Homelessness, School Mobility, & Educational Well Being in a Large Urban Public School System

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Sponsored by the Interagency School Readiness Consortium & Institute of Educational Sciences
Limitations

Convenience Samples
Self Report
Cross Sectional
Studied in isolation

Difficult to Research

Build capacities for longitudinal, population-based study
Kids Integrated Data System (KIDS)

Fully integrated public data system designed to identify risk & protective factors to improve public polices & services

Integrates records across ALL public agencies serving children and youth (0-21) [School District, Child Health & Welfare, & Homeless Shelters]
### Third Grade Cohort

**Policy Relevant Cohort** - 1st use of State NCLB Benchmark

**Percentage of Students with Poor Outcomes**

- **Homelessness:**
  - City-wide coordinated shelter database with daily documented shelter stays

- **School Mobility:**
  - Intra-district moves, non-normative

**Cohort of 12,000**

- **Gender**
  - Male: 51%
  - Female: 49%

- **Race**
  - White: 15%
  - African-Am: 66%
  - Latino: 15%
  - Asian/other: 4%

- **Poverty**
  - Cohort of 12,000: 70%

**Severe Truancy** (25+ unexcused absences)

- 7%

**Percentage of Students with Poor Outcomes**

- Below Reading Proficiency: 58%
- Below Mathematics Proficiency: 34%
- Truancy (8+ unexcused absences): 11%
Homelessness Prevalence

Homeless Experience

Percentage of Students

National

Overall

No TANF

TANF

White

Latino

Af-Am

0%

2%

4%

6%

8%

10%

12%

14%
Multiple Logistic Regression Models

Demographics
- Poverty
- Homelessness
- School Mobility

POOR Academic Outcomes

POOR Behavioral Outcomes

Odds Ratios = Increased odds of poor outcomes uniquely associated with Homelessness or School Mobility controlling for all other variables in model.
# Homelessness, Mobility, and 3rd-Grade Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Below Proficiency on State Standardized Test</th>
<th>Truancy (25+ days)</th>
<th>Academic Disengagement</th>
<th>Suspension</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Math</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>1.30**</td>
<td>1.42**</td>
<td>1.63**</td>
<td>1.61**</td>
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*Controlled:* Age, Gender and Race/Ethnicity

* p < .01  ** p < .001
## Patterns of Homelessness & School Mobility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not Homeless</th>
<th>Homeless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Mobile</td>
<td>52.5%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
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# Patterns and 3\textsuperscript{rd}-Grade Outcomes

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<td>1.50**</td>
<td>2.39**</td>
<td>1.43**</td>
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<td>Homelessness</td>
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<td>1.41**</td>
<td>1.90**</td>
<td>1.79**</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Mobility</td>
<td>1.28**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeless+Mobile</td>
<td>1.57**</td>
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### Patterns and 3rd-Grade Outcomes

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Next Steps: More Advanced Analysis

• Characteristics of homelessness and mobility (e.g., age at first experience and frequency)
Age at First Homeless Experience

95% were homeless before first grade
Next Steps: More Advanced Analysis

• Characteristics of homelessness and mobility (e.g., age at first experience and frequency)
• Homelessness & mobility in the context of multiple risks
Monitored Risks

- Low Birth Weight or Preterm Birth (Vital Statistics)
- Child Maltreatment (DHS)
- Lead Exposure (Health Dept.)
- Teen Mother (Health Dept.)
- Inadequate Prenatal Care (Vital Statistics)
- Low Maternal Education (Health Dept.)

KIDS Integrated Risks:
Co-Occurrence with Multiple Risks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>Not Homeless or Mobile</th>
<th>Only Mobile</th>
<th>Only Homeless</th>
<th>Both Homeless and Mobile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate Prenatal Care</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preterm/Low Birth Weight</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Lead Exposure</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Mother</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Maternal Education</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Maltreatment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>37</td>
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**TIMING OF RISKS**
Next Steps: More Advanced Analysis

• Characteristics of homelessness and mobility (e.g., age at first experience and frequency)
• Homelessness & mobility in the context of multiple risks
• School- and Neighborhood-level characteristics in relations to homelessness and mobility
Homelessness Rates by School

Average = 9%
Next Steps: More Advanced Analysis

- Characteristics of homelessness and mobility (e.g., age at first experience and frequency)
- Homelessness & mobility in the context of multiple risks
- Effects of homelessness and mobility at the school and neighborhood levels
- More school mobility data points (3 times a year)
- Residential mobility
- Growth trajectories across 1st, 2nd, & 3rd
Improve School District’s Capacity

• Add family characteristics data to what is routinely collected

• Develop & validate MOVE data codes to indicate the nature of each School or Residential move
Research to Improve Public Policies & Services

Thank You!

- Homeless Characteristics
- Family & School Characteristics
- Multiple Risk Context
- Homeless & Mobility Patterns