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Family Language Contexts of Migrant Children

TITLE OF RESEARCH: Family Contexts of Migrant Children: Language and Other Socioeconomic Inequalities

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SUMMARY: This study looked how common it is for newcomer children to live in households where no person 14 years or older uses English and/or French regularly at home (linguistic isolation). It sheds light on factors affecting the probability of children living in linguistically isolated families and how this impacts children's use of French and/or English in the home.

LINK: Click here to read the executive summary



school education

Children whose census-reference parents entered as government sponsored refugees have the highest probability of living in linguistically isolated families

Recommendations:

- Increase funding for EAL programming and for more Education Assistants (EAs) with additional language abilities in schools to better assist children in learning English and/or French.
- Language-learning programs for adults need to be more accessible in terms of transportation assistance and childcare.
- While learning English and/or French, immigrant children should also be encouraged to maintain their home language to facilitate inter-generational connections and family cohesion.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the researchers and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Child and Youth Refugee Research Coalition.

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