# How to Determine Who is Facing Unstable Housing

This table will help you determine which youth are facing unstable or temporary housing situations. Please note this may not capture every housing situation.

## Unstable Housing

- Missing one or more of the following traits: fixed, regular, and adequate
- Due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Due to lack of adequate alternative accommodations
- A place not meant for people to live; e.g. porch, barn, storage, unit, streets, car, etc.
- Or substandard housing; e.g. unsafe, not up to code
- Family lost housing, and unable to stay together in same place;
- Placed child temporarily with someone else;
- Child/youth lives apart from parent/guardian due to domestic violence or family conflict
- Parent is unable to take care of child due to abandonment, incarceration, or hospitalization and no long term arrangements made

## Stable Housing

- Fixed, regular, and adequate:
  - Living in the same place each night
  - Safe and with sufficient space
- Mutual decision made to live together for mutual benefit
- Due to family choice; e.g. when permanently housed parent accepts a new job and the family stays temporarily in a hotel, RV, etc. until they obtain new, permanent housing

## Housing Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unstable Housing</th>
<th>Stable Housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NONE</strong></td>
<td><strong>NONE</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Situations Pertaining to Unaccompanied Youth

- Parent has a work conflict, is incarcerated or hospitalized but has made arrangements for child to stay with others or caregiver

---

National Center for Homeless Education [https://nche.ed.gov/](https://nche.ed.gov/)