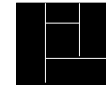


Has HOPE VI Transformed Residents Lives? New Findings from the HOPE VI Panel Study



The Urban Institute

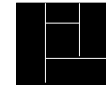
**Susan J. Popkin, Principal Investigator
June 2007**



The HOPE VI Panel Study

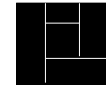
Tracks the living conditions and well-being of residents from five HOPE VI sites where revitalization began in mid to late 2001

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| – Shore Park/Shore Terrace | Atlantic City, NJ |
| – Wells/Madden | Chicago, IL |
| – Few Gardens | Durham, NC |
| – Easter Hill | Richmond, CA |
| – East Capitol Dwellings | Washington, D.C. |



HOPE VI Panel Study—Methods

- Baseline survey and interviews pre-relocation (summer 2001)
 - 887 heads of household
- Follow up survey and interviews summer 2003
 - 736 heads of household
- Final survey and interviews summer 2005
 - 715 heads of household
- Response rate was 85% at each wave, among non-deceased

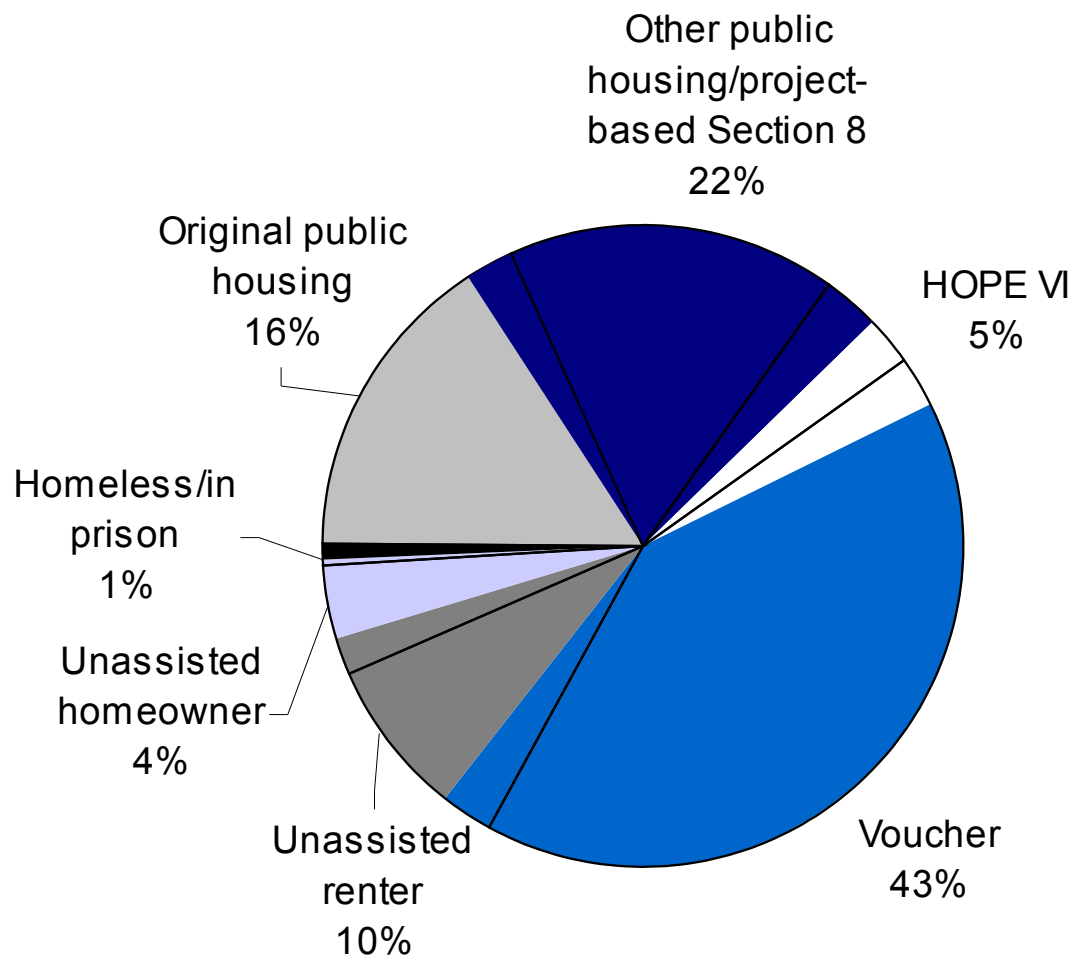


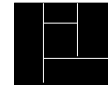
Sample Characteristics

- Majority are African-American, single female heads of households
- Extremely low-income
 - Employment rates low (22% full-time, 17% part-time)
 - Only half graduated high school
- 75% have children; 42% have children under 6
- Approximately 10% are 62 and older



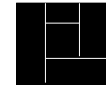
Relocation Outcomes, 2005





Most Residents Have Not Moved Back

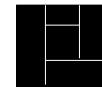
- Concern that relocation would leave residents concentrated in other very poor, minority communities
- Few in new mixed-income as of 2005; likely to increase as sites are completed.
- Still, for many residents, relocation has meant profound improvements in quality of life



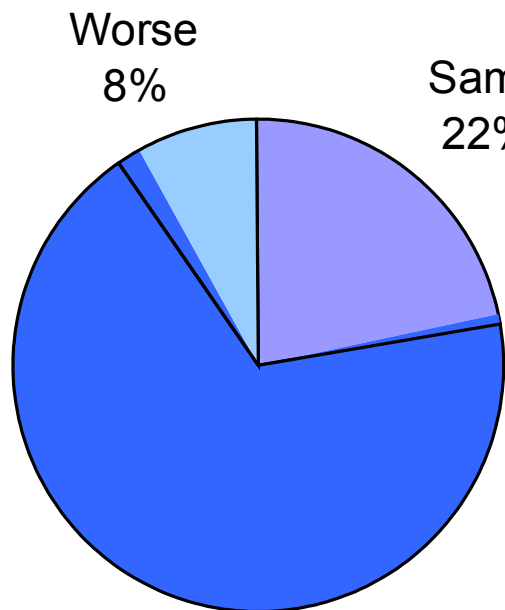
Majority of Movers Have Vouchers

- Voucher movers were slightly better off at baseline
 - younger,
 - more had high school diploma
 - More were employed
- But also very poor, long-term public housing residents;
- Would not have moved without HOPE VI

Voucher Holders Have Better Housing

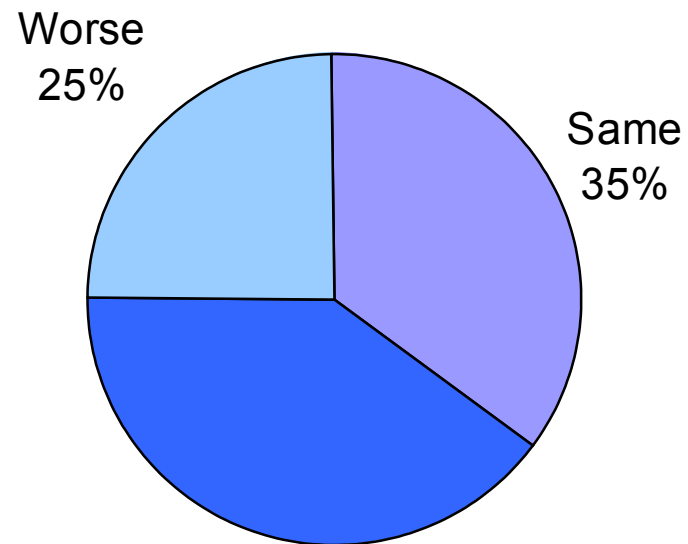


Current Housing Compared to Baseline



Better
70%

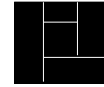
Voucher holders, 2005



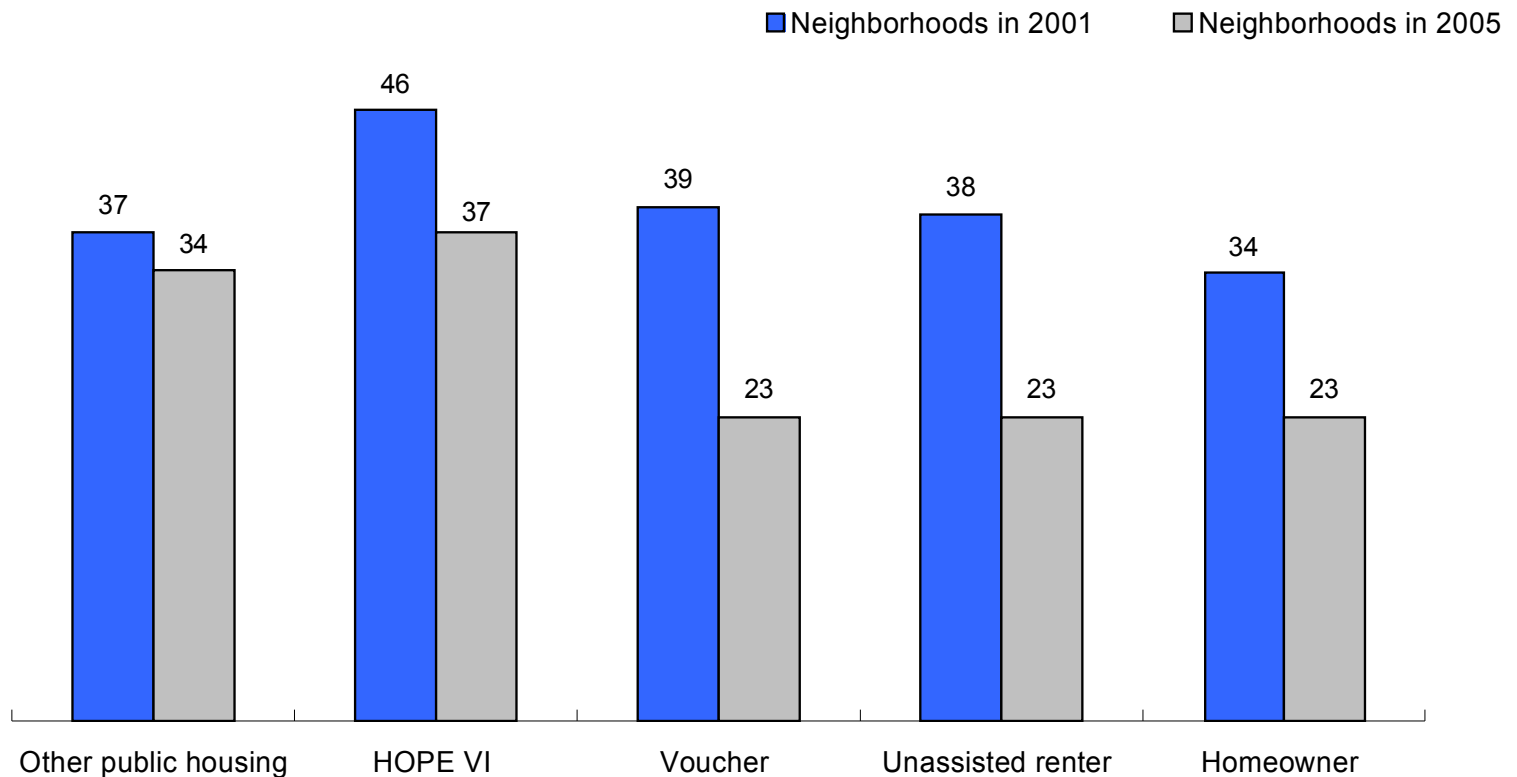
Better
40%

Other public housing residents, 2005

Voucher Holders Live in Low-Poverty Neighborhoods

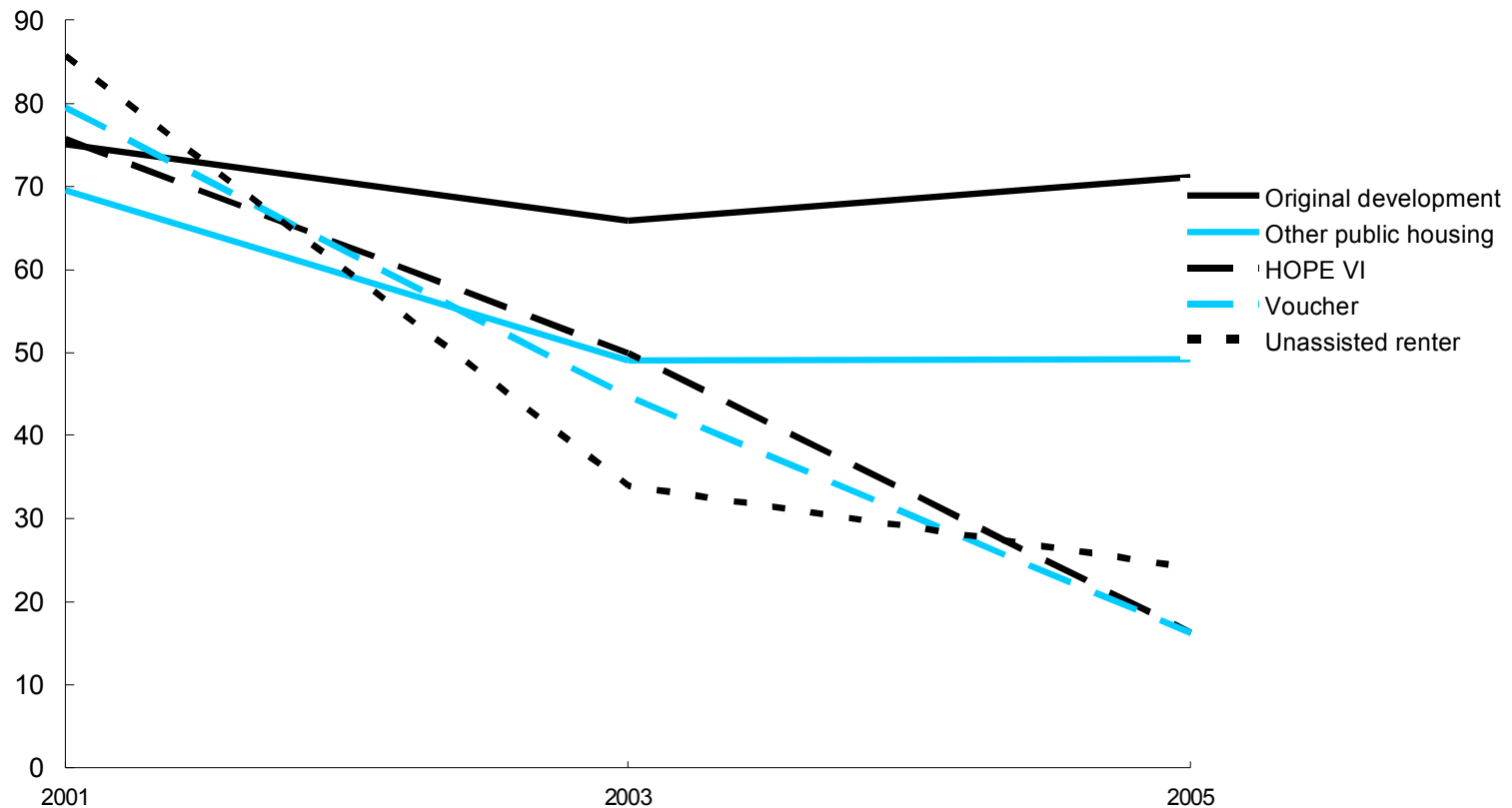


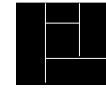
Average Poverty Rates for HOPE VI Panel Study Respondents,
by Housing Assistance, 2001 and 2005 (percent)



Safety Is Biggest Benefit of Relocation

HOPE VI Panel Study Respondents Reporting that Drug Selling in Their Neighborhood Is a "Big Problem," by Housing Assistance (percent)





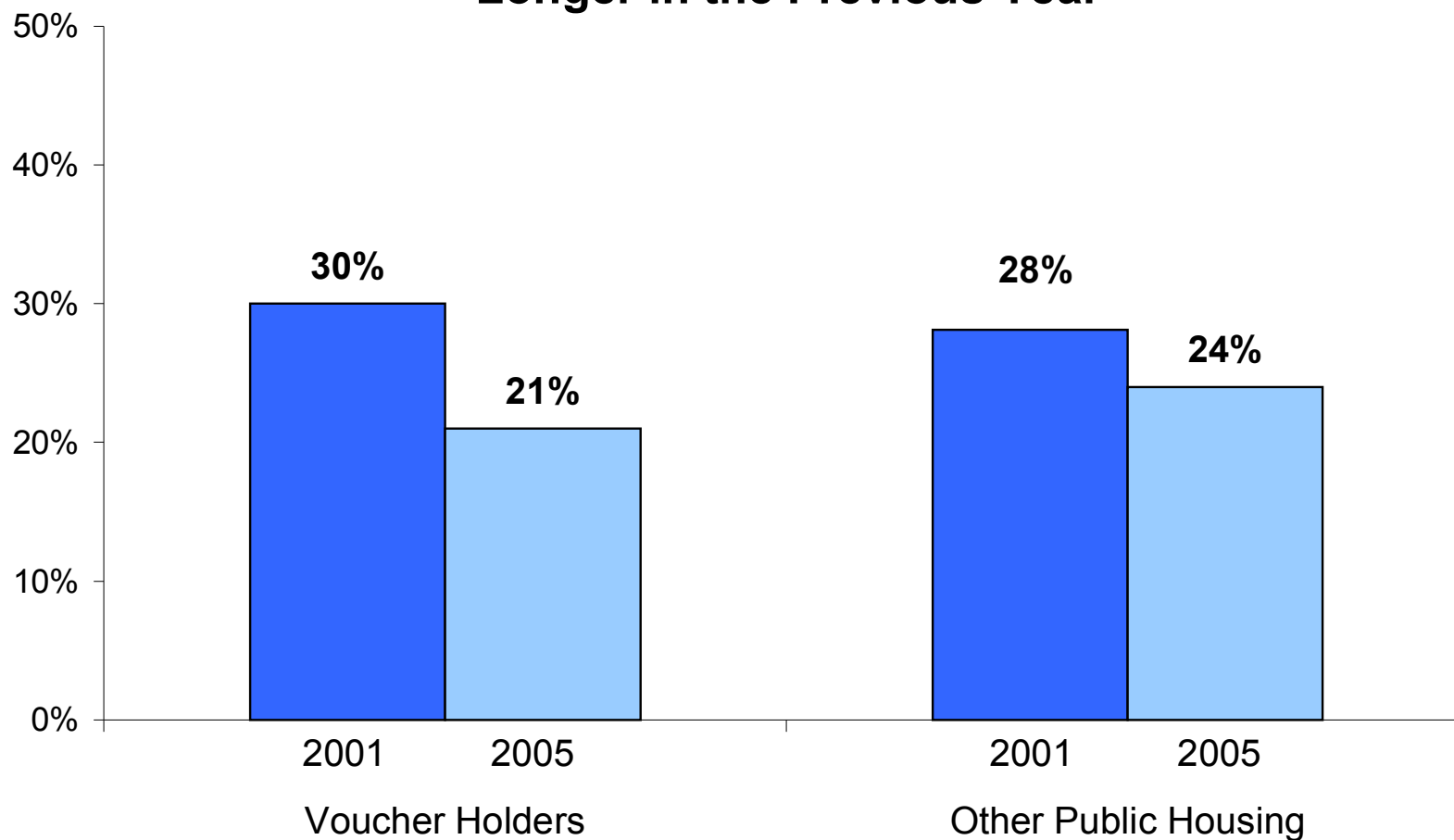
Profound Impacts on Quality of Life

- Relocates reported wide range of life improvements including:
 - allowing their children to play outside
 - less fighting among neighborhood children
 - sleeping better and
 - feeling less worried about drug dealing and violent crime

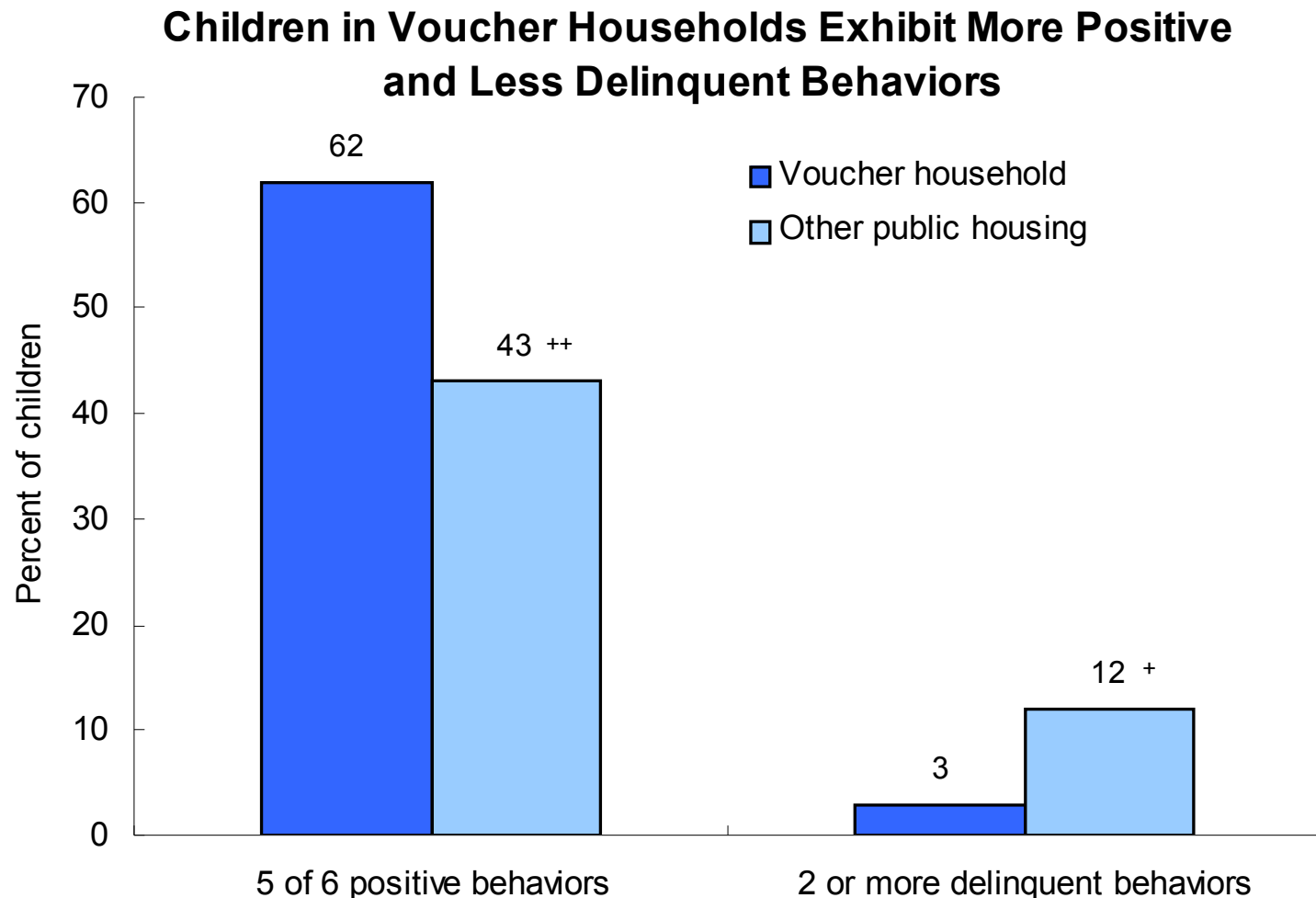


Voucher Holders Feel Less Worried

Percent Reporting Anxiety Episode of One-month or Longer in the Previous Year

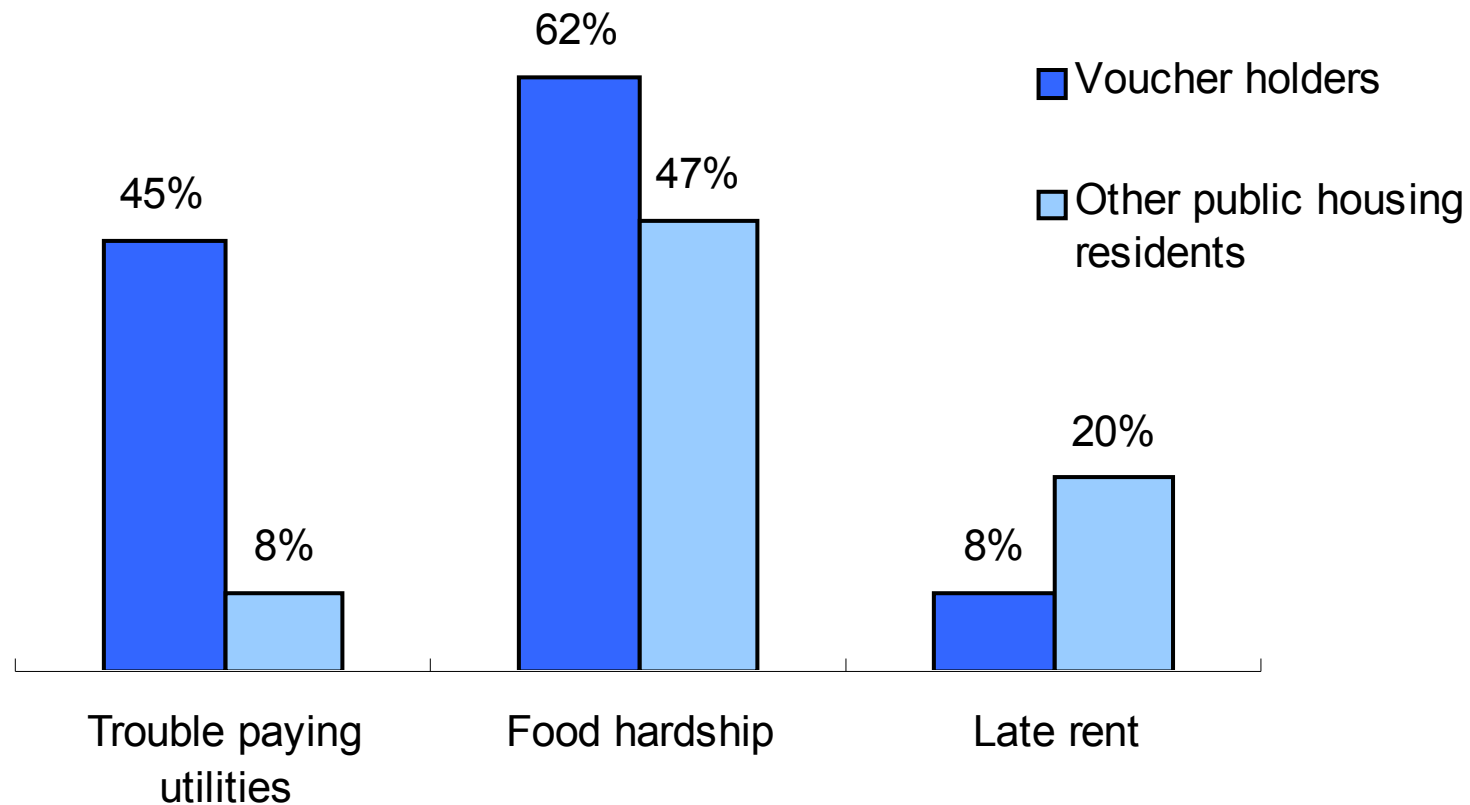


Children in Voucher Households Also Benefit from Relocation

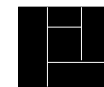


Voucher Holders Have Trouble Making Ends Meet

Financial Hardship in 2005

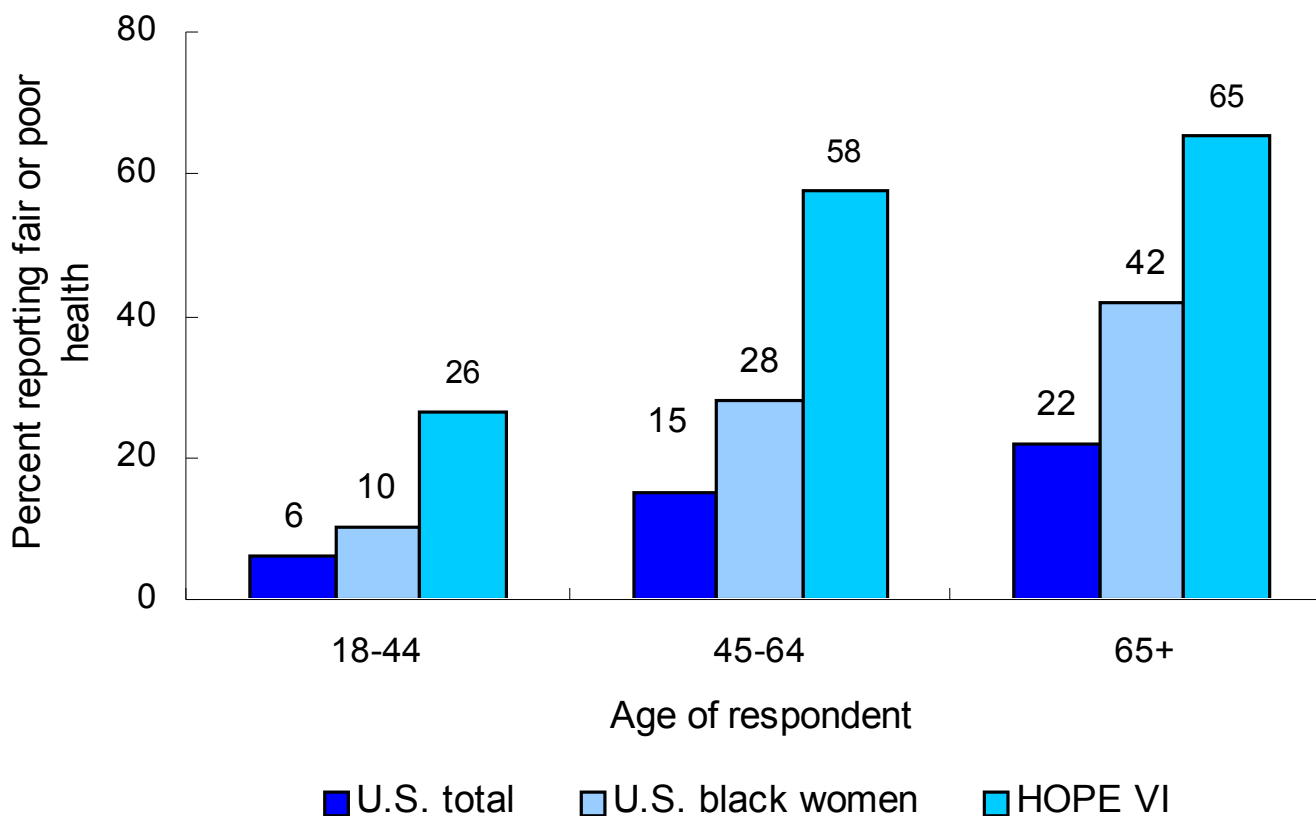


**Difference between voucher holders and public housing residents is statistically significant at the 5 percent level.



Poor Health is the Biggest Challenge

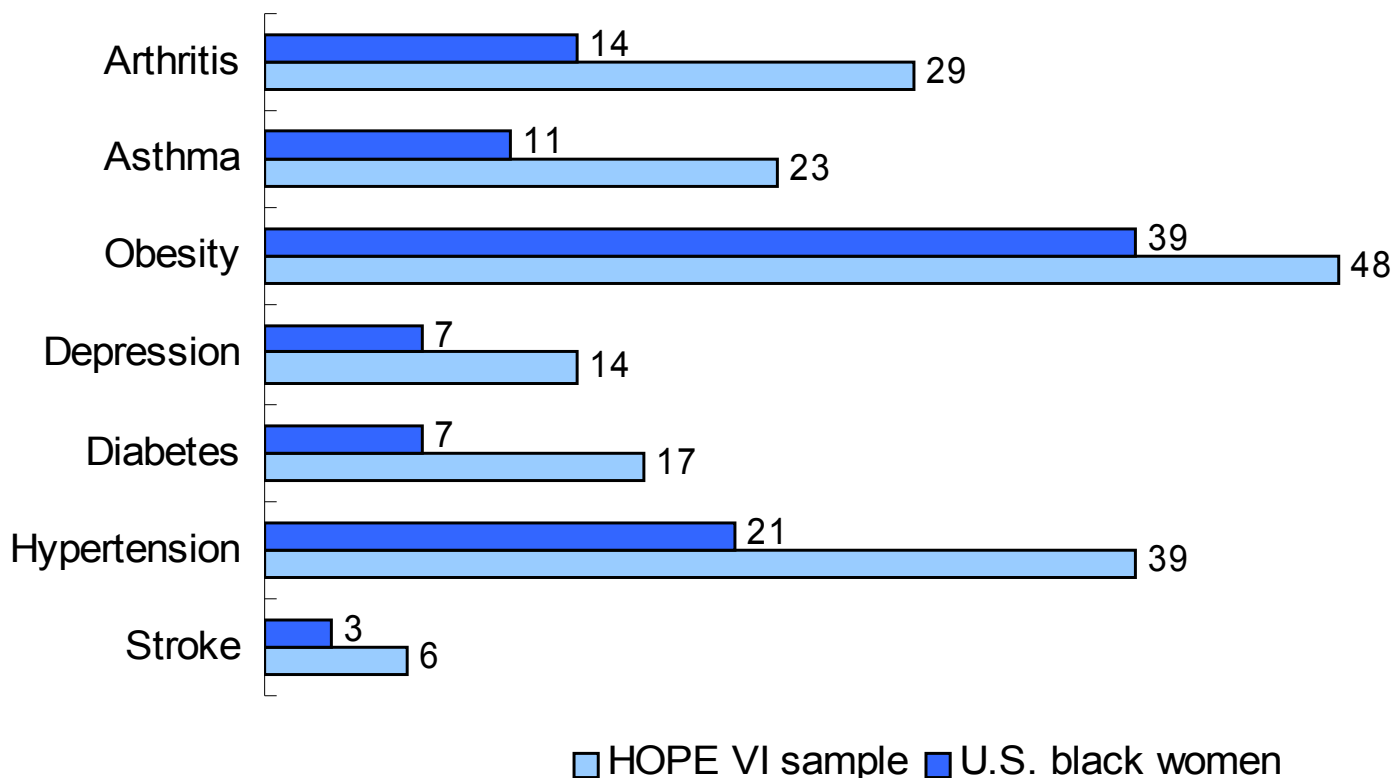
Self-Reported Health Status of HOPE VI Respondents, 2005

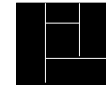




Very High Prevalence of Health Problems

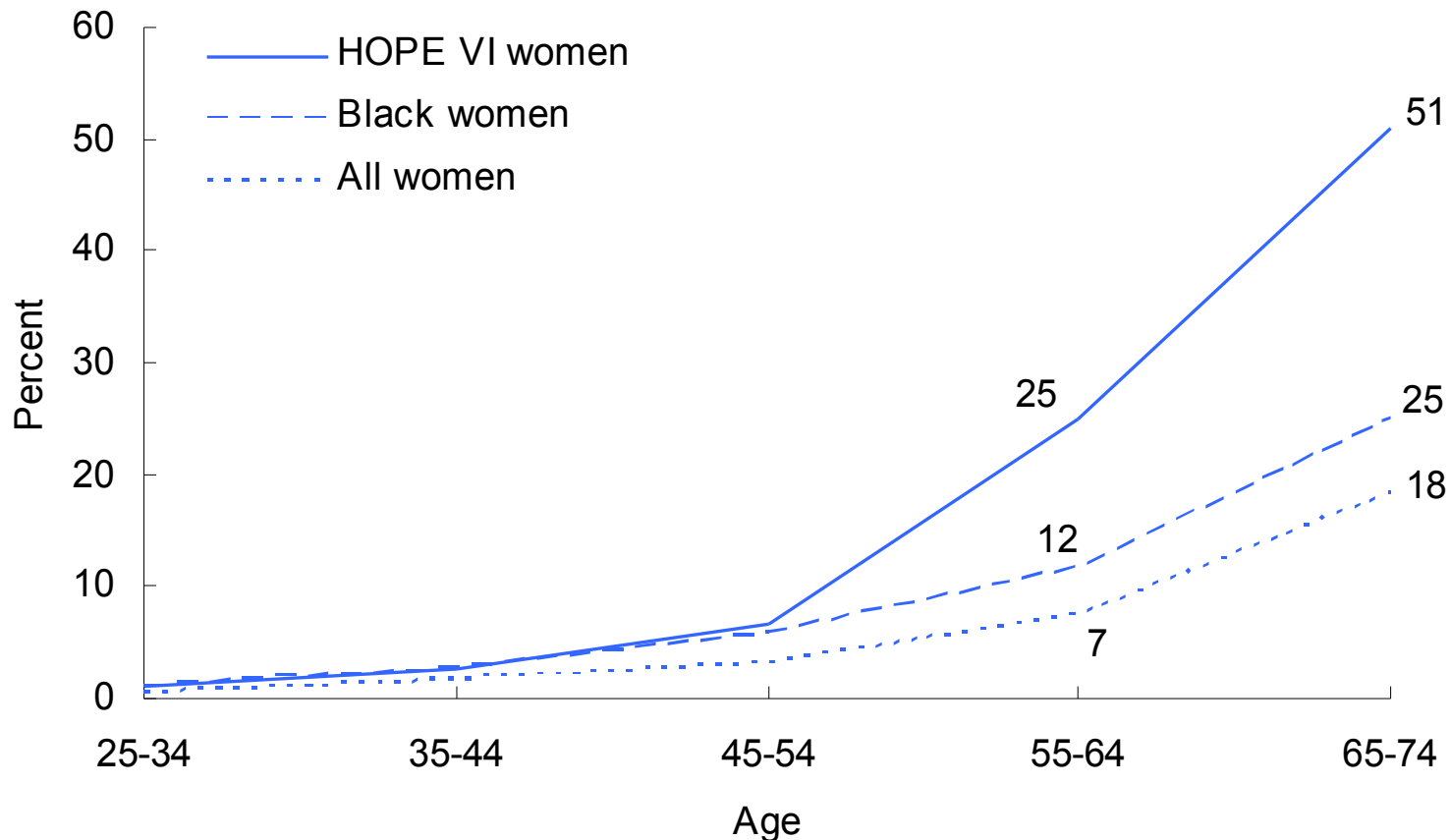
**Presence of Chronic Illness among HOPE VI Respondents and Black Women Nationwide, 2005
(percent)**



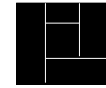


Deaths per 1000 persons: All US Female, African American Female & HOPE VI Female

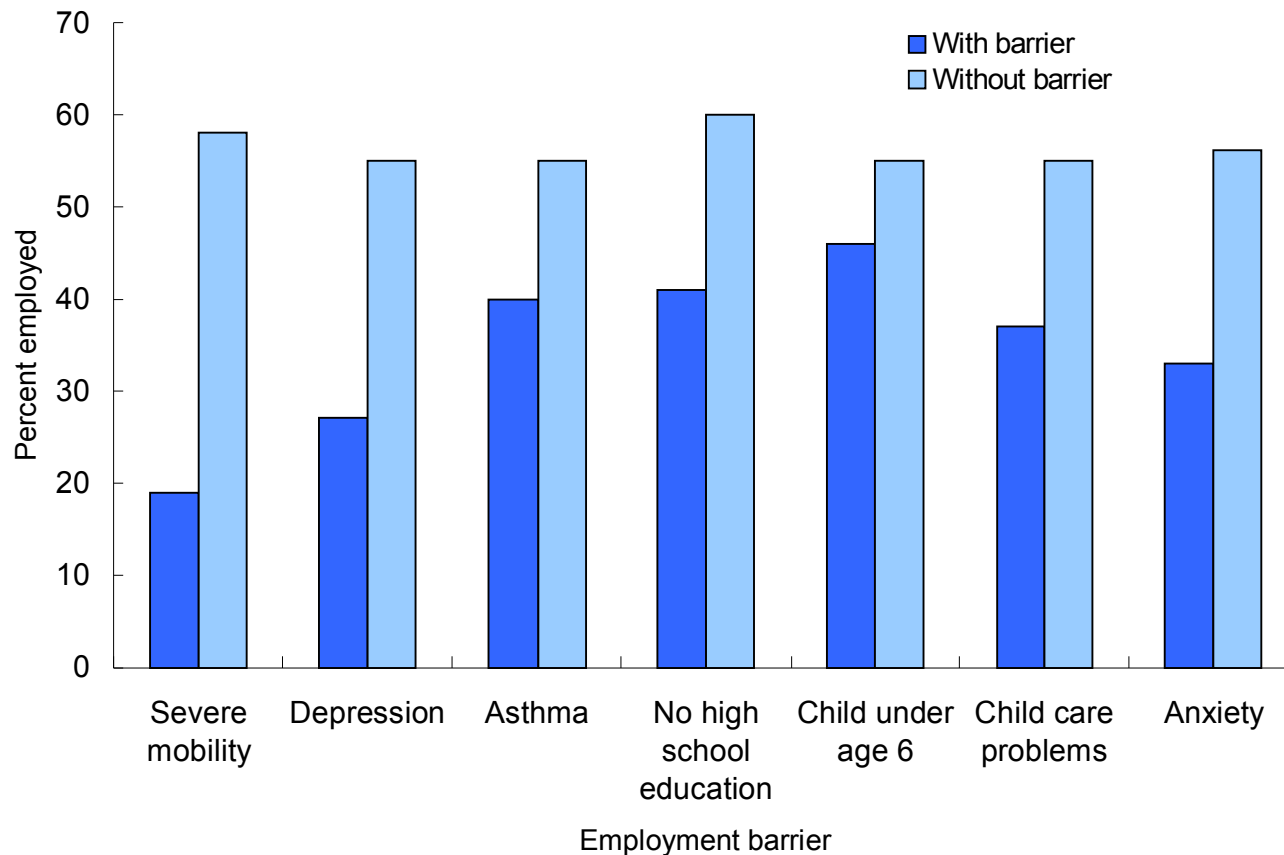
Mortality Rates for HOPE VI Respondents versus National Samples, 2005

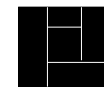


HOPE VI Did Not Affect Employment



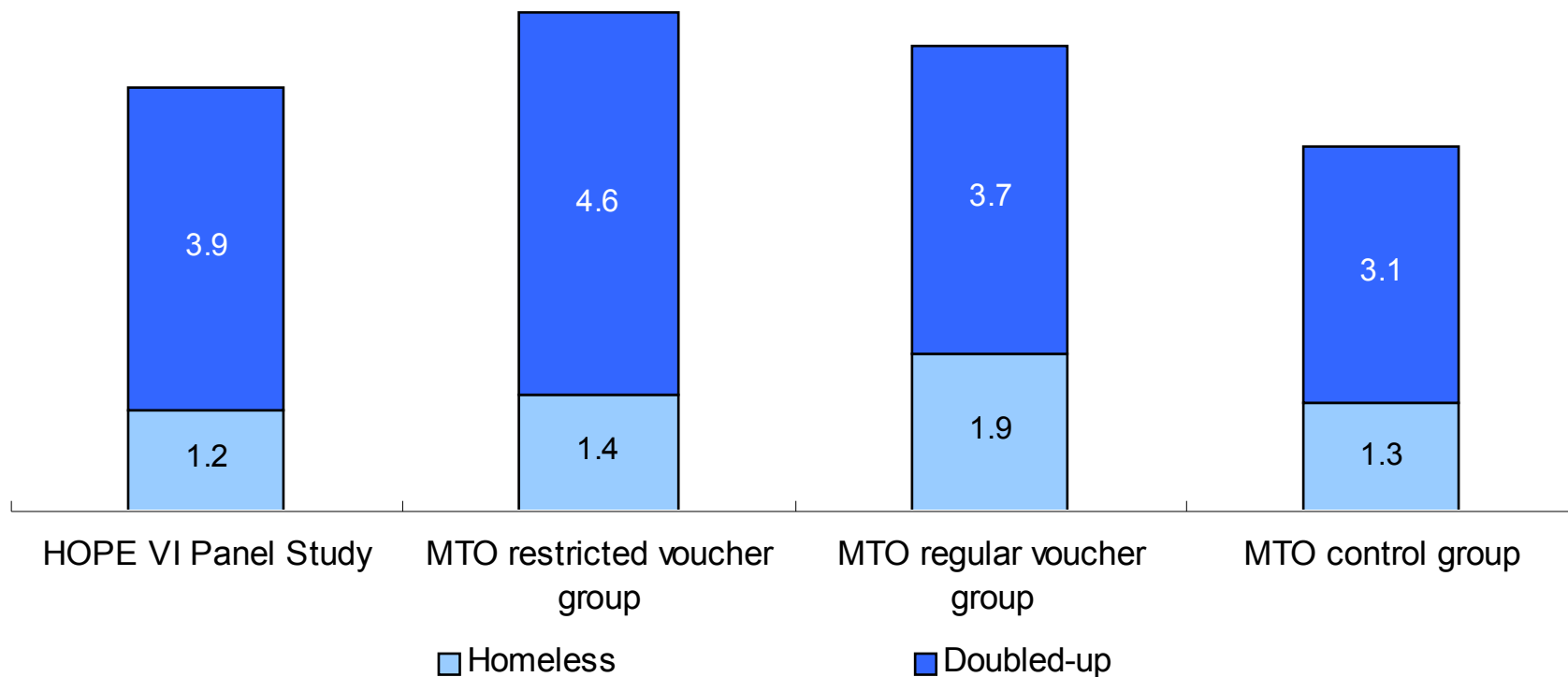
Barriers and Low Employment





HOPE VI Did Not Cause Homelessness

Original Residents Homeless and Doubled-Up in Past Year (percent)





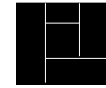
HOPE VI Is Not the Solution for the “Hard to House”

- Many “Hard to house” residents stayed in traditional public housing
- Little better off—if at all—than they were at baseline
 - Little improvement in housing quality
 - Modest improvement in safety
- Need for creative approaches



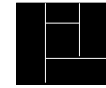
Conclusions: Most Residents Are Better Off

- For private market and mixed-income movers, HOPE VI has more than met the goal of providing an improved living environment
- Those who remain in traditional public housing have not realized same benefits
- The problem of the hard to house requires a different approach



Where Do We Go From Here?

- Encourage more families to choose vouchers
 - But provide ongoing support and second mover counseling
 - Address problems with utility allowances
- Ensure plans are sensitive to children's needs
- Provide extra support to vulnerable residents with health problems during relocation



Remaining Challenges

- Address problems in traditional public housing
 - Housing quality and crime
- Develop models to serve “hard to house” families
- Fund HOPE VI revitalization of the remaining stock of severely distressed public housing