



Messaging Toolkit

Students Experiencing Homelessness in Washington's K–12 Public Schools Trends, Characteristics, and Academic Outcomes: 2015 – 2022

Thank you for increasing awareness about student homelessness in our state and advocating for effective programs like the Homeless Student Stability program (HSSP) and the Washington Youth and Families Fund (WYFF) by sharing about **solutions that offer hope!**

Liking and sharing Building Changes' social media posts to your network is helpful – you can follow us here:

- [X/Twitter](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

We'll be using the following hashtags, and encourage you to use the same in your posts:

- #youthhomelessness
- #endyouthhomelessness
- #stuenthomelessness

Example Post or Email Content:


- For young people that don't know where they are going to sleep at night, focusing on studying and homework is nearly impossible. That is the reality for so many WA students. Student homelessness is a crisis in our state – learn what you can do to help: bit.ly/wa-k12outcomes
- We must come together to ensure that no students' promise of a quality education is overshadowed by their housing status. Only through our collective commitment can we end student homelessness – here's how you can help: bit.ly/wa-k12outcomes #stuenthomelessness
- Please join me in support of effective programs that combat student & family homelessness. The Homeless Student Stability Program and Washington Youth and Families Fund provide tailored support services to stem the homelessness crisis. bit.ly/wa-k12outcomes #youthhomelessness

Infographics:

Please feel free to use the following infographics to help spread the word. **How to use:** Right-click on the images and 'save as Picture'. You can then retrieve the image from your 'Pictures' folder and send to your networks.



This academic gap demonstrates how **housing insecurity** may be a contributing factor to the well-documented racial education gap.



“Only through **our collective commitment** can we end student homelessness. This is not a choice, but a moral imperative for the future of our young people, our families, and our communities.”

—DANIEL NARVÁEZ ZAVALA, BUILDING CHANGES






MATH

Unhoused students continue to lag academically behind their housed peers.

Only **14% of students experiencing homelessness** were proficient in Math compared to **40% of housed students.**




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ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Unhoused students continue to lag academically behind their housed peers.

Only **24% of students experiencing homelessness** were proficient in English Language Arts (ELA) compared to **53% of housed students.**



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