

# A Look at Early Childhood Homelessness New Jersey



TOTAL CHILDREN  
POPULATION UNDER 6  
in 2013:

633,420<sup>1</sup>

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF  
CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6  
IDENTIFIED as HOMELESS:

8,661<sup>2</sup>

CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6  
EXPERIENCING  
HOMELESSNESS:

1 in 70 CHILDREN



NUMBER OF CHILDREN  
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS  
SERVED BY PROGRAMS

Head Start and Early Head Start **606**<sup>3</sup>  
(Total Cumulative Enrollment in Head Start/Early Head Start **15,944**)

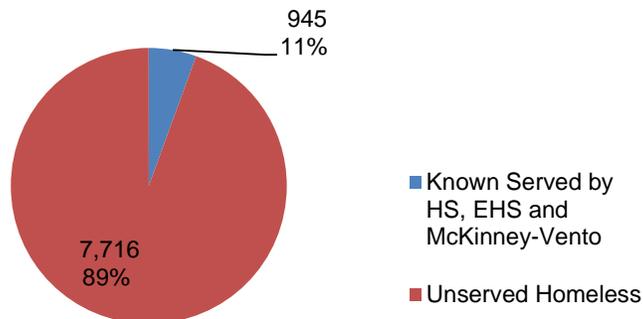
EHCY (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act) **339**<sup>4</sup>

Child Care Development Fund **Available in 2017**

HUD Homelessness Early Childhood data by State (HMIS)  
**Not Available by State**

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting **Planning for 2017**

CHILDREN IN EARLY  
LEARNING PROGRAMS



STATE STATISTICS &  
STATE EFFORTS

- Average number of children 18 and under who receive meals in emergency shelters daily is 253 (CACFP/USDA).
- More than 18 percent of children 18 and under lived in households that lacked access to adequate food in 2013 (Children's Defense Fund).
- About one in five children (19.6 percent) under 6 years old lived below the Federal Poverty Level in 2013.
- In the reauthorization of Head Start by the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-134), age-eligible children whose families are determined to be homeless are categorically eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start programs. New Jersey has 816 Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership and Expansion (EHS-CCP) slots that could expand necessary assistance to homeless children.
- New Jersey has a combination of Medicaid expansion and a separate program. Current Medicaid covers children ages 0 to 1 up to 194 percent of Federal Poverty Level (FPL), and covers children ages 1 to 5 up to 142 percent of FPL. Children's Health Insurance Program covers children up to 350 percent of FPL (CMS).



<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau/American FactFinder, "B17024: AGE BY RATIO OF INCOME TO POVERTY LEVEL IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS," 2013 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey Office, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Bassuk, et al., "America's Youngest Outcasts: A Report Card on Child Homelessness," The National Center on Family Homelessness, 2013. Published in November 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Department of Health and Human Services, "Program Information Report Data 2013", Office of Head Start, Administration of Children and Families, 2014.

<sup>4</sup> Department of Education, "Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program School Years 2010-2011 through 2012-2013 Consolidated State Performance Report," National Center for Homeless Education, 2013.