

Quiz: Homelessness in Greater Washington

- 1) What is homelessness? Check all that apply:
 - a) Living in transitional housing
 - b) Living in safe havens/halfway housing
 - c) Living in vans/cars
 - d) Living on camping grounds
 - e) Sleeping on family or friends' sofa (doubling-up)
 - f) All of the above

- 2) What is the median age of a homeless adult with children?
 - a) Between 18-24
 - b) Between 25-34
 - c) Between 35-40
 - d) Between 41-50

- 3) In DC, what is the median age of a homeless single adult?
 - a) 29
 - b) 35
 - c) 51
 - d) 63

- 4) What is the fastest growing group of homeless persons?
 - a) Children age 17 and under
 - b) Families with children
 - c) Couples
 - d) Single men and women aged 18-61
 - e) Seniors over the age of 62

- 5) The leading cause of homelessness are addiction to alcohol and/or drugs.
 - a) True
 - b) False

- 6) What are the major reasons people become homeless?
 - a) Long-term unemployment
 - b) Sudden loss of income/unemployment
 - c) High cost and/or lack of affordable housing
 - d) Domestic violence
 - e) Lack of savings
 - f) All of the above

- 7) What percentage of the region's single adults experiencing homelessness are employed?
- a) 8%
 - b) 22%
 - c) 41%
 - d) 56%
- 8) Imagine you are a single person living in DC and working at a DC fast-food restaurant. How many hours a week would you need to work to meet your typical basic expenses?
- a) 40
 - b) 44
 - c) 51
 - d) 62
- 9) Rank the areas you believe had the most homeless individuals in 2017 from 1 (most) to 6 (least).
- a) Alexandria (City)
 - b) Arlington (County)
 - c) Fairfax (County)
 - d) Montgomery (County)
 - e) Prince George (County)
 - f) Washington (DC)
- 10) What remains the most significant obstacle to ending homelessness in our region?
- a) Lack of affordable, permanent housing
 - b) Inability to secure employment
 - c) Physical and mental health issues
 - d) Lack of education
 - e) Extremely low income

Bonus Question: The obstacles to ending homelessness cannot be overcome. We cannot stop homelessness.

- f) True
- g) False



Answers
 1. F. All of the above. 2. B. Between 25-34 years old. 3. C. 51 is the median age. 4. F. Seniors over the age of 62.
 5. False. While addiction may be a contributing factor, it is rarely the cause. 6. D. All of the above.
 7. 22% of homeless adults are holding down a job. 8. C. 51 hours every week. This is without any unpaid time off.
 9. (Most to least): Washington, Fairfax, Montgomery, Prince George, Alexandria, and Arlington.
 10. Lack of affordable, permanent housing 11. (Bonus) Most certainly false.
 Most answers come from the May 2018 Annual Point-in-Time Count. Learn more at www.samartiaministry.org.