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MPI: More than 10 Million Foreign Nationals Receive Taxpayer-funded Welfare Benefits



10.3 million of the 22 mil. foreign born pop. get at least 1 welfare program -

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A recent report by the Migration Policy Institute, entitled *Chilling Effects: The Expected Public Charge Rule and Its Impact on Legal Immigrant Families' Public Benefits Use*, revealed that 10.3 million out of the 22 million foreign nationals in the U.S. receive benefits from at least one welfare program funded by taxpayer dollars. Additionally, 54.2% of foreign national children, age 17 and younger, are granted welfare benefits. The data also showed that 46.3% of foreign national welfare recipients are adults, age 18 to 54, and 47.8% are older than 54.

Graph

MPI examined a leaked draft of an executive order that would deny green cards to individuals who use public benefits, or have relatives who do. The report goes on to explain how the Trump Administration's Public Charge Rule would reduce the number of foreign nationals on welfare, cause a decrease in immigration levels, and make it more difficult for foreign nationals and their dependents to be eligible for welfare benefits.

"Although it is difficult to estimate precisely how many people would alter their behavior in response to the proposed change in public-charge policy, if immigrants' use patterns were to follow those observed during the late 1990s there could be a decline of between 20 percent and 60 percent -- and that even some members of groups exempt from the new rule [e.g. refugees] would likely withdraw from public programs."

More than 10 million foreign nationals live in households that receive government-funded welfare benefits, including Medicaid, TANF or SSI (cash) benefits, food stamps and/or Social Security benefits.

For more information, see the *Washington Examiner*.

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