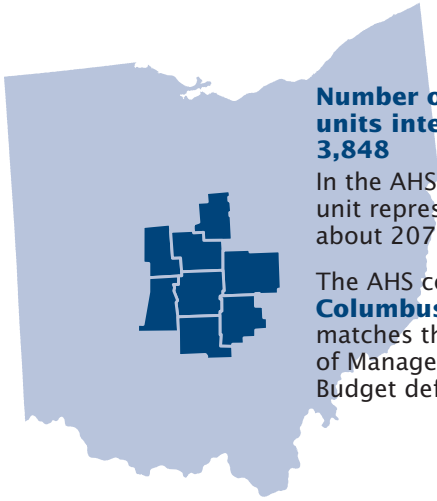
2011 Housing Profile: Columbus, OH

American Housing Survey Factsheets

Issued July 2013
AHS/11-9

OUR HOMES ARE MORE THAN WHERE WE LIVE

Owning or renting your own place is a milestone for many. Our homes may be investments, or sometimes financial burdens. Whether it's a gathering place for friends and family or a sanctuary where you relax, our homes are important. That is why the American Housing Survey (AHS) is a valuable survey, allowing us to learn more about the types of homes in which we live and the size and composition of the housing inventory.

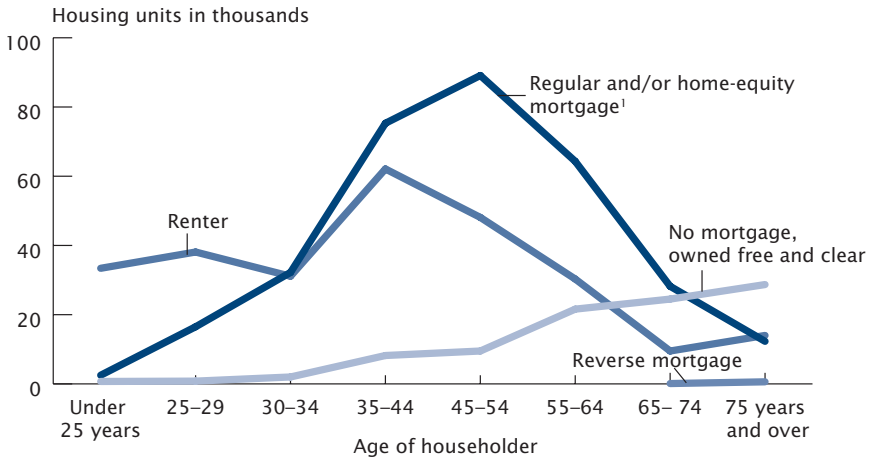


Number of housing units interviewed: 3,848

In the AHS, every housing unit represents itself and about 207 other units.

The AHS coverage of the **Columbus Metro Area** matches the 2009 Office of Management and Budget definition.

WHO RENTS OR PAYS A MORTGAGE?



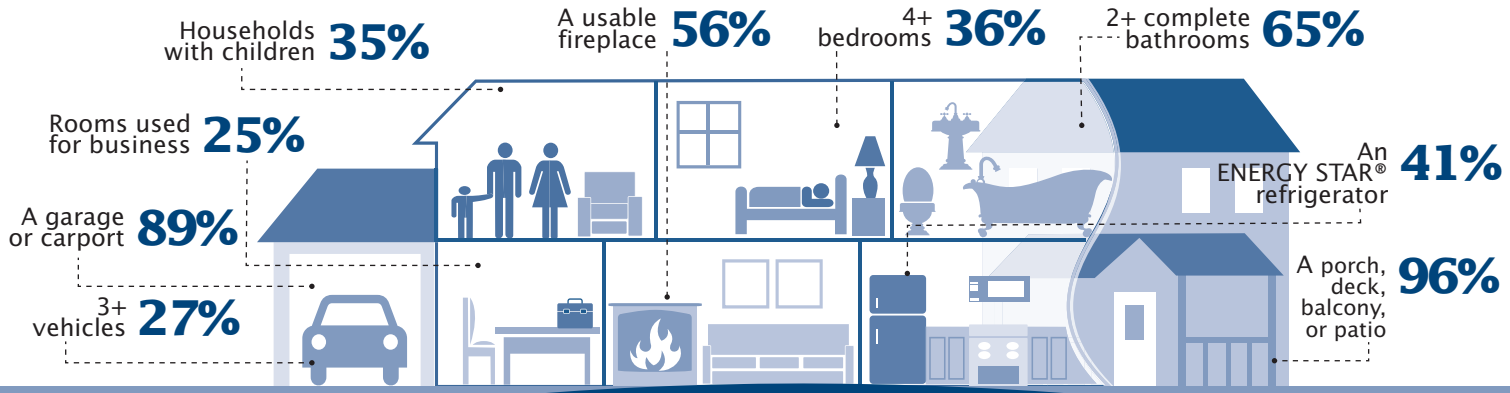
[1] Regular mortgages include all mortgages not classified as home-equity credit lines or reverse annuity mortgages.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2011 American Housing Survey.

HOUSING INVENTORY

	Number	Percent
Total Units	**798,400**	**100.0**
Owner-occupied units	417,200	52.3
Renter-occupied units	266,800	33.4
Vacant units	111,400	14.0
Seasonal units	3,000	0.4

OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS WITH:



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

WHAT IS THE AHS?

The AHS is the most comprehensive housing survey in the United States. The same units have been interviewed since 1985, with new construction, demolitions, and conversions taken into account. National data are collected every other year and metropolitan area data are collected on a rotating basis.

People in nearly every field use information from the AHS to evaluate and study the physical and financial characteristics of the nation's housing stock. In addition to the indicators presented in Tables 1 and 2, the AHS provides data on multi-family and single-family homes, manufactured/mobile homes, equipment and appliances, characteristics of the occupants, and more.

Table 1.

Physical Characteristics—All Occupied Housing Units: 2011

Characteristics	Total	Owner-occupied	Renter-occupied
One unit, detached (percent)	65.1	91.4	24.1
Cooperative or condo (percent)	7.0	7.0	7.0
Median:			
Year built	1975	1978	1972
Square footage per unit	1,900	2,000	1,400
Percentage using:			
Well water (primary source)	10.0	14.6	2.8
Public sewer	88.6	83.8	96.3
Main house heating fuel (percent):			
Electricity	19.5	13.3	29.2
Piped gas	74.6	79.1	67.6
Other	5.9	7.6	3.2
Percentage with:			
Central air	85.3	91.1	76.3
Warm-air furnace (main heating)	90.0	91.6	87.5
Unsafe drinking water	5.2	2.9	8.9
Working carbon monoxide detectors	46.0	59.3	25.3
Separate dining room	48.5	59.8	30.9
Swimming pool	16.5	8.6	28.7
Signs of rodents in last 12 months	9.6	10.1	8.7
Mold in last 12 months	3.4	3.6	3.0
Wheelchair-accessible ramps	0.8	1.1	0.4
Missing roofing material[1]	4.3	3.7	6.6
Leakage from outside structure	12.5	13.7	10.6

[1] Excludes multiunit structures.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2011 American Housing Survey.

Table 2.

Financial Characteristics—Owner-Occupied Housing Units: 2011

Characteristics	Total	New construction past 4 years	Black alone	Hispanic	Elderly (65+ years)	Below poverty
Median:						
Year mortgage originated	2006	2009	2005	2006	2005	2004
Purchase price (dollars)	130,000	198,000	82,500	130,000	54,000	60,000
Home value (dollars)	150,000	140,000	93,000	118,000	125,000	83,000
Current total loan as percentage of value (percent)	78.0	94.0	87.0	91.0	41.0	90.0
Ratio of value to current income	2.2	2.3	2.7	2.0	3.8	13.3
Percentage with:						
No mortgage, owned free and clear	23.0	3.1	9.0	30.4	56.3	56.3
Regular and/or home equity mortgage[1]	76.8	93.8	91.0	67.9	42.9	43.7
Line-of-credit only	11.4	–	7.6	3.6	14.8	2.2
Refinanced primary mortgage	30.5	12.5	20.6	16.1	15.8	16.8
Two or more regular and/or home equity mortgages[1]	12.3	3.1	9.3	10.7	4.8	2.5
Median monthly expenditures (dollars)						
Total housing	1,160	1,339	976	1,075	581	487
Mortgage payment	1,032	1,000	724	970	610	712
Property insurance	50	42	42	33	48	48
Real estate taxes	230	236	142	158	162	100
Routine maintenance	33	4	25	25	17	17
Electricity	106	121	95	97	93	71
Trash removal	20	17	45	30	19	14

– Represents or rounds to zero.

[1] Regular mortgages include all mortgages not classified as home-equity credit lines or reverse annuity mortgages.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2011 American Housing Survey.

SOURCE AND ACCURACY

The AHS is sponsored by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Data presented are based on the sample of units that responded to the 2011 AHS, using weighting consistent with Census 2010. The resulting estimates are representative of the entire population. For information on sampling and estimation methods, see <www.census.gov/housing/ahs/methodology>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the AHS Web site for a complete set of tables, definitions, and more <www.census.gov/housing/ahs>. Additional information is available on HUD's Web site at <www.huduser.org>. Please contact us at 888-518-7365 (toll-free) or e-mail us at <ahsn@census.gov> with any inquiries about these data.