

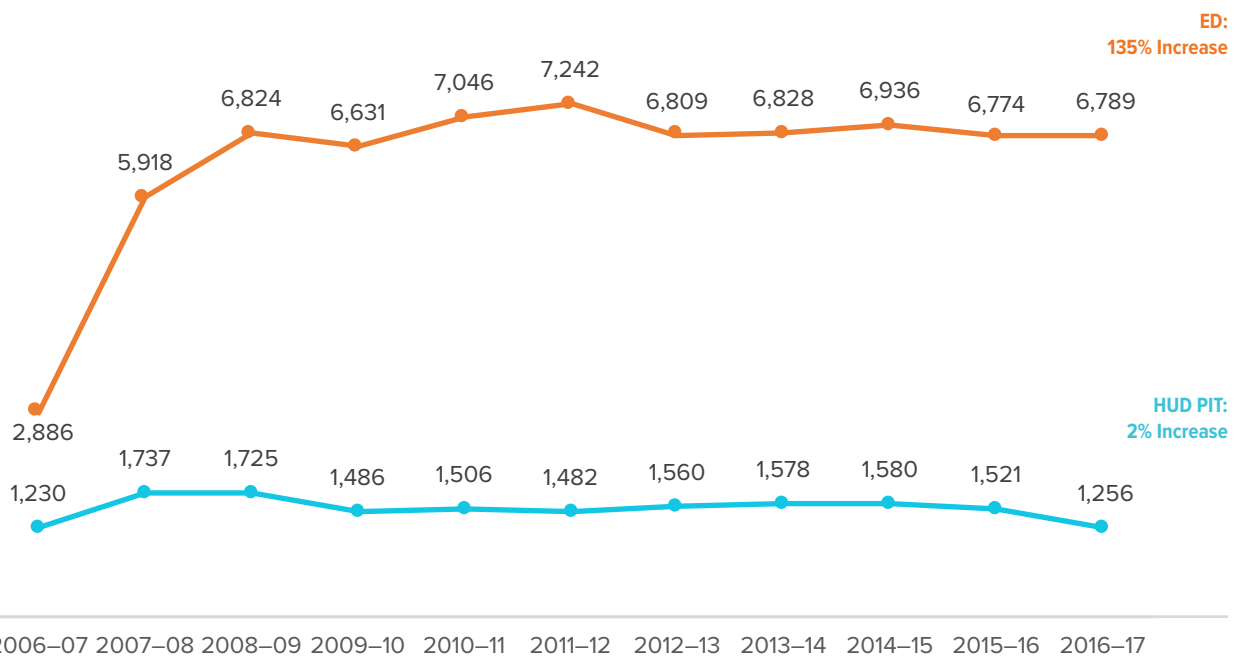


Are All Children Experiencing Homelessness Being Counted?

Ten-Year Comparisons Between the U.S. Department of Education (ED), and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) counts

Iowa

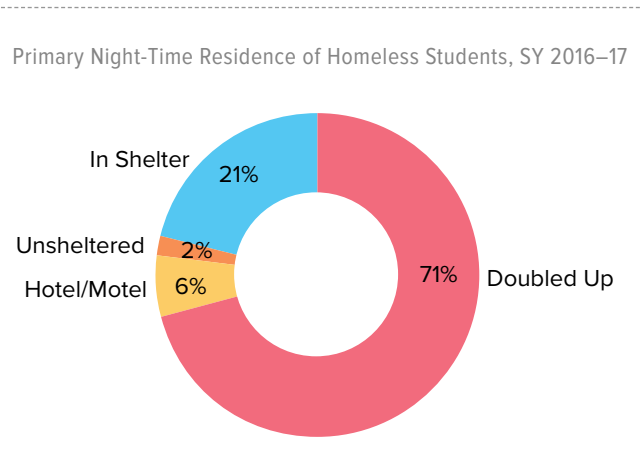
ED Total Number of Homeless Students
HUD PIT Count for Homeless People in Families



Why are these counts so different?

HUD's exclusionary definition of homelessness fails to count all families and children experiencing homelessness, such as those that are living doubled up with another person or family due to loss of housing or economic hardship or are paying out of pocket to live in a hotel or motel. This definition ignores the reality of homelessness across the country, where a majority of homeless students live outside of shelter in other uncertain and temporary arrangements.

Counting all children experiencing homelessness is a necessary first step in ensuring they receive the support to overcome the many challenges they may face: absenteeism, mid-year school transfers, hunger, bullying, sexual violence, substance use, and depression.



Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "2007-2017 Point-in-Time Estimates by State", <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2007-2017-PIT-Counts-by-State.xlsx>. National Center for Homeless Education, "Federal Data Summary", <https://nche.ed.gov/data-and-stats/>