Indicator
Rate of homeless students per 1,000.

Description
This metric includes homeless children aged 3-5 through grade 12, as well as ungraded youth (enrolled in classes with no grade-designations, but are of school age). "Homeless" means that the students "lack a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence," (dpi.wi.gov) which may include living in temporary housing, public spaces, cars, or other locations not regularly used as sleeping facilities.

Importance
Homelessness is an extreme stressor for a child or youth. Homeless children are more likely to repeat a grade or fail out of school, and to have experienced additional stressors such as physical or sexual abuse, or neglect (Edidin, 2012). These children are among the most marginalized with the greatest need for services (Rohde, 2001).

Limitations
This metric only includes homeless youth who attend school, which is likely an underestimation of the total number of homeless youth.

Source