

Family and Community Engagement Meeting

October 8 2025

DESE'S EDUCATIONAL VISION (2023)



All students in Massachusetts, particularly students from historically underserved groups and communities, will have equitable opportunities to excel in all content areas across all grades.

Culturally and linguistically sustaining classroom and school practices will support students to thrive by creating affirming environments where students have a sense of belonging, engage in deeper learning, and are held to high expectations with targeted support.

- All students are known and valued
- Learning experiences are relevant, real-world, and interactive
- Individual supports enable students to excel at grade-level (or beyond)

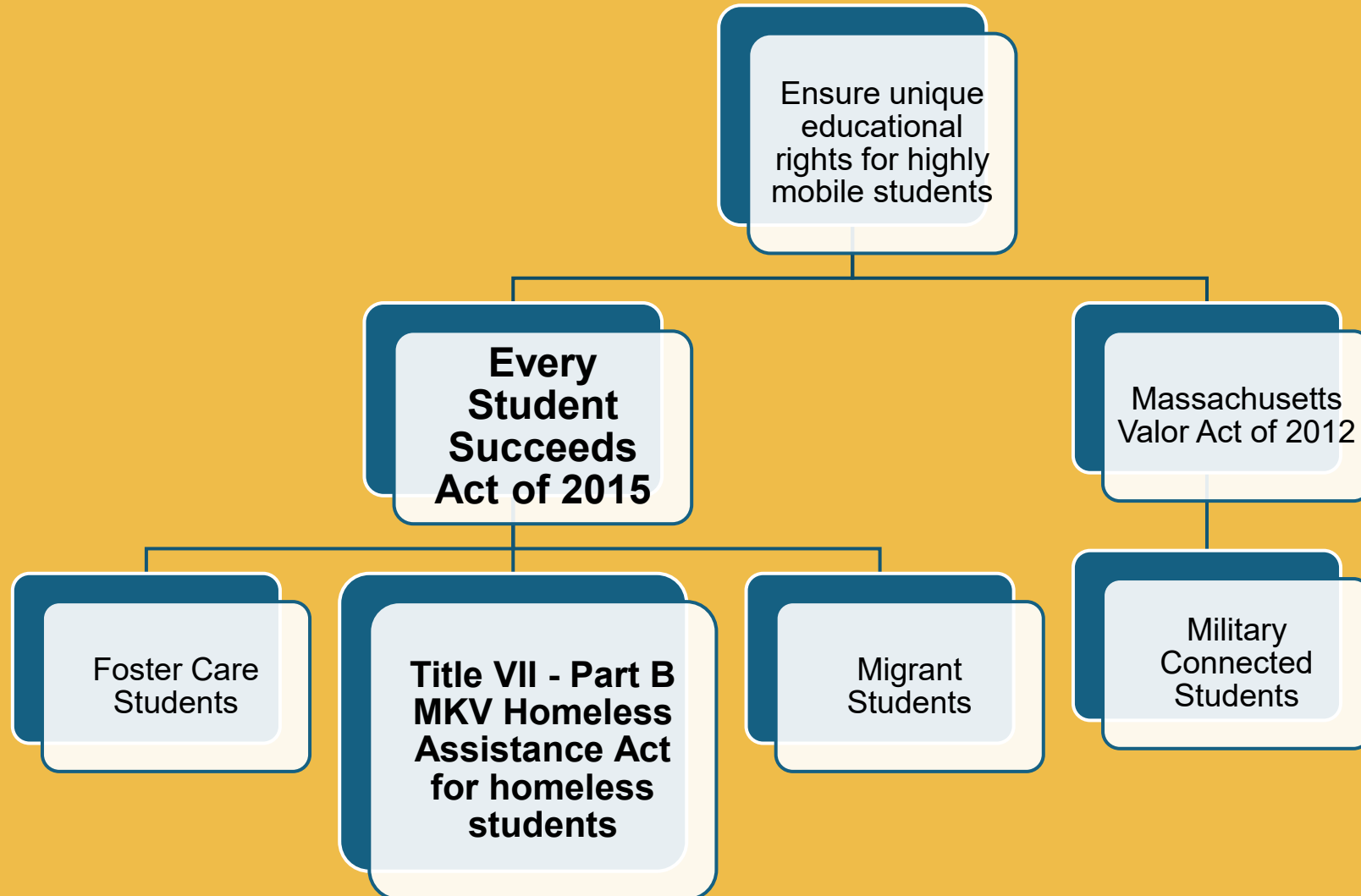
GUIDING OUR WORK FROM AN EQUITY FOCUSED LENS

Questions to ask ourselves when doing the work:

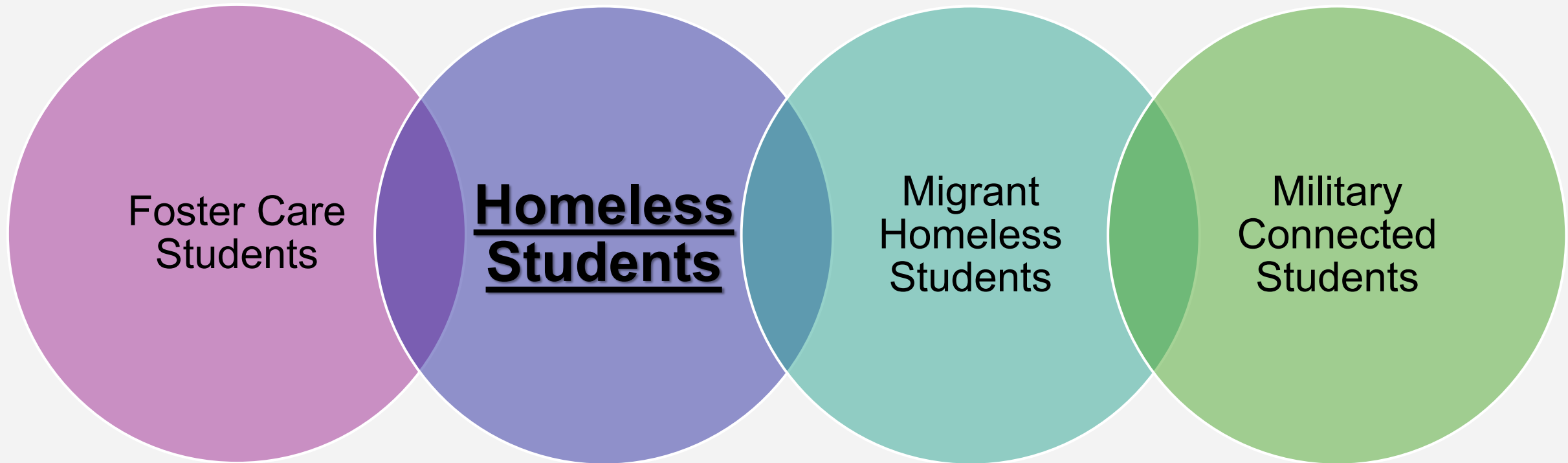
- How am I promoting diversity, equity and inclusion, particularly racial equity?
- How does my identity influence my work?
- Whose voice should be included? How will I seek multiple perspectives?
- How am I using reflective listening in my interactions with individuals?
- Who benefits from this support/work? Who is burdened?
- Who might be harmed? How might I mitigate harm?

❖ *Adapted from DESE everyday Racial Equity Decision-making Tool*

HOMELESS EDUCATION FEDERAL POLICY



HIGHLY MOBILE STUDENT GROUPS





McKINNEY- VENTO HOMELESS DEFINITION

***LACKING FIXED,
REGULAR AND
ADEQUATE HOUSING***

MASSCHUSETTS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (EA) SYSTEM as of March 2025

Time limited – 6 (six) months stay

Family with children

Centralized Operated

Income Eligibility

Immigration Status Eligibility

Pipelines to Stable Housing System

WHY DOUBLED UP?

EA SYSTEM LIMITATION

- EA system changes
- Income cap
- Safety Net

CULTURAL FACTORS

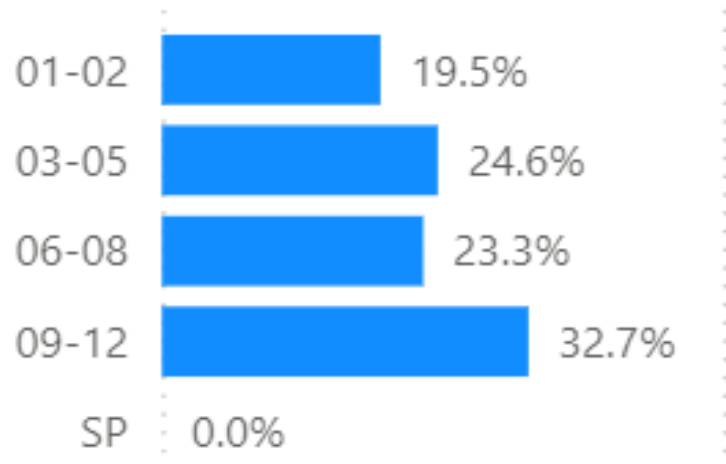
- Fear of authority/system/structure
- Fear of impact to immigration/work status
- Custom to family/community support

HUMAN FACTOR

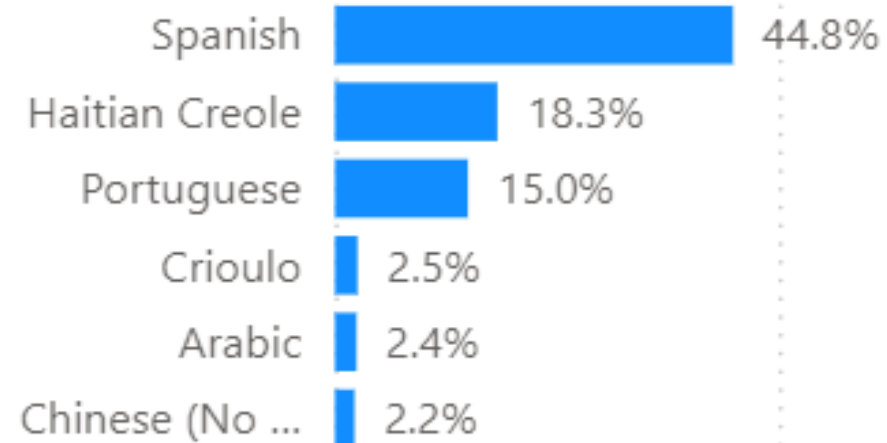
- Shame / Dignity
- Embarrassed / Pride
- Wishful thinking

NEWCOMER ELS ARE A DIVERSE GROUP.

Gradespan



First Language

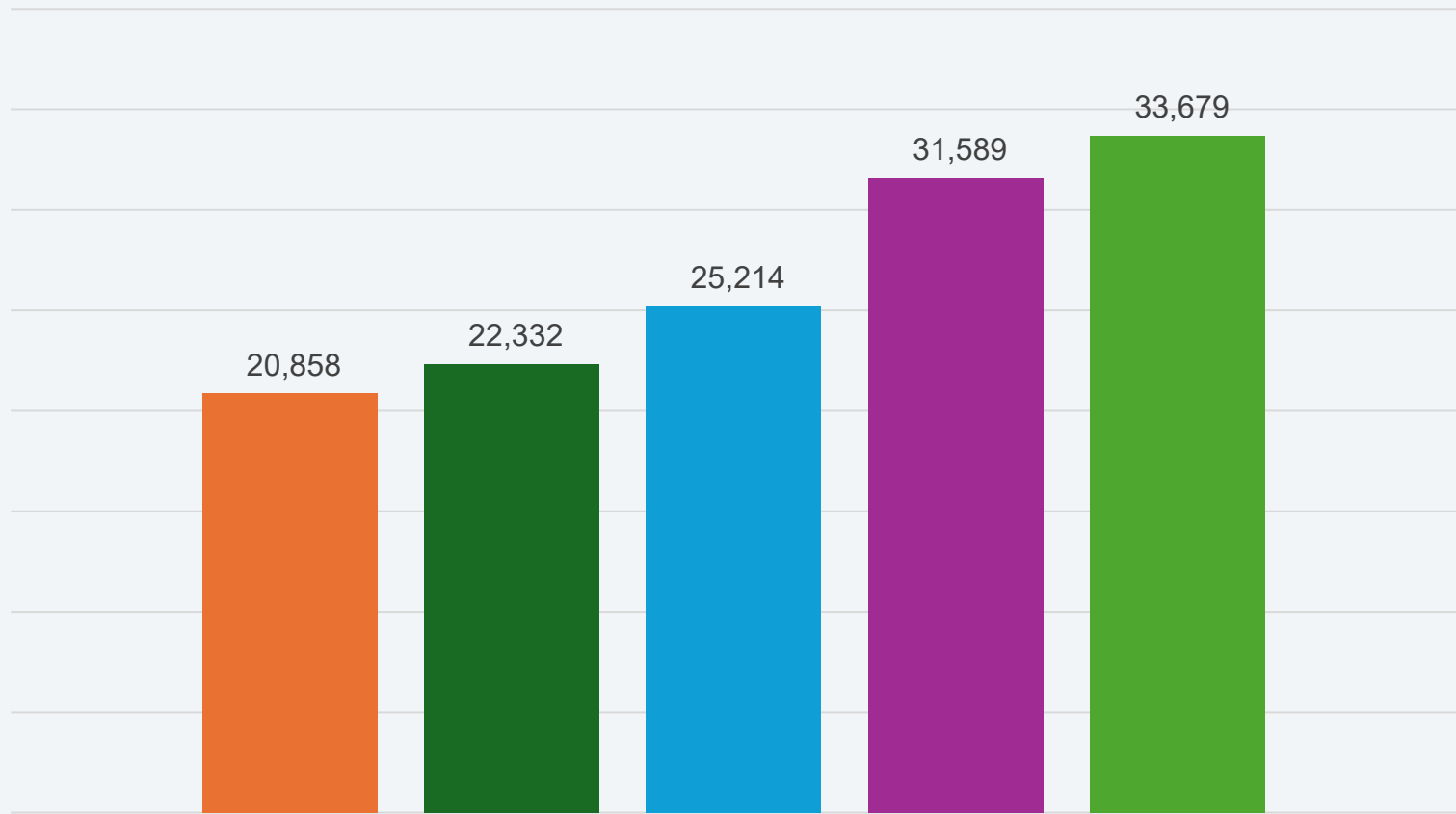


“The number of high school newcomers has nearly **tripled** since 2008.”

(Annenberg Institute, 2023)

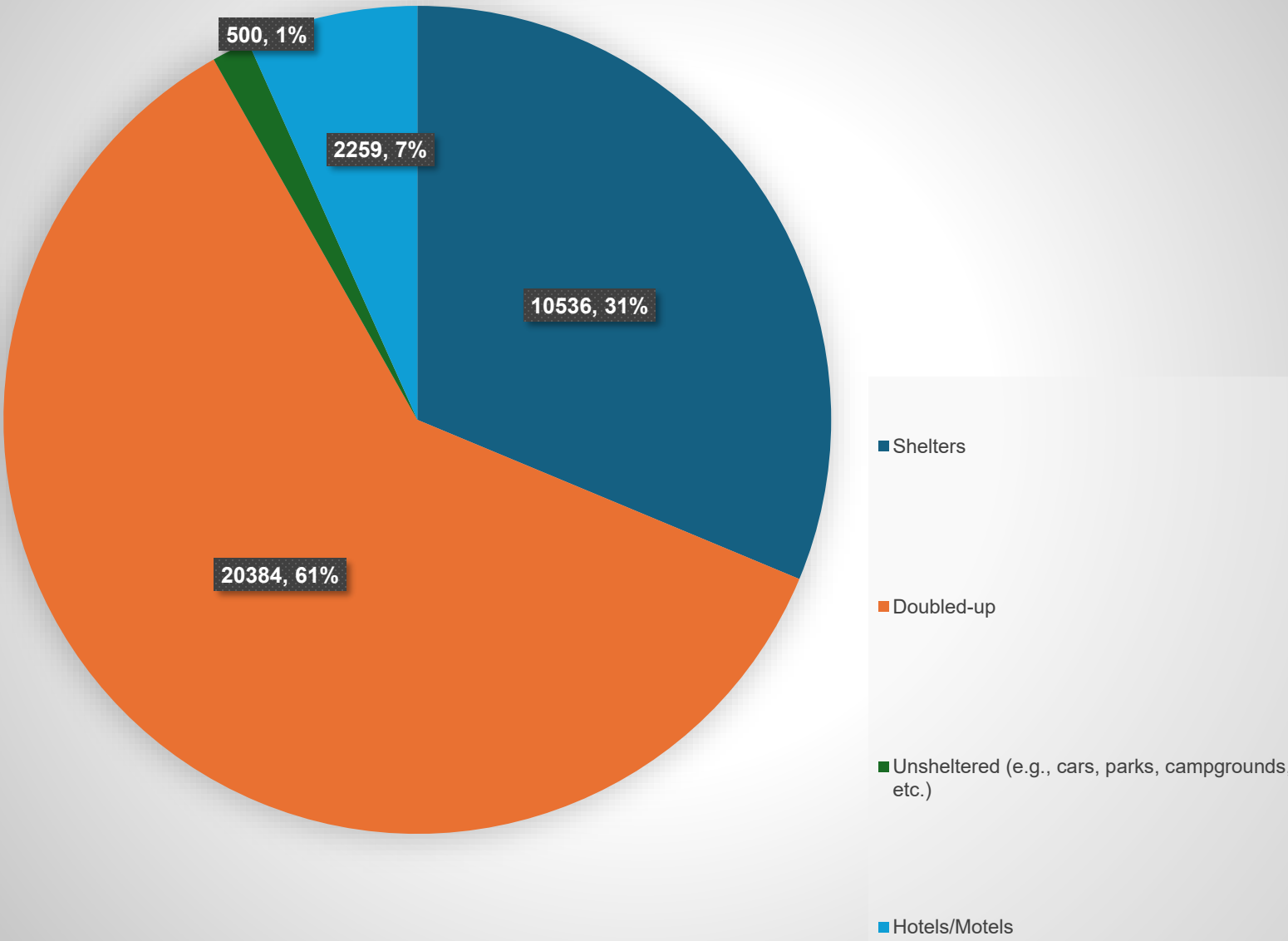


HOMELESS STUDENTS 5 YEARS DATA REPORT



2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24 2024-25

Primary Nighttime Residence SY2024-25



THANK YOU FOR ALL THE WORK
YOU ALL DO

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