



GÖTEBORGS
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MANAGING HOMELESSNESS

MAPPING AND ANALYZING THE LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT OF
HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS IN SWEDEN

Feantsa reserach conference
Seminar 6
Service Delivery Design and Advocacy
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Ongoing PhD project

- The aim of the PhD Project is to study the organisation of housing services for the homeless in Sweden.
- The in-depth research questions focus on the organisation of local housing services for the homeless, the range, actors and methods that are used in Sweden's 290 municipalities.



Four sub-studies (three published, one ongoing)

Wirehag, M. (2021). Gatekeeping, managing homelessness and administrating housing for the poor: The three functions of local housing services for the homeless in Sweden. *European journal of Homelessness* 15(1), 83-105.

Wirehag M., Andersson L., Hjern A., Ascher H. (2020) Living situation among undocumented migrants in Sweden: the effects of exclusion from fundamental housing rights , *international journal of social welfare* - (accepted sept 13, forthcoming)

Wirehag, M. (2019). Counting and mapping local homeless service systems in Sweden. *European Journal of Homelessness*, 13(1), 159–180.

Wirehag, M & Mellberg, J (forthcoming) The growth, range and mix of actors in local homeless housing services in Sweden.



Results from previous studies

- The organization of housing services for persons living in homelessness is expanding- in urban as well as rural municipalities.
- 33250 persons live in homelessness according to official statistics. Large group of hidden homelessness, for instance undocumented migrants missing in official statistics.
- Most of the documented persons live in homelessness, live in temporary housing provided by the social services.
- The type of services provided by the social services is more similar to housing administration than social work.



Forthcoming study –The growth, range and mix of actors in local homeless housing services in Sweden (2021) forthcoming.

- The aim with this ongoing sub-study is to study the actors involved in providing housing services for persons living in homelessness.
- The expanded aim of the study is to explore how the number of actors and the distribution of private, NGOs and municipal actors is related to the level of homelessness and the threshold to the ordinary housing market at a municipal level across Sweden.



The data

- Secondary data from several sources. Statistics Sweden (SCB), National board of housing, building and planning (Boverket), The national board of health and welfare (Socialstyrelsen).
- The data regarding the actors involved in providing housing spans over 10 years (2010-2019).
- Only actors directly involved, land lords and subleasing the apartments to the service providers/actors not included.
- Threshold to the ordinary housing market -number of rental apartments in each municipality in relation to population- the levels of homelessness us based on the number for persons receiving housing due to homelessness form the social services



Method

- Regression analysis looking at the relation between the mix of actors and the number of actors and the threshold to the ordinary housing market as well as the number of persons receiving housing due to homelessness from the social services
- Comparing four types of municipalities -large cities, commuting municipalities, small cities and rural municipalities.



Analysis and preliminary results

- Preliminary results show that the number of private actors involved in providing have increased during the period 2010-2019 in Sweden.
- There is a positive relation between the availability of rental housing and the number of actors involved in providing housing to the social services.