

American Community Survey

Housing: Question on Plumbing Facilities

Question as it appears in the questionnaire.

8 Does this house, apartment, or mobile home have –		Yes	No
→ a.	hot and cold running water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
→ b.	a flush toilet?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
→ c.	a bathtub or shower?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	d. a sink with a faucet?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	e. a stove or range?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	f. a refrigerator?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	g. telephone service from which you can both make and receive calls? <i>Include cell phones.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: ACS-1(2009)KFI

MEETING FEDERAL NEEDS

Complete plumbing facilities are defined as hot and cold running water, a flush toilet, and a bathtub or shower. These data are essential components used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the development of Fair Market Rents for all areas of the country. Federal agencies use this item to identify areas eligible for public assistance programs and rehabilitation loans. Public health officials use this item to locate areas in danger of ground water contamination and waterborne diseases.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Housing

Data about complete plumbing facilities are used to allocate Section 8 and other federal housing subsidies to local governments. These programs help American families afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development uses these data as a critical variable to assess the quality of the housing stock.

State and local agencies, along with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, identify poor quality housing by measuring the lack of plumbing facilities.

Social Services

Under the Older Americans Act, these data are used to determine the number of older people who live in inadequate housing and who may be candidates for home repair or other assistance.

These data are used by the Indian Health Service to identify specific reservations that are in greatest need of housing assistance. This information is included in its annual report to the Congress.

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