



Evidence in Action

A K20 Center Research Brief

The Long-Term Consequences of Early School Absences for Educational Attainment and Labour Market Outcomes

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Introduction

This intervention brief explores the research article titled "The Long-Term Consequences of Early School Absences for Educational Attainment and Labour Market Outcomes" by Jascha Dräger, Markus Klein, and Edward Sosu, published in 2024. The study investigates the impact of early school absences on students' long-term educational and labor market outcomes. The authors highlight the growing concern over absenteeism in early education and its potential to hinder academic achievement and future employment prospects. The research aims to provide evidence on the significance of addressing absenteeism to improve educational and economic outcomes.

Methodology

Research Design:

The study employs a longitudinal research design, tracking students' attendance records from early schooling through their educational and labor market achievements.

Sample:

The sample consists of a large cohort of students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, ensuring a comprehensive analysis of the impact of absenteeism across different demographics.

Data Analysis:

The authors use advanced statistical techniques to analyze the data, controlling for various confounding factors to isolate the effect of early school absences on long-term outcomes.

Results

The study finds that early school absences have a significant negative impact on both educational attainment and labor market outcomes. Students with higher absenteeism rates in early schooling are less likely to complete a higher education program and secure stable, well-paying jobs. The results underscore the importance of early intervention to address absenteeism, as it can have lasting effects on students' academic and economic futures.



Application into Practice

To replicate this intervention in a school context, the following steps are recommended:

1. **Early Identification:** Implement a system to monitor and identify students with high absenteeism rates in early grades.
2. **Parental Engagement:** Engage parents and guardians in addressing the root causes of absenteeism, providing support and resources as needed.
3. **Support Programs:** Develop and implement support programs tailored to the needs of frequently absent students, such as tutoring, counseling, and mentorship.
4. **Regular Monitoring:** Continuously monitor attendance patterns and the effectiveness of interventions, making adjustments as necessary to ensure positive outcomes.

Work Cited

Dräger, J., Klein, M., & Sosu, E. (2024). The long-term consequences of early school absences for educational attainment and labour market outcomes. *British Educational Research Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/berj.3992>