



## **President Trump's decision on DACA could cost thousands of jobs and US dollars**

Camila DeChalus

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A new report suggests that the United States could lose up to 700,000 jobs and lose thousands of dollars if President Trump decides to decimate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. According to the Center for American Progress, thousands of workers could lose their jobs if DACA were repealed.

"An average of 30,000 workers could lose their jobs every month if DACA were repealed or permit renewals were held up, the report found. It also estimated that the loss of those workers could cost the country \$460.3 billion in economic output over the next decade," the organization wrote.

In 2012, former President Barack Obama created the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program that grants young people under DACA temporary protection from deportation and a job permit to work in the U.S. legally.

Some experts suggest that the elimination of DACA will make the U.S. lose millions of dollars. Ike Brannon, a visiting fellow at CATO institute, predicts that the government would lose over \$60 billion federal dollars if they deport all of the DACA recipients.

"We estimate that the fiscal cost of immediately deporting the approximately 750,000 people currently in the DACA program would be over \$60 billion to the federal government along with a \$280 billion reduction in economic growth over the next decade," he said in the report.

Brannon told Circa that the average DACA recipient is 22-years-old, employed, and earns about \$17 an hour.

"Immigrants with college degrees are very entrepreneurial and tend to create jobs. I did a 2001 report on Wisconsin's brain drain and recommended they try to keep foreign-born college graduates who matriculate in the state," he told Circa.

Brannon argues that legal and illegal immigrants add to the country's economic growth.

"There is no net cost to the government from immigration," he said. "Illegal immigrants pay payroll taxes but never get benefits. On the other hand, legal immigrants tend to work and pay taxes."

Several lawmakers have come forward and urged the president not to eliminate the program.

In July, Sens. Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC), revived a version of the Dream Act that would grant legal status and a path to citizenship for immigrants who came to The United States illegally as children.

The White House announced Friday afternoon that President Trump will make a decision on DACA next Tuesday.