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By Katherine Baker

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NEGATIVE: DACA Fix

INHERENCY

DACA renewals underway despite advertised "end" to DACA

Dara Lind, 2018. (Dara has covered immigration in some form for about a decade. A Vox reporter since the site launched in 2014, she's explained everything from federal data on police shootings to the enduring appeal of "moving to Canada" fantasies, while keeping a close eye on the theory and reality behind American immigration policy.) “The Trump administration is keeping DACA on life support” Jan 18, 2018. <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/1/18/16901018/daca-renewal-uscis-trump-deadline-appeal>

It took the administration less than five days to announce that it would begin to accept renewal applications for three broad categories of people who had already received DACA: •Immigrants whose work permits were set to expire after March 5, 2018 (who previously had been barred from renewing) •The 22,000 immigrants whose work permits expired (or are about to expire) between September 5 and March 5, who didn’t get the chance to renew in the narrow window DHS created in September •Immigrants whose work permits had already expired in the year before Trump wound down the program.

HARMS / SIGNIFICANCE

1. Mass Deportation won’t happen

Mass Deportation not logistically possible nor is it the Trump Administration’s plan

Hector Barreto, 2017. (chairman of The Latino Coalition) “Here's why Trump is right to end DACA” 6 Sept 2017. <https://www.cnbc.com/2017/09/06/on-daca-trump-did-the-right-thing-commentary.html>

In the meantime, leaders should stay away from inflammatory language and fear mongering. Mass deportations will not happen – it is simply not logistically possible, and it is not what the Trump Administration has called for. It is worth noting how Attorney General Sessions described the government's next steps: The Department of Justice has advised the President and the Department of Homeland Security that DHS should begin an orderly, lawful wind down, including the cancellation of the memo that authorized this program. … This [wind down process] will enable DHS to conduct an orderly change and fulfill the desire of this administration to create a time period for Congress to act—should it so choose. We firmly believe this is the responsible path. Sessions' words about a "wind down" were rational and calm, indicating an approach that is not drastic or dramatic, not gratuitously painful or overly political. The end of DACA and the beginning of lawful immigration reform can, and should, be handled with this level of maturity and respect – for dreamers for American citizens, and for our nation's tradition of the rule of law.

No desire to deport all illegal immigrants

Victor Davis Hanson, 2018. (senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.) “What the 'Dreamer' fight is really about” Jan 14, 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-hanson-dreamer-agenda-20180114-story.html>

Now, however, a newly ascendant conservative base objects to illegal immigration for many of the same reasons Democrats did historically. One exception, of sorts, is that even most hard-liners do not wish suddenly to deport all 10 million immigrants in the U.S. illegally, at least those who have not committed crimes, are not on public assistance, are fully employed and are willing to pay fines and to learn English to obtain green cards.

2. DACA immigrants not “as seen on TV”

DACA recipients not young college kids working toward upward mobility

Victor Davis Hanson, 2018. (senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.) “What the 'Dreamer' fight is really about” Jan 14, 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-hanson-dreamer-agenda-20180114-story.html>

Democrats are so focused on the 800,000 Dreamers — less than 10% of the undocumented population — because they're politically photogenic and for now seen as the easiest group to exempt from efforts to control illegal immigration. In blanket fashion, the media consistently report that they are model youth, fulfilling their proverbial "dreams" of finishing college and achieving upward mobility. That narrative lacks subtlety, if it's not outright deceptive. The average age of DACA participants is now 24. Few after entering adulthood sought to address their known illegal status. Surveys suggest that most are not in school; fewer than 5% have graduated from college. Those employed earn a median hourly wage of $15.34, which means they are forced to compete on the lower end of the wage ladder. Only about a tenth of 1% of DACA youth serve in the U.S. military — fewer than 900 total.

DACA recipients older and crossed the border themselves

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

Many of the DACA “kids” were not brought here as young children. Instead they were smuggled into the United States as “tweens” (ages 8-12) and teenagers. A large number of DACA applicants weren’t “brought” here by anyone – they crossed the border themselves: ◦The DACA program did not require that applicants were brought here without their consent. Anyone who entered the U.S. prior to age 16 and who was under 31 on June 15, 2012 could apply.

Many DACA recipients convicted of crimes

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

They’re not all valedictorians: Over 2,000 individuals approved for DACA had their status terminated because they were convicted of crimes ranging from alien smuggling to sexual assault. And the number of DACA recipients subject to termination is still growing.

3. A/T "Can't speak their native language"

Old enough to know it

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

One would expect that children brought to the U.S. between ages eight and eighteen would have some ability to speak the native language of the country where they were born. So the argument that the DACA “kids” would have a hard time reintegrating in their country of citizenship appears to be false.

26 DACA origin countries have English as the national language or large English-speaking communities

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

USCIS lists 149 countries of origin for DACA applicants. At least 26 of those are countries where English is the national language, including: the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Ireland, among many others. A large number of other applicants were born in countries like India, Hong Kong, and the Philippines where there are enormous English-speaking communities.

4. "Dreamers" / DACA recipients not fleeing poverty or oppression

“DACA recipients return to poverty” RESPONSE: Many origin nations wealthy and advanced

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

Other statistics also undermine the claims that the United States must “take care of the DACAs” or condemn them to a life of isolation and poverty: •At least 36 of the nations of origin listed by USCIS are European. They include Portugal, Italy, Germany, France, Spain, the Netherlands, Austria, and Switzerland. •Scandinavia – where many of the worlds wealthiest and most advanced societies are located – is also well represented with applicants hailing from Denmark, Sweden and Estonia. •Applicants also originate from at least nine Asian countries with fully developed or rapidly developing economies, such as South Korea, Japan, Singapore and Malaysia. •360 nationals of Israel applied for DACA benefits. Israel is a developed nation, with a thriving economy, that – as a matter of law – accepts all returned citizens and provides free instruction in Hebrew to returnees and immigrants.

DACA recipients coming from countries with high standard of living

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

In fact, many DACA applicant’s birth countries are listed on the higher end of the Social Progress Index, a “standard of living” scale published by the non-profit Social Progress Imperative. Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom are actually rated higher than the United States. Which means that DACA advocates are arguing that the United States has a moral obligation to undermine its own laws in order to avoid returning European illegal aliens to countries whose citizens are considered to have a higher standard of living than Americans. One wonders why it has never occurred to Congress that its primary obligation should be protecting native-born American kids from illegal aliens who compete with them for entry-level jobs and seats at colleges and universities.

DACA applicants not oppressed, well-meaning high-achievers

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

Based on the facts – rather than the myth – it seems pretty clear that the individuals who applied for, and received, DACA were not the oppressed, well-meaning, high-achievers that the media and the open-borders lobby portrayed them to be.

5. Hidden agenda fuels ‘support’ for DACA – not serious humanitarian suffering

Illegal immigration only around for selfish reasons, not moral ones

Victor Davis Hanson, 2018. (Victor Davis Hanson is a senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.) “What the 'Dreamer' fight is really about” Jan 14, 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-hanson-dreamer-agenda-20180114-story.html>

Illegal immigration flourished because Democrats wanted future constituents, and Republicans sought inexpensive labor. But an irate public has had it with open borders — and both parties are scrambling to hide their past and present agendas for now by focusing on the idealized Dreamers.

Reason for DACA support is votes

Victor Davis Hanson, 2018. (Victor Davis Hanson is a senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.) “What the 'Dreamer' fight is really about” Jan 14, 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-hanson-dreamer-agenda-20180114-story.html>

Democrats once used to talk about ending outright illegal immigration. They worried that it put downward pressure on wages. They thought it eroded union efforts and sapped political support among Democrats' blue-collar base, while overtaxing finite social services to the detriment of the American underclass. In the current age of identity politics, a new generation of progressive Democrats has recalibrated mass illegal immigration as a godsend. Over the last 20 years, it has vastly expanded the Latino vote as well as empowered ethnic tribunes. Immigration has galvanized minority registration in general and encouraged bloc voting. One tangible result is that the American Southwest is slowly turning blue, or at least purple.

Immigrants cheap labor that costs taxpayers

Victor Davis Hanson, 2018. (Victor Davis Hanson is a senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.) “What the 'Dreamer' fight is really about” Jan 14, 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-hanson-dreamer-agenda-20180114-story.html>

Many pre-Trump Republicans favored illegal immigration too, although for different reasons: They worried more about obtaining workers rather than future constituents and voters. The Chamber of Commerce/Wall Street wing of the GOP thus ignored the issue for the last half-century. Inexpensive industrious workers were welcomed by the construction, landscaping, agriculture, hotel and restaurant industries. The social costs of providing parity for these workers and their dependents from the poorest regions of Mexico and Latin America — arriving for the most part without legality, English, or high school diplomas — were always passed on to the taxpayer.

6. “Xenophobic” RESPONSE

US not xenophobic

Victor Davis Hanson, 2018. (Victor Davis Hanson is a senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.) “What the 'Dreamer' fight is really about” Jan 14, 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-hanson-dreamer-agenda-20180114-story.html>

The United States is hardly a xenophobic country. Much less is it anti-Latino. As of 2015, 46.6 million people living in the United States were not born here. That is the highest number in American history — about four times greater than the number of immigrants living in any other nation on Earth. One of four California residents was not born in the United States.

7. Asking the wrong question about DACA

Not “is it fair to deport kids” but “is it safe and beneficial to keep law breakers?” Hint: No.

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

However, that decision does not appear to herald a return to the rule-of-law. The first response from legislators – on both sides of the aisle – was a call amnesty. Members of the House and Senate have repeatedly asked, “Would it be fair to deport the DACA ‘kids’?” But that’s the wrong question. The one our representatives should be asking is: “Is it in the national security, public safety and economic interests of the United States to reward 800,000 immigration law violators?” The answer to that question is, “No” – especially when one realizes that much of the DACA narrative is utterly false.

DISADVANTAGES

BIG LINK to everything

DACA encourages more lawbreakers

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

The DACA program was illegal. But it was also bad from a long-term policy perspective. Rewarding people who violate our laws only encourages more people to become lawbreakers. Accordingly, President Trump’s decision to cancel the program is a welcome one.

Low DACA standard means danger for any expansion-fix.

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

And the low standards for the DACA program should have every American wondering just exactly who will be given amnesty if the more expansive DREAM Act, or similar legislation, should pass. If history is a guide, expansive amnesty programs are the last thing that will make America great again.

DACA encouraged illegal immigration, enforcing immigration laws discourages it

Hans A. von Spakovsky, David Inserra, 2017. (Hans: Election Law Reform Initiative and Senior Legal Fellow. David: Policy Analyst for Homeland Security and Cyber Policy) “Thank Trump if he Finally Ends the Unconstitutional DACA Program). Nov. 1, 2017. <https://www.heritage.org/immigration/commentary/thank-trump-if-he-finally-ends-the-unconstitutional-daca-program>

As a sovereign nation, we have the right to decide who comes to the U.S. Even if we doubled our current legal immigration quotas, there would still be people who would enter or remain in the U.S. illegally. Enforcing our immigration laws encourages people to come to the U.S. legally and discourages illegal immigration. Unfortunately, the U.S. government has for many years failed to faithfully enforce our immigration laws. This has inevitably encouraged more and more illegal immigration. DACA is the pinnacle of non-enforcement; not only does it protect illegal immigrants from deportation, it provides benefits that by law are reserved for American citizens and legal immigrants. Why come to the U.S. legally if you can acquire many of the same benefits by coming illegally?

Benefits irrelevant to value of DACA: it’s amnesty for illegal aliens

Hans A. von Spakovsky, David Inserra, 2017. (Hans: Election Law Reform Initiative and Senior Legal Fellow. David: Policy Analyst for Homeland Security and Cyber Policy) “Thank Trump if he Finally Ends the Unconstitutional DACA Program). Nov. 1, 2017. <https://www.heritage.org/immigration/commentary/thank-trump-if-he-finally-ends-the-unconstitutional-daca-program>

Whether DACA is good public policy or bad public policy is, however, ultimately irrelevant to whether President Trump should end the program. He should end it for the same reasons that the federal courts prevented President Obama from implementing the similar “Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents” program or DAPA. Like DACA, DAPA provided an administrative amnesty for illegal aliens and gave them work authorizations and access to government benefits.

1. Illegal immigrants = higher federal budget costs

Legal immigration good, illegal immigration bad

Victor Davis Hanson, 2018. (senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.) “What the 'Dreamer' fight is really about” Jan 14, 2018. <http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-hanson-dreamer-agenda-20180114-story.html>

Forgotten also are historic truths about immigration. In the past, immigration has proven a great boon to a host country — if it was legal, measured, meritocratic and diverse. That way, assimilation, integration and mastery of native languages and customs were enhanced by immigrants who in turn enriched their adopted country. The opposite holds true of massive, illegal and nondiverse influxes of foreign nationals. The results are too often tribalism, political manipulation and factionalism, as the current multicultural and multiethnic turmoil in the Balkans, Middle East, Africa — and now Europe — attest.

Legalizing DACA recipients costs $25.9 billion over ten years

**Note: S. 1615 provides a path to citizenship for DACA recipients.**

Congressional Budget Office, 2017. (Nonpartisan analysis for the US Congress). “S. 1615, Dream Act of 2017” December 15, 2017. <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/53410>

In total, CBO and JCT estimate that changes in direct spending and revenues from enacting S. 1615 would increase budget deficits by $25.9 billion over the 2018-2027 period, boosting on-budget deficits by $30.6 billion and decreasing off-budget deficits by $4.7 billion over that period. Pay-as-you-go procedures apply because enacting the bill would affect direct spending and revenues.

Providing higher education costs $1 billion over five years

**Note: S. 1615 provides a path to citizenship for DACA recipients.**

Congressional Budget Office, 2017. (Nonpartisan analysis for the US Congress). “S. 1615, Dream Act of 2017” December 15, 2017. <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/53410>

CBO also estimates that providing higher education assistance for newly eligible people under S. 1615 would cost $1.0 billion over the 2018-2022 period; such spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Legalizing DACA recipients increase spending and budget deficits

**Note: S. 1615 provides a path to citizenship for DACA recipients.**

Congressional Budget Office, 2017. (Nonpartisan analysis for the US Congress). “S. 1615, Dream Act of 2017” December 15, 2017. <https://www.cbo.gov/publication/53410>

CBO and JCT estimate that enacting S. 1615 would increase net direct spending by more than $2.5 billion and on-budget deficits by more than $5 billion in at least one of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

Legalizing DACA recipients means American’s have to pay for illegal aliens

**Note: DREAM Act provides path-to-citizenship for DACA recipients**

John Binder, 2017. (Brietbart Reporter) “CBO Report: DACA Amnesty Would Cost American Taxpayers $26 Billion” 15 Dec 2017. <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/12/15/cbo-report-daca-amnesty-would-cost-american-taxpayers-26-billion/>

Under the DREAM Act, Americans would have to pay for at least two million illegal aliens who would become eligible for federal entitlement programs such as Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), commonly known as “food stamps.”

Cost of amnesty *on top* of illegal immigration costs, not instead of.

John Binder, 2017. (Brietbart Reporter) “CBO Report: DACA Amnesty Would Cost American Taxpayers $26 Billion” 15 Dec 2017. <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/12/15/cbo-report-daca-amnesty-would-cost-american-taxpayers-26-billion/>

The cost of DACA amnesty would be placed on top of the costs that Americans pay every year due to illegal immigration. As Breitbart News reported, the most recent Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) report reveals that an illegal alien costs the American taxpayer approximately $8,075 each, totaling a burden of roughly $116 billion annually. Researchers with FAIR said the finding was both a “disturbing and unsustainable trend,” as the cost of illegal immigration to taxpayers has risen nearly $3 billion since 2013, when illegal immigration cost $113 billion.

Spending on illegal immigrants increased

Matt O'Brien and Spencer Raley, 2017. (O’Brien joined FAIR (Federation for American Immigration Reform) in 2016; responsible for managing FAIR’s research activities; writes content for FAIR’s website and publications. ; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Spencer joined the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) in 2015. He conducts research and writes content for FAIR’s publications and website; B.A. in Government from the University of Texas at Austin )“The Fiscal Burden of Illegal Immigration on United States Taxpayers” September 27, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/publications-resources/fiscal-burden-illegal-immigration-united-states-taxpayers>

At the federal, state, and local levels, taxpayers shell out approximately $134.9 billion to cover the costs incurred by the presence of more than 12.5 million illegal aliens, and about 4.2 million citizen children of illegal aliens. That amounts to a tax burden of approximately $8,075 per illegal alien family member and a total of $115,894,597,664. The total cost of illegal immigration to U.S. taxpayers is both staggering and crippling. In 2013, FAIR estimated the total cost to be approximately $113 billion. So, in under four years, the cost has risen nearly $3 billion. This is a disturbing and unsustainable trend. The sections below will break down and further explain these numbers at the federal, state, and local levels.

Impact: Every increase in the federal deficit hurts the economy

Dr William Gale and Benjamin Harris 2011. (Gale - PhD in economics, Stanford Univ.; senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and co-director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center; former assistant professor in the Department of Economics at UCLA, and a senior economist for the Council of Economic Advisers under President George H.W. Bush; Harris - master’s degree in economics from Cornell University and a master’s degree in quantitative methods from Columbia University; senior research associate with the Economics Studies Program at the Brookings Institution) “A VAT for the United States: Part of the Solution” <http://www.taxhistory.org/www/freefiles.nsf/Files/VATReader.pdf/$file/VATReader.pdf>

But even in the absence of a crisis, sustained deficits have deleterious effects, as they translate into lower national savings, higher interest rates, and increased indebtedness to foreign investors, all of which serve to reduce future national income. Gale and Orszag (2004a) estimate that a 1 percent of GDP increase in the deficit will raise interest rates by 25 to 35 basis points and reduce national saving by 0.5 to 0.8 percentage points of GDP.

“Illegal aliens file taxes” RESPONSE: But they get tax credits with a net refund and make a profit by doing so

Matt O'Brien and Spencer Raley, 2017. (O’Brien joined FAIR (Federation for American Immigration Reform) in 2016; responsible for managing FAIR’s research activities; writes content for FAIR’s website and publications. ; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Spencer joined the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) in 2015. He conducts research and writes content for FAIR’s publications and website; B.A. in Government from the University of Texas at Austin )“The Fiscal Burden of Illegal Immigration on United States Taxpayers” September 27, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/publications-resources/fiscal-burden-illegal-immigration-united-states-taxpayers>

FAIR believes that most studies grossly overestimate both the taxes actually collected from illegal aliens and, more importantly, the amount of taxes actually paid by illegal aliens (i.e., the amount of money collected from illegal aliens and actually kept by the federal government). This belief is based on a number of factors: Since the 1990’s, the United States has focused on apprehending and removing criminal aliens. The majority of illegal aliens seeking employment in the United States have lived in an environment where they have little fear of deportation, even if discovered. This has created an environment where most illegal aliens are both able and willing to file tax returns. Because the vast majority of illegal aliens hold low-paying jobs, those who are subject to wage deductions actually wind up receiving a complete refund of all taxes paid, plus net payments made on the basis of tax credits. As a result, illegal aliens actually profit from filing a tax return and, therefore, have a strong interest in doing so.

1. US Jobs lost, poverty increased

Wage stagnation: Ending illegal immigration benefits the neediest Americans

Ken Blackwell, 2018. (former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Human Rights Commission; former mayor of Cincinnati and the former secretary of State for Ohio.) “Trump's DACA fix will help underemployed minorities” 01/04/18. <http://thehill.com/opinion/immigration/367387-fixing-daca-will-help-underemployed-minorities-the-most>

In cities with low unemployment, the wage stagnation of the last eight years is finally ending, but there are still pockets in America that lag, with the worst effects experienced by minorities without college degrees. The people still struggling in our economy are directly impacted by our unfair immigration system. The approximately 250,000 people we bring into the country each year through chain migration and the approximately 50,000 that arrive through the visa lottery compete directly with the unemployed and underemployed. Eliminating the job competition from these two programs will benefit Americans at the bottom rung of the economic ladder more than any other group.

3. Terrorism

DACA recipients from terrorism-heavy and anti-US nations

Matt O'Brien, 2017. (responsible for managing Federation for American Immigration Reform’s research activities; former Chief of the National Security Division at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) “The DACA Myth, What Americans Need to Know” October 16, 2017. <https://fairus.org/issue/illegal-immigration/daca-myth-what-americans-need-know>

What is truly alarming about the data released by USCIS, however, is the number of DACA applicants who come from countries that are associated with terrorism or that are overtly hostile to the United States. This is an area of significant concern given the “lean and lite” vetting used to quickly approve DACA applications: •More than 1,000 DACA applications were accepted from Pakistani nationals despite concerns over growing anti-U.S. sentiment within the country and the Pakistani government’s overt support of jihadist terror groups. •At least 60 applicants were accepted from Iran, and more than 2,000 from Venezuela, even though both nations are overtly hostile to the United States. •Applications were accepted from Libyans, Syrians, and Yemenis even though the Obama administration had placed travel restrictions on nationals of those countries, due to terrorism concerns.