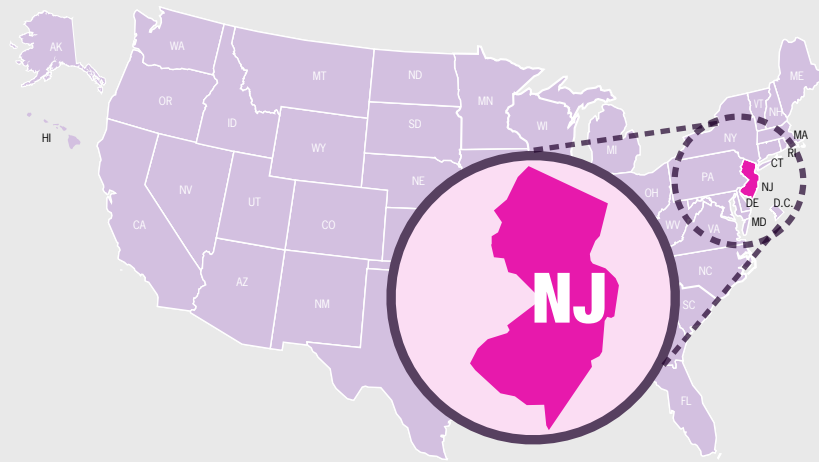


# Education Leads Home

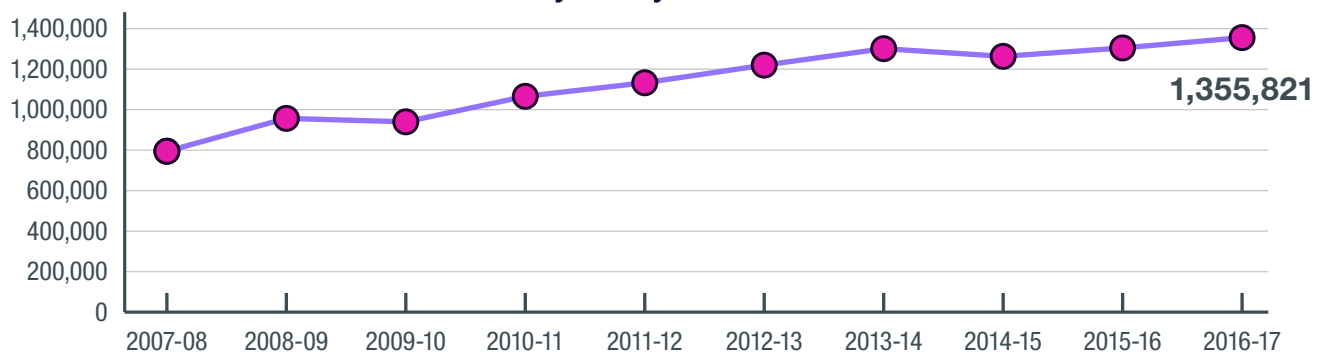
## State Snapshot on Student Homelessness

### NEW JERSEY



### The National Picture

The number of students identified as homeless in the United States has increased by nearly 100% since 2006-07



As high as these numbers are, they are certainly an undercount given that the number of students enrolled does not capture: those who were never identified; school-aged children and youth who experience homelessness during the summer only; those who dropped out of school; or young children who are not enrolled in preschool programs administered by Local Educational Agencies.

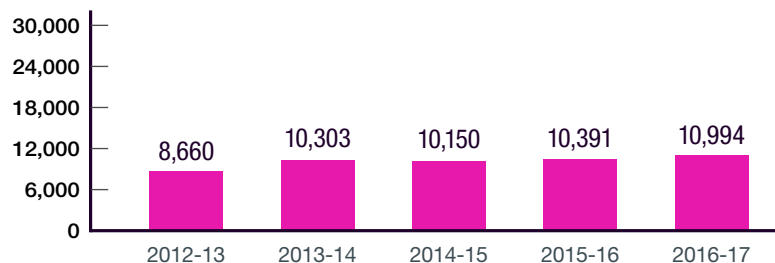
# 10,994

Students in New Jersey's public schools were identified as homeless

# 0.7%

of all New Jersey students enrolled in public school were identified as homeless

The number of homeless students identified by New Jersey public schools has increased 21.23% since 2012-2013



All data for SY 2016-2017. Source: National Center for Education Statistics

According to data from the Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness (ICPH) about 1 in every 10 extremely poor 6-17 year-olds\* were homeless in New Jersey.



To learn more, visit: [www.invisiblemillion.org](http://www.invisiblemillion.org)

\*Extremely poor 6-17 year-olds are measured as those living at or below 50% of the Federal Poverty Level.

**Students may experience homelessness at any point during their life, from Pre-K all the way through postsecondary education.**

**1.5%**

**of children under age 6 experience homelessness in New Jersey**

Estimate based on number of school-age children experiencing homelessness each year.

**Source:** Administration for Children & Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**430**

**FAFSA applicants in New Jersey were determined to be (or at risk of becoming) an unaccompanied homeless youth**

**Source:** NCHE, Homelessness Reported for Federal Student Aid Applicants

## **Who Is Considered Homeless?**

According to federal education law (the McKinney-Vento Act), a student is considered homeless who “lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence.” This definition specifically includes children and youth living in emergency shelters and transitional housing; cars, campgrounds, and other places not meant for human habitation; hotels or motels due to lack of adequate alternative arrangements; and sharing the housing of others temporarily due to loss of housing, economic hardships, or similar reasons. Public schools, Head Start/Early Head Start Programs, programs that receive Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) subsidies, institutions of higher education, and school meal programs are required under federal law or regulation to use this definition of homelessness.

**71.2%**

**of homeless students in New Jersey’s public schools stayed with others while homeless**

**Source:** NCHE, Consolidated State Profiles

Homelessness is not a homogenous experience. Students may be homeless with their families, on their own, or both on their own and with their families. They may stay in a shelter, motel, car, or with other people because they have nowhere else to go. Homelessness is often a recurring issue with many experiencing homelessness more than once.

**L** launched in 2018, Education Leads Home is a national campaign to improve educational outcomes for children and youth who experience homelessness. The campaign seeks to increase school readiness, close the high school graduation gap, and create more pathways to postsecondary attainment so that today’s homeless students will not become tomorrow’s homeless adults. Education Leads Homes is spearheaded by four national organizations – America’s Promise Alliance, Civic Enterprises, the Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness and SchoolHouse Connection – and guided by the perspectives of the families and students at the heart of this campaign. To learn more visit, [www.educationleadshome.org](http://www.educationleadshome.org)



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LEADS HOME**