

Kentucky should...



promote family housing stability by making common sense changes to the eviction process

More than four in ten (44%) Kentucky renters are struggling to afford rent and maintain safe housing, putting them at higher risk of **eviction**. **Families with children** are three times more likely to be evicted than other households, and **Black children** are disproportionately impacted.

Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Policy Solution:

Seal filings that do not result in an eviction and prohibit minors from being named on eviction filings.

An **eviction record** is created as soon as a landlord files a claim for eviction with the court. Even if the case is dismissed or doesn't result in an eviction, the tenant has a permanent mark on their housing record which can be viewed by any prospective landlord when applying for housing for years to come.

- In Kentucky, there are on average 134 eviction filings per day
- Up to 45% of filings in Kentucky between 2018-2022 did not result in an eviction judgement. Nearly three out of four eviction filings in Jefferson County were dismissed in 2022. Yet, those households still have an eviction record that creates barriers to future housing opportunities.

Impact on Kids

- Sometimes minors are listed on eviction filings, causing irreversible damage to their housing record before they are even old enough to sign a lease.
- Children in households facing eviction experience challenges to their educational attainment, including increased absences from school.
- Evictions put kids at risk of negative health outcomes and toxic stress associated with Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Lifelong Impact

Families with an eviction record, even if the case was dismissed or did not result in a judgement, experience lifelong barriers to securing stable housing. Because landlords often turn away applicants with an eviction on their housing record – even if it was dismissed – families regularly experience prolonged homelessness, housing instability or unsafe housing.

Eviction and housing loss increase the likelihood of job loss and is associated with decreased earnings.