

# Healthy Homes Essentials for Environmental Professionals



## Exercise 2: Get a Handle on Healthy Homes Statistics

### Instructions

From the References tab in your binder, take out the “American Housing Survey – National 2011” packet. If you have a separate packet on a specific Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), take that out too. Then answer the following questions using the national data or MSA data as assigned by the instructor. The instructor may assign you or your group specific questions to answer.

**NOTE:** Review your answers to this exercise in preparation for the Healthy Homes Specialist Credential test.

---

**About the 2011 American Housing Survey National Data Packet:** The packet is twelve pages long and consists of two parts:

- **Selected Elements Related to Healthy Homes – Seven Pages**

- General Information: Occupancy, Units in Structure, Year Structure Built, and Foundation
- Exterior Information: External Building Conditions and Water Leakage During Last 12 Months
- Interior Information: Damage, Water Leakage During Last 12 Months, Rodents, and Electrical
- Sanitation & Water Information: Lack of Facilities, Drinking Water Safety; and Sewage Disposal /Safety Equipment
- Heating & Fuel Information: Main Heating Equipment, Water Heating Fuel, Clothes Dryer Fuel, and Heating Problems
- Selected Physical Problems: Severe Physical Problems, Moderate Physical Problems, and Overall Opinion of Structure

- **About the American Housing Survey – Five Pages**

- Overview
- Key Definitions Related to Healthy Homes
- AHS’s Rating System for Physical Problems
- Potential Errors in American Housing Survey

**About the 2011 American Housing Survey MSA Data Packet:** The packet for a specific MSA is similar to the 2011 AHS National Data with the following changes:

- The MSA Data information is compared to next closest National Data. For example, 2004 MSA data is compared to the 2005 National Data.
- National data is only listed when the MSA percentages has at least 20% relative difference from the national percentage and an absolute difference of at least 0.25% from national percentage.

# Healthy Homes Essentials for Environmental Professionals



**Write the number for each characteristic.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ # of homes with severe physical problems (note that units are thousands of homes)
- \_\_\_\_\_ # of homes with moderate physical problems
- \_\_\_\_\_ # of homes with either severe or moderate problems
- \_\_\_\_\_ % of homes with exterior water leakage in past 12 months
- \_\_\_\_\_ % of homes with interior water leakage in past 12 months
- \_\_\_\_\_ % of homes with signs of mice in past 3 months
- \_\_\_\_\_ % of rental homes built before 1980
- \_\_\_\_\_ % of homes with warm-air furnaces
- \_\_\_\_\_ % of homes with a clothes dryer fueled by gas (piped or LP)
- \_\_\_\_\_ % of renters rating their home a 1 or 2 (where 1 as worst possible and 10 as best possible)

Checkmark the most common cause of each type of problem.

Exterior water leakage	Interior water leakage	Moderate physical problems
<input type="checkbox"/> Walls or window problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Leaking pipes	<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing
<input type="checkbox"/> Basement problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Broken fixtures	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating
<input type="checkbox"/> Roof problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Broken water heater	<input type="checkbox"/> Upkeep
<input type="checkbox"/> Other/unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Other/unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen