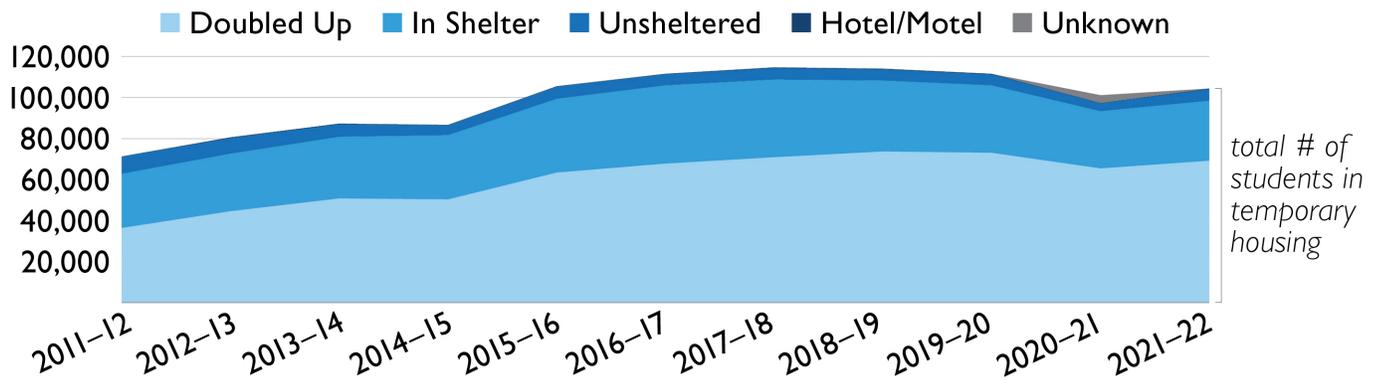


STUDENT HOMELESSNESS IN NEW YORK CITY, 2021–22

The 2021–22 school year marked the seventh consecutive year in which more than 100,000 New York City public school students experienced homelessness. Through two Mayoral administrations and four Chancellors, the school system has counted roughly 10% of students—enough children to fill Yankee Stadium twice over—as lacking a permanent place to call home.



Last year, total enrollment in City schools fell by 3.2%, relative to 2020–21, yet the number of students identified as homeless *increased* by 3.3%, rising from 101,000 to 104,000.* Of these 104,000 students, more than 29,000 spent time living in City shelters; 69,000 were “doubled up,” or temporarily sharing the housing of others because of a loss of housing or economic hardship; and nearly 5,500 were unsheltered, living in cars, parks, or abandoned buildings. The total number of students in temporary housing has likely climbed even further in recent months with the increased number of migrant families seeking asylum arriving in New York City.

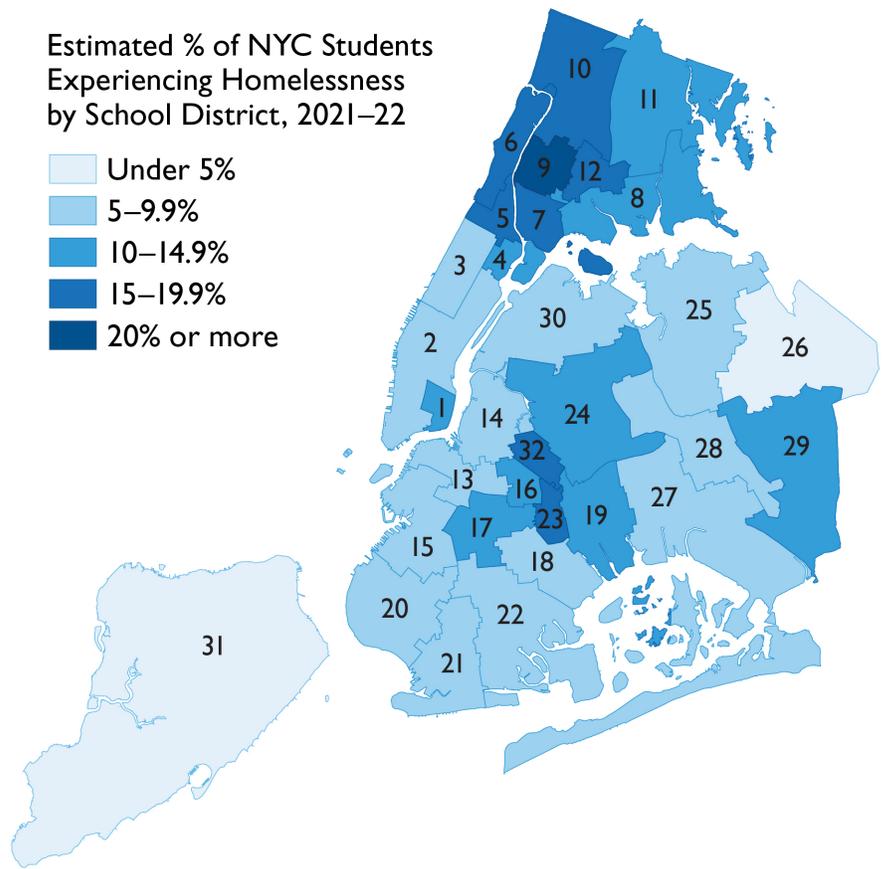
Students in temporary housing attended district and charter schools across the five boroughs in 2021–22 but were especially concentrated in the Bronx—where more than one in every seven students experienced homelessness—as well as in upper Manhattan and Brooklyn districts 23 (Brownsville) and 32 (Bushwick). The highest rate of student homelessness was in district 9 in the southwest Bronx, where more than one in five students experienced homelessness in 2021–22 and about one in every 13 spent time in shelter. By comparison, roughly one in every 28 students was homeless at schools on Staten Island, while one in 139 was living in shelter.

* The 2020–21 total may have been an undercount, as the pandemic and remote learning likely made it more difficult for schools to identify changes to students' housing situations.

The most significant change in student homelessness, relative to the 2020–21 school year, was in Queens, where the number of students who did not have permanent housing increased by 12.3%, even as overall enrollment in Queens schools declined. For example, in district 24—which includes neighborhoods such as Corona, Elmhurst, Maspeth, and Ridgewood—there was a 1.3% drop in enrollment and a 21.9% jump in the number of students identified as homeless, such that about one in eight students in the district was homeless in 2021–22, compared to one in ten the year before.

Estimated % of NYC Students Experiencing Homelessness by School District, 2021–22

- Under 5%
- 5–9.9%
- 10–14.9%
- 15–19.9%
- 20% or more



Data on students in temporary housing obtained from the New York State Education Department by Advocates for Children; includes both New York City Department of Education (DOE) and public charter school students. District-level enrollment counts come from the [DOE Demographic Snapshot](#) and do not include students enrolled in districts 75 and 79.

