

Pupil Services HOMELESS EDUCATION PROGRAM Executive Summary



Mission

To ensure that all LAUSD students are enrolled, attending, engaged, and on-track to graduate.

BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is the second largest public school district in the country. Every year, thousands of students experience homelessness. Research has shown that homeless students are more likely to score lower on test scores, more likely to repeat a grade and more likely to drop out of school than their housed peers. Homeless students face higher rates of exposure to violence, trauma, family mental health or substance abuse issues, and higher transiency rates. These issues have proven to generate significant educational challenges for homeless students and has led to a significantly lower graduation rate than their housed peers. These students often present with social, behavioral, and academic issues, related to their circumstances.



Since 2006, Pupil Services and Attendance (PSA) Counselors have advocated for LAUSD homeless students district wide. The Access for All resolution passed in 2006 by the LAUSD Board of education established the current Homeless Education Program to identify homeless youth, provide training and technical assistance to school and community personnel and to facilitate enrollment and equal access to all school programs for homeless students district wide. The resolution was to ensure compliance with the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act in the federal No Child Left Behind Act that requires school districts to remove barriers to enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless students.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Ensure that schools are following district policy and federal mandates for the education of homeless students
- Remove barriers to academic success for Homeless Students, providing equal access to education as their housed peers
- Effectively serve students and families in transition, providing advocacy and referral services that foster a sense of empowerment and stability
- Leverage program resources by collaborating with community partners and coordinating fundraising efforts

PROGRAM SERVICES

- Facilitate school enrollment as needed to ensure compliance with district policy and to equal access to educational and meal programs, as well as tutoring and other services available at the school site
- Conduct professional development trainings for school personnel and community agencies regarding the rights and responsibilities of homeless students
- Provide technical assistance regarding the proper identification, enrollment, and service needs of homeless students and their families
- Provide assistance with transportation, backpacks, school supplies, and clothing vouchers
- Provide medical, dental, and mental health referrals, in addition to other school/community services
- Educate students and parents on their educational rights, and promote parent participation in school related activities
- Assist unaccompanied youth with enrollment procedures, school placement options, and retrieval of immunization records
- Provide advocacy services for parents and students during school related educational meetings, such as Student Study Team (SST), Individualized Educational Program (IEP), and Student Attendance Review Team (SART) or School Attendance Review Board (SARB)
- Participate in the mediation of school enrollment disputes
- Provide assistance to specialized populations of homeless students, including preschoolers, homeless teen parents, children with special needs, and unaccompanied youth

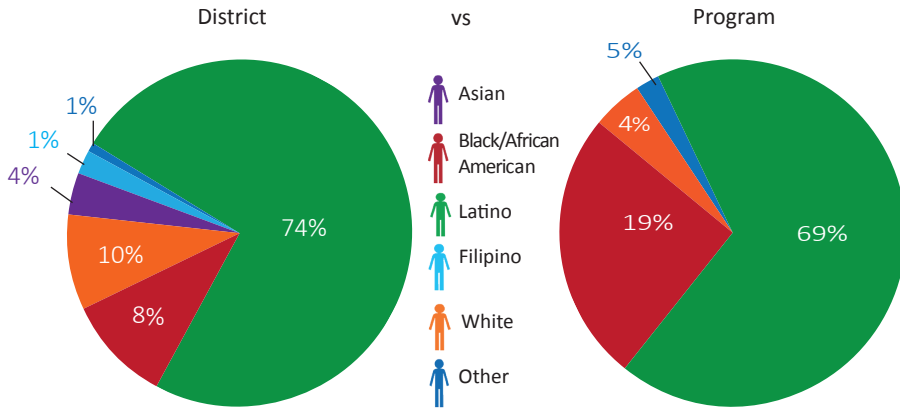


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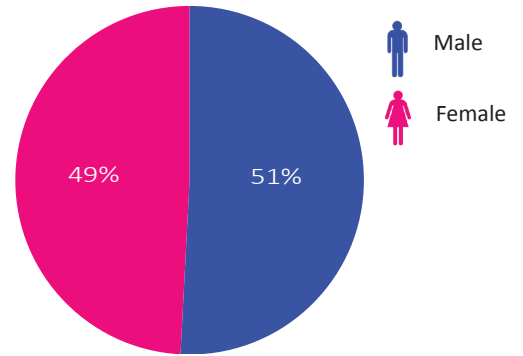


STUDENTS SERVED BY PROGRAM STAFF July 2016 - June 2017

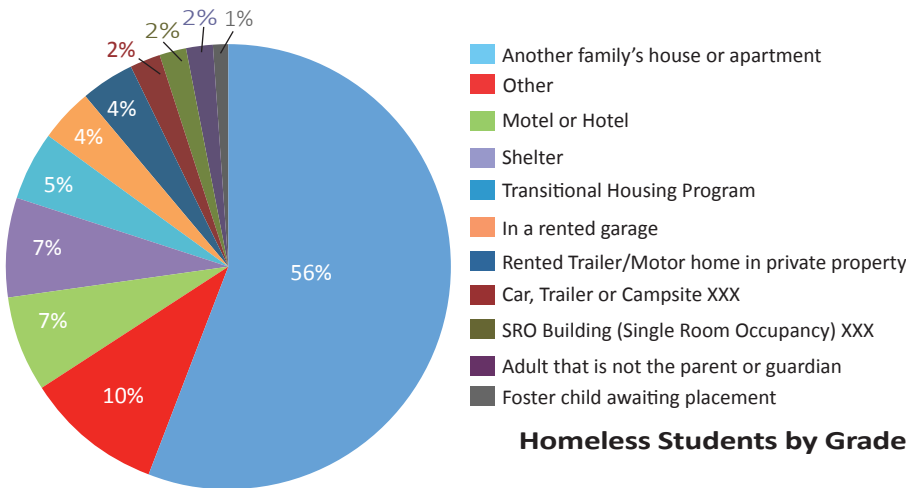
Ethnicity Breakdown



Gender



Homeless Student Residency at Night



Homeless Students by Board District

District	Total
BD 1	2182
BD 2	3117
BD 3	1605
BD 4	876
BD 5	2322
BD 6	3550
BD 7	3509
Grand Total	17,258

Homeless Students by Local District

District	Total
Central	3170
East	2767
Northeast	2824
Northwest	2465
South	3435
West	2355
Grand Total	17,258

Homeless Students by Grade Level

