# Many California immigrants with legal immigration status have adverse perceptions or experiences of public charge policy



A new UCLA CHPR study found that two-thirds of California's Latinx and Asian immigrants said they had **negative perceptions or experiences** with the federal public charge policy.



#### WHAT IS PUBLIC CHARGE?

The U.S. government considers a noncitizen a public charge if they rely on (or are expected to rely on if trying to enter the country) specific public benefits for subsistence. Being designated a public charge may mean a person is ineligible to become a lawful permanent resident.

## Respondents who had negative perceptions with the public charge policy

### By immigration status

Nearly

(or 48%) of all immigrants

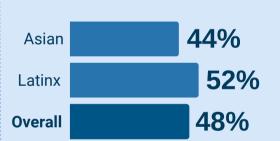
51%

Naturalized citizen

42%

Noncitizen with green card

Noncitizen without green card By ethnicity



## Respondents who had both negative perceptions and experiences with the public charge policy

## By immigration status

Nearly

(or 19%) of all immigrants

13% **Naturalized** citizen

Noncitizen

card

Noncitizen with green without green card By ethnicity

11% Asian **26%** Latinx

19% Overall

Nearly more likely than Asian immigrants

Source: RIGHTS follow-on survey to the 2018, 2019, and 2020 California Health Interview Surveys (CHIS)

Read the policy brief at https://ucla.in/3KSqNJp



