

# January 2016 Snapshot of Adults in Families

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## Experiencing Homelessness in the Richmond Region

The following data were collected in Homeward's 18<sup>th</sup> winter (January 27, 2016) count of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the Richmond region. A total of 677 adults and 85 children were counted, and 76.5 % of adults completed the Homeward point-in-time survey. The statistics below represent the 5.7% of individuals who indicated that they were accompanied by children.

- 96.3% of adults are females, and 3.7% are males. Most adults in families are single, never married adults (61.5%). 38.5% are or have been in families, including those who are married, as well as those who are partnered, separated, widowed, or divorced.
- A majority of persons in families report that they are African-American (71.4%), followed by White (14.3%). 7.1% indicated that they are Hispanic.
- The average age for adults is 36.0 years.
- 46.2% have just a high school education or GED. 26.9% attended some college, and 19.2% have a college degree.
- 34.6% 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), 26.9% reported serving time in jail, 3.8% reported serving time in prison, and 3.8% indicated that they had served time in both jail and prison.
- 50.0% have experienced domestic violence in their lifetime. Of those experiencing domestic violence, 66.7% had experienced it in the past year.
- 11.5% report having a problem with alcohol sometime in their lifetime. Of those reporting a problem with alcohol, 33.3% are currently in recovery.
- 7.7% report having a problem with drugs sometime in their lifetime. Of those reporting a problem with drugs, 40.0% are currently in recovery.
- 34.6% report having a mental health problem sometime in their lifetime. Of these, 76.9% are currently being treated, and 73.1% are taking medication for mental health problems.
- 20.8% report having a long-term disability. Of those reporting a long-term disability, 33.0% indicated that their disability was drug or alcohol abuse; 83.3% a mental illness; and 50.0% a physical disability. (Note that respondents could select all, some, or none of these options.)
- 52.0% are employed. Of those who are employed, 23.1% do day labor or temporary work, 46.2% work part-time, and 30.8% work full-time.
- The median length of time respondents have lived in Greater Richmond is five years.
- The largest percentage of respondents (34.6%) reported having their last housing in Richmond. Others indicated previous housing in Henrico (30.8%) and Hanover (3.8%). 11.5% of respondents last lived elsewhere in Virginia, and 19.2% lived in other states.
- In the past three years, most homeless adults in families have been homeless once (50.0%) or twice (32.1%); 17.8% have been homeless three or more times during this time period.
- A little more than half (57.7%) have been homeless for seven months or less.

For more information:

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