

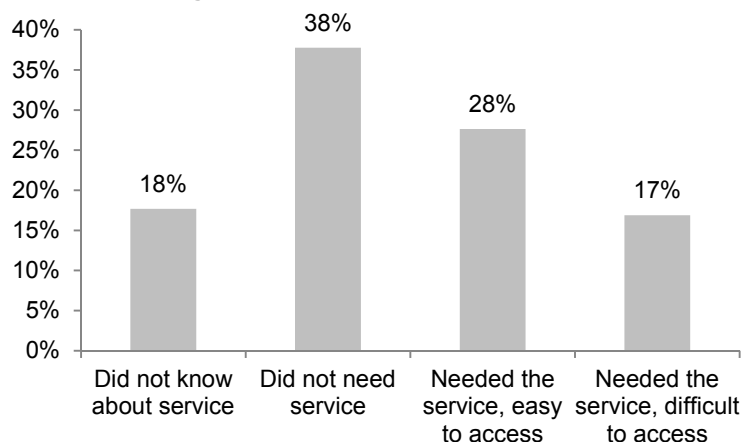
HOUSING

Housing for persons living with HIV (PLWH) is provided by the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) program through the Houston Housing and Community Development Department. Services include short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance as well as community-based supportive housing facilities for PLWH and their families.

(**Graph 1**) In the 2016 Houston HIV Care Services Needs Assessment, 45% of participants indicated a need for *housing* in the past 12 months. 28% reported the service was easy to access, and 17% reported difficulty. 18% stated that they did not know the service was available.

(**Table 1**) When barriers to *housing* were reported, the most common barrier types were education and awareness (25%) and wait-related issues (25%). Education and awareness barriers reported include lack of knowledge about service availability, location, staff contact, and definition. Wait-related barriers reported include placement on a waiting list, being told a wait list was full/unavailable, and long durations between application and approval.

GRAPH 1-Housing, 2016



(**Table 2 and Table 3**) Need and access to services can be analyzed for needs assessment participants according to demographic and other characteristics, revealing the presence of any potential disparities in access to services. For *housing*, this analysis shows the following:

- More females than males found the service accessible.
- More African American/black PLWH found the service accessible than other race/ethnicities.
- More PLWH age 18 to 24 found the service accessible than other age groups.
- In addition, more unstably housed and transgender PLWH found the service difficult to access when compared to all participants.

TABLE 1-Top 5 Reported Barrier Types for Housing, 2016

	No.	%
1. Education and Awareness (EA)	22	25%
2. Wait (W)	22	25%
3. Eligibility (EL)	12	14%
4. Housing (H)	8	9%
5. Interactions with Staff (S)	7	8%

TABLE 2-Housing, by Demographic Categories, 2016

Experience with the Service	Sex		Race/ethnicity				Age		
	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	18-24	25-49	50+
Did not know about service	17%	20%	11%	19%	23%	6%	35%	20%	13%
Did not need service	41%	28%	47%	29%	42%	81%	26%	36%	41%
Needed, easy to access	27%	30%	20%	35%	22%	13%	35%	28%	26%
Needed, difficult to access	15%	22%	22%	17%	14%	0%	4%	16%	20%

TABLE 3-Housing, by Selected Special Populations, 2016

Experience with the Service	Unstably Housed ^a	MSM ^b	Out of Care ^c	Recently Released ^d	Rural ^e	Transgender ^f
Did not know about service	29%	18%	50%	18%	24%	14%
Did not need service	19%	45%	50%	26%	56%	33%
Needed, easy to access	20%	23%	0%	42%	12%	33%
Needed, difficult to access	33%	14%	0%	13%	9%	19%

^aPersons reporting housing instability ^bMen who have sex with men ^cPersons with no evidence of HIV care for 12 mo.

^dPersons released from incarceration in the past 12 mo. ^eNon-Houston/Harris County residents ^fPersons with discordant sex assigned at birth and current gender