

EXPLORING POLICY SURVEILLANCE

Part 3 — Local Policy Surveillance: Challenges and Opportunities

March 12, 2019, 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. ET

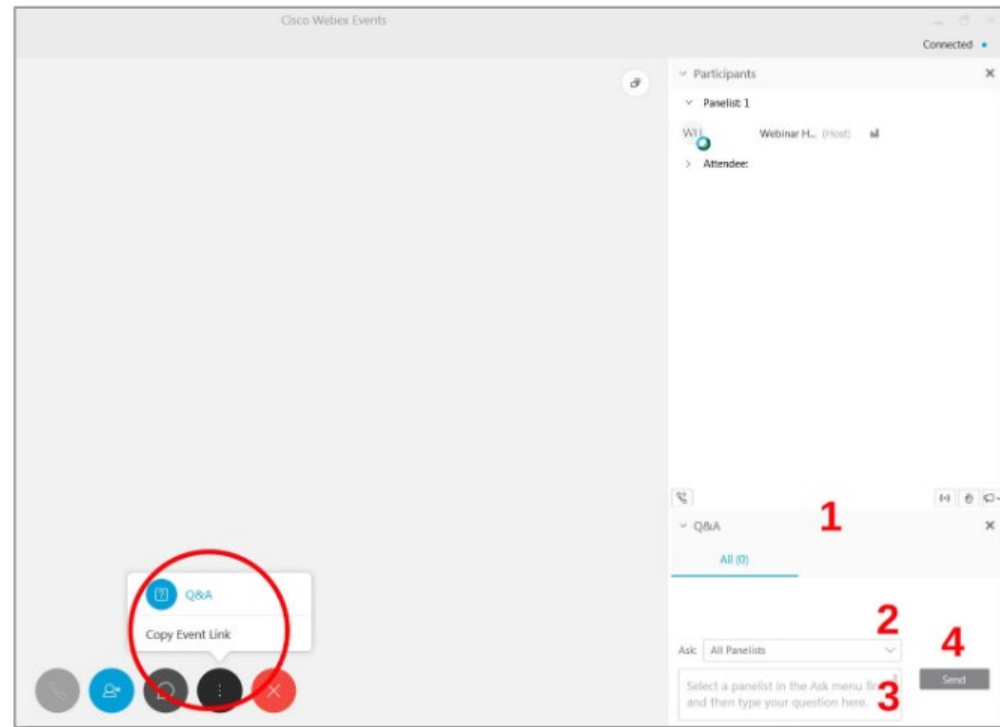
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THE **POLICY**
SURVEILLANCE
PROGRAM

A LawAtlas Project

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March 12, 2019

Local Legal Epi Project Team - Acknowledgements

- Public Health Law Program
 - Tara Ramanathan, Brianne Yassine
- Change Lab Solutions
 - Rebecca Johnson, Katie Michel
- Policy Surveillance Program
 - Andrew Campbell, Lindsay Cloud, Scott Burris

Local Legal Epidemiology and Policy Surveillance – Why?

- LE and PS can build staff capacity and competency.
- LE and PS can be used to help define a policy role of HD in a community.
- Datasets can be used to evaluate policies of interest.
- Datasets can be used to communicate with and convene leadership and partners.
- Datasets can be used to create new, or amend existing, policies.

Local Legal Epi Project – Why?

- Use of law and policy to address public health poorly understood
 - Decision-makers often lack a holistic understanding of public health law evidence
 - Few STLTs study the impact of laws and policies to know what works
- STLTs face challenges to understanding law and policy
 - Constantly evolving environment
 - No comprehensive databases (particular for TLTs)
 - Limited access to legal support
- Can legal epi and policy surveillance...
 - ...help HDs address these issues?
 - ...be integrated into HD operations?

Local Legal Epi Project – What and When?

Two Years:

- The Locals Project – 2016
 - A pilot project of 9 local jurisdictions to learn about and use public health law research tools on topics of importance
- The STLTs Project - 2018
 - A pilot project of 6 STLT jurisdictions to identify and fill public health law research gaps on topics of importance

Local Legal Epi Project – What?

The Locals Project – 2016

- Recruit LPHDs – 9 jurisdictions participated
- Topic selection – a somewhat controlled process
 - Tobacco Control
 - Air Toxics/Pollution Enforcement
 - E-Cigarette Control
 - Isolation and Quarantine
 - Recreational Marijuana
 - Equitable Access to Food
 - Complete Streets
 - Communicable Disease Reporting
 - Food Operations Licensure

Local Legal Epi Project – What?

The Locals Project – 2016

- Scope the legal datasets
- Draft coding questions
- Conduct legal research
- Code legal text
- Perform quality control and publish

Local Legal Epi Project – What did we learn?

The Locals Project – 2016 – Policy surveillance:

- LHD willing and able to learn methods;
- Requires dedicated staff resources, schedules/deadlines can be tough to keep;
- Learning to perform takes significant time and resources;
- Benefits from a transdisciplinary team of lawyers and non-lawyers;
- LHD interest and feasibility should drive topic selection;
- Accessing local laws for PS is challenging.

Local Legal Epi Project – What?

The STLT Project – 2018

- Recruit LHDs – 6 jurisdictions participated (with 2 withdrawing)
- Trained in PS and legal epi
- Select and scope topics;
 - Local-level law/policy incentives to improve access to health foods
 - Local inclusionary zoning policies
 - Local eviction protection provisions
 - Tobacco-Free Schools and Asthma Friendly Schools
- Collected and analyzed laws;
- Coded the laws and perform quality control;
- Drafted research protocol and a report; and
- Published the data to LawAtlas.org.

Local Legal Epi Project – What did we learn?

The STLT Project – 2018 - Legal epi and Policy surveillance:

- Projects are complex, take time, and deadlines are tough to meet;
- Teams need legal research skills;
- Selecting a topic is challenging, but critical to the success of the project;
- Seen as valuable to HDs;
- Building capacity for legal epi is clearly feasible.

Local Legal Epi Project – What did we learn?

The STLT Project – 2018

- Finding time to do the work is challenging.
- LE and PS provide a new way to look at policy and evaluation.
- Deliverables are useful for communicating upward and outward.

Local Legal Epi Project – What did we learn?

The STLT Project – 2018

- Helps define space for PH to work in the policy area.
- “Champions” for the work within the HD are important.
- Building LE and PS infrastructure into HD is essential for work to continue.
- HDs see that this work can connect to policy change in a very effective way.

Local Legal Epidemiology Project – Success!!

- **LHDs want to do legal epi.**
- **LHDs can do legal epi.**
- **Legal epi is transdisciplinary, with non-lawyer HD professionals able to do the work.**
- **We're starting to learn what HDs need to do it better.**



City Policy Surveillance: Eviction Law as a Case Study

MEGAN E. HATCH, PH.D.

CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH LAW RESEARCH FELLOW

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

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Previous Research

Dissertation on state landlord-tenant laws

Data: State statutes

Methodology

- Located and coded statutes
- Constructed legislative history
 - Enactment vs. adoption dates
 - Amendments

Previous Research

Very time consuming

No built-in quality control or redundancy checks

Data not in a user-friendly format

- Especially after several years
- Inefficient pattern identification

Not publicly available

Previous Research

Subject	Citation	Text	Creating Statute	Date	Amendments	Date Amendments	Notes
definitions	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 1	(A) "Tenant" means	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	140 v S 244 (Eff 3-20-84);		
inret, atny	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 2	(A) Subject to sectic	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
possession	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 3	(A) Notwithstanding	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	145 v H 438. Eff 10-12-94;		
student rental agreements	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 3.1	A college or universi	145 v H 438. Eff 10-12-94	10/12/1994			
wh	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 4	(A) A landlord who is	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974			143 v S 2
access, atny	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 4	(A) A landlord who is	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974			Original nc
duties of tenant	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 5	(A) A tenant who is	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	143 v S 258. Eff 8-22-90		
sex offender	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 5.1	(A) (1) No tenant of	150 v S 5, § 1, eff. 7-31-03	7/31/2003	152 v S 10, § 1, eff. 7-1-07.		
terms allowed in lease	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 6	A landlord and a ten	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
rwith, remedies for landlord failures	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 7	(A) If a landlord fails	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974			143 v S 25
procedure for above remedy	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 8	(A) Whenever a tena	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	136 v H 49. Eff 9-1-75		
procedure for above remedy	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 9	(A) A landlord who r	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	143 v S 258. Eff 8-22-90		
procedure for above remedy	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 10	(A) If a landlord bring	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
landlord remedy for tenant noncomply	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 11	If the tenant fails to	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	143 v S 258. Eff 8-22-90		
damages for breach of contract	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 12	In any action under	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
terms prohibited in lease	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 13	(A) No provision of t	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	143 v S 258. Eff 8-22-90		
courts determine lease enforcemt	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 14	(A) If the court as a	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
util, atny	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 15	(A) No landlord of re	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
sdint, sdwr, sddmg, sdret	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 16	(A) Any security dep	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
not	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 17	(A) Except as provid	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	143 v S 258. Eff 8-22-90		
written address info	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 18	(A) Every written ren	135 v S 103. Eff 11-4-74	11/4/1974			
supremacy of this section	Title 53, Chapter 5321, Section 19	No municipal corpor	135 v S 103 (Eff 11-4-74)	11/4/1974	143 v S 258 (Eff 8-22-90); 144 v I		
ndc	§ 4112.02	It shall be an unlz	144 v H 321	6/30/1992			128 v 12

THE

POLICY

SURVEILLANCE

PROGRAM

A LawAtlas Project

The Solution

CPHLR and The Policy Surveillance Program

How I Got Here

Twitter

- Nuisance database

Conversations with CPHLR staff

Inaugural CPHLR Research Fellow

Summer funding from the Levin Women's Fund

The Project: Why Evictions?

More than 898,000 families each year are evicted

- New data on rates across cities and states

Long-lasting effects

- Housing: Availability, quality, living arrangements
- Health: Mental, physical, adults, children
- Jobs
- Children

We don't know

- Scope and variety of policies
- What works to reduce unnecessary evictions

The Project

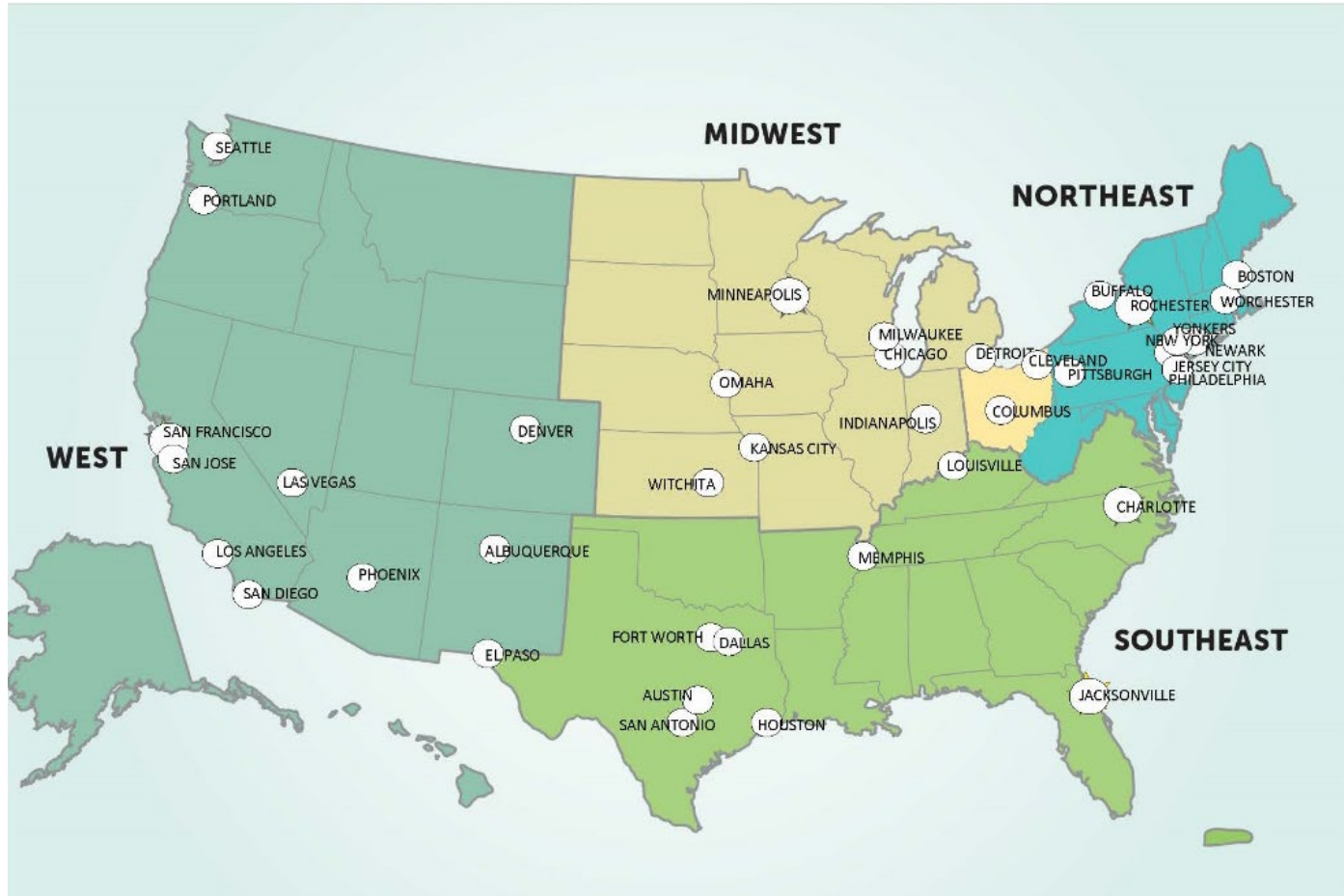
Eviction laws in 40 of the largest U.S. cities

- Spread across the four Census regions

What we wanted to know

- What cities legislate
- How laws vary
- How laws influence the time and cost of eviction

Sample Cities



The Project

Partnership with CPHLR

- Me, CPHLR lawyers and project managers
- Cleveland State University research assistant
- CPHLR interns

Iterative process

SPRING 2018

Initial conversations
with CPHLR.

May 2018

Began partnership.

June 2018

Project scoping.

July-Aug 2018

Finalize questions. Preliminary coding.

September 2018 – Current

Redundancy coding. Codebook development.

**November 2018 –
Current**

Paper development.

Project Timeline

Example Question

✓ | 3 For what causes can a landlord evict a tenant? ✕ ↻ ↺ ↻

reset

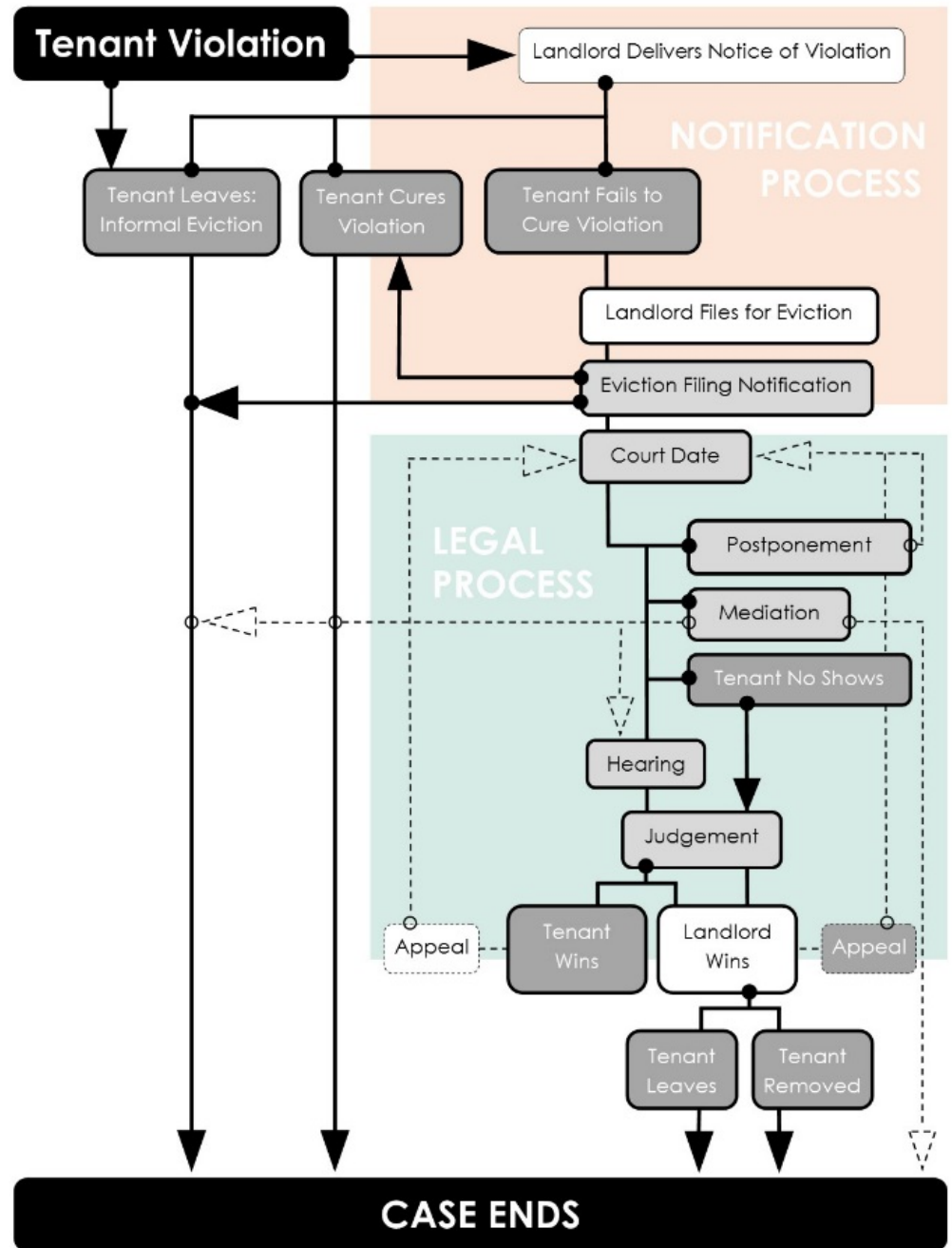
- Nonpayment of rent
- Criminal activity
- Renovations to bring building in compliance with code
- Material and irreparable breach of lease
- Material breach of lease
- Remaining on the property after expiration of the lease
- Statutory tenant obligations
- None
- Other

Citations (Drag citation tags in the source text and drop onto question title)

Caution Flag

Yes No

Conceptual Framework



Challenges

Question selection

- There is so much to catalog!
- What is interesting and important variation

Data complexity

- Which government regulates what

Coordination

- Teams in two cities
- Technology

Challenges

Timeline synchronization

- Academic vs. policy timelines
- Interns/research assistants were temporary

Database expansion

- Limited geographic scope
- Not longitudinal

Overcoming Challenges

Question selection

- Two heads are better than one
- Combination of legal and subject-matter policy expertise
- Decision rules

Data complexity

- Learning opportunity
- Hybrid approach

Coordination

- Frequent phone calls
- Policy surveillance training
- Technology
- Patience

Overcoming Challenges

Timeline synchronization

- Extending intern/research assistant contracts
- Reality of different actors/goals

Database expansion

- Next steps

What I've Learned

Value of policy surveillance

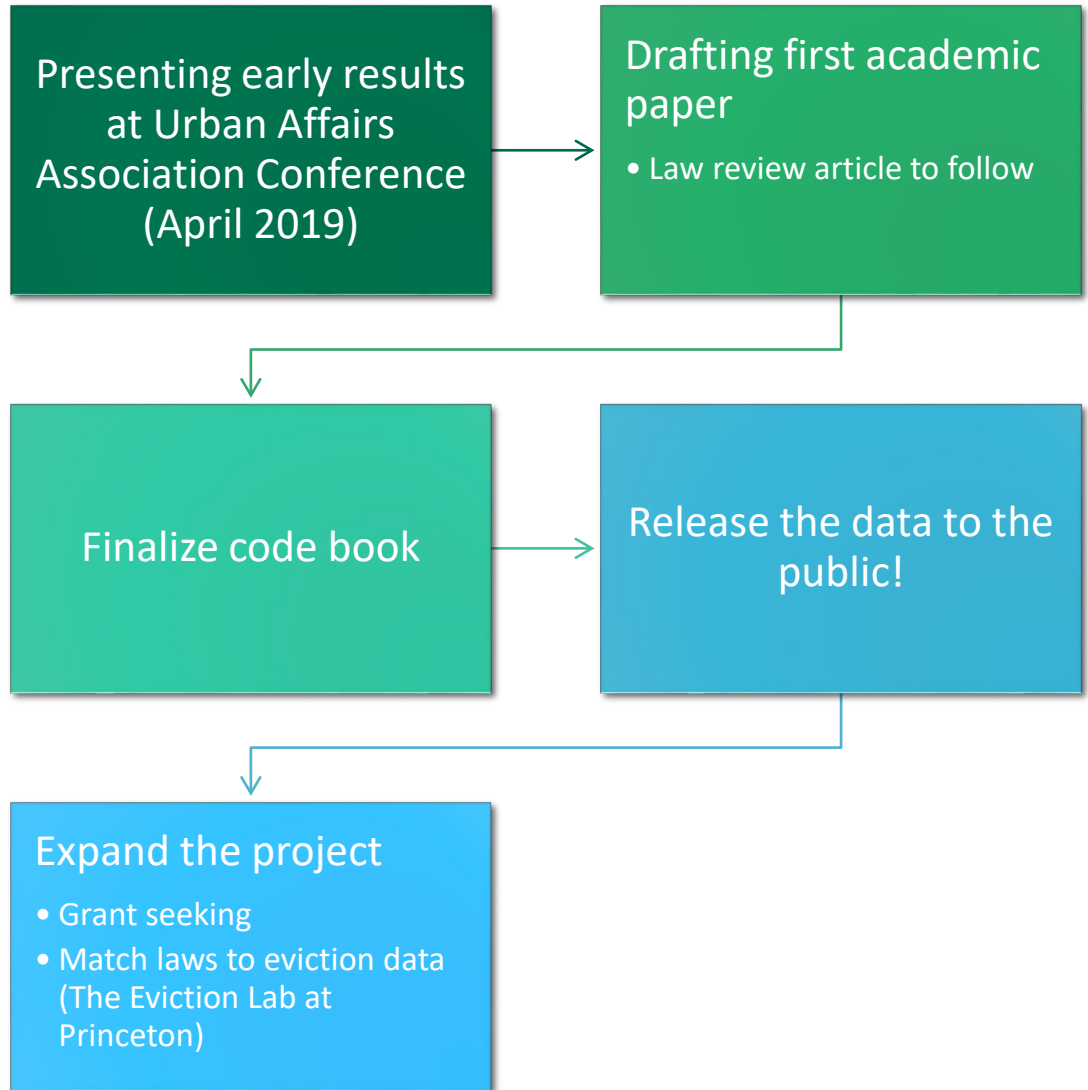
- Makes research easier
- Clarifies thinking
- Potential for future usage

Patience

- Iterative process, but doing it right will save you time in the long run

We know even less than we thought!

Next Steps



Conclusion: Why Policy Surveillance Matters

Systematic, transdisciplinary approach

Partnership creates better data, faster

Data can be used by many people, not just the data collector

- Research
- Evaluation
- Advocacy
- Policy making

Thank you

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 @MEGANEHATCH



cityhealth

AN INITIATIVE OF



de Beaumont
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WHAT IS CITYHEALTH?

- **An initiative** of the de Beaumont Foundation and Kaiser Permanente that aims **to help cities thrive** through policies that improve people's day-to-day lives.
- **A package of nine policy recommendations** with significant potential to boost health, well-being, and quality of life by addressing the key social determinants.



WHAT DO WE ASSESS?

- ✔ **Scores** to assess and improve policies that affect residents' health and well-being with **ratings of the nation's 40 largest cities**.
- ✔ The ratings are the culmination of an assessment of how these **40 cities fare across nine policies** that can significantly advance people's quality of life.
- ✔ We award gold, silver, bronze, or no medal overall and in each of our policy areas.

HOW DID WE CHOOSE POLICIES?

Pragmatic, Achievable, Aspirational:

- ✔ The **evidence base** of policies that address the **key determinants of health**
- ✔ Must be under the **cities' jurisdictional authority** and precedent
- ✔ Analysis by a policy advisory committee



CITY HEALTH'S NINE POLICIES



Affordable Housing



Alcohol Sales Control



Complete Streets



Earned Sick Leave



Food Safety/Restaurant
Inspection Rating



Healthy Food Procurement



High-Quality Universal Pre-K



Smoke Free Indoor Air



Tobacco 21

A wide-angle photograph of a city skyline. In the foreground, there is a lush green lawn and a dense line of trees. The middle ground shows several high-rise buildings, including a prominent one with a blue glass facade and another with a distinctive green-tiled roof. The background is a clear blue sky with scattered white clouds.

CITYHEALTH'S PROCESS

OBJECTIVES

- **Assess** how the 40 largest US cities stack up when it comes to the number and quality of these policies on their books.
- **Support cities** who want to take action on implementing these policies



SCORING CITIES' POLICIES

THREE CORE STEPS:

- 1** Collect and code all relevant laws, statutes, executive orders and regulations in each of the 40 cities.
- 2** Work with leading national issue experts to set scoring criteria; sort policies into gold, silver, bronze and no-medal categories.
- 3** Provide city leaders with an opportunity to vet their assessments for accuracy.

HOW OVERALL MEDALS ARE AWARDED



City received 5 or more gold medals across each of the 9 policies



City received 5 or more gold or silver medals across each of the 9 policies




















City received 4 or more gold, silver, or bronze medals across each of the 9 policies



2018 KEY FINDINGS




OVERALL MEDAL SCORES

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
|  Boston, MA |  Kansas City, MO |  Albuquerque, NM |
|  Chicago, IL |  Long Beach, CA |  Atlanta, GA |
|  Los Angeles, CA |  Philadelphia, PA |  Baltimore, MD |
|  New York, NY |  Sacramento, CA |  Austin, TX |
|  San Jose, CA |  San Antonio, TX |  Charlotte, NC |
| |  San Diego, CA |  Denver, CO |
| |  San Francisco, CA |  Fresno, CA |
| |  Seattle, WA |  Houston, TX |
| |  Washington, DC |  Louisville, KY |
| | |  Milwaukee, WI |
| | |  Portland, OR |

CITIES THAT MOVED UP IN 2018

10 CITIES WITH IMPROVED OVERALL MEDAL STATUS *from 2017 to 2018*

- 
- Albuquerque
 - Austin
 - Kansas City
 - Long Beach
 - Louisville
 - Milwaukee
 - Portland
 - San Antonio
 - San Jose
 - Seattle

CITY POLICY MEDALS



Affordable Housing
13 cities received a medal



Alcohol Sales Control
15 cities received a medal



Complete Streets
32 cities received a medal



Earned Sick Leave
19 cities received a medal



Food Safety/Restaurant Inspection Rating
15 cities received a medal



Healthy Food Procurement
16 cities received a medal



High-Quality Universal Pre-K
33 cities received a medal



Smoke Free Indoor Air
36 cities received a medal



Tobacco 21
15 cities received a gold medal

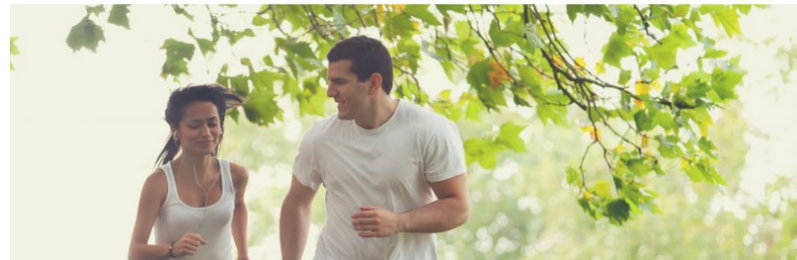


POLICY MEDALS

In just one year,
cities earned 24
new policy
medals.



**24 NEW
MEDALS
IN 1 YEAR**





LET'S CONNECT

Liz Voyles

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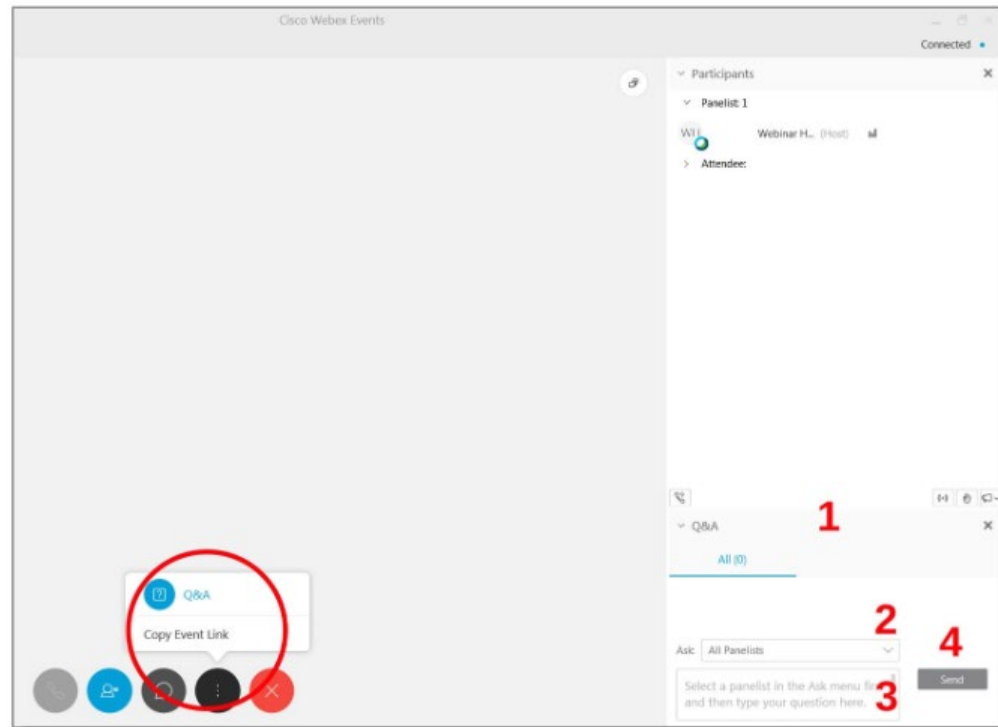


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