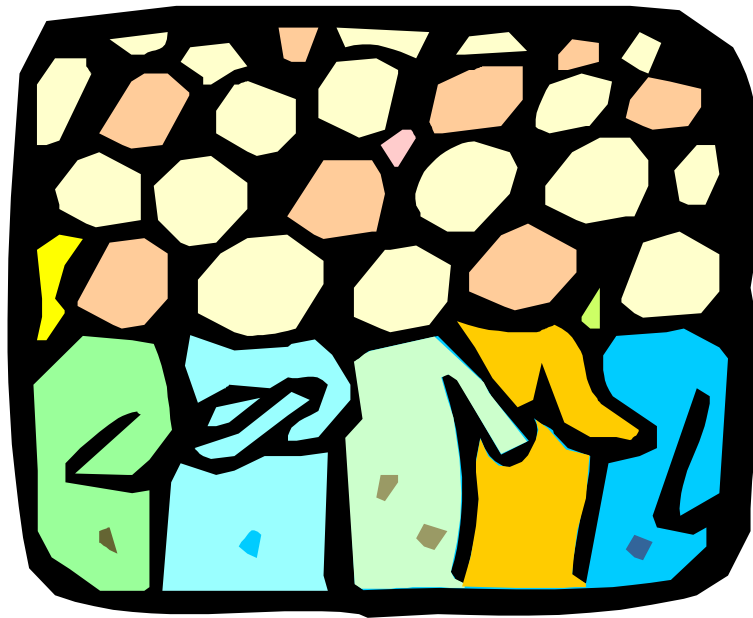


# **City of Richmond 2000 Census Data Report #9**



## **1990 - 2000 Citywide Income, Poverty and Employment Statistics**



Prepared by  
Department of Community Development  
Division of Comprehensive Planning  
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# CENSUS 2000

## City of Richmond Totals

Income Statistics	1989	1999	Gain or Loss	Percent Change
Median household income	\$23,551	\$31,121	\$7,570	32.1%
Median family income	\$29,021	\$38,348	\$9,327	32.1%
Per capita income	\$13,993	\$20,337	\$6,344	45.3%
Median earnings				
Male full-time, year-round	\$24,800	\$30,874	\$6,074	24.5%
Female full-time, year-round	\$18,743	\$25,880	\$7,137	38.1%

### SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS:

- Median household income increased by \$7,570 or 32.1% from 1989 to 1999. Richmond's 1999 median household income ranked 25<sup>th</sup> among the 40 cities in the State of Virginia (Richmond ranked 26<sup>th</sup> in 1989).
- Median family income also increased by 32.1%. Families represented 51.6% of all Richmond households in 2000.
- Per capita income grew at a greater rate than did median household and median family incomes, increasing by 45.3% over the course of the decade.
- Although per capita income in Richmond continued to lag behind its suburban neighbors in terms of dollar value (1999 per capita income in Chesterfield was \$25,286 and \$26,410 in Henrico), the City increased at a similar rate as per capita incomes in Chesterfield and Henrico grew by 45.1% and 46.6%, respectively.
- Although median earnings for males remained higher than that of females, median earnings for females increased at a greater rate from 1989 to 1999 (38.1% as compared to 24.5% for males).

# CENSUS 2000

## City of Richmond Totals

Poverty Status <sup>1</sup>	1989	1999	Gain or Loss	Percent Change
Families	8,239	7,568	-671	-8.1%
With related children under 18 years	6,773	6,322	-451	-6.7%
With related children under 5 years	3,704	3,091	-613	-16.6%
Female householder, no spouse present	6,424	5,804	-620	-9.7%
With related children under 18 years	5,762	5,231	-531	-9.2%
With related children under 5 years	3,219	2,549	-670	-20.8%
Individuals	40,103	40,185	82	0.2%
18 years and over	25,284	26,145	861	3.4%
65 years and over	4,794	4,038	-756	-15.8%
Related children under 18 years	14,656	13,716	-940	-6.4%
Related children 5 to 17 years	9,527	9,671	144	1.5%

### SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS:

- The total number of families in poverty decreased from 1989 to 1999 by 671 or 8.1%, although those in poverty comprised approximately 17% of all families according to 2000 Census figures.
- While the total number of female-headed family households increased from 1990 to 2000 (+410), the number in poverty decreased by 620. Similarly, the total number of female-headed family households with related children under 18 increased (+8.5%), but the number in poverty decreased by 9.2%.
- In spite of an increase in the total number of persons in poverty from 1989 to 1999 (+0.2%), the number of persons 65 years of age and older in poverty decreased by nearly 16%.
- Although the number of related children under 18 years old in poverty decreased by 6.4%, the number of related children between 5 and 17 years old increased by 1.5%; therefore the decrease within the overall category occurred in the number of children under 5 years old. A portion of this is undoubtedly attributable to the overall decrease in the number of children under 5 years old from 1990 to 2000 (-1,589 or -11.4%).

<sup>1</sup> Poverty level is determined by the U.S. Census Bureau according to size of household or family and number of related children less than 18 years. For example, a family of four with two related children under the age of 18 earning less than \$16,895 in 1999 is below the poverty threshold. See definition in glossary for further explanation.

# CENSUS 2000

## City of Richmond Totals

Employment Statistics	1990	2000	Gain or Loss	Percent Change
Population 16 years and over	164,963	158,612	-6,351	-3.9%
In labor force	103,025	99,009	-4,016	-3.9%
Civilian labor force	102,857	98,688	-4,169	-4.1%
Employed	96,229	90,745	-5,484	-5.7%
Unemployed	6,628	7,943	1,315	19.8%
Percent of civilian labor force	6.4%	8.0%	N/A	N/A
Armed forces	168	321	153	91.1%
Not in labor force	61,938	59,603	-2,335	-3.8%

### SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS:

- The decrease in total number of persons in the labor force from 1990 to 2000 (-3.9%) follows the overall decrease in the number of working-age residents (16+) within the City (-3.9%).
- While the civilian labor force declined by 4,169, members of the armed forces nearly doubled (+153) over the course of the decade.
- According to the Census, unemployment increased from 6.4% to 8.0%, although it should be noted that other unemployment measures noted significantly smaller rates over the same period<sup>2</sup>.
- Those persons not in the labor force also decreased seemingly in accordance with the overall decline in working-age population.

<sup>2</sup> Virginia Employment Commission unemployment figures for 2000 reflect a labor force of 95,188, with 92,425 employed and 2,763 not employed, resulting in an annual unemployment rate of 2.9%. Differences in measurement techniques account for the discrepancies between these two sources. For more information on Census measurement techniques, see the definition of “unemployed” in the glossary.

## **CENSUS GLOSSARY<sup>3</sup>**

### **Armed forces**

The armed forces include people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard. It does not include Armed Forces members stationed abroad in foreign countries.

### **Earnings**

Earnings is defined as the sum of wage and salary income and net income from self-employment. Earnings represent the amount of income received regularly before deductions for personal income taxes, social security, bond purchases, union dues, Medicare deductions, etc.

### **Employed**

All civilians 16 years old and over who are either (1) “at work” – those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business or (2) are “with a job, but not at work” – those who did not work during the reference week, but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent. Excluded from the employed are those people whose only activity consisted of work around their own house or unpaid volunteer work. Also excluded are people on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. The reference week is the full calendar week preceding the date on which the respondent completed the questionnaire.

### **Family**

A family includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

### **Household**

A household includes all of the people who occupy a housing unit. People not living in households are classified as living in group quarters.

### **Householder**

In most cases, the householder is the person, or one of the people, in whose name the home is owned, being bought, or rented.

### **Income in 1999**

Information on money income received in calendar year 1999 was requested from individuals 15 years and over. “Total income” is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wage or salary income; net self-employment income; interest, dividends, or net rental or royalty income; social security or railroad retirement income; supplemental security income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; retirement or disability income; and all other income.

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<sup>3</sup> Definitions adapted from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Demographic Profile: Technical Documentation, 2002.

**Income of families**

The incomes of all members 15 years old and over in each family are summed and treated as a single amount.

**Income of households**

Includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not.

**Labor force**

The labor force includes all people classified in the civilian labor force plus members of the U.S. armed forces.

**Median earnings for full-time, year-round workers**

The median divides the earnings distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median and one-half above the median. Median earnings for full-time, year-round workers is based on individuals 16 years old and over who usually worked 35 hours or more per week for 50 to 52 weeks in 1999.

**Median income**

The median divides the income distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median income and one-half above the median. For households and families, the median income is based on the distribution of the total number of households or families including those with no income.

**Per capita income**

Per capita income is the mean (average) income computed for every man, woman and child in a particular group.

**Poverty status in 1999**

Poverty is measured by using 48 thresholds that vary by family size and number of children within the family and age of the householder. To determine whether a person is poor, one compares the total income of that person's family with the threshold appropriate for that family. If the total family income is less than the threshold, then the person is considered poor, together with every member of his or her family. Not every person is included in the poverty universe.

**Unemployed**

Civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work" during the reference week, (2) were looking for work during the last four weeks, and (3) were available to start a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians 16 years old and over who did not work at all during the reference week, were on temporary layoff from a job, expected to be recalled to work within the next 6 months, or had been given a date to return to work, and were available for work during the reference week.