

# LET'S TALK ABOUT DREAMERS AND DACA: AN NCCJ CONVERSATION STARTER

## DACA by the Numbers

**25,100**

DACA recipients in North Carolina  
(as of September 2017)

**42,000**

People in NC who meet all  
criteria to apply for DACA

**60%**

DACA participation rate  
among Dreamers in NC



**NC RANKS 7<sup>th</sup>  
IN TERMS OF THE  
NUMBER OF  
DACA RECIPIENTS**

**689,800**

DACA recipients in the United States  
(as of September 2017)

**1,326,000**

People in U.S. who meet all  
criteria to apply for DACA

**52%**

DACA participation rate  
among Dreamers in U.S.

## Dreamers

### DREAMER STATS

**3.6 MILLION**

The number of undocumented  
immigrants brought to the U.S.  
before their 18th birthday

**6**

Average Arrival Age

**25**

Current Average Age

### DACA RECIPIENT STATS

**97%**

Employed or  
in school

**91%**

Have a job

**45%**

In high school  
or college

**.05%**

Violated DACA,  
deported

## Economic Impact

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO ECONOMY IF WE END DACA AND DEPORT  
THE WORKERS WHO NO LONGER HAVE TEMPORARY LEGAL STATUS?

**\$280 - \$430  
BILLION**

How much the U.S. economy  
could shrink over the next decade



**\$63 MILLION**

How much state and local tax revenue North Carolina  
would lose each year

**\$1.1 BILLION**

How much North Carolina would lose in annual GDP

## Definitions

### WHAT IS THE DREAM ACT?

- DREAM stands for Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors
- The DREAM Act would offer current, former, and future undocumented high-school graduates and GED recipients a three-step pathway to U.S. citizenship through college, work, or the armed services.
- First introduced in 2001, many versions of the DREAM Act have been introduced in the past 16 years. It has never been passed. It came closest in 2010 when the House of Representatives passed the bill and the Senate came five votes short of the 60 senators needed.

### WHO ARE THE DREAMERS?

- The term "Dreamers" comes from the DREAM Act. Dreamers are undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children.

### WHAT IS DACA?

- DACA stands for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. It's a federal program created in 2012 to help young and undocumented immigrants by delaying deportation and giving eligible Dreamers a chance to live, study, and work in the United States.
- You're eligible for DACA if you meet the following criteria:
  - Under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
  - Are undocumented (had no lawful status in the United States) on June 15, 2012;
  - Came to the United States before your 16th birthday;
  - Have continuously lived in the United States since June 15, 2007;
  - Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of applying for DACA;
  - Are currently in school, have graduated from high school, have obtained a GED, or have been honorably discharged from the Coast Guard or armed forces;
  - Have not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor, or more than three misdemeanors of any kind; and
  - Do not pose a threat to national security or public safety.
- DACA recipients are protected from being deported for two years. After that, they have the chance to renew if they're still eligible.

## How You Can Help



Share this infographic with friends and family.  
Use the questions to start a conversation.



Feel strongly about protecting Dreamers?  
Follow this link to find out who your senators and  
representatives in Congress are and how to contact  
them: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>

Connect with organizations working to advocate for Dreamers:

**UNITED WE DREAM** is the largest immigrant youth-led network in the country.  
Learn more at [www.unitedwedream.org](http://www.unitedwedream.org)

**IMMIGRANT DEFENSE PROJECT** works to secure fairness and justice for  
immigrants in the US. Learn more at [www.immigrantdefenseproject.org](http://www.immigrantdefenseproject.org)

**YOUNG CENTER FOR IMMIGRANT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS** champions  
for the best interests of children who arrive in the United States on their own.  
Learn more at [www.theyoungcenter.org](http://www.theyoungcenter.org)

## Questions

FOR SELF-REFLECTION AND STARTING  
CONVERSATIONS WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

**1**

WHAT'S YOUR PERSONAL IMMIGRATION STORY?

WHEN CONSIDERING EXISTING IMMIGRATION CONDITIONS,  
WHAT'S A FAIR RESOLUTION FOR THE DREAMERS?

**4**

**2**

WHAT DEFINES AN AMERICAN?

WHAT ARE THE PROS AND CONS OF DACA?

**5**

**3**

DO ANY OF THESE FACTS ABOUT DREAMERS  
OR DACA SURPRISE YOU? IF SO, WHY?

IMAGINE YOU'RE A DREAMER. YOU CAME TO THE UNITED STATES AS A CHILD AND YOU  
DON'T REMEMBER WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE BEFORE YOU LIVED HERE. DOES PUTTING  
YOURSELF IN THE SHOES OF A DREAMER CHANGE HOW YOU THINK ABOUT DACA?

**6**

## Sources

Data in this infographic came from the following organizations: Cato Institute; Center for American Progress; Governing Magazine; Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy; Migration Policy Institute; Pew Research Center; US Citizenship and Immigration Services; and American Immigration Council. For more information and links to our sources, visit: [www.nccjtriad.org](http://www.nccjtriad.org)



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713 NORTH GREENE STREET, GREENSBORO NC 27401 | 336.272.0359 | [WWW.NCCJTRIAD.ORG](http://WWW.NCCJTRIAD.ORG)