



Upstream Cymru

a school-based screening tool to identify risk of homelessness amongst young people and families

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- Origins in The Geelong Project, Australia
- Being replicated in Canada, the US, Wales, Belgium, England and Scotland
- The model:
 - Collaboration of schools and services
 - Universal population screening – young people's voices
 - Collaborative decision-making
 - Provision of flexible youth- and family-centred support

The screening tool

- Conducted in secondary schools (ages 11 – 18)
- Contains modules on wellbeing, education engagement, resilience, homelessness (youth & family)
- Example question indicating risk of youth homelessness
 - During the past year, did you ever sleep away from your parents or guardians because you were kicked out, ran away or didn't feel safe to stay?
- Data available immediately to schools

Support types



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Family mediation

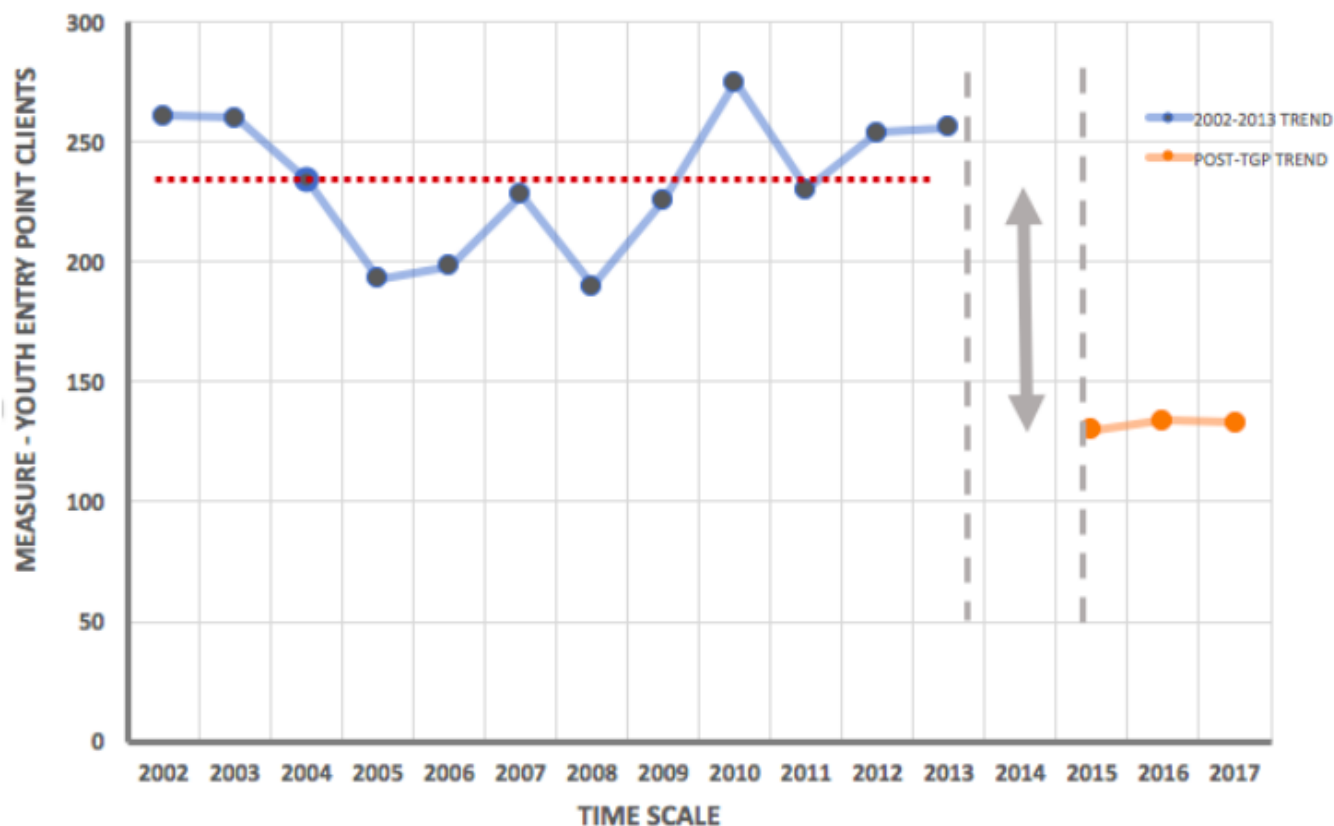
- Support a child's relationship with family
- Developing skills to manage conflict, emotional literacy and relationships
- Equipping young people and their family to resolve future conflict



Youth engagement

- Exploring barriers to engagement from the young person's perspective

The Geelong Project outcomes



40% reduction in
entries into
homelessness services

20% reduction in
early school leaving

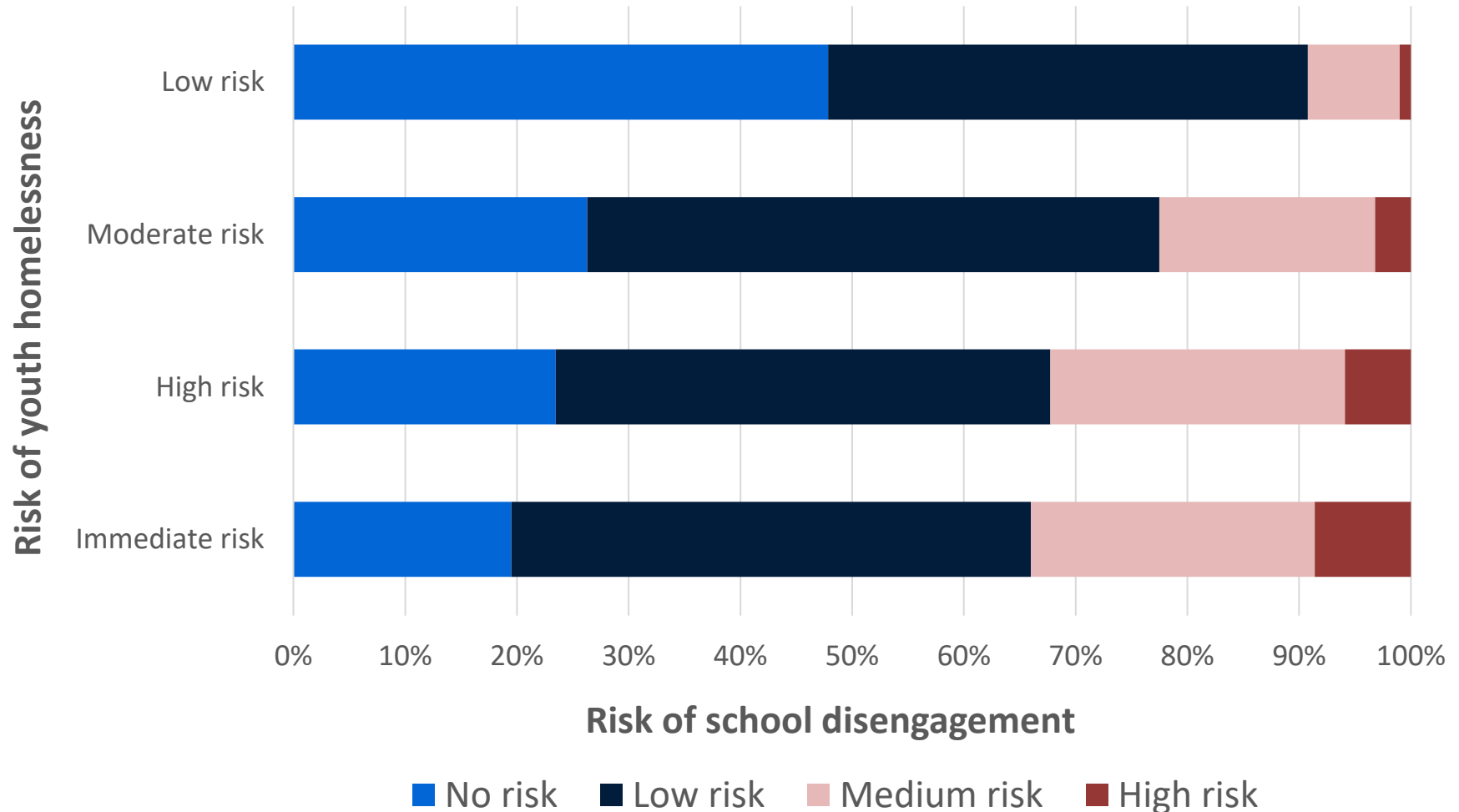
Key findings from the pupil survey in Wales

- Analysis of approximately 4,700 surveys conducted between September 2020 and October 2023
- Pupils are asked 4 questions about home that may indicate risk of youth homelessness. These produce a composite risk measure:
 - 5% immediate risk
 - 9% high risk
 - 10% moderate risk
 - 76% low risk

Are these young people already known to be at risk?

Risk of youth homelessness by risk of school disengagement

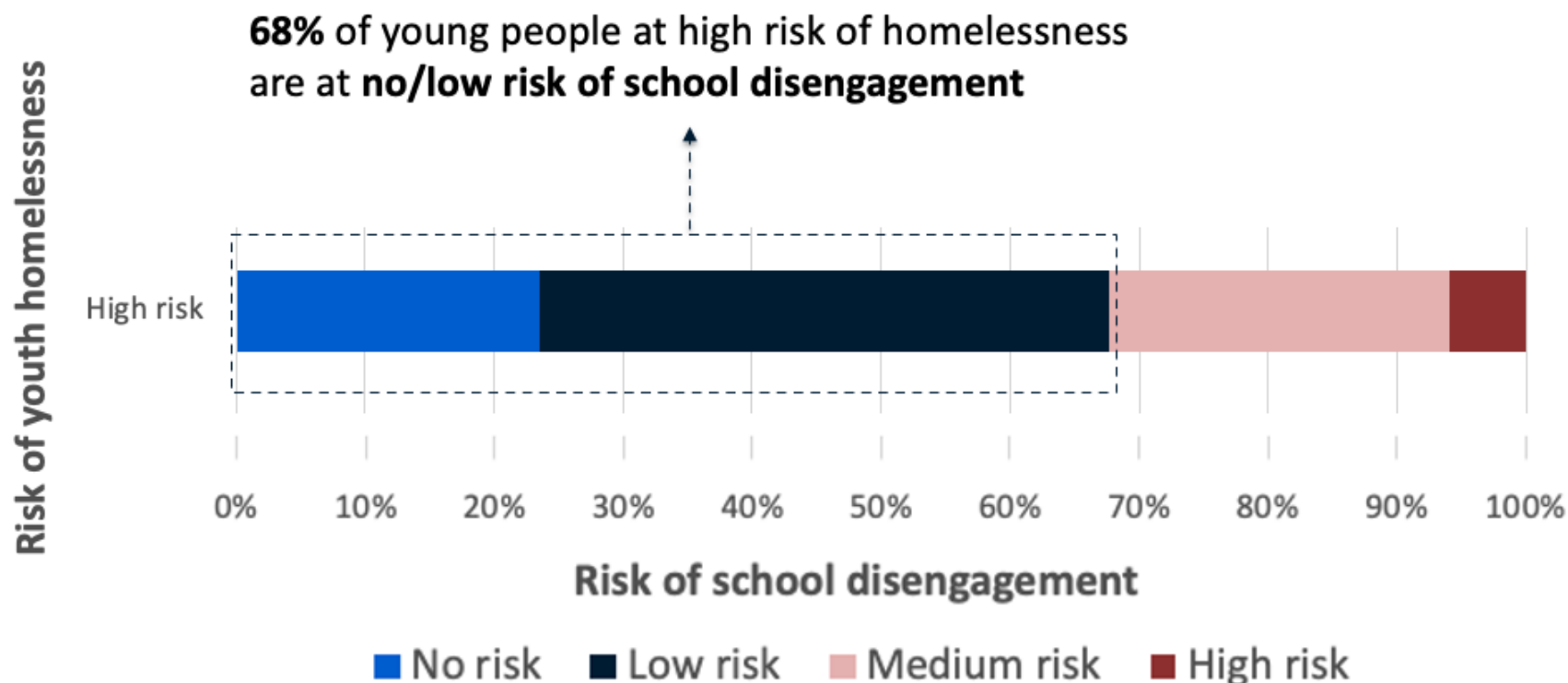
(n=4,721)



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