

## **Breaking Down Donald Trump and Elon Musk's First 100 Days Attacking the Federal Government**

### *How DOGE's Deeply Unpopular Assault on Federal Agencies Has Made Life Harder and More Expensive for Working Families*

One hundred days into the second Trump Administration, the record of Elon Musk's so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) is clear: reckless cuts to critical programs and mass firings of government employees have increased costs and administrative burdens for millions of Americans. From making it harder for families to access their [Social Security](#) and [food assistance](#) benefits to gutting funding for [medical research and disease prevention](#) to putting people's [most sensitive personal data](#) at risk, Trump and Musk's DOGE have spent their first 100 days wreaking havoc on virtually all parts of the federal government. The American people are catching on. Recent polls show that the [majority of Americans](#) disapprove of Musk's reign at DOGE, and [vast majorities](#) oppose cuts to government benefits and programs.

Below are just a few of the ways the Trump Administration and Elon Musk have used DOGE to devastate core government operations and programs – making life harder and more expensive for American families and undermining U.S. economic prosperity.

### **Musk's DOGE has spent 100 days (and counting) gutting the critical programs Americans count on – from Social Security to veterans benefits to food and housing assistance.**

- Musk's DOGE is making it [harder](#) for people to get their Social Security benefits – and using conspiracy theories as a [pretext for their attacks](#) on the agency. DOGE significantly cut staffing at the Social Security Administration (SSA) – resulting in website crashes, field office staff reductions of [more than 25%](#) in some communities, longer phone wait times, and reports that ["Social Security is breaking down."](#)
  - Longtime agency employees have [warned](#) that Trump's "disregard for critical processes" and SSA's significant "loss of expertise" from staff cuts could bring core Social Security operations to a halt.
- Trump and Musk's reckless and widespread agency cuts have propelled veterans mental health care services into ["turmoil"](#) and [undermined](#) the operation of the national veterans' crisis hotline. And DOGE is [reportedly](#) planning mass layoffs at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) – [degrading](#) customer service and extending wait times for the nearly 9 million veterans who receive their health care from the VA health system.

- Often with no clear communication or justification, Trump and Musk have frozen the funding that keeps families fed and schools and community service organizations open.
  - Musk's DOGE has ended programs that provide food assistance to schools and food banks by allowing them to buy goods [directly from farmers](#) and providing for [shipments of produce and poultry](#).
  - DOGE has also cut programs that fund [child care initiatives](#), [tribal colleges](#), [libraries and local museums](#), and [local nonprofits](#) that provide everything from tutoring to support for child victims of abuse.
- At the same time that Musk's DOGE is taking a chainsaw to the federal agencies and programs, Trump is considering [additional slashes](#) to programs in his budget proposal that would raise costs on basic goods for American families.
  - Trump's forthcoming budget proposal may [eliminate](#) Head Start education programs for 800,000 children and their families, terminate [home energy assistance](#) for 6 million households, and curtail [housing aid](#) for over 2 million families.
  - Trump and Congressional Republicans are planning to pair these devastating spending cuts with tax cuts for billionaires and corporations – the combination of which will actually *increase* costs for millions of working families – by [as much as](#) \$1,125 for the bottom 20% of U.S. families.

**In just 100 days, Musk has leveraged DOGE to benefit himself and his cronies at the expense of American families – by making it easier for billionaires and corporations to evade the rules and regulations in place to protect consumers.**

- Musk's DOGE is targeting the IRS to let wealthy and corporate tax cheats off the hook and make it harder for families to get help when they need it. The IRS may lose [as much as](#) 40% of its total workforce between DOGE's staff [cuts](#) and deferred resignation incentives. Recent analysis suggests that reducing IRS staff, including in the compliance and enforcement departments, could cost the government as much as \$2.4 trillion in [revenue loss](#) over the next decade.
  - At the same time, Trump and Musk are considering handing [private tax preparation companies](#) like Intuit and H&R Block a massive giveaway by eliminating a [popular tool](#) that lets Americans file their taxes directly with the IRS for free.

- DOGE is also targeting the agency specifically tasked with protecting consumers by trying to illegally dismantle the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) – making it easier for big banks, giant corporations, and Musk’s cronies and personal companies to cheat families out of their hard-earned money. Under DOGE’s direction, the CFPB has slashed staff, dropped investigations into and legal actions against exploitative credit card companies and subprime auto lenders, gutted rules that reined in payday lenders, and is in the process of walking away from efforts to protect student loan borrowers.
- As DOGE is demolishing the federal government, Musk is refusing to publicly disclose his many conflicts of interest or get the waiver required for working on matters on which he is conflicted – even as he gains access to sensitive systems at IRS, CFPB, and elsewhere that hold confidential personal and business information, including about his competitors.
  - As head of DOGE, Musk has influence on agencies that regulate his companies and provide them with nearly \$40 billion (so far) in government contracts. The Trump Administration has simultaneously undermined federal oversight of these processes – including by mass firing inspector generals for 17 agencies and the forcibly ousting other government watchdogs – creating the potential for Musk to receive billions more in contracting revenue in the future.
  - Through his tenure at DOGE, Musk also may be helping his companies avoid accountability from the 65 actions from 11 agencies that his companies were facing at the start of the Trump Administration.

**Musk’s DOGE has also set its sights on the agencies that keep families and communities healthy, safe, and thriving.**

- DOGE has cut or paused grants that keep families and communities safe and resilient.
  - DOGE has frozen billions of dollars in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding that help communities prepare for and respond to natural disasters – like Hurricane Helene that caused more than \$100 billion in damages across 5 states.
  - DOGE has also attempted to claw back more than \$11 billion in public health funding that states and cities use to support infectious disease prevention, addiction care, and mental health programs.
- The Trump Administration is now targeting food and drug safety. DOGE has cut 20% of the workforce at the Food and Drug Administration, risking the safety of

communities and families by degrading or outright suspending food and milk [quality testing](#) and drug inspection.

- DOGE and the Trump Administration have [cut staff](#) at the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and either [cancelled or frozen](#) billions of dollars in [research funds](#) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and other science agencies – severely limiting U.S. medical innovation and new medical discoveries, leaving [communities facing medical crises](#) stranded, and making families more vulnerable to preventable diseases.
  - So far, the Trump Administration has cancelled more than \$2 billion in [NIH awards](#), \$230 million in [NSF grants](#), and is [threatening](#) to cancel billions more for government-funded universities. Because of these funding cuts, universities of all sizes [will be forced to](#) cut staff, forgo hiring, and admit fewer graduate students.
- Beyond the acute health threats Trump and Musk's science cuts pose to families, slashing research funding [threatens](#) our country's [future prosperity](#): New analysis by the Institute for Macroeconomic and Policy Analysis [finds](#) that cutting NIH funding by 50% – a threshold Trump and DOGE have already surpassed – could decrease US GDP in the long run by 3.7% and federal revenues by 4.2%.

**Musk and DOGE wasted no time putting confidential personal and business data at risk by demanding access to sensitive IT systems with no regard for security or privacy.**

- Across agencies, Musk and DOGE have demanded [illegal](#) access to the sensitive systems that house a wide range of confidential personal and business data, including bank account information in [Treasury systems](#), [personal health records](#) from SSA and Health and Human Services, [employee data](#) of current and former federal employees at the Office of Personnel Management, and [sensitive tax data](#) at IRS.
  - With this data, Musk and Trump are reportedly trying to create a massive "[data trove](#)" that would include all types of Americans' personal data (from medical diagnoses to employment history) – making our data systems more vulnerable to cyber attacks from hackers or hostile nations.
- Musk's dictatorial reign at DOGE, where he ignores the protocols in place to protect Americans, means oversight of his and the DOGE team's access to and use of sensitive data is virtually nonexistent. Court filings and whistleblower reports have indicated that Musk and DOGE employees are [unqualified](#), [untrustworthy](#), [untrained](#), and [unvetted](#) – and lack clear [management](#) or the [security clearances](#) required.

**The last thing Americans want is Trump or Elon Musk raising costs and increasing administrative burdens for American families while undermining our national prosperity.**

- Recent polling shows that:
  - 65% of Americans believe Musk has too much power.
  - 62% of voters – including 74% of Independents – say that Musk should resign as head of DOGE.
  - 85% of Americans oppose cuts to Social Security – including 75% who *strongly* oppose – while 72% oppose cuts to food assistance.
  - 77% of Americans oppose federal funding freezes for medical research.
  - 64% of Americans – including 63% of Independents – are concerned about the loss of expertise from mass firings of federal workers.