



No Time to Lose: The Consequences of the Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure Terminations and Why Congress Must Act Now

What is Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure?

- Temporary Protected Status, or TPS, is a life-saving humanitarian immigration program that protects people from being returned to countries where their lives or freedom might be threatened.¹
- Enacted by Congress in 1990, TPS can be designated for a country in the event of war or ongoing armed conflict, natural disaster, epidemic, or other extraordinary and temporary conditions.²
- TPS is designated for a country by the Secretary of Homeland Security in six, 12 or 18-month increments.³
- Under the law, TPS may be extended as many times as necessary, as long as dangerous country conditions continue.⁴
- TPS protects people from deportation and provides temporary work authorization.⁵
- TPS does not provide a path to lawful permanent resident status or citizenship.⁶

¹ Carla Argueta, *Temporary Protected Status: Current Immigration Policies and Issues*, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE (Jan. 17, 2017), trac.syr.edu/immigration/library/P13104.pdf.

² INA §244 (b).

³ INA §244 (b)(2)(B).

⁴ See generally INA §244.

⁵ INA §244 (a)(1)(A); INA §244 (a)(1)(B).

⁶ See generally INA §244.

In the next ten years, the cost of ending TPS for El Salvador, Haiti and Honduras will cost our GDP

\$45 billion

TPS terminations leave parents with impossible decisions—separation from their children or bringing them to countries where they could be in harm's way. TPS holders from El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti are parents to over

270,000 U.S. citizen children

Ending TPS for El Salvador, Haiti and Honduras results in total turnover costs for employers that will grow to

\$967 million

All 50 states are home to TPS holders. The largest populations reside in:



- Deferred Enforced Departure, or DED, like TPS, allows foreign nationals to be protected from deportation and have the opportunity to work. DED is granted through the President's foreign relations power.⁷

Who are TPS and DED Holders?

- Approximately 320,000 people from 10 countries hold TPS.⁸
- There are approximately 4,000 Liberian DED holders.⁹
- The majority of TPS holders are from El Salvador, Honduras, Haiti, Nepal and Syria.¹⁰
- All 50 states are home to TPS holders, with the

largest populations residing in California, Florida, Texas, New York, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey and Massachusetts.¹¹

- Over half of TPS holders from the two largest populations (El Salvador and Honduras) have been living in the U.S. for over 20 years.¹²
- TPS holders have high participation in the American workforce, contributing (but not drawing from) Social Security and Medicare.¹³
- TPS holders are breadwinners for their families in the U.S. and provide life-sustaining monetary support to family abroad.¹⁴
- TPS holders from the three largest populations (El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti) are parents to

⁷ Jill H. Wilson, *Temporary Protected Status: Overview and Current Issues*, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE (Oct. 10, 2018), fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/RS20844.pdf.

⁸ Jill H. Wilson, *Temporary Protected Status: Overview and Current Issues*, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE (Oct. 10, 2018), fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/RS20844.pdf.

⁹ 4,000 Liberians Must Leave U.S., NPR (April 1, 2018), www.npr.org/2018/04/01/598630144/4-000-liberians-must-leave-u-s.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, *A Statistical and Demographic Profile of the US Temporary Protected Status Populations from El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti*, JOURNAL ON MIGRATION AND HUMAN SECURITY, Vol. 5 No. 3 (2017), cmsny.org/publications/jmhs-tps-elsalvador-honduras-haiti/.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Negative Consequences of Ending Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in El Salvador and Honduras for U.S. Interested in Promoting Prosperity, Security, and Governance in the Northern Triangle*, ALIANZA AMERICAS, ELCA, KIND, LAWG (Aug. 2017), www.alianzaamericas.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Importance-of-TPS-to-US-Interests-Input-for-DHS-.pdf.

over 270,000 U.S. citizen children.¹⁵

- Eleven percent of TPS holders in the workforce own their own businesses.¹⁶

The Administration's TPS and DED Terminations

- The current administration has terminated TPS for six of the ten countries (Haiti, El Salvador, Honduras, Nepal, Sudan and Nicaragua) as well as DED for Liberia.¹⁷
- 310,000 people, approximately 97% of TPS holders, have lost protection through these terminations along with Liberian DED holders.¹⁸
- While TPS was extended for Syria, Yemen, Somalia and South Sudan in 2017 and 2018, the administration failed to redesignate TPS for these war-torn countries, meaning that more recently arrived people did not have the opportunity to apply for protection.¹⁹

How Do TPS Terminations Impact the U.S.?

Our economy is weakened

- The end of TPS for El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti will result in \$45 billion in lost GDP over 10 years.²⁰

- The U.S. will lose out on \$5.6 billion in Social Security over 10 years as a result of the El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti TPS terminations.²¹

- The end of TPS for El Salvador, Haiti and Honduras will cost businesses over \$967 million in turnover costs.²²

- TPS holders from the largest populations (El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti) are vital workers in construction, childcare, healthcare, education, food services and other key industries.²³

American families are torn apart and communities are destabilized

- TPS holders from the three largest populations (El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti) are parents to over 270,000 U.S. citizen children.²⁴ TPS and DED terminations leave parents with impossible decisions—separation from their children or bringing them to countries they do not know and where they could be in harm's way.

- TPS and DED holders are generally allowed to obtain state-issued driver's licenses, which allows them to get to work, take their children to school and to doctor's appointments, shop and access services, etc. In the vast majority of states, losing TPS or DED would mean losing the ability to drive,²⁵ restricting TPS and DED holders' ability to support their families and care for children.

15 Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, *A Statistical and Demographic Profile of the US Temporary Protected Status Populations from El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti*, JOURNAL ON MIGRATION AND HUMAN SECURITY, Vol. 5 No. 3 (2017), cmsny.org/publications/jmhs-tps-elsalvador-honduras-haiti/.

16 *Id.*

17 Jill H. Wilson, *Temporary Protected Status: Overview and Current Issues*, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE (Oct. 10, 2018), fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/RS20844.pdf.

18 *Id.*

19 *Id.*

20 Amanda Baran, Jose Magana-Salgado, Tom Wong, *Economic Contributions by Salvadoran, Honduran, and Haitian TPS Holders*, IMMIGRANT LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER (April 2017), www.ilrc.org/report-tps-economic-cost.

21 *Id.*

22 *Id.*

23 Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, *A Statistical and Demographic Profile of the US Temporary Protected Status Populations from El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti*, JOURNAL ON MIGRATION AND HUMAN SECURITY, Vol. 5 No. 3 (2017), cmsny.org/publications/jmhs-tps-elsalvador-honduras-haiti/.

24 *Id.*

25 *States, Districts, and Territories Providing Driver's Licenses to Undocumented Immigrants*, cliniclegal.org/sites/default/files/advocacy/

- Individuals with TPS or DED status typically have access to higher education because many are able to meet residency requirements for college enrollment and in-state tuition purposes.²⁶ Without TPS or DED, many immigrants who are enrolled in colleges will likely be forced to drop out because they no longer qualify for enrollment or resident tuition.
- Approximately 50 percent of TPS holders from two of the largest populations (El Salvador and Haiti) have mortgages.²⁷ TPS and DED terminations may result in the loss of these homes, displacing families and affecting markets and communities.

National and regional security goals are undermined

- TPS and DED holders send life-sustaining money, or remittances, to family and friends in home countries. The end of TPS and DED means the end of the support people use to meet basic needs in TPS or DED countries. The loss of remittances will destabilize counties, trigger migration to the U.S., and undercut U.S. investments in the Northern Triangle.²⁸
- TPS holders sent back to the Northern Triangle are prime targets for gang violence due to actual or perceived wealth from living and working in the U.S. TPS holders would be highly likely to flee or be trafficked back to the U.S. to escape violence.²⁹

[stateandlocal/Drivers-License-Map.pdf](#).

26 *Tuition Equity: Access to Higher Education for Immigrants*, cliniclegal.org/sites/default/files/advocacy/stateandlocal/Tuition-Equity-Map.pdf.

27 Robert Warren and Donald Kerwin, *A Statistical and Demographic Profile of the US Temporary Protected Status Populations from El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti*, JOURNAL ON MIGRATION AND HUMAN SECURITY, Vol. 5 No. 3 (2017), <http://cmsny.org/publications/jmhs-tps-elsalvador-honduras-haiti/>.

28 *Negative Consequences of Ending Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in El Salvador and Honduras for U.S. Interested in Promoting Prosperity, Security, and Governance in the Northern Triangle*, ALIANZA AMERICAS, ELCA, KIND, LAWG (Aug. 2017), www.alianzaamericas.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Importance-of-TPS-to-US-Interests-Input-for-DHS-.pdf.

29 *Id.*