

CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education

DATE: December 6, 2017

SUBJECT: Update on Students Displaced by Hurricanes

Executive Summary

Purpose

This presentation will provide updates regarding children and youth who have been displaced by hurricanes and arriving in Connecticut.

Background Information

In September 2017, Governor Dannel P. Malloy and Commissioner Dianna R. Wentzell issued guidance to school districts regarding enrollment of displaced children from Puerto Rico. The Connecticut State Department of Education has engaged in focused efforts to provide supports and technical assistance to school districts regarding the educational rights of students displaced by disasters.

As of December 1, 2017, 1,485 students have been enrolled in Connecticut schools as a result of being displaced. Approximately 64 school districts have reported one or more students. Eighteen districts have reported 10 or more students ranging from 10-291. Grade level data show the majority of students have enrolled in grades K-5 (51%), followed by 6-8 (23%) and 9-12 (23%). Forty-nine preschoolers have also been enrolled (4%). Most new arrivals have come from Puerto Rico.

Follow-up Activities

The CSDE is continuing to be responsive to the needs of districts as they work to enroll and stabilize children and youth in a new school experience. The State Board of Education's (SBE) continued engagement is important. Therefore, the CSDE will continue to provide updates to the SBE during this period of transition for districts and students.

Prepared by: _____
Charlene Russell-Tucker, Chief Operating Officer



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Update on Students Displaced By Hurricanes

December 6, 2017

Presentation Focus

- Statewide efforts
- Current Status
- Emerging News
- Continued Supports

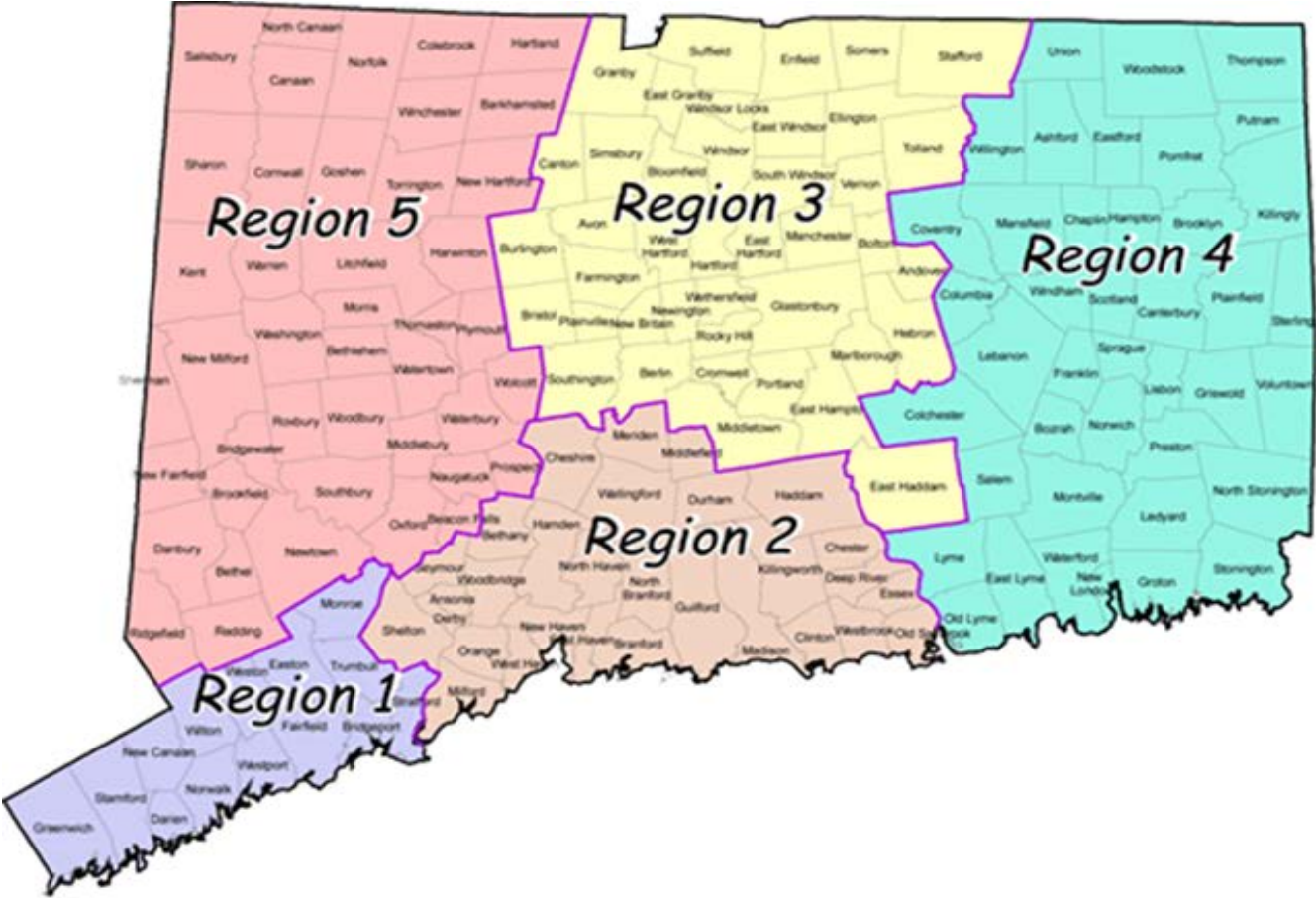


Statewide Efforts

- Governor's Unified Command
- *Hurricane Relief Evacuee Support Planning Group* convened by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
- Hurricane Relief Evacuee Support Legislative Roundtable
- Congressional Staff Briefing



Emergency Management Regions



Statewide Efforts

- FEMA Data

# of FEMA Applicants with Current Mailing Address in CT	Total # of Household Members in State	Total # of Applicants (Households) TSA Eligible in state
516	1019	351

- Case Management services are being coordinated by Salvation Army and Catholic Charities, based mostly on referrals from 211.

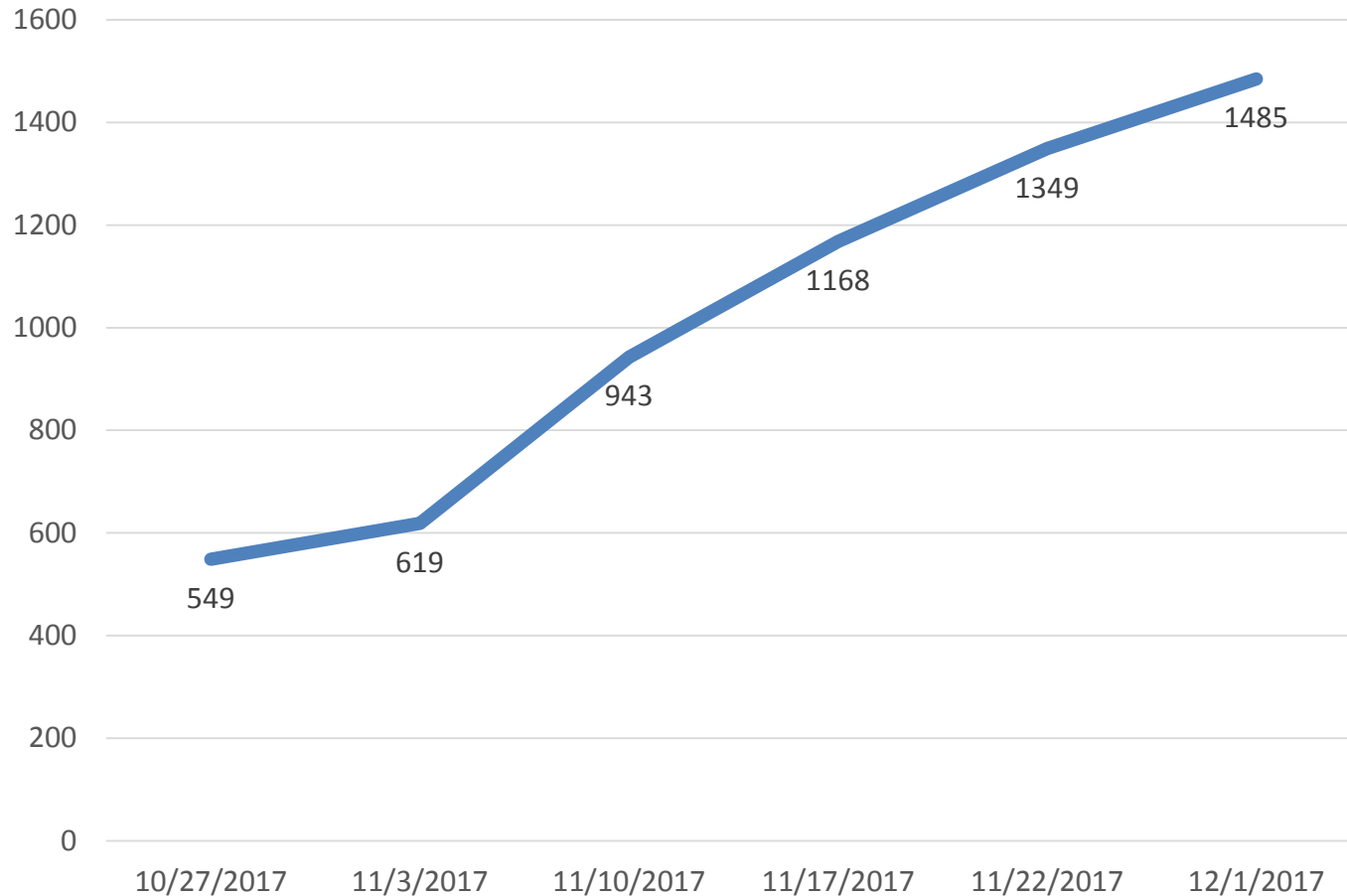


Reception/Resource Centers

- Bridgeport: 350 Fairfield Avenue
- Hartford: 15 Van Dyke Ave (Capitol Region Education Council—CREC)
- New Britain: Currently, schools are operating as resource centers for enrollees and families.
- New Haven: Junta For Progressive Action, 169 Grand Avenue
- Waterbury: 236 Grand St. 1st floor



Total Number of Students Who Have Been Displaced -- Weekly Count

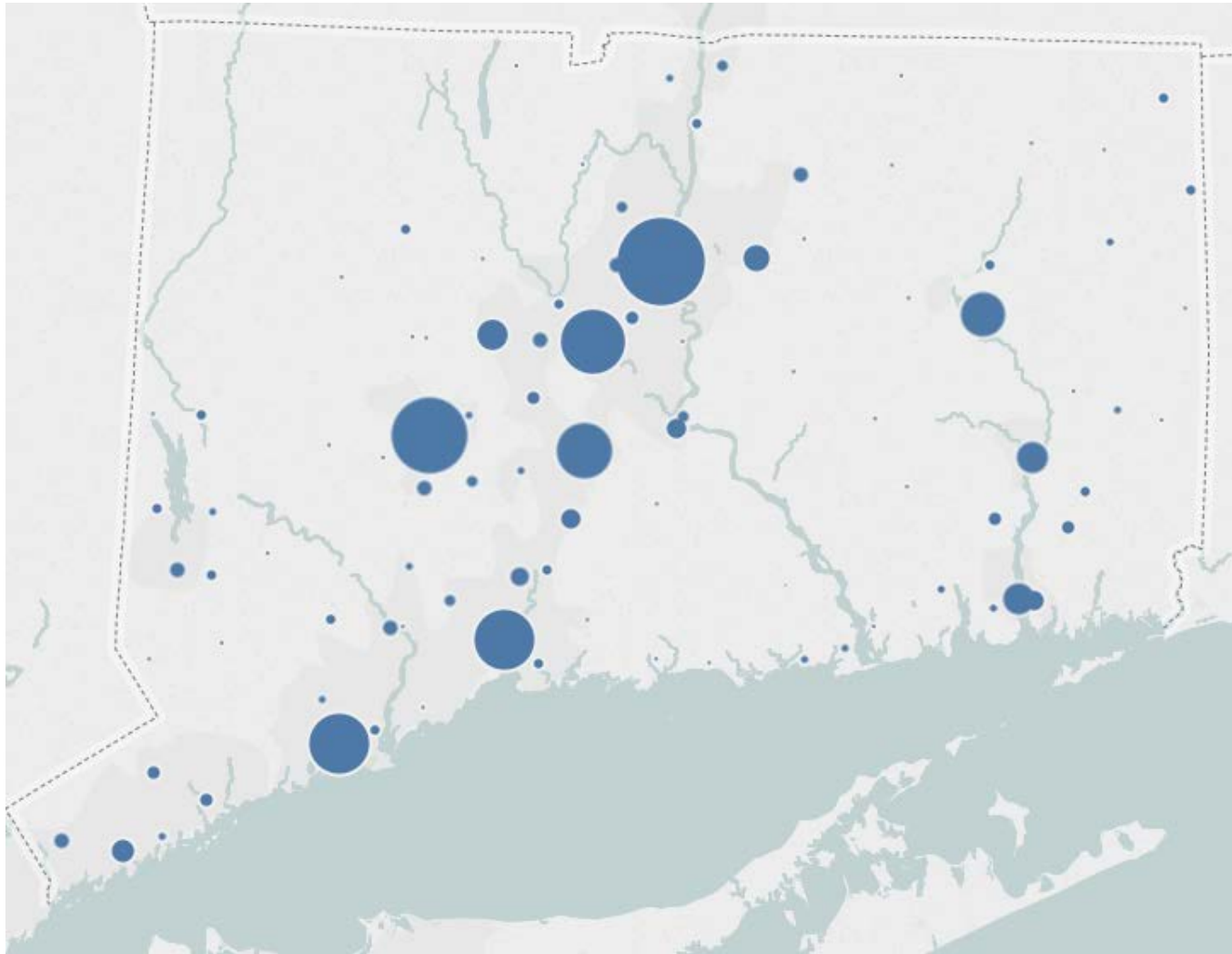


Locations of Origin of New Arrivals

- Most new arrivals have been displaced from Puerto Rico (Hurricane Maria).
- Students who have been displaced from the following locations have also been reported:
 - U.S. Virgin Islands (Hurricane Maria)
 - British Virgin Islands (Hurricane Irma)
 - St. Maarten (Hurricane Irma)
 - Florida (Hurricane Irma)
 - Texas (Hurricane Harvey)
 - Mexico (Earthquakes and Hurricane Katia)

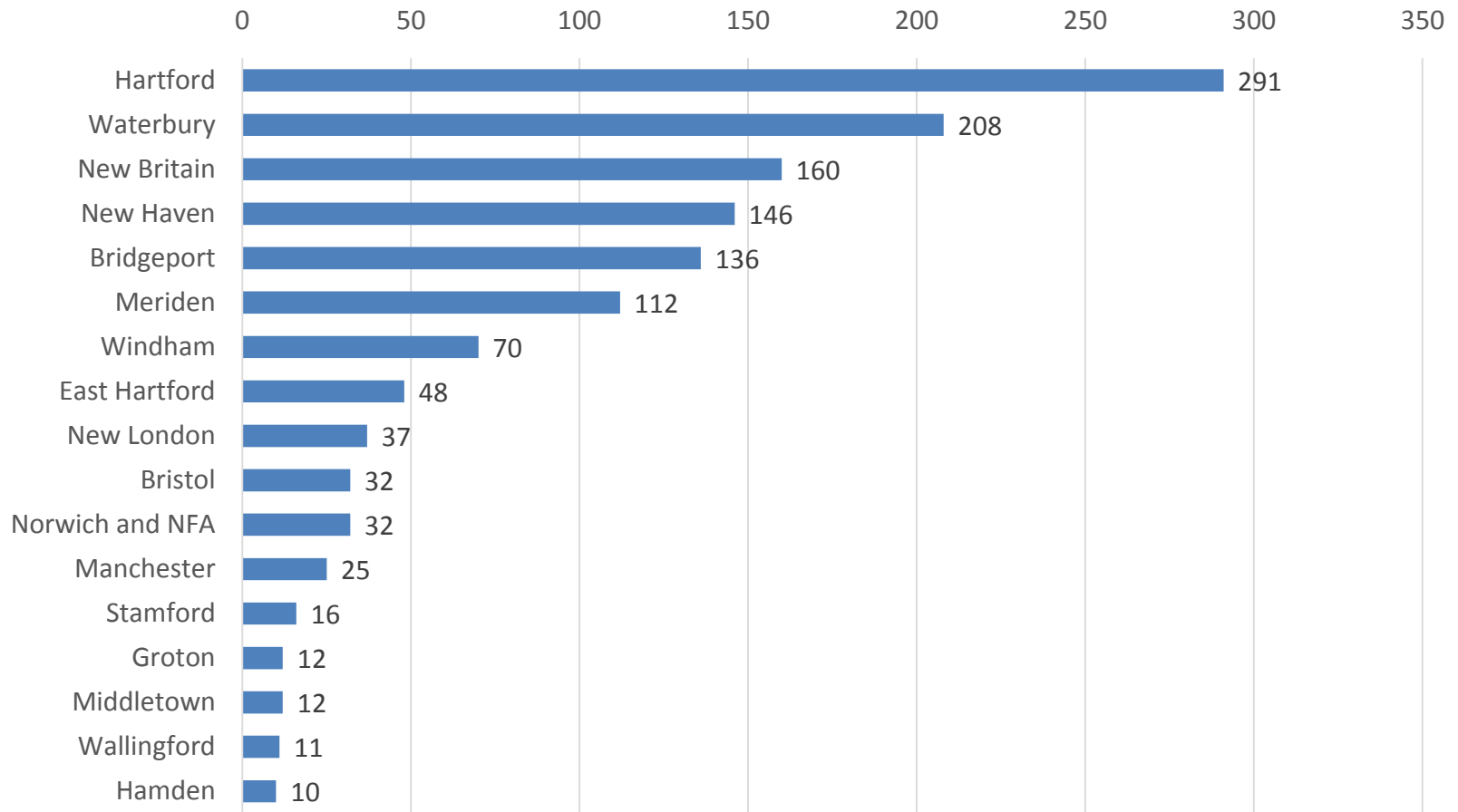


Enrollment Locations of New Arrivals



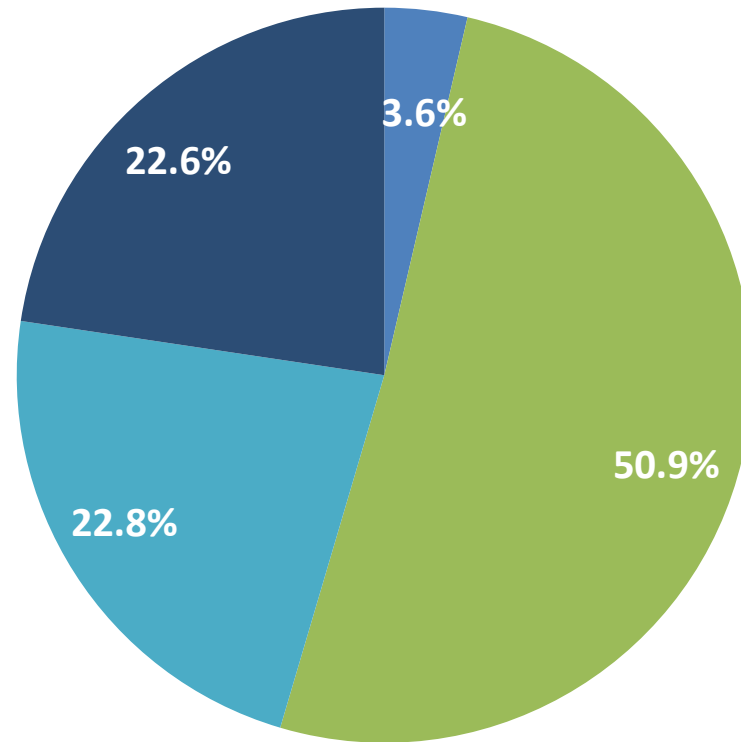
Districts Receiving 10+ Students

Number of Students as of 12/01/2017



Student Enrollment By School Level

New Arrivals By School Level



■ Pre-K ■ Elementary ■ Middle School ■ High School



Emerging News

- Federal Office of Management and Budget appropriation **request** to Congress
 - \$1.235 billion for hurricane education recovery
 - Includes funding for school districts and postsecondary institutions receiving students



Reported Challenges

- Space and capacity
- English as a Second Language certification shortage area
- Lack of academic records and placement challenges
- Identifying and accommodating students' special needs
- Lack of medical records and meeting medical needs
- Unaccompanied youth and legal guardianship
- Stress, trauma and mental health
- Material needs, e.g., school supplies and winter clothing



CSDE Continued Supports

- Commissioner's Memo
- Information packets on the educational rights and meeting the needs of students displaced by disasters
- FEMA registration and services information
- Real time support regarding the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act, health assessments, immunizations, and immediate enrollment
- Fall Meeting of Superintendents' Secretaries, Administrative Assistants and Executive Assistants
- Updates to the CT Association of Public School Superintendents
- Guidance for Educators Displaced by the 2017 Hurricanes (English and Spanish)
- Forthcoming guidance regarding grade level advancement and graduation



CSDE Resources

The following resources are available on the CSDE website:

- [A Guide for Parents Guardians and Caregivers](#)
- [McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth](#)
- [Social-Emotional and Behavioral Health](#)
- [Standby Guardian Forms for Hurricane Evacuees](#)
- [Students Living with Caregivers](#)
- [Support for Displaced Students - Health and Immunization Information](#)
- [Surrogate Parent Program - Request for a Surrogate](#)
- [Trauma-Focused Treatments Map](#)
- [Trauma-informed practices](#)
- [Una Guía para Padres, Tutores, y Encargados](#)
- [Resources for parents in English and en Español](#)

