

DACA at Four: Estimating the Potentially Eligible Population and Assessing Application and Renewal Trends



Webinar
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Presenters



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Logistics

- Slides and audio from today's webinar will be available at: www.migrationpolicy.org/events
- The report, *DACA at Four: Participation in the Deferred Action Program and Impacts on Recipients*, is available at: <http://bit.ly/DACAat4>
- Report coincides with release of updated data tools: <http://bit.ly/DACAstats>
- If you have any problems accessing this webinar, please contact us by email at events@migrationpolicy.org or call +1-202-266-1929.
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Core Elements: MPI DACA Analyses

- ***Population profiles:*** periodic updating of national, state and local estimates of potentially eligible applicants; creation of web tools to provide speedy public access.
- ***Program implementation:*** tracking of initial and renewal application and adjudication processes and associated issues/insights.
- ***Educational success:*** research and local capacity-building to support progress towards diplomas, certificates and degrees.



Agenda for Today's Discussion

- ***Analysis of the DACA population***
 - Updated estimates
 - National application and renewal rates
 - Application and renewal rates by state and country of birth

- ***Recent DACA policy developments***

- ***DACA's impacts on recipients***



Randy Capps



Randy Capps is Director of Research for U.S. Programs at the Migration Policy Institute. His areas of expertise include immigration trends, the unauthorized population, immigrants in the U.S. labor force, the children of immigrants and their well-being, and immigrant health-care and public benefits access and use.

Dr. Capps, a demographer, has published widely on immigrant integration at the state and local level. He also has examined the impact of the detention and deportation of immigrant parents on children.

Prior to joining MPI, Dr. Capps was a researcher in the Immigration Studies Program at the Urban Institute (1993-96, and 2000-08).

He received his PhD in sociology from the University of Texas in 1999 and his master of public affairs degree, also from the University of Texas, in 1992.



Acknowledgments

- James Bachmeier and Colin Hammar at Temple University, Philadelphia analyzed the data on legal status of immigrants that provide the basis for these estimates.
- Jennifer Van Hook at Pennsylvania State University advised in developing the methodology.
- Ariel Ruiz and Bárbara Gómez-Aguiñaga at MPI assisted with analysis of initial and renewal application rates.



The DACA Program

Provides work authorization and relief from deportation for 2-year periods for youth:

- Age 15+
- Under age 31 as of June 2012
- Arrived in the United States before age 16
- Unauthorized and present in U.S. as of June 2012
- Resided continuously in the U.S. since June 2007
- **Have high school diploma/equivalent, or be enrolled in school or an adult education program**
- **Can pass a security, criminal background check**

Source: USCIS, "Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Process"



MPI's Methodology to Estimate Eligible Populations

- Used MPI's unique assignments of unauthorized status to noncitizens in the most recent data:
 - The U.S. Census Bureau 2014 American Community Survey (ACS).
 - Assignments based on legal status recorded in the 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

- Aged forward the population:
 - Unauthorized youth ages 13 or 14 in the 2014 ACS are two years older as of 2016, so counted as eligible. (Minimum age for DACA is 15).

- * **Could not model criminal convictions or adult education program enrollment.**



Three DACA-Eligible Populations

	Number	Share
Total Potentially Eligible	1,932,000	100%
Immediately eligible youth (ages 15-34)	1,307,000	68%
Youth who did not appear to meet education criteria (ages 15-34)	398,000	21%
Children eligible in the future (under 15)	228,000	12%

Source: Migration Policy Institute (MPI) analysis of U.S. Census Bureau pooled data from the 2010-14 American Community Survey (ACS) with legal status assignments by James D. Bachmeier and Colin Hammar of Temple University and Jennifer Van Hook of The Pennsylvania State University.



Calculation of Initial Application Rates

- As of March 2016, USCIS had accepted **819,512** initial DACA applications.
 - **728,285 (89 percent)** were approved.

- MPI calculated two national application rates:
 - **63 percent** of immediately eligible unauthorized youth, who met all criteria we could model (1.3 million)
 - **48 percent** of the broader group that includes the immediately eligible plus those who did not meet the education requirements (1.7 million)

Sources: Migration Policy Institute (MPI) analysis of U.S. Census Bureau pooled data from the 2010-14 American Community Survey (ACS) with legal status assignments by James D. Bachmeier and Colin Hammar of Temple University and Jennifer Van Hook of The Pennsylvania State University.; USCIS, “Data Set: Form I-821D Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” multiple quarterly reports.



Initial Application Rates by State

	Immediately Eligible	Immediately Eligible and Eligible But for Education	Applications Accepted by USCIS	Application Rate Using Immediately Eligible (%)	Application Rate Using Immediately Eligible and Eligible But for Education (%)
U.S. Total	1,307,000	1,705,000	820,000	63	48
California	379,000	499,000	231,000	61	46
Texas	177,000	234,000	134,000	76	57
New York	76,000	97,000	43,000	56	44
Florida	72,000	92,000	35,000	48	38
Illinois	68,000	86,000	44,000	64	51
New Jersey	53,000	64,000	23,000	43	36
Georgia	47,000	65,000	27,000	57	42
North Carolina	41,000	58,000	29,000	71	50
Arizona	35,000	46,000	30,000	86	65

Sources: MPI analysis of U.S. Census Bureau pooled 2010-14 ACS data, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier, Hammar, and Van Hook; USCIS, "Data Set: Form I-821D Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals," multiple quarterly reports.



Initial Application Rates by Country of Birth

Country of Birth	Immediately Eligible	Immediately Eligible and Eligible But for Education	Applications Accepted by USCIS	Application Rate Using Immediately Eligible (%)	Application Rate Using Immediately Eligible and Eligible But for Education (%)
Mexico	822,000	1,136,000	634,000	77	56
Guatemala	55,000	93,000	22,000	40	24
El Salvador	41,000	54,000	31,000	77	58
South Korea	49,000	50,000	7,000	15	15
Honduras	28,000	38,000	20,000	73	54
China	25,000	27,000	0	0	0
Colombia	19,000	20,000	7,000	36	34
India	15,000	16,000	4,000	23	23
Philippines	18,000	19,000	5,000	27	26
Peru	15,000	15,000	9,000	64	61

Notes: Totals may not add up due to rounding. Percentages are calculated on unrounded numbers and may not match those calculated based on the rounded numbers.

Sources: MPI analysis of U.S. Census Bureau pooled 2010-14 ACS data, with legal status assignments by Bachmeier, Hammar, and Van Hook; USCIS, “Data Set: Form I-821D Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” multiple quarterly reports.



Calculation of Renewal Rates

Total Number of Initial DACA Approvals and Renewal Requestors, FY 2012 - 16

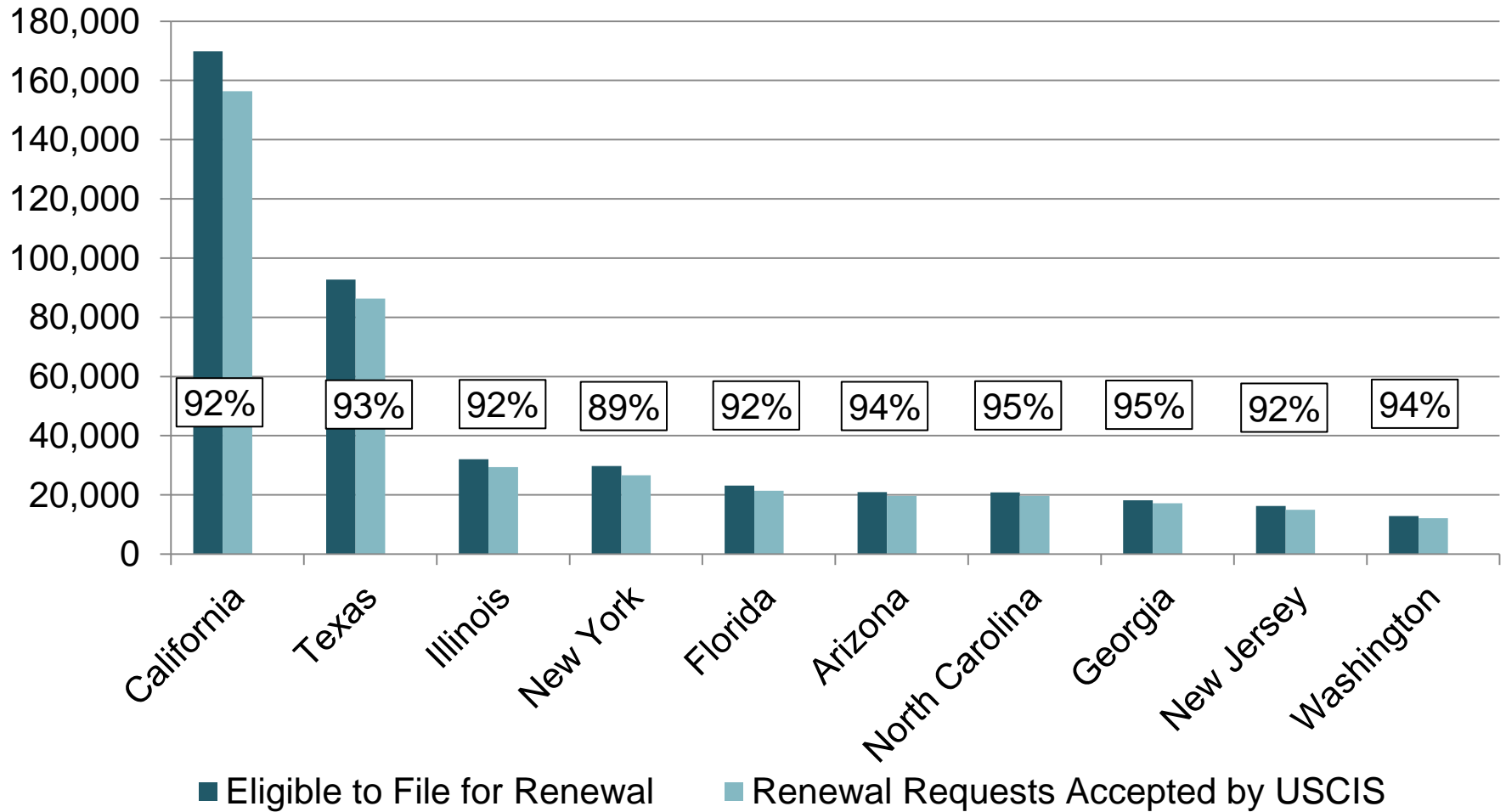
Initial DACA Approval	Timeframe to File Renewals	Eligible to File for Renewal	Renewals Filed	Renewals Not Yet Filed	Renewal Request Rate
September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2014	May 4, 2014 – March 2, 2016	580,859	539,008	41,851	93%

Notes: Although USCIS started accepting DACA requests on August 15, 2012, it began approving them on September 1, 2012; thus, the first wave of renewal requests would have started in May 4, 2014, following USCIS guidelines. However, USCIS did not begin accepting renewal requests until June 5, 2014.

Sources: USCIS, “Data Set: Form I-821D Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” data for August 2012 – June 2014 (fiscal year 2014, quarter 3), and data for May 2014 – March 2016 (fiscal year 2016, quarter 2), www.uscis.gov/tools/reports-studies/immigration-forms-data/data-set-form-i-821d-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals.



Renewal Rates by State



Sources: MPI analysis of data from USCIS, "Data Set: Form I-821D Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals," multiple quarterly reports.



Renewal Rates by Country of Birth

Country of Origin	Eligible to File for Renewal	Renewal Requests Accepted by USCIS	Renewal Request Rate (%)
Mexico	449,921	418,044	93
El Salvador	21,099	20,229	96
Guatemala	14,034	13,110	93
Honduras	13,839	12,965	94
South Korea	7,554	6,548	87
Peru	7,525	6,816	91
Brazil	6,016	5,210	87
Colombia	5,602	4,899	88
Ecuador	5,342	4,843	91
Argentina	3,579	3,202	89

Sources: MPI analysis of administrative data from USCIS, “Data Set: Form I-821D Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” multiple quarterly reports.



Faye Hipsman



Faye Hipsman is a Policy Analyst and California Program Coordinator with the U.S. Immigration Policy Program at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI). She joined MPI in 2011 and is now based in San Francisco. Her areas of expertise include immigration enforcement and border security, state and local immigration policies, and immigration and politics.

She has published more than 50 reports, articles, and policy briefs on a wide range of immigration topics covering the United States, Mexico, and Central America. In 2016, Ms. Hipsman became an Affiliated Scholar with University of California-Hastings College of the Law. Prior to MPI, she worked as a paralegal at an immigration and nationality law firm in Boston on a variety of deportation, family-based, and employment-based cases. She has also worked at the Brookings Institution and for several immigrant advocacy and civil-rights organizations in Texas and Ohio.

Ms. Hipsman holds a BA in Latin American studies with minors in economics and history from Oberlin College..



DACA Policy Developments

- Second-time DACA renewals are beginning in August 2016.
 - 500,000 participants obtained DACA in 2012 and renewed DACA in 2014.
- DACA's continuation may depend on the 2016 election outcome.
- A federal district court in Texas enjoined DAPA and expanded DACA in February 2015.
 - Supreme Court upheld injunction in June 2016.
- 3-year work authorization documents were issued in 2014 and 2015, causing legal controversy.



DACA's Impact on Participants

Employment opportunities

- *The findings of several small-scale early surveys indicate that DACA grantees:*
 - Have experienced improved employment opportunities and earnings
 - More than 75 percent reported obtaining a new job after enrolling in DACA; more than half reported obtaining a higher-paying job
 - Have access to better economic opportunities, compared to their non-DACA counterparts
 - 84 percent of DACA participants reported having a job, versus 68 percent of those without deferred action

*Sources: Zenén Jaimes Pérez, *A Portrait of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Recipients* (Washington, DC: United We Dream, 2015); Caitlin Patler and Jorge A. Cabrera, *From Undocumented to DACAmented, Impacts of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program Three Years Following its Announcement* (Los Angeles: Institute for Research on Labor and Employment, UCLA, 2015); Roberto G. Gonzalez and Angie M. Bautista-Chavez, *Two Years and Counting: Assessing the Growing Power of DACA* (Washington, DC: American Immigration Council, 2014).*



DACA's Impact on Participants

Educational opportunities and social integration

These surveys also indicate that DACA grantees:

- Have returned to school, find it easier to stay in school, and can finance their education through work
- Experience improved social integration and civil participation.
 - DACA grantees reported greater sense of freedom and belonging, as well as alleviated fears of removal.
 - 99 percent of DACA grantees said they would become U.S. citizens if given the opportunity.

Sources: Jaimes Pérez (2015); Patler and Cabrera (2015).



DACA's Impact on Participants

Driver's Licenses, IDs, and Advance Parole

- *DACA grantees are eligible for driver's licenses in all states.*
 - Surveys show that the majority of DACA grantees have obtained a state-issued driver's license and/or state identification card since enrolling in DACA.
- *DACA grantees are eligible to apply for Advance Parole.*
 - More than 22,000 DACA grantees have been granted Advance Parole as of December 2015.
 - Of those granted Advance Parole, almost 3,000 DACA participants were later approved for adjustment of status (a green card).

Source: Jaimes Pérez 2015; Patler and Cabrera 2015; Letter from Leon Rodriguez, Director of USCIS, to Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley, 2016.



DACA at Four: In Conclusion

- With the broader DAPA program suspended, DACA remains the only avenue for unauthorized immigrants to affirmatively receive deportation relief on a large scale.
- Half, if not more, of eligible unauthorized youth have applied for DACA.
- Renewal rates exceed 90 percent almost across the board, and substantial benefits have been documented.
- Going forward, outreach should focus on unauthorized youth:
 - Who could qualify by enrolling in adult education.
 - Who will age into eligibility when they turn 15 (250,000 already have done so.)



Q & A

- Use Q&A chat function on the right of the screen to write questions.
- Or you can send an email to events@migrationpolicy.org with your question or tweet to @MigrationPolicy #MPIIdiscuss
- Slides and audio from today's webinar will be available at www.migrationpolicy.org/events
- The report discussed today is available on our website:
 - ***DACA at Four: Participation in the Deferred Action Program and Impacts on Recipients***, By Faye Hipsman, Bárbara Gómez-Aguíñaga, and Randy Capps is available at: <http://bit.ly/DACAat4>
- The tool discussed on today's webinar is available at: <http://bit.ly/DACAstats>



MPI DACA-DAPA-DREAM Resources

- Data tool, including county-level profiles for unauthorized individuals (117 counties):
<http://bit.ly/unauthdata>
- Estimates of DACA populations and application rates at U.S., state & local levels + by country of origin:
<http://bit.ly/DACAstats>
- MPI resources and reports on DACA-DREAM Youth:
<http://bit.ly/dacadreamMPI>



Thank You For Joining Us!

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