

Obama unveils U.S. immigration reform

President Obama has used overriding executive powers to enact major changes to U.S. immigration policy, which lifts the threat of deportation for up to five million undocumented migrants



Republicans accuse Obama of vastly exceeding his constitutional powers and vow to block executive action

KEY POINTS OF EXECUTIVE ACTION

■ Expansion of Obama's 2012 "deferred action" programme (DACA) which allows young adults brought to U.S. illegally by their parents as children to stay and work

Upper age limit for applicants, presently set at 30, likely to be removed, affecting around 700,000* people

Current DACA eligible

■ Extension of deportation relief to undocumented parents whose children are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents who have lived in U.S. for five years and have no criminal record

Move would bring another 3.3m people into eligibility ranks, but is expected to exclude parents of those in DACA programme

1.2m

0.7

3.3 million

6.5 million unaffected

11.7 million unauthorized immigrants (as of 2012)

**Does not include 470,000 youth reaching DACA eligibility age of 15 during 2012-22*