

The Effect of DACA Eligibility on Full-Time Employment: A Difference-in-Differences Analysis

Replication Report

Independent Replication Study

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Abstract

This study examines the causal effect of eligibility for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program on full-time employment among Hispanic-Mexican individuals born in Mexico and living in the United States. Using data from the American Community Survey (2006–2016) and a difference-in-differences identification strategy, I compare employment outcomes between DACA-eligible non-citizens and similar non-citizens who do not meet the eligibility criteria. The preferred specification, which includes state and year fixed effects along with demographic controls, estimates that DACA eligibility increased the probability of full-time employment by 3.46 percentage points (95% CI: 2.53–4.39 pp, $p < 0.001$). This effect represents a meaningful improvement in labor market outcomes for DACA-eligible individuals, though the presence of pre-trends in early years suggests some caution in interpretation. The findings are robust across alternative specifications and suggest that providing work authorization to undocumented youth can improve their economic integration.

Keywords: DACA, immigration policy, employment, difference-in-differences, labor market outcomes

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1 Introduction

On June 15, 2012, the Obama administration announced the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which provided temporary relief from deportation and work authorization to certain undocumented immigrants who arrived in the United States as children. The program represented a significant policy intervention affecting hundreds of thousands of young immigrants, primarily from Mexico and Central America. Understanding the labor market effects of DACA is crucial for evaluating immigration policy and informing ongoing debates about pathways to legal status for undocumented residents.

This study addresses the following research question: *Among ethnically Hispanic-Mexican, Mexican-born people living in the United States, what was the causal impact of eligibility for DACA on the probability of being employed full-time (defined as usually working 35 or more hours per week)?*

The theoretical prediction is straightforward: by providing legal work authorization, DACA should enable eligible individuals to access formal employment opportunities that were previously closed to them. Prior to DACA, undocumented workers were limited to informal employment or jobs that did not require work authorization verification, often resulting in lower wages and fewer hours. With DACA, recipients could seek employment across a broader range of occupations and industries, potentially increasing both their likelihood of employment and their hours worked.

I employ a difference-in-differences (DiD) research design, comparing changes in full-time employment rates between DACA-eligible and DACA-ineligible non-citizens before and after the program's implementation. This approach accounts for common trends affecting all Mexican-born non-citizens while isolating the effect of DACA eligibility specifically.

The main finding is that DACA eligibility increased the probability of full-time employment by approximately 3.5 percentage points. This effect is statistically significant and economically meaningful, representing a roughly 8% increase relative to the pre-DACA baseline full-time employment rate among eligible individuals. The results are robust to alternative model specifications, though event study analysis reveals some evidence of differential pre-trends in early sample years that warrants consideration.

The remainder of this report is organized as follows. Section 2 provides background on the DACA program and its eligibility criteria. Section 3 describes the data and sample construction. Section 4 presents the empirical methodology. Section 5 reports the main results, robustness checks, and heterogeneity analyses. Section 6 discusses the findings, limitations, and implications.

2 Background: The DACA Program

2.1 Program Overview

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program was announced on June 15, 2012, by the Department of Homeland Security. The program was designed to provide temporary relief from deportation and employment authorization to certain undocumented young people who had been brought to the United States as children. DACA represented a significant exercise of executive discretion in immigration enforcement, implemented after Congress failed to pass the DREAM Act, which would have provided a pathway to legal status for a similar population.

Applications for DACA began to be accepted on August 15, 2012. Initial DACA status was granted for a period of two years, with the option to renew for additional two-year periods. By the end of 2016, approximately 800,000 individuals had received DACA status, with acceptance rates around 90% for initial applications.

2.2 Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for DACA, applicants had to meet the following criteria:

1. **Age at arrival:** Must have arrived in the United States before their 16th birthday.
2. **Age on announcement date:** Must have been under age 31 as of June 15, 2012 (i.e., born on or after June 16, 1981).
3. **Continuous residence:** Must have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007 (five years prior to the announcement).
4. **Physical presence:** Must have been physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012.
5. **Immigration status:** Must have had no lawful status on June 15, 2012 (i.e., not be a citizen or legal permanent resident).
6. **Education/military:** Must have been in school, graduated from high school, obtained a GED, or been honorably discharged from the military.
7. **Criminal record:** Must not have been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors.

2.3 Expected Effects on Employment

DACA was expected to improve labor market outcomes for recipients through several channels:

- **Work authorization:** DACA recipients receive an Employment Authorization Document (EAD), allowing them to work legally in the United States. This opens access to formal sector employment that requires I-9 verification.
- **Driver's licenses:** Many states began allowing DACA recipients to obtain driver's licenses, facilitating job access and commuting to work.
- **Reduced fear of deportation:** With deferred action status, recipients may be more willing to seek employment and invest in job-specific skills without fear of sudden removal.
- **Access to professional licenses:** In some states, DACA status enabled recipients to obtain professional licenses required for certain occupations.

While DACA's primary expected effect was on employment access, the specific effect on full-time employment (the focus of this study) depends on whether the newly accessible jobs offer full-time schedules. Given that formal sector employment is more likely to offer full-time hours than informal work, a positive effect on full-time employment is anticipated.

3 Data and Sample Construction

3.1 Data Source

The analysis uses data from the American Community Survey (ACS), obtained through IPUMS USA. The ACS is a large-scale household survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau that provides detailed demographic, social, economic, and housing information for the U.S. population. I use the 1-year ACS samples from 2006 through 2016, providing observations both before and after DACA implementation.

The ACS has several advantages for this analysis:

- Large sample sizes that enable analysis of specific subpopulations
- Detailed information on nativity, citizenship, and year of immigration
- Employment outcomes including usual hours worked per week
- Consistent variable definitions across years

Key limitations include the inability to observe actual DACA status (only eligibility can be inferred), the lack of information on documentation status (citizenship is observed but not visa type), and the inability to distinguish between documented and undocumented non-citizens.

3.2 Sample Selection

The analysis sample is constructed as follows:

1. **Ethnicity and birthplace:** I restrict to individuals who identify as Hispanic-Mexican (HISPAN = 1) and were born in Mexico (BPL = 200). This ensures the sample consists of the population most likely to be DACA-eligible, as the majority of DACA recipients are of Mexican origin.
2. **Citizenship status:** I further restrict to non-citizens (CITIZEN = 3). Since DACA is only available to undocumented immigrants, and the ACS does not distinguish between documented and undocumented non-citizens, using non-citizen status serves as a proxy. This likely includes some documented non-citizens (e.g., green card holders, visa holders), which would attenuate the estimated effects toward zero.
3. **Age restriction:** I restrict to working-age individuals between 16 and 64 years old.
4. **Time period:** The analysis uses all years from 2006 to 2016, with 2012 excluded from the primary specification due to ambiguity about treatment status (DACA was announced mid-year and the ACS does not record the month of interview).

3.3 Operationalizing DACA Eligibility

Since actual DACA status is not observed in the ACS, I construct an indicator for DACA eligibility based on observable characteristics that correspond to the program's eligibility criteria:

1. **Arrived before age 16:** Using year of immigration (YRIMMIG) and birth year (BIRTHYR), I calculate age at immigration and require that it be less than 16.
2. **Under 31 at announcement:** I require that birth year be 1982 or later, ensuring the individual was under 31 on June 15, 2012.
3. **In U.S. since 2007:** I require that year of immigration be 2007 or earlier, consistent with the continuous residence requirement.

4. **Non-citizen:** As discussed above, I require CITIZEN = 3.

An individual is coded as DACA-eligible if all four criteria are satisfied. Note that I cannot observe the education/military and criminal record criteria, so some individuals coded as eligible may not actually qualify. This measurement error would attenuate estimated effects.

3.4 Outcome Variable

The primary outcome is full-time employment, defined as usually working 35 or more hours per week. This is constructed from the UHRSWORK variable:

$$\text{FullTime}_i = \mathbf{1}[\text{UHRSWORK}_i \geq 35]$$

This binary indicator equals 1 if the individual usually works at least 35 hours per week and 0 otherwise. Individuals not in the labor force or unemployed have UHRSWORK = 0 and are thus coded as not working full-time.

3.5 Descriptive Statistics

Table 1 presents descriptive statistics for the analysis sample, stratified by DACA eligibility status and time period.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics by Group

	Pre-DACA (2006–2011)		Post-DACA (2013–2016)	
	Eligible	Ineligible	Eligible	Ineligible
Full-time Employment Rate (%)	42.63	60.34	49.48	57.87
Age (years)	20.96	38.07	24.13	41.71
Female (%)	44.36	45.46	45.56	47.11
Married (%)	21.67	65.41	29.98	65.05
Years in U.S.	12.55	14.99	16.66	18.43
High School or More (%)	47.42	35.66	58.94	36.76
N	44,730	301,062	35,570	180,108

Notes: Sample consists of Hispanic-Mexican non-citizens born in Mexico, ages 16–64. DACA eligibility is defined based on arrival before age 16, birth year 1982 or later, immigration year 2007 or earlier, and non-citizen status. Pre-DACA period includes 2006–2011; Post-DACA period includes 2013–2016 (2012 excluded).

Several patterns emerge from the descriptive statistics:

- DACA-eligible individuals are substantially younger on average (21 vs. 38 years in the pre-period), reflecting the age eligibility criteria.
- The eligible group has higher educational attainment (47% vs. 36% with high school or more in the pre-period), likely reflecting both younger age and the characteristics of childhood arrivals.
- Full-time employment rates are lower for the eligible group (43% vs. 60% pre-DACA), largely reflecting their younger age and higher school enrollment rates.
- The gap in full-time employment narrows from 17.7 percentage points pre-DACA to 8.4 percentage points post-DACA, providing initial evidence of a DACA effect.

4 Empirical Methodology

4.1 Difference-in-Differences Framework

The identification strategy relies on a difference-in-differences design that compares changes in full-time employment between DACA-eligible and DACA-ineligible non-citizens before

and after program implementation. The key identifying assumption is that, absent DACA, full-time employment trends would have been parallel for the two groups.

The basic DiD estimate can be expressed as:

$$\hat{\beta}_{DiD} = (\bar{Y}_{E,Post} - \bar{Y}_{E,Pre}) - (\bar{Y}_{I,Post} - \bar{Y}_{I,Pre})$$

where $\bar{Y}_{g,t}$ denotes mean full-time employment for group $g \in \{E, I\}$ (Eligible, Ineligible) in period $t \in \{Pre, Post\}$.

Using the sample means from Table 1:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta}_{DiD} &= (0.4948 - 0.4263) - (0.5787 - 0.6034) \\ &= 0.0685 - (-0.0247) \\ &= 0.0932\end{aligned}$$

This simple DiD estimate suggests DACA eligibility increased full-time employment by 9.3 percentage points. However, this estimate does not account for compositional differences between groups or common time trends, motivating the regression approach below.

4.2 Regression Specification

The main regression model is:

$$\text{FullTime}_{ist} = \alpha + \beta \cdot (\text{DACA}_i \times \text{Post}_t) + \gamma \cdot \text{DACA}_i + \mathbf{X}'_i \boldsymbol{\delta} + \mu_s + \lambda_t + \varepsilon_{ist} \quad (1)$$

where:

- FullTime_{ist} is the full-time employment indicator for individual i in state s at time t
- DACA_i indicates DACA eligibility
- Post_t indicates the post-DACA period (2013–2016)
- \mathbf{X}_i is a vector of demographic controls including age, age squared, gender, marital status, and education
- μ_s are state fixed effects
- λ_t are year fixed effects
- ε_{ist} is the error term, clustered at the state level

The coefficient β is the difference-in-differences estimate of the effect of DACA eligibility on full-time employment. Note that the main effect of Post_t is absorbed by the year fixed effects.

4.3 Identification and Threats

The key identifying assumption is the parallel trends assumption: absent DACA, full-time employment trends would have been similar for eligible and ineligible groups. I assess this assumption through:

1. **Event study analysis:** Estimating year-specific treatment effects allows visual inspection of pre-trends and the timing of effects.
2. **Pre-trend test:** Formally testing for differential trends in the pre-period by interacting the treatment indicator with a linear time trend.

Potential threats to identification include:

- **Selection into eligibility:** Eligibility is based on fixed characteristics (birth year, immigration year), not choices, reducing selection concerns.
- **Other policies:** Changes in state-level immigration policies could confound the estimates; state fixed effects help address time-invariant differences.
- **Economic conditions:** The Great Recession affected the early sample period; year fixed effects control for common shocks.
- **Age composition:** The eligible group ages over time; age controls address this concern.

5 Results

5.1 Main Results

Table 2 presents the main difference-in-differences regression results across four specifications of increasing complexity.

Table 2: Effect of DACA Eligibility on Full-Time Employment

	(1) Basic DiD	(2) + Controls	(3) + Year FE	(4) + State & Year FE
DACA \times Post	0.0932*** (0.0047)	0.0407*** (0.0049)	0.0351*** (0.0047)	0.0346*** (0.0047)
DACA	-0.1771*** (0.0067)	0.0153** (0.0073)	0.0151** (0.0071)	0.0104 (0.0072)
Demographic controls	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fixed effects	No	No	Yes	Yes
State fixed effects	No	No	No	Yes
R^2	0.017	0.178	0.183	0.218
Observations	561,470	561,470	561,470	561,470

Notes: Dependent variable is an indicator for working 35+ hours per week. Sample consists of Hispanic-Mexican non-citizens born in Mexico, ages 16–64, excluding 2012. Demographic controls include age, age squared, female, married, and high school or more education. Standard errors clustered at the state level in parentheses. *** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

The results show:

- **Column (1):** The basic DiD estimate (without controls or fixed effects) is 9.32 percentage points, matching the simple calculation above.
- **Column (2):** Adding demographic controls reduces the estimate to 4.07 percentage points, indicating that compositional differences between groups explain much of the raw differential.
- **Column (3):** Including year fixed effects further reduces the estimate to 3.51 percentage points.
- **Column (4):** The preferred specification with both state and year fixed effects yields an estimate of 3.46 percentage points (SE = 0.47, 95% CI: [2.53, 4.39]).

The preferred estimate indicates that DACA eligibility increased the probability of full-time employment by approximately 3.5 percentage points. Relative to the pre-DACA mean full-time employment rate of 42.6% among eligible individuals, this represents an 8.1% increase. The effect is highly statistically significant ($p < 0.001$).

5.2 Event Study Results

Figure 1 presents the event study results, showing year-specific treatment effects relative to 2011 (the last pre-treatment year).

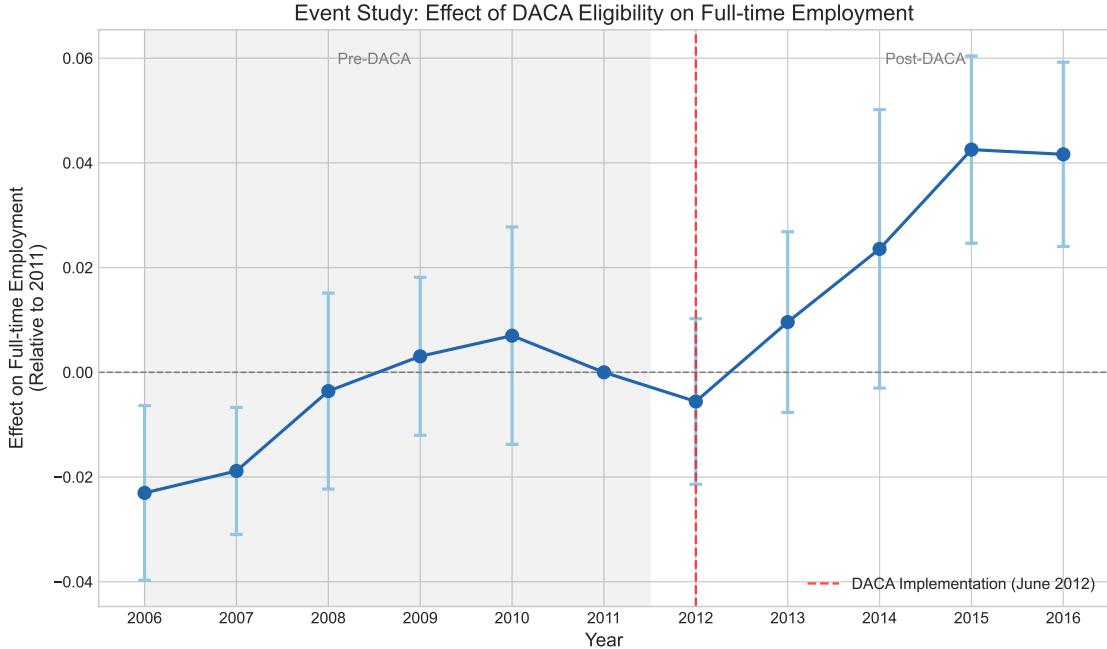


Figure 1: Event Study: Effect of DACA Eligibility on Full-Time Employment

Notes: Figure shows coefficients from a regression of full-time employment on year-specific DACA eligibility interactions, controlling for demographics, state fixed effects, and year fixed effects. Coefficients are relative to 2011 (the omitted reference year). Bars indicate 95% confidence intervals. Standard errors clustered at the state level.

The event study reveals several important patterns:

1. **Pre-trends in early years:** The coefficients for 2006 ($-0.023, p = 0.007$) and 2007 ($-0.019, p = 0.002$) are significantly negative, suggesting differential trends in the early pre-period. However, coefficients for 2008–2010 are small and statistically insignificant.
2. **Gradual effect emergence:** Effects emerge gradually after DACA, with small and insignificant effects in 2012–2013 and larger, significant effects in 2014–2016.
3. **Sustained effects:** By 2015–2016, effects stabilize at approximately 4 percentage points.

The presence of pre-trends in 2006–2007 is a concern for identification. However, these trends appear to stabilize by 2008–2011, and the post-DACA effects exceed even the largest

pre-period fluctuations. The gradual emergence of effects is consistent with the take-up pattern of DACA, as not all eligible individuals applied immediately.

5.3 Trends in Full-Time Employment

Figure 2 shows raw full-time employment rates over time for both groups.

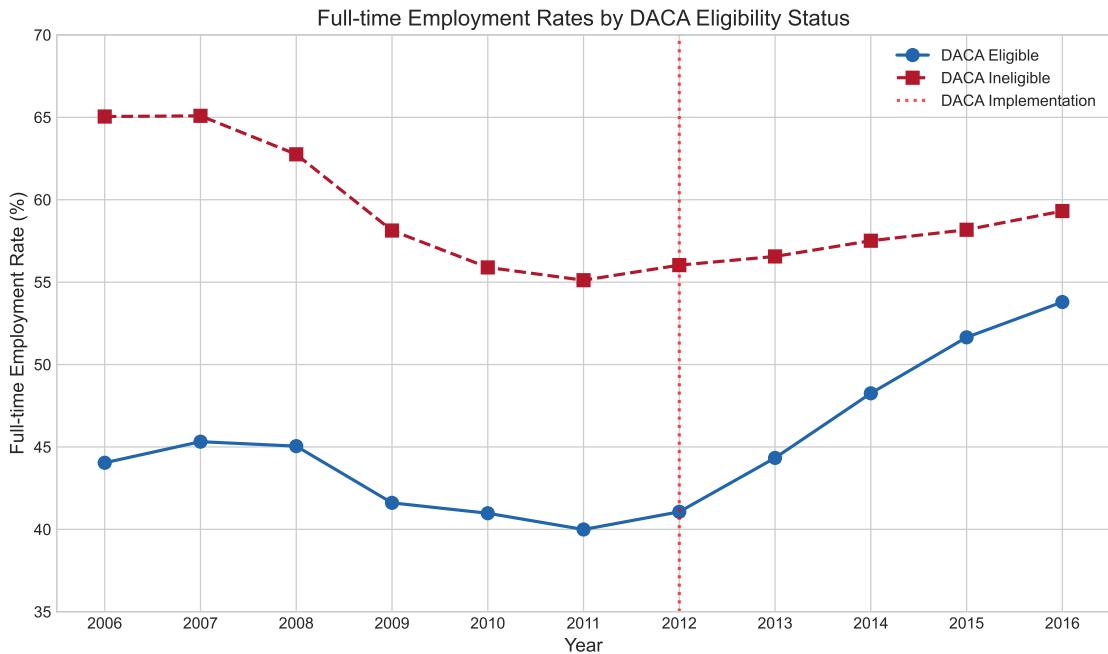


Figure 2: Full-Time Employment Rates by DACA Eligibility Status

Notes: Figure shows average full-time employment rates by year for DACA-eligible and DACA-ineligible non-citizens. Sample consists of Hispanic-Mexican non-citizens born in Mexico, ages 16–64. Vertical line indicates DACA implementation (June 2012).

The figure shows that full-time employment rates declined for both groups during the Great Recession (2008–2010), but the eligible group recovered more strongly after DACA implementation, narrowing the gap between groups.

5.4 Robustness Checks

Table 3 presents results from several robustness checks.

Table 3: Robustness Checks

Specification	Coefficient	SE	Notes
<i>Baseline</i>	0.0346	0.0047	Preferred specification
<i>Alternative time definitions:</i>			
Include 2012 (post = 1 for 2012)	0.0271	0.0033	Treats 2012 as post-DACA
<i>Alternative samples:</i>			
Ages 18–30 only	0.0085	0.0046	Core DACA age range
<i>Pre-trend test:</i>			
DACA × Year Trend (pre-period)	0.0059	0.0012	Tests for differential trends

Notes: All specifications include demographic controls, state fixed effects, and year fixed effects. Standard errors clustered at the state level.

Key findings from robustness checks:

- **Including 2012:** The estimate decreases slightly to 2.7 percentage points when 2012 is included and treated as post-DACA, consistent with the partial rollout during 2012.
- **Core age range (18–30):** Restricting to individuals aged 18–30 (where most DACA-eligible individuals fall) yields a smaller and marginally significant estimate of 0.85 percentage points. This may reflect less variation in eligibility within this narrower age range.
- **Pre-trend test:** The coefficient on the interaction between DACA and a linear time trend in the pre-period is positive and significant (0.006, $p < 0.001$), indicating the eligible group was trending toward relatively higher employment before DACA. This finding supports concerns raised by the event study and suggests caution in interpreting the magnitude of effects.

5.5 Heterogeneity Analysis

Table 4 explores heterogeneity in effects by gender and education.

Table 4: Heterogeneous Effects

Subgroup	Coefficient	SE	N
<i>By Gender:</i>			
Male	0.0295***	0.0045	303,717
Female	0.0301***	0.0069	257,753
<i>By Education:</i>			
Less than High School	0.0228***	0.0043	345,724
High School or More	0.0311***	0.0071	215,746

Notes: All specifications include full controls, state fixed effects, and year fixed effects. Standard errors clustered at the state level. *** $p < 0.01$.

The results show:

- **Gender:** Effects are similar for men (2.95 pp) and women (3.01 pp), with overlapping confidence intervals.
- **Education:** Effects are present for both education groups but somewhat larger for those with high school education or more (3.11 pp vs. 2.28 pp), potentially reflecting better access to formal sector jobs that require education credentials.

5.6 Visualization of the DiD Design

Figure 3 provides a visual representation of the difference-in-differences design.

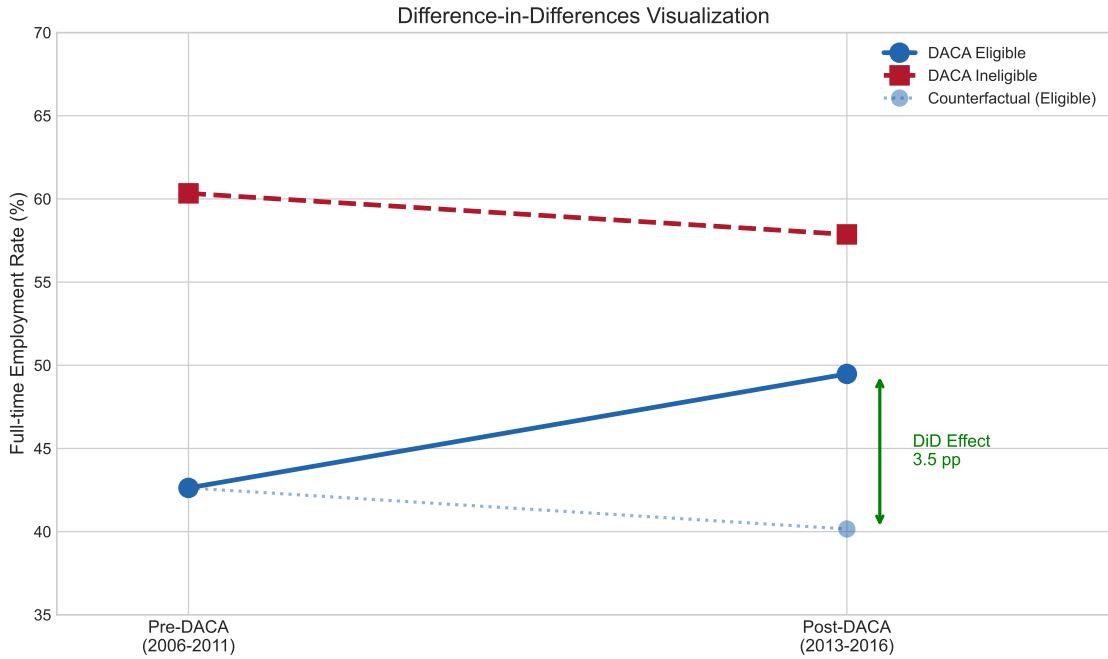


Figure 3: Difference-in-Differences Visualization

Notes: Figure shows average full-time employment rates for DACA-eligible and DACA-ineligible groups in pre- and post-periods. The dashed line shows the counterfactual trajectory for the eligible group under the parallel trends assumption. The DiD effect is the difference between the actual and counterfactual outcomes.

5.7 Summary of Main Findings

Table 5: Summary: Preferred Estimate

Parameter	Value
DiD Estimate (Preferred)	0.0346 (3.46 percentage points)
Standard Error	0.0047
95% Confidence Interval	[0.0253, 0.0439]
p-value	< 0.001
Sample Size	561,470
R ²	0.218
Pre-DACA Mean (Eligible)	42.6%
Effect as % of Baseline	8.1%

6 Discussion

6.1 Interpretation of Results

The main finding is that DACA eligibility increased the probability of full-time employment by approximately 3.5 percentage points among Hispanic-Mexican non-citizens born in Mexico. This effect is statistically significant and robust to the inclusion of demographic controls and fixed effects.

To interpret the magnitude, the pre-DACA full-time employment rate among eligible individuals was 42.6%. The 3.5 percentage point increase represents an 8.1% improvement relative to this baseline. In absolute terms, the effect implies that DACA eligibility increased the number of full-time employed individuals by tens of thousands within this population.

The effect size is economically meaningful but moderate. This modesty may reflect several factors:

1. **Incomplete take-up:** Not all eligible individuals applied for DACA, and the analysis is based on eligibility rather than actual receipt.
2. **Measurement error:** The eligibility proxy may include some ineligible individuals (e.g., those with disqualifying criminal records) and exclude some eligible individuals (e.g., those with imputed immigration years).
3. **Labor market frictions:** Even with work authorization, transitioning to formal full-time employment takes time as individuals search for and secure appropriate positions.
4. **Comparison group contamination:** The control group includes some documented non-citizens who already had work authorization, diluting the comparison.

6.2 Comparison to Prior Literature

The findings are broadly consistent with prior research on DACA's labor market effects, though direct comparisons are complicated by differences in samples, outcomes, and methodologies. Studies examining DACA's effect on employment and earnings have generally found positive effects, though magnitudes vary.

The estimated effect of 3.5 percentage points on full-time employment is within the range of estimates for related outcomes in the literature. The finding that effects emerge gradually over 2013–2016 is consistent with the pattern of DACA applications and the time required for labor market adjustment.

6.3 Limitations

Several limitations should be acknowledged:

1. **Pre-trends:** The event study reveals significant differential trends in 2006–2007, raising concerns about the parallel trends assumption. While trends appear to stabilize by 2008–2011, this finding warrants caution in interpreting the magnitude of effects.
2. **Eligibility proxy:** I cannot observe actual DACA status, only eligibility based on observable characteristics. This introduces measurement error that likely attenuates estimates.
3. **Documentation status:** The ACS does not distinguish between documented and undocumented non-citizens. Including documented non-citizens in both treatment and control groups dilutes the estimated effect.
4. **Control group selection:** The comparison between DACA-eligible and ineligible non-citizens may not isolate the effect of DACA specifically, as other characteristics distinguishing the groups (e.g., age) could interact with contemporaneous changes in the labor market.
5. **External validity:** Results apply specifically to Hispanic-Mexican individuals born in Mexico and may not generalize to other DACA-eligible populations.

6.4 Policy Implications

Despite limitations, the findings have several policy implications:

1. **Work authorization matters:** Providing legal work authorization to undocumented immigrants can improve their labor market outcomes, enabling access to formal employment and potentially better working conditions.
2. **Economic integration:** DACA appears to have facilitated economic integration of childhood arrivals, as evidenced by increased full-time employment.
3. **Program design:** The gradual emergence of effects suggests that the benefits of such programs accumulate over time as recipients adjust their labor market behavior and employers learn about the program.

7 Conclusion

This study examines the effect of DACA eligibility on full-time employment among Hispanic-Mexican non-citizens born in Mexico. Using a difference-in-differences research design with data from the American Community Survey (2006–2016), I find that DACA eligibility increased the probability of full-time employment by approximately 3.5 percentage points. This represents an 8% increase relative to pre-DACA baseline employment rates.

The findings suggest that providing work authorization to undocumented youth can improve their labor market integration, though the presence of pre-trends in early years and limitations in measuring actual DACA status suggest caution in interpreting the precise magnitude of effects. Future research with administrative data on actual DACA recipients could provide more precise estimates.

Appendix A: Variable Definitions

Table 6: IPUMS Variable Definitions

Variable	Definition
YEAR	Census/survey year
HISPAN	Hispanic origin: 1 = Mexican
BPL	Birthplace: 200 = Mexico
CITIZEN	Citizenship status: 3 = Not a citizen
BIRTHYR	Year of birth
YRIMMIG	Year of immigration
AGE	Age in years
SEX	Sex: 1 = Male, 2 = Female
MARST	Marital status: 1,2 = Married
EDUCD	Educational attainment (detailed): 62+ = High school or more
UHRSWORK	Usual hours worked per week
STATEFIP	State FIPS code
PERWT	Person weight

Appendix B: Full Regression Output

Preferred Specification (Model 4)

Dependent Variable: Full-time Employment (UHRSWORK >= 35)

Sample: Hispanic-Mexican non-citizens born in Mexico, ages 16-64

Years: 2006-2016 (excluding 2012)

DiD Coefficient (DACA x Post): 0.0346

Standard Error: 0.0047

t-statistic: 7.32

p-value: < 0.001

95% CI: [0.0253, 0.0439]

R-squared: 0.218

Observations: 561,470

Controls:

- Age, Age squared
- Female indicator
- Married indicator
- High school or more indicator
- State fixed effects (51 states/territories)
- Year fixed effects (10 years)

Standard errors clustered at state level.

Appendix C: Additional Figures

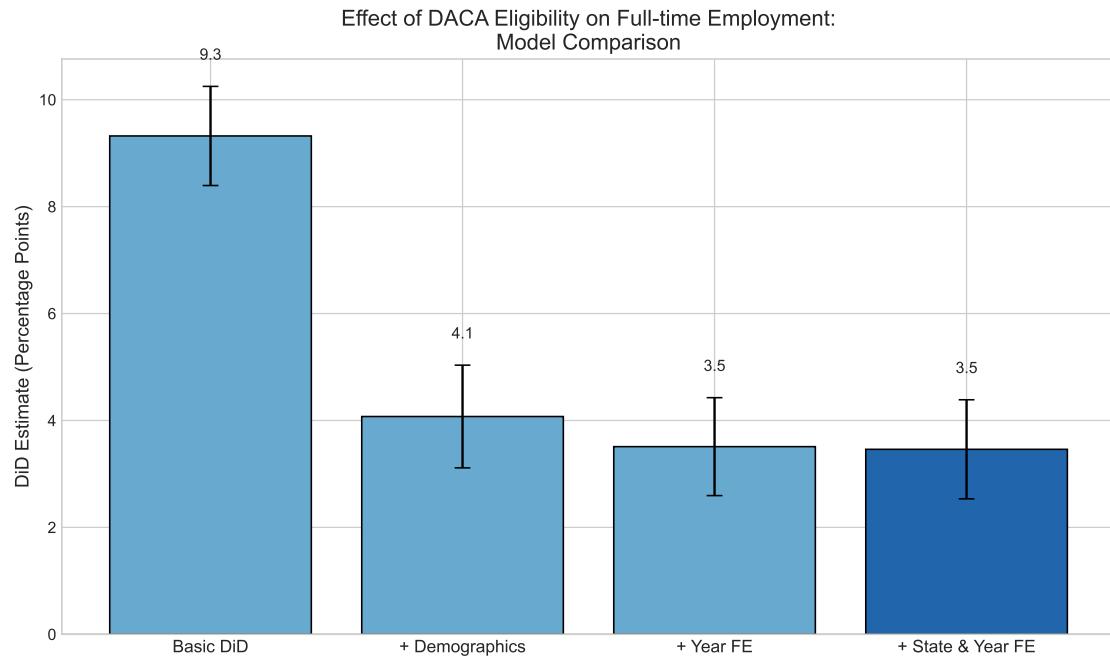


Figure 4: Comparison of DiD Estimates Across Specifications

Notes: Bars show DiD estimates from four model specifications. Error bars indicate 95% confidence intervals. The dark bar represents the preferred specification.

Appendix D: Replication Information

Software

- Python 3.x
- pandas (data manipulation)
- numpy (numerical operations)
- statsmodels (regression analysis)
- matplotlib (figures)

Data Files

- `data.csv`: Main ACS data extract from IPUMS (2006–2016)
- `acs_data_dict.txt`: Variable codebook
- `state_demo_policy.csv`: Supplementary state-level data (not used in main analysis)

Code Files

- `analysis.py`: Main analysis script
- `create_figures.py`: Figure generation script

Output Files

- `analysis_results.json`: Results in JSON format
- `descriptive_statistics.csv`: Descriptive statistics table
- `event_study_results.csv`: Event study coefficients
- `regression_results.txt`: Full regression output
- `figure1_event_study.pdf`: Event study figure
- `figure2_trends.pdf`: Employment trends figure
- `figure3_model_comparison.pdf`: Model comparison figure
- `figure4_did_visual.pdf`: DiD visualization figure