

JOE BIDEN

It's true that President Biden has not visited the US-Mexico border since taking office

Biden has faced criticism for not making any public appearances at the southern border since becoming president.



Credit: AP

President Joe Biden steps off Air Force One, Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, at Luke Air Force Base in Maricopa County, Ariz. Biden is traveling to nearby Phoenix to visit the building site for a new computer chip plant and speak about his economic agenda. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

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On Dec. 6, [President Joe Biden](#) went to Arizona for the first time since taking office. During his time there, he [visited](#) a new computer chip plant near Phoenix. But he [faced criticism](#) for not making a stop along the U.S.-Mexico border.



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VERIFY viewer Randy reached out on [verifythis.com](#) to ask if these claims are true.

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THE QUESTION

Is it true that President Biden has not visited the U.S.-Mexico border since taking office?

THE SOURCES

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THE ANSWER



Yes, it's true that President Biden has not visited the U.S.-Mexico border since taking office.

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WHAT WE FOUND

VERIFY conducted a search of White House speeches, archives and news reports and found there is no public record of President Joe Biden visiting the U.S.-Mexico border since he took office on Jan. 20, 2021.

In October 2021, Biden answered questions during a [CNN town hall](#) in Baltimore. When asked if he had any plans to visit the southern border, the president said he had been too busy traveling to go since his term began.

"I guess I should go down, but the whole point of it is I have not had a whole lot of time to get down," Biden [said](#) on Oct. 21, 2021.

A day after the town hall, former White House press secretary Jen Psaki [told reporters](#) that the last time the president had been near the border was when he was in El Paso, Texas, while on the campaign trail in 2008.

"He does not need a visit to the border to know what a mess was left by the last administration. That's his view," Psaki said.

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Over a year later, on Nov. 30, 2022, White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre [said](#) that Biden had "been to the border" during a press briefing, but didn't specify when.

"So, look, he's been there," Jean-Pierre said. VERIFY could not find any record of Biden visiting since 2008.

On Dec. 6, Biden [addressed](#) the criticism at the White House before leaving for Phoenix.

"Mr. President, why go to a border state and not visit the border?" Peter Doocy, a White House correspondent for FOX News Channel, asked Biden.

"There are more important things going on," Biden said.

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Vice President Kamala Harris, however, has made an official visit to El Paso, Texas.

In March 2021, Biden appointed Harris to oversee migration issues along the southern border. Two months later, on June 25, Harris [went to El Paso](#), a city located on the northern bank of the Rio Grande, the international border between the U.S. and Mexico.

While there she toured the El Paso Border Patrol Station, the El Paso Processing Center and the Paso del Norte Port of Entry where her [office says](#) she met privately with young asylum seekers. The vice president's visit was also documented by [local](#) and [national](#) media.

VERIFY reached out to the White House for comment but did not hear back by the time of publication.

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Biden isn't directly responsible for Social Security benefit increase



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