



## 2015 POINT IN TIME COUNT RESULTS

### Introduction

The 2015 Point in Time Count was conducted across the 6 jurisdictions that comprise the Greater Virginia Peninsula Homelessness Consortium (GVPHC), including the cities of Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, Williamsburg, and the counties of James City and York. The Point in Time Count fulfilled the requirements of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and occurred on the evening of January 28, 2015 (sheltered) and the morning of January 29, 2015 (unsheltered). The count was conducted using both paper surveys and data reported in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

The sheltered count was conducted in all identified emergency shelter and transitional housing programs across the region on the evening of January 28. Provider staff and volunteers worked to collect the required information from all sheltered persons with either direct input into the HMIS or via interview and the completion of survey forms. For the unsheltered count, teams of service providers and volunteers canvassed known locations on the morning of January 29 and completed surveys to collect the required information on all unsheltered homeless persons identified during the count.

The survey identifies respondents based on first and last name, or initials, and date of birth to develop a unique client identifier to eliminate duplicates. The survey also consists of additional questions to identify subpopulations, including veterans and HIV-positive persons, and those who have experienced domestic violence, mental illness, or substance abuse. Persons are identified as chronically homeless if they have a disability and have been homeless more than one year or at least four times in the last three years. This report also includes a **new population category**: parenting and unaccompanied youth households. Youth households include those 25 years of age and younger who are parents of children under the age of 18, or are unaccompanied by a parent or guardian.

### 2015 Results

Overall, **520** persons were identified as being homeless in the 2015 Point in Time Count, compared to 525 counted in February 2014. The sheltered count for the Greater Virginia Peninsula decreased from the previous year due in part to the extreme weather conditions experienced on the night of the 2014 Count; in 2014, winter storms forced many persons who would normally sleep outside to seek emergency shelter offered by local providers. It is also important to keep in mind that some people may not have presented for services that day and were therefore not counted. Additionally, the GVPHC has launched the regional Housing Crisis Hotline as the CoC's centralized intake, improving the CoC implementation of diversion at the front door. Another contributing factor is the increased use of rapid rehousing, shortening the length of time homeless, while providing case management to improve housing stability.

Conversely, the unsheltered count on the morning of January 29, 2015 increased from the previous year. In addition to less extreme winter temperatures compared to the previous year, outreach teams

increased the coverage of known areas and included the use of observation forms. These observation forms were given to team leads and used with discretion; they allowed persons to be counted who refused to complete the survey or were unable to be surveyed because they were sleeping or unapproachable, for example. Any homeless persons who sought shelter in hotels/motels (paid for by self), or with friends and family could not be counted, because they did not meet the HUD definition of homeless.

Subpopulation data was provided by information gathered through HMIS and results of the surveys completed by participants. Many HMIS participating agencies are continuing to come into compliance with the new 2014 HMIS Data Standards, impacting data quality and contributing to a decrease in the number of persons identified as chronically homeless and the number of persons identified with a substance abuse issue. The surveys were also updated to align with HUD recommended questions; in particular, the question regarding domestic violence experiences likely contributed to an increase in this subpopulation.

The following table shows a breakdown of the 2015 Point-in-Time Count Results, both regionally, as well as by jurisdiction.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT	2015 RESULTS GVPHC	2015 RESULTS HAMPTON	2015 RESULTS NEWPORT NEWS	2015 RESULTS WILLIAMSBURG	2015 RESULTS POQUOSON	2015 RESULTS JAMES CITY COUNTY	2015 RESULTS YORK COUNTY
<b>Total Number of Homeless Persons Counted</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>2014 Total Number of Homeless Persons</i>	<b>525</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Number Sheltered</b>	450	140	190	35	0	84	1
<b>Total Number Unsheltered</b>	70	27	32	4	0	6	1
Total Number of Families*	49	13	12	9	0	15	0
Total Number of Persons in Families*	169	46	44	28	0	51	0
Total Number of Unsheltered Families	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Adult Only Households	351	121	178	11	0	39	2
Total Number of Persons in Adult Only Households	351	121	178	11	0	39	2
Total Number of Unsheltered Persons in Adult Only Households	65	27	27	4	0	6	1

*Chart continues on following page...*

<i>HOMELESS SUBPOPULATIONS</i>							
<i>Continued...</i>	<b>2015 RESULTS GVPHC</b>	<b>2015 RESULTS HAMPTON</b>	<b>2015 RESULTS NEWPORT NEWS</b>	<b>2015 RESULTS WILLIAMSBURG</b>	<b>2015 RESULTS POQUOSON</b>	<b>2015 RESULTS JAMES CITY COUNTY</b>	<b>2015 RESULTS YORK COUNTY</b>
Total Number of Chronically Homeless Individuals	47	15	25	3	0	4	0
Total Number of Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Veterans	96	49	40	2	0	5	0
Total Number of Female Veterans	19	7	11	0	0	1	0
Total Number of Domestic Violence Victims	74	26	21	4	0	23	0
Total Number of Individuals with a Substance Abuse Problem	41	21	15	1	0	4	0
Total Number of Individuals with a Mental Illness	95	49	35	3	0	8	0
Total Number of HIV-positive Individuals	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Parenting Youth	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Youth	17	2	13	0	0	2	0

*\*Total number of families and total number of persons in families include both sheltered and unsheltered households with at least one adult and one child.*

## Trend Analysis

The following charts show the five year trend across the region. While the totals are decreasing overall, the number of unsheltered persons and persons identified in subpopulations are fluctuating. Some of the subpopulation fluctuation can be ascribed to the changes in methodology described above (updated survey questions, new HMIS data standards, etc.). It is also important to note that while a majority of persons counted are sheltered, many of those persons were sheltered in seasonal shelters which operate for only a few months during the coldest part of the year.



