



Data to Action:

How to Use New Searchable Data Profiles to Improve Practice and Policy for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

General Housekeeping



Webinar will last 1 hour



Audio is muted - please ask questions through Q&A



Session is being recorded



Follow-up email after the session will include the recording, powerpoint, and resources

About SchoolHouse Connection

SchoolHouse Connection works to overcome homelessness through education.

WEBSITE:

schoolhouseconnection.org

About Poverty Solutions at U-M

Poverty Solutions is a university-wide presidential initiative at the University of Michigan that partners with communities and policymakers to find new ways to prevent and alleviate poverty through action based research.

WEBSITE:

poverty.umich.edu/

Agenda

- 1 Overview and Demonstration of the Data Profiles
- 2 Broad Trends and Takeaways
- 3 How To Use the Data Profiles to Raise Awareness and Inform Practice
- 4 How to Use the Data Profiles to Educate Policymakers
- 5 Questions and Answers



Overview and Demonstration of the Data Profiles

- 2020-2021 data searchable by state, county, school district, and Congressional district
- Useful for looking at under-identification, disparate impacts of homelessness, distribution of funding
- Useful for awareness and advocacy
- Updates planned for Fall 2023 with trend data and other elements



Two Related Data Briefs

- Seen and Served: How Dedicated Federal Funding Supports the Identification of Students Experiencing Homelessness
- The Education of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness: Current Trends, Challenges, and Needs



Takeaway #1: Underidentification

- One-quarter (25%) of all school districts – 4,930 school districts – reported no students experiencing homelessness. These school districts collectively enrolled 300,599 students.
- 92% of the school districts that reported no students experiencing homelessness also received no dedicated homeless education funding.
- Rural areas enroll a disproportionate share of children and youth experiencing homelessness, but have the largest share of school districts without dedicated homeless education funding.
- Charter schools are over-represented among school districts reporting no children and youth experiencing homelessness.

Takeaway #2: Impact and Demographics of Homelessness

- The chronic absence rate of students experiencing homelessness is more than double the rate of all students, and was exacerbated by the pandemic.
- Students experiencing homelessness graduate at significantly lower rates than students who have low incomes, but stable homes.
- Students with disabilities, english learners, and students of color are over-represented among students experiencing homelessness.
- Young children experiencing homelessness have greater rates of developmental delays and chronic health problems than do other low-income children.
- Youth who experience homelessness face barriers to financial aid and college access and completion.

Takeaway #3: The Reach of Federal Funding

- More than 25 million children and youth (half of all elementary and secondary students) attended schools in districts that lacked dedicated funding for students experiencing homelessness.
- Nationally, 42% of students identified as homeless attended a school district in the 2020-2021 school year that did not receive any dedicated funding to support their needs through the McKinney-Vento Act's Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program.
- Less than one in five (19.5%) local educational agencies are served by an EHCY subgrant.

Takeaway #3: The Reach of Federal Funding, Contd.

Based on preliminary data from 48 states, this proportion has increased to 53.1% as a result of [a bipartisan amendment to the American Relief Plan Act](#) that dedicated \$800 million to the identification and support of children and youth experiencing homelessness. This means many schools that have never received specific support to respond to student homelessness are now able to do so, as long as this funding lasts.

Takeaway #4: Impact of the Pandemic

During the pandemic and the recovery, students experiencing homelessness have become disconnected from schools and the supports that they provide.

- Public schools identified and enrolled nearly 1.1 million students experiencing homelessness, Prek-12, a 14% decrease from the previous year, a rate four times higher than the 3% decrease in enrollment seen among all students.
- Compared to the 2018-2019 school year (pre-pandemic), the decrease in the number of identified and enrolled students experiencing homelessness was 21%.
- The number of 3-5 year olds experiencing homelessness enrolled in public school decreased even more substantially, by almost 40%.

Takeaway #4: Impact of the Pandemic, Contd.



The chronic absence rate rose from 27.3 % in SY 2019-2020 to 41.9% in SY 2020-2021.



Unaccompanied homeless youth (UHY) FAFSA determinations declined by almost 10% from the prior year (2019-2020).



The number of youth who requested FAFSA homeless determinations but did not receive them by the end of the application cycle increased by 23% from the prior year (2019-2020), and by 34% from 2018-2019.

Using the Data Profiles to Inform Practice



Child and Youth Homelessness in the United States: Data Profiles

Using the Data Profiles to Educate Policymakers

- Use the Congressional district tab to provide information to U.S. Representatives
 - Note: you might need to also use the school district tab, depending on how much of a school district falls within a certain Congressional district
- Use the State tab to provide information to U.S. Senators and statewide agencies
- Use the county and school district tab to educate local policymakers and stakeholders



UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

(We Can Help!)

[Join SHC's Advocacy Network](#)



[Act by March 17th](#) to ask your U.S Representative to sign on to the FY24 Dear Colleague Letter (Davis, Bacon, and Panetta)



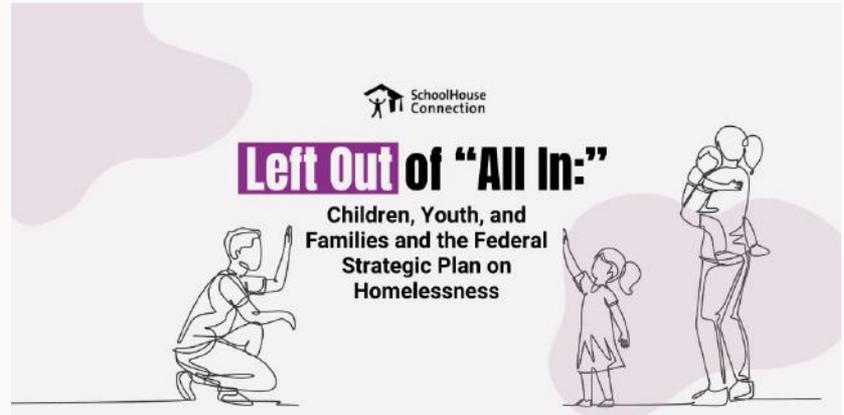
Ask for EHCY/RHYA funding to be included in members' priority letters (Programmatic requests)



Invite your Congressional representatives to visit your site or a community partner during April recess

Two New Federal Policy Analyses

- The Pitfalls of HUD's Point-in-Time Count for Children, Youth, and Families
- Left Out of "All In:" Children, Youth, and Families and the Federal Strategic Plan on Homelessness



Questions & Discussion

Contact Information

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