



UFF-DA!

Useful Facts and Figures— Data for Affiliates

Housing & Habitat: the Need and the Benefits – April 2020

As the world shifts to meet the demands and circumstances of COVID-19, the benefits of homeownership have never been clearer. Sheltering in place isn't possible without such a place. And the need for housing, as well as the benefits of having it, haven't changed. To support health, economic success, children and their education, family stability, and generational wealth, housing is the answer. And Habitat for Humanity has been successfully partnering with individuals and families since 1976 to make safe, stable homes a reality.

Why Housing?

The Challenge

Spending Too Much on Housing: Over 188,000 renter households between the ages of 25 and 44 in Minnesota are income-qualified to purchase a home. Of those, 64,000 are households of color. As renters, Minneostans are paying too much for housing; **44% of all Minnesota renters pay more than they can afford on rent.** Investment in affordable homeownership means wealth and opportunity-creation for these households for generations.

In Minnesota,



1 IN 9 HOUSEHOLDS

spend half or more of their income on housing.

On average, a cost-burdened (spends 30% or more of monthly gross income on housing) renter had less than \$10 in savings in 2015.



Racial gap in homeownership: Between white households and households of color that own their homes:

National gap: 25%

Statewide (Minnesota) gap: 36%

The Solution: Affordable Homeownership

Owning a home results in net wealth increases of \$9,000-\$10,000 for each year a home is owned.



Economic Benefit:

“For most buyers, **homeownership leads to wealth creation.**”

Homeowners can take advantage of the mortgage interest tax deduction. They can also build equity, which can be used to fund repairs, continuing education, or starting a new business. Home equity is one of the largest sources of collateral for loans to start a new business.

Homeownership and the house sector help fuel the economy through taxes, direct spending, and consumer spending.

Community Benefit: Homeowners vote at a 25% higher rate than renters. They also report being happier in their homes. Homeowners also move less often, promoting stability in their neighborhoods.

Benefits for Children: Academic achievements and future success is much higher for children of homeowners than for renters. Children of homeowners are **116% more likely to graduate from college.**

Homeowners' Children v. Renters' Children

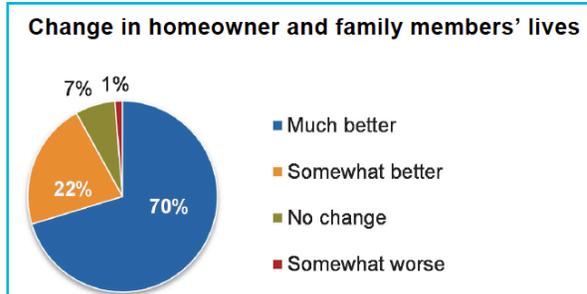
Math Achievement Scores	9 percent higher
Reading Achievement Scores	7 percent higher
High School Graduation Rate	25 percent higher
Acquire Post-Secondary Education	100 percent higher
College Graduation Rate	116 percent higher
Be Homeowners in 10 years	59 percent higher
Quality of Home Environment	13 to 23 percent higher
Parental Income	100 percent higher
Behavioral Problems	1 to 3 percent lower

Why Habitat?

“Since Habitat homeowners moved into their homes, they reported improvement in almost all areas investigated: safety, health, education, social connectedness, family interaction and personal wellbeing, and economic situation. Overall, **92 percent of Habitat homeowners said their lives were better since moving into their home.**”

Health

“My **health issues improved**...before we were living in an apartment and the rooms were dusty and smelly because the ceilings were wet [leaked] and moisture made it feel damp and one of my sons had asthma that made it worse. **Since being in the [Habitat] home, he is much better now.**”



57% of those with a respiratory illness saw improvements after moving into their Habitat home.

Increasing Access

Habitat programs provide opportunities statewide for renters to move into ownership. Habitat for Humanity represents the largest affordable single-family housing organization in the state and currently has a great opportunity to address equity issues by increasing affordable homeownership opportunities statewide.

Economic Impacts

The 2,200 Habitat homeowners in Minnesota could be using between **\$6.4 and \$9.3 million less in government assistance programs annually.** Use of every type of government assistance (except disability) declined by at least 15 percentage points.

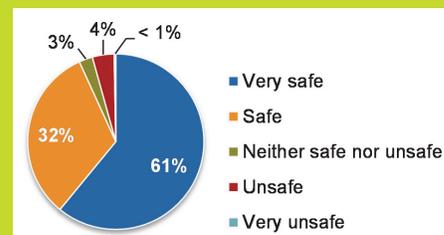
For the homeowner: “The money thing, it's huge, **we have much more money left over after paying the mortgage each month. We are able to have less stress** and can have our children participate in band, sports and other school and community activities that charge.”

For the construction industry: Habitat for Humanity consistently ranks among the top 10 homebuilders in the United States, making Habitat a leader in the construction industry, one with a great economic impact.

For the worker: Each Habitat affiliate is responsible for direct and indirect economic activity, jobs created, wages increased, and tax revenue generated.

Safety

Respondents' feelings of safety in their current home



Over 90% of homeowners feel safe in their homes. 80% feel safer than in their previous homes.

Education

90% of homeowners feel better about their children's future.

Over half of homeowners with children said their children's grades improved after moving into their Habitat home, and two thirds said study habitats improved.



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