

By changing the way the FDA and EPA are run is the trump administration killing people



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Based on recent analyses from public health organizations and media reports, changes made or proposed by the Trump administration to the FDA and EPA could potentially cause deaths by weakening safety standards, reducing oversight, and impacting regulations on pollution. [↗](#)

Impact of EPA changes on public health

Reports suggest that changes to the EPA could weaken environmental protections and lead to increased health risks for the American public. [↗](#)

- **Air pollution:** The planned rollback of tailpipe and smokestack standards could cause up to 200,000 premature deaths and 100 million asthma attacks that would otherwise be prevented, according to the [Environmental Protection Network](#).
- **Budget and staffing cuts:** A Center for American Progress analysis reports proposed budget cuts to the EPA, along with eliminating the agency's scientific research and environmental justice offices, which could compromise the agency's ability to protect communities from pollution.
- **Climate change:** Efforts to repeal the 2009 "endangerment finding" that enables the EPA to regulate greenhouse gases could worsen the effects of climate change, which contribute to health risks from wildfires, heat waves, and other extreme weather events. [↗](#)

Impact of FDA changes on public health

Planned changes to the FDA have also raised concerns about public health and safety. [↗](#)

- **Staffing and funding cuts:** A [Brookings Institution](#) article warns that reductions in FDA staffing and funding could increase the number of unsafe drugs and products reaching consumers. This could affect the safety of generic drugs, which are widely used.

- **Drug advertising:** While the administration has taken steps to require more transparency in pharmaceutical advertising, critics argue that reducing oversight in other areas could counteract these efforts.
- **Vaccine policy:** A report outlining the administration's "Make our Children Healthy Again" plan recommends further study of vaccines, including the use of placebos in clinical trials. Medical and policy experts view this as casting doubt on mainstream science and potentially hindering public health efforts. [↗](#)

What is still unknown

The potential impact of these policy changes is still subject to debate and depends on several factors:

- **Legal challenges:** Many policy changes related to the EPA are expected to face legal challenges, which could delay or overturn some of the rollbacks.
- **Implementation details:** The actual health impact will depend on the specifics of how new policies are implemented and enforced.
- **Medical opinion:** The medical and scientific community overwhelmingly opposes many of the proposed changes, while some within the administration and its allies disagree. [↗](#)

The Trump administration's NIH and FDA cuts will negatively ...

May 14, 2025 — Sherry Glied Nonresident Senior Fellow - Economic Studies, Center on Health Policy. ... * Over the past four months, the Trump...

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The Food and Drug Administration Under the Second Trump ...

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The FDA in the Second Trump Administration - Milbank Memorial Fund

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Dec 11, 2024 — If past is prologue, federal environmental protections may see a rollback—but state and local efforts could stem the damage.



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How the Trump Administration Pulled Back on Regulating ...

Feb 12, 2019 — The **Trump administration** has halted bans on toxic chemicals that are known to cause serious health threats.



The New York Times

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The Trump Administration Rolled Back More Than 100 ...

Jan 20, 2021 — The **Trump administration** dismantled major climate policies and rolled back many more rules governing clean air, water, wildlife and toxic chemicals.

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