Factors Associated with Poverty Among Refugees in the United States

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Citation Details
Naseh, Mitra; Potocky, Miriam; Burke, Shanna L.; Stuart, Paul H.; and Huffman, Fatma, "Factors Associated with Poverty Among Refugees in the United States" (2021). *School of Social Work Faculty Publications and Presentations*. 521.
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Factors Associated with Poverty Among Refugees in the United States
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1. Introduction
   • Poverty is a challenge that has a formative impact (Habib et al., 2014; Tanumihardjo et al., 2007)
   • Worldwide, refugees are one of the most at-risk groups to experience poverty (Jacobsen, 2005; Potocky & Naseh, 2019)

2. Objectives
   • Examine the association between selected risk factors based on Ager and Strang’s (2008) refugee integration framework and poverty (income and multidimensional poverty) among refugee
   • Ager and Strang’s (2008) refugee integration framework
   • Monetary and capability approaches to poverty (Sen, 1988; 1999)

3. Conceptual Framework
   - Legend: Outcome indicator
   - Predictor indicator
   - Figure 1: Conceptual model
     - Income Poverty
     - Multidimensional Poverty
     - Employment
     - Education
     - Health
     - Housing
   - Source: Adapted from Ager and Strang (2008)

4. Operational Definitions
   • Income poverty: (binary: poor, not poor), calculated based on a comparison between household income and federal poverty lines

5. Results
   - Table 2: Characteristics of the surveyed households
     - Table 1: Multidimensional poverty index
     - Table 2. Characteristics of the surveyed households
     - Characteristics | Subgroups | % (# of households)
       --- | --- | ---
       Income poverty | Poor | 24% (354)
       Multidimensional Poverty | Poor | 70% (1,048)
       English language proficiency | All members could speak English well or very well | 38% (569)
       Cohort of arrival in US | 2011 to 2012 | 36.5% (547)
          | 2013 to 2014 | 43.6% (654)
          | 2015 | 19.9% (299)
       Application for permanent residency | Yes | 70% (1,048)

   - Table 3. Results of the bivariate cross-tabulation analyses
     - Table 4. Multivariate logistic regression models
       - Dependent variable: Chi-square, p value, Cramer’s V
       - Independent variable: Income poverty, Multidimensional poverty

6. Conclusions
   - Poverty rates were concerning & lack of English language proficiency was the best predictor of poverty
   - Investment on English language learning