

McKinney-Vento and Serving Young Children Experiencing Homelessness



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity



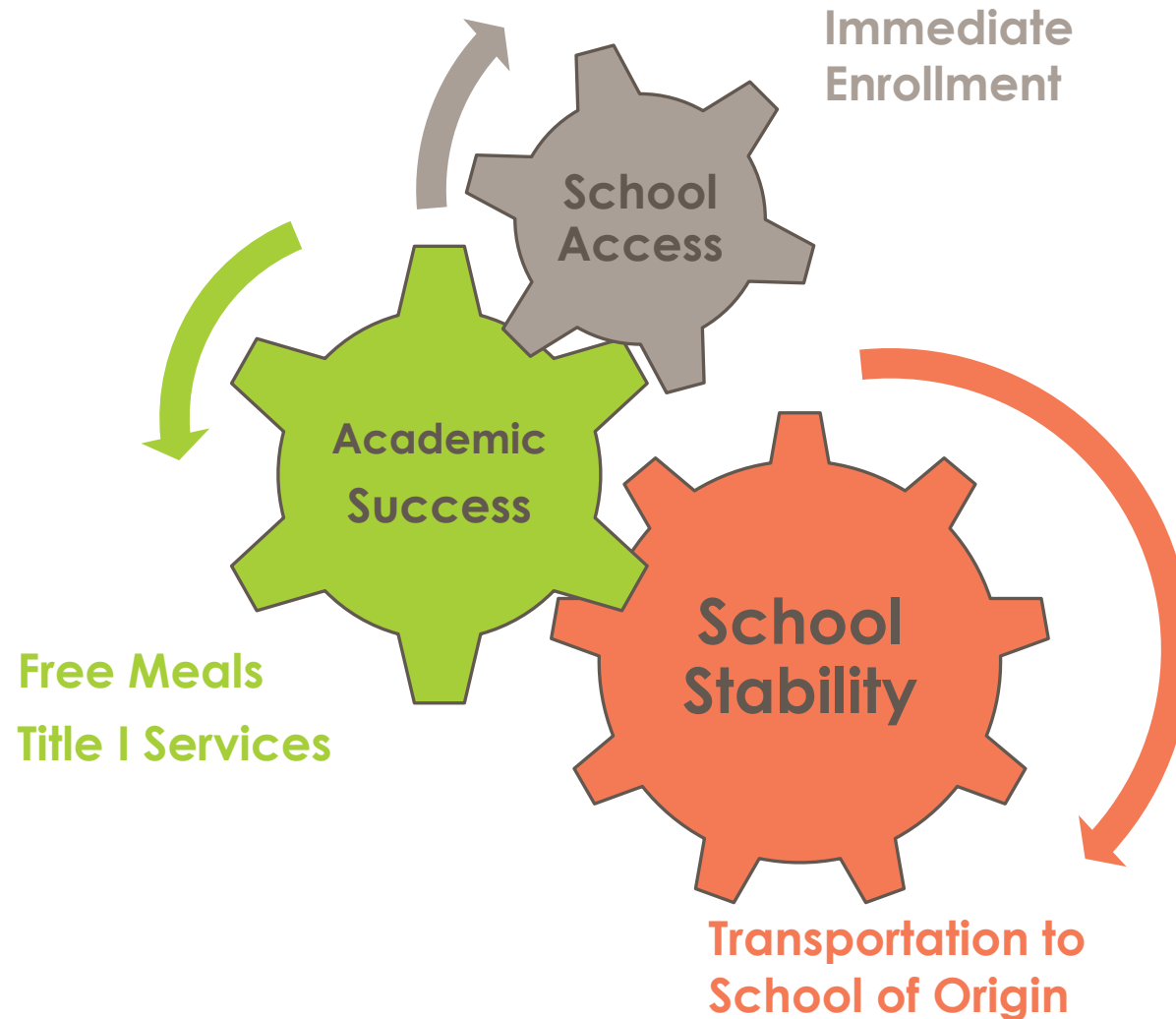
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NEW YORK STATE TECHNICAL AND EDUCATION
ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS

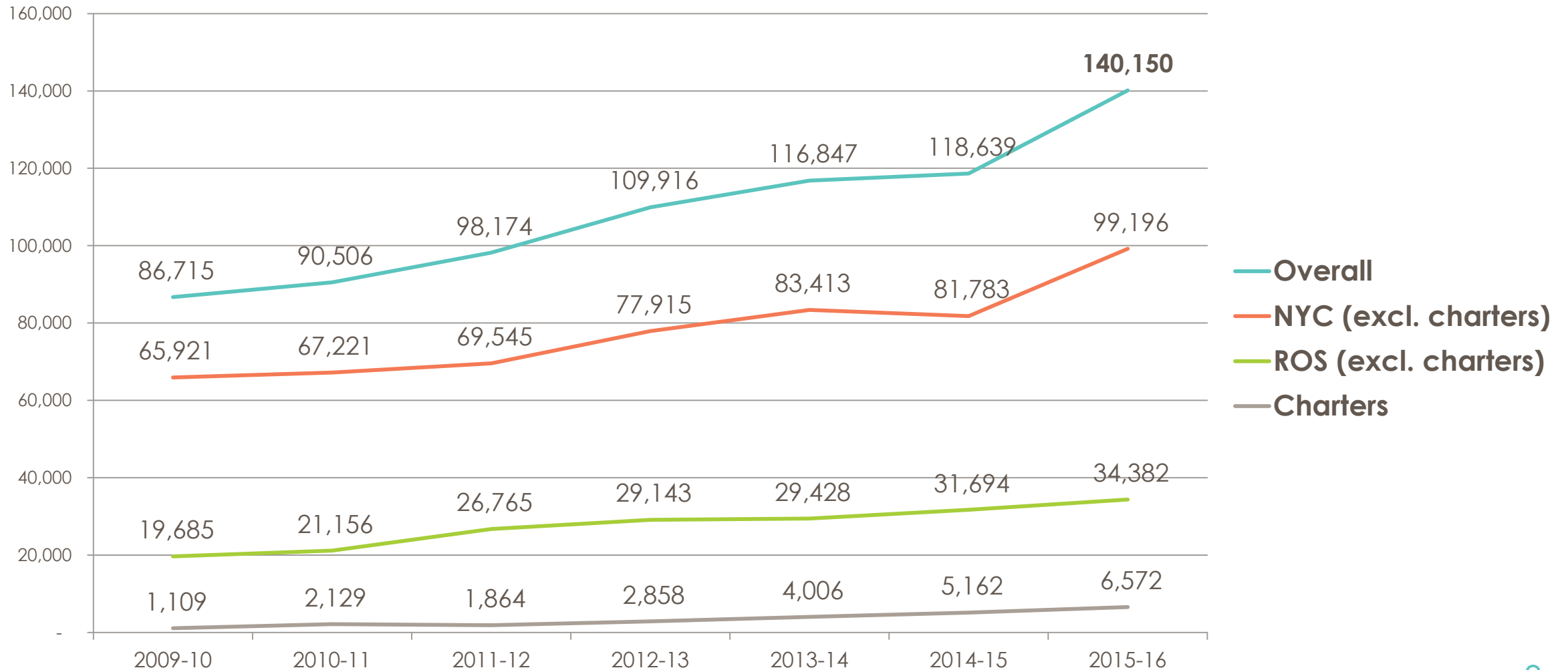
The McKinney-Vento Act

- Federal law
- Enacted in 1987
- **Reauthorized in 2015 as part of ESSA**

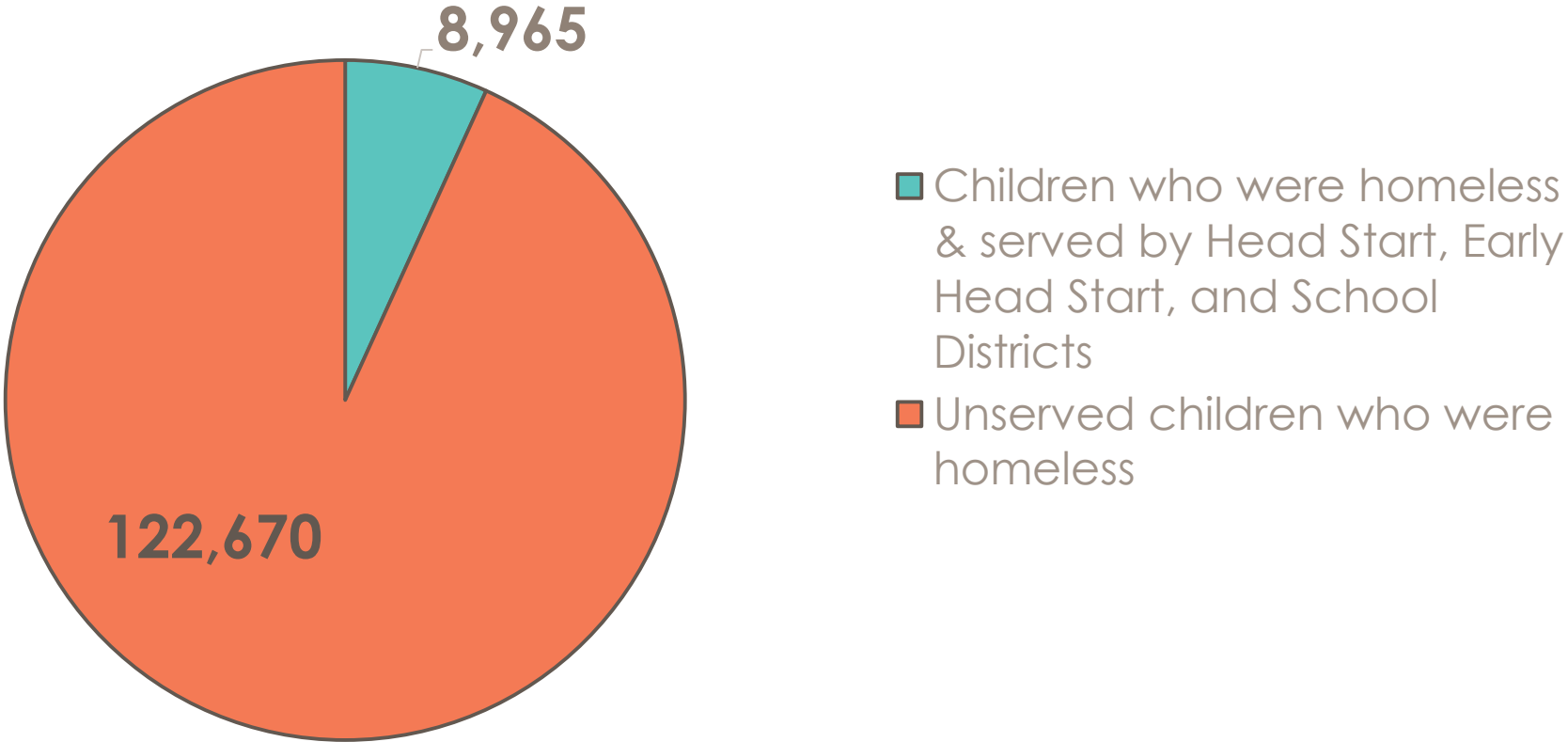
McKinney-Vento Act
NY State Education Law 3209
Commissioner's Regulation 100.2(x)



Students Experiencing Homelessness in NYS



Children who were Homeless in Early Learning Programs in NYS (2013-14)



McKinney-Vento and Young Children

- **Continued enrollment and transportation to the preschool of origin.** Under McKinney-Vento, a preschooler who is homeless can maintain enrollment and receive transportation to his/her preschool if it is a school of origin.
 - *School of origin protections*
 - *Examples of LEA-administered or funded preschools*
 - *Transportation must be provided to the school of origin, including a preschool of origin, for the duration of homelessness and through remainder of the school year in which child becomes permanently housed*
- **McKinney-Vento Liaison responsibility to connect families with ECE services.** McKinney-Vento Liaisons must ensure that young children experiencing homelessness have access to early intervention, Head Start and Early Head Start, and other public preschool programs for which they are eligible.



McKinney-Vento, Head Start, and Child Care

- Eligibility
- Priority Enrollment
- Enrollment without records
- Identification, record keeping, and reporting



Opportunities

- Provisions in new State regulations
- Expanded protections for preschoolers in McKinney-Vento
- Head Start regulations/Performance Standards allowing for setting aside seats



Challenges

- Not enough seats
- Different program eligibility requirements
- Difficulties with cross-system collaboration
- Parent engagement
- Other challenges



Possible Program/Policy Changes

- Categorical eligibility for child care for children who are homeless
- More \$ for child care
- More \$ for pre-k seats, transportation, and tuition reimbursement
- Shared statewide protocol about connecting children who are homeless with ECE programs (e.g., outreach, identification, enrollment, and data reporting)
- Training for different systems about outreach, identification, enrollment, and serving children who are homeless in ECE programs.



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