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Questions Related to McKinney Vento Homeless

At the October 19 meeting of the Vermont Child Poverty Council meeting, questions were asked relative to McKinney Vento eligibility.

What is McKinney Vento?

McKinney-Vento is the name of the federal law for educational services to children who are deemed to be without stable housing. This is occasionally referred to as “homelessness.” The statute reads as follows:

McKinney-Vento Definition of Homeless* 42 U.S.C. § 11434a(2)

The term “homeless children and youth” —

A. means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence...; and

B. includes —

- i. children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
- ii. children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings...;
- iii. children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- iv. migratory children who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described in clauses (i) through (iii).

How many students are enrolled as McKinney Vento eligible students?

The Agency of Education submits our data for McKinney Vento enrollment annually. Data is published through a variety of sources, the [National Center for Homeless Education](#) is the most user friendly and offers connections to other states as well.

Year	McKinney Vento Eligible Students	Total Public School Enrollment ¹	Percent of Enrollment
2013-14	1,145	85,364	1.34%
2014-15	1,124	84,460	1.33%
2015-16	1,098	84,379	1.30%

¹ Budget Book Documents: <http://education.vermont.gov/data-and-reporting/financial-reports/annual-report-and-budget-book>

In addition, the percentage of qualifying students in each type of housing is listed.

Year	Shelters, transitional housing, awaiting foster care	Doubled-up (e.g., living with another family)	Unsheltered (e.g., cars, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, or abandoned building)	Hotels/Motels
2013-14	11.6%	61.6%	4.0%	22.8%
2014-15	10.4%	62.0%	4.8%	22.2%
2015-16	13.3%	61.0%	5.3%	20.4%