

# Behold the world's most powerful woman

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**Breaking barriers:** Kamala Harris (above) is the first Black woman and Asian American vice president to be a major party's nominee for US President.

**Can she defeat Donald Trump? Joe Biden has dropped out of the race to be the next US president. Now Kamala Harris is running to be America's first female leader.**

## What's happening?

Whatever happens in November, the USA will soon have a new president. After weeks of talk about whether he is too old to be president, **Democrat Joe Biden** has dropped out of the race.

Now, a new candidate is stepping forward: his **vice president** Kamala Harris.

Yesterday, she became the likely Democrat nominee for president after most rivals dropped out and she gained enough delegate support. However, the official vote won't happen until early August.

## Find out more

If Harris becomes president, she would break records. She would be the first woman president and the first president who is South Asian. Her mother was from India and her father was from **Jamaica**.

But can she win? Can she beat **Donald Trump**? Harris **inherits** an economic miracle: last year the US **economy** grew and gained 2.7 million new jobs. This will help her campaign.

And at 59, she is much younger than Donald Trump. Now he may face questions about whether he is too old to be president.

Voters may also like her views on women's rights, which has long been a **Republican Party** (Donald Trump's party) weakness.

But winning will not be easy. The economy may not continue to grow as quickly. Trump has lots of support among workers.

Moreover, for the past four years, Harris has been in charge of stopping illegal **immigration** into the USA — but it still continues. This may help Donald Trump, who has an anti-immigration message.

Finally, the key question: is the US ready to vote for a Black and South Asian woman as president?

## Can she defeat Donald Trump?

### Some say

Yes! Harris has a very strong story. She is a lawyer who is running against a man who has been found guilty of a crime. And she is much younger than Donald Trump too. Voters will choose her.

### Others think

No! Trump is looking unstoppable. Surveys of voters show that Kamala Harris is not very popular. Meanwhile, Trump is doing well in the **polls**.

FOR YOUR SUMMER READING CHALLENGE CLUE GO TO STEP SIX IN THE SIX STEPS TO DISCOVERY BELOW.

## Six steps to discovery

### 1. Connect

**How do you feel about this story?** - What do you think about Kamala Harris?

### 2. Wonder

**What questions do you have?** - For example: Is this the most important election in history?

### 3. Investigate

## Some people say

*"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."*

**Plato (428 – 348 BC), Greek philosopher**

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*What do you think?*

**What are the facts?** - Pick out one thing we know for certain and one thing we cannot say for sure about this story.

#### 4. Construct

**What is your point of view?** - If you were Joe Biden, would you have made the same decision to step down?

#### 5. Express

**What do others believe?** - Hold a quick vote in your class on who the next president should be. Who wins? Donald Trump or Kamala Harris?

#### 6. Reflect

**What might happen next?** - Summer Reading Challenge Day 2: What big success did Harris inherit that may or may not help her to win the election? An economic \_\_\_\_\_. Download your challenge entry form [here](#).

## Glossary

**USA** - The United States of America is a country in North America. It has a population of 329 million.

**Democrat** - A member of the Democratic party, the left-leaning US political party.

**Joe Biden** - The president of the USA, elected in 2020.

**Vice president** - In the USA, the vice president can take over from the president if they are unable to run the country.

**Jamaica** - An island country in the West Indies. The capital is Kingston.

**Donald Trump** - An American television personality who became US president from 2016 to 2020.

**Inherits** - Receive something after someone else dies, or leaves a certain position.

**Economy** - The way that money flows through a country, which affects wages and the cost of living.

**Republican Party** - Also known as the Grand Old Party or GOP, it is one of the USA's two major political parties. Its first president was Abraham Lincoln. It sits on the right of the political spectrum.

**Immigration** - The permanent movement of people into a country.

**Polls** - When people are asked what their opinion is on a certain topic or who they are voting for in an election.