

The Hidden Crisis: Long COVID's Association with Housing Stability and Home Accessibility Among People with Disabilities

Plain Language Abstract

Long COVID means having COVID-19 symptoms for a long time after getting sick. We wanted to learn if people with Long COVID have more trouble with housing (where people live) compared to people without Long COVID.

We used survey data from 1,533 people with disabilities. Among them, 514 had Long COVID. We compared things like housing stability, financial concerns, and home problems between people with and without Long COVID. We also talked to 13 people with Long COVID to get more details.

Here's what we found:

1. People with Long COVID had more trouble keeping a stable home (21.1%) compared to people without Long COVID (8.1%).
2. They worried more about paying high rent or mortgage (50.4% vs. 40.0%) and had more issues with unsteady income (54.8% vs. 35.2%).
3. They had more problems with pests (like bugs) and mold in their homes.
4. Their homes were less accessible, meaning they had more trouble moving around their house and doing daily activities.

This study shows that people with Long COVID face more housing problems. These findings suggest that more support and changes may be needed to help people with Long COVID have stable and accessible homes.

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