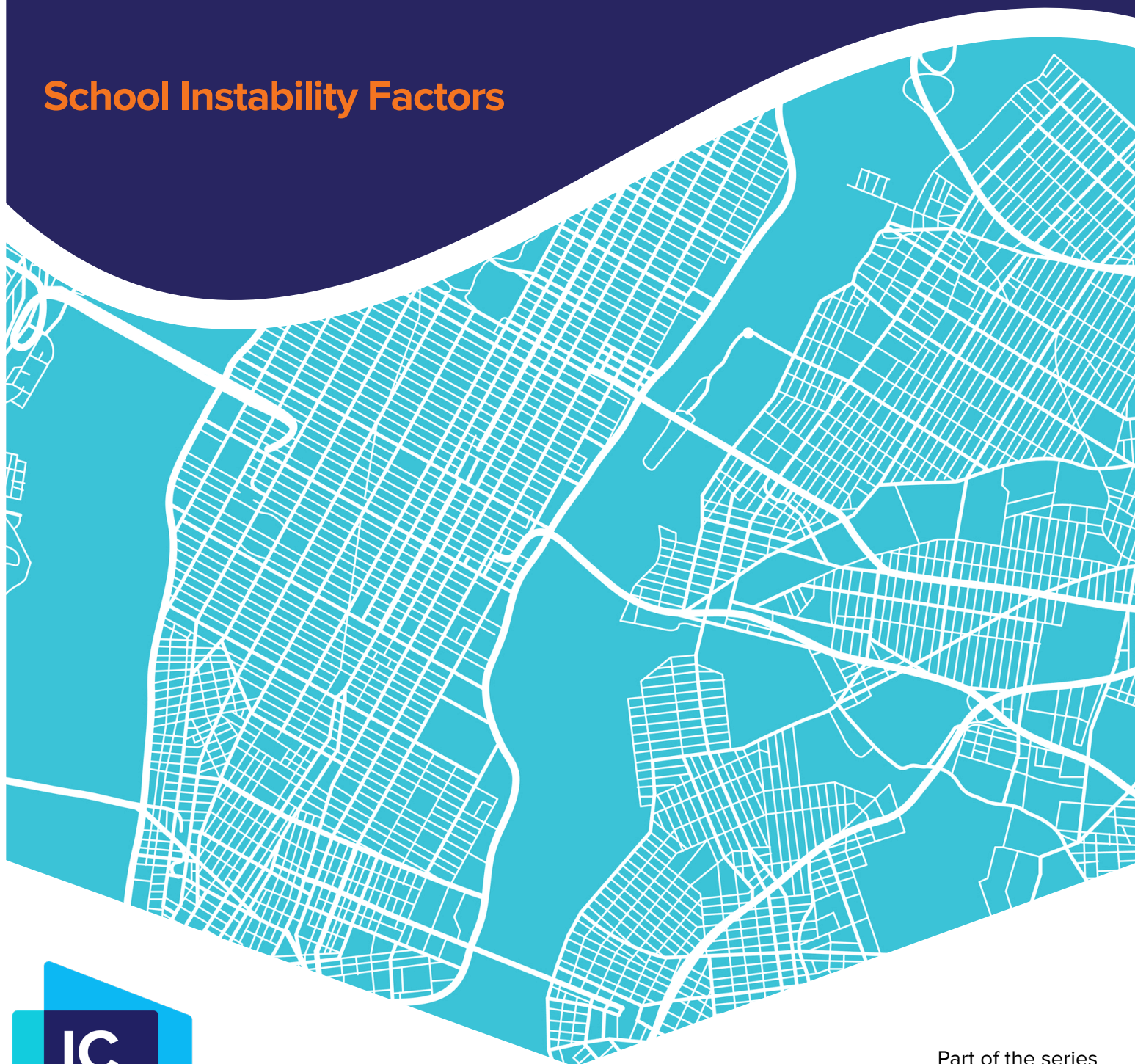


Student Homelessness in New York City

April 2019

School Instability Factors



**Institute for Children,
Poverty & Homelessness**

Part of the series
*On The Map: The Atlas of
Student Homelessness in
New York City SY 2016–17*

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Overview

For many homeless students, school is not only a place to develop knowledge and skills for the future, but a much-needed source of stability in an otherwise unstable life. In addition to a student's educational attainment, school provides consistency and the opportunity for students to form critical social connections with teachers, staff, and classmates.

Unfortunately, disruptions that often coincide with the experience of housing instability, such as mid-year transfers and chronic absenteeism, can threaten this educational stability. These school instability factors may, in turn, adversely impact academic performance and harm a student's ability to graduate.

Addressing chronic absenteeism and mid-year transfers can go a long way to ensuring that homeless students can fully experience the same educational opportunities as their housed peers. However, the first step is to identify these students and their specific needs so they can be supported.

About Student Homelessness in New York City

One in 10 NYC public school students were identified as homeless during the 2016-17 school year. Given the prevalence of homelessness among school-aged students, educators and policymakers need to understand the specific educational challenges that students experiencing homelessness face and be aware of the resources and opportunities that exist to help these students reach their potential.

Student Homelessness in New York City sheds light on the **more than 140,000 NYC public school students who have experienced homelessness over the past seven years**. The *Student Homelessness in New York City* series explores the geography of student homelessness; the prevalence of school instability factors like chronic absenteeism and mid-year school transfers; whether the additional educational needs of language learners and students with special education needs are being met on time; the disproportionate rate of suspensions among students experiencing homelessness; and academic outcomes like graduation rates and test scores.

1.0 | School Instability Factors:

Mid-Year School Transfers

Mid-Year Transfers

Students who transfer from one school to another at any point during the school year.

Understanding the prevalence of school transfers, which schools and districts have the highest transfer rates, and which students are at higher risk of experiencing transfers, are key to minimizing the negative impact of transfers on the lives of those students who experience them.

Homeless students are three times as likely to transfer schools mid-year as their housed classmates. One in four homeless elementary school students transfers to a new school during the year, and more than 2,000 change schools more than once every school year.

Students experiencing homelessness face frequent moves, often resulting in a choice between traveling long distances to reach their school of origin or transferring to a closer one, breaking the supportive ties they had developed with teachers and classmates.

The impacts of mid-year transfers are many, from the trauma of lost social ties to academic setbacks. Students must also adjust to new classroom rules, teachers, and unfamiliar transportation routes, while their families may be required to buy new school supplies and uniforms.

Every mid-year school transfer is estimated by the U.S. Department of Education to set a student back academically by up to six months. For students who transfer two or more times, they are set back up to a full school year. This leaves homeless students struggling to catch up to their peers for years to come.

1.1 | What Is the Mid-Year Transfer Rate for Homeless Students?

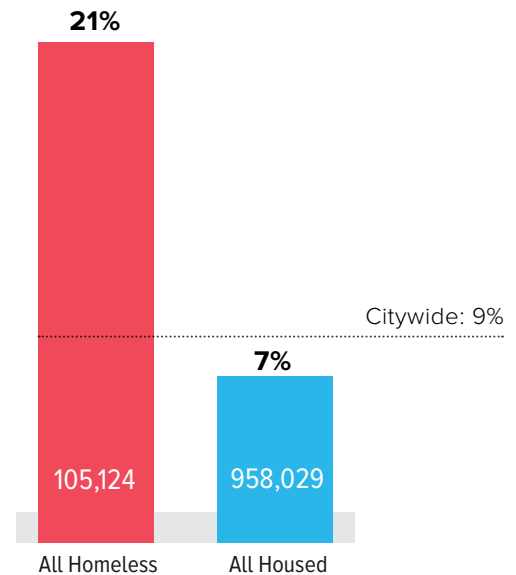
In SY 2016-17, homeless students were three times as likely to transfer schools mid-year as their housed peers (21% vs. 7%).

The high rate of transfers among homeless students meant that one out of every four students – or 24% – who transferred was homeless, despite homeless students making up only 10% of the student population.

Staten Island had the highest transfer rate among boroughs, with 30% of homeless students either transferring into a borough school there or moving to a different school within the borough. All other boroughs had transfer rates between 19% and 22% for homeless students.

At more than 1,200 schools– or 72% of all schools citywide– homeless students transferred at rates above the citywide average of 9%.

Percent of Students Who Transferred Schools Mid-Year, by Housing Status
SY 2016–17



KEY TERMS

All Homeless

Students who were identified at any point during SY 2016–17 by the New York City Department of Education as meeting the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness. This includes students in shelter, doubled-up, in hotel/motels, or other temporary arrangements.

All Housed

Students who lived in a fixed, regular, and adequate housing situation.

Formerly Homeless

Students who were not identified as homeless in SY 2016–17, but had been homeless at some point from SY 2010–11 to SY 2015–16.

Low-Income

Students who were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, or identified by the NYC Human Resources Administration as receiving certain types of public assistance.



Homeless students were also far more likely to transfer schools than low-income housed students (21% vs. 8%). This suggests that increased school instability is correlated with homelessness specifically, rather than simply poverty.

Formerly homeless students had a transfer rate of 13%, nearly double that of other housed students. While now housed, the higher rate of transfers for formerly homeless students suggests that these students may still be experiencing instability as their family attempts to maintain permanent housing.

1.2 | How Many Homeless Students Transfer More Than Once in a Year?

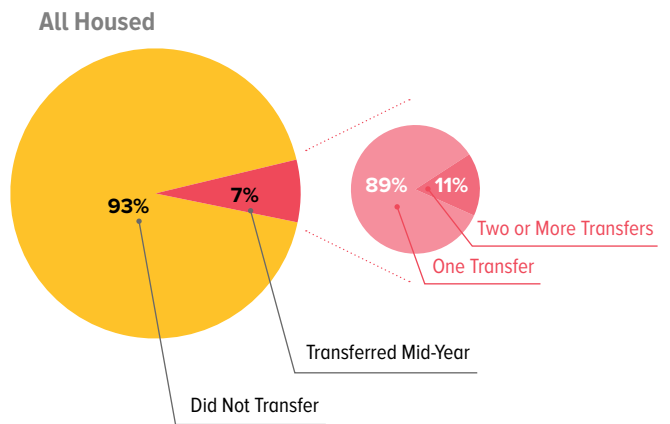
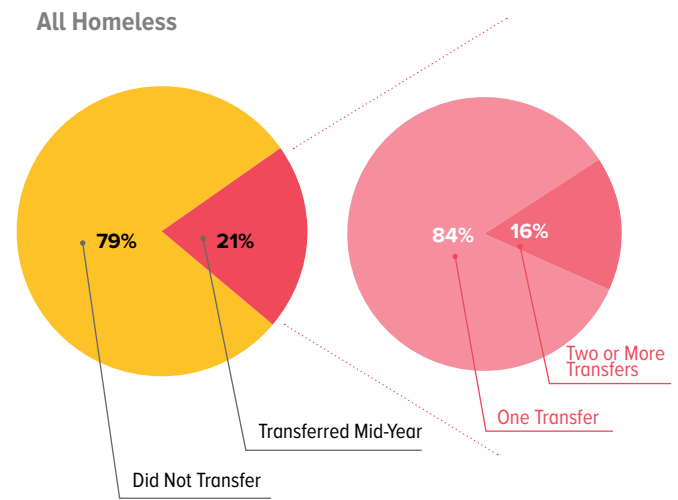
Homeless students were more than four times as likely as their housed peers to experience multiple transfers in the same year (3.4% vs. 0.8%).

Among homeless students who transferred, 16% changed schools more than once. By comparison, among housed students, 11% had multiple transfers.

Homeless students in **Staten Island** were the most likely to have two or more transfers. They were about ten times as likely to transfer multiple times as housed students (5.3% vs. 0.5%). Homeless students in **Manhattan** – while the least likely to transfer multiple times – still transferred at more than three times the rate of housed students (3.1% vs. 0.9%).

Across geographic districts, both homeless and housed students in **Bedford-Stuyvesant** (District 16) were most likely to transfer two or more times (6.1% and 1.8%, respectively). Students in the **Special Education District** (District 75) had even higher rates of multiple transfers for both homeless and housed students (7.5% and 2.6%, respectively).

Number of Transfers, by Housing Status
SY 2016–17



Data shown here are for the 105,124 homeless students and 958,029 housed students with transfer data.



Frequent school transfers are associated with lower educational attainment for transferring students and can hamper their ability to form supportive relationships with classmates and teachers.

1.3 | How Have Transfer Rates Changed Over Time?

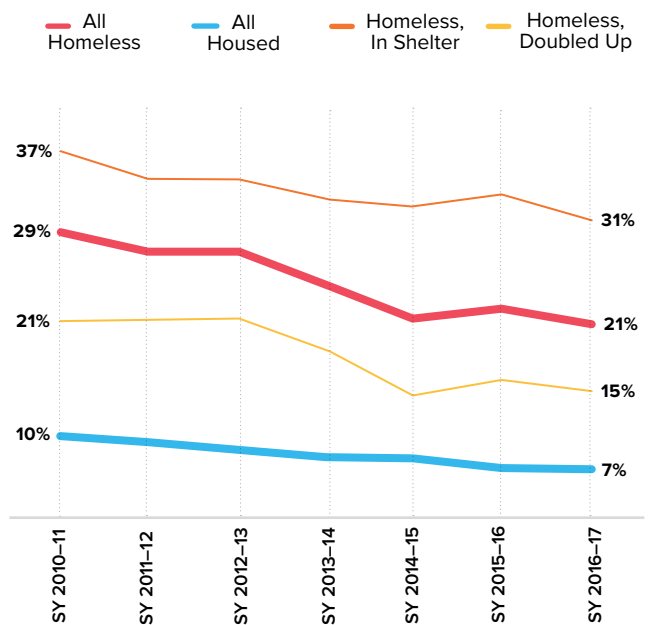
Since SY 2010–11, mid-year transfers decreased among all groups. Despite the overall decline, homeless students continue to transfer at much higher rates than their housed peers in SY 2016–17 (21% vs. 7%).

Among homeless students, those living in shelter were twice as likely to transfer in SY 2016–17 than those living in temporary doubled-up arrangements (31% vs. 15%).

Although transfer *rates* among sheltered and doubled-up students decreased, the *number* of students who transferred increased, from about 9,900 sheltered students and 6,300 doubled-up students in SY 2010–11 to roughly 10,800 sheltered students and 9,600 doubled-up students in SY 2016–17.

Over the same period, the number of housed students transferring declined from about 104,300 to 68,900.

Percent of Students Who Transferred Mid-Year, by Housing Status and Year
SY 2010–11 to SY 2016–17



KEY TERMS

All Homeless

All students who were identified at any point during SY 2016–17 by the New York City Department of Education as meeting the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness.

All Housed

Students who lived in a fixed, regular, and adequate housing situation.

Homeless, In Shelter

Students who lived in emergency or transitional shelter.

Homeless, Doubled Up

Students who have found temporary accommodations with another family or other person due to loss of housing or economic hardship.



Click here for the complete table of school districts and transfer rates (page 18).

1.4 | In Which Grade Levels Are Students Most Likely to Transfer?

At all grade levels, homeless students were two to three times as likely to transfer as housed students.

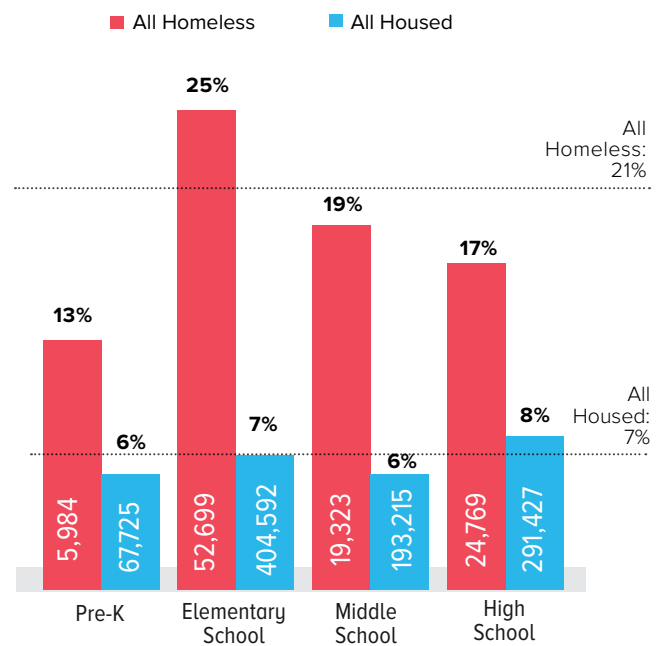
Homeless students transferred at rates of 13% to 25%, depending on grade level. For housed students, transfer rates were relatively stable at 6% to 8%.

The largest disparity in transfer rates was among elementary school students—one in four (25%) homeless elementary students transferred mid-year, over three and a half times the rate of housed elementary students (7%).

Homeless students in middle school were also more than three times as likely to transfer as their housed peers (19% vs. 6%). The disparity was smaller in pre-K and high school, though homeless students were still twice as likely as housed students to transfer in pre-K (13% vs. 6%) and high school (17% vs. 8%).

Elementary and middle schools in **Staten Island** had the highest transfer rates for homeless students in the city (34% and 29%, respectively). In pre-K, transfer rates for homeless students were highest in **Brooklyn** and **Staten Island** (15%). In high school, transfer rates were highest in **Queens** (25%).

Percent of Students Who Transferred Mid-Year, by Housing Status and Grade Level SY 2016–17



Having to change schools once the school year is underway can have multiple consequences for homeless students. In addition to being associated with lower academic achievement, mid-year transfers can impact access to support services such as special education or English Language Learner (ELL) programs, and affect a student's ability to attend class regularly and on time by increasing their commute time. Cross-borough transfers can require a commute of up to two hours each way.

1.5 | Do Transfer Rates Vary by Students' Primary Night-Time Residence?

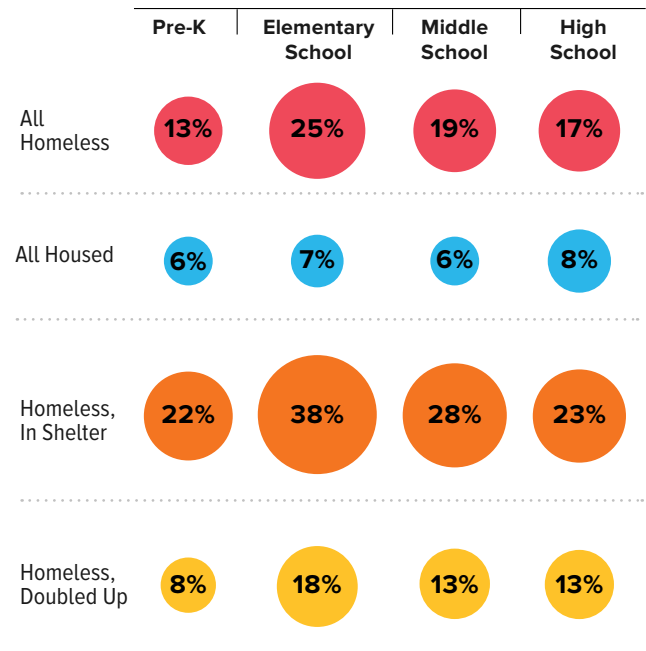
Regardless of a homeless student's primary night-time residence, mid-year transfer rates for homeless students were higher than for their housed classmates.

Transfer rates for homeless students who were doubled up were lower than for students in shelter at all grade levels. For doubled-up students, the transfer rate remained at 13% between middle school and high school, while for students in shelter, transfer rates went from 28% in middle school to 23% in high school.

Among homeless students, those in elementary school were most likely to transfer, with 38% of elementary students living in shelter transferring mid-year. This was over twice the rate for doubled-up elementary students (18%).

The disparity in transfer rates between elementary school students in shelter and those living doubled up was highest in **Staten Island**, with 58% of students in shelters and 21% of doubled-up students changing schools.

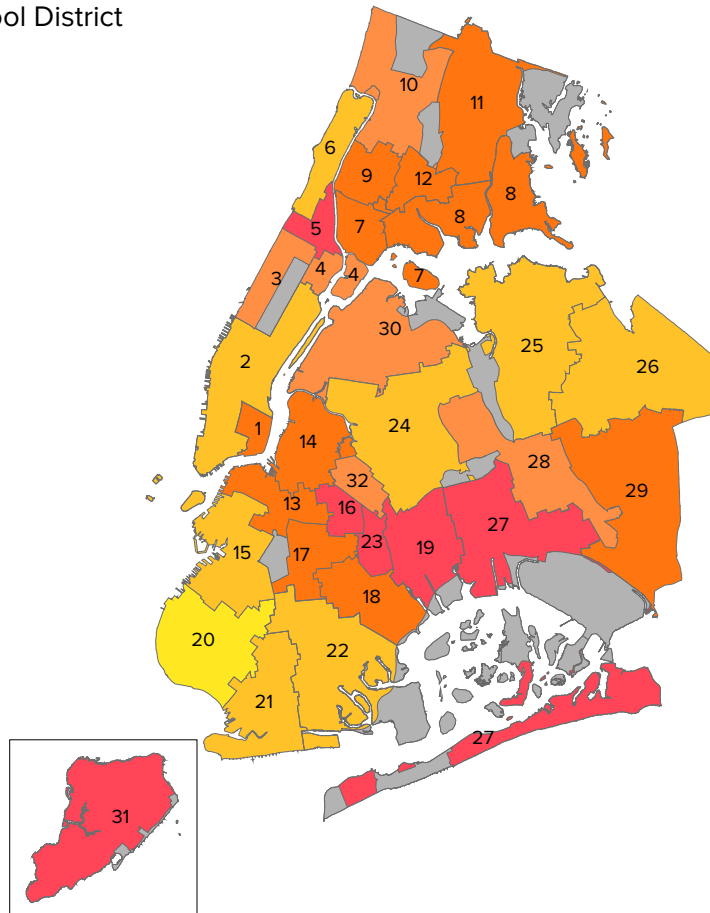
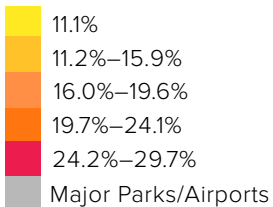
Percent of Students Who Transferred Mid-Year, by Primary Night-Time Residence and Grade Level SY 2016–17



Click here for the complete table of school districts and transfer rates for students living doubled up or in shelter (page 18).

1.6 | In Which Districts Are Transfer Rates for Homeless Students the Highest?

Percent of Homeless Students Who Transferred Mid-Year Into or Within the School District
SY 2016–17



Mid-year transfers were common for homeless students across the city. Even in **Bay Ridge** (District 20), the district with the lowest mid-year transfer rate, more than one in ten homeless students transferred (11%).

In districts with the highest transfer rates, approximately 1 in 4 homeless students transferred mid-year (24.2%–29.7%). Three of these six highest districts were in **Brooklyn** (Districts 23, 16, and 19). The remaining three were located in **Queens** (District 27), **Manhattan** (District 5), and **Staten Island** (District 31).



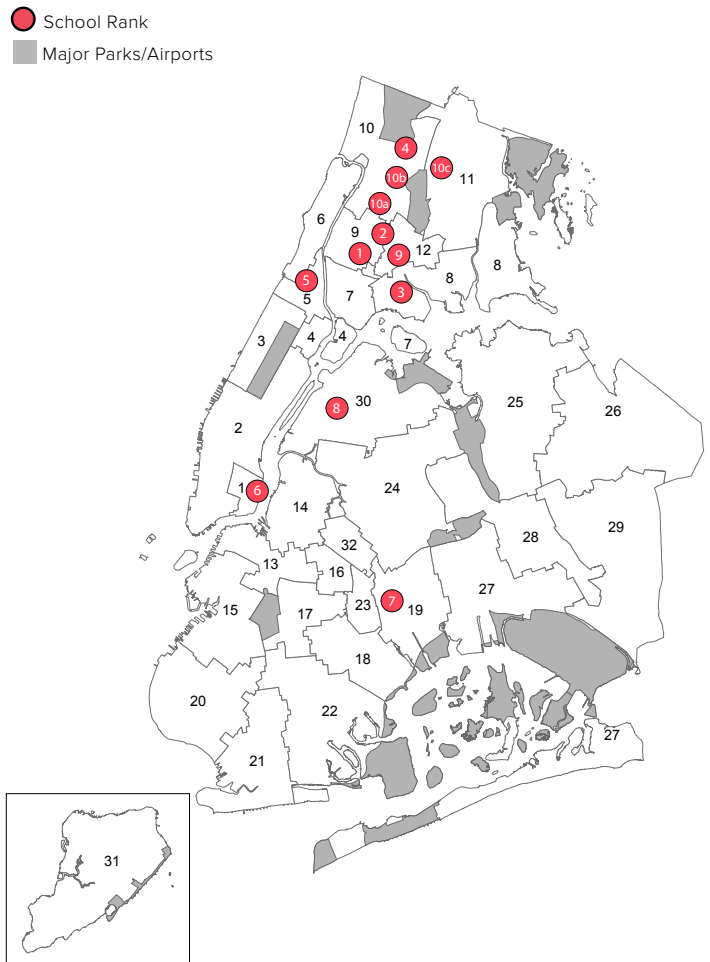
Click here for the complete table of school districts and transfer rates (page 18).

1.7 | Which Schools Had the Highest Number of Incoming Mid-Year Transfers?

The majority of schools with the most homeless students transferring in were located in the **Bronx**, an area with many family shelters. In total, schools in the **Bronx** accounted for 36% of transfers by homeless students, and eight of the top 12 schools for homeless transfers were in the **Bronx**.

P.S. 53 Basheer Quisim in **Highbridge/Concourse** (District 9) had the largest number of homeless students transfer into the school mid-year (59% of all incoming transfers).

In 109 schools across the city, at least half of all incoming transfer students were homeless. These schools received five to 116 homeless students in SY 2016–17.



Schools with the Highest Number of Homeless Students who Transferred into the School Mid-Year (SY 2016–17)						
Rank	School Name	Select Neighborhoods (School District #)	Borough	Homeless Students Who Transferred into the School	All Students Who Transferred into the School	Percent Homeless Out of All Students Who Transferred into the School
1	P.S. 053 Basheer Quisim	Highbridge/Concourse (9)	Bronx	116	197	58.9%
2	P.S./M.S. 004 Crotona Park West	Highbridge/Concourse (9)	Bronx	112	143	78.3%
3	P.S. 048 Joseph R. Drake	Hunts Point/Longwood (8)	Bronx	89	143	62.2%
4	P.S. 094 Kings College School	Riverdale/Bedford/Fordham/Belmont (10)	Bronx	86	229	37.6%
5	P.S. 123 Mahalia Jackson	Central Harlem/Manhattanville (5)	Manhattan	84	112	75.0%
6	P.S. 188 The Island School	Lower East Side (1)	Manhattan	73	102	71.6%
7	P.S. 149 Danny Kaye	East New York/Starrett City (19)	Brooklyn	71	126	56.3%
8	Newcomers High School	Astoria/Long Island City (30)	Queens	71	238	29.8%
9	P.S. 066 School of Higher Expectations	East Tremont (12)	Bronx	70	121	57.9%
10a	P.S. 9 Ryer Avenue Elementary School	Riverdale/Bedford/Fordham/Belmont (10)	Bronx	69	125	55.2%
10b	P.S. 046 Edgar Allan Poe	Riverdale/Bedford/Fordham/Belmont (10)	Bronx	69	122	56.6%
10c	P.S. 041 Gun Hill Road	Williamsbridge/Baychester/Morris Park/Co-op City (11)	Bronx	69	131	52.7%

2.0 | School Instability Factors: Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic Absenteeism

Missing more than 10%, or more than 18 days, of a 180-day school year.

For homeless students, housing instability can often result in missing large portions of the school year. During the 2016–17 school year, more than a third of homeless students were chronically absent, and half of all homeless students missed almost three weeks of class time over the course of the year.

The reasons why a homeless student may miss school include transportation challenges, shelter-intake and eligibility policies, health- and safety-related absences, or one of the many other realities of their unstable housing situation. When students consistently miss school, they are more likely to fall behind, disengage from their education, and possibly even drop out.

Recognizing the prevalence of chronic absenteeism in the lives of homeless students, identifying which schools and districts have the highest rates of absenteeism, delineating which students are at higher risk of missing school, and understanding the impact of chronic absenteeism on the academic outcomes of students is the best way to target interventions that address school instability factors, and offset the impact of housing instability in the academic lives of homeless students.

2.1 | What Is the Chronic Absenteeism Rate Among Homeless Students?

Over one-third of homeless students (36%) were chronically absent during SY 2016–17. These students missed more than 18 days of school in one year, or more than 10% of the school year.

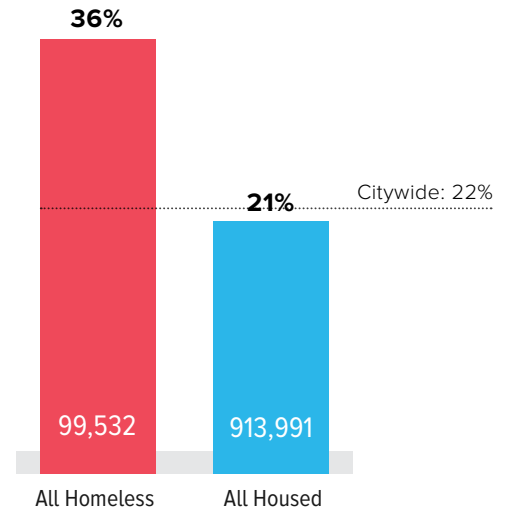
Homeless students were more than 1.5 times as likely to be chronically absent as housed students.

Homeless students in **Staten Island** were the most likely to be chronically absent, with 42% of students missing over 10% of the year. **Queens** had the lowest rate of all boroughs, though its 30% chronic absenteeism rate for homeless students was still above the citywide average of 22% for all students.

Among geographic school districts, homeless students were most likely to be chronically absent in **Bedford-Stuyvesant** (District 16, 51%), followed by **Hunts Point** (District 8, 46%) and **Brownsville** (District 23, 46%).

Chronic absenteeism rates for homeless students were highest in the city’s specialized school districts. About two in three homeless students were chronically absent in **Alternative Schools and Programs** (District 79, 66%) and the **Special Education District** (District 75, 64%).

Percent of Students Who were Chronically Absent, by Housing Status
SY 2016–17



KEY TERMS

All Homeless

Students who were identified at any point during SY 2016–17 by the New York City Department of Education as meeting the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness. This includes students in shelter, doubled-up, in hotel/motels, or other temporary arrangements.

All Housed

Students who lived in a fixed, regular, and adequate housing situation.

Formerly Homeless

Students who were not identified as homeless in SY 2016–17, but had been homeless at some point from SY 2010–11 to SY 2015–16.



Formerly homeless students had a chronic absenteeism rate of 35%. The similarity between rates of absenteeism between currently and formerly homeless students suggests that these students may still be experiencing instability as their family attempts to remain permanently housed.

2.2 | How Many School Days Do Homeless Students Miss?

Not only were homeless students more likely to be chronically absent, but they were also more likely to miss close to two months of school. Homeless students missed 37 or more days, or more than 20% of the school year, at twice the rate of housed students (15% vs. 7%).

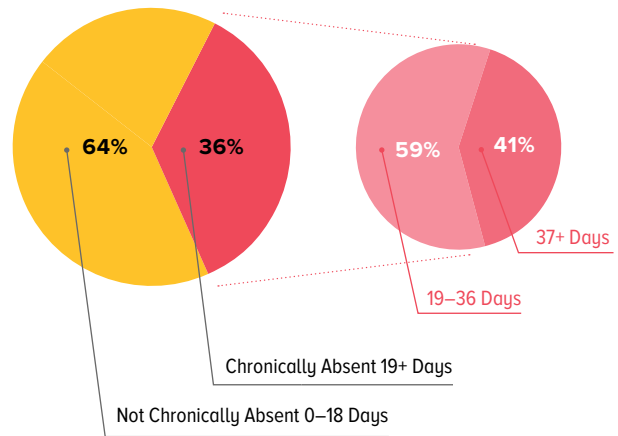
Among homeless students who were chronically absent, 41% missed 37 or more days of school. In comparison, 35% of housed students who were chronically absent missed 37 or more days of school.

One in five homeless students who attended school in **Staten Island** missed 37 or more days of school (19%) – a rate three times as high as their housed peers in the borough (6%). Homeless students in **Queens** were least likely to miss 37 or more days of school (12%) – though still twice the rate of their housed classmates in **Queens** (6%).

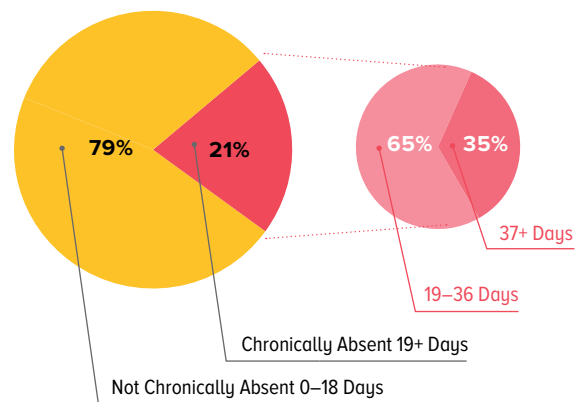
Among geographic school districts, homeless students in **Bedford-Stuyvesant** were most likely to miss 37 or more days of school (District 16, 22%), and those in **Bay Ridge** were least likely (District 20, 6%). Homeless students in **Alternative Schools and Programs** (District 79) and the **Special Education District** (District 75) were even more likely to miss 37 or more days of school (49% and 35%, respectively).

Number of Days Absent, by Housing Status
SY 2016–17

All Homeless



All Housed



Data shown here are for the 99,532 homeless students and 913,991 housed students with absenteeism data.



Homeless students missed an average of 20 days and a median of 13 days of school, or almost 3 weeks of class time. This was 63% higher than the median of 8 days for housed students. The difference between the average and the median number of days missed was due to a relatively small number of students missing a very large number of days.

2.3 | How Have Absenteeism Rates Changed Over Time?

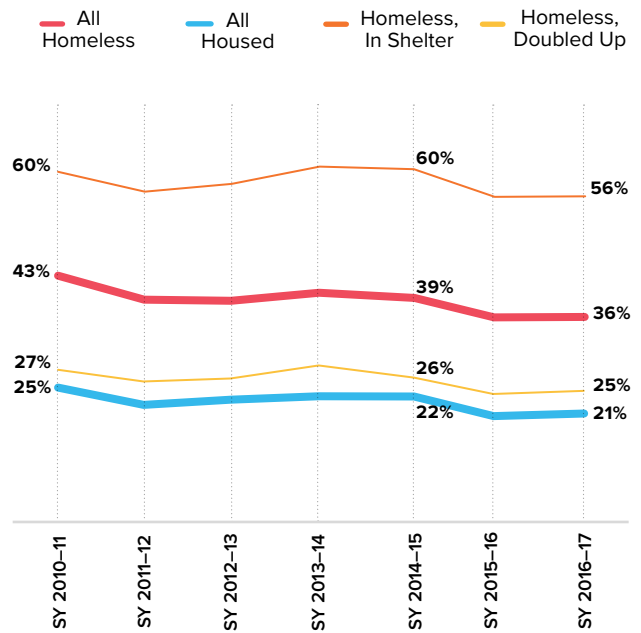
Among both homeless and housed students, chronic absenteeism rates declined since SY 2010–11. However, the decline among homeless students was primarily due to an increase in the proportion of doubled-up students. These students had significantly lower chronic absenteeism rates compared to students in shelter (25% vs. 56%).

Despite the percentage decrease, the number of homeless students who were chronically absent increased. Over 10,000 more homeless students were chronically absent in SY 2016–17 than in SY 2010–11. At the same time, the number of chronically absent housed students declined by more than 47,000.

Queens saw the largest decrease in its absenteeism rate among homeless students, dropping from 39% to 30%. **Manhattan**, by contrast, had the smallest change, from 38% to 35%.

In two school districts, chronic absenteeism rates for homeless students actually increased after SY 2010–11. In **Midtown Manhattan** (District 2), rates rose from 34% to 35%, representing an additional 590 homeless students being chronically absent. In **Williamsburg** (District 14), rates rose from 39% to 40%, and an additional 290 homeless students were chronically absent.

Percent of Students Chronically Absent, by Housing Status
SY 2010–11 to SY 2016–17



KEY TERMS

All Homeless

All students who were identified at any point during SY 2016–17 by the New York City Department of Education as meeting the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness.

All Housed

Students who lived in a fixed, regular, and adequate housing situation.

Homeless, In Shelter

Students who lived in emergency or transitional shelter.

Homeless, Doubled Up

Students who have found temporary accommodations with another family or other person due to loss of housing or economic hardship.



In 2014, the New York City Department of Education launched the “Every Student, Every Day” campaign as part of the Community Schools Initiative to improve chronic absenteeism rates. The campaign emphasizes the importance of tracking attendance rates and provides resources and encouragement to chronically absent students based on their needs.

2.4 | In Which Grade Levels Are Students Absent Most Often?

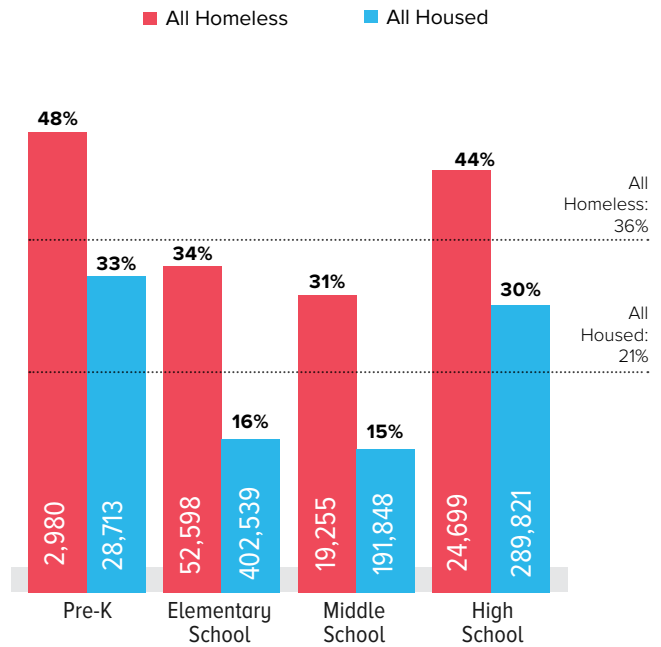
Across all grade levels, homeless students were 1.5 to 2 times as likely to be chronically absent as their housed classmates. This disparity was widest in elementary school, where 34% of homeless students, and only 16% of housed students, missed over 18 days of school.

Almost half (48%) of all homeless pre-K students were chronically absent, missing an average of 23 days out of the school year. Rates of chronic absenteeism in pre-K were highest in the **Bronx**, where 52% of homeless pre-K students were chronically absent.

For high school students, the widest disparity in absenteeism rates was seen in **Staten Island**, where 48% of homeless and 25% of housed students were chronically absent.

For both homeless and housed students, chronic absenteeism rates displayed the same U shaped pattern, with pre-K rates being the highest, then dropping by nearly half during elementary and middle school, and rising again in high school. Nevertheless, rates for homeless students were still 50% higher than for their housed peers.

Percent of Students Chronically Absent, by Housing Status and Grade Level
SY 2016–17



Note: Pre-K absenteeism data shown here do not include New York City Early Education Centers (NYCEEC).



Students who are chronically absent, meaning they miss more than 10% of the school year, are more likely to fall behind their classmates in learning at the appropriate grade level. When students miss large amounts of class time in early grades, these effects can accumulate over time and lead to lower test scores, grade retention, and inability to graduate on time, if at all.

2.5 | Does a Student's Primary Night-Time Residence Affect Attendance?

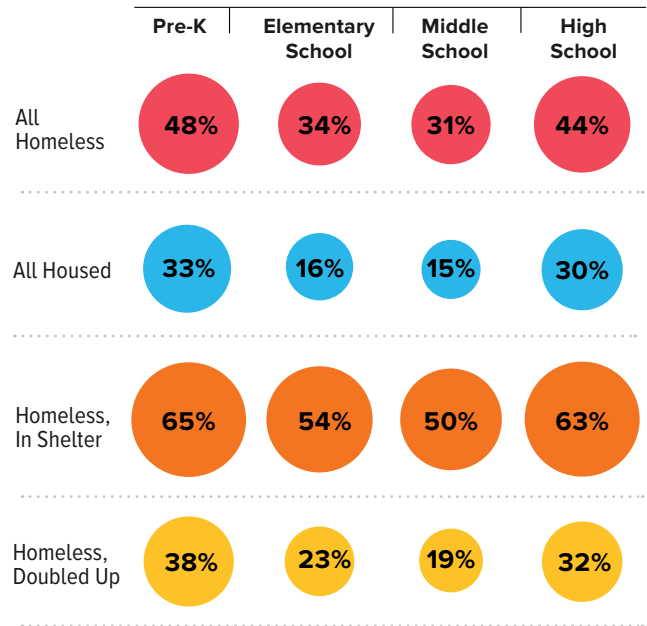
Homeless students, regardless of primary night-time residence and grade level, were more likely to be chronically absent than their housed classmates.

Among homeless students, those living in shelter were at a higher risk of being chronically absent. At least half of homeless students in shelter were chronically absent across grade levels, with rates over 60% in pre-K and high school.

The disparity in chronic absenteeism rates between students in shelter and those living doubled up was greatest in middle school, with students in shelter being 2.5 times as likely to be chronically absent as doubled-up students (50% vs. 19%).

Among pre-K students in shelter, about two in three of those attending school in **Brooklyn**, the **Bronx**, or **Manhattan** were chronically absent (67%, 66%, and 63%, respectively), while roughly half of students in **Queens** were chronically absent (54%). For high school students in shelter, absenteeism rates were highest in **Staten Island** (75%), and lowest in **Manhattan** (57%).

Percent of Students Chronically Absent, by Primary Night-Time Residence and Grade Level SY 2016–17

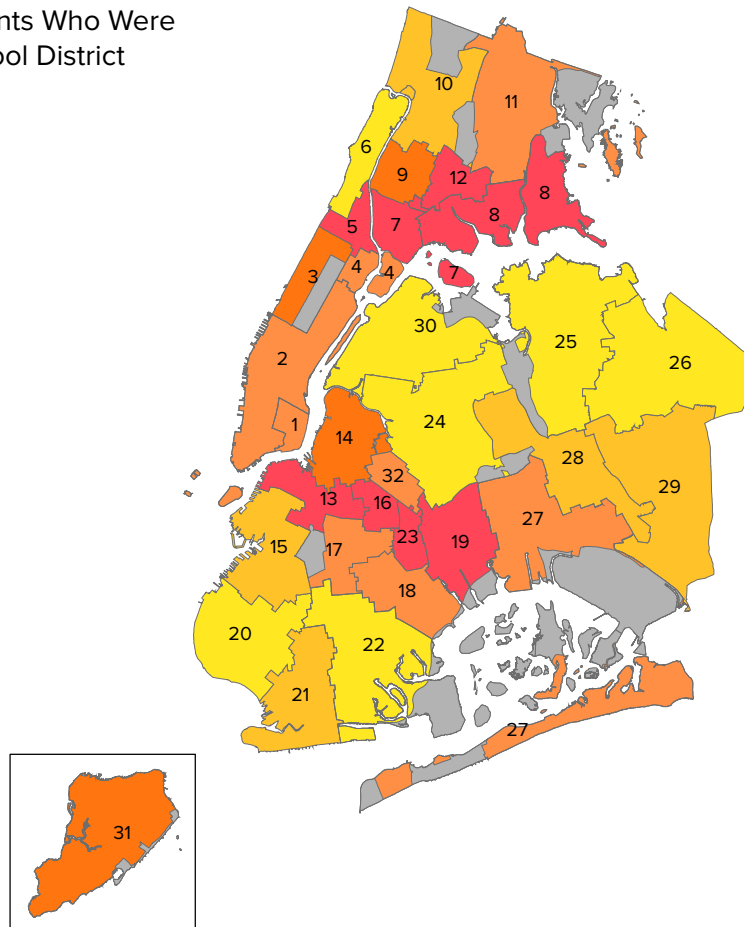
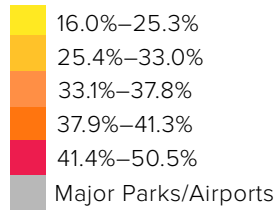


Across all grade levels, doubled-up students were chronically absent at approximately the same rates as low-income housed students. This suggests that circumstances unique to students in shelter, such as inadequate transportation or shelter intake policies, could be a significant factor driving absenteeism rates for homeless students as a whole.

2.6 | In Which Districts Are Absenteeism Rates the Highest?

Percent of Homeless Students Who Were Chronically Absent, by School District

SY 2016–17



Throughout New York City, chronic absenteeism is prevalent among homeless students, with rates ranging from 16% to nearly 51% by school district.

In over 60% of school districts (20 of 32), at least one out of three homeless students was chronically absent.

Eight districts have chronic absenteeism rates of at least 41.4%—almost twice the citywide rate. Four of these districts are in **Brooklyn** (Districts 13, 16, 23, and 19) and three are in

the **Bronx** (7, 8, and 12). More than one in three homeless students in **Brooklyn** and the **Bronx** were chronically absent (36% and 40%, respectively).

Bedford-Stuyvesant (District 16) had the highest rate of chronic absenteeism among homeless students (50.5%), and **Bay Ridge** (District 20) had the lowest (16%).



Click here for the complete table of school districts and chronic absenteeism rates (page 19).

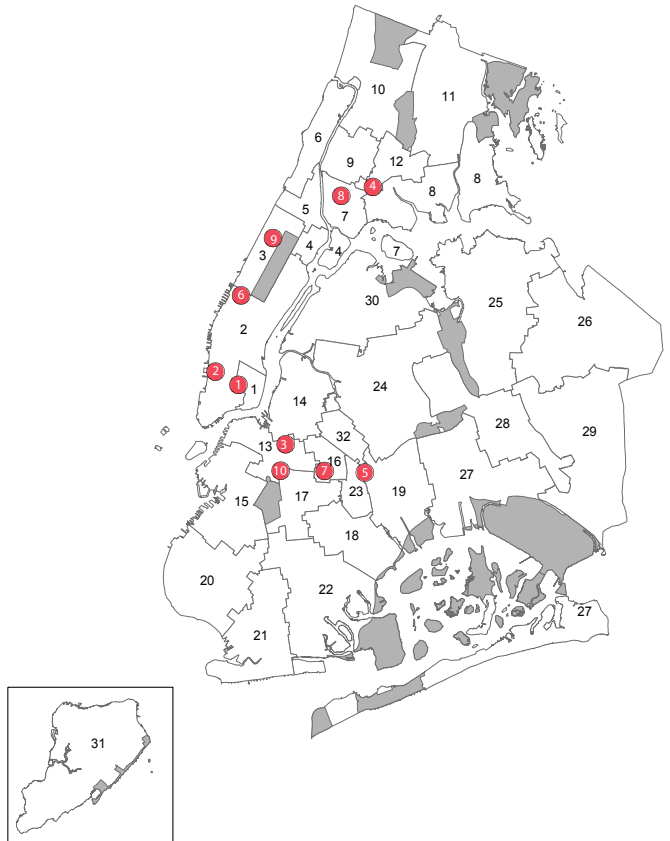
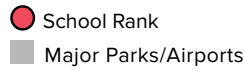
2.7 | Which Schools Had the Highest Absenteeism Rates?

Nearly 1,200 schools – 72% of all schools citywide– had chronic absenteeism rates for homeless students that were above the citywide average of 22%.

The schools with the highest chronic absenteeism rates were all high schools. Among the top ten schools, both housed and homeless students had very high rates of chronic absenteeism.

Four of the top ten schools were located in **Manhattan**, four were in **Brooklyn**, and the remaining two were in the **Bronx**.

At Cascades High School on the **Lower East Side** (District 1), where 13% of its almost 300 students were homeless, every homeless student was chronically absent. Students in shelter missed an average of 84 days, or nearly half the school year, and doubled-up students missed an average of 58 days. Cascades is a transfer high school for under-credited students ages 16–21 to work towards graduation with a high school diploma.



Schools with the Highest Rate of Chronic Absenteeism Among Homeless Students (SY 2016–17)							
Rank	School Name	Select Neighborhoods (School District #)	Borough	Total Number of Students	Number of Homeless Students	Chronic Absenteeism Rate, Housed Students	Chronic Absenteeism Rate, Homeless Students
1	Cascades High School	Lower East Side (1)	Manhattan	279	37	83.9%	100.0%
2	City As School	Financial District/Midtown/Upper East Side (2)	Manhattan	678	54	96.0%	94.1%
3	Brooklyn High School for Leadership and Community Service	Brooklyn Heights/Fort Greene (13)	Brooklyn	195	35	89.4%	90.3%
4	Bronx Regional High School	East Tremont (12)	Bronx	247	43	90.7%	89.5%
5	Aspirations Diploma Plus High School	Brownsville (23)	Brooklyn	251	40	86.3%	89.2%
6	Independence High School	Financial District/Midtown/Upper East Side (2)	Manhattan	324	46	88.8%	86.5%
7	Research and Service High School	Bedford-Stuyvesant (16)	Brooklyn	284	35	91.6%	84.4%
8	Bronx Haven High School	Mott Haven/Melrose (7)	Bronx	180	32	86.5%	83.3%
9	Edward A. Reynolds West Side High School	Upper West Side/Morningside Heights (3)	Manhattan	497	56	83.9%	81.6%
10	ACORN Community High School	Brooklyn Heights/Fort Greene (13)	Brooklyn	250	40	41.9%	77.8%

Appendix

The data for the *Student Homelessness in New York City* series were provided primarily by the New York City Department of Education. Unless otherwise noted, the source is the New York City Department of Education, unpublished data tabulated by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness, SY 2010–11 to SY 2016–17.

The following appendices allow for comparisons of the prevalence of instability factors across different housing statuses and geographic boundaries. Rates of mid-year transfers and chronic absenteeism are shown at citywide, borough, and school district levels.

The numerators and rates are provided for several categories, including all students, all homeless students, and all housed students, at each geographic level. Additionally, the rates of these instability factors for subpopulations of homeless students – those living in shelter and those living doubled up – are shown, along with housed students who are low-income.

In addition to this resource, [the New York City Interactive Map of Student Homelessness](#) allows users to view data specific to their district.

A. Mid-Year Transfer Rates, SY 2016–17

Borough/Select Neighborhoods (School District #)	All Students	All Homeless	Homeless, In Shelter	Homeless, Doubled Up	All Housed	Housed, Low-Income
New York City	9% (90,850)	21% (21,949)	31%	15%	7% (68,901)	8%
Manhattan	9% (13,572)	19% (3,334)	29%	14%	7% (10,238)	9%
Lower East Side (1)		22% (332)	32%	15%	8% (859)	9%
Financial District/Midtown/Upper East Side (2)		15% (679)	24%	11%	6% (3,293)	7%
Upper West Side/Morningside Heights (3)		20% (397)	25%	15%	6% (1,361)	10%
East Harlem (4)		18% (381)	28%	11%	7% (782)	7%
Central Harlem/Manhattanville (5)		27% (616)	33%	21%	10% (1,033)	11%
Hamilton/Washington Heights/Inwood (6)		14% (580)	19%	13%	7% (1,367)	7%
Bronx	11% (23,271)	21% (7,862)	29%	16%	8% (15,409)	9%
Mott Haven/Melrose (7)		22% (812)	29%	16%	9% (1,562)	9%
Hunts Point/Longwood (8)		24% (1,067)	31%	18%	10% (2,502)	10%
Highbridge/Concourse (9)		21% (1,709)	30%	14%	8% (2,291)	8%
Riverdale/Bedford/Fordham/Belmont (10)		18% (1,868)	27%	15%	7% (3,405)	7%
Williamsbridge/Baychester/Morris Park/Co-op City (11)		23% (1,083)	31%	17%	7% (2,617)	8%
East Tremont (12)		21% (1,012)	27%	15%	9% (1,890)	9%
Brooklyn	8% (24,937)	20% (5,590)	30%	14%	7% (19,347)	7%
Brooklyn Heights/Fort Greene (13)		21% (344)	25%	17%	7% (1,383)	8%
Williamsburg/Greenpoint (14)		21% (416)	27%	18%	7% (1,161)	7%
Carroll Gardens/Park Slope/Sunset Park (15)		15% (272)	28%	10%	5% (1,568)	6%
Bedford-Stuyvesant (16)		29% (378)	32%	21%	15% (941)	16%
Crown Heights/Prospect Lefferts Gardens (17)		20% (668)	27%	15%	9% (1,918)	9%
East Flatbush/Canarsie (18)		22% (365)	27%	19%	10% (1,500)	10%
East New York/Starrett City (19)		26% (944)	34%	19%	10% (2,168)	11%
Bay Ridge/Dyker Heights/Borough Park (20)		11% (361)	22%	10%	5% (2,353)	5%
Coney Island/Gravesend/Ocean Parkway (21)		15% (349)	31%	11%	5% (1,805)	5%
Flatbush/Flatlands/Sheepshead Bay (22)		15% (420)	29%	11%	5% (1,724)	6%
Brownsville (23)		30% (568)	34%	21%	14% (1,120)	14%
Bushwick (32)		17% (321)	23%	14%	7% (786)	7%
Queens	8% (24,570)	22% (4,273)	37%	15%	7% (20,297)	7%
Sunnyside/Ridgewood/Maspeth/Elmhurst/Corona (24)		14% (578)	30%	12%	5% (2,869)	5%
Flushing/Whitestone (25)		14% (284)	27%	12%	6% (2,200)	6%
Bayside/Little Neck/Fresh Meadows/Floral Park (26)		16% (151)	11%	16%	4% (1,188)	4%
Woodhaven/Ozone Park/Howard Beach (27)		27% (818)	41%	18%	7% (3,070)	7%
Rego Park/Forest Hills/Briarwood (28)		19% (500)	30%	14%	5% (2,012)	5%
Hollis/Queens Village (29)		23% (607)	33%	17%	8% (2,174)	9%
Astoria/Long Island City (30)		17% (496)	35%	13%	5% (1,961)	5%
Staten Island	7% (4,500)	30% (890)	50%	19%	6% (3,610)	7%
Staten Island (31)		29% (838)	49%	19%	5% (3,305)	7%
Citywide Special Education (75)	18% (4,692)	33% (825)	34%	31%	16% (3,867)	17%
Citywide Alternative Schools & Programs (79)	58% (5,721)	59% (855)	74%	54%	58% (4,866)	66%

Note: 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.

B. Chronic Absenteeism Rates, SY 2016–17

Borough/Select Neighborhoods (School District #)	All Students	All Homeless	Homeless, In Shelter	Homeless, Doubled Up	All Housed	Housed, Low-Income
New York City	22% (227,295)	36% (35,928)	56%	25%	21% (191,367)	23%
Manhattan	23% (34,002)	35% (5,647)	52%	26%	21% (28,355)	27%
Lower East Side (1)		37% (532)	51%	27%	20% (2,062)	26%
Financial District/Midtown/Upper East Side (2)		35% (1,486)	55%	26%	19% (11,319)	27%
Upper West Side/Morningside Heights (3)		38% (717)	52%	29%	17% (3,498)	30%
East Harlem (4)		35% (710)	48%	28%	22% (2,490)	24%
Central Harlem/Manhattanville (5)		43% (917)	53%	32%	30% (2,838)	33%
Hamilton/Washington Heights/Inwood (6)		25% (959)	49%	20%	20% (3,852)	21%
Bronx	30% (63,063)	40% (13,922)	57%	28%	28% (49,141)	30%
Mott Haven/Melrose (7)		44% (1,566)	58%	32%	35% (5,725)	35%
Hunts Point/Longwood (8)		46% (1,953)	62%	32%	32% (7,846)	34%
Highbridge/Concourse (9)		39% (2,929)	55%	27%	28% (7,868)	29%
Riverdale/Bedford/Fordham/Belmont (10)		32% (3,180)	51%	25%	23% (10,655)	25%
Williamsbridge/Baychester/Morris Park/Co-op City (11)		38% (1,711)	57%	25%	22% (7,548)	24%
East Tremont (12)		43% (1,946)	56%	29%	33% (6,424)	33%
Brooklyn	22% (63,185)	36% (9,559)	56%	24%	20% (53,626)	22%
Brooklyn Heights/Fort Greene (13)		44% (694)	57%	32%	22% (4,264)	26%
Williamsburg/Greenpoint (14)		40% (744)	55%	30%	24% (4,178)	29%
Carroll Gardens/Park Slope/Sunset Park (15)		33% (555)	57%	21%	14% (4,348)	20%
Bedford-Stuyvesant (16)		51% (624)	59%	37%	36% (2,038)	36%
Crown Heights/Prospect Lefferts Gardens (17)		38% (1,183)	53%	27%	23% (4,476)	24%
East Flatbush/Canarsie (18)		37% (583)	54%	25%	24% (3,444)	25%
East New York/Starrett City (19)		43% (1,454)	58%	29%	30% (5,768)	30%
Bay Ridge/Dyker Heights/Borough Park (20)		16% (499)	45%	14%	13% (6,259)	12%
Coney Island/Gravesend/Ocean Parkway (21)		33% (752)	63%	25%	20% (6,656)	21%
Flatbush/Flatlands/Sheepshead Bay (22)		25% (658)	53%	17%	14% (4,603)	16%
Brownsville (23)		46% (814)	50%	36%	35% (2,650)	36%
Bushwick (32)		35% (611)	56%	23%	24% (2,339)	23%
Queens	18% (54,050)	30% (5,603)	55%	21%	17% (48,447)	18%
Sunnyside/Ridgewood/Maspeth/Elmhurst/Corona (24)		20% (771)	48%	16%	13% (7,377)	13%
Flushing/Whitestone (25)		21% (413)	53%	17%	15% (5,444)	15%
Bayside/Little Neck/Fresh Meadows/Floral Park (26)		19% (176)	44%	17%	10% (3,237)	12%
Woodhaven/Ozone Park/Howard Beach (27)		37% (1,067)	55%	25%	20% (8,627)	22%
Rego Park/Forest Hills/Briarwood (28)		33% (814)	53%	25%	18% (6,849)	19%
Hollis/Queens Village (29)		32% (837)	54%	22%	19% (4,655)	19%
Astoria/Long Island City (30)		21% (591)	47%	16%	14% (5,335)	15%
Staten Island	21% (12,995)	42% (1,197)	66%	30%	20% (11,798)	25%
Staten Island (31)		41% (1,130)	66%	30%	19% (11,027)	24%
Citywide Special Education (75)	46% (11,756)	64% (1,543)	71%	53%	44% (10,213)	48%
Citywide Alternative Schools & Programs (79)	65% (6,264)	66% (809)	77%	71%	65% (5,455)	71%

Note: 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.



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ICPH is an independent, New York City-based public policy organization that works on the issues of poverty and family homelessness.

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