

## Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners

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

#### **Instructions:**

*From the References tab in your binder, take out the “American Housing Survey – National 2007” packet. See “Connections – Page 13 of 29.” 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.*

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**About the 2007 American Housing Survey National Data Packet:** The packet is eleven pages long and consists of two parts:

- **Part 1 Tables from American Housing Survey – Six Pages**
  - Page 1 – General Information: Occupancy, Units in Structure, Year Structure Built, and Foundation
  - Page 2 – Exterior Information: External Building Conditions and Water Leakage During Last 12 Months
  - Page 3 – Interior Information: Damage, Water Leakage During Last 12 Months, Rodents, and Electrical
  - Page 4 – Sanitation & Water Information: Lack of Facilities, Drinking Water Safety; and Sewage Disposal / Safety Equipment:
  - Page 5 – Heating & Fuel Information: Main Heating Equipment, Water Heating Fuel, Clothes Dryer Fuel, and Heating Problems
  - Page 6 – Selected Physical Problems: Severe Physical Problems, Moderate Physical Problems, and Overall Opinion of Structure
- **Part 2 About the American Housing Survey – Five Pages**
  - Page 7 – Overview
  - Page 7 & 8 – Key Definitions Related to Healthy Homes
  - Page 9 – AHS’s Rating System for Physical Problems
  - Page 10 & 11 – Potential Errors in American Housing Survey

The packet for a specific MSA is similar to the 2007 AHS National Data with the following changes:

- The following columns are excluded:
  - Construction < 4 years
  - Manufactured Housing
  - Moved in during the past year
  - Urban Total
  - Rural Total
- The MSA Data information is compared to next closest National Data. For example, 2002 data is compared to the 2000 National Data.
- National data is only listed when it is more than 5% different than the national data and both data is more than 0.1%.
- The packet is seven pages instead of six.

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Write the number for each characteristic. See  
[www.healthyhomestraining.org/AHS/AHS\\_National\\_2007\\_Full\\_12-30-08.pdf](http://www.healthyhomestraining.org/AHS/AHS_National_2007_Full_12-30-08.pdf) for answers.

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1.8 million	# of homes with severe physical problems (note that units are thousands of homes)
4.0 million	# of homes with moderate physical problems
5.8 million	# of homes with either severe or moderate problems
17.5%	% of homes with exterior physical problems
10.3%	% of homes with exterior water leakage in past 12 months
7.9%	% of homes with interior water leakage in past 12 months
0.7%	% of homes with signs of rats in past 3 months
5.5%	% of homes with signs of mice in past 3 months
71.7%	% of rental homes built before 1980
19.8%	% of homes with a septic tank, cesspool or chemical toilet
1.1%	% of homes with fuel-burning room heaters without a flue as main heating equipment
62.9%	% of homes with gas-fired warm-air furnaces
51.4%	% of homes with piped gas for water heating
21.3%	% of homes with piped gas for clothes dryer
52.5%	% of homes with residents with severe problems rating home 8 to 10 with 10 as best
69.7%	% of homes with severe problems caused by plumbing

Checkmark the most common cause of each type of problem. (answers in bold)

Exterior water leakage	Interior water leakage	Severe Physical Prob.	Moderate Physical Prob,
<input type="checkbox"/> Walls or window problems	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Leaking pipes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Plumbing</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing
<input type="checkbox"/> Basement problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Broken fixtures	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating ( <b>close</b> )
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Roof problems</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Broken water heater	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input type="checkbox"/> Upkeep ( <b>close</b> )
<input type="checkbox"/> Other / Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Other / Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Upkeep	<input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen