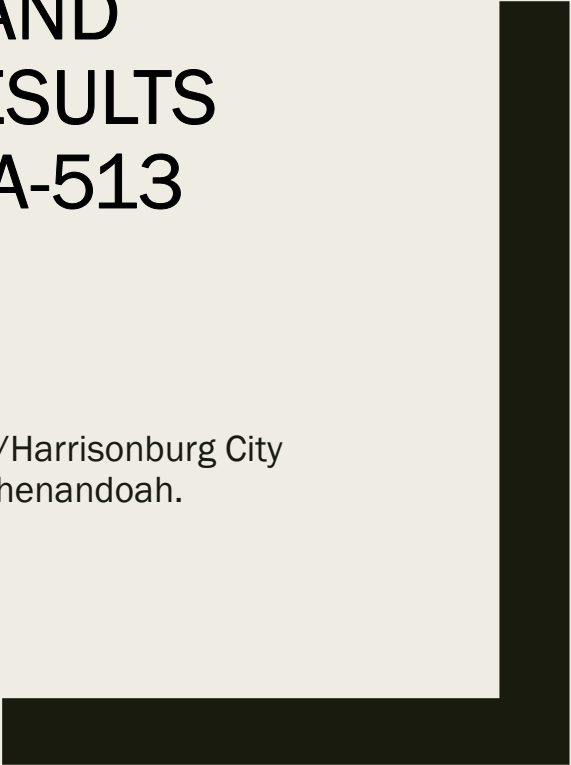


# 2018 HOUSING NEEDS AND VULNERABILITY SURVEY RESULTS WESTERN VIRGINIA COC VA-513

Frederick County/Winchester City, Rockingham County/Harrisonburg City  
and the Counties of Warren, Clarke, Page, and Shenandoah.  
January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018



# 2018 Housing Needs & Vulnerability Survey

This presentation explores survey responses from homeless adults in Harrisonburg, Virginia (sheltered and unsheltered) willing to talk about their experiences in our community. Guests were interviewed Frederick County, Winchester City, Rockingham County, Harrisonburg City and the Counties of Warren, Clarke, Page, and Shenandoah. We also interviewed persons on the street staying in places not for habitation.

One hundred and thirty seven persons volunteered to share their personal information to help our community better understand local homeless population's experiences, barriers to housing, physical and emotional health, and other demographic information.

The health questions support agencies that provide healthcare and outreach to vulnerable populations within our communities.

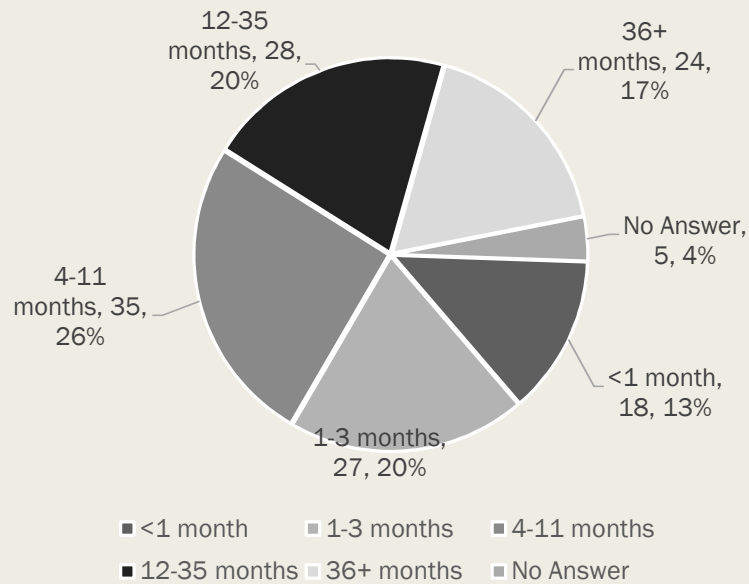
The survey answers are codified by JMU's Research Methods class under the direction of Professor Rita Poteyeva, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Justice Studies.



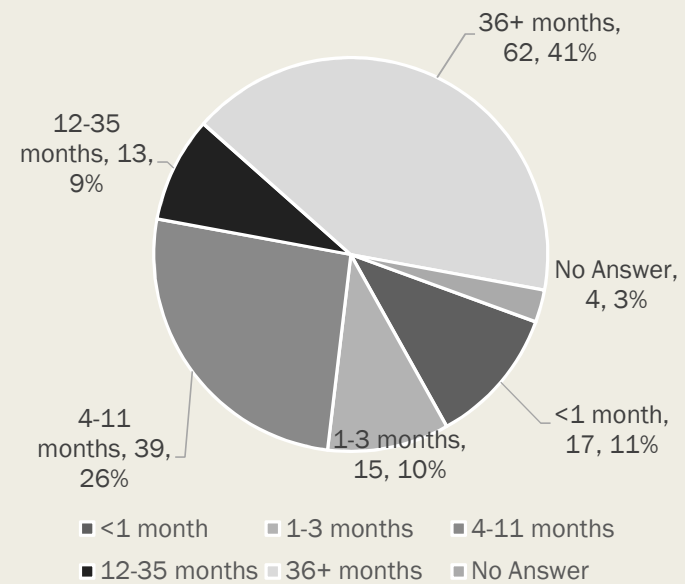
# DURATION & BARRIERS OF HOMELESSNESS

# Reported duration of homelessness

## Total Duration in Last 3 Years



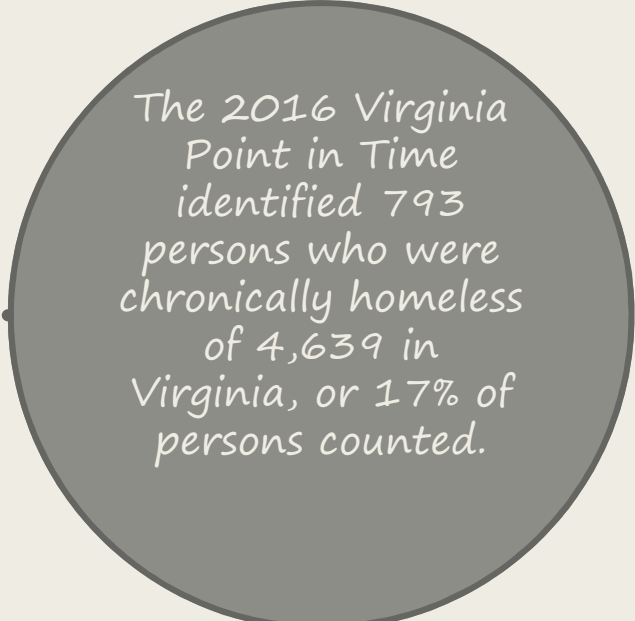
## Lifetime Duration



# HUD Chronic Homelessness

Chronically homeless defined by having a disability and either:

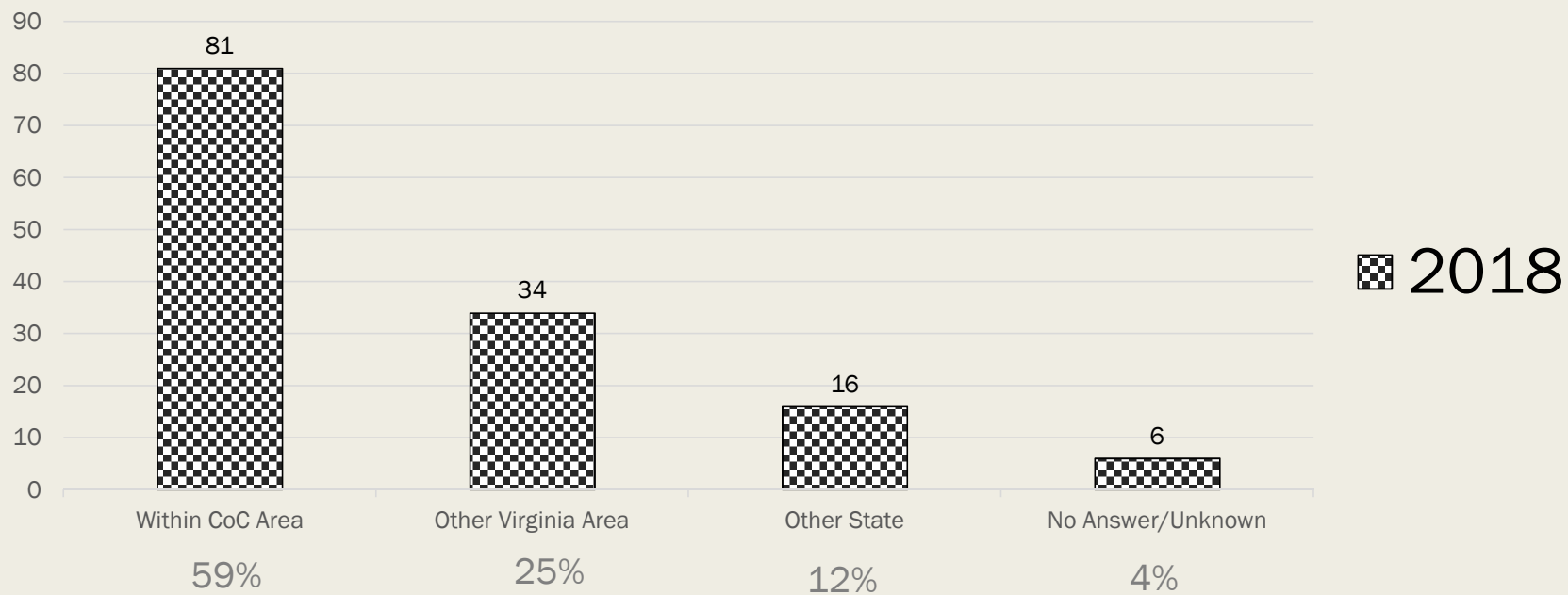
- 4+ times homeless in the past 3 years (duration 1+ year)
- or one episode of 12+ months duration in the past 3 years



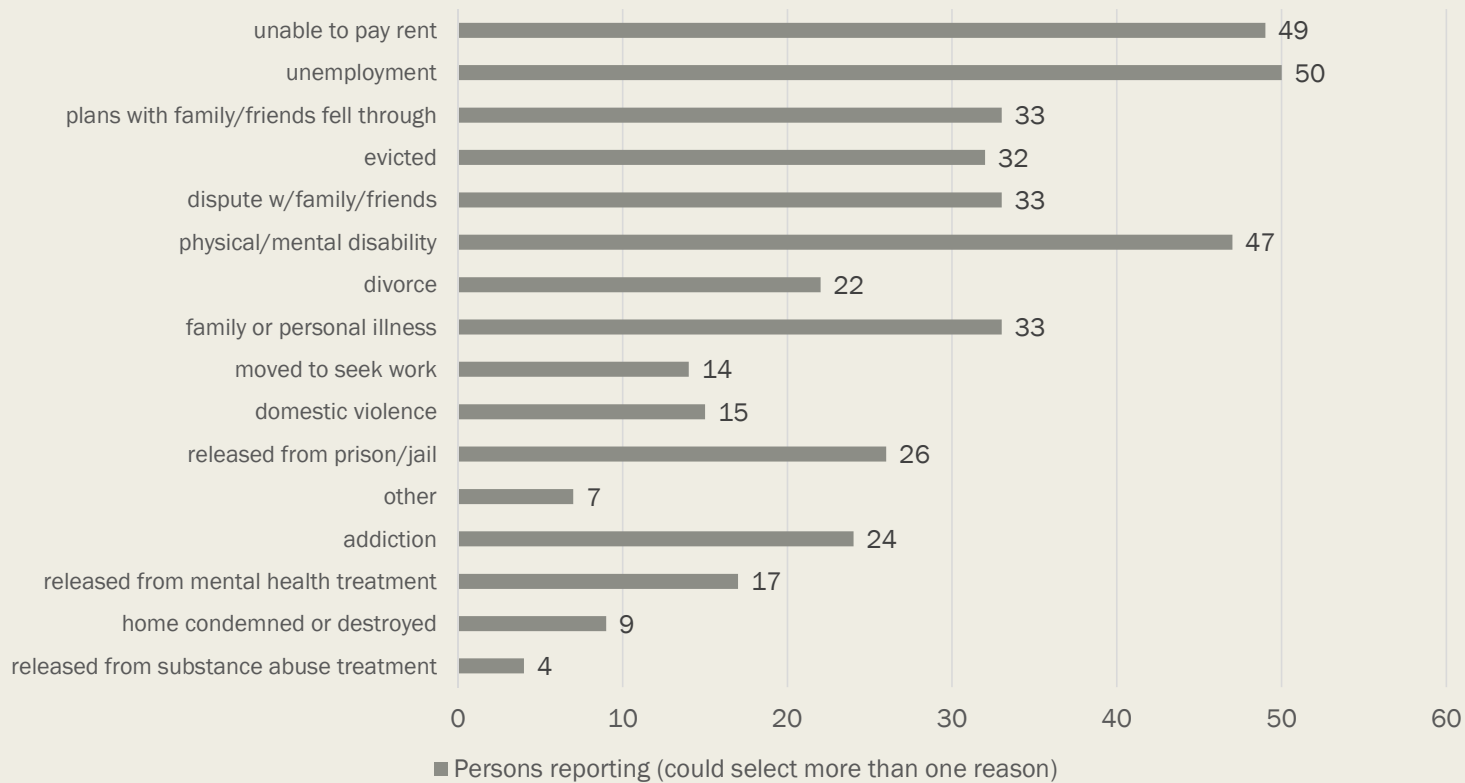
The 2016 Virginia Point in Time identified 793 persons who were chronically homeless of 4,639 in Virginia, or 17% of persons counted.

21% of surveyed adults (26 persons of 127 with full data points gathered) were identified as chronically homeless by HUD's definition.

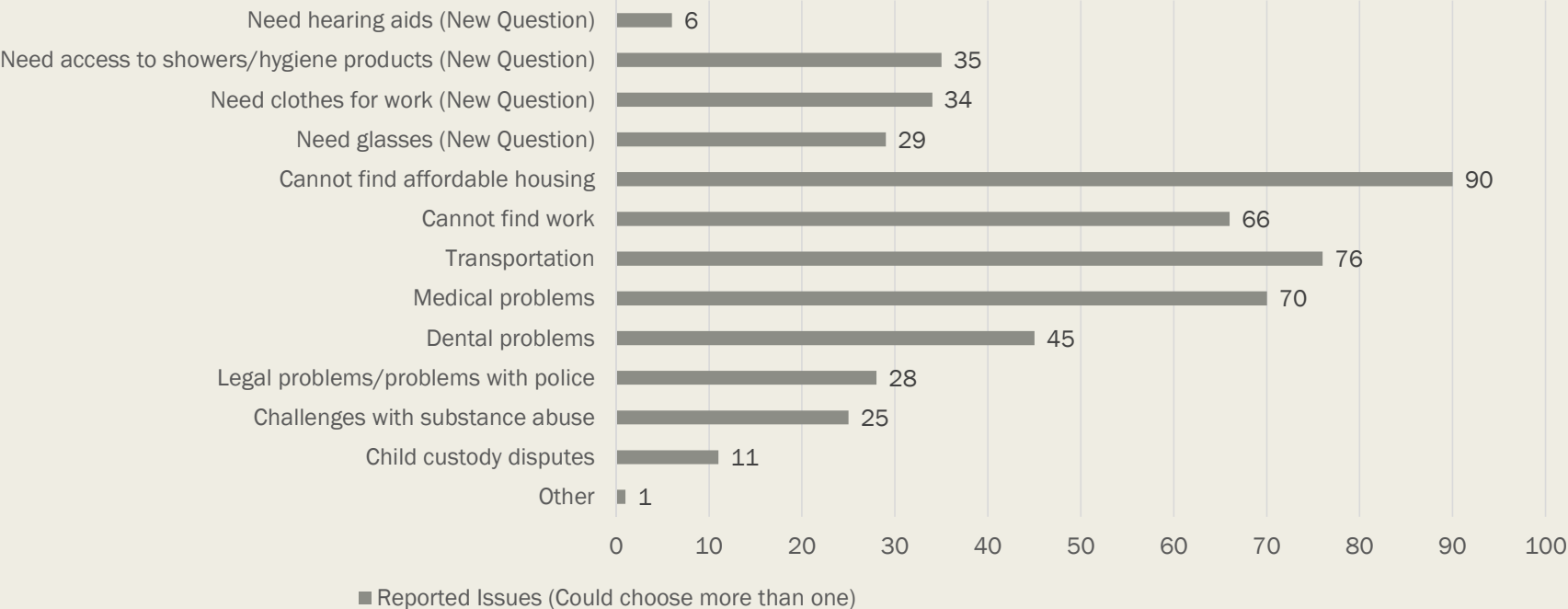
# Last Permanent Housing Location (stayed 90 days) of 137 Persons



# Self-Reported Reasons for Homelessness



# Self-Reported Barriers to Stable Housing



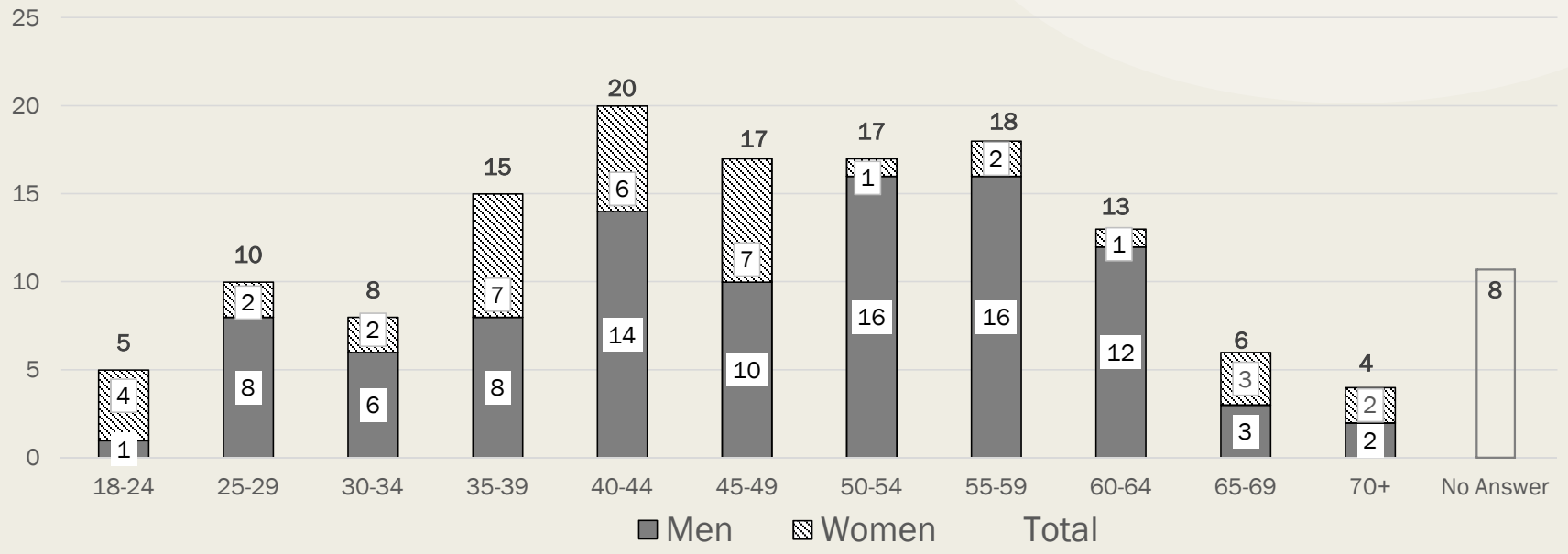




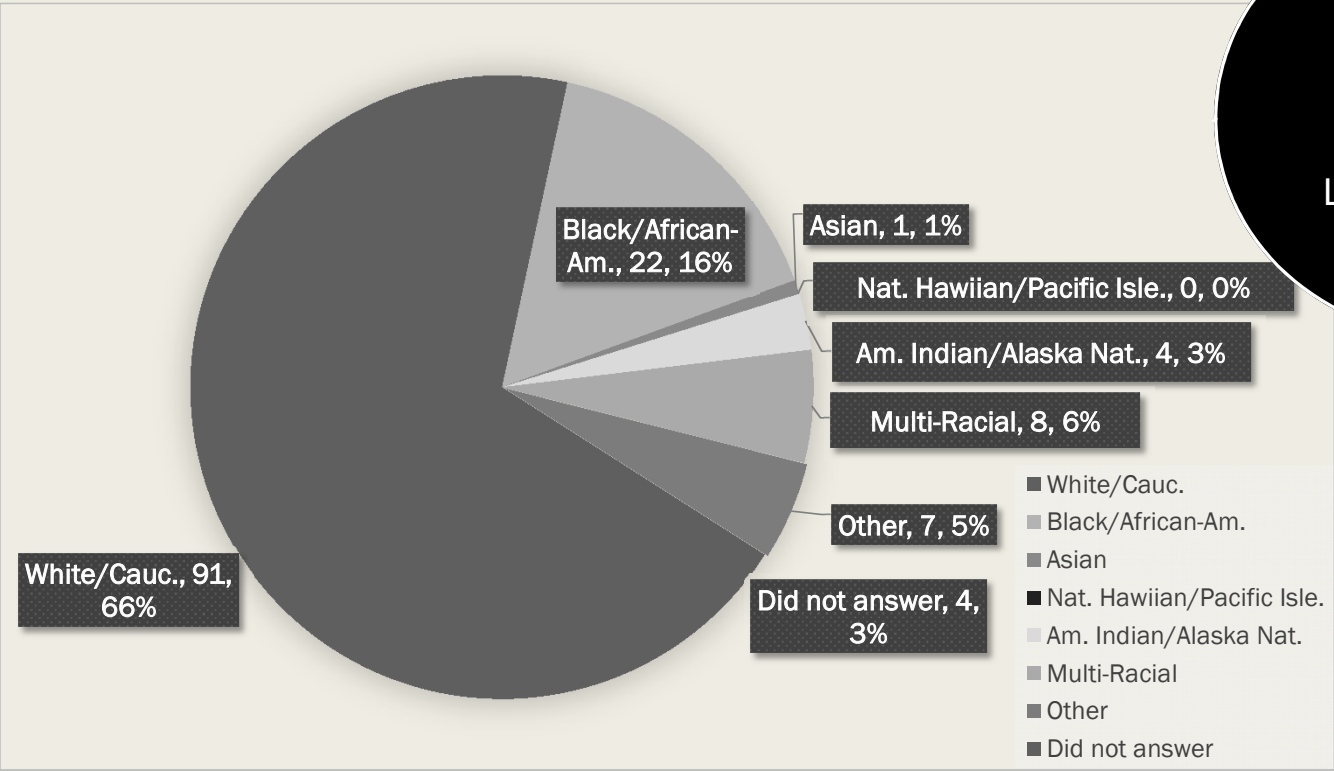
# DEMOGRAPHICS

# Age and Gender

2018  
 Average Age all sexes - 46  
 Median Age all sexes - 46  
 Average male age - 48  
 Average female age - 40



# 2018 Survey Respondents by Race and Ethnicity



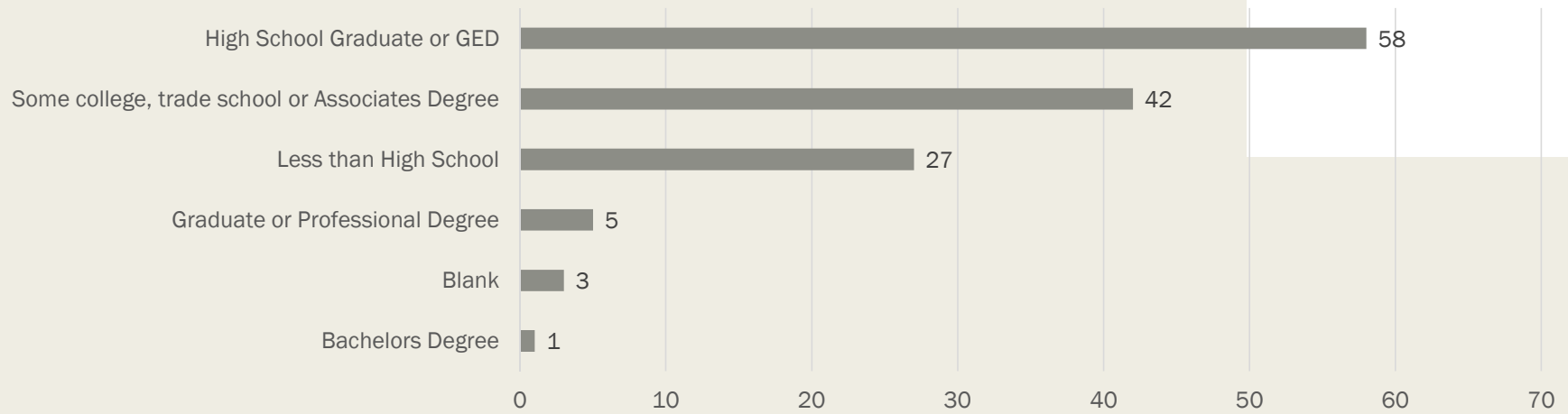
10% (14/137 persons)  
Identified as Latino/Hispanic



## Surveyed Veterans

- Eleven of 131 (8%) adults who answered identified as veteran – one did not answer. Of those who identified as veterans, three (27%) were unsheltered.
- One veteran reported they receive VA Benefits.
- Six identified as former Army, three former Air Force, one marine and one Navy.
- Two identified as a combat veteran.
- Discharged status – ten honorable, one other than honorable.

# Education and Homelessness



21% of surveyed (28 of 134 adults who answered) reported receiving special education services in high school.

20% had a less than High School education

## Other Life Experiences

- 72% of surveyed adults have served time in jail
- 31% of surveyed adults have served time in prison
- 10% said they were placed in foster care as a child
- 41% suffered childhood trauma, abuse or neglect
- 16% reported a violent attack since they became homeless
- 18% have suffered traumatic brain injury
- No one reported undocumented status
- 51% have received treatment for mental health issues
- 36% have been admitted to the hospital for mental health issues (thirty-nine persons declined to answer this question)



HEALTH

# Housing and Health

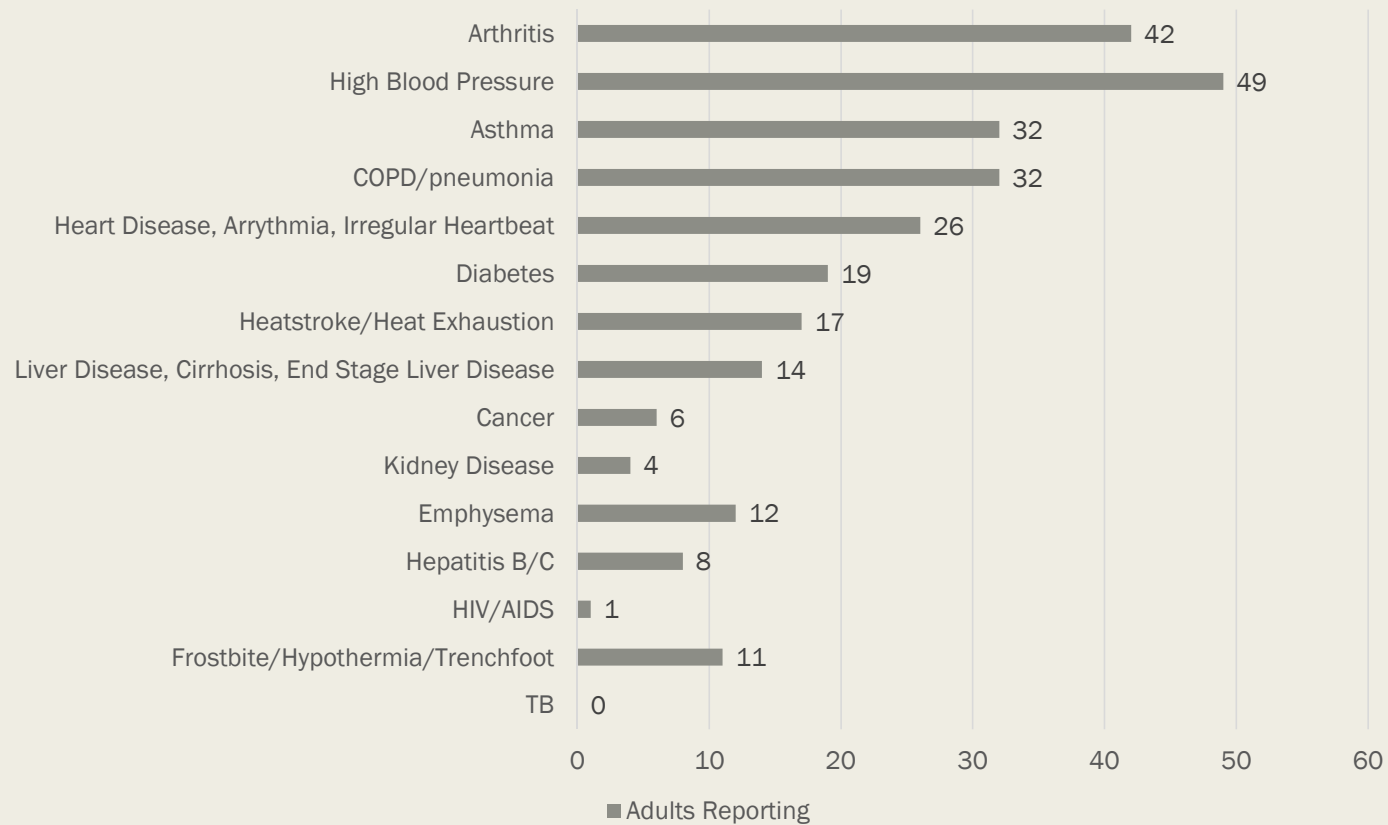
“Living on the street or in homeless shelters exacerbates existing health problems and causes new ones. Chronic diseases, such as hypertension, asthma, diabetes, mental health problems and other ongoing conditions, are difficult to manage under stressful circumstances and may worsen. Acute problems such as infections, injuries, and pneumonia are difficult to heal when there is no place to rest and recuperate...

When people have stable housing, they no longer need to prioritize finding a place to sleep each night and can spend more time managing their health, making time for doctors’ appointments, and adhering to medical advice and directions. Housing also decreases the risk associated with further disease and violence. In many ways, housing itself can be considered a form of health care because it prevents new conditions from developing and existing conditions from worsening.”

*<https://www.nhchc.org/faq/relationship-health-housing-homelessness/>*

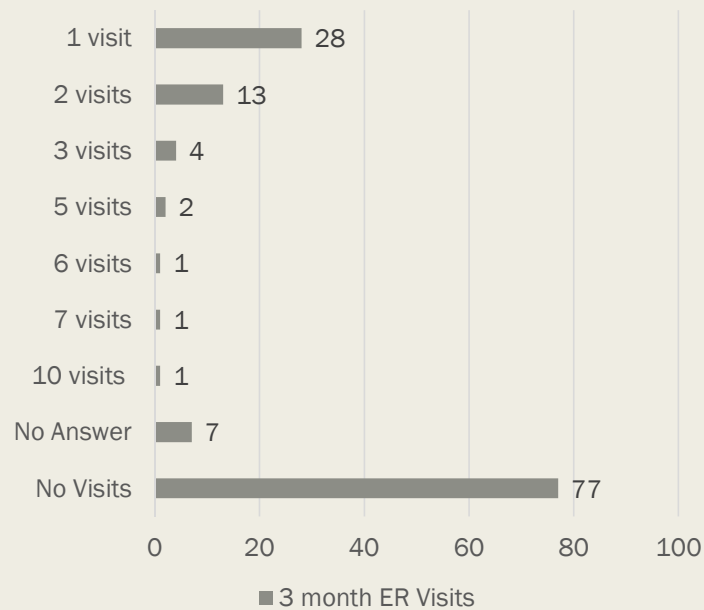


# Health Conditions (131 persons answered)

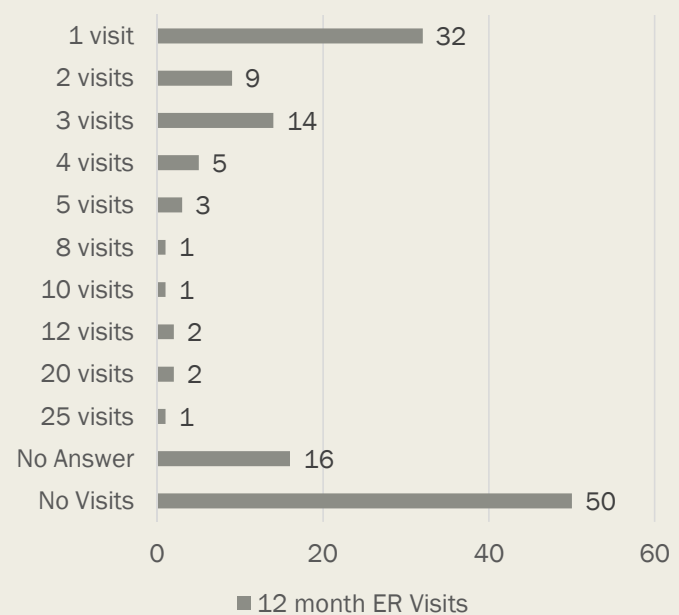


# Emergency Room Visits

99 Emergency Room Visits Reported in Last 3 Months (130 persons answered)

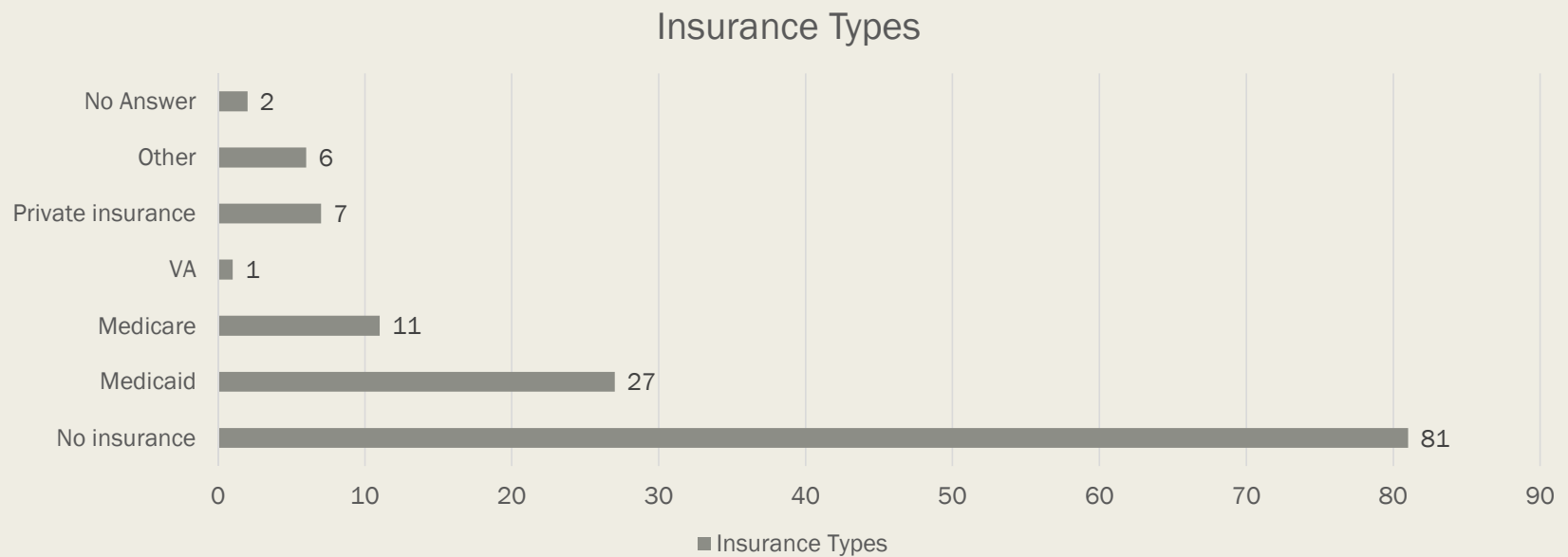


182 Emergency Room Visits Reported in Last 12 Months (121 persons answered)



## Medical Insurance

81 of 135 (60%) indicated they had no medical insurance coverage.



# Estimated Cost of Hospital Admissions

- 605 days of in-patient hospitalization were reported, including one person reporting 80 days.
- Virginia average cost\* per day of hospitalization at a for-profit hospital; \$1,879\*
- Estimated cost of all admissions (605 days x \$1,879) = \$1,135,795
- 34 of 59 persons indicated they did not have insurance (58%)
- 290 days of hospital admission were reported from persons without insurance. Estimated cost of admissions for uninsured (290 x \$1,879.00 = \$544,910).

\*2016 statistics

Source: <http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/average-cost-per-inpatient-day-across-50-states-2016.html>



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON  
HOMELESSNESS IN THE SHENANDOAH  
VALLEY

[DATA513.COM](http://DATA513.COM)

