



# Workers in the Immigrant Population:

**The Best Kept Secret**

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# Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership Target Occupations in Transportation Distribution and Logistics

- Aircraft Mechanic
- Auto Repair
- Bus Driver
- Diesel Mechanic
- Shipping and Stock Clerk & Dispatcher
- Truck Driver
- Warehouse Worker



# CCWP's Target Occupation Profiles

# Truck Driver and Warehouse Worker

- These two occupations do not necessarily require post-secondary education
- Some warehouses are open to hire ex-offenders
- Many jobs lead to careers



Labor Market Information on  
these two sets of occupations

# Communities of Color and TDL

- In the Chicago area, nearly 50% of the labor force are either black or Latino

# Immigrant Workers

- “Unauthorized immigrant workers remain concentrated in lower-skill jobs, much more so than U.S.-born workers, according to the new estimates, which are based on government data. In 2012, 62% held service, construction and production jobs, twice the share of U.S.-born workers who did. The 13% share with management or professional jobs is less than half of the 36% of U.S.-born workers in those occupations.”

Pew Research Center 3/26/2015

<b>Major Occupation Group</b>	<b>U.S. born</b>	<b>Unauthorized immigrants</b>
Service	17	33
Construction and extraction	5	15
Production, installation and repair	9	14
Transportation and material moving	6	8
Farming, fishing and forestry	0.5	4
Sales, office and administrative support	26	13
Professional, management, business and finance	<u>36</u>	<u>13</u>
	100	100

Note: Based on civilian labor force with a reported occupation; boldface indicates over.



Leisure and hospitality is the largest industry among unauthorized immigrant workers in 14 states and the District of Columbia, generally in the West or Northeast, as well as Florida. In 11 states, which tend to be in the South, the construction industry employs more unauthorized immigrants than any other. **Manufacturing and transportation and material moving is the dominant employer of this group in 11 states, largely in the Midwest.**

# Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (**DACA**) is an American immigration policy that allows certain undocumented immigrants who entered the country before their 16th birthday and before June 2007 to receive a renewable two-year work permit and exemption from deportation.
- <http://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca>

# Life After DACA

- Do not qualify for Pell Grants to pursue higher education
- DACA recipients receive authorization to work
- Ability to apply for a driver's license
- Must reapply for DACA every two years
- Does not provide any path for residency or citizenship

# Chicago Sample

- Total - 2,684
- 2,381 have DACA
- Median age – 22.68

- Male 40%
- Female 60%
- Latino 82.7%
- Asian/Pacific Islander 9.69%
- White, black, or other 7.5%

- DACAmented 90%
- Other 10%
  - 27% have applied

- Low-income 72.35%
- Problem paying bills 54.3%
- 2-parent household 76%
- 63.6% live with parents
- 10 % have own children

# Schooling

- HS Diploma or less 29%
- Some College 34.56%
  - **42.27% dropped out of College**
- College Degree 36.4%
  - AA Degree 15.4%
  - BA Degree 17.79 %
  - MA Degree 2.87%
  - Prof Degree 0.33%

# Work

- Ever worked for pay 85.6%
- Currently employed 66.92%
- More than 1 current job 33.87%
- Has health insurance 34.31%



# Gender and Age

- **Men are more likely than women to obtain credit cards and driver's licenses.**
  - Social expectations for men to be providers and to offer transportation to women partners and family members may be contributing to these trends.
- Results suggest that age is negatively correlated with opening a **first bank account and obtaining a license**, so that **young DACA recipients are more likely to seek these benefits**. (Older recipients may have figured out how to access these resources prior to receiving DACA or have learned how to adjust without them).
- Findings also show that **age is positively correlated with obtaining a driver's license and with obtaining health care**, trends that likely mirror those of nonimmigrant youth.

# Chicago Efforts to Connect this Population to Jobs in TDL

- The Chicago Community Trust and the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
  - Erie Neighborhood House
  - Instituto del Progreso Latino
  - Polish American Association
  - Chinese American Service League
  - Chicago Jobs Council
  - Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
  - Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition



# Identified Need

- (1) System to track and identify people that are coming to/from either program (legal services or workforce development) and make proper referrals
- (2) Need to cross-train staff from each department
- (3) Local policies that support these efforts

