



# AMERICAN HOUSING SURVEY CORE TOPICS

## GENERAL HOUSING

- Structure type
- Year built
- Stories/floors/stairs
- Basement/foundation type
- Manufactured home size

## ROOMS, SIZE, AMENITIES

- Rooms types and counts
- Size of unit
- Lot size
- Amenities (porch/fireplace/etc.)
- Parking availability

## HVAC AND APPLIANCES

- Heating equipment type and fuel
- Air conditioning type
- Types of kitchen appliances
- Safety equipment (CO detector)
- Presence of solar panels

## WATER SOURCE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL TYPE

- Public or private sewer system?
- Type of private system (septic/cesspool)
- Source of water (public or well)

## HOUSING QUALITY AND PROBLEMS

- Overall adequacy
- Evidence of mice/rats/cockroaches
- Breakdowns or service interruptions in heating or plumbing
- Electrical deficiencies (exposed or missing wiring/lack of outlets)
- Water leakage
- Interior deficiencies (holes/cracks/peeling paint/mold)
- Exterior deficiencies (sagging roof/missing siding/sloping walls)
- Window conditions (leaks/bars/broken/boarded up)

## HOUSING MIGRATION (recent movers)

- Number of people moving and when
- Type of previous residence
- Change in housing costs
- Reasons for moving

## HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD SEARCH AND SATISFACTION

- Why search ended early
- How respondent found current unit
- Comparison of current and previous home and neighborhood

## HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS

- Age/gender/race/ethnicity/education
- Household type
- Marital status
- Presence of children
- Active duty military/veteran status

## DISABILITIES

- Sensory (hearing/vision)
- Cognitive
- Physical
- Self-care difficulties
- Mobility difficulties (outside home)

## INCOME CHARACTERISTICS

- Amounts and sources
- Use of food stamps

## HOUSING COSTS

- Mortgage/rent/lot rent
- Utility costs
- Repair costs
- Insurance (homeowner/renter)
- Property taxes, HOA/COA fees

## VALUE, PURCHASE PRICE, SOURCE OF DOWN PAYMENT

- Value
- Year bought
- Purchase price
- Down payment amount/source
- How unit acquired (already built/householder built/gift/inheritance)
- First-time owners
- Lead pipe inspection before purchase

## MORTGAGE CHARACTERISTICS

- Number/type of mortgages
- Remaining balance/Loan-to-value
- Refinancing/cash out amount
- Use of home equity lines of credit

## HOME IMPROVEMENT CHARACTERISTICS AND COSTS

- Type of project
- Cost of project

## RENT SUBSIDIES AND RENTAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

- Type of rent reductions
- Rent control or stabilization
- Type of rent subsidy
- Owner/manager on property

## NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTERISTICS (within ½ block of unit)

- Nearby bodies of water
- Nearby housing/building types
- Condition of nearby buildings (bars on windows/vandalized buildings/trash or litter)
- Gated/Senior community
- Opinion of home and neighborhood

