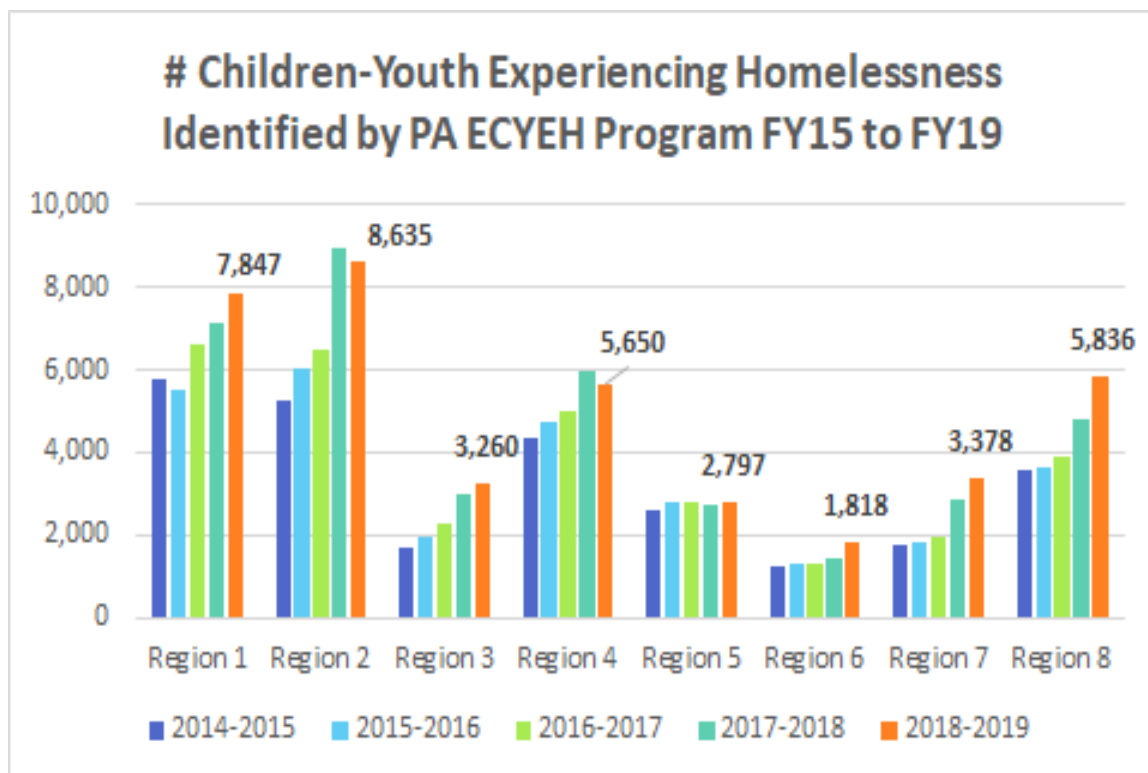


Pennsylvania identifies 39,221 children and youth who experienced homelessness – a 7% increase over prior year

A new Pennsylvania (PA) Department of Education report identified its largest number ever of children and youth who experienced homelessness in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 – 39,221 students, compared to 36,793 students in FY 2018. The chart below shows the number of homeless students for each region in the **Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH)** for Fiscal Years (FY) 2015-2019.



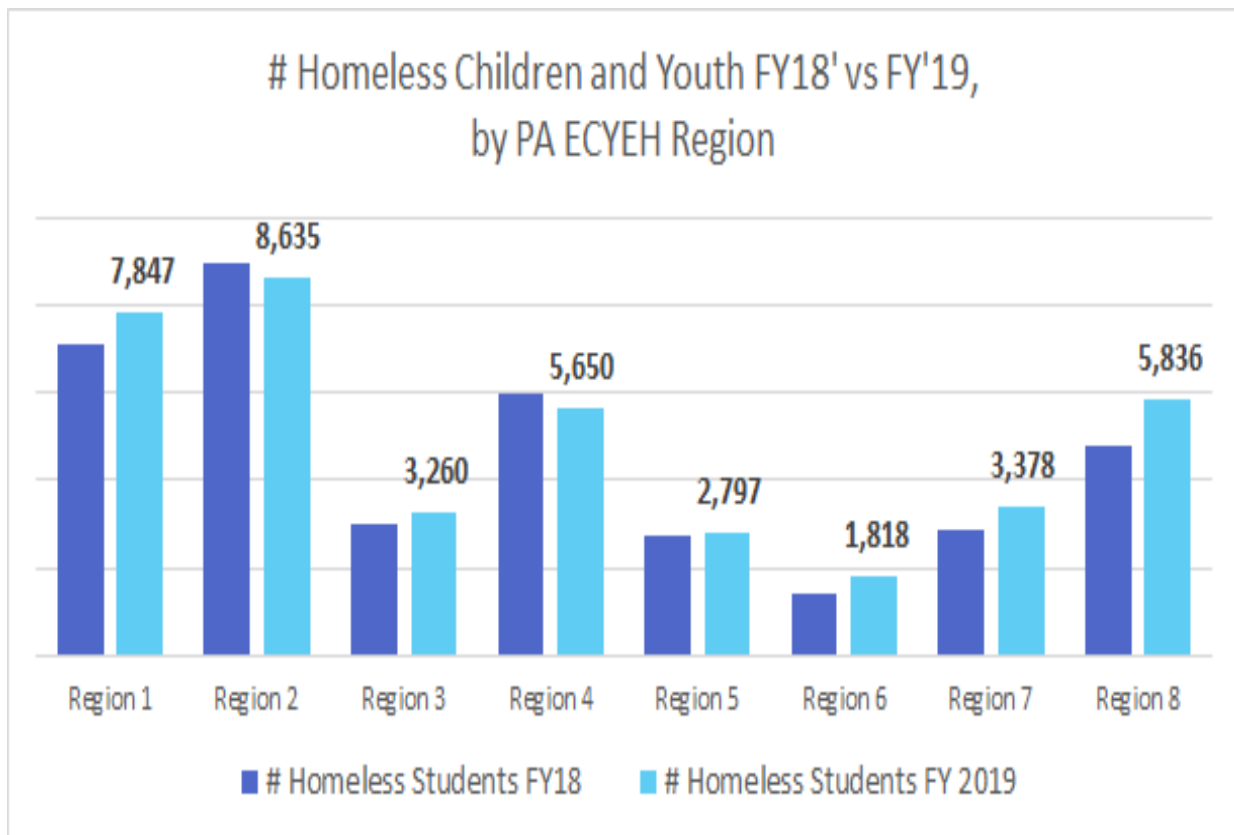
PEC reviewed the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s reports entitled “*Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program 2018-19 Counts by County*” and “*2018-19 Education of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Unique and Duplicate Counts by County*,” summarizing key data points below.

According to the PA Department of Education, “*the numbers include children under the age of five and youth enrolled in pre-K through grade 12. The unique count is based on where the child*

or youth was **identified** as homeless AND **attributed** to the local education agency (LEA) (school district, comprehensive technical school, or charter/cyber charter school) or entity (shelter, early intervention, pre-K program, etc.).”

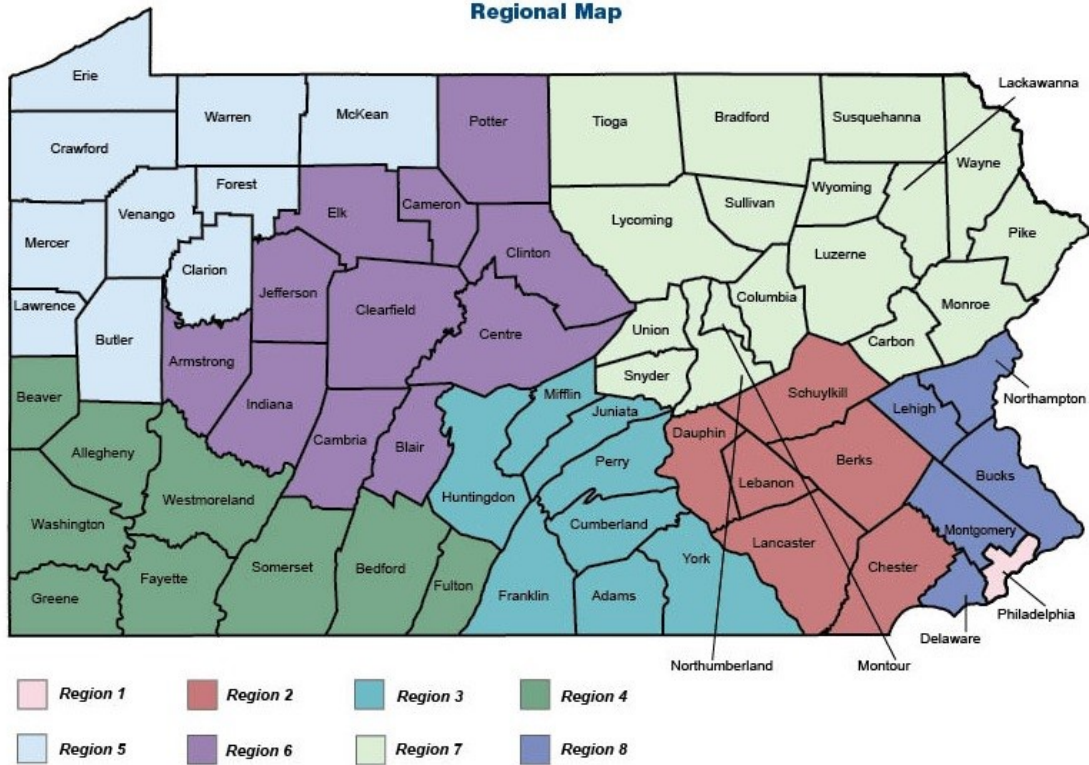
Read the other parts of this series at: pec-cares.org-publications. Find the original reports here [Homeless Education \(pa.gov\)](http://pa.gov). The data is reported by:

- **The eight ECYEH regions:** Pennsylvania divided up the state into eight regions to manage the ECYEH program. Each region has a regional coordinator who supports the school districts in those regions; or,
- **County:** Some regions are reporting two counties, but the counts are unique.



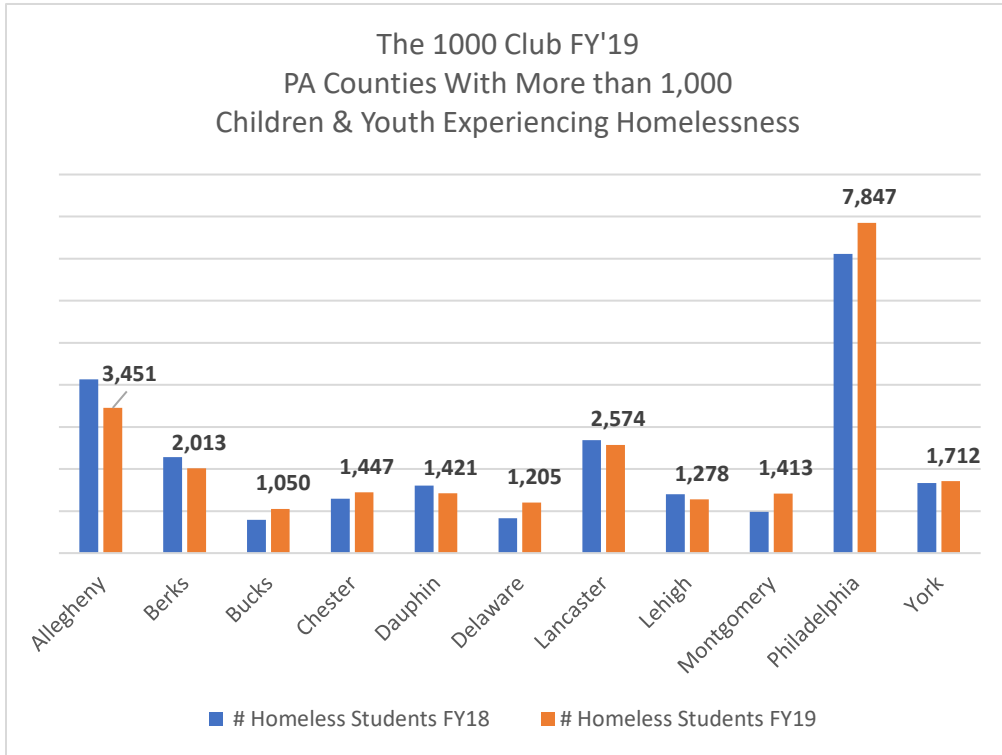
Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program

Regional Map

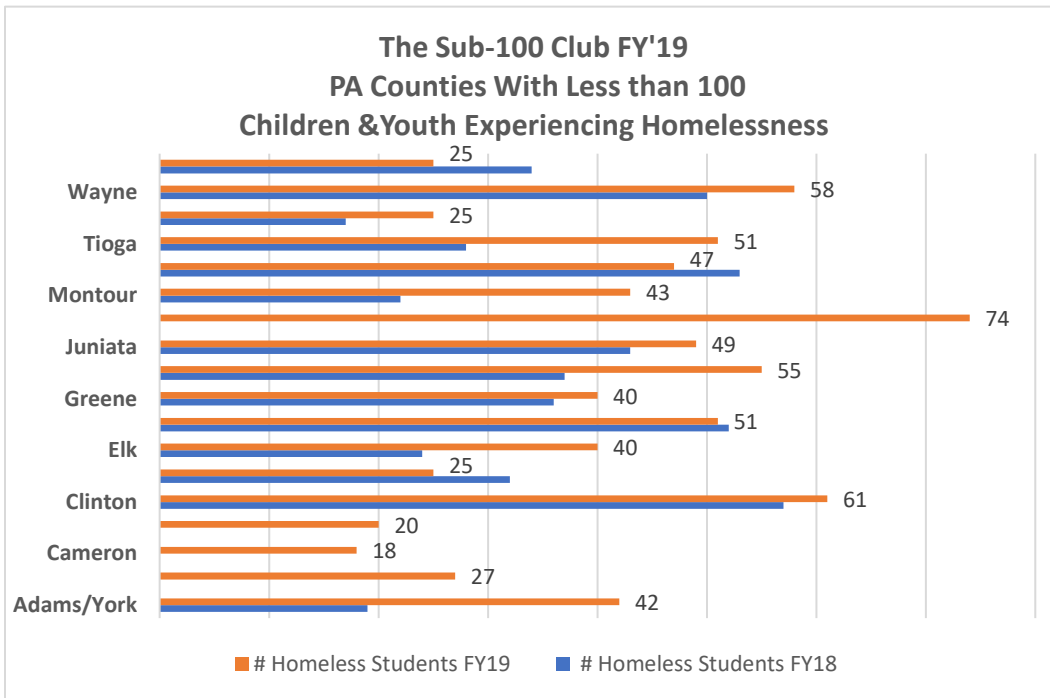


Highlights

- Pennsylvania's education and community agencies identified **39,221** children and youth experiencing homelessness and served by **Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH)** program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, compared to 36,793 students in FY 2018.
- The data suggests that homelessness among children and youth **throughout** the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is **increasing**.
- Perhaps surprisingly, **Philadelphia** is not the largest region identifying homeless students. **Region 2** identified 8,635 children compared to Philadelphia's 7,847 children.
- **Six** regions identified **more** children and youth in FY '19 than in FY '18. The two regions who identified **fewer** were Regions 2 and 4.
- **THE 1000 CLUB: Eleven counties** (compared to only nine in 2018) identified greater than 1,000 homeless students, a **3% increase in students** over FY '18. The 11 counties of the 1000 Club represent 54% of all children and youth identified as homeless.



- **THE SUB-100 CLUB:** These 18 areas identified less than 100 homeless children and youth experienced a **49% increase** from FY '18.
- 54 of the 72 areas experienced **increases** in the number of students between FY 2018 and FY 2019.



The tables from the reports studied provide further data, and a comparison to FY 2018 totals. They are in the Appendix at the end of this BrainGain.

Who Should Read This?

Policy makers and their staff, funders, staff at youth-serving agencies including county human services, school personnel, family advocates and others are encouraged to understand the data and consider expanding efforts to reach out to children and youth who experience homelessness.

They are encouraged to understand that:

1. Child and youth homelessness in Pennsylvania is increasing throughout the Commonwealth.
2. **No explanations** are provided in the PDE reports, nor does PEC offer that insight. To the best of our knowledge, the homeless housing system has not provided a response to why there are more homeless children and youth over time.
3. In PEC's opinion, the **best use** of this data is to assist people who serve children and youth or address family homelessness to understand the trend.

About People's Emergency Center (PEC)

[People's Emergency Center \(PEC\)](#) uplifts our community by providing housing, social services, and quality of life supports that empower people and encourage more prosperous and safer neighborhoods.

For families and youth experiencing homelessness, we offer housing, social services, access to early childhood education, and educational programs in career training, parenting, financial literacy, life skills, and technology.

The PEC Community Development Corporation programs respond to community needs and build on neighborhood assets to help bridge the digital divide, expand mixed-income housing opportunities, stimulate economic growth, create wealth, and improve the quality of life for all West Philadelphia residents.

PEC advocates for urgently needed public policy changes on behalf of families and youth experiencing homelessness and the neighborhoods we serve. We have worked successfully

with local, state, and federal government agencies to advance legislation and budgets that prioritize these communities.

For additional publications from our policy department, visit pec-cares.org/policy-publications.

(Appendix follows this page)

APPENDIX

County / Region	# Homeless Students FY18	# Homeless Students FY19	% increase or decrease
Adams	341	318	-6.7%
Adams/York	19	42	121.1%
Allegheny	4,128	3,451	-16.4%
Armstrong	173	203	17.3%
Beaver	595	814	36.8%
Bedford	94	130	38.3%
Berks	2,279	2013	-11.7%
Blair	315	512	62.5%
Bradford	136	149	9.6%
Bradford/Tioga	236	129	-45.3%
Bucks	788	1,050	33.2%
Butler	268	349	30.2%
Cambria	192	239	24.5%
Cambria / Somerset	*	27	*
Cameron	*	18	*
Carbon	89	111	24.7%
Carbon / Monroe / Pike	*	20	*
Centre	181	187	3.3%
Chester	1,292	1,447	12.0%
Clarion	161	147	-8.7%
Clearfield	160	203	26.9%
Clinton	57	61	7.0%
Columbia	94	160	70.2%
Columbia/Montour	31	*	--
Columbia/Sullivan	32	25	-21.9%
Crawford	192	265	38.0%
Cumberland	388	502	29.4%
Dauphin	1,602	1,421	-11.3%
Delaware	827	1,205	45.7%
Elk	24	40	66.7%
Erie	1,187	868	-26.9%
Fayette	307	280	-8.8%
Forest	52	51	-1.9%
Franklin	332	367	10.5%
Greene	36	40	11.1%
Huntingdon	37	55	48.6%

Indiana	171	174	1.8%
Jefferson	100	106	6.0%
Juniata	43	49	14.0%
Lackawanna	383	454	18.5%
Lackawanna/Susquehanna	*	74	*
Lancaster	2,684	2,574	-4.1%
Lawrence	242	238	-1.7%
Lebanon	722	744	3.0%
Lehigh	1,396	1,278	-8.5%
Luzerne	668	919	37.6%
Lycoming	244	259	6.1%
McKean	176	217	23.3%
Mercer	244	311	27.5%
Mifflin	86	111	29.1%
Monroe	461	465	0.9%
Montgomery	984	1,413	43.6%
Montour	22	43	95.5%
Northampton	814	890	9.3%
Northumberland	161	218	35.4%
Perry	56	103	83.9%
Philadelphia	7,112	7,847	10.3%
Pike	51	81	58.8%
Potter	53	47	-11.3%
Schuylkill	358	436	21.8%
Snyder	37	42	13.5%
Somerset	129	100	-22.5%
Susquehanna	54	60	11.1%
Tioga	28	51	82.1%
Union	17	25	47.1%
Venango	158	205	29.7%
Warren	70	146	108.6%
Washington	264	322	22.0%
Wayne	50	58	16.0%
Westmoreland	409	503	23.0%
Wyoming	34	25	-26.5%
York	1,667	1,712	2.7%

*These regions reported less than 10 children identified and were not required to report a number.

Regions Identifying 101 to 500 Children Experiencing Homelessness in FY19	# Homeless Students FY18	# Homeless Students FY19
Adams	341	318
Armstrong	173	203
Bedford	94	130
Bradford	136	149
Bradford/Tioga	236	129
Butler	268	349
Cambria	192	239
Carbon	89	111
Centre	181	187
Clarion	161	147
Clearfield	160	203
Columbia	94	160
Crawford	192	265
Cumberland	388	502
Fayette	307	280
Franklin	332	367
Indiana	171	174
Jefferson	100	106
Lackawanna	383	454
Lawrence	242	238
Lycoming	244	259
McKean	176	217
Mercer	244	311
Mifflin	86	111
Monroe	461	465
Northumberland	161	218
Perry	56	103
Schuylkill	358	436
Somerset	129	100
Venango	158	205
Warren	70	146
Washington	264	322

Regions Identifying 501 to 999 Children Experiencing Homelessness in FY19	# Homeless Students FY18	# Homeless Students FY19
Beaver	595	814
Blair	315	512
Erie	1,187	868
Lebanon	722	744
Luzerne	668	919
Northampton	814	890
Westmoreland	409	503