SUMMARY REPORT ON FALL 2017 OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING SURVEY

During the Fall of 2017, we sent a survey to the undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled at AU who live off-campus.* Here’s what we found...

*Note: Survey was conducted October 31, 2017-November 14, 2017. 25% of students responded. We are working from a set of 1266 responses. Percentages presented here have been rounded to nearest whole number. The difference in data, answers, and response rate between graduates and undergraduates was negligible.

Question 1: Do you live alone?

84% of students live with roommates. 16% live alone.

We asked students with roommates Questions #2 and #3. Students living alone skipped to #4.

Question 2: Including yourself, how many people are in your household?

41% are in 2 person households

21% are in 3 person households

20% are in 4 person households

18% are in 5+ person households

Question 3: Who do you live with?

[Bar chart showing distributions of living arrangements]

- Roommates: 763
- Parents/Relatives: 104
- Partner/Kids: 186
- Roommates & Relatives: 9
- Relatives & Partner/Kids: 5
- Partner/Kids & Roommate: 17
Question 4: How many bedrooms are in your home?

- 5 Bedrooms or more: 11%
- 4 Bedrooms: 9%
- 3 Bedrooms: 13%
- 2 Bedroom: 32%
- 1 Bedroom: 35%

Question 5: Which best describes where you live?

- I live in an apartment: 69%
- I rent a house: 23%
- Other (ex: Wesley Seminary): 1%

Question 6: Do you rent or own?

- Rent: 89%
- Own: 6%
- Other: 1%

Question 7: Had you decided to attend AU when you chose your current residence?

- No: 23%
- Yes: 77%

Question 8: What resources did you use?

Students selected all resources that they used. Popular resources included:

- Websites:
  - Apartment finding sites
  - Social media
  - offcampus.american.edu
- Family/ friend recommendations:
- Reviews and op-eds:
  - Consultation with AU Off-Campus Housing Assistant
- Walked by the property/ Familiar with neighborhood:
- Took over lease/ moved in with friends:
Question 9: What is your monthly rent?
Including utilities and fees, not including food or transportation expenses.

Average rent for American University Students:

$1,217/month

- Students with roommates: $1,146
- Students who live alone: $1,592

Question 10: What were the most important factors in your search?

Cost was the #1 factor in the housing search, followed by proximity to campus (#2) and location (#3).

Runners up: Proximity to groceries, banks, and other necessities, laundry facilities on site, and utilities being included in the rent.

Based on non-survey data from the registrar's office, we learned....

**5066** American University students live off-campus.
(2647 undergraduates, 2418 graduate students.)

- 12% live in Virginia
- 21% live in Maryland
- **67% live in DC.**

Most DC students live in these areas (by zip code):

1) **20016**: Tenley/Cathedral Heights (62%)
2) **20008**: Van Ness/Cleveland Park (11%)
3) **20007**: Glover Park/Georgetown (7%)

Thanks for everyone who participated! Questions?
Email offcampushousing@american.edu

*According to student's self-reported addresses via registrar's office. All registrar's office data reported anonymously to Housing & Residence Life.