

AFFORDABLE HOUSING BENEFITS

2024

EDUCATION

Boosts academic performance and achievement

Decreases absenteeism and behavioral problems

HEALTH

Boosts health and well-being

Decreases overall health expenditures

ECONOMY

Boosts local revenue and jobs

Decreases use of public dollars

COMMUNITY

Boosts social cohesion

Decreases crime rates

CHILDREN

Boosts lifetime earnings

Decreases risk to physical and mental health

HEALTH

Living in affordable housing is associated with a 12% decrease in health care expenses for Medicaid recipients as well as a decrease in emergency department visits.

Source: Wright, B., et al. (2016). Health in Housing: Exploring the Intersection Between Housing and Health Care. *Center for Research and Outcomes and Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.*

<https://www.enterprisecommunity.org/sites/default/files/202106/Health%20in%20Housing%20Exploring%20the%20Intersection%20between%20Housing%20and%20Healthcare.pdf>

Children in households receiving rental assistance are less likely to miss school for health reasons and have a lower risk of health problems, especially severe health events, than their counterparts in unaffordable or poor-quality housing.

Source: Fenelon, A., Boudreaux, M., Slopen, N., & Newman, S.J. (2021) The Benefits of Rental Assistance for Children's Health and School Attendance in the United States. *Demography*. 58(4), 1171-1195. <https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-9305166>

Secure, stable, well-located housing in good condition is linked to better health and well-being. Housing problems and unaffordability are connected to a wide range of health risks and negative outcomes, including: difficulty leaving domestic violence situations, chronic illness, high blood pressure, depression, anxiety, psychological distress, heart disease, asthma, lead poisoning, postponing medical care and more frequent hospitalization.

Sources: Rolfe, S., et al. (2020). Housing as a social determinant of health and wellbeing: developing an empirically-informed realist theoretical framework, *BMC Public Health* 20(1), 1138. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-09224-0>

Flournoy, R., et al. (2021). Housing Affordability and Quality: A Community Driver of Health. *American Public Health Association, AcademyHealth, and Kaiser Permanente*. https://www.apha.org/-/media/Files/PDF/pubs/Housing_Health_Community_Driver.ashx

