

Housing Instability Index

1. In the past 6 months, have you had to live somewhere that you did not want to live?	NO	YES
2. In the past 6 months, have you had difficulty (or were unable to) pay for your housing?	NO	YES
3. Have you had trouble getting housing in the past 6 months?	NO	YES
4. Do you expect that you will be able to stay in your current housing for the next 6 months?	NO	YES
5. In the past 6 months, have you had to borrow money or ask friends/family or others for money to pay your rent/mortgage payment?	NO	YES
6. In the past 6 months, how many times have you moved?		
7. Have you had trouble with a landlord in the past 6 months?	NO	YES
8. In the past 6 months, has your landlord threatened to evict you?	NO	YES
9. In the past 6 months, have you been served an eviction notice?	NO	YES
10. How likely is it that you will be able to pay for your housing (e.g., rent/mortgage) this month	UNLIKELY	LIKELY

REFERENCE

Rollins, C., Glass, N.E., Perrin, N.A., Billhardt, K.A., Clough, A., Barnes, J., Hanson, G.C., & Bloom, T.L. (2012). Housing Instability Is as Strong a Predictor of Poor Health Outcomes as level of danger in an abusive relationship: Findings from the SHARE Study. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 27, 623-643.

Coding instructions from the article:

Eight items elicit a dichotomous, yes/no response and two items were recoded to be dichotomous. The question, “In the past 6 months, how many times have you moved?” was counted as a risk factor if participants reported moving more than twice in the past 6 months. The question, “How likely is it that you will be able to pay for your housing this month?” was recoded so that 0 represented a response of “very likely” or “somewhat likely” and 1 represented a response of “unlikely” or “very unlikely.” One item, “Do you expect that you will be able to stay in your current housing for the next 6 months?” was reverse-coded so that a response of “no” was counted as a risk factor. Cronbach’s alpha for the 10-item measure was .70, and the average item–total correlation was .37. Analysis of variance found the measure differentiates between those who can pay their own rent and those living in domestic violence shelters and motels ($p < .001$).