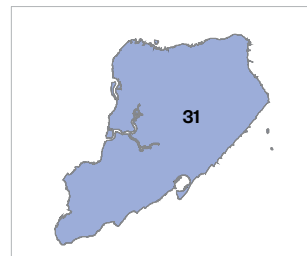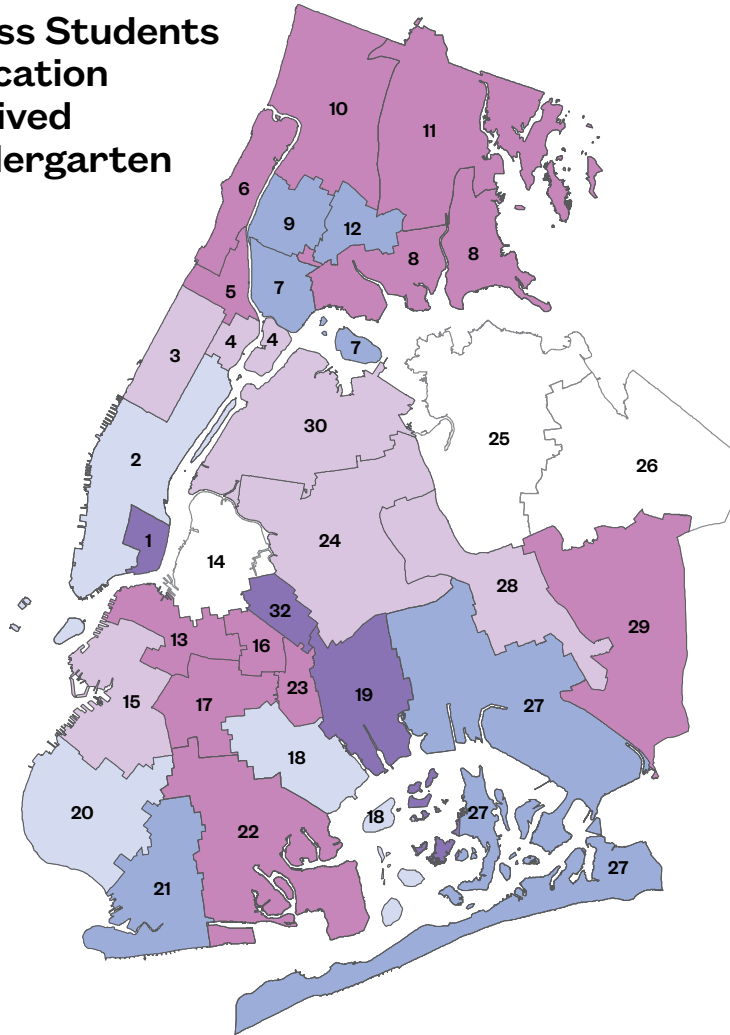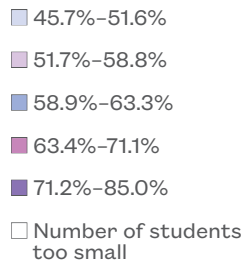# Identifying Students in Need of IEPs

Share of Homeless Students with Special Education Needs Who Received IEP Late, by Kindergarten School District

SY 2010–11 to SY 2014–15

- 45.7%–51.6%
- 51.7%–58.8%
- 58.9%–63.3%
- 63.4%–71.1%
- 71.2%–85.0%
- Number of students too small

Early identification of special education needs is critical to the success of all students. Citywide, half of students (50%) with special education needs received their Individual Education Plan (IEP) late, after Kindergarten.

Homeless students were more likely than their housed peers to receive their IEP late. Among homeless students with IEPs, 62% received their IEP after Kindergarten compared to 48% of low-income housed students and 43% of non-low-income housed students.

Rates of late identification also varied sharply by school district with a close to 40 percentage-point difference among homeless students attending schools in two adjacent Manhattan school districts. District 1, serving the East Village and Lower East Side, had the highest rate of late IEPs with 85% of homeless students in need identified after Kindergarten. District 2, serving the Financial District, Midtown, and the Upper East Side, had the lowest rate of late IEPs among homeless students at 46%.

Note: Late is defined as after Kindergarten. Data represent a cohort of students who entered Kindergarten in SY 2010–11 and received an IEP at some point during the next five years. Students are categorized according to whether they experienced homelessness at any point during the five-year period. Data are by school district and do not include schools in non-geographic districts. Ns of fewer than 30 students were redacted.
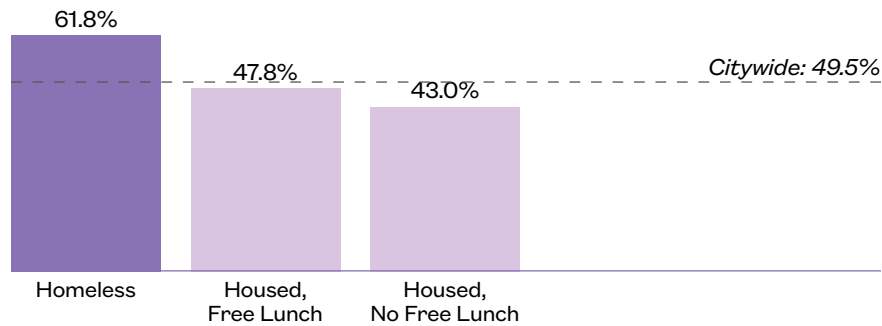
Source: New York City Department of Education, unpublished data tabulated by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness, SY 2010–11 to SY 2014–15.

Late IEP Identification, School Years 2010–11 to 2014–15

61.8%

47.8%

Citywide: 49.5%

43.0%

Homeless | Housed, Free Lunch | Housed, No Free Lunch

City/Borough/ Select Neighborhoods (School District #)	All Students	All Homeless	Housed, Free Lunch	Housed, No Free Lunch
New York City	**49.5%**	**61.8%**	**47.8%**	**43.0%**
Manhattan		**61.3%**	**47.7%**	**48.1%**
Lower East Side (1)		85.0%	49.1%	–
Financial District/Midtown/Upper East Side (2)		45.7%	50.7%	47.8%
Upper West Side/Morningside Heights (3)		54.2%	59.3%	49.5%
East Harlem (4)		56.4%	46.2%	–
Central Harlem/Manhattanville (5)		68.9%	51.1%	–
Hamilton/Washington Heights/Inwood (6)		69.1%	51.9%	–
Bronx		**61.9%**	**44.9%**	**46.8%**
Mott Haven/Melrose (7)		61.2%	50.3%	–
Hunts Point/Longwood (8)		68.3%	46.3%	–
Highbridge/Concourse (9)		59.7%	46.1%	–
Riverdale/Bedford/Fordham/Belmont (10)		68.7%	52.7%	–
Williamsbridge/Morris Park/Co-op City (11)		68.9%	46.6%	–
East Tremont (12)		63.3%	45.5%	–

City/Borough/ Select Neighborhoods (School District #)	All Homeless	Housed, Free Lunch	Housed, No Free Lunch
Brooklyn	**64.8%**	**50.0%**	**41.5%**
Brooklyn Heights/Fort Greene (13)	67.5%	71.0%	52.9%
Williamsburg/Greenpoint (14)	–	54.3%	–
Carroll Gardens/Park Slope/Sunset Park (15)	58.2%	57.3%	48.4%
Bedford-Stuyvesant (16)	71.1%	64.3%	–
Crown Heights/Prospect Lefferts Gardens (17)	69.4%	51.6%	–
East Flatbush/Canarsie (18)	51.6%	53.6%	–
East New York/Starrett City (19)	79.4%	59.9%	–
Bay Ridge/Dyker Heights/Borough Park (20)	50.0%	45.5%	–
Coney Island/Gravesend/Ocean Parkway (21)	61.5%	48.4%	–
Flatbush/Flatlands/Sheepshead Bay (22)	66.2%	47.8%	–
Brownsville (23)	66.7%	60.4%	–
Bushwick (32)	78.6%	51.6%	–
Queens	**58.0%**	**48.4%**	**39.6%**
Sunnyside/Ridgewood/Elmhurst/Corona (24)	58.8%	46.0%	32.6%
Flushing/Whitestone (25)	–	55.4%	45.6%
Bayside/Little Neck/Fresh Meadows/Floral Park (26)	–	55.1%	46.3%
Woodhaven/Ozone Park/Howard Beach (27)	62.5%	53.1%	34.3%
Rego Park/Forest Hills/Briarwood (28)	53.2%	60.3%	38.6%
Hollis/Queens Village (29)	69.0%	58.3%	–
Astoria/Long Island City (30)	57.4%	45.4%	–
Staten Island	**60.0%**	**46.2%**	**40.3%**
Staten Island (31)	61.1%	49.8%	40.3%

Note: Late is defined as after Kindergarten. Data represent a cohort of students who entered Kindergarten in SY 2010–11 and received an IEP at some point during the next five years. Students are categorized according to whether they experienced homelessness or were eligible for free lunch at any point during the five-year period. Data by school district do not include schools in non-geographic districts, so borough and district total percentages may differ. Ns of fewer than 30 students were redacted. Doubled up and in shelter categories are not included due to small sample size.

Source: New York City Department of Education, unpublished data tabulated by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness, SY 2010–11 to SY 2014–15.