

# 8 MYTHS ABOUT MANUFACTURED HOUSING (MOBILE HOMES)

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## HOMES ARE MOBILE

Manufactured homes are not as mobile as they seem. Manufactured housing can cost, on average, \$3,000 - \$30,000 to move based on location, distance to new move, size of the home, and more. The home may also suffer damages in the move, making it unlivable without costly repairs.

## IT IS AN UNDESIRED HOUSING SOURCE

Manufactured housing is becoming more sought after as costs of site built homes and renting are too expensive for many older adults and families. Production of new homes surged for the first time in 2021 since 2006.

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## THEY ARE TRAILERS

Originating from trailers that were marketed to adults who frequently traveled for work, these homes are not as mobile anymore. Trailers are a separate form of shelter. "Trailer" can invoke stigma against homeowners and perpetuate biases around "trailer trash" and other harmful rhetoric.

## PARKS ARE DIRTY OR UNCARED FOR

This is not the fault of homeowners living in the parks. Park residents, like those in site built neighborhoods, care about their homes and their surroundings. Uncared for and dirty parks are likely due to unresponsive park owners.

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## THEY ARE UNSAFE

Homes are held to standardized HUD codes to ensure safety against extreme weather and other events. This makes the homes just as safe than site built housing. Manufactured housing is also more energy efficient than site built homes with newer homes being Energy Star Certified.

## THEY ARE SPARSELY LOCATED

Manufactured housing is found in all urban, suburban, and rural areas in the US. Although more densely populated in rural areas, ~15% of the housing stock, they are ~3% of the housing stock in urban areas.

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## FAMILIES PREFER SITE BUILT HOMES

As of 2021, over 50% of all residents were under the age of 60. They provide an affordable, long term housing option for older adults and families alike. Communities provide a network of care and activities for all ages to engage in, fostering multigenerational connections.

## ALL HOMES ARE IN PARKS

Between 1995 and 2017, only 1/3 of new homes were placed in communities. Many homeowners live on private land, owning both the home and the land underneath. In parks, residents rent the land underneath the home they own.

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