

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 towards 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 124 million occupied households in the United States:



7.5 million

were uncomfortably cold for at least 24 hours.



6.8 million

had open cracks or holes inside the home.



4.8 million

experienced foundation crumbling or had an open crack or hole.



3.6 million

had a broken window.



3.7 million

reported mold in the last 12 months.



11.7 million

reported water leakage from outside the home.



9.4 million

reported water leakage from inside the home.



14.8 million

14.0 million – saw signs of cockroaches inside the home in the last

12 months.

saw signs of mice or rats inside the home in the last 12 months.



2.1 million

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



2.6 million

had broken plaster or peeling paint inside the home.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2019 American Housing Survey.



