

# January 2013 Snapshot of Adults in Families

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## Experiencing Homelessness in the Richmond Region

The following data were collected in Homeward's 15<sup>th</sup> winter (January 24, 2013) count of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the Richmond region. A total of 885 adults and 114 children were counted, and 78.0% of adults completed the Homeward point-in-time survey. The statistics below represent the 9.1% of individuals who indicated that they were accompanied by children.

- 83.9% of adults are females, and 16.1% are males. Most adults in families are single, never married adults (61.9%). 38.1% are or have been in families, including those who are married, as well as those who are separated, widowed, or divorced.
- A majority of persons in families report that they are African-American (79.4%), followed by White (14.3%). 3.3% indicated that they are Hispanic.
- The average age for adults is 33.7 years.
- 60.3% have just a high school education or GED. 28.6% attended some college, and 6.3% have a college degree.
- 1.6% are veterans.
- A little more than half (55.9%) served some time in jail and/or prison. Out of all individuals surveyed (including those who have not served time in jail and/or prison), 47.5% reported serving time in jail, and 8.5% indicated that they had served time in both jail and prison.
- 46.8% have experienced domestic violence in their lifetime. Of those experiencing domestic violence, 69.2% had experienced it in the past year.
- 18.3% report having a problem with alcohol sometime in their lifetime. Of those reporting a problem with alcohol, 63.6% are currently in recovery.
- 32.2% report having a problem with drugs sometime in their lifetime. Of those reporting a problem with drugs, 63.2% are currently in recovery.
- 37.9% report having a mental health problem sometime in their lifetime. Of these, 77.3% are currently being treated, and 59.1% are taking medication for mental health problems.
- 20.0% report having a long-term disability. Of those reporting a long-term disability, 54.5% indicated that their disability was drug or alcohol abuse; 81.8% indicated that their disability was a mental illness; and 45.5% indicated that their disability was a physical disability. (Note that respondents could select all, some, or none of these options.)
- 22.0% are employed. Of those who are employed, 50.0% work full-time, and 50.0% work part-time.
- The median length of time respondents have lived in Greater Richmond is 3.9 years. 33.9% have lived in the area for 15 years or more.
- The largest percentage of respondents (50.0%) reported having their last housing in Richmond. Others indicated previous housing in Henrico (20.0%) and Chesterfield (5.0%). 13.3% of respondents last lived elsewhere in Virginia, and 11.7% lived in other states.
- In the past three years, most homeless adults in families have been homeless once (67.7%) or twice (22.6%); 9.6% have been homeless three or more times during this time period.
- A little more than half (51.9%) have been homeless for four months or less.

For more information:

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