

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING BENEFITS 2025

EDUCATION	HEALTH	ECONOMY	COMMUNITY	CHILDREN
Boosts academic achievement and performance	Boosts health and wellbeing	Boosts local revenue and jobs	Boosts social cohesion	Boosts lifetime earnings
Decreases absenteeism	Decreases overall health expenditures	Decreases use of public dollars	Decreases crime rates	Decreases risk to mental and physical 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/2021-06/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., Boudreux, 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>

Housing that is secure, stable, in good condition and located in high resource areas is linked to better health and wellbeing. Housing problems and unaffordability are also 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/getcontentasset/07529a1e-bbfb-4b2e-baf2-9e9b0f3e0628/7ca0dc9d-611d-46e2-9fd3-26a4c03ddccb/housing\\_health\\_community\\_driver.pdf](https://www.apha.org/getcontentasset/07529a1e-bbfb-4b2e-baf2-9e9b0f3e0628/7ca0dc9d-611d-46e2-9fd3-26a4c03ddccb/housing_health_community_driver.pdf)