

# **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) at Two:**

## **New MPI Findings as Renewal Approaches**

MPI Webinar  
August 6, 2014

# Logistics

- The report is available at: <http://bit.ly/mpiDACAat2>
- Slides and audio will be available on our website at: <http://bit.ly/DACA2mpiwb>
- If you have any problem accessing this webinar, please contact us by email at [events@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:events@migrationpolicy.org) or call 202-266-1929.
- Use chat function throughout webinar to write questions. Questions written in the chat function may be visible to other participants.
  - Or send an email to [events@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:events@migrationpolicy.org) with your question.
- Report coincides with release of new data tool: <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca-profiles>

# Presenters

- Michael Fix, MPI President
- Jeanne Batalova, Senior Policy Analyst
- Sarah Hooker, Policy Analyst
- Margie McHugh, Director, MPI National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy

# MPI National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy (NCIIP)

## Areas of work

- Education:
  - Children and youth from immigrant families
  - K-16
  - Adult education and workforce development
- Language access and other benefits
- Governance of integration policy
- *E Pluribus Unum* Prizes

[www.migrationpolicy.org/integration](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/integration)

# The DACA Program

- Provides work permit and relief from deportation for youth:
  - Age 15+
  - Under age 31 as of June 2012
  - In the U.S. before age 16
  - Unauthorized as of June 2012
  - Resided in the U.S. since June 2007
  - In school, have high school/equivalent, currently enrolled in “school” program
  - Can pass a security, criminal background check

Source: USCIS, “Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrives Process”

# The DACA Program: Key Dimensions

- Temporary
- Administrative, not legislative
- Status renewal at 2 years
- “Legal presence” tied to education – like DREAM Act

# Importance of DACA

- Integration (i.e., education/economic) opportunity at critical life stage
- Shows legalization institutionally workable
- Principal pathway to status in the absence of reform

# Report's Methodology

- Innovative and improved methodology

USCIS application data

Census Bureau's SIPP 2008 and ACS 2012

- Can't account for:
  - Criminal history
  - Continuous presence in the U.S.
  - Enrollment in adult education system

*Possible over- and under-estimation*



# DACA Eligible Populations

(at DACA's Launch, 2012)

	Number	Share
<b>Total Potentially Eligible</b>	<b>2,136,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
Immediately eligible youth (ages 15-30)	1,236,000	58%
Youth who did not appear to meet education criteria (ages 15-30)	426,000	20%
Children eligible in the future (under 15)	474,000	22%

Source: MPI analysis of data from the 2012 American Community Survey and 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation by James Bachmeier and Jennifer Van Hook of the Pennsylvania State University, Population Research Institute.

# National DACA Enrollment

## *Initial Applications Accepted for USCIS Processing*

Number: **681,189** through July 20, 2014

- *Approved:* **587,366**
- *Denied:* **25,029**

## *Renewal Applications Accepted for USCIS Processing*

Number: **24,982** from June 5-July 20, 2014

Source: MPI DACA estimates; USCIS, DACA application statistics (August 15, 2012 through July 20, 2014).

# National DACA Application Rates

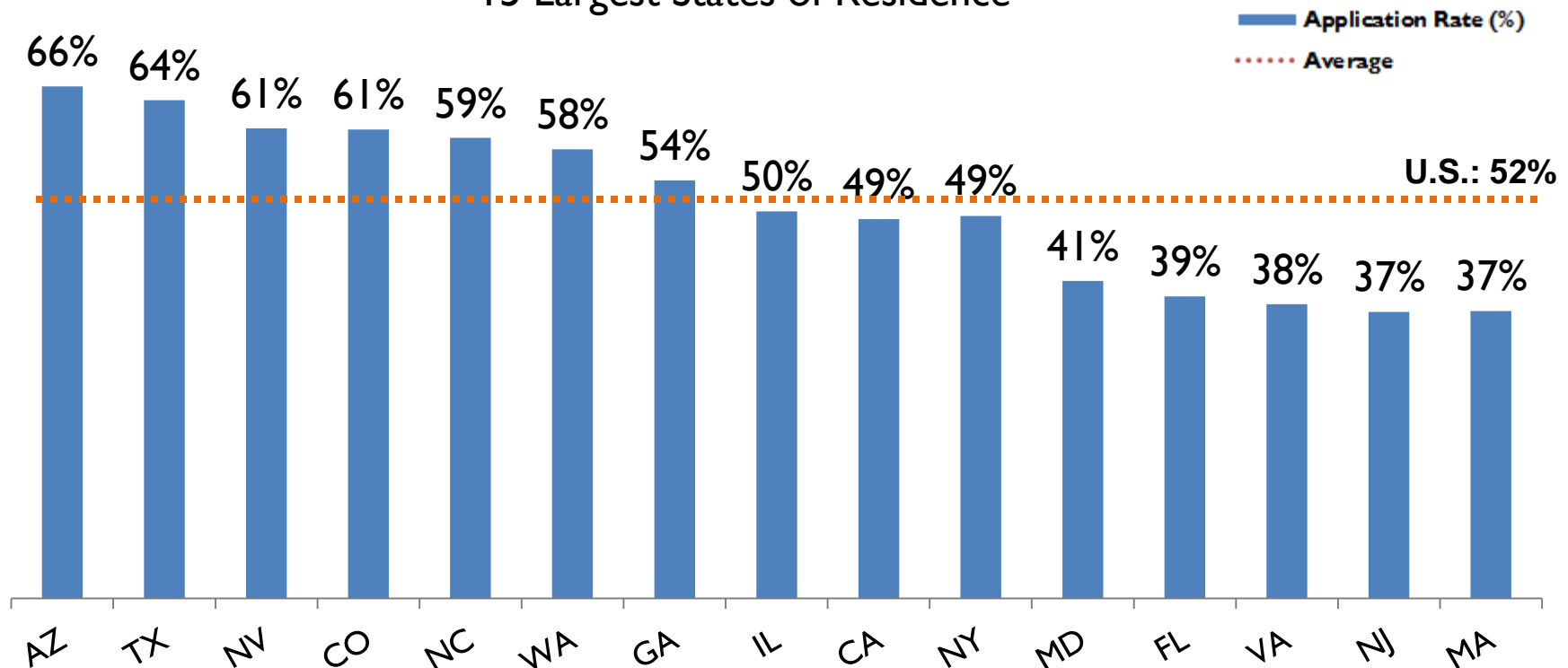
*Initial Applications Accepted for USCIS Processing by **July 20, 2014** compared to estimates of eligible youth:*

- **55%** of the 1.2 million “immediately eligible” youth ages 15-30 (met education criteria)
- **41%** of the 1.7 million “potentially eligible” youth ages 15-30 (“immediately eligible” + “youth who didn’t appear to meet education criteria”)

Source: MPI DACA estimates; USCIS, DACA application statistics (August 15, 2012 through July 20, 2014).  
“Application rate” is the ratio of applications accepted for USCIS processing to the eligible population at DACA’s launch.

# Significant Variation by State of “Immediately Eligible” Applicants

Estimated Application Rates Through **March 2014**,  
15 Largest States of Residence

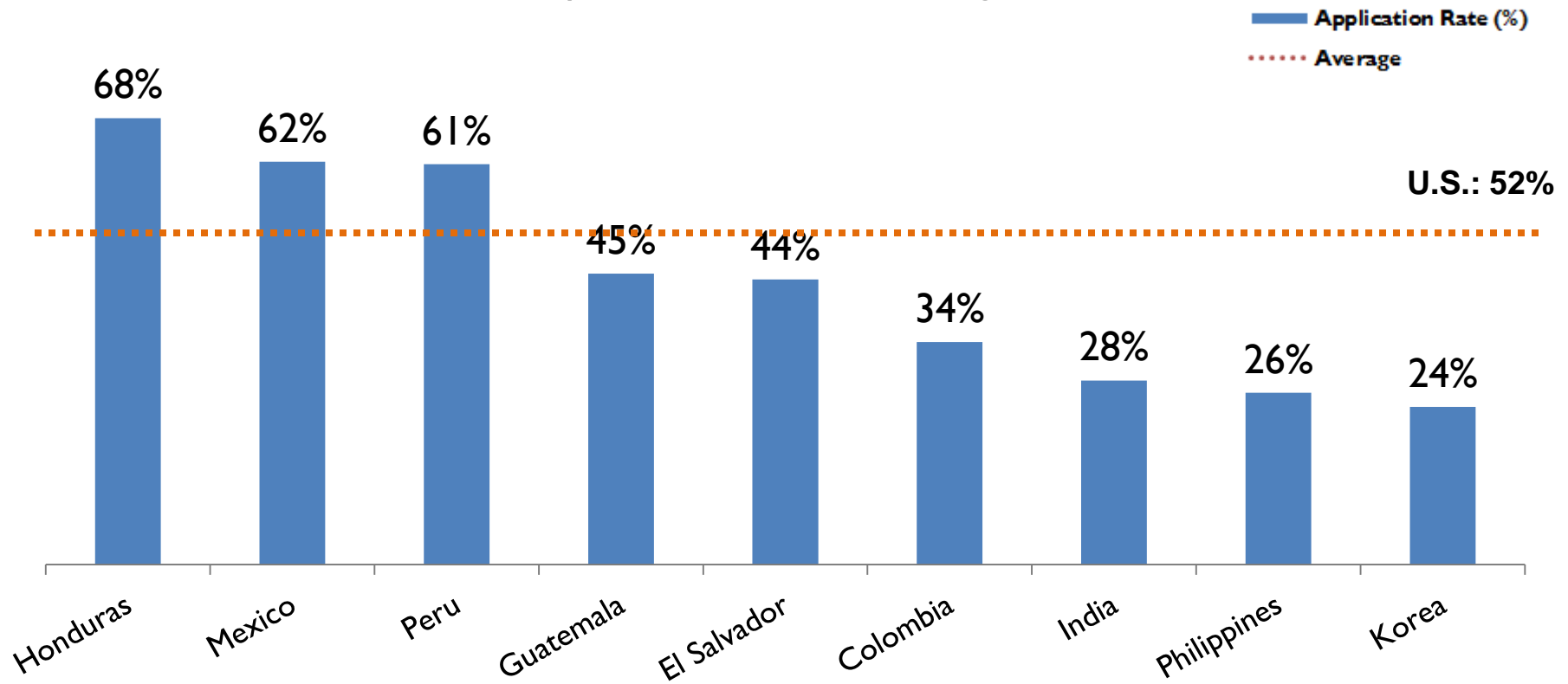


Source: MPI DACA estimates; USCIS, DACA application statistics (August 2012 through March 2014).

“Application rate” is the ratio of applications accepted for USCIS processing to the eligible population at DACA’s launch.  
National rate through March 2014: 52%.

# Significant Variation by Origin of “Immediately Eligible” Applicants

Estimated Application Rates through **March 2014**,  
Top Nine Countries of Origin



Source: MPI DACA estimates; USCIS, DACA application statistics (August 2012 through March 2014).

“Application rate” is the ratio of applications accepted for USCIS processing to the eligible population at DACA’s launch.  
National rate through March 2014: 52%.

# Women and Younger Individuals Apply at Higher Rates

Applications accepted for USCIS processing:  
August 2012 through September 2013

## **By sex**

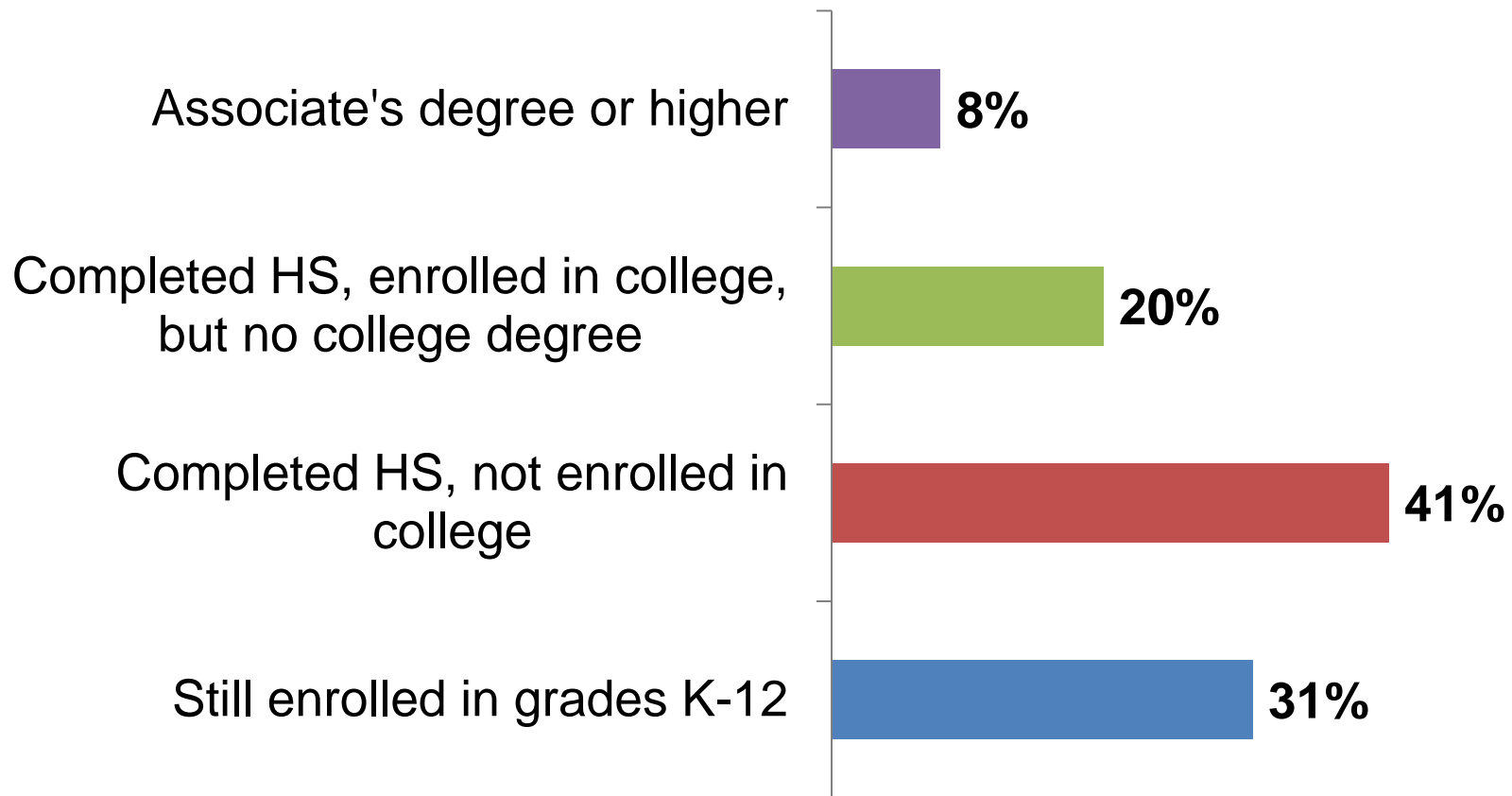
- Application rate for women = 51%
- Application rate for men = 43%

## **By age**

- Application rate for ages 15-19 = 53%
- Application rate for ages 20-24 = 46%
- Application rate for ages 25 and over = 33%

Source: MPI DACA estimates; USCIS, DACA application statistics (August 2012 through September 2013).  
“Application rate” is the ratio of applications accepted for USCIS processing to the eligible population at DACA’s launch.

# Educational Attainment and Enrollment: 1.2 Million Immediately Eligible Youth



Source: MPI analysis of data from the 2012 American Community Survey and 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation by James Bachmeier and Jennifer Van Hook of the Pennsylvania State University, Population Research Institute.

# Significant Differences among DACA Subpopulations

Indicator	Immediately Eligible (1,236,000)	Eligible Except for Education (426,000)
<b>Education</b>		62% (some high school) 38% (8 years or less)
<b>Limited English Proficiency (LEP)</b>	28%	69%
<b>Poverty</b>		
% under 100% FPL	34%	40%
% under 200% FPL	67%	77%
<b>In Labor Force</b>	53%	72%
<b>Male</b>	53%	62%
<b>Mexicans &amp; Central Americans</b>	76%	94%

Source: MPI analysis of data from the 2012 American Community Survey and 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation by James Bachmeier and Jennifer Van Hook of the Pennsylvania State University, Population Research Institute.



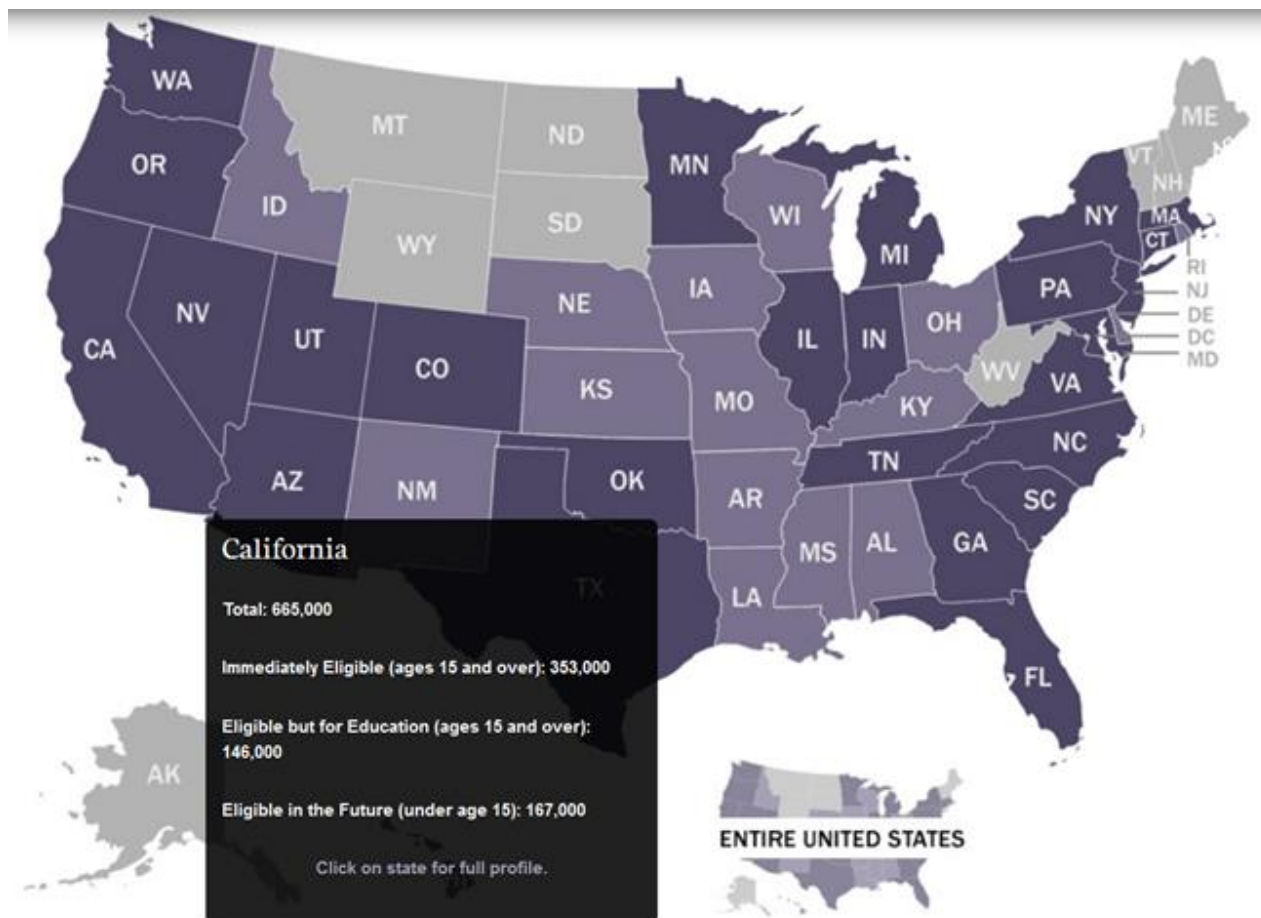
# Children Eligible in the Future (Under 15)

- At DACA's launch
  - 473,000 or 22% of potentially eligible population
  - 23% are LEP, but 71% are bilingual and 6% speak English only
  - 81% are in families with incomes below 200% federal poverty level
- Aging into eligibility
  - Depends on staying in school
  - 2013 to 2016: 80,000-90,000 per year
  - Last cohort of DACA eligible children reach age 15 in 2022

# Variations Among Top 25 States (ACS 2008-2012)

- Mexico is top origin country in all but 3 states
  - El Salvador (MD,VA) and Brazil (MA)
- College-going rates (among “immediately eligible youth”)
  - High: MA, MI, PA, CT, and NY
  - Low: AZ, WA, NC, and GA
- Economic disadvantage (among “immediately eligible youth”)
  - High shares of low-income families: NC, AZ, SC,TN
  - Low shares of low-income families: MD, NJ, VA, CT

# New MPI Online Data Tool: National and State Profiles of DACA Youth



<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca-profiles>

# Integration Implications

- Widens opportunities for education and economic advancement during critical transition to adulthood
- Along with information and legal guidance, education and workforce training access and completion challenges are essential to consider and address
- Four key sub-populations: under 18; over 18 no high school diploma; over 18 only high school diploma; over 18 some college

# Most “Potentially Eligible” 20 or Older

Current Age (as of 2014)	Number	Share
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,136,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
Under 11	64,000	3%
11 to 14	231,000	11%
15 to 16	178,000	8%
17 to 19	322,000	15%
20 to 23	521,000	24%
24 to 28	541,000	25%
29 to 32	278,000	13%

**62%**

Source: MPI analysis of data from the 2012 American Community Survey and 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation by James Bachmeier and Jennifer Van Hook of the Pennsylvania State University, Population Research Institute.

# Challenges and Opportunities: Increasing Applications of “Eligibles”

- Children in grades K-12:
  - Quality instruction for current and former ELLs
  - Dropout prevention, college counseling and other academic success supports
- No high school diploma:
  - Access to Adult Basic Education (ABE)
    - Limited seats ABE/ESL programs; even fewer for effective integrated instruction models
    - Unauthorized ineligible for ABE: GA, AZ
    - Barriers to instruction: time required; transportation and child care needs; computer access and literacy

ELL = English language learners

# Challenges and Opportunities: Longer-Term Success of DACA Youth

- High school diploma only or some college:
  - Given ramifications for lifelong earnings and SES trajectory, take steps now to complete at least two years of college; important advantage also in meeting potential DREAM Act or similar requirements
  - Bridge programs, affordability measures, other completion supports need scaling

# Q&A Session

**Use chat function to write questions.**

**Or email [events@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:events@migrationpolicy.org) with your questions.**

- Slides and audio will be on our website at: <http://bit.ly/DACA2mpiwbb>
- The report is available at: <http://bit.ly/mpidaca2>
- If you have any questions about the report, please email [communications@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:communications@migrationpolicy.org)
- Reporters can contact [mmittelstadt@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:mmittelstadt@migrationpolicy.org)



# For More Information

**Jeanne Batalova**

Senior Policy Analyst  
Migration Policy Institute  
[jbatalova@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:jbatalova@migrationpolicy.org)

**Sarah Hooker**

Policy Analyst  
Migration Policy Institute  
[shooker@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:shooker@migrationpolicy.org)

**Michael Fix**

President  
Migration Policy Institute  
[mfix@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:mfix@migrationpolicy.org)

**Margie McHugh**

Director, MPI National Center on  
Immigrant Integration Policy  
[mmchugh@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:mmchugh@migrationpolicy.org)

Reporters can contact [mmittelstadt@migrationpolicy.org](mailto:mmittelstadt@migrationpolicy.org)

For additional information and to receive updates: [www.migrationpolicy.org](http://www.migrationpolicy.org)

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