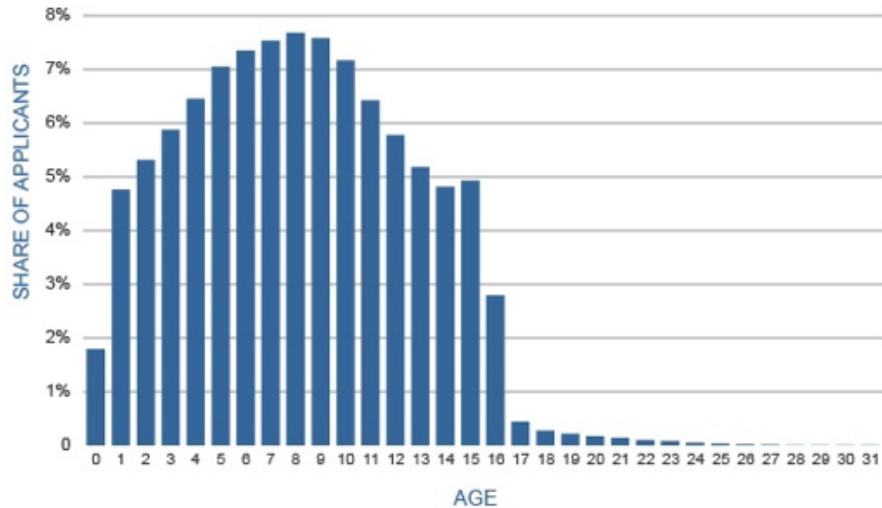


Deferred Action FAQs

Does This Support Undocumented Immigration?

Deferred Action does allow youth who do not have documents to attend college and serve in the military. However, of those who applied between August 15, 2012 and March 22, 2013, over one-third were between the ages of 15 to 18. Nearly three-fourths of the applicants who applied last year had been in the United States for over ten years. One-third arrived in the US before age five. As applicants must be between the ages of 15 and 31, one can safely conclude that many of these young adults were brought to the US as children. All applicants are required to have attended school in the US. Many times, they have siblings who are US citizens and consider the USA to be their home. According to the Center for American Progress, “This policy is neither a magnet for undocumented immigration nor a long-term solution to the problem. Only individuals who have been in the country for five years before today are eligible to apply for this temporary protection. It merely allows qualifying individuals to stop looking over their shoulder and start looking toward their future...”

DACA Applicant Age at Entry

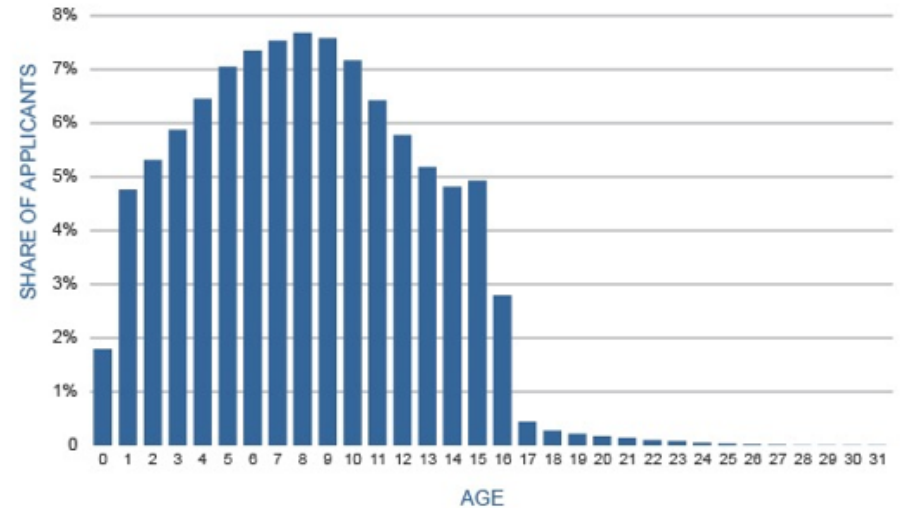


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Who Has Benefitted So Far?

Over half a million people have applied for Deferred Action so far, with 72 percent being approved. 74.9 percent were from Mexico, 10 percent were from Central America and 6.9 percent were from South America. In South Dakota, from August 15, 2012 to March 22, 2013, 156 people applied with 93 applications being approved during that time. 60.9 percent of applicants were from Mexico, and 30.8 percent of applicants were from Central America. An estimated 1.4 million young people will benefit from Deferred Action.

What is the Difference Between Deferred Action and the Dream Act?

Deferred Action is an Executive Order recently signed by the President in June 2012. The DREAM Act is potential legislation that must be passed by Congress and signed by the President into law. Deferred Action does not lead to a path towards citizenship for young adults, only the possibility of attending college or serving in the military. The Dream Act would allow individuals who attend college or serve in the military to apply for permanent residence (a green card) which could provide the possibility for citizenship.

Helpful Links:

- bit.ly/ImmigrationFacts
- bit.ly/DeferredActionvsDreamAct
- bit.ly/SixThings-DeferredStudents



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