



EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Virginia Department of Education
Coordinated by the College of William and Mary

McKinney-Vento Homeless
Assistance Act
Education for Homeless
Children and Youth (EHCY)
Program

Title X, Part C
2001 Reauthorization of the Elementary
and Secondary
Education Act

McKinney-Vento Act, EHCY

- Reauthorizes the Stewart B. McKinney Act, originally enacted in 1987
- Provides states with funding to support local grants and statewide initiatives
- Requires educational *access, attendance,* and *success* for homeless children and youth

WHO IS CONSIDERED HOMELESS?





WHO IS HOMELESS?

- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
 - ESEA, Title X, Part C
- Same definition referenced in
 - IDEA 2004
 - Child Nutrition Act
 - Head Start Act
 - Higher Education Act



Defining homelessness

An individual who lacks a *fixed, regular, and adequate* nighttime residence, including children and youth:

- *sharing housing* due to loss of housing or economic hardship
- living in *motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds* due to lack of alternative adequate housing
- living in emergency or *transitional housing*

- Including children and youth :
- abandoned in hospitals
 - awaiting foster care
 - having a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, regular sleeping accommodations



- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations
- *migratory students* meeting the description
- *unaccompanied youth* meeting the description



How eligibility is determined by a liaison:

http://center.serve.org/nche/downloads/briefs/det_elig.pdf

Fixed, Regular, and Adequate

- **Fixed:** Stationary, permanent, and not subject to change
- **Regular:** Used on a predictable, routine, or consistent basis (*e.g. nightly*)
- **Adequate:** Sufficient for meeting both the physical and psychological needs typically met in home environments



Can the student go to the SAME PLACE (fixed) EVERY NIGHT (regular) to sleep in a SAFE AND SUFFICIENT SPACE (adequate)?

Homeless or *NOT* Homeless

Homeless **NOT**
Homeless

In a shelter



In a motel after an eviction



Living with grandparents to save money for a house down payment



In a motel while house is renovated



Living with aunt following a foreclosure



In an overcrowded trailer with 6 children



*What can **WE** do?*



The child's classroom may be the only place where the child can experience quiet, interact with children his/her age, and experience success...

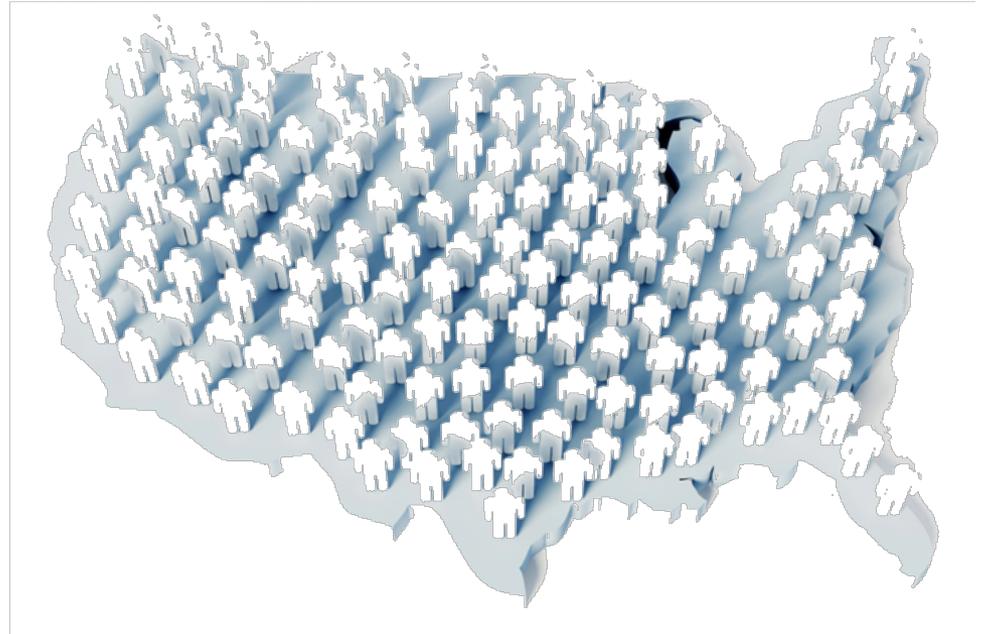
*School is the most **normal** activity that most children experience collectively...For homeless children it is much more than a learning environment. It is a place of safety, personal space, friendships, and support.*

Oakley & King, 2000

McKinney-Vento EHCY Requirements

- Appoint a local homeless education liaison in every school division
- For Virginia liaisons, visit:

www.wm.edu/hope



EHCY Requirements (school age)



- Enroll students *immediately* in local school OR
- Maintain student enrollment in the *school of origin* when feasible and in the student's best interest
 - Includes transportation
 - Even across school division lines

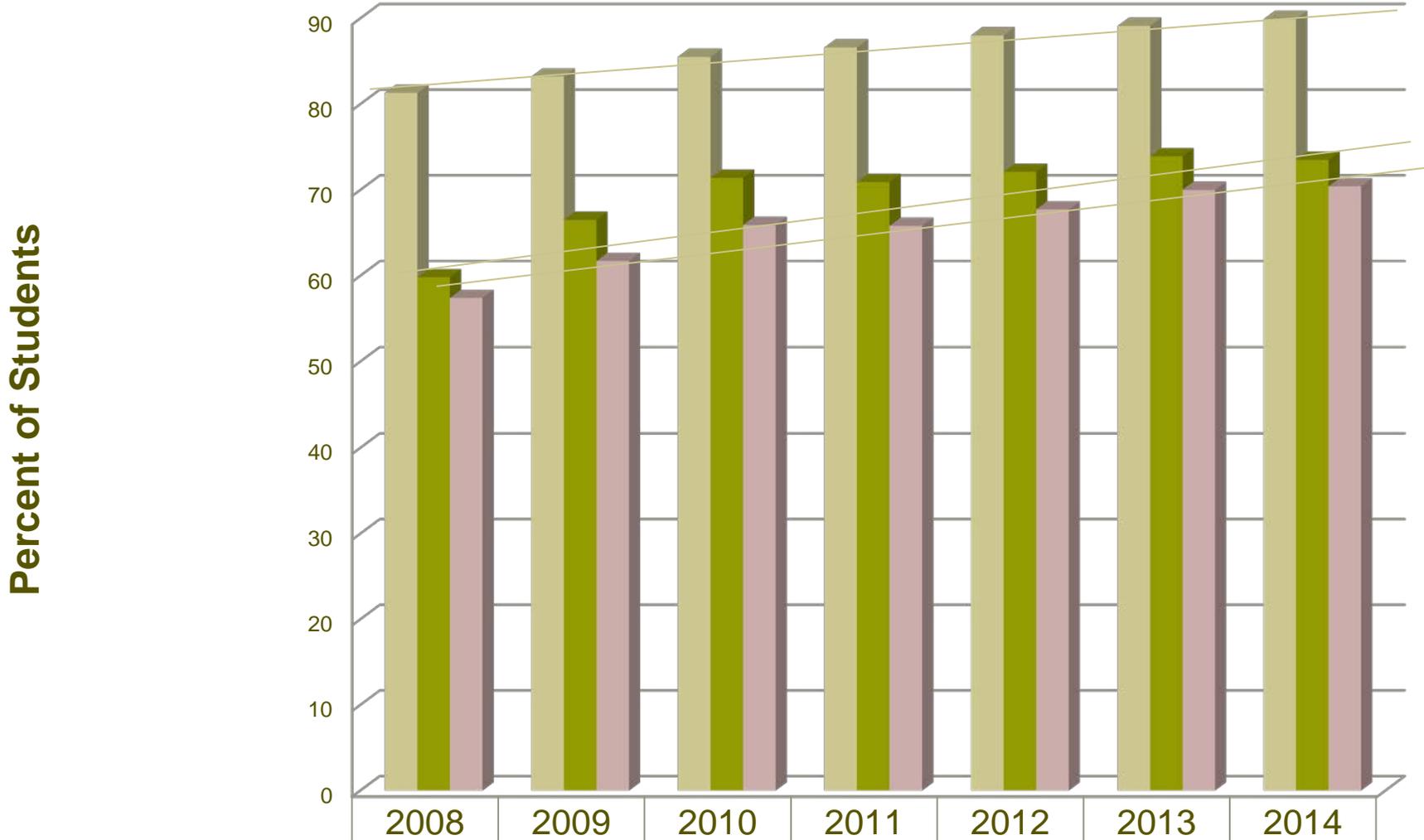
**Get the student enrolled and
keep the student enrolled!**

Virginia's On-Time Graduation Rate:



http://www.doe.virginia.gov/statistics_reports/graduation_completion/cohort_reports/index.shtml

Virginia's On-time Graduation Rate



■ State	81.3	83.2	85.5	86.6	88	89.1	89.9
■ Homeless	59.8	66.5	71.4	70.9	72.1	73.9	73.5
■ Homeless Anytime	57.4	61.7	65.9	65.8	67.7	70	70.4

Helpful Websites

- Project HOPE-VA –
www.wm.edu/hope
- NCHE –
http://center.serve.org/nche/ibt/sc_preschool.php
- NAEHCY –
www.naehcy.org



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