Press Release

Comparing the Pace of President Trump’s Executive Actions to Recent Predecessors

ALLISON EDWARDS | AUGUST 6, 2020

While Republicans criticized President Obama for his assertion of executive authority, President Trump has prominently made use of these same powers, most notably around immigration. AAF’s Senior Regulatory Policy Analyst Dan Goldbeck examines the number and rate of direct executive actions President Trump and the last three presidents have issued. President Trump is currently on pace to exert this direct authority more than any of his three immediate predecessors, he finds.

An excerpt:

Number of Presidential Documents on FederalRegister.gov - Adjusted for a "Full" Two Terms

![Chart showing the number of presidential documents by type for different presidents.]

Projecting out at the current rate, Trump would narrowly edge out Obama for the overall lead at 2,136 actions to the latter’s 2,132. Further, Trump is on pace for 399 Executive Orders, which would be at least 60 more than any of the other presidents.

Read the analysis.