**Department of
Housing Preservation
& Development**

2017 NYCHVS
User Guide for the Teaching Dataset

January 2022

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The New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey (NYCHVS)

The NYCHVS is a citywide, representative survey of New York City's housing stock and population that is collected about every three years by the US Census Bureau on behalf of the City of New York. It has been conducted since 1965, making it the longest running housing survey in the country.

The goal of the NYCHVS is to describe the city now and track how it changes over time. The data collected as part of the NYCHVS tell the story of New York City. They document the challenges we have faced over the last half century and they reveal the inequalities that many now experience. The survey profiles the city's diversity, from the newest New Yorkers to life-long residents and enables users to understand differences and shared experiences. The NYCHVS samples housing units that help users to describe different types of housing—some of which are unique to the city, such as rent control or Mitchell Lama, as well as the residents who live there. It also enables users to ask questions about topics that are particularly relevant to New York City and its residents, such as housing affordability or participation in rental assistance programs.

The survey supports those who advocate for change by providing accurate and timely information on the unmet needs of our communities. And it helps policymakers and elected officials understand how we can improve New York City, now and in the future.

The NYCHVS is the used in many research reports, policy evaluations, and news articles. Findings are regularly reported to elected officials and have been shared in testimony to the New York City Council, the New York State Assembly, and the New York State Senate.

Legal authority

The NYCHVS is required by local and state law.

The 1962 Local Emergency Housing Rent Control Act (LEHRCA) requires that a survey be conducted to establish a net rental vacancy rate for New York City as well as collect information on the inventory of the housing supply, condition of housing in neighborhoods, and the continued need for rent regulation:

> "The continuation… of the public emergency requiring the regulation and control of residential rents and evictions within cities having a population of one million or more shall be a matter for local determination within each such city. Any such determination shall be made by the local legislative body of such city on or before April first, nineteen hundred sixty-seven and at least once in every third year thereafter following <u>a survey which the city shall cause to be made of the supply of housing accommodations within such city, the condition of such accommodations and the need for continuing the regulation and control of residential rents and evictions within such city</u>. Such survey shall be submitted to such legislative body not less than thirty nor more than sixty days prior to the date of any such determination."

For more information on rent regulation, see the New York State Homes and Community Renewal Fact Sheets, http://www.nyshcr.org/Rent/FactSheets

Although the NYCHVS is authorized by state and local law, participating in the survey is not legally required.

Local authorization of the survey is pursuant to the Local Emergency Housing Rent Control Act (Chapter 8603, Laws of New York, as amended by Chapter 657; Laws of New York, 1967), Sections 26-414 and 26-415 of the Administrative Code of the City. Confidentiality of the respondents is protected under Title 13, Section 9, United States Code.

Survey Sponsor

The NYCHVS is sponsored by the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). HPD is the city agency responsible for ensuring that all New Yorkers live in a safe home as well as for helping to develop and preserve affordable housing. HPD is the largest municipal housing preservation and development agency in the nation.

www.nyc.gov/hpd

The Research and Evaluation (R&E) team is located within the Office of Policy and Strategy at HPD. Its mission is to support evidence-based policymaking and effective programming through research and evaluation, including the design and execution of the NYCHVS.

R&E supports all of the data collection, analysis, and overall field efforts of the research projects, as well as conducting training for the 2021 NYCHVS.
The City of New York assumes all survey costs.

The 2017 NYCHVS

The Census Bureau has conducted the survey for the City since 1965. HPD is the only non-federal agency that sponsors a Census product. The 2017 NYCHVS is the 17th such survey.

Sample and Data Collection

Approximately 19,000 units throughout the city were selected as a representative sample of the housing in the five boroughs of New York City. The 2017 NYCHVS is the third survey based primarily on a sample of housing units from the 2010 Census (along with the 2011 and 2014 NYCHVS).The 2011, 2014, and 2017 cycles share the same main sample which is supplemented each survey cycle to reflect changes to the housing stock. The sample for the 2017 cycle therefore represents the entirety of the stock at a given time point. Each sample unit represents approximately 170 similar housing units.

The Census Bureau conducts face to face fieldwork for the NYCHVS. Data collection for this cycle occurred from January through May of 2017. Field Representatives conducted in-person observations of sampled units. Occupied interviews were conducted with the current occupant and collected proxy information about each member of the household. Vacant interviews were conducted with a key informant. The interview rate for the 2017 NYCHVS was 81%. Refer to the Source and Accuracy Statement (available on census.gov) for more detail on sample design.

Microdata

Data from the survey cover many characteristics of the City's population, households, housing stock, and neighborhoods, including:

- Size and Composition of the Housing Inventory
- Housing Costs and Affordability
- Housing Quality
- Housing Subsidy
- Tenure and Building Characteristics
- Demographics, Education, and Income
- Household Composition and Length of Residence
- Vacancy Status

Data are released in three separate public use files:

1. Occupied units (household level)
2. Population (person level),
3. Vacant units (household level)

These files can be combined to create one dataset. Public Use Files may be accessed here:

https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nychvs/data/datasets.html

The Teaching Datasets

The 2017 NYCHVS Teaching Dataset is a special set of microdata files that are intended for use by students. They contain only select variables and include some content not packaged as part of the Public Use Files available on census.gov (such as variable labels).[1] These files are for educational purposes only, since these data cannot be used to produce representative estimates of the housing supply or population.

Two files are available, in SPSS format:

- NYCHVS_2017_occupied
- NYCHVS_2017_person

These files may be used individually or combined to create a single dataset. The occupied file contains one record for each household where a 2017 NYCHVS interview was completed. The variables comprise information on the housing unit, the household overall, and select information about the respondent (one person in the household). The person file contains one record for each person in a household where a 2017 NYCHVS interview was completed. The variables comprise information on that person, such as demographic information.

Linking the files to produce one dataset

Some users may wish to combine the datasets to facilitate additional analyses not possible with only one file. For example, a user may wish to conduct an analysis of the age distribution of people who live in public housing. Information about the age of individuals in contained in the person file, but information on which households reside in public housing is only available in the occupied file.

The variable SEQNO identifies the household in both the occupied and person files. In the person file, this identifier will be the same for each person record (row) in a given housing unit. The variable PERSON is only in the person file and provides a numeric identifier for each person within a household. When PERSON = 1, this indicates the respondent who completed the 2017 NYCHVS interview. Each record in the person file has at least one record where PERSON = 1.

For example, to conduct an analysis of the age distribution of people who live in public housing, a user would start with the person file and merge the occupied file to it. This would create a dataset with one record for each person, including age, and add all the variables for the household / housing unit to each person's record. These additional variable values would be the same for each person/record within a given household, including the variable that indicates whether the household resides in public housing.

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[1] The 2017 NYCHVS Teaching Dataset is derived from the Public Use Files.

Occupied Dataset: Variable Guide

This section provides information on each question included in the 2017 NYCHVS Teaching Datasets. It includes the name and answer values for each variable, as well as the question asked in the NYCHVS interview that was used to generate that variable. It also provides information on whether the variable is contained in the occupied or person file.

Variables not included in the 2017 NYCHVS Teaching Datasets do not appear in this document.

Identifiers		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Sequence number	seqno	Occupied; Person
Person Line Number	person	Occupied; Person
Borough / NYC County	boro	Occupied; Person
Sub-Borough Area (SBA)	sba	Occupied; Person

seqno

The variable **seqno** is a numeric identifier that indicates a unique housing unit or household. In the occupied file, each case / record has a unique value of **seqno**. In the person file, this identifier will be the same for each person record (row) in a given housing unit / household. One or more case / record may have the same value of **seqno.**

Description	Value
Sequence number 1	1
Sequence number 2	2
	…
Sequence number 99999	999999

There are no missing values for this variable.

person

The variable **person** is a numeric identifier within a given housing unit / household. In the person file, each case / record within a given value of **seqno** will have its own unique value for **person** (i.e., if there were four individuals living in a household, the person file will have four rows with a corresponding value for **person** of 1, 2, 3, and 4. In the occupied file, **person** indicates the number of the respondent that matches in the person file within a given value of **seqno**.

Description	Value
One person	1
Two people	2
Three people	3
Four people	4
Five people	5
Six people	6
Seven people	7
Eight people	8
Nine people	9
Ten people	10
Eleven people	11
Twelve People	12
Thirteen People	13
Fourteen People	14

There are no missing values for this variable.

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boro

The variable **boro** indicates the borough or county in New York City where the sample unit is located**.**

Description	Value
Bronx	1
Brooklyn	2
Manhattan	3
Queens	4
Staten Island	5

There are no missing values for this variable.

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sba

The variable **sba** indicates the sub-borough area (SBA) where the sample unit is located. This geography is the same as Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs), but use a numeric value that is unique to the NYCHVS. This geography is a rough approximation of New York City Community Districts (CDs), but include entire census tracts and contain at least 100,000 people. For these reasons, the boundaries are somewhat different than CDs (which can cut through tracts) and some SBAs combine two CDs to meet the minimum population requirements.

Maps of SBAs are available here: https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-maps/2017/demo/nychvs/sub-bourough-maps.html

Description	Value
Bronx: Mott Haven/Hunts Point	101
Bronx: Mott Haven/Hunts Point	101
Bronx: Morrisania/East Tremont	102
Bronx: Morrisania/East Tremont	102
Bronx: Highbridge/S. Concourse	103
Bronx: University Heights/Fordham	104
Bronx: Kingsbridge Heights/Mosholu	105
Bronx: Riverdale/Kingsbridge	106
Bronx: Soundview/Parkchester	107
Bronx: Throgs Neck/Co-op City	108
Bronx: Pelham Parkway	109
Bronx: Williamsbridge/Baychester	110
Brooklyn: Williamsburg/Greenpoint	201
Brooklyn: Brooklyn Heights/Fort Greene	202
Brooklyn: Bedford Stuyvesant	203
Brooklyn: Bushwick	204
Brooklyn: East New York/Starrett City	205
Brooklyn: Park Slope/Carroll Gardens	206
Brooklyn: Sunset Park	207
Brooklyn: North Crown Heights/Prospect Heights	208
Brooklyn: South Crown Heights	209
Brooklyn: Bay Ridge	210
Brooklyn: Bensonhurst	211
Brooklyn: Borough Park	212
Brooklyn: Coney Island	213
Brooklyn: Flatbush	214
Brooklyn: Sheepshead Bay/Gravesend	215
Brooklyn: Brownsville/Ocean Hill	216
Brooklyn: East Flatbush	217
Brooklyn: Flatlands/Canarsie	218
Manhattan: Greenwich Village/Financial District	301
Manhattan: Greenwich Village/Financial District	301
Manhattan: Lower East Side/Chinatown	302
Manhattan: Chelsea/Clinton/Midtown	303
Manhattan: Chelsea/Clinton/Midtown	303
Manhattan: Stuyvesant Town/Turtle Bay	304
Manhattan: Upper West Side	305
Manhattan: Upper East Side	306
Manhattan: Morningside Heights/Hamilton Heights	307
Manhattan: Central Harlem	308
Manhattan: East Harlem	309
Manhattan: Washington Heights/Inwood	310
Queens: Astoria	401
Queens: Sunnyside/Woodside	402
Queens: Jackson Heights	403

Queens: Elmhurst/Corona	404
Queens: Middle Village/Ridgewood	405
Queens: Forest Hills/Rego Park	406
Queens: Flushing/Whitestone	407
Queens: Hillcrest/Fresh Meadows	408
Queens: Kew Gardens/Woodhaven	409
Queens: Howard Beach/S. Ozone Park	410
Queens: Bayside/Little Neck	411
Queens: Jamaica	412
Queens: Bellerose/Rosedale	413
Queens: Rockaways	414
Staten Island: North Shore	501
Staten Island: Mid-Island	502
Staten Island: South Shore	503

There are no missing values for this variable.

Questionnaire phrasing

These are variables generated by Census, not based on interview data.

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Building Characteristics

Measure	Variable name	Data file
Number of residential units in building	units	Occupied
Stories in building	stories	Occupied
Building has an elevator	elevator	Occupied
Year building was built	yearbuilt	Occupied

units

The variable **units** indicates the number of residential units in the building where the sample unit is located**.**

Description	Value
1 unit without business	1
1 unit with business	2
2 units without business	3
2 units with business	4
3 units	5
4 units	6
5 units	7
6 to 9 units	8
10 to 12 units	9
13 to 19 units	10
20 to 49 units	11
50 to 99 units	12
100 units or more	13

There are no missing values for this variable.

stories

The variable **stories** indicates the number of stories in the building where the sample unit is located.

Description	Value
1 to 2 stories	1
3 stories	2
4 stories	3
5 stories	4
6 to 10 stories	5
11 to 20 stories	6
21 stories or more	7

There are no missing values for this variable.

elevator

The variable **elevator** indicates whether the building where the sample unit is located has one or more elevator.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2

There are no missing values for this variable.

yearbuilt

The variable **yearbuilt** indicates the year when the building where the sample unit was located was built.

Description	Value
2000 or later	1
1990 to 1999	2
1980 to 1989	3
1974 to 1979	4
1960 to 1973	5
1947 to 1959	6
1930 to 1946	7
1920 to 1929	8
1901 to 1919	9
1900 and earlier	10

There are no missing values for this variable.

Questionnaire phrasing

How many units are in this building?

1 unit without business
1 unit with business
2 units without business
2 units with business
3 units
4 units
5 units
6 to 9 units
10 to 12 units
13 to 19 units
20 to 49 units
50 to 99 units
100 to 199 units
200 or more units

How many stories are in this building?

One
Two
Three
Four
Five
6 to 10
11 to 20
21 to 40
41 or more

Is there a passenger elevator in this building?　　　　Yes
　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　No

[Year built is determined by administrative records and not by self-report from the respondent]

NYCHVS History	1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Accessibility of the Building and Unit

Measure	Variable name	Data file
Street entrance and lobby are wheelchair accessible	acc_street	Occupied
Elevator is wheelchair accessible	acc_elevator	Occupied
Front door of residence is wide enough to fit a wheelchair	acc_res	Occupied
Sidewalk to the elevator without climbing any steps or stairs	nostairs_elevator	Occupied
Sidewalk to unit without climbing any steps or stairs	nostairs_unit	Occupied

acc_street

The variable **acc_street** indicates whether the street entry and inner lobby entry to the building where the sample unit is located can accommodate a wheelchair. This measure is reported by the Field Representative, based on their observation at the time of the interview.

Description	Value
Accessible	1
Inaccessible	2
Unable to observe building entrance	3
Not reported	8

acc_elevator

The variable **acc_elevator** indicates whether the passenger elevator in the building where the sample unit is located can accommodate a wheelchair. This measure is reported by the Field Representative, based on their observation at the time of the interview.

Description	Value
Accessible	1
Inaccessible	2
Unable to observe elevator	3
No elevator	4
Not reported	8

acc_res

The variable **acc_res** indicates whether the front door to the residence of the sample unit can accommodate a wheelchair. This measure is reported by the Field Representative, based on their observation at the time of the interview.

Description	Value
Accessible	1
Inaccessible	2
Unable to observe residential unit entrance	3
Not reported	8

nostairs_elevator

The variable **nostairs_elevator** indicates whether one can travel from the sidewalk to an elevator without climbing any steps or stairs. This information is provided by the respondent.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3
Not reported	8
Not applicable (no elevator in building)	9

nostairs_unit

The variable **nostairs_unit** indicates whether one can travel from the sidewalk to the sample unit without climbing any steps or stairs. This information is provided by the respondent.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

Street entry and inner lobby entry (width 32")	Accessible Inaccessible Unable to observe building entrance
Elevator (door width 36", cab depth 51")	Accessible Inaccessible Unable to observe elevator No elevator
Residential unit entrance (width 32")	Accessible Inaccessible Unable to residential unit entrance
Is it possible to go from the sidewalk to a passenger elevator without going up or down any steps or stairs?	Yes No Don't Know
Is it possible to go from the sidewalk to this unit without going up or down any steps or stairs?	Yes No Don't Know

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Unit Characteristics

Measure	Variable name	Data file
Housing Type	housingtype	Occupied
Tenure of current occupant(s)	tenure	Occupied
Number of rooms in unit	rooms	Occupied
Number of bedrooms in unit	beds	Occupied
Air conditioning	aircond	Occupied

housingtype

The variable **housingtype** provides information about the sample unit, such as the type of building (e.g., condo or cooperative), subsidized housing program (e.g.,. public housing), or regulatory status of the current occupant(s) (e.g., rent control). These values are mutually exclusive, even though a given housing unit may fall into multiple categories. For details, please see: https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/nychvs/technical-documentation/methodology/2017_Control_Status_Classification_Methodology.pdf

Description	Value
Owner occupied conventional	1
Owner occupied private cooperative	2
Public housing	5
Owner occupied condo	12
HUD or other regulated	21
Stabilized pre 1947	30
Stabilized post 1947	31
Other rental	80
Mitchell Lama rental or Article 4	85
Mitchell Lama cooperative, Mitchell Lama type cooperative	86
Controlled	90
In Rem	95

There are no missing values for this variable.

tenure

The variable **tenure** indicates whether current occupant(s) of the sample unit rent or own the unit. This may be different than the status of the unit itself—for example, when a newly constructed condo is sublet to a renter, it would be classified here as renter-occupied (tenure=13).

Description	Value
OWNER OCCUPIED	
01=Regular	1
02=Cooperative	2
03=Condominium	3
RENTER OCCUPIED	
12=Public Housing	12
13=New Construction	13
15=In Rem	15
16=Old Construction	16

There are no missing values for this variable.

rooms

The variable **rooms** indicates the number of rooms in the sample unit.

Description	Value
One room (studio)	1
Two rooms	2
	…
8 rooms	8

There are no missing values for this variable.

beds

The variable **beds** indicates the number of bedrooms in the sample unit.

Description	Value
No bedroom	1
One-bedroom	2
…	
6 bedrooms or more	7

There are no missing values for this variable.

aircond

The variable **aircond** indicates whether the sample unit has functioning air conditioning.

Description	Value
Yes, central air conditioning	1
Yes, one or more window air conditioners	2
No	3
Don't know/Not sure	4
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

How many rooms are in this apartment (house)? Do not count bathrooms, porches, balconies, halls, foyers, or half-rooms.	One Two Three Four Five Six Seven Eight or more
Of these rooms, how many are bedrooms?	One Two Three Four Five Six Seven Eight or more
Does your apartment (house) have functioning air conditioning? Would you say central air conditioning, one or more window air conditioners, or no air conditioning?	Yes, central air conditioning Yes, one or more window air conditioners No Don't know/Not sure

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014*, 2017*

* **aircond** was added in 2014

Household Characteristics		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Household size	hhsize	Occupied
Household income (2016)	hhincome	Occupied
One or more member of household is under age 6	memberunder6	Occupied
One or more member of household is under age 18	memberunder18	Occupied

hhsize

The variable **hhsize** indicates the number of people (including the respondent) who lived in the sample unit at the time of the NYCHVS interview.

Description	Value
One person	1
Two people	2
…	…
Fourteen people	14

There are no missing values for this variable.

hhincome

The variable **hhincome** indicates the total income of all persons in the sample unit from all sources. This value is recoded by the US Census Bureau from multiple questions (see below).

Description	Value
Income loss (dollar amount)	-000001 to -999999
$1	1
…	…
$9,999,996	9999996
$9,999,997 or more (top coded amount)	9999997

memberunder6

The variable **memberunder6** indicates if the number of household members under age six.

Description	Value
None	1
One	2
Two	3
Three or more	4

There are no missing values for this variable.

Memberunder18

The variable **memberunder18** indicates if the number of household members under age eighteen.

Description	Value
None	1
One	2
Two	3
Three or more	4

There are no missing values for this variable.

Questionnaire phrasing

Did . . . earn income from wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips?

Yes: $ _____
No

How much from all jobs? Report the amount before deductions for taxes, bonds, dues or other items

Did . . . earn any income from (his/her) own farm or nonfarm business, proprietorship, or partnership?

Yes: $ _____
No

How much? Report net income after business expenses

Did . . . receive any interest, dividends, net rental or royalty income, or income from estates and trusts? Include even small amounts credited to an account.

Yes: $ _____
No

How much?

Did . . . receive any Social Security or Railroad Retirement payments? Include payments as a retired worker, dependent, or disabled worker.

Yes: $ _____
No

How much?

Did . . . receive any income from government programs for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Family Assistance/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Safety Net, or any other public assistance or public welfare payments, including shelter allowance?

Yes: $ _____
No

How much?

Did . . . receive any income from retirement, survivor, or disability pensions? Include payments from companies, unions, Federal, State, or local governments and the U.S. military. Do NOT include Social Security.

How much?

Yes: $ _____
No

Did . . . receive any income from Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, alimony, or any other regular source of income?

Do NOT include lump-sum payments such as money from an inheritance or the sale of a home.

How much?

Yes: $ _____
No

How old is . . . ?

_____ years old

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Maintenance Deficiencies		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Heating breakdown	mdef_noheat	Occupied
Mice or rats in building	mdef_rodents	Occupied
Holes in the interior walls of unit	mdef_walls	Occupied
Holes in the floor of the unit	mdef_floors	Occupied
Peeling paint or broken plaster larger than 8 ½ x 11 inches	mdef_peelingpaint	Occupied
Toilet breakdown	mdef_toilet	Occupied

Additional heating source used	addheat	Occupied
Number of heating breakdowns	num_noheat	Occupied
Any peeling paint or broken plaster in unit (of any size)	anypeelingpaint	Occupied
Number of roaches seen on a typical day	roaches	Occupied

mdef_noheat

The variable **mdef_noheat** indicates whether there was at least one heating breakdown for six hours or more during the winter.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

mdef_rodents

The variable **mdef_rodents** indicates whether there has been any evidence or mice or rats in the building in the past 90 days.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

mdef_walls

The variable **mdef_walls** indicates whether there were any open cracks or holes in the interior walls of the sample unit at the time of the interview.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

mdef_floors

The variable **mdef_floors** indicates whether there were any holes in the floors of the sample unit at the time of the interview.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

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mdef_peelingpaint

The variable **mdef_peelingpaint** indicates whether there was any peeling paint or broken plaster larger than an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper in the sample unit at the time of the interview.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

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mdef_toilet

The variable **mdef_toilet** indicates whether there was any time in the last 90 days when all of the toilets in the sample unit were not working for six hours or more.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

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addheat

The variable **addheat** indicates whether the current occupant(s) used any additional sources of heat, such as a space heater, in addition to their regular heating system.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

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num_noheat

The variable **num_noheat** indicates the number of times there was a heating breakdown during the winter.

Description	Value
2=One time	2
3=Two times	3
4=Three times	4
5=Four or more times	5
8=Not reported	8
9=No breakdowns (code 1 in Item 32a)	9

anypeelingpaint

The variable **anypeelingpaint** indicates whether there was any peeling paint or broken plaster in the sample unit, regardless of the size.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

roaches

The variable **roaches** indicates the number of cockroaches the respondent saw on a typical day during the previous month.

Description	Value
None	1
1 to 5	2
6 to 19	3
20 or more	4
Don't know/Not sure	5
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

Now, I would like to ask some questions about the condition of this apartment (house).

Yes
No

At any time during this winter, was there a breakdown in your heating equipment; that is, was it completely unusable for 6 consecutive hours or longer?

How many times did that happen?	One Two Three Four or more times
During this winter when your regular heating system was working, did you, at any time, have to use additional sources of heat because your regular system did not provide enough heat? Additional sources may be the kitchen stove, a fireplace, or a portable heater.	Yes No
At any time in the last 90 days have you seen any mice or rats, or signs of mice or rats in this building?	Yes No
During the past month, about how many cockroaches did you see in this apartment (house) on a typical day?	None 1 to 5 6 to 19 20 or more Don't know/Not sure
Does this apartment (house) have open cracks or holes in the interior walls or ceiling? Do not include hairline cracks.	Yes No
Does this apartment (house) have holes in the floors?	Yes No
Is there any broken plaster or peeling paint on the ceiling or inside walls?	Yes No
Is the area of broken plaster or peeling paint larger than 8 1⁄2 inches by 11 inches?	Yes No

Has water leaked into your apartment (house) in the last 12 months, excluding leaks resulting from your own plumbing fixtures backing up or overflowing?	Yes No

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NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011*, 2014*, 2017*

* **roaches** was added in 2011 on.

Housing Costs

Measure	Variable name	Data file
Contract rent	crent	Occupied
Gross rent	grent	Occupied
Owner cost	ownercost	Occupied

crent

The variable **crent** indicates the monthly contract rent for the sample unit. This is the amount due to the owner, regardless of whether the rent does or does not include utilities.

Description	Value
$1	1
$2	2
..	…
$5,995 (topcode amount)	5995
Mean amount above topcode	7688
Not applicable (owner occupied or no cash rent)	99999

grent

The variable **grent** indicates the monthly gross rent for the sample unit. This is the amount due to the owner including utility costs. This variable is recoded by the Census Bureau based on the answers to several questions (see below).

Description	Value
$1	1
$2	2
..	
$5,995 (topcode amount)	5995
Mean amount above topcode	7292
Not applicable (occupied rent free or owner occupied)	9999

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ownercost

The variable **ownercost** indicates the monthly housing cost for an owner-occupied unit. This includes any mortgage or other loan payments, any condo/coop maintenance fees, and any utilities. This variable is recoded by the Census Bureau based on the answers to several questions (see below).

Description	Value
$1	1
$2	2
..	…
Not reported	999998
Not applicable (renter occupied or occupied rent free)	999999

Questionnaire phrasing

I have some questions about utility costs.
Do you pay for your own electricity?

Yes – go to next question
Yes, but combined with gas – ask for separate estimates
No, included in rent, condominium or other fee

What is the average MONTHLY cost?

$_____ per month

Do you pay for your own gas?

Yes – go to next question
No, included in rent, condominium or other fee
No, gas not used

What is the average MONTHLY cost? $_____ per month

What is your combined average electricity and gas $_____ per month
payment each month?

Do you pay your own water and sewer charges?   Yes – go to next question
                                                     No, included in rent, condominium or
                                                     other fee or no charge

What is the total YEARLY cost? $_____ per month

Do you pay for your own oil, coal, kerosene, wood,   Yes – go to next question
steam, etc.?   No, included in rent, condominium or
                                                     other fee
                                                     No, these fuels not used

What is the total YEARLY cost? $_____ per year

What is the MONTHLY rent? $_____ per year

What are the current monthly mortgage or loan
payments on this apartment (house)? Include $_____ per month
payments on first, second, home equity loan, and
any other mortgages.

What are the monthly condominium or co-op
maintenance fees for this apartment (house)? $_____ per month
Exclude payments for any mortgages (loans) on
this unit.

What was the cost of fire and liability insurance for 2016? $_____ per year

What were the real estate taxes for 2016? $_____ per year

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Rental Assistance		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Housing Choice Voucher or Section 8	ra_s8	Occupied
Other rental assistance	ra_other	Occupied

ra_s8

The variable **ra_s8** indicates whether the current occupants reported having a voucher that pays all or part of the rent.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3
Not Reported	8
Not applicable (occupied rent free or owner occupied)	9

ra_other

The variable **ra_other** indicates whether the current occupants reported having any other form of rental assistance including Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE), Shelter Allowance, or assistance from another federal or local program. This variable is recoded by the Census Bureau based on the answers to several questions (see below).

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3
Not Reported	8
Not applicable (occupied rent free or owner occupied)	9

Questionnaire phrasing

Is any part of the monthly rent for this apartment (house) paid by any of the following government programs, either to a member of this household or directly to the landlord?

Federal Section 8 certificate or voucher program

Yes
No
Don't Know

Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE)

Yes
No
Don't Know

Public assistance shelter allowance

Yes
No
Don't Know

Another Federal housing subsidy program

Yes
No
Don't Know

Another state or city housing subsidy program

Yes
No
Don't Know

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Some specific rental assistance programs have been added or deleted over time.

Public Assistance		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Anyone in the household receives public assistance	pa_any	Occupied

pa_any

The variable **pa_any** indicates whether any member of the household received public assistance from one or more program. These include TANF, Safety Net, SSI, SNAP, WIC, or another cash assistance program. This variable is recoded by the Census Bureau based on the answers to several questions (see below).

Description	Value
Yes, public assistance or welfare payments	1
No public assistance or welfare payments or not reported	2

Questionnaire phrasing

Does anyone in this household (including children under age 15) receive public assistance or welfare payments from any of the following?

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or Family Assistance

Yes
No
Don't Know

Safety Net Assistance

Yes
No
Don't Know

Supplemental Security Income (SSI), including aid to the blind or disabled

Yes
No
Don't Know

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	Yes No Don't Know
. Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	Yes No Don't Know
. Other	Yes No Don't Know

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Some specific public assistance programs have been added or deleted over time.

Delay of Healthcare		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Delayed healthcare: dental	delay_dental	Occupied
Delayed healthcare: preventive	delay_preventive	Occupied
Delayed healthcare: mental health	delay_mentalhealth	Occupied
Delayed healthcare: diagnosis or treatment	delay_diagnosis	Occupied
Delayed healthcare: prescriptions	delay_script	Occupied

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delay_dental

The variable **delay_dental** indicates whether the respondent delayed dental care in the prior 12 months because of financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

delay_preventive

The variable **delay_preventive** indicates whether the respondent delayed preventive care or a check-up in the prior 12 months because of financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

delay_mentalhealth

The variable **delay_mentalhealth** indicates whether the respondent delayed any mental health services in the prior 12 months because of financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

delay_diagnosis

The variable **delay_diagnosis** indicates whether the respondent delayed any treatment or diagnosis of an illness in the prior 12 months because of financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

delay_script

The variable **delay_script** indicates whether the respondent delayed filling any prescriptions in the prior 12 months because of financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

In the last 12 months, did you postpone any of the
following types of health care for financial reasons?

Dental	Yes No Don't Know
Preventive care/check-up	Yes No Don't Know
Mental health	Yes No Don't Know
Treatment or diagnosis of illness or health condition	Yes No Don't Know
Prescription drugs	Yes No Don't Know

NYCHVS History   2011, 2017

Service Interruption Due to Non-Payment		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Service interruption: utilities	interrupt_utility	Occupied
Service interruption: landline	interrupt_landline	Occupied
Service interruption: cell phone	interrupt_cell	Occupied
Service interruption: internet/cable	interrupt_internet	Occupied
Service interruption: other	interrupt_other	Occupied

interrupt_utility

The variable **interrupt_utility** indicates whether the respondent had one or more utility service interrupted / shut-off for financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

interrupt_landline

The variable **interrupt_landline** indicates whether the respondent had their phone (landline) service interrupted / shut-off for financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

interrupt_cell

The variable **interrupt_cell** indicates whether the respondent had their phone (cell) service interrupted / shut-off for financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

interrupt_internet

The variable **interrupt_internet** indicates whether the respondent had their internet or cable service interrupted / shut-off for financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

The variable **interrupt_other** indicates whether the respondent had their any other service interrupted / shut-off for financial reasons.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

In the last 12 months, were any of the following services interrupted because you did not have enough money at the time?

One or more utility

Yes
No
Don't Know

Landline telephone

Yes
No
Don't Know

Cell phone

Yes
No
Don't Know

Cable/Internet

Yes
No
Don't Know

Other

Yes
No
Don't Know

NYCHVS History   2017

Perceived Housing Affordability

Measure	Variable name	Data file
Rating of housing affordability to occupant	aff_me	Occupied
Rating of housing affordability relative to condition	aff_condition	Occupied
Rating of housing affordability relative to location	aff_location	Occupied

aff_me

The variable **aff_me** indicates the respondent's level of agreement with the following statement:
My apartment (house) is affordable to me.

Description	Value
Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Not reported	8

aff_condition

The variable **aff_condition** indicates the respondent's level of agreement with the following statement:
My apartment (house) is too expensive given its condition.

Description	Value
Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Not reported	8

aff_location

The variable **aff_location** indicates the respondent's level of agreement with the following statement:
My apartment (house) is too expensive given its location.

Description	Value
Strongly agree	1
Agree	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	5
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Answer choices: strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, strongly disagree)

My apartment (house) is affordable to me.	Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree
My apartment (house) is too expensive given its condition.	Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree
My apartment (house) is too expensive given its location.	Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree

NYCHVS History 2017

Perceived Neighborhood Quality		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Rating of respondent's neighborhood	ratenabe	Occupied

ratenabe

The variable **ratenabe** indicates the respondent's rating of the condition of the physical structures in their neighborhood.

Description	Value
Excellent	1
Very good	2
Fair	3
Poor	4
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

How would you rate the physical condition of the residential structures in this NEIGHBORHOOD – would you say they are on the whole excellent, good, fair, or poor?

Excellent
Very good
Fair
Poor

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Respondent Demographics

Measure	Variable name	Data file
Respondent race / ethnicity	r_raceeth	Occupied
Respondent Hispanic origin	r_hisp	Occupied
Respondent sex	r_sex	Occupied
Respondent age	r_age	Occupied

r_raceeth

The variable **r_raceeth** indicates the respondent's race/ethnicity, as recoded by the NYCHVS.

Description	Value
White, non-Hispanic	1
Black, non-Hispanic	2
Hispanic	3
Asian, non-Hispanic	4
Other, non-Hispanic	5

There are no missing values for this variable.

r_hisp

The variable **r_hisp** indicates the respondent's Hispanic origin, as recoded by the NYCHVS.

Description	Value
Not Hispanic	1
Puerto Rican	2
Dominican	3
Cuban	4
South/Central American	5
Mexican, Mexican-American, Chicano	6
Other Spanish/Hispanic	7

There are no missing values for this variable.

r_sex

The variable **r_sex** indicates the respondent's sex, as recoded by the NYCHVS.

Description	Value
Male	1
Female	2

There are no missing values for this variable.

r_age

The variable **r_age** indicates the respondent's age, as recoded by the NYCHVS.

Description	Value
1 years old	1
2 years old	2
…	…
85 years old (top code)	85

There are no missing values for this variable.

Questionnaire phrasing

Is . . . of Spanish or Hispanic origin?	No Puerto Rican Dominican Cuban South/Central American Mexican-American, Mexican, Chicano Other Spanish/Hispanic

What is . . .'s race? Select one or more categories from the flashcard.	White
	Black or African American
	American Indian or Alaska Native
	Asian:
	    Chinese
	    Filipino
	    Korean
	    Vietnamese
	    Asian Indian, Pakistani,
	    Bangladeshi
	    Other Asian
	Pacific Islander:
	    Native Hawaiian
	    Other Pacific Islander

Is . . . male or female?	Male Female
How old is …?	_____ Years old now

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Immigration and Residential Mobility		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Respondent born outside US	foreignborn	Occupied
Place where respondent was born	placeborn	Occupied
Place where respondent's mother was born	mom_placeborn	Occupied
Place where respondent's father was born	dad_placeborn	Occupied
Year respondent moved to US	yearmovedus	Occupied
Year respondent moved to NYC	yearmovednyc	Occupied
Year respondent moved to unit	r_yearmoved	Occupied

foreignborn

The variable **foreignborn** indicates if the respondent moved to the US as an immigrant.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Not reported	8
Not applicable (Born in United States)	9

placeborn

The variable **placeborn** indicates where the respondent was born.

Description	Value
New York City	7
U.S., outside New York City	9
Puerto Rico	10
Dominican Republic	11
Caribbean (other than Puerto Rico or Dom. Rep.)	12
Mexico	13
Central America, South America	14
Canada	15
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or Uzbekistan	16
Other European countries	17
China, Hong Kong, Taiwan	18

Korea	19
India	20
Pakistan, Bangladesh	21
Philippines	22
Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)	23
Other Asia	24
Africa	25
All other countries	26
Not reported	98

mom_placeborn

The variable **mom_placeborn** indicates where the respondent's mother was born.

Description	Value
New York City	7
U.S., outside New York City	9
Puerto Rico	10
Dominican Republic	11
Caribbean (other than Puerto Rico or Dom. Rep.)	12
Mexico	13
Central America, South America	14
Canada	15
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or Uzbekistan	16
Other European countries	17
China, Hong Kong, Taiwan	18
Korea	19
India	20
Pakistan, Bangladesh	21
Philippines	22
Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)	23
Other Asia	24
Africa	25
All other countries	26
Not reported	98

dad_placeborn

The variable **dad_placeborn** indicates where the respondent's father was born.

Description	Value
New York City	7
U.S., outside New York City	9

Puerto Rico	10
Dominican Republic	11
Caribbean (other than Puerto Rico or Dom. Rep.)	12
Mexico	13
Central America, South America	14
Canada	15
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or Uzbekistan	16
Other European countries	17
China, Hong Kong, Taiwan	18
Korea	19
India	20
Pakistan, Bangladesh	21
Philippines	22
Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)	23
Other Asia	24
Africa	25
All other countries	26
Not reported	98

yearmovedus

The variable **yearmovedus** indicates the year the respondent moved to the US.

Description	Value
Moved to US in 1954 or earlier	1954
Moved to US in 1955	1955
..	…
Moved to US in 2017	2017
Not reported	9998
Not applicable (Born in the United States)	9999

yearmovednyc

The variable **yearmovednyc** indicates the year the respondent moved to New York City.

Description	Value
Moved to NYC in 1947 or earlier	1947
Moved to NYC in 1948	1948
..	…
Moved to NYC in 2017	2017
Not reported	9998

Not applicable (Born in New York City)	9999

yearmovedunit

The variable **yearmovedunit** indicates the year the respondent moved into the sample unit.

Description	Value
Moved into sample unit in 1955 or earlier	1955
Moved into sample unit in 1956	1956
..	…
Moved into sample unit in 2017	2017

There are no missing values for this variable.

Questionnaire phrasing

Did . . . (respondent) move to the United States as an immigrant?	Yes No
Where was . . . (respondent) born?	New York City U.S., Outside New York City Puerto Rico Dominican Republic Caribbean (other than Puerto Rico or Dominican Republic) Mexico Central America, South America Canada Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or Uzbekistan Other European countries China, Hong Kong, Taiwan Korea India Pakistan, Bangladesh Philippines Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)

Other Asia
Africa
All other countries – Specify

Where was . . . (respondent)'s father born?

New York City
U.S., Outside New York City
Puerto Rico
Dominican Republic
Caribbean (other than Puerto Rico or
Dominican Republic)
Mexico
Central America, South America
Canada
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia,
Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,
Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia,
Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or
Uzbekistan
Other European countries
China, Hong Kong, Taiwan
Korea
India
Pakistan, Bangladesh
Philippines
Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Laos,
Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma),
Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)
Other Asia
Africa
        All other countries – Specify

Where was . . . (respondent)'s mother born?

New York City
U.S., Outside New York City
Puerto Rico
Dominican Republic
Caribbean (other than Puerto Rico or
Dominican Republic)
Mexico
Central America, South America
Canada
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia,
Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,
Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia,
Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or
Uzbekistan
Other European countries
China, Hong Kong, Taiwan
Korea

India
Pakistan, Bangladesh
Philippines
Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam)
Other Asia
Africa
    All other countries – Specify

In what year did . . . (reference person) move to the United States?	____ ____ ____ ____ (year)
In what year did . . . (reference person) move to New York City?	____ ____ ____ ____ (year)
In what year did . . . (reference person) move into this apartment (house)?	____ ____ ____ ____ (year)

NYCHVS History   1991, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017

Physical Health		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Respondent's self-rated health	srhealth	Occupied
Electronic medical device in home	meddevice	Occupied

srhealth

The variable **srhealth** indicates the respondent's self-rated health status.

Description	Value
1=Excellent	1
2=Very Good	2
3=Good	3
4=Fair	4
5=Poor	5
6=Don't know	6
8=Not reported	8

meddevice

The variable **meddevice** indicates if there is a medical device in the sample unit that requires electricity to function.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Don't Know	3
Not Reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

Would you say that, in general, your health is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?	Excellent Very good Good Fair Poor Don't know
Do you or anyone in your household have any medical devices in your home that are important to health and that require electrical power to operate?	Yes No Don't know

NYCHVS History   2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017*

* Medical device item added in 2017

Phone Coverage		
Measure	**Variable name**	**Data file**
Landline phone in sample unit	landline	Occupied
Number of adults with cell phone	cellphones	Occupied

landline

The variable **landline** indicates whether there is a landline phone in the sample unit.

Description	Value
Yes	1
No	2
Don't know	3
Not reported	8

cellphones

The variable **cellphones** indicates the number of adults in the home that have a cell phone.

Description	Value
One adult	1
Two adults	2
Three adults	3
Four adults	4
Five adults	5
Six adults	6
Seven adults	7
Not reported	8

Questionnaire phrasing

Is there a landline telephone in this apartment (house)? Do not count cellular phones, or any phone line that is used only for a computer or fax machine.

Yes
No
Don't know

How many adults (age 18 and over) in this household have a cell phone for personal use?

____ persons
None

NYCHVS History   2005, 2008*, 2011*, 2014*, 2017*

* Landline asked 2005 through 2017; cell phones asked 2008 through 2017

Index of Variables