



# The Intersection of Early Childhood and Immigration Policy

**Smart Start  
May, 2015**

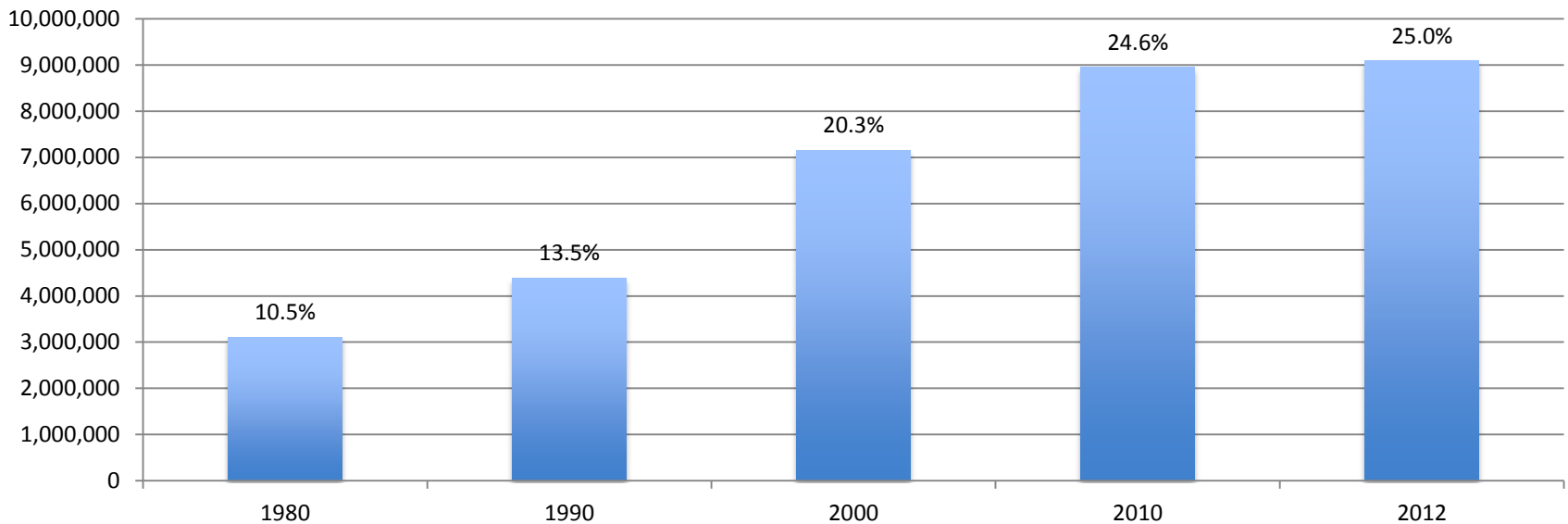
**Build**  
INITIATIVE  
Strong Foundations For  
Our Youngest Children

# Session Objectives

- Reflect on immigration policies' impact on young children in immigrant families
- Discuss new executive actions that provide relief from deportations
- Commit to on-going learning and action on behalf of immigrant families

# 1 in 4 Children in the U.S. Live in an Immigrant Family

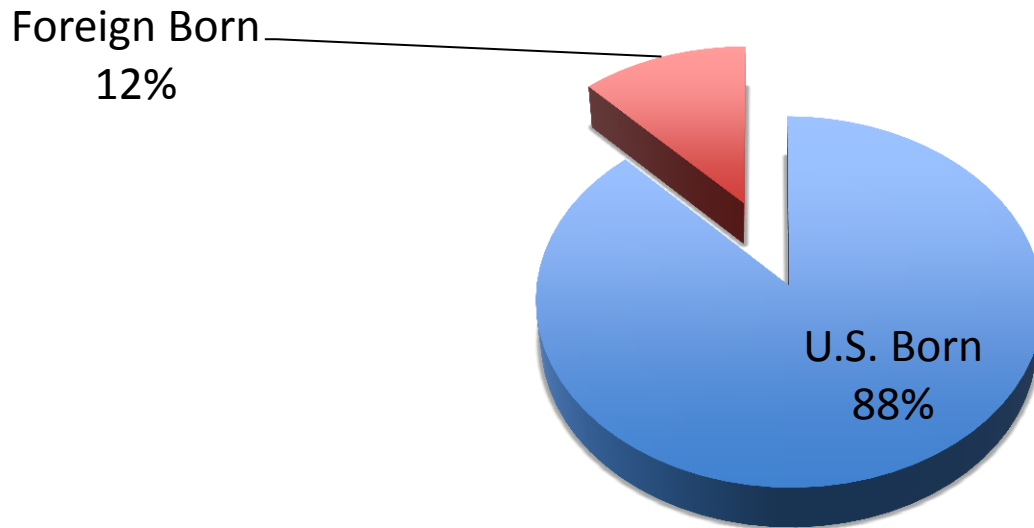
**Table 1. Growth in the Share of Young Children (Ages 0 to 8) of Foreign-Born Parents in the United States, 1980-2012**



Source: Park, Maki and Margie McHugh. 2014. *Immigrant Parents and Early Childhood Programs: Addressing Barriers of Literacy, Culture, and Systems Knowledge*. Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute.

# Nearly 9 out of 10 Children of Immigrants are U.S. Citizens

## Children (0-17) in Immigrant Families who are U.S.-Born



Source: Migration Policy Institute tabulation of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 American Community Survey and 1990 Census decennial data.

# Immigration Policy & Children

## Obama Plan May Allow Millions of Immigrants to Stay and Work in U.S.

By MICHAEL D. SHEAR, JULIA PRESTON and ASHLEY PARKER NOV. 13, 2014

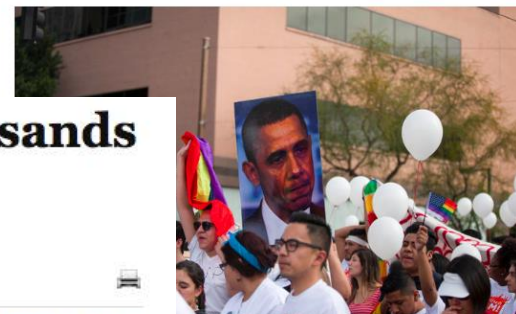
POLITICS

## Young Immigrants Turn Focus to President in Struggle Over Deportations

By JULIA PRESTON FEB. 23, 2014

- EMAIL
- FACEBOOK
- TWITTER

PHOENIX — More than 500 leaders of a national network of young immigrants, frustrated that House Republicans said they would not move on immigration this year, have

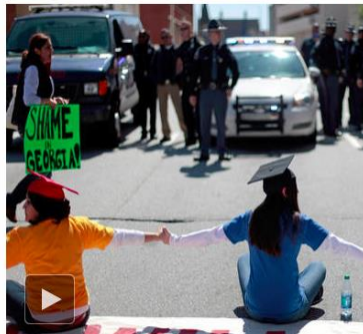


The New York Times

U.S.

WORLD U.S. N.Y. / REGION BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE HEALTH SPORTS OPINION  
POLITICS EDUCATION TEXAS

## Young Immigrants Say It's Obama's Time to Act



Pushing the Dream: An empowered movement of young undocumented immigrants is gearing up for the immigration debate in 2013.

By JULIA PRESTON

## Deportation Separated Thousands Of U.S.-Born Children From Parents In 2013

Posted: 06/25/2014 9:22 pm EDT | Updated: 06/26/2014 1:59 pm EDT



## DREAM Act would boost economy, think tank says

U.S. NEWS

## Immigrant Children Face a Long Journey Upon Arrival

Unaccompanied Minors Entering the U.S. Illegally May Spend Years Navigating the Immigration System



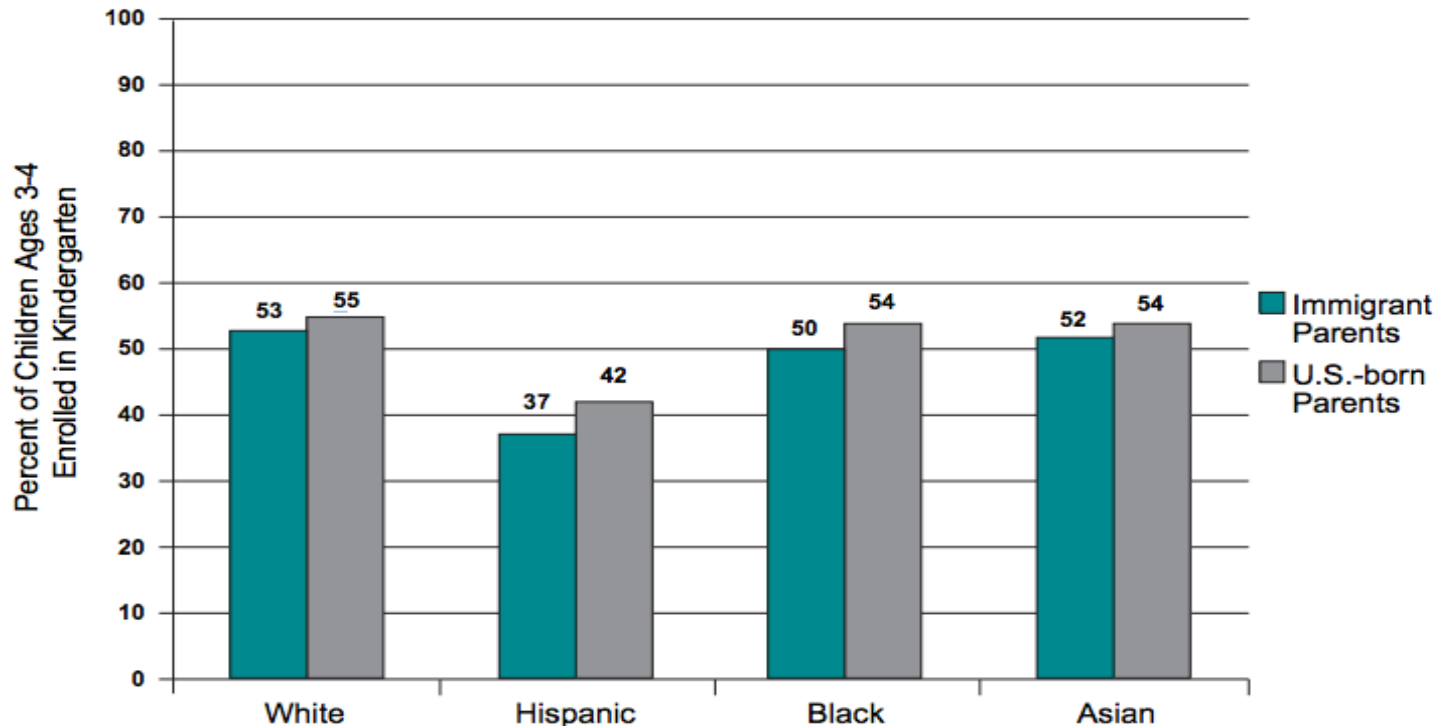
## Fate for Most Kids Who Cross the Border? Staying in the U.S.

# Immigration & Child Development

- As early as ages 2 and 3, a proxy for parental unauthorized status was associated with lower levels of standardized cognitive skills
- Parental detention or removal is associated with increased economic hardship and negative psychological well-being of the child, disruptions in attachment and interruptions in schooling

# Enrollment of Children of Immigrants in Pre-k

Figure 13. PreKindergarten Enrollment: White, Hispanic, Black, and Asian Children with Immigrant Parents and with U.S.-born Parents, 2010



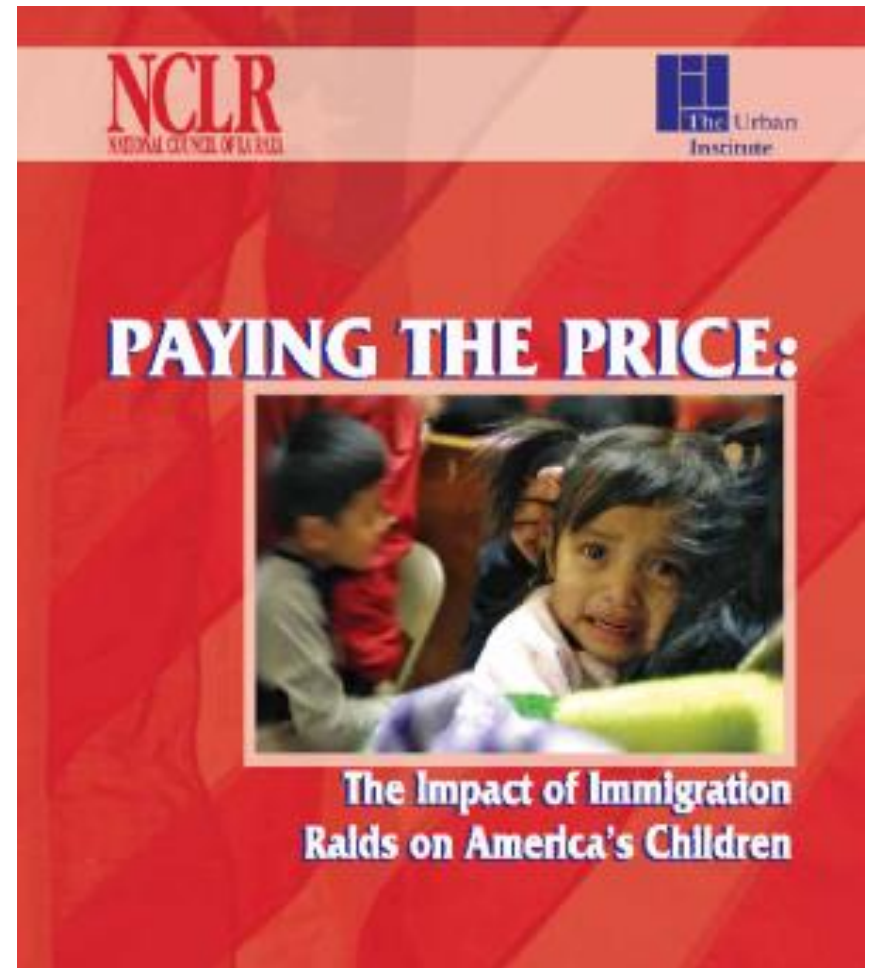
Source: *Diverse Children: Race, Ethnicity, Immigration in America's New Non Majority Generation*, Foundation for Child Development, July 2013



# Elisabeth Montes

## One Family's Story

- Purpose
- Instructions
- The Challenge
- Guiding Questions





# Obama Administration Executive Actions

- Announced in November 2014, deferred action for:
  - Parents of US citizen children or lawful permanent residents
  - Certain immigrants who have grown up in the United States
- Opportunity to help 4.4 million people get relief from deportation!

# What is deferred action?

- Temporary status
- Immigrant is considered to be lawfully present in the U.S.
- Immigrant may apply for employment authorization document
- Eligible to get a driver's license, bank accounts
- Does not qualify the immigrant for public benefits

# Who qualifies for DAPA?

- Parent of a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident child
- Continuous residence in the U.S. since January 1, 2010
- No criminal convictions
- Granted on a case by case basis

# Who qualifies for expanded DACA?

- Come to the U.S. before your 16 birthday
- Continuous residence in the U.S. since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010
- Present in the U.S. on June 15, 2012
- Graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, GED, or “in school”
- No criminal convictions
- Granted on a case by case basis

# What's happening now with administrative relief?

- Immigrants that are eligible for the DACA program announced June 15, 2012 can apply
  - Continuous residence since June 15, 2007
  - Born on or after June 16, 1981
- A federal District court has issued an order that temporarily blocks DAPA and expanded DACA programs from being implemented.

# What is the role for early childhood programs?

- Raise awareness in your program & community
- Train staff to have informed conversations with families
- Develop partnerships with trusted organizations
- Connect families with trusted legal resources
- Help families begin saving for the fees
- Help families request background checks
- Gather evidence and documentation of continuous residence in the U.S.

# Resources

- Mobile app is a step by step aid for DACA applications: citizenshipworks.org/mobile
- [www.adminrelief.org](http://www.adminrelief.org)
- [www.nilc.org/relief.html](http://www.nilc.org/relief.html)
- [www.iAmerica.org](http://www.iAmerica.org)
- [www.unitedwedream.org](http://www.unitedwedream.org)



# Questions, Reflections, Comments



# Thank You

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