Housing Cost Burdens and Shared Households among Older Adults

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Abstract

Shared households (those that include any adult besides the householder and householder's romantic partner) may either mitigate or exacerbate older adults' housing affordability challenges, depending on whether and how much other household members contribute to housing costs. Using data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation, we explore the prevalence and safety net function of older adults' shared households, including intergenerational households and co-residence with other extended family and non-kin. We find that 16% of older adults are hosts, who share their home with extended family members or non-relatives, and 7% of older adults are guests, who live in the home of an extended family member or non-relative. Guest status is associated with lower housing costs, and host status is associated with higher housing costs, yet there is little evidence that the association between host/guest status and housing costs depends on the familial/nonfamilial relationships between the older adult and other household members. We estimate a counterfactual housing payment for older adults in shared households and predict that hosts pay $45 more and guests $740 less a month on average than they would in nonshared housing. Our estimates of counterfactual cost burdens suggest that sharing housing masks even greater racial/ethnic disparities in housing cost burden among older adults that would emerge in the absence of shared households. Together, these analyses improve our understanding of the composition and potential financial impacts of shared households for older adults. Additionally, they highlight the impacts social support receipt and provision can have on the needs and disparities that traditional housing cost burden measures identify.

Introduction

Older adults are at the forefront of the affordable housing crisis in the United States. Among both renters and homeowners, adults over age 65 are the group second most likely to be burdened by housing costs, right behind young adults under age 25 (Fenelon and Mawhorter 2020). In recent years, rapid growth in the population of older adults and increased income inequality within this population has left a record number of older households vulnerable to housing affordability challenges (Joint Center for Housing Studies 2019). Housing affordability challenges have far-reaching impacts on wellbeing; older adults who are burdened by housing costs spend less on other necessities, like healthcare and food (Joint Center for Housing Studies 2020). Black and Hispanic older adults are particularly vulnerable to these challenges: compared to their White counterparts, they are less likely to be homeowners and, among those who do own homes, more likely to carry mortgage debt (Joint Center for Housing Studies 2019).

This paper advances research on economically vulnerable older adults by examining how shared households (defined as those that include any adult besides the householder and householder's romantic partner) may buffer older adults against housing affordability challenges or compound these challenges. Drawing on data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), we examine the extent to which shared households provide a stable financial safety net for older adults. We have two primary contributions in this article. The first is a rich description of the share of older adults who live in shared households, the types of shared households in which they live, and housing costs in shared households. The second is a series of counterfactual housing cost estimates and estimates of housing cost burden in the absence of shared households. All of our analyses consider different patterns by race/ethnicity, and in particular, how disparities in housing cost burden would differ accounting for the private safety net role of shared households.

Motivation

A large and growing share of older adults – 20% as of 2017 – live in intergenerational shared households. The share is even higher among Black, Hispanic, and Asian older adults: 27% of Black, 40% of Hispanic, and 40% of Asian adults aged 65 to 79 live in intergenerational shared households, compared to 14% of White adults aged 65 to 79 (Joint Center for Housing Studies 2019). Because shared households are a common arrangement for older adults, especially non-White older adults, it is important to consider how these arrangements may impact the housing cost challenges older adults commonly face.

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By examining how two large expenses – rent/mortgage and utility costs – are shared and how this varies based on household characteristics, we provide insight into one tangible way older adults may benefit from, or be disadvantaged by, residence in shared households. Shared households may reduce older adults' housing costs if other household members contribute to housing costs. On the other hand, older adults in shared households may subsidize the housing costs of other household members and receive little financial benefit themselves.

Although a growing literature focuses on the rising number of intergenerational households formed by parents and adult children (Kahn et al. 2013; Ruggles 2007), we know far less about older adults residing with other extended family and with nonrelatives, and about how the safety net role of shared households varies across household types. Research on intergenerational households finds that the older generation is typically the benefactor in these arrangements, but much of this research is based on relative income levels of parents and adult children, not the actual flow of resources (Kahn, Goldscheider, and García-Manglano 2013; Speare and Avery 1993). Studying housing costs directly is an important innovation because income in shared households is rarely pooled (Harvey 2018), and having sufficient income does not guarantee that household members will contribute to the household (Reyes 2018).

Another important innovation of our analysis is that we examine how older adults' contributions towards housing costs vary by their householder status. In shared households, the lease/mortgage-holder is often assumed to be providing support. Previous research shows that mothers with young children who live as guests in someone else's home spend over $4000 less per year on housing, on average, than mothers living in non-shared households (Pilkauskas, Garfinkel, and McLanahan 2014). Sharing a household may have a similar financial benefit among older adults who are guests in others' homes. It is possible that sharing a households may increase housing costs among older adults who host others, by increasing their utility costs or requiring them to move to or remain in a larger home than they would need if not sharing their home. On the other hand, older adults – with their high homeownership rates but often fixed incomes – may receive help paying for housing costs even when they are the householder.

To better understand the financial consequences of shared housing for older adults, we will identify how the rent, mortgage, and utility cost savings or expense attributable to living in a shared household may either mitigate or worsen older adults' housing cost burdens. Our results inform our understanding of the impact of social support receipt and obligations on older adults' economic security, and particularly on racial and ethnic disparities. If providing housing to others increases hosts' housing costs, it may

contribute to disparities in housing affordability. Failing to account for the support that older adults receive from shared households may lead us to underestimate disparities in housing needs

We examine variation in informal housing support by race and ethnicity, comparing Black, Hispanic, Asian, and White older adults. Prior research reveals substantial racial and ethnic variation in the prevalence and types of shared households (Harvey, Dunifon, and Pilkauskas 2021), as well as their household economies (Reyes 2018; 2020; Whitehead 2018). These differences, along with differences by race and ethnicity in homeownership rates, income and wealth, and social support networks, lead us to expect that residence in shared households and the role of these households as a safety net for older adults may likewise vary. Understanding these potential differences is key to understanding what role shared households may play in either mitigating or exacerbating racial and ethnic inequality in the economic wellbeing of older adults.

Together, these analyses will elucidate the link between shared households and older adults' financial wellbeing. This research will lay a foundation for a better understanding of the consequences of shared households for older adults, a topic of growing importance given the increasing prevalence of shared households and the aging population.

Data

We use the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) to examine shared housing among older adults (age 65 and over). We use the 2014 panel (which covers calendar years 2013 through 2016), along with the 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 panels. The SIPP is well-suited for this analysis because it includes a full household roster and is one of few nationally representative longitudinal surveys to identify the lease- or mortgage-holder of the household. These measures allow us to identify the household composition and whether the older adult is the homeowner/renter or is living in someone else's home. Another key advantage of the SIPP is the inclusion of individual-level measures of source of income and housing payments. Unlike other surveys that produce only household-level income and expense data, SIPP variables identify income sources for all individuals, which household members paid for basic utilities and/or mortgage or rent, and the amount paid by each of these individuals. We use SIPP-provided indicators for respondent race and ethnicity to enable comparisons between non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, non-Hispanic Asian, and non-Hispanic White respondents. The SIPP design is also ideal for tracking changes over time. In addition to providing longitudinal data on household members' housing

cost contributions, these data allow us to identify when individuals transition from shared to nonshared arrangements, whether or not the older adult moves themselves.

Household Types

We categorize older adults into one of seven household types. For each surveyed household containing at least one person who is 65 years old or older, we use the SIPP household relationship matrix along with the relation to household head variables to identify shared households and categorize them based on the relationship between the older adult and other adult household members. Using the SIPP's reference person indicator, which identifies the lease- or mortgage-holder, we further distinguish between whether the older adult is the householder themselves (we refer to householders as hosts) or whether they are residing in someone else's home (guests). We consider older adults to be hosts if they or their romantic partner are the lease/mortgage-holder, and we consider them to be guests if someone else holds the lease/mortgage.

With these data, we identify whether each older adult is living in: 1) a non-shared household, 2) an intergenerational household as a host (sharing their household with their adult child or parent), 3) an other extended family household as a host (sharing their household with a grandchild, niece/nephew, sibling, etc.), 4) a nonkin household as a host (sharing their household with a nonrelative adult who is not their romantic partner), 5) an intergenerational household as a guest (sharing the household of their child or parent), 6) an other extended family household as a guest (sharing the household of a grandchild, niece/nephew, sibling, etc.), or 7) a nonkin household as a guest (sharing their household of a nonrelative who is not their romantic partner).

Older adults may host shared households with multiple adults; we categorize hosts into mutually exclusive household types by prioritizing relationships based on the presumed closeness of the relationship and consistent with previous research (Harvey, Dunifon, and Pilkauskas 2021): intergenerational, other extended family, nonrelative. For older adults who are living in shared households as guests, we focus on their relationship to the householder(s).

Housing Cost Measures

Using SIPP variables that identify the household members who paid for utilities and/or mortgage or rent and the amount paid by each of these individuals, we examine three different measures of housing costs. The first measures the amount the older adult paid on rent/mortgage and utilities that month. The

second is a measure of what proportion of their income the older adult spent on rent/mortgage and utilities. We top-code this measure at 1 for older adults who report paying more than they report in income. Finally, an indicator identifies whether the older adult is housing cost burdened, that is, their housing costs to income ratio is greater 30%.

Covariates

Our regression models control for several characteristics that may be associated with both household type and housing costs. We include a measure of the age of the older adult and an indicator for gender. We also include indicators for race and ethnicity (Hispanic any race, or non-Hispanic Asian, Black, White, or other race) and whether the older adult was born in the U.S. We also include indicator variables for whether the older adult lives in the Northeast, Midwest, South, or West. A series of indicator variables capture educational attainment (less than high school, high school degree, some college, or a BA or more). We include indicators for whether the older adult has either a cohabiting romantic partner or a spouse. Three indicator variables capture whether the older adult is not in the labor force, looking for work, or currently working. We also control for the inverse hyperbolic sine of the older adult's income and net worth. To account for health, we include an indicator for whether the older adult has a disability (capturing hearing, seeing, ambulatory, self-care, and cognitive limitations and difficulty doing errands alone) and a self-rating of health on a five-point scale. Finally, we include indicators for whether the older adult receives OASDI, whether the older adult receives SSI benefits, and whether the older adult's household receives a rent subsidy.

Methods

We use weighted proportions to describe the share of older adults, aged 65 and older, who live in shared households (defined as co-residence with any adult other than a spouse or partner) and describe the types of households in which they live. Then, we use OLS and logit regression models to estimate the association between each of our measures of housing costs (housing cost amount, share of income to housing, and cost burden) and residence in shared households, controlling for the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics described above. To assess whether there are differences in the association between shared households and housing costs based on the type of shared household arrangement, we use similar OLS and logit regression models, but we estimate the association between each of our measures of housing costs and shared household status: host, guest, non-shared.

We estimate a counterfactual housing payment for older adults in shared households following Pilkauskas et al. (2014). We first use propensity score matching to create a sample of older adults who are hosts in shared households and similar older adults living in non-shared households. Limiting the sample to older adults who are hosts or in non-shared households, we predict the probability of being a host as a function of age, income, net worth, health, gender, disability status, race/ethnicity, nativity, educational attainment, relationship status, employment status, housing subsidy, residence in a metropolitan area, and region of residence. Then, we predict housing payments by regressing housing costs on the same covariates among only our non-shared control group. Using the results of this regression, we predict counterfactual housing costs for older adults who are hosts in shared households and we calculate the difference between the counterfactual non-shared and observed shared housing costs. We repeat this analysis for older adult guests: a second propensity score model predicting probability of being a guest versus living in a non-shared household followed by a regression-based prediction of housing costs among the matched non-shared sample.

We conduct two additional analyses to examine the robustness of our results from the cross-sectional regression-based counterfactual method. These analyses utilize the longitudinal component of the SIPP. First, we compare rent/mortgage and utility payments made by the same older adult when they were and were not living in a shared household. We limit this sample to older adults who do not change relationship status given the importance of household size for housing costs.

Second, we used fixed effects models to predict change in the amount older adults spend on housing using change in shared household status and other covariates. Fixed effects models hold constant time-invariant, and potentially confounding, characteristics of the older adults in our model and provide estimates of within-individual change. Essentially, each individual acts as his or her own control case; our estimates provide a comparison of housing costs between when an individual was a host or guest, compared to when they were in a non-shared household.

Together, these two robustness checks take advantage of the longitudinal structure of the SIPP and, with their within-person estimates, complement the cross-sectional, or between-person, approach to estimating a counterfactual housing payment. The longitudinal estimates, however, are necessarily limited to older adults who move in or out of shared household arrangements, which could be a select group.

We use the differences in housing costs from these three methods to estimate the share of hosts and guests who would be cost burdened if not in shared households and then identify the impact of shared households on housing cost burden rates and disparities. We will compare the experiences of Black,

Hispanic, Asian, and non-Hispanic White older adults to understand how the safety net function of shared households may be patterned by race and ethnicity.

Results

Overall, 23% of older adults live with another adult who is not their romantic partner. We disaggregate this sample by householder status; 16% of older adults are the lease- or mortgage-holder and *host* other adults in their homes, while 7% of older adults are *guests* sharing others' homes (that is, they are in a shared household and are not the lease- or mortgage-holder or the romantic partner of the lease- or mortgage-holder).

Table 1 presents select characteristics of our sample separately by shared household status: older adults who are not living in shared households (Column 1), older adults who are hosts (Column 2), and older adults who are guests (Column 3). Older adults living in shared households, especially as guests, have higher rates of disability and are less likely to be born in the U.S. than older adults in non-shared households. They are less likely to be White and more likely to be Black, Hispanic, or Asian. Older adults in shared households, especially as guests, have lower education level on average than adults in non-shared households. They are less likely to be married or cohabiting. Compared to older adults in non-shared households, older adults who host have higher rates of full-time employment, whereas guests are less likely to be working full-time. Receipt of OASDI benefits varies across household arrangement, with older adults living in non-shared households receiving OASDI benefits at the highest rates, followed by older adult hosts and older adult guests. SSI benefits, however, are more common among guests than among hosts or older adults in non-shared households. Older adults in non-shared households receive rent subsidies at slightly higher rates than hosts' or guests' households. We report income, net worth, and housing costs at the individual level; to facilitate housing cost burden estimates, for older adults living with a romantic partner we sum individual income, net worth, and housing costs and divide by two. Older adults in non-shared households report the highest income and net worth, followed by hosts and then, with a far lower average, guests.

Shared Household Types

We then turn our focus to older adults in shared households and categorize these households by relationship type (Table 2). Recall that we assign hosts to mutually exclusive categories, prioritizing intergenerational (parent-child) relationships first, followed by grandchildren, other relatives, and

nonrelatives. Thus, percentages for hosts' shared household type sum to the overall prevalence of shared households, but some hosts in intergenerational households may also be hosting grandchildren, other relatives, and/or nonrelatives. Household types for guest older adults reflect the guest's relationship to the head of household.

We find that intergenerational shared households, which include older adults who live with their parents or adult children, are the most common type of shared household among older adults (78% of hosts, 75% of guests). We classify older adults who live with adult grandchildren, siblings, adult nieces and nephews, and other relatives who are not their parents, children, or grandchildren as living in other relative households (16% of hosts, 16% of guests). Finally, nonrelative shared households are those in which older adults live with an adult who is not their romantic partner and not a relative (7% of hosts, 9% of guests).[1]

Contributions toward Housing Costs

Table 1 includes descriptive statistics for the housing cost variables we examine as dependent variables in our regression models, plus an indicator for whether the older adult pays anything for housing. Overall, 81% of older adults in non-shared households contribute towards rent/mortgage or utility payments. The proportion of hosts who pay for housing is 82%, but much lower among guests (11%). The other housing cost variables follow this general pattern: older adults in non-shared households pay approximately $660 a month towards housing costs on average compared with $771 among hosts and $58 among guests. Older adults in non-shared households spend, on average, 26% of their monthly income on housing (25% of older adults in non-shared households are cost-burdened), hosts spend 36% of their income on housing (36% are cost-burdened), and guests spent 5% of their income on housing (5% are cost-burdened).

The descriptive analyses indicate that there may be an association between shared household status and housing costs among older adults. Results from multi-variable models investigating the association between residence in a shared household and housing costs controlling for individual characteristics are shown in Table 3. Models 1 and 2 assess the magnitude, in dollars and share of income, of the association between living in a shared household and housing costs. Older adults living in a shared household spend $108 less a month on housing, on average, compared with older adults in non-shared

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[1] Estimates reported in the paper differ slightly from estimates presented at the workshop. No substantive conclusions differ.

households, controlling for the other characteristics in our model (Model 1). Black older adults spend more than White older adults on housing, those with at least a high school degree spend more than individuals with less than a high school degree, and income is positively associated with spending per month. Cohabiting and married older adults spend less than unpartnered older adults. In terms of proportion of income spent on housing, older adults in shared households spend 7% less than older adults in non-shared households (Model 2) and living in a shared household is associated with a decrease of 0.41 in log odds of being cost burdened (Model 3). In sum, the results in Table 3 suggest that there is a significant financial benefit to sharing a household as older adults in shared households spend fewer dollars and a lower proportion of their income on housing costs, and are less likely to be housing cost burdened than older adults in non-shared households.

Variation in Financial Contributions

Table 1 disaggregated descriptive statistics into three groups: non-shared households, hosts, and guests. Average characteristics varied substantially across these categories, suggesting that there is meaningful variation in not only background characteristics but also contributions towards housing costs depending on the type of shared household in which an older adult lives. The models in Table 4 use a three-category household arrangement measure - non-shared, hosts, and guests - to predict the same outcomes shown in Table 3. Results in Table 4 reflect the descriptive statistics in Table 1, which show that hosts have more resources than guests, on average. Having fewer resources appears to translate into guests paying nearly $700 less on housing per month than older adults in non-shared households (Model 1), spending a much lower share of income on housing (Model 2), and having a far lower likelihood of being cost burdened (Model 3).[2]

Differences between older adult hosts and older adults in non-shared households are less dramatic, but still significant. We estimate that hosts pay approximately $73 more a month for housing compared to older adults in non-shared households (Model 1). Hosts spend 4% more of their income on housing and are more likely to be cost-burdened than older adults in non-shared households (Model 3). These coefficients are in the opposite direction as guests, who spend a lower share of income on housing and are

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[2] Table 4 groups intergenerational, other relative, and nonrelative guests (and hosts) together. Models disaggregating these host and guest categories into a seven-category household arrangement variable are shown in Appendix Table A1. The negative (positive) coefficients, reflecting lower (higher) costs and burdens, are very similar in magnitude across guest (host) relationship categories.

less likely to be cost burdened than older adults who do not share their home. Table 4 adds nuance to the findings from Table 3: whereas Table 3 suggests that there is a significant financial benefit to living in a shared household, Table 4 reveals that this benefit is concentrated entirely among guests in shared households.[3]

Shared Households and Housing Costs over Time

The cross-sectional results reported above compare older adults living in shared households in December of wave 1 of each SIPP panel to older adults living in non-shared households. We pursue three approaches beyond these cross-sectional regressions to estimate counterfactual housing costs. First, we produce regression-based counterfactual housing cost estimates based on a matched sample of older adults hosting other adults and older adults in nonshared households.[4] This approach indicates that hosts spend approximately $45 a month more, on average, than they would if they were not sharing a home. As Figure 1 shows, however, the distribution of the difference between observed costs among hosts and predicted costs in a non-shared arrangement has its peak above 0, but has a long left tail. The median savings is approximately $103 a month.

After constructing a similar matched sample for older adult guests, our regression-based counterfactual results for guests are much more straightforward. Figure 2 shows the distribution of cost difference between observed costs among guests and predicted costs in a non-shared arrangement. The vast majority of the distribution is positive, meaning that we predict that nearly all guests in our sample are saving money by sharing a household. On average, we predict guests save $740 a month by sharing a home. The median cost savings among guests is $760 a month. These predictions are consistent with our cross-sectional regression analysis above showing most financial benefits of shared households accrue to guests.

Our second two approaches use within-person analyses of individuals we observe as both sharers and non-sharers to estimate housing costs in different types of arrangements. Descriptive estimates of shared household instability (see Appendix Table A4) underscore the fact that older adults in our longitudinal estimates of counterfactual housing costs are a select group that changed shared household

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[3] To examine differences by host and guest status, we limit our sample to older adults who live in shared households and look at the association between host versus guest and housing costs (results in Appendix Table A2) and confirm that guests pay significantly fewer dollars compared to hosts.

[4] See Appendix Table A3 for descriptive statistics for the matched samples.

status during our observation period. When we compare the housing costs of the same individual as a host and in a non-shared arrangement, hosting in a shared household costs the older adult $19 a month, on average (the median cost is $9). Consistent with our regression-based counterfactual estimates, the distribution of cost difference for hosts spans negative to positive. Twenty-five percent of older adults who transitioned between host and non-shared spent over $150 more a month as hosts and 25 percent of older adults saved $120 a month or more as hosts compared to what they paid when they were not sharing a home. Older adults who transition from guest to non-shared spend $564 less a month, on average, in their guest arrangement. The within-individual estimates for guests are also consistent with our counterfactual estimates, as the vast majority of older adults who transition between guest and non-shared status spend less as guests: the 25th percentile of cost savings as guest is $198 and the 75th percentile is $800.

Change in housing cost estimates from our fixed effects regression models (approach three) are reported in Table 5. We carry forward our first continuous housing cost outcome from our cross-sectional analysis: amount paid for housing per month. The primary predictors in these models are indicators for guest and host status and the coefficients are interpreted as the difference in housing costs that an older adult experiences when they are a guest (relative to in a non-shared household) and when they are a host (relative to in a non-shared household). The model demonstrates substantial savings for older adults from being a guest. We predict that guests spend $619 less per month on housing. The estimated increment to housing costs for older adults who host is much smaller, at $46. Both of these estimates are similar in magnitude to what we find in the counterfactual regression-based approach that uses data from all adults in shared households, whether stable or unstable. These estimates are net of all time-invariant characteristics of the older adults. Further, we control for other time-varying potentially confounding variables, including age, relationship status, employment status, disability, health, receipt of social security and SSI benefits, housing subsidy, and household size.

We extend these analyses to examine how these predicted changes in housing cost impact observed rates of housing cost burdens among older adults. Table 6 presents observed and counterfactual estimates of housing cost burden by race/ethnicity. In the first column, we see that, in aggregate, 28% of older adults are housing cost burdened, ranging from 25% of White older adults to 42% of Black older adults. The next three columns show cost burden broken out by host, guest, and non-shared status. Across racial/ethnic groups, the share of older adult hosts who are cost burdened is higher than older adults overall, with 33% of White hosts to 51% of Black hosts spending more than 30% of their income on

housing. Cost burden rates among guests are much, much lower: 5% overall, with 2% of Asian guests cost burdened increasing to 7% of Black guests. Cost burden rates among older adults in non-shared households resemble the aggregate rates, with the biggest difference among Asian older adults, as 36% of those living in non-shared arrangements are cost burdened compared to only 29% of Asian adults overall.

The last column of Table 6 reports cost burden estimates based on our counterfactual housing cost estimates from Figures 1 and 2. That is, this is what housing cost burden rates would be if no older adults were sharing households. Across racial/ethnic groups, counterfactual cost burden rates are higher than what we observe given current housing arrangements. Overall, we estimate that 33% of older adults would be cost burdened in the absence of shared households compared to our observed rate of 28%. The biggest increase in percentage point terms is among Asian older adults, whose cost burden rate would jump 23 percentage points from 29% to 52% if no Asian older adults shared housing. Black older adults would experience a 9-percentage point increase, Hispanic older adults a 16-percentage point increase, other race older adults a 10-percentage point increase, and White older adults a 3-percentage point increase. White older adults have the lowest observed cost burden rate of all racial/ethnic groups and maintain the lowest rate in our counterfactual estimates. In addition, the disparity in cost burden rates between White older adults and all other racial/ethnic groups increases dramatically in the absence of shared households, from a 17- to a 22-percentage point gap between White and Black older adults, from a 3- to a 24-point gap between White and Asian older adults, from 8- to 15-points higher among other race older adults, and from 7- to 21-points higher among Hispanic older adults.

Conclusion

Our goal in this paper is to describe household sharing among older adults and assess whether sharing a household provides a housing safety net. We find that 23% of older adults live with another adult who is not their romantic partner. The vast majority of these shared household arrangements involve intergenerational relationships: older adults who host their parents or adult children or who live in the homes of their parents or adult children. Smaller shares of older adults host adult grandchildren, other relatives, and nonrelatives or live in the homes of adult grandchildren, other relatives, or nonrelatives.

Our cross-sectional regression results show that living in a shared household is associated with less money spent on housing, a lower share of income spent on housing, and a lower likelihood of being cost burdened compared with living in a non-shared household. Our descriptive statistics and regressions,

however, reveal that the financial benefits to living in shared households accrue primarily to older adults who are guests in others' homes. Whether the older adult is host or guest is the primary axis of variation in terms of housing expenses. We find little evidence of meaningful variation in housing costs based on the relationship the older adult has with her household members (intergenerational versus other relative versus non-relative). Instead, being a guest in any type of shared household is associated with lower housing costs and lower likelihood of being housing cost burdened.

Across all cross-sectional and longitudinal methods of estimating cost differences by shared household status, we find that guests have much lower housing costs, on average, than older adults in non-shared households. We estimate that guests save between $500 and $700 a month by living in someone else's home. If guests are contributing financially to the housing cost, they are contributing far less than we would expect them to pay if they lived alone. Hosts, on the other hand, have higher housing costs, on average, than older adults in non-shared households, yet our results suggest that there is much more variation in the cost difference between hosting and non-shared arrangements than we observed for guests. We predict some hosts save money by hosting additional adults in their homes, but some hosts spend considerably more per month than they would in a non-shared arrangement.

We also assess how cost burden rates would differ without the private safety net provided by shared households and find that cost burden rates would go up among older adults overall and within every racial/ethnic group if all older adults lived alone or with a romantic partner and none shared households with other adults. These counterfactual housing cost burden estimates reveal the private safety net function of shared households. Asian and Hispanic older adults in particular have much lower observed cost burden rates than we estimate they would have in the absence of shared households. This is also evident when comparing observed and counterfactual cost burden rates between White and Asian or Hispanic older adults: sharing households means that the cost burden rate among Asian and Hispanic older adults is much closer to the cost burden rate among White older adults. Half or more of Black, Asian, and Hispanic older adults would be cost burdened in the absence of shared households.

We chose housing costs as our outcome variables because they are tangible measures of how shared households could benefit or disadvantage older adults. The SIPP includes household relationship matrices and detailed housing cost variables, two advantages for our analyses. It does not, however, include regular enough measures of caregiving, time use, or behavioral wellbeing to facilitate the exploration of other potential benefits or costs of shared households among older adults. Our analyses suggest one substantial way that guests in shared households benefit from these arrangements, yet they do

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not reveal benefits to hosts. Are hosts simply altruistic? Or are there other benefits they receive from hosting older adults in their homes? These are questions that remain for future research. Our descriptive analyses improve our understanding of the composition and financial impacts of shared households for older adults and provide a foundation for future research assessing the advantages and disadvantages of these arrangements for both hosts and guests.

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Table 1. Descriptive Statistics by Household Type

	Non-shared		Host		Guest	
	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.
Pays for housing expenses	0.81		0.82		0.11	
Age	73.94	6.70	73.06	6.71	75.98	7.62
Female	0.53		0.57		0.70	
Race/Ethnicity						
Hispanic, any race	0.06		0.15		0.22	
Asian, Non-Hispanic	0.03		0.05		0.15	
Black, Non-Hispanic	0.08		0.14		0.14	
White, Non-Hispanic	0.82		0.63		0.47	
Other race, Non-Hispanic	0.01		0.03		0.02	
Born in the US	0.90		0.82		0.60	
Educational Attainment						
Less than HS	0.11		0.18		0.33	
HS diploma	0.30		0.32		0.35	
Some college	0.26		0.24		0.16	
BA or more	0.33		0.26		0.16	
Relationship Status						
Single	0.35		0.44		0.79	
Cohabitating	0.03		0.02		0.01	
Married	0.62		0.54		0.21	
Working	0.20		0.24		0.10	
Has any disability	0.44		0.49		0.61	
Health self-rating	3.19	1.11	3.00	1.11	2.70	1.12
OASDI receipt	0.86		0.82		0.68	
SSI receipt	0.03		0.05		0.14	
Rent subsidy	0.05		0.03		0.03	
Region						
Northeast	0.18		0.20		0.20	
Midwest	0.23		0.17		0.14	
South	0.38		0.38		0.37	
West	0.21		0.25		0.29	
Amt paid on housing	$660	$764	$771	$753	$58	$224
% income to housing	0.26	0.39	0.36	0.47	0.05	0.25
Housing cost burdened	0.25		0.36		0.05	
Income (inv hyp sine)	8.61	1.09	8.45	1.24	7.17	2.61
Income, continuous	$3,998	$3,927	$3,551	$3,590	$1,939	$2,212
Net worth (inv hyp sine)	11.80	4.91	11.03	5.57	5.53	7.13
Net worth, continuous	$581,638	$948,001	$411,445	$772,094	$92,853	$384,160
Individual Observations	29,810		6,463		2,600	

Source: Individuals 65 years old or older. Month 12, Wave 1 of the 2014-2022 SIPP panels. Weighted by individual-level SIPP weight. Amount paid on housing, income, and net worth are equal to the sum for individuals divided by 2 for cohabitant and married couples.

	Share of all older adults	Share of hosts	Share of guests
Table 2. Older Adults' Household Types			
Shared household	0.23		
Host	0.16		
Intergenerational	0.12	0.78	
Other relative	0.03	0.16	
Nonrelative	0.01	0.07	
Guest	0.07		
Intergenerational	0.05		0.74
Other relative	0.01		0.16
Nonrelative	0.01		0.09
Non-shared household	0.77		
Observations	38,873	6,443	2,600

Source: Individuals 65 years old or older. Month 12, Wave 1 of the 2014-2022 SIPP panels. Weighted by individual-level SIPP weight.

Table 3. Older Adults' Housing Costs and Shared Household Residence

	1. Housing cost amount		2. % income to housing		3. Cost burdened	
Shared household	-108.49***	[-131.03, -85.94]	-0.07***	[-0.08, -0.06]	-0.41***	[-0.50, -0.32]
Age	-3.83***	[-5.42, -2.24]	-0.00***	[-0.00, -0.00]	-0.02***	[-0.02, -0.01]
Female	14.42**	[1.51, 27.33]	0.00	[-0.00, 0.01]	0.06**	[0.01, 0.10]
Race and ethnicity (ref=Hispanic)						
Asian Non-Hispanic	-74.58***	[-130.85, -18.31]	-0.07***	[-0.10, -0.03]	-0.33***	[-0.56, -0.10]
Black Non-Hispanic	85.52***	[41.20, 129.84]	0.05***	[0.02, 0.07]	0.34***	[0.18, 0.49]
White Non-Hispanic	-20.21	[-58.54, 18.12]	-0.02	[-0.04, 0.01]	-0.16**	[-0.30, -0.03]
Other Non-Hispanic	-22.40	[-89.03, 44.24]	-0.01	[-0.05, 0.02]	-0.11	[-0.35, 0.14]
Born in the US	-17.45	[-54.04, 19.15]	-0.00	[-0.02, 0.02]	-0.05	[-0.17, 0.07]
Education (ref = Less than HS)						
HS diploma	35.72***	[10.84, 60.60]	0.02**	[0.00, 0.03]	0.10**	[0.00, 0.19]
Some college	114.88***	[87.61, 142.15]	0.06***	[0.04, 0.08]	0.34***	[0.24, 0.44]
BA or more	220.84***	[190.38, 251.30]	0.10***	[0.09, 0.12]	0.55***	[0.44, 0.66]
Relationship status (ref = unpartnered)						
Cohabiting	-263.79***	[-316.35, -211.22]	-0.11***	[-0.13, -0.09]	-0.66***	[-0.90, -0.43]
Married	-258.50***	[-279.89, -237.11]	-0.11***	[-0.12, -0.10]	-0.79***	[-0.86, -0.71]
Employment status (ref = not in labor force)						
Looking for a job	158.98***	[70.46, 247.49]	0.09***	[0.03, 0.14]	0.61***	[0.34, 0.89]
Working	111.24***	[86.61, 135.87]	0.04***	[0.03, 0.05]	0.03	[-0.05, 0.12]
Has any disability	18.69**	[0.10, 37.28]	0.01	[-0.00, 0.02]	0.06	[-0.01, 0.12]
Health self-rating	3.03	[-5.69, 11.75]	0.00*	[-0.00, 0.01]	0.01	[-0.03, 0.04]
OASDI benefits recipient	-64.44***	[-93.32, -35.56]	-0.07***	[-0.08, -0.05]	0.01	[-0.08, 0.11]
SSI benefit receipient	-179.58***	[-215.97, -143.19]	-0.05***	[-0.09, -0.02]	-0.35***	[-0.50, -0.19]
Income (inv hyp sine)	68.75***	[58.61, 78.90]	-0.23***	[-0.25, -0.22]	-1.15***	[-1.22, -1.09]
Net worth (inv hyp sine)	-2.08**	[-3.81, -0.35]	0.00**	[0.00, 0.00]	-0.03***	[-0.03, -0.02]
Rent subsidy	-86.92***	[-124.50, -49.33]	-0.00	[-0.03, 0.03]	0.13*	[-0.02, 0.27]
Region (ref = West)						
Northeast	-12.50	[-46.80, 21.80]	0.00	[-0.01, 0.02]	-0.04	[-0.15, 0.07]
Midwest	-155.95***	[-185.12, -126.79]	-0.06***	[-0.07, -0.04]	-0.44***	[-0.54, -0.34]
South	-121.42***	[-148.75, -94.10]	-0.04***	[-0.05, -0.03]	-0.40***	[-0.49, -0.31]
Constant	559.09***	[413.26, 704.93]	2.54***	[2.43, 2.66]	10.89***	[10.21, 11.58]
Observations	38,873		38,342		38,342	

Note: 95% confidence intervals in brackets. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ Source: Month 12, Wave 1 of the 2014- 2022 SIPP panels. Models weighted by individual-level SIPP weight. Standard errors clustered by household.

Table 4. Older Adults' Housing Costs and Household Type

	1. Housing cost amount		2. % income to housing		3. Cost burdened	
Shared housing type (ref=Nonshared)						
Host	72.51***	[47.42, 97.60]	0.04***	[0.03, 0.05]	0.29***	[0.20, 0.38]
Guest	-686.74***	[-710.51, -662.98]	-0.44***	[-0.46, -0.42]	-4.27***	[-4.65, -3.90]
Age	-2.16***	[-3.72, -0.60]	-0.00***	[-0.00, -0.00]	-0.01***	[-0.02, -0.01]
Female	17.34***	[4.81, 29.86]	0.01*	[-0.00, 0.01]	0.06***	[0.02, 0.11]
Race and ethnicity (ref=Hispanic)						
Asian Non-Hispanic	-22.13	[-76.03, 31.77]	-0.03*	[-0.07, 0.00]	-0.11	[-0.34, 0.12]
Black Non-Hispanic	68.22***	[25.79, 110.64]	0.04***	[0.01, 0.06]	0.29***	[0.12, 0.45]
White Non-Hispanic	-16.95	[-53.90, 19.99]	-0.01	[-0.03, 0.01]	-0.17**	[-0.31, -0.03]
Other Non-Hispanic	-33.02	[-97.01, 30.97]	-0.02	[-0.05, 0.02]	-0.20	[-0.45, 0.06]
Born in the US	-49.11***	[-84.68, -13.55]	-0.02**	[-0.04, -0.00]	-0.16***	[-0.29, -0.04]
Education (ref = Less than HS)						
HS diploma	32.17***	[8.22, 56.13]	0.02**	[0.00, 0.03]	0.12**	[0.02, 0.22]
Some college	104.20***	[77.87, 130.53]	0.05***	[0.04, 0.07]	0.36***	[0.25, 0.46]
BA or more	221.47***	[191.79, 251.14]	0.10***	[0.09, 0.12]	0.64***	[0.52, 0.75]
Relationship status (ref = unpartnered)						
Cohabiting	-299.83***	[-351.98, -247.69]	-0.13***	[-0.16, -0.11]	-0.86***	[-1.11, -0.62]
Married	-297.41***	[-318.71, -276.12]	-0.13***	[-0.14, -0.12]	-0.97***	[-1.04, -0.89]
Employment status (ref = not in labor force)						
Looking for a job	135.87***	[51.98, 219.77]	0.07***	[0.02, 0.12]	0.56***	[0.29, 0.84]
Working	101.95***	[77.82, 126.08]	0.03***	[0.02, 0.04]	-0.01	[-0.10, 0.08]
Has any disability	15.94*	[-2.28, 34.16]	0.01	[-0.00, 0.01]	0.05	[-0.02, 0.12]
Health self-rating	4.04	[-4.51, 12.58]	0.00**	[0.00, 0.01]	0.02	[-0.01, 0.05]
OASDI benefits recipient	-83.50***	[-111.70, -55.30]	-0.08***	[-0.09, -0.07]	-0.11**	[-0.20, -0.01]
SSI benefit receipient	-147.80***	[-181.80, -113.80]	-0.03*	[-0.06, 0.00]	-0.14	[-0.30, 0.03]
Income (inv hyp sine)	53.26***	[43.46, 63.06]	-0.24***	[-0.25, -0.23]	-1.32***	[-1.39, -1.26]
Net worth (inv hyp sine)	-8.07***	[-9.68, -6.46]	-0.00***	[-0.00, -0.00]	-0.05***	[-0.06, -0.05]
Rent subsidy	-184.03***	[-221.72, -146.33]	-0.06***	[-0.09, -0.03]	-0.31***	[-0.46, -0.15]
Region (ref = West)						
Northeast	-12.02	[-45.56, 21.53]	0.00	[-0.01, 0.02]	-0.03	[-0.15, 0.08]
Midwest	-157.89***	[-186.61, -129.16]	-0.06***	[-0.07, -0.05]	-0.47***	[-0.58, -0.37]
South	-124.57***	[-151.47, -97.68]	-0.04***	[-0.06, -0.03]	-0.45***	[-0.54, -0.35]
Constant	714.08***	[571.84, 856.32]	2.60***	[2.49, 2.71]	12.53***	[11.82, 13.25]
Observations	38,873		38,342		38,342	

Note: 95% confidence intervals in brackets. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ Source: Month 12, Wave 1 of the 2014- 2022 SIPP panels. Models weighted by individual-level SIPP weight. Standard errors clustered by household.

Table 5. Fixed Effects Model Predicting Change in Housing Costs

	1. Housing cost amount	
Host	45.52***	[14.18, 76.86]
Guest	-619.05***	[-676.41, -561.70]
Age	-12.73***	[-18.69, -6.77]
Relationship status (ref = unpartnered)		
Cohabiting	-161.55***	[-213.69, -109.41]
Married	-143.82***	[-203.02, -84.62]
Employment status (ref = not in labor force)		
Looking for a job	59.48*	[-10.15, 129.11]
Working	25.87***	[7.43, 44.32]
Has any disability	17.29**	[2.35, 32.23]
Health self-rating	4.36	[-2.26, 10.99]
OASDI receipt	1.95	[-23.65, 27.55]
SSI receipt	5.47	[-48.53, 59.46]
Income (inv hyp sine)	6.33*	[-0.82, 13.49]
Net worth (inv hyp sine)	-2.82***	[-4.08, -1.55]
Rent subsidy	-31.51**	[-60.02, -2.99]
Adults in household	-154.38***	[-199.19, -109.56]
Constant	1,887.38***	[1,463.57, 2,311.20]
Observations	84,588	

Note: 95% confidence intervals in brackets. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ Source: Month 12, Waves 1-4 of the 2014 and 2018 SIPP panels, Waves 1-3 of the 2020 panel, and Waves 1-2 of the 2021 panel. Standard errors clustered by wave 1 household.

Table 6. Proportion Older Adults Cost Burdened, Observed and Counterfactual, by Race/Ethnicity

	Full Sample	Hosts	Guests	Nonshare	Counterfactual (No Sharing)
All	0.28	0.37	0.05	0.28	0.33
White Non-Hispanic	0.25	0.33	0.05	0.25	0.28
Black Non-Hispanic	0.42	0.51	0.07	0.44	0.51
Asian Non-Hispanic	0.29	0.42	0.02	0.36	0.52
Other Non-Hispanic	0.33	0.38	0.06	0.35	0.43
Hispanic	0.33	0.41	0.06	0.37	0.49
Observations	38,873	6,463	2,600	29,810	38,873

Source: Individuals 65 years old or older. Month 12, Wave 1 of the 2014-2022 SIPP panels. Weighted by individual-level SIPP weight.

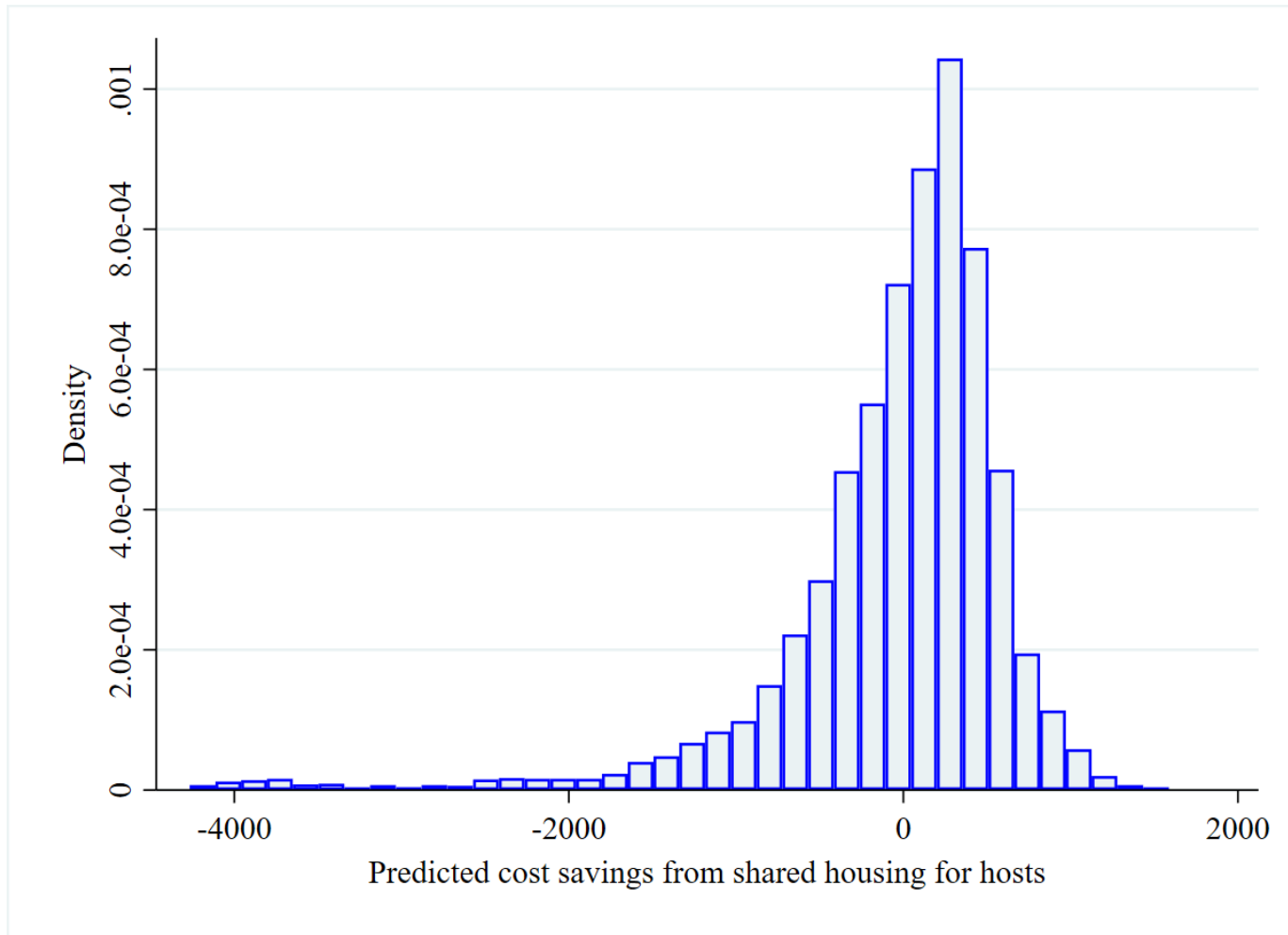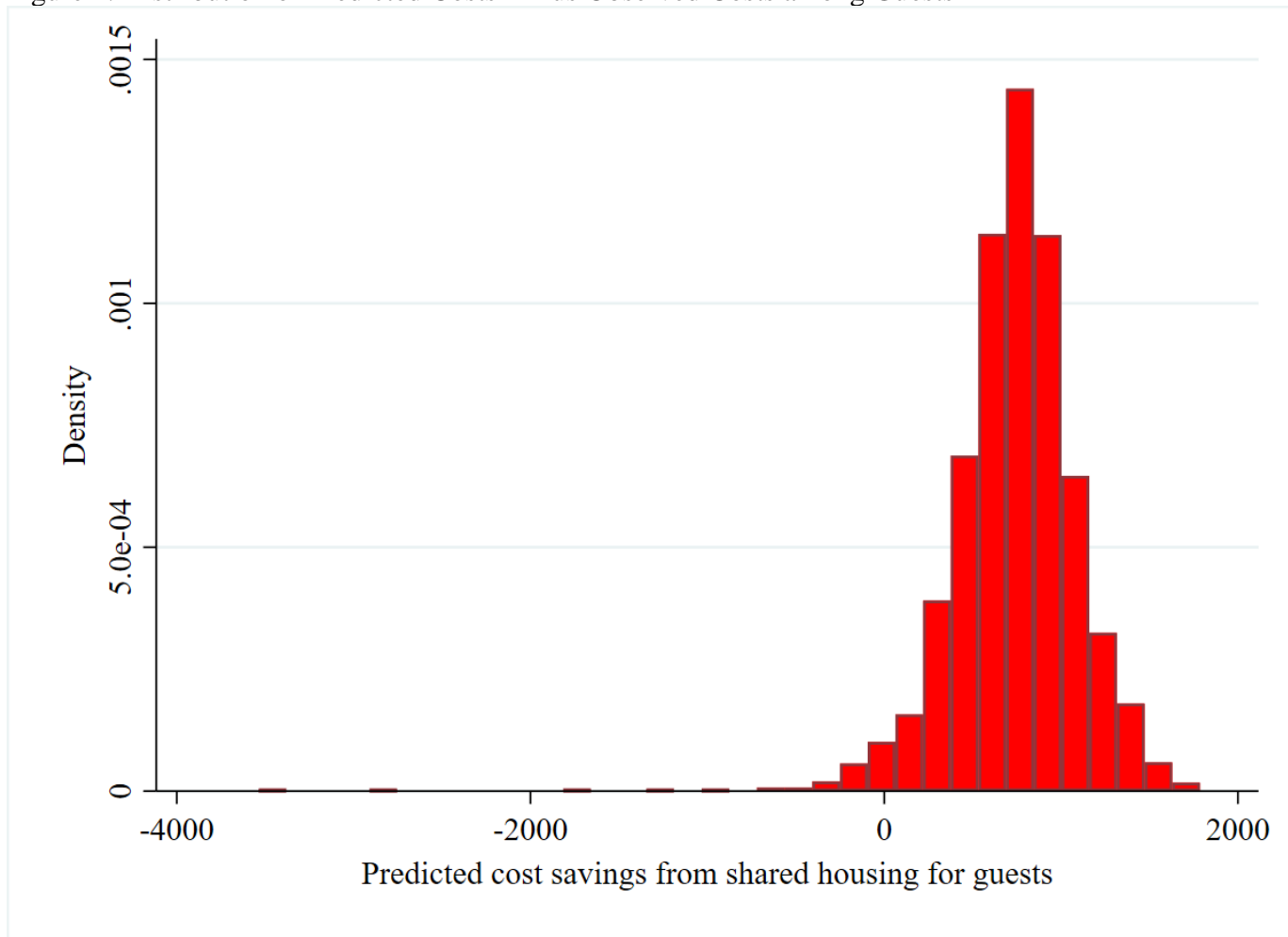Figure 1. Distribution of Predicted Costs minus Observed Costs among Hosts

Figure 2. Distribution of Predicted Costs minus Observed Costs among Guests

Appendix

Table A1. Older Adults Housing Costs and Household Type

	1. Housing cost amount		2. % income to housing		3. Cost burdened	
Host						
Intergenerational	82.07***	[54.00, 110.13]	0.05***	[0.03, 0.06]	0.33***	[0.23, 0.42]
Other relative	13.98	[-35.44, 63.41]	0.02	[-0.01, 0.04]	0.15*	[-0.03, 0.34]
Nonrelative	98.74**	[5.46, 192.01]	0.04*	[-0.00, 0.08]	0.19	[-0.08, 0.47]
Guest						
Intergenerational	-672.92***	[-698.14, -647.71]	-0.45***	[-0.47, -0.43]	-4.48***	[-4.96, -4.01]
Other relative	-706.15***	[-748.78, -663.52]	-0.40***	[-0.45, -0.35]	-3.76***	[-4.41, -3.12]
Nonrelative	-763.22***	[-807.11, -719.33]	-0.44***	[-0.49, -0.39]	-3.96***	[-4.93, -2.99]
Age	-2.22***	[-3.79, -0.66]	-0.00***	[-0.00, -0.00]	-0.01***	[-0.02, -0.01]
Female	17.19***	[4.63, 29.76]	0.01*	[-0.00, 0.01]	0.06***	[0.02, 0.11]
Race and ethnicity (ref = Hispanic)						
Asian Non-Hispanic	-22.77	[-76.60, 31.06]	-0.03*	[-0.07, 0.00]	-0.10	[-0.33, 0.12]
Black Non-Hispanic	70.14***	[27.72, 112.55]	0.04***	[0.01, 0.06]	0.29***	[0.12, 0.45]
White Non-Hispanic	-16.01	[-52.94, 20.92]	-0.01	[-0.03, 0.01]	-0.17**	[-0.31, -0.03]
Other Non-Hispanic	-31.58	[-95.54, 32.39]	-0.02	[-0.05, 0.02]	-0.19	[-0.45, 0.06]
Born in the US	-48.41***	[-83.97, -12.86]	-0.02**	[-0.04, -0.00]	-0.17***	[-0.29, -0.04]
Education (ref = Less than HS)						
HS diploma	32.42***	[8.47, 56.38]	0.02**	[0.00, 0.03]	0.12**	[0.02, 0.22]
Some college	104.30***	[77.97, 130.63]	0.05***	[0.04, 0.07]	0.36***	[0.25, 0.47]
BA or more	221.62***	[191.94, 251.30]	0.10***	[0.09, 0.12]	0.64***	[0.53, 0.76]
Relationship status (ref = unpartnered)						
Cohabiting	-301.87***	[-354.17, -249.57]	-0.13***	[-0.16, -0.11]	-0.86***	[-1.11, -0.61]
Married	-298.70***	[-320.06, -277.34]	-0.13***	[-0.14, -0.12]	-0.97***	[-1.05, -0.90]
Employment status (ref = not in labor force)						
Looking for a job	135.71***	[51.88, 219.53]	0.07***	[0.02, 0.13]	0.56***	[0.29, 0.84]
Working	101.88***	[77.76, 126.01]	0.03***	[0.02, 0.04]	-0.01	[-0.10, 0.07]
Has any disability	15.91*	[-2.31, 34.13]	0.01	[-0.00, 0.01]	0.05	[-0.02, 0.12]
Health self-rating	4.12	[-4.43, 12.66]	0.00**	[0.00, 0.01]	0.02	[-0.01, 0.05]
OASDI benefits recipient	-82.91***	[-111.09, -54.72]	-0.08***	[-0.09, -0.06]	-0.11**	[-0.20, -0.01]
SSI benefit receipient	-148.40***	[-182.44, -114.35]	-0.03*	[-0.06, 0.00]	-0.14	[-0.31, 0.03]
Income (inv hyp sine)	53.37***	[43.56, 63.17]	-0.24***	[-0.25, -0.23]	-1.32***	[-1.39, -1.26]
Net worth (inv hyp sine)	-8.10***	[-9.71, -6.49]	-0.00***	[-0.00, -0.00]	-0.05***	[-0.06, -0.05]
Rent subsidy	-183.50***	[-221.21, -145.78]	-0.06***	[-0.09, -0.03]	-0.31***	[-0.46, -0.15]

Region (ref = West)						
Northeast	-12.27	[-45.81, 21.28]	0.00	[-0.01, 0.02]	-0.04	[-0.15, 0.08]
Midwest	-157.80***	[-186.53, -129.07]	-0.06***	[-0.07, -0.05]	-0.47***	[-0.58, -0.37]
South	-124.32***	[-151.22, -97.42]	-0.04***	[-0.06, -0.03]	-0.45***	[-0.54, -0.35]
Constant	716.86***	[574.36, 859.36]	2.60***	[2.49, 2.71]	12.53***	[11.81, 13.25]
Observations		38,873		38,342		38,342

Note: 95% confidence intervals in brackets. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ Source: Month 12, Wave 1 of the 2014- 2022 SIPP panels. Models weighted by individual-level SIPP weight. Standard errors clustered by household.

Table A2. Older Adults' Housing Costs and Household Type, among Shared Households

	Housing cost amount	
Host	754.37***	[693.83, 814.92]
Has any disability	189.60	[-108.63, 487.83]
Age	-9.38	[-20.90, 2.15]
Female	-67.99	[-225.46, 89.47]
Race and ethnicity (ref = Hispanic)		
Asian Non-Hispanic	159.82	[-405.55, 725.18]
Black Non-Hispanic	152.81*	[-22.48, 328.10]
White Non-Hispanic	49.47	[-121.58, 220.52]
Other Non-Hispanic	-47.27	[-205.56, 111.03]
Born in the US	-287.90**	[-538.18, -37.62]
Education (ref = Less than HS)		
HS diploma	21.88	[-64.53, 108.29]
Some college	35.63	[-54.82, 126.08]
BA or more	346.33***	[162.38, 530.28]
Relationship status (ref = unpartnered)		
Cohabiting	185.03	[-626.21, 996.27]
Married	-200.65***	[-309.28, -92.01]
Employment status (ref = not in labor force)		
Looking for a job	-30.03	[-227.74, 167.69]
Working	135.24	[-71.89, 342.37]
Health self-rating	54.47	[-67.55, 176.50]
OASDI benefits recipient	-161.59	[-378.46, 55.28]
SSI benefit receipient	-158.53*	[-328.85, 11.79]
Income (inv hyp sine)	75.66***	[18.33, 132.99]
Net worth (inv hyp sine)	-2.96	[-7.50, 1.58]
Rent subsidy	-64.30	[-165.59, 36.99]
Region (ref = West)		
Northeast	-17.41	[-257.18, 222.36]
Midwest	-241.55***	[-408.99, -74.12]
South	-164.29**	[-322.14, -6.45]
Constant	322.93	[-199.78, 845.64]
Observations	9,063	

Note: 95% confidence intervals in brackets. * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001 Source: Month 12, Wave 1 of the 2014-2022 SIPP panels. Models weighted by individual-level SIPP weight. Standard errors clustered by household.

Table A3. Matched Sample Descriptive Statistics

	Hosts		Host Matches		Guests		Guest Matches	
	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean	Std. Dev.
Age	73.17	6.63	73.20	6.62	75.74	7.52	75.45	7.24
Female	0.57		0.57		0.69		0.67	
Race/Ethnicity								
Hispanic, any race	0.14		0.14		0.21		0.19	
Asian, Non-Hispanic	0.05		0.04		0.14		0.11	
Black, Non-Hispanic	0.15		0.15		0.14		0.15	
White, Non-Hispanic	0.63		0.63		0.48		0.52	
Other race, Non-Hispanic	0.03		0.03		0.03		0.03	
Born in the US	0.83		0.84		0.62		0.70	
Educational Attainment								
Less than HS	0.20		0.21		0.33		0.30	
HS diploma	0.32		0.33		0.36		0.37	
Some college	0.24		0.23		0.16		0.18	
BA or more	0.23		0.23		0.15		0.15	
Relationship Status								
Single	0.45		0.45		0.78		0.80	
Cohabitating	0.02		0.03		0.01		0.01	
Married	0.54		0.53		0.21		0.19	
Working	0.22		0.22		0.10		0.12	
Has any disability	0.50		0.52		0.61		0.62	
Health self-rating	2.95	1.11	2.94	1.11	2.67	1.13	2.61	1.09
OASDI receipt	0.83		0.82		0.69		0.78	
SSI receipt	0.05		0.05		0.14		0.13	
Rent subsidy	0.03		0.03		0.03		0.05	
Region								
Northeast	0.16		0.15		0.16		0.16	
Midwest	0.17		0.16		0.14		0.13	
South	0.43		0.44		0.40		0.43	
West	0.25		0.25		0.30		0.27	
Income (inv hyp sine)	8.41	1.25	8.41	1.27	7.18	2.58	7.66	2.04
Net worth (inv hyp sine)	10.97	5.52	10.88	5.74	5.42	7.16	5.48	9.08
Individual Observations	6,463		6,463		2,600		2600	

Table A4. Share Experiencing Shared Household Change over 2-4 Years

	Overall	Shared Wave 1	Any Shared
Non-shared to Shared Household	0.06	0.03	0.22
Shared to Non-shared Household	0.06	0.21	0.22
Guest to Non-guest	0.01	0.06	0.05
Non-guest to Guest	0.02	0.07	0.08
Host to Non-host	0.07	0.25	0.25
Non-host to Host	0.06	0.07	0.23
Observations	15836	3439	4335

Source: Month 12, Waves 2-4 of the 2014 and 2018 SIPP panels. Weighted by wave 1 individual-level SIPP weight.

Table A4 follows older adults over two to four years, noting the proportion of older adults who experience specific kinds of household transitions. Column 1 shows that approximately 6% of all older adults in our sample transitioned from a non-shared to shared household at some point during the observation period. Six percent of older adults transitioned out of a shared household into a non-shared household. The proportion of older adults transitioning between guest and non-guest status is far lower, only 1-2%. Seven percent of older adults transitioned from hosting to not hosting; this proportion is higher than the overall shared to non-shared proportion because some hosts remained in shared households but became guests in others' homes. When we limit the sample to older adults who shared households in wave 1 (Column 2) or in any wave (Column 3), we see much higher rates of change. Between one-fifth and one-quarter of older adults who shared a household at wave 1 transitioned out of that status at some point over the following three years, and a non-trivial proportion of older adults made multiple transitions.