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Fact Sheet: Black Same-Sex Couples in the Washington, DC—Baltimore, MD Metropolitan Area

The US Census counts 4,997 Black gay and lesbian couples in the Washington, DC—Baltimore area. This represents 5.9% of all Black same-sex couples in the U.S. Twenty percent of all same-sex households in the Washington—Baltimore area are Black same-sex households (i.e. at least one partner is Black).

Demographics

- The average age of individuals in Black same-sex couples was 40.5.
- Ninety-four percent of Black male same-sex partners and 96% of Black female same-sex partners were citizens.
- Fourteen percent of men and 16% of women in Black same-sex couples reported having a disability.
- Eighty-four percent of men and 89% of women in Black same-sex couples reported that they spoke English at home. Eight percent of men and six percent of women in Black same-sex couples spoke Spanish, while the remainder spoke some other language.
- Eleven percent of partnered Black men and ten percent of partnered Black women in same-sex couples were born outside of the United States.

Income

- The median household income for Black male same-sex couples was \$53,500. The median household income for Black female same-sex couples was \$58,300.
- The median personal income for individuals in Black same-sex couples was \$24,665.

Family

- Fifty-two percent of Black female same-sex couples and 41% of Black male same-sex couples are raising children.
- Forty-three percent of Black female same-sex couples and 34% of Black male same-sex couples are raising biological children.
- Nine percent of Black female same-sex couples and seven percent of Black male same-sex couples are raising nonbiological (fostered or adopted) children.

Residence

- Forty-five percent of Black male same-sex couples and 41% of Black female same-sex couples report living in the same residence five years ago.
- Fifty-seven percent of Black male same-sex couples and 55% of Black female same-sex couples own their own home.

Employment

- Sixty-seven percent of Black men in same-sex households and 73% of Black women in same-sex households report working full-time. Nine percent of Black men in same-sex households and five percent of Black women in same-sex households work part-time. Twenty-four percent of men and 22% of women in Black same-sex couples reported not working.
- Twenty percent of Black men and 24% of Black women in same-sex households work in the public sector.

Military Service

- Twenty-one percent of men and 10% of women in Black same-sex couples are military veterans.