

# HOUSING QUALITY

One primary purpose of the American Housing Survey (AHS), sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is to track the quality of the housing units that American households call home. Housing quality data from the AHS make it possible for HUD to assess progress toward the national goal of a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family. The AHS collects more than 100 items related to quality.

## Of the 128.5 million occupied housing units in the United States in 2021:



**11.4 million** were uncomfortably cold for at least 24 hours.



**3.8 million** reported mold in the last 12 months.



**11.4 million** reported water leakage from outside their home.



**7.2 million** had open cracks or holes inside their home.



**15.3 million** saw signs of mice or rats inside their home in the last 12 months.



**10.5 million** reported water leakage from inside their home.



**5 million** had crumbling or an open crack or hole in their foundation.



**14.5 million** saw signs of cockroaches inside their home in the last 12 months.



**2.5 million** had no working toilet at some point within the last 3 months.



**4.8 million** had tobacco smoke enter their home from somewhere else in or around the building at least once a month.



**4.4 million** had a broken window.



**2.8 million** had broken plaster or peeling paint inside their home.



**10.5 million** reported someone smoking tobacco inside their home at least once a month.



Note: Information on confidentiality protection, methodology, sampling and nonsampling error, and definitions is available at [www.census.gov/ahs](http://www.census.gov/ahs).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2021 American Housing Survey.