

National Foundation for American Policy

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New Research: Protection From Deportation May Expire For Up To 2.7 Million People in Next Two Years

Current DACA Recipients, TPS Beneficiaries and Others Could Become Targets for Deportation

Arlington, Va. – Protection from deportation may expire for up to 2.7 million people within the next two years, according to an [analysis](#) from the National Foundation for American Policy (NFAP), a nonpartisan research organization based in Arlington, VA. The vast majority face dismal prospects if forced to return to their birth countries, and obstacles in Congress mean legislation may not rescue even the most sympathetic groups.

In a second Trump administration, many individuals in Temporary Protected Status and recipients of humanitarian parole and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program could see themselves subject to deportation. It is uncertain how many people would leave voluntarily or could be removed given home country conditions or lack of cooperation from other governments. Some individuals may fall into two categories, such as TPS and humanitarian parole. However, the 2.7 million does not include people on Deferred Enforced Departure, smaller parole programs or individuals who received parole at ports of entry. Economists have warned that reducing the supply of available workers may contribute to higher inflation and reduced economic growth.

The study “2.7 Million People Could Lose TPS, DACA and Humanitarian Parole,” can be found at <https://nfap.com/>.

Among the findings in the research:

- Up to 863,880 people live in America under Temporary Protected Status, reports the [Congressional Research Service](#). The Biden administration rescinded the Trump administration’s termination and extended TPS for several countries. It also extended and redesignated TPS for others and designated TPS for the first time for individuals of several nations, including Afghanistan, Ukraine and Venezuela. Many people with TPS have lived in the United States for over a decade. A second Trump administration could attempt to force people currently with TPS out of the country, though legal challenges might complicate the effort. TPS expires in 2025 for 13 of the 16 countries. TPS expires in 2026 for nationals of Haiti, Somalia and Yemen. During Trump’s first term, court rulings forced his administration to maintain TPS for nationals of several countries, covering approximately 300,000 people. It is unclear if a court would compel Trump officials to do so again in a second term.
- Given Donald Trump’s campaign rhetoric, his administration may target the more than 200,000 Haitians living in the United States with TPS and the 344,355 Venezuelans approved for TPS. If the Venezuelan government refuses to accept back its citizens or Haiti is considered too dangerous, stripping TPS would leave many Haitians and Venezuelans in the United States in limbo. Over 180,000 Salvadorans have lived in the United States with TPS since February 2001.

- According to DHS, 528,000 individuals from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela have arrived in the United States after being approved for the Biden administration's humanitarian parole program. The numbers, as of August 31, 2024, are Cuba 110,000 approvals for humanitarian parole, Haiti 210,000, Nicaragua 92,000 and Venezuela 116,000. Grants under the CHNV humanitarian parole program generally last two years. The Biden administration [announced](#) a "re-parole" process in February 2024 for Ukrainians and for [Afghans](#) in June 2023. A Harris administration could develop a similar process for the CHNV program. A second Trump administration [would end](#) the CHNV humanitarian parole program.
- After the Biden administration introduced humanitarian parole programs, Border Patrol encounters declined by 92% for Cubans, Haitians and Nicaraguans as a group between December 2022 (the month before the parole programs started) and November 2023 compared to an 18% increase for nationals of non-parole countries, according to an NFAP analysis. Illegal entry also declined for Venezuelans. Due to the demand, the low 30,000-monthly limit for the countries may limit the effectiveness of the humanitarian parole program. The programs require a U.S. sponsor, flying to an interior port of entry and the possibility of employment authorization. Mexico agreed to accept 30,000 people from the four countries who are expelled after entering the United States unlawfully. "Normally, these migrants would be returned to their country of origin, but the U.S. cannot easily send back people from those four countries for a variety of reasons that include relations with the governments there," noted [PBS](#).
- After Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the Biden administration established Uniting for Ukraine to grant humanitarian parole for Ukrainians fleeing the war. The policy served a vital foreign policy interest since, given the administration's condemnation of the invasion, it would have looked hypocritical if America blocked or expelled Ukrainians seeking refuge. According to DHS, there are 651,000 Ukrainians with humanitarian parole in the United States: 221,000 via Uniting for Ukraine and an additional 430,000 other Ukrainians.
- Following the fall of Kabul, 77,000 Afghans entered the United States and were approved for humanitarian parole under Operation Allies Welcome. DHS also approved an additional 56,000 Afghans for humanitarian parole. The 133,000 Afghans with humanitarian parole could be subject to deportation if a future administration does not renew their parole and they have no other way to remain legally in the United States, such as TPS or asylum. The Taliban government engages in widespread human rights abuses.
- According to DHS, there are 535,030 DACA recipients in the United States as of June 30, 2024. The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule again on DACA, likely in 2025, which could leave DACA recipients unprotected from deportation unless they obtain another form of relief or a lawful status. The Trump administration attempted to end DACA for young people brought to the United States as children. The Supreme Court blocked the Trump administration's effort to remove current DACA recipients from the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.
- A Biden administration executive order on asylum and tougher actions by Mexico's government have contributed to reduced illegal entry. There were fewer Border Patrol encounters at the Southwest border in July and August 2024 than in Donald Trump's last month in office during the Covid-19 pandemic. It is unclear whether the current policies can sustain these lower levels of encounters without greater use of legal pathways. After a short pause, the Biden administration resumed its humanitarian parole programs and still allows asylum applications when people enter the United States with an appointment through a lawful port of entry.

- Economists at the Federal Bank of Dallas concluded that without the recent increases in immigration, the number of workers would be “insufficient to sustain the type of economic growth the U.S. is accustomed to.”

Humanitarian parole and other legal pathways play significant roles in the U.S. immigration system. Illegal entry will likely increase if a second Trump administration ends legal pathways, such as humanitarian parole programs and applying for asylum via ports of entry via the CBP One app. Donald Trump has announced he would eliminate both avenues of legal entry. Ending TPS may send people who lived in the United States for many years back to uncertain futures and, combined with other policies, could significantly reduce the supply of available workers in the U.S. economy.

Table 1
Individuals Approved for TPS, DACA and Humanitarian Parole

Country and Immigration Program	Number of Approved Individuals*
Temporary Protected Status (16 countries)	863,880
DACA	535,030
Humanitarian Parole for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans and Venezuelans	528,000
Humanitarian Parole for Ukrainians	651,000
Humanitarian Parole for Afghans	133,000
TOTAL	2,710,910

Source: Department of Homeland Security, Congressional Research Service, National Foundation for American Policy. Some individuals may have received parole and were later approved for Temporary Protected Status. Data for CHNV humanitarian parole program as August 31, 2024. DACA data as of June 30, 2024. TPS data as of September 2024.

About the National Foundation for American Policy

Established in 2003, the National Foundation for American Policy (NFAP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy research organization based in Arlington, Virginia focusing on trade, immigration and related issues. The Advisory Board members include Columbia University economist Jagdish Bhagwati, Ohio University economist Richard Vedder, Cornell Law School professor Stephen W. Yale-Loehr and former INS Commissioner James W. Ziglar. Over the past 24 months, NFAP’s research has been written about in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and other major media outlets. The organization’s reports can be found at www.nfap.com. Twitter: [@NFAPResearch](https://twitter.com/NFAPResearch)

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