



Identifying and Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness

Florida Organization of
Instructional Leaders (FOIL)
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Identifying and Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness

Courtney Walker, Director, Florida McKinney-Vento Program (FMVP)

Objectives

- Review program goals and eligibility definitions
- Review recent changes in Florida's population of students who are experiencing homelessness
- Learn best practices for identifying students experiencing homelessness
- Discover available resources for supporting these students
- Review Florida's requirements related to students experiencing homelessness, including new Rule 6A-10.088, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C), Florida McKinney-Vento Program Training and Identification, and certified unaccompanied homeless youth

Program Overview

- Title IX, Part A - Education of Homeless Children and Youth is prescribed under Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- FMVP's overall goal:
 - Address the problems that homeless children and youth face in enrolling, attending and succeeding in school and ensure each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youth.

FMVP Eligibility

- A student eligible for McKinney-Vento Act (MVA) services lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.
- Nighttime residency examples include:
 - Shelters;
 - Shared housing (“doubled up”);
 - Unsheltered (cars, parks, public spaces, bus or train stations);
 - Motels/hotels; and
 - Migratory children living in a circumstance described above.

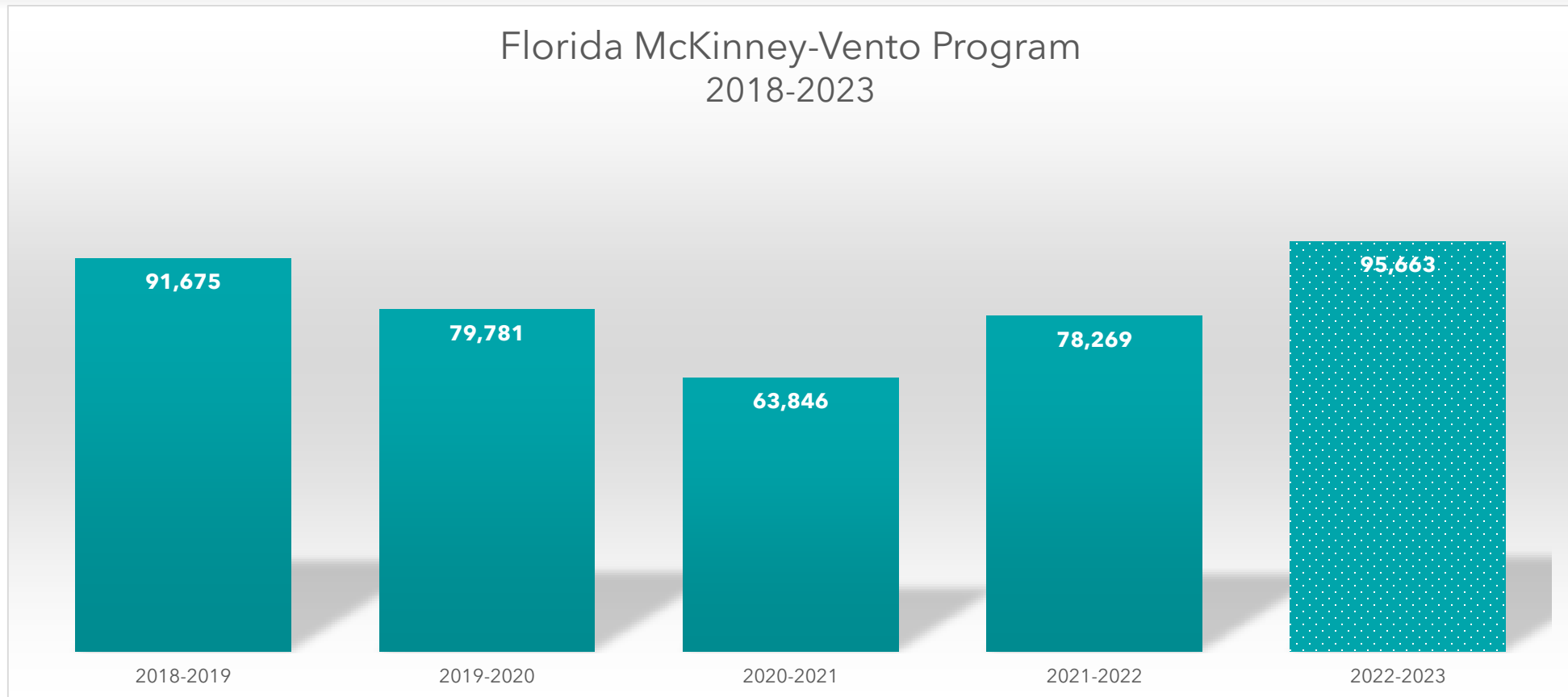
Section 725, MVA

FMVP Education Goals

- All Florida local educational agencies (LEAs) consistently will:
 - Identify at least 5% of their Free and Reduced-Price Lunch (FRPL) enrollment as homeless in a school year;
 - Achieve at least a 90% school attendance rate for students identified as homeless in a school year; and
 - Promote at least 90% of students identified as homeless in a school year to the next grade at the end of each year.

FMVP Data

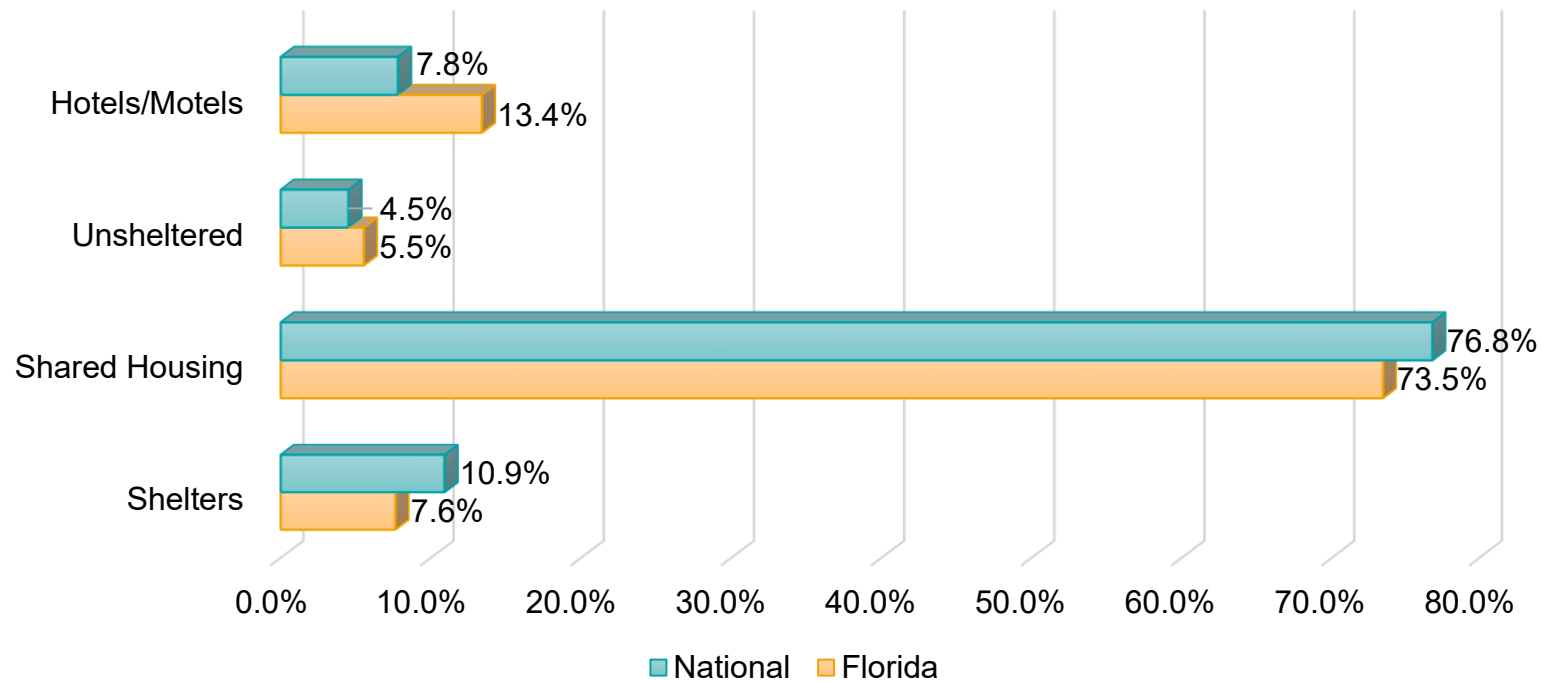
McKinney-Vento Population 2018-2023



Source: FDOE Survey 5

McKinney-Vento Data: Nighttime Residency

McKinney-Vento Nighttime Residency
2020-21



Source: National Center for Homeless Education

Discussion

Discussion

In your district, what factors have affected the populations of students experiencing homelessness?

Leading Practices: Identification of FMVP Students

FMVP: Identification Practices

- Student housing questionnaires
- Community outreach/partnerships
- School and community staff training

District's Logo

Student Housing Questionnaire

SCHOOL Data Entry:
Date: _____
Code: R _____ U _____
Initials: _____

This questionnaire is intended to address the requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act: Title IX/Part A. The answers to questions below will assist us in determining if your student may qualify for additional educational support services. **PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY, COMPLETE ONE FORM PER FAMILY, and return the questionnaire to your school's main office. ¿Habla Ud. Español? Por favor doble este papel al otro lado para llenar este estudio.**

1. How many other children/youths are in your household (even if not enrolled in school)? _____
2. Names of Students Enrolled in School (PK–grade 12) or not enrolled in school, including those ages 1-4 (if needed, use an additional sheet of paper.)
 - a. Name of Student to be Enrolled:

First Name	MI	Last Name	Birth Date	Grade	School
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 - b. Other Children/Youth in Your Household (even if not enrolled in school):

First Name	MI	Last Name	Birth Date	Grade	School
First Name	MI	Last Name	Birth Date	Grade	School
3. Parent's, Guardian's, or Unaccompanied Youth's Name (Print): _____
 - a. Street Address (Location of House): _____
 - b. Length of time at this Address: _____
 - c. Former Address: _____
 - d. Mailing Address: _____
 - e. Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work phone: _____

The undersigned certifies that the information provided is accurate.

Parent's, Guardian's, or Unaccompanied Youth's Signature: _____ Date: _____
4. Place an "X" in the appropriate box to answer "Yes" or "No".

NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE	YES	NO	CODE
1. My family lives in an emergency or transitional shelter (e.g., FEMA Trailer).			A
2. My family shares the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; doubled-up.			B
3. My family lives in a car, park, temporary trailer park or campground due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings or similar settings.			D
4. My family lives in a hotel or motel due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations.			E
5. A child/youth in my home is under the age of 18 and unaccompanied (not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) or I am an unaccompanied youth under the age of 18 years.			
6. A child/youth in my home is 18 years of age or older and an unaccompanied youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) or I am an unaccompanied youth 18 years of age or older.			
5. If you marked "Yes" to any questions above, please indicate the cause by placing an "X" in the appropriate box.

<input type="checkbox"/> Man-made Disaster (Major) (D)	<input type="checkbox"/> Earthquake (E)	<input type="checkbox"/> Flooding (F)
<input type="checkbox"/> Hurricane (H)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mortgage Foreclosure (M)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Homelessness Causes (N)
<input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic (Major) (P)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Storm (S)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tornado (T)
<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown (U)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire (W)	

If you answered "Yes" to some or all of the questions above, an educational representative may contact you to find out whether your child is or you, as an unaccompanied youth, are eligible for additional educational services.

Directions for school staff: For students with positive responses to questions 1-6, complete school data entry box to indicate data entry has been completed, make a copy of the form for your records, and then return surveys [with any positive responses](mailto:fldoe@fldoe.org) to: WofEnergy-Verito.Liaison@fldoe.org

Support Services and Resources: FMVP

Examples of Approved Services: FMVP

- Tutoring
- Supplemental instruction
- Enrichment programs
- Before- and after-school programs
- Educational summer programs
- Mentoring programs
- Transportation
- Outreach
- Counseling
- Professional learning
- School supplies
- Staffing
- Other extraordinary or emergency services

Funding Resources: FMVP

- Local school district funds
- Title I, Part A – Basic
- Title I, Part A – Homeless Set-Aside
- Title IX, Part A – Education of Homeless Children and Youth
- American Rescue Plan – Homeless Children and Youth
- Other federal funds students are eligible to be served with

Rule 6A-10.088, F.A.C., Florida McKinney-Vento Program Training and Identification

Rule Overview

- Approved by the State Board of Education on July 2023 and effective August 22, 2023
- This rule addresses the process for:
 - The identification of children and youth experiencing homelessness using a Student Housing Questionnaire
 - Training of district and school staff
 - Required reporting through the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Comprehensive Management Information System

Rule Overview

1. Purpose
2. Definitions
3. School District Procedures
4. McKinney-Vento Liaisons
5. Student Housing Questionnaires
6. Required Reporting

Rule 6A-10.088, F.A.C. Section 3 – School District Procedures

- District must adopt procedures that include requirements in the rule.

Rule 6A-10.088, F.A.C.

Section 4 - District McKinney-Vento Liaisons

- Requires school districts to designate a McKinney-Vento (MV) liaison.
- Outlines the duties of a MV liaison.
- Requires participation in training and provision of training to appropriate district and school staff.

Section 4 – District McKinney-Vento Liaisons: Training

- MV liaisons must participate in at least two training courses each school year provided or recommended by the FDOE.
- School districts must identify district- and school-level personnel who must participate in training provided by the MV liaison.
- School districts must maintain documentation of liaison training.

Rule 6A-10.088, F.A.C.

Section 5 - Student Housing Questionnaire

- School districts must create Student Housing Questionnaires (SHQs).
- SHQs must be disseminated once each school year and must be included in school enrollment packet.
- The effective date for SHQ required elements is *July 1, 2024*.
- School districts may include additional elements.

Rule 6A-10.088, F.A.C.

Section 6 – Required Reporting

- By August 1 of each year, school districts must report MV liaison contact information on Form FMP-1.
- School districts must report information on students experiencing homelessness to the Department during its scheduled survey periods.

FMVP Data Elements

- Homeless Student, PK-12
 - <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/20606/urlt/2324-129525.pdf>
- Homeless Unaccompanied Youth (updated)
 - <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/20606/urlt/2324-130275.pdf>
- Homelessness Cause
 - <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/20606/urlt/2324-129150.pdf>
- Disaster Affected Student
 - <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/20606/urlt/2324-131545.pdf>

FMVP Data Element: Homeless Unaccompanied Youth

- C** - Certified by the school district homeless liaison as a "Certified Unaccompanied Homeless Youth."
- N** - Identified as homeless student but does not meet definition of unaccompanied.
- U** - Meets definition of unaccompanied, but not certified.
- Z** - Does not meet definition of homeless or unaccompanied.

Florida McKinney-Vento Policies and Provisions

Florida McKinney-Vento Policies and Provisions

Certified Unaccompanied Homeless Youth [s. 743.067, Florida Statutes (F.S.)]

- 16 years of age or older; and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian, including a youth who has run away from home, who has been forced to leave his or her home, or whose parents have left the area and left the youth behind
- Eligible for free state identification card, birth certificate and access to medical services without a legal parent/guardian

Florida Tuition and Fee Exemptions [s. 1009.25(1)(e), F.S.]

- Eligible for tuition and fee exemptions at public technical schools, public colleges and state universities
- Eligible to anyone verified as homeless by authorized individuals

Questions?

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Webpage: <https://www.fldoe.org/policy/federal-edu-programs/title-ix-mvp/>