIS has been totally defeated are false.

In August, a @UN report estimated that there were more than 10,000 fighters left, moving freely between small cells in Iraq and Syria.

https://t.co/pXYAUSJ5jl

■ ‘Through our loyalty to our country, we will rediscover our loyalty to each other.'

Trump's time in office has seen the US become even more divided. @pewresearch wrote in late 2020 that Americans ‘have rarely been as polarized as they are today.’ https://t.co/4DKQhEqLvk

■ 'Whether we are Black or brown or white, we all bleed the same red blood of patriots.'

Trump said this in 2017 but during his presidency has exhibited a stronger allegiance to white Americans — who make up his base — over Americans of color. https://t.co/4DKQhEqLvk

One of Trump's first actions in office was also to institute the so-called ‘Muslim travel ban’ in the US.

While many criticized the executive order as racist and Islamaphobic, the administration maintained it was necessary for national security reasons. https://t.co/S4rBaPA7SL



Race relations between Black and white Americans also hit a new low last summer with the police killing of George Floyd.

Activists painted a large Black Lives Matter mural in front of Trump's building in New York City, he called it a ‘symbol of hate.’ https://t.co/yMEjykfazQ

.@JoeBiden is set to take the reins from Trump today, and give his own inaugural address.

According to @CNN, it's a speech the former vice president has been crafting since he gave his victory address in November.

https://t.co/FHVMSGjeqN

> Biden and Harris will address the nation in a televised special titled "Celebrating America," which will begin at 8:30 p.m. ET.
>
> The 90-minute primetime program will be hosted by actor @tomhanks.https://t.co/KjtmcowVGw
>
> — Insider (@thisisinsider) January 15, 2021