



HOMELESS and HIGHLY MOBILE STUDENTS Minneapolis Public Schools

During July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008:

- 5,458 children and youth were identified as homeless and highly mobile in Minneapolis. This is an increase of 1,017 (18.6%) from the previous year; this is a significant increase from the previous average of 4,500 each of the past five years.
 - 68% were current Minneapolis residents, 16% were recent St. Paul or suburban residents; 16% were new to the city and region
 - 63.5% were African American; 7.5% Native American; 6.2% White; 5.6% Asian American; 3.8% Hispanic American
- During the school year there was a daily average of more than 1,200 children and youth identified as homeless in Minneapolis
- Of all stays in shelters, 33% were at People Serving People; 29% were at Mary's Place; 22% at St. Joseph's; 11% at domestic violence shelters; 4% at St. Anne's; 1% and less at all other Minneapolis and metro area shelters
- School age children and youth current school: 80.7% Minneapolis Public Schools, 10% suburban districts; 5.3% St. Paul Public Schools; 4% charters

Grade levels of students identified in Minneapolis as homeless and highly mobile:

- Preschool (0-4 years) 1,605 (29.4%)
- Kindergarten 254 (4.7%)
- Grades 1-5 students: 1,529 (28.0%)
- Grades 6-8 students: 766 (14.0%)
- Grades 9-12 students: 1,216 (22.3%)
- 18 – 21 years 88 (1.6%)
 - 7.96% who were MPS students were English Language Learners (20.8% district average)
 - 27% who were MPS students had an existing IEP for Special Education services (18.6% district average)

STRATEGIES to ensure school success:

- professional development throughout school district to improve identification and services for homeless and highly mobile students, per McKinney Vento law
- immediate school registration, transportation, school records, school supplies per McKinney Vento law
- early childhood screening, ECFE classes at shelters, school transition activities with families staying in shelters and schools
- high school support teams at all MPS schools, including alternatives, for homeless and highly mobile students
- support to increase school attendance at K-5 and K-8 schools
- Building Bridges – a school social work demonstration project to support homeless and highly mobile students
- Research projects with U of MN Institute of Child Development and Center for Child Welfare; advocacy work with City of Minneapolis/Hennepin County/State of Minnesota/National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth