

2020

Healthy Housing Fact Sheet

AMERICAN SAMOA

Unhealthy conditions found in hazardous housing can lead to lead poisoning, asthma, respiratory illness, cancer, and unintentional injuries, resulting in missed school days and poor school performance for children, as well as missed workdays for parents. The requirement for safe and healthy housing has become even more urgent as people spend more time than ever in residential environments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To protect the health of American Samoa families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services.

	AS received funding since 2018?
CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	NO
CDC's National Asthma Control Program	NO
CDC's Environmental Health Tracking Network	NO
HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	NO
HUD's Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	YES
HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program	YES
EPA's Lead Categorical Grants	NO
EPA's State Indoor Radon Grants	NO
EPA's Drinking Water Revolving Fund	YES
HHS' Maternal and Child Health Block Grants	YES
HHS' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	YES
DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program	YES

Full funding to federal programs such as those listed above will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the residents and families of American Samoa. For example:



Approximately **21% of occupied housing units** in American Samoa were **built before 1978 and are likely to contain lead-based paint** (2010).



In American Samoa, approximately **27% of housing lacks complete plumbing facilities, 24% lacks complete kitchen facilities, and 67% lacks air conditioning** (2010).



An estimated **34% of American Samoa renters spend over 30% of their income on rent** (2010).



There are approximately **20 deaths per year from indoor air pollution as a result of certain cooking fuels** in American Samoa.



Over **15% of American Samoan high school students have been diagnosed with asthma** by a medical professional (2008).



Approximately **5 American Samoans are poisoned annually by carbon monoxide**.



Many American Samoans use **roof-collected rainwater for their drinking water supply, but the majority of sampled rainwater violated the AS water quality standards for the presence of microbial bacteria**.



A study in American Samoa discovered **lead in the sediments and water of coastal streams at a presence 3-10 times higher than anticipated**, likely a result of poor solid waste disposal practices or remains from abandoned American military stations.