



EVERYONE COUNTS
2024:
**HOMELESSNESS
POINT-IN-TIME COUNT
ENUMERATION**

20
24

Hastings County

Total Population: 145,746



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**Fostering Indigenous
Partnerships**



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hastings County is located on the traditional territory of many nations including the Huron-Wendat, Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee peoples. Hastings County Council acknowledges our shared obligation to respect, honour and sustain these lands and the natural resources contained within. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land. We would also like to acknowledge the Mohawk and Algonquin nations whose traditional and unceded territory we are gathered upon today. Hastings County is situated on treaty land that is steeped in rich Indigenous history and home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.



VISION

People and businesses thrive in Hastings County because of its support for individuals and families, strong communities, its natural beauty, and respect for its history and traditions.

MISSION

Supporting People & Our Communities

INTRODUCTION

The Canadian Definition of Homelessness describes the situation of an individual, family or community without stable, safe, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it. It is the result of systemic or societal barriers, a lack of affordable and appropriate housing, the individual/household's financial, mental, cognitive, behavioral or physical challenges, and/or racism and discrimination. Most people do not choose to be homeless, and the experience is generally negative, unpleasant, unhealthy, unsafe, stressful, and distressing.

As part of the federal program Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy's efforts to reduce chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by fiscal year 2027-2028, Hastings County conducted a local PiT (Point-in-Time) Count Enumeration of people experiencing homelessness in the fall of 2024. The enumeration is a nationally standardized measure of how many people experience homelessness in a community on a given night and acts as a consistent measuring mechanism to understand changes across communities and over time.

Hastings County conducted a one-day Point-in-Time (PiT) Count on October 7, 2024, and an Enumeration Survey from October 7 - November 7, 2024.

Homeless enumeration is a community-level count and survey of people experiencing homelessness at a particular time and provides a snapshot of homelessness in Hastings County which can be used to:

- **Improve our understanding of homelessness** within Hastings County and track changes over time.
- Inform efforts by community-based organizations, health and social service providers, and municipalities to meet the **immediate needs of people experiencing homelessness**.
- Inform service coordination efforts to **streamline service responses and improve client outcomes**.
- Inform system planning and **development of long-term strategies** to prevent and reduce homelessness in Hastings County.
- **Inform government and policy makers** about the importance of continued investments from all levels of government to develop the continuum of housing and support services required to prevent and reduce homelessness in Hastings County.

WHAT IS THE PIT COUNT ENUMERATION?

- The PiT Count Enumeration is a one-day snapshot of homelessness in each community that contributes to a national picture and advances knowledge on homelessness.
- The PiT Count identifies the location where people experiencing homelessness spent the night: in shelters, transitional housing, or unsheltered locations.
- Conducted over subsequent years, PiT Counts can be used by the community to track progress in reducing homelessness and identifying changes in the location that individuals experiencing homelessness spend the night.

The PiT Count Enumeration is not intended to:

- Be a measure of everyone who experiences homelessness in a community over time. By focusing on a single date, the count will not include some people who cycle in and out of homelessness. What it will do is provide an estimate of how many people are homeless on a given night.
- Be an enumeration of hidden homelessness (e.g., people who are “couch surfing”). The PiT Count enumeration is instead an approach to measure visible homelessness (e.g., sleeping in shelters, on the street, or in other locations that are financially supported through the homelessness-serving sector) on the day of the count. However, the scope of the survey is intended to include those who are experiencing hidden homelessness in order to provide some unique information on their experiences and service needs.
- Identify how long people will experience homelessness for, or how individuals found housing or otherwise exited homelessness, and what programs or policies enables those exits.
- A Comprehensive Assessment of Homelessness Causes: The PiT Count Enumeration provides numerical data but does not explain systemic or personal factors leading to homelessness.
- A Solution: Homelessness is not solved or even reduced through the PiT Count Enumeration. Instead, it is a tool to develop data-informed immediate actions and long-term policy planning.

The homeless one-day enumeration and survey were conducted in communities across Hastings County with the participation of numerous Hastings County staff, community agencies, and volunteers. The results of this enumeration are presented in this report.

DEFINITIONS

Chronic Homelessness: Refers to persistent or long-term homelessness where people have:

- Been homeless for at least 180 days at some point over the course of a year (not necessarily consecutive days); and/or,
- Recurrent episodes of homelessness over three years that total at least 18 months.

Emergency Sheltered: This refers to people who, because they cannot secure permanent housing, are accessing emergency shelter and system supports, generally provided at no cost or minimal cost to the user. Emergency shelters include emergency overnight shelters for people who are homeless; shelters for individuals and families impacted by family violence; and emergency shelter for people fleeing a natural disaster or destruction of accommodation due to fires, floods, etc.

Hidden Homelessness: People experiencing hidden homelessness fall under the category of provisionally accommodated. This refers specifically to people who “live temporarily with others but without guarantee of continued residency or immediate prospects for accessing permanent housing.” Often known as “couch surfing,” hidden homelessness describes people staying with relatives, friends, neighbours, or strangers because they have no other option. They generally are not paying rent, it is not a sustainable, long-term living arrangement, and they do not have the ability to secure their own permanent housing immediately or in the near future. This population is considered to be hidden because they usually do not access homeless supports and services even though they are improperly or inadequately housed. Because they do not access services, they do not show up in standard statistics regarding homelessness.

Indigenous Homelessness: is defined as “a human condition that describes First Nations, Metis, and Inuit individuals, families or communities lacking stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means or ability to acquire such housing... Indigenous homelessness is not defined as lacking a structure or habitation; rather, it is more fully described and understood through a composite lens of Indigenous worldviews.”

Provisionally Accommodated: This describes situations in which people, who are technically homeless and without permanent shelter, access accommodation that offers no prospect of permanence. Those who are provisionally accommodated may be accessing temporary housing provided by government or the non-profit sector or may have independently made arrangements for short-term accommodation. Provisionally accommodated includes interim housing for people who are homeless; people living temporarily with others, but without guarantee of continued residency, or immediate prospects for accessing permanent housing; people accessing short term, temporary rental accommodations without security of tenure; people in institutional care who lack permanent housing arrangements; and accommodation/reception centres for recently arrived immigrants and refugees.

Unsheltered Homelessness: This includes people who lack housing and are not accessing emergency shelters or accommodation, except during extreme weather conditions. In most cases, people are staying in places that are not designed for or fit for human habitation. This could include public space, such as sidewalks, squares, parks, forests, etc.; private space and vacant buildings; cars or other vehicles; living in garages, attics, closets, or buildings not designed for habitation; people in makeshift shelters, shacks, or tents.

Youth Homelessness: Youth experience homelessness in fundamentally different ways than adults due to their age. The Canadian Definition of Youth Homelessness outlines that it is a “situation and experience of young people between the ages of 13-24 who are living independently of parents and/or caregivers, but do not have the means or ability to acquire stable, safe or consistent residence.”

By-Name Data: By-Name Data is real-time data of all known people experiencing homelessness in your community. It includes a robust set of data points that support coordinated access and prioritization at a household level and an understanding of homeless inflow and outflow at a system level. This real-time actionable data supports triage to services, system performance evaluation and advocacy (for the policies and resources necessary to end homelessness). By-Name Data is a subtle but important shift away from the term By-Name List – where a By-Name List was sometimes interpreted as stand-alone data. By-Name Data refers to the dynamic universe of person-specific homelessness data contained within your overall community-wide homelessness database or data system.

KEY FINDINGS

210

PEOPLE WERE
ENUMERATED ON
OCTOBER 7, 2024

143

PEOPLE WERE
SURVEYED IN
HASTINGS COUNTY

118

PEOPLE
SURVEYED
WERE SINGLE

9%

OF RESPONDENTS
WERE YOUTH AGES
16-24 YEARS

46%

OF PEOPLE
SURVEYED WERE
EXPERIENCING
CHRONIC
HOMELESSNESS

27%

OF RESPONDENTS
SAID THEY FIRST
EXPERIENCED
HOMELESSNESS AS
CHILDREN OR YOUTH
(AGES 0-19)



31%

OF
RESPONDENTS
SELF-
IDENTIFIED AS
INDIGENOUS

4%

OF
RESPONDENTS
WERE SENIORS
65 YEARS OF
AGE OR MORE



6

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
PARTICIPATED, REPRESENTING 11 CHILDREN.

76%

OF PEOPLE DISCLOSED RECEIVING SOCIAL ASSISTANCE
(OW/ODSP).

**MORE SURVEY RESPONDENTS WERE EXPERIENCING MENTAL
HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE THAN ANY OTHER DIFFICULTY.**

**CONFLICT WITH SPOUSE AND NOT ENOUGH INCOME FOR HOUSING
WERE IDENTIFIED AS THE TOP REASONS FOR LOSING HOUSING.**

METHODOLOGY

The Point-in-Time Count provides two sources of data:

1. A one-day enumeration of how many people experience homelessness in the community, and
2. Survey responses from people experiencing homelessness.

The Point-in-Time (PiT) Count one-day enumeration was completed on October 7, 2024, by Hastings County Staff, community agencies, and volunteers in “core” locations, including:

Unsheltered areas: People living in streets, alleys, parks, abandoned buildings, encampments, vehicles, transit stations, trailers, and forest areas.

Emergency Shelters: People staying in emergency shelters and domestic violence shelters.

Provisional accommodation: People living in temporary accommodation with no guarantee of how long they may stay. This included:

- Transitional housing programs that provide non-permanent, supported housing to assist people in transitioning from unsheltered or emergency sheltered homelessness to permanent housing.

Treatment centres, jails, prisons, remand centres, and hospitals were not included in the PiT Count nor the survey so individuals expecting to be released to homelessness from these institutions were not counted.

The survey template was provided by Reaching Home; Hastings County utilized core survey questions, tailored to the local context.

Unique identifiers were used to protect anonymity while reducing duplication.

Gift cards were issued as an incentive and thank you for participation.

Surveys with the following responses were excluded from the data set:

- Respondents answering “yes” to “Have you answered a survey on homelessness recently?”

- Respondents answering “no” to “Are you willing to participate in a survey on homelessness?”
- Respondents answering “own home” when asked, “Where did you stay last night?”
- Respondents answering “yes” to “Do you have access to a permanent residence where you can safely stay as long as you want?”
- Duplicate surveys (the same person completed two surveys) and one-day enumeration duplicates (the same person was counted in two locations) were excluded from the data set.

Hastings County followed the core standards for the nationally coordinated PiT Count approach. This methodology helps to create consistency across communities while allowing flexibility for the approach to be tailored to local context. Core Standards included:

- The PiT Count Enumeration refers to a single night between October 1 and November 30 and is conducted over a maximum of 24 hours. The Survey on Homelessness administration period begins with the same timeframe and may extend up to one month. Hastings County’s PiT Count Enumeration occurred on October 7, 2024, while the Survey on Homelessness was conducted from October 7 – November 7, 2024.
- The PiT Count is led by the Reaching Home Community Entity (CE), the Indigenous Homelessness CE, a collaboration between the two, or by a third party contracted to lead the PiT Count. Hastings County, as the Reaching Home CE, led the PiT count with ALFDC who reached out to Hastings County in collaboration.
- Hastings County, as the CE, consulted with the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board, the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and ALFDC, as well as with the Government of Canada regarding implementation.
- The core screening questions are used to determine whether respondents should be invited to participate in the detailed survey and are administered to individuals that are experiencing homelessness. Staff, agencies, and volunteers were trained to administer the survey and any respondents that stated they were housed were screened out of the database.
- Shelters for people experiencing homelessness are a part of the core locations and are located in both the enumeration and the survey. Grace Inn Shelter participated in both the enumeration and the survey.
- Unsheltered settings are part of the core locations and are included in both the enumeration and the survey. Staff, volunteers, and community agencies reached out to people in unsheltered locations including public locations, encampments,

- transit stations, abandoned buildings, vehicles, and other outdoor locations where people experiencing homelessness are known to sleep.
- Transitional housing is a core location included in both the enumeration and the survey. Transitional housing providers in Hastings County participated in enumeration and the survey.
- Although impossible to enumerate hidden homelessness using a PiT Count approach, people experiencing hidden homelessness should be screened into the Survey on Homelessness. ALFDC held an event as a method to increase participation while service providers created local awareness and reached out to those known to be experiencing hidden homelessness.

FOSTERING INDIGENOUS PARTNERSHIPS





Hastings County partnered with the Aboriginal Labour Force Development Circle (ALFDC) to conduct the 2024 Enumeration. They were consulted on survey questions, participated in the PiT Count and month-long survey. The ALFDC is the Indigenous Homelessness Community Entity that supports homelessness and is located on the Tyendinaga and Mohawk Territory. ALDFC and The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte held an event to support the month-long survey initiative for people experiencing homelessness or hidden homelessness in the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory or surrounding area.

Cultural Competency is about ensuring that interactions with Indigenous peoples are respectful, meaningful, and foster trust between both participants and data collectors.

Trauma-Informed Approach: Individuals from Indigenous communities may often be hesitant to participate due to past negative experiences with authorities and institutions. Acknowledging the potential reasons behind this mistrust and taking steps to build genuine relationships can improve participation rates and data quality. It is important to create a safe space for Indigenous participants and to remember that they may have experienced personal or intergenerational trauma.

Culturally Appropriate Language: means using respectful and inclusive language when interacting with Indigenous individuals. This includes avoiding stereotypes and offensive terminology.

Recognizing Disproportionate Impacts and Overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples in Homelessness: Indigenous individuals are disproportionately affected by homelessness in Canada. Historical injustices, systemic discrimination and intergenerational trauma contribute to this overrepresentation.



Are you experiencing Homelessness?

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN A 15 MINUTE SURVEY?

\$25 TIM HORTONS GIFT CARD WILL BE PROVIDED TO THOSE WHO QUALIFY

THURSDAY OCTOBER 24, 2024
8:30 - 4:30

DROP IN DOWNSTAIRS AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN TYENDINAGA
1807 YORK ROAD, DESERONTO ONTARIO K0K 1X0

TRANSPORTATION TO COMMUNITY CENTRE AVAILABLE OR WE
CAN COME TO YOU IF NEEDED

TEXT 613-813-7894 FOR MORE INFORMATION

LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS
AVAILABLE
&
CRAFT YOUR OWN MEDICINE BAG

PLEASE SHARE THIS
INFORMATION WIDELY,
YOU MAY KNOW SOMEONE
WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM
THIS EVENT

HOMELESSNESS ISNT LIMITED TO SLEEPING OUTDOORS
"HOMELESSNESS" MEANS ANY TIME WHEN YOU HAVE BEEN
WITHOUT A PERMANENT AND SECURE PLACE TO LIVE, AND
INCLUDES SLEEPING IN SHELTERS, ON THE STREETS OR
LIVING TEMPORARILY WITH OTHERS WITHOUT HAVING YOUR
OWN PERMANENT HOUSING (E.G. COUCH SURFING)

RESULTS SUMMARY

210 people were enumerated on October 7, 2024, by Hastings County staff, community agencies and volunteers; in the following weeks 143 people completed the Survey on Homelessness with community agencies. This method led to varying counts, particularly in the North where 41 people were counted on October 7th but only four people completed surveys during the month that followed. While completing surveys during the enumeration count requires more time and therefore more personnel, this approach may increase respondent participation.

Effective October 31, 2024, 224 people were actively homeless according to the by-name data compared to the 210 individuals enumerated on October 7, 2024. Given the similarity in these two numbers, there is a high level of confidence that the sector was serving approximately 224 homeless individuals in October 2024. There may be people experiencing hidden homelessness who are not counted, and some individuals may have been unwilling to participate. However, the consistent numbers across by-name data and enumeration speaks to increased improvements in data accuracy.

Of total respondents experiencing homelessness, at least 45.5% were experiencing chronic homelessness. A Reaching Home core outcome is the reduction of chronic homelessness by 50% by 2027-2028. By-name data confirms a 63% rate of chronic homelessness in Hastings County as of October 31, 2024. The high percentage of chronic homelessness is a crucial factor to consider when planning for long-term solutions to homelessness.

Hastings County has one emergency homeless shelter with 21 beds. 50.3% of survey respondents had accessed an emergency shelter in the past year. 142 people were experiencing unsheltered homelessness on October 7, 2024, representing 121 more people than emergency homeless shelter beds.

Although at least six families representing 11 children were experiencing homelessness during this enumeration, there are no emergency homeless family shelter spaces in Hastings County outside of the domestic violence shelters.

In the past year, at least 47% of respondents experienced some form of unsheltered homelessness, while 57% lived temporarily with someone else. The 2021 Census reports that 10,640 or 7.3% of Hastings County's population identify as Indigenous. 30.8% of survey respondents self-identified as Indigenous.

At the end of October 2024, 50 people on the BNL identified as Indigenous or 22.3 % of the total number of people experiencing homelessness. According to the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services, Indigenous people account for 20-65% of homelessness counts in communities across Ontario. While Hastings County is within this range, Indigenous individuals are disproportionately affected by homelessness in Hastings County, as in Canada.

28.7% of respondents disclosed they had been a youth in foster care or in care of the Children's Aid Society and 27.3% indicated they had first experienced homelessness at or before the age of 19 years, with more people first experiencing homelessness between the ages 10-19 years than any other age range. 9% of the current population surveyed were youth between the ages of 16 and 24 years old. This data suggests the need for primary prevention efforts aimed at youth and their families, as well as within the child protection sector.

Men in Hastings County are experiencing homelessness at a higher rate than any other gender (56.6%). The majority of survey respondents (82.5%) indicated they were single. Six families representing 11 children also completed the survey. 7.7% of respondents stated they were veterans. The majority of respondents identified as white (65.7%), Canadian citizens/permanent residents (92.3%), and straight/heterosexual (83.9%). 49.7% of survey respondents were between the ages of 35 and 54.

The majority of survey respondents had always lived in Hastings County or been here for more than 10 years (50.3%). Of the respondents who indicated they were not from the area they were surveyed in, 36.6% stated they were from another part of Hastings County. Overall, more respondents grew up in Hastings County than did not.

Conflict with spouse (28.7%) and not enough income for housing (27.3%) were identified as the top reasons for losing housing. 4.9% of respondents indicated they had no income. The most common type of income was social assistance (OW and ODSP) at 75.5%. The third most common reason cited for losing housing was conflict with a landlord at 18.9%. 35.7% of respondents indicated the loss of their most recent housing was related to eviction.

When asked, "Have you been experiencing difficulties related to: illness or medical condition; physical mobility; learning, intellectual/developmental, or cognitive function; acquired brain injury; mental health; substance use; or senses such as

seeing or hearing?” 68.5% of respondents identified mental health, while 60.1% identified substance use as a current difficulty. Only 14 people were facing no challenges; 59.4% of respondents disclosed experiencing three or more challenges currently.

RESULTS

A total of 210 individuals experiencing homelessness were counted during the October 7, 2024 PiT-Count Enumeration between 8:30 am – 7:00 pm.

	North Hastings	Belleville	Central Hastings Area	Quinte West	Shannonville / Deseronto	TOTAL
Total Counted	41	125	9	28	7	210

WHEN ASKED, “WHERE DID YOU STAY LAST NIGHT?”, RESPONDENTS ANSWERED:

	North Hastings	Belleville	Central Hastings Area	Quinte West	Shannonville / Deseronto	TOTAL
Unsheltered						
Unsheltered in a public place	4	65	0	0	2	71
Encampment	9	25	0	11	0	45
Vehicle	12	1	7	6	0	26
Emergency Sheltered	0	18	0	1	5	24

	North Hastings	Belleville	Central Hastings Area	Quinte West	Shannonville / Deseronto	TOTAL
Provisionally Accommodate						
Transitional Housing	0	8	0	0	0	8
Hidden Homelessness	15	8	2	8	0	33
Motel	0	0	0	2	0	2
Undetermined						
Blank/Unclear Response	1	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	41	125	9	28	7	210



2024 ENUMERATION SURVEY

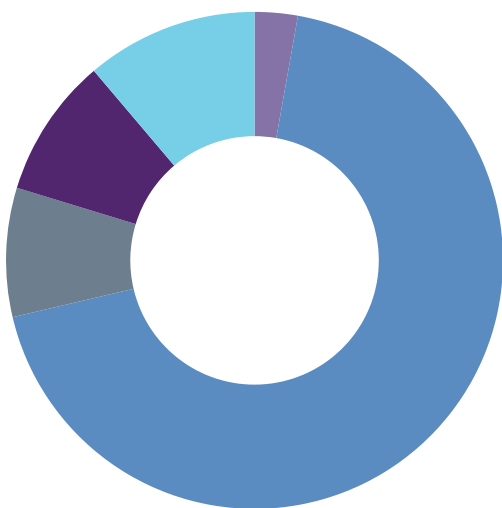


143

**SURVEY
RESPONDENTS**

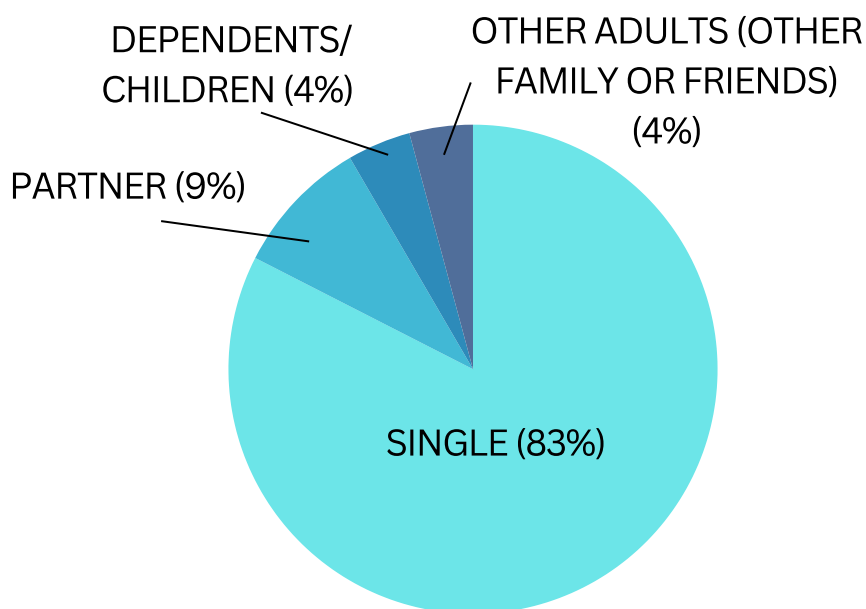
**SURVEYS COMPLETED
BETWEEN OCT 7 - NOV 7**

LOCATION OF RESPONDENTS

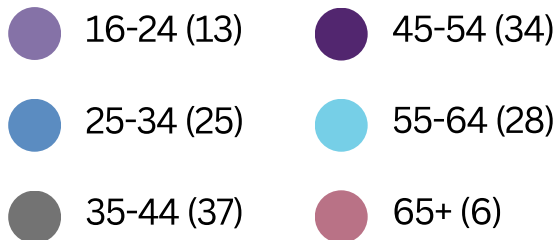
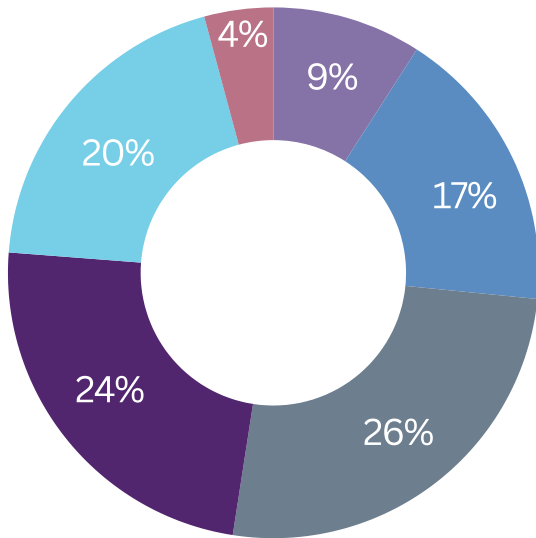


DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

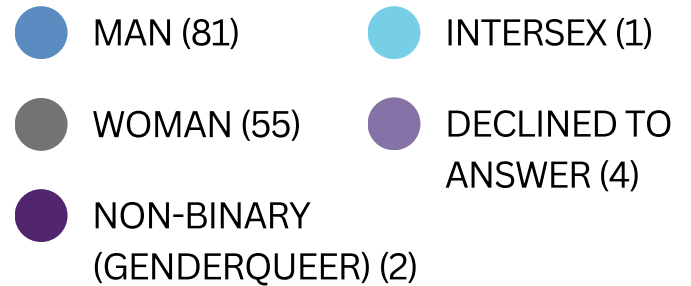
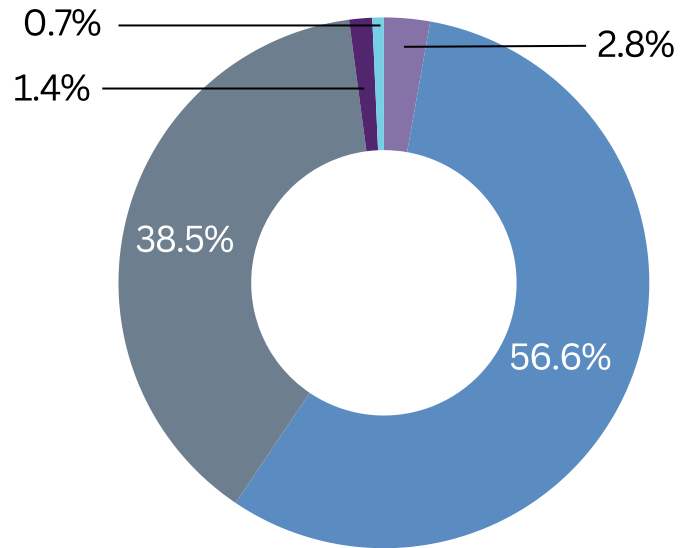
WHEN ASKED “DID ANY FAMILY MEMBERS OR ANYONE ELSE STAY WITH YOU LAST NIGHT OR WILL BE STAYING WITH YOU TONIGHT?” RESPONDENTS ANSWERED:



AGE

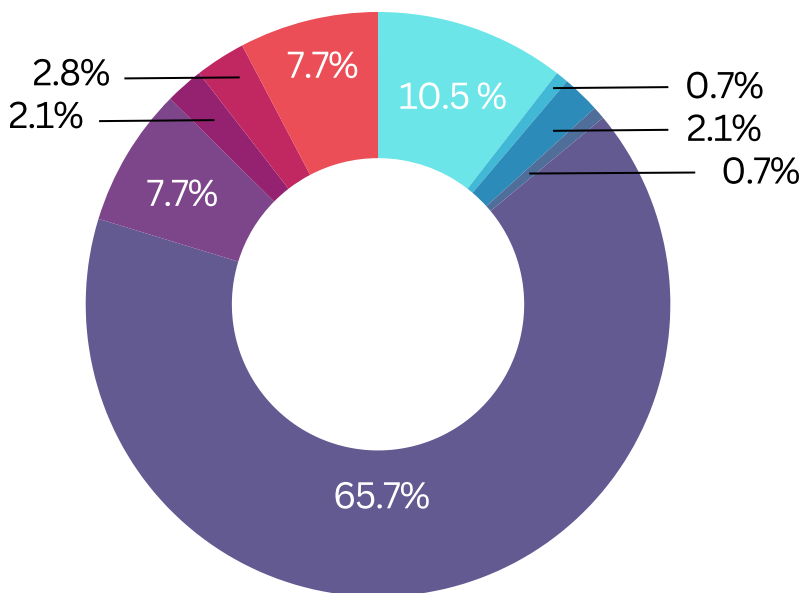


GENDER

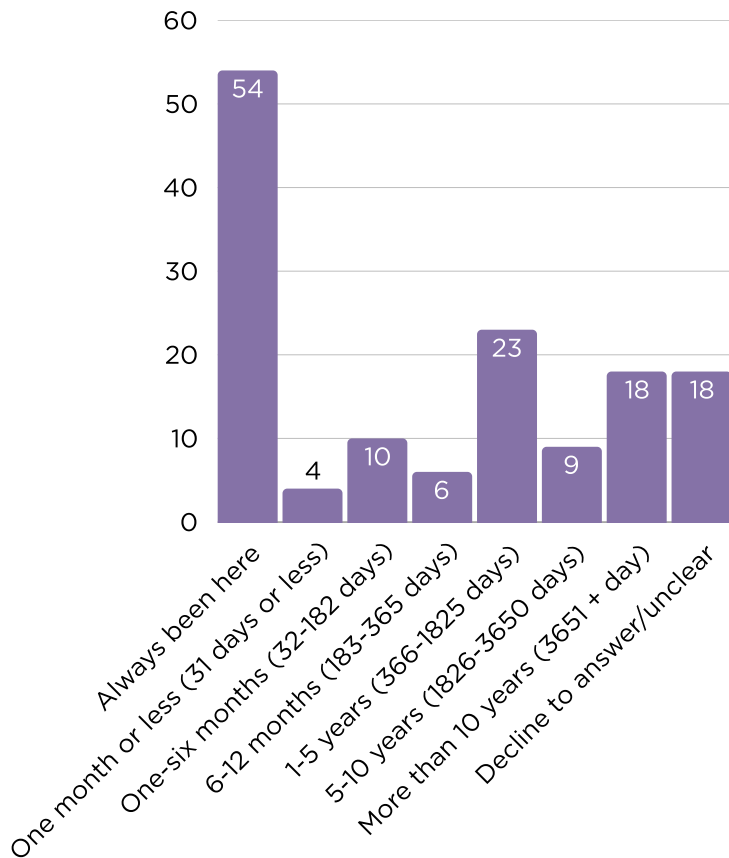


RACIAL IDENTITY

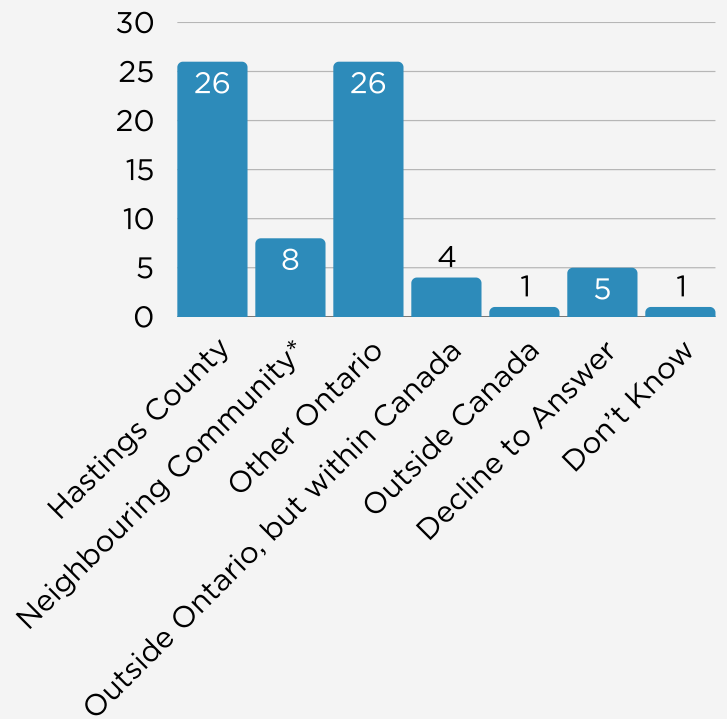
Please Note: there were additional options listed on the survey, these were the only options that applied to the respondents.



LENGTH OF TIME RESPONDANTS HAVE LIVED IN HASTINGS COUNTY



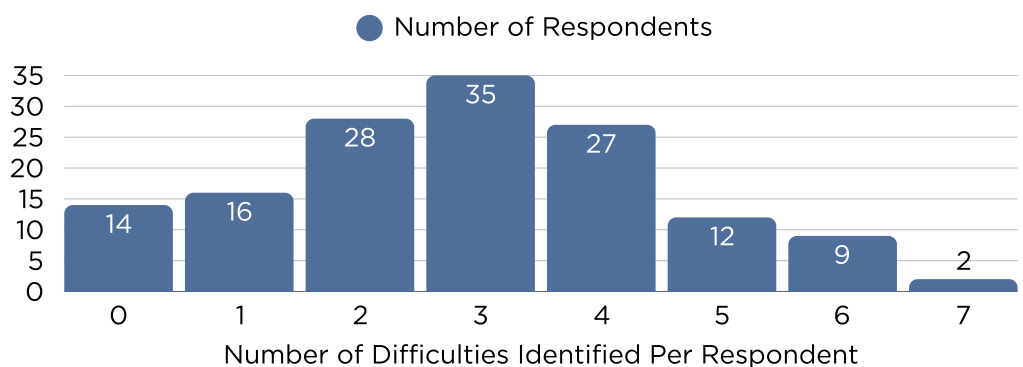
RESPONDENTS' PRIOR COMMUNITY



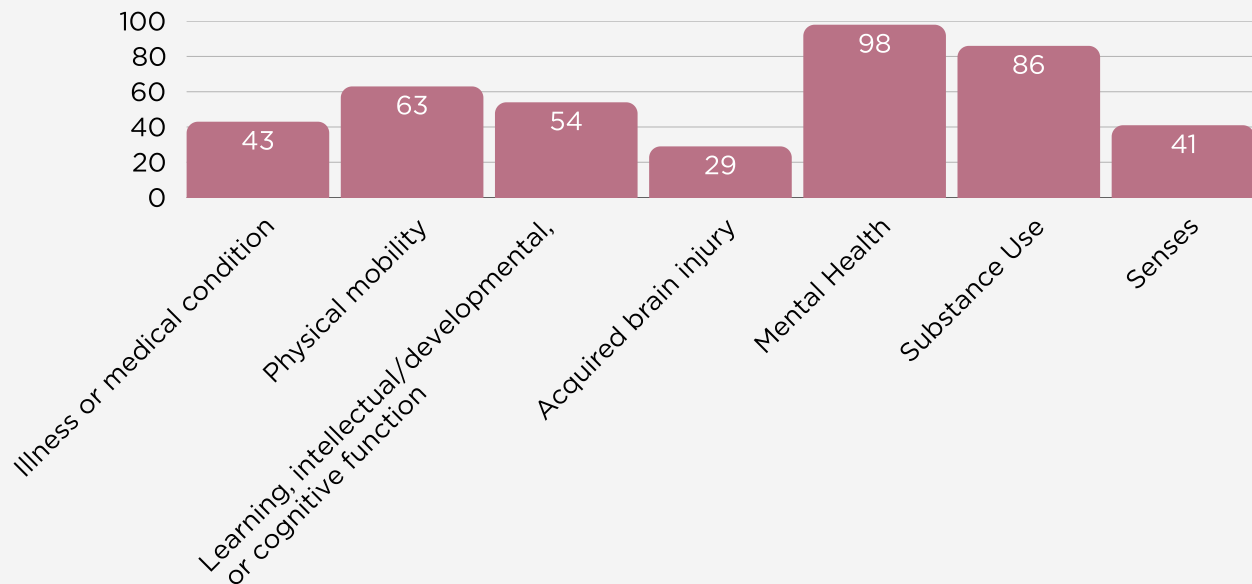
*Neighbouring Communities included Northbrook, Napanee, Peterborough, Kingston, Gananoque, Brighton & Picton

Respondents were asked if they had been experiencing difficulties related to: illness or medical condition; physical mobility; learning, intellectual/developmental, or cognitive function; acquired brain injury; mental health; substance use; or senses such as seeing or hearing. These were the results:

NUMBER OF DIFFICULTIES IDENTIFIED PER RESPONDENT

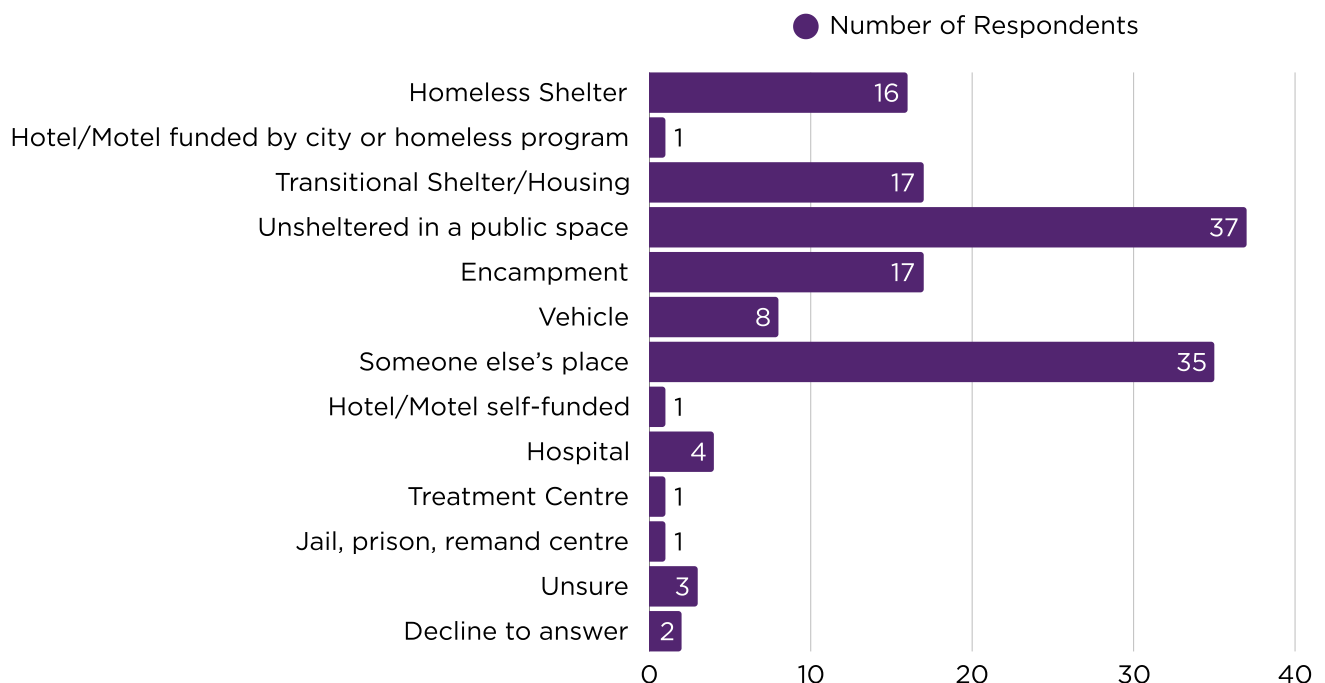


NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES BY CATEGORY

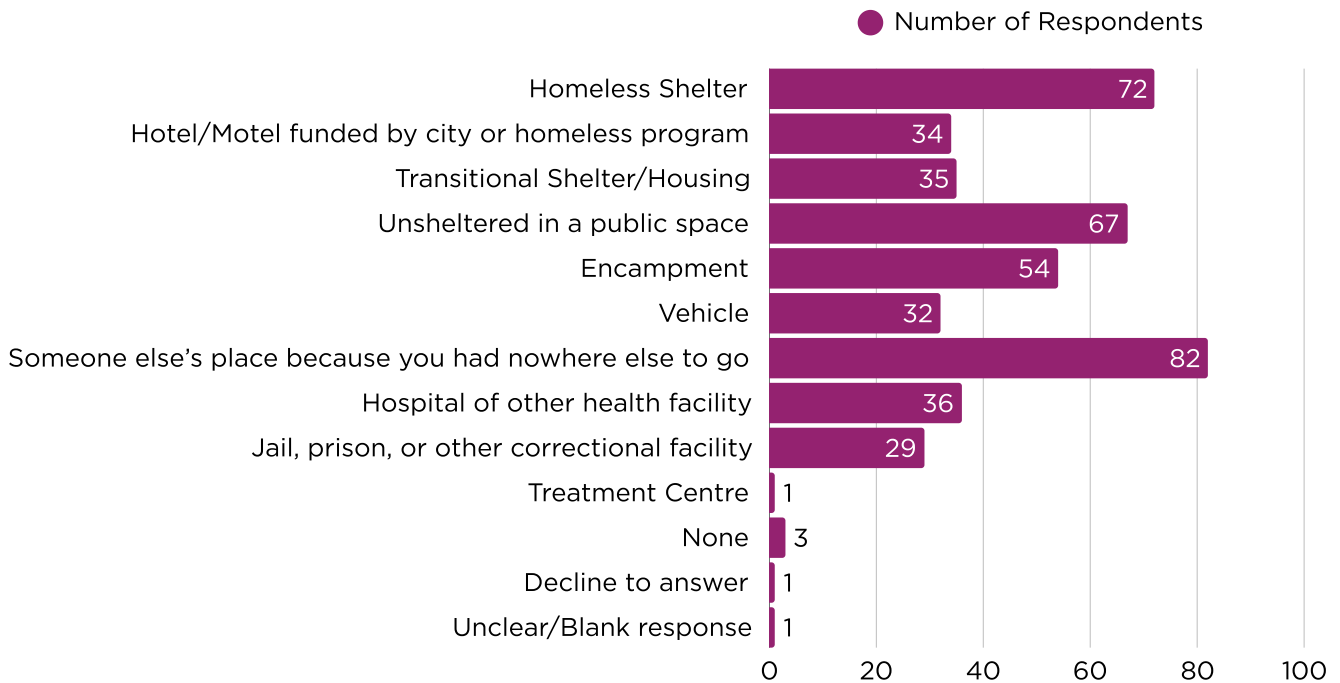


RESPONDENT EXPERIENCES & BACKGROUND

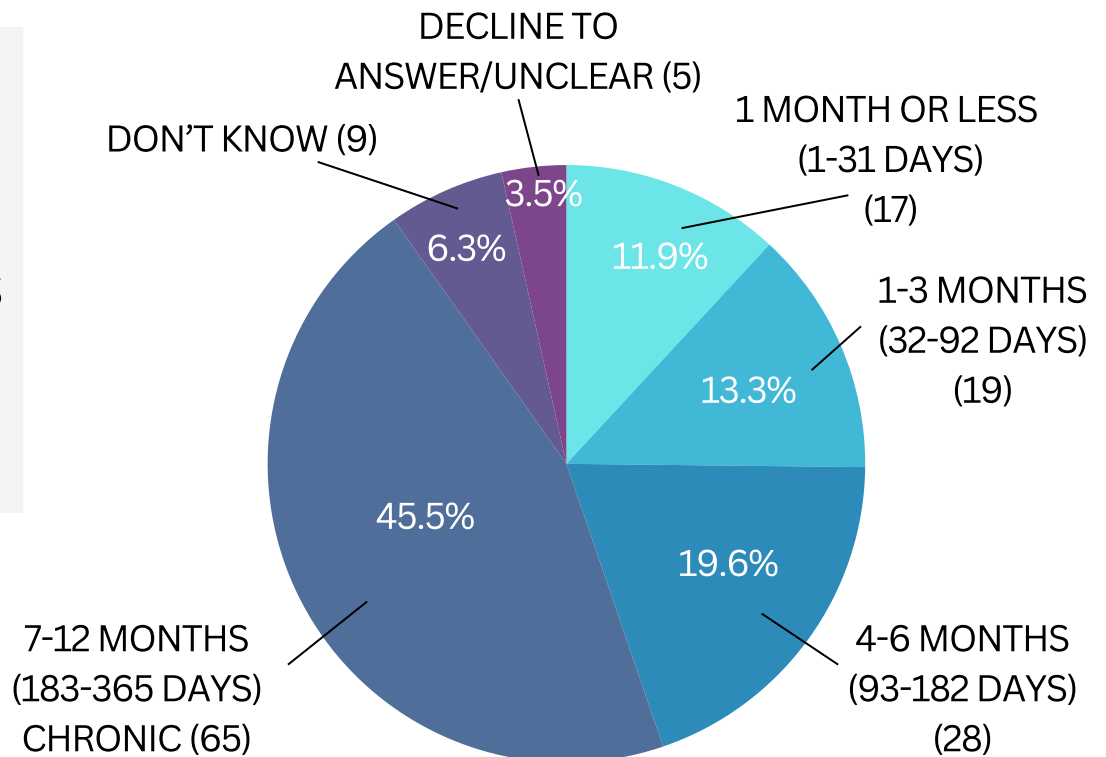
WHEN ASKED, “WHERE DID YOU STAY LAST NIGHT?”
RESPONDENTS ANSWERED:



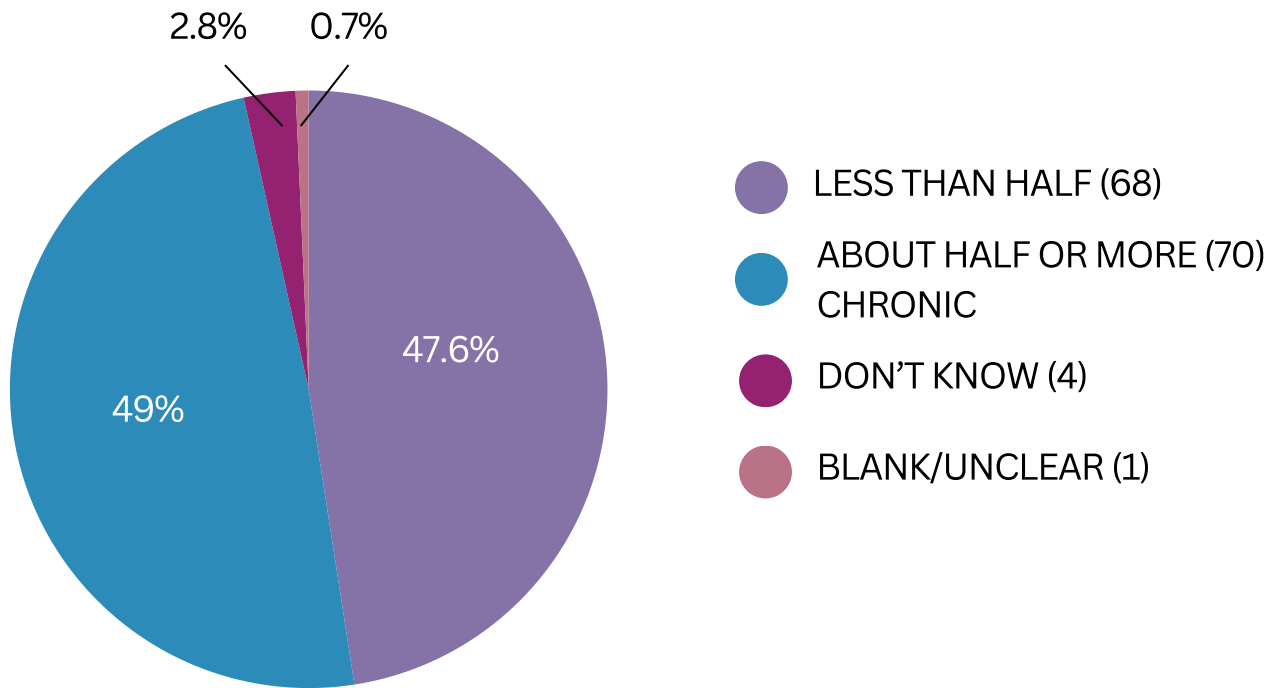
WHEN ASKED, “HAVE YOU SPENT AT LEAST ONE NIGHT IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS IN THE PAST YEAR (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)”? RESPONDENTS ANSWERED:



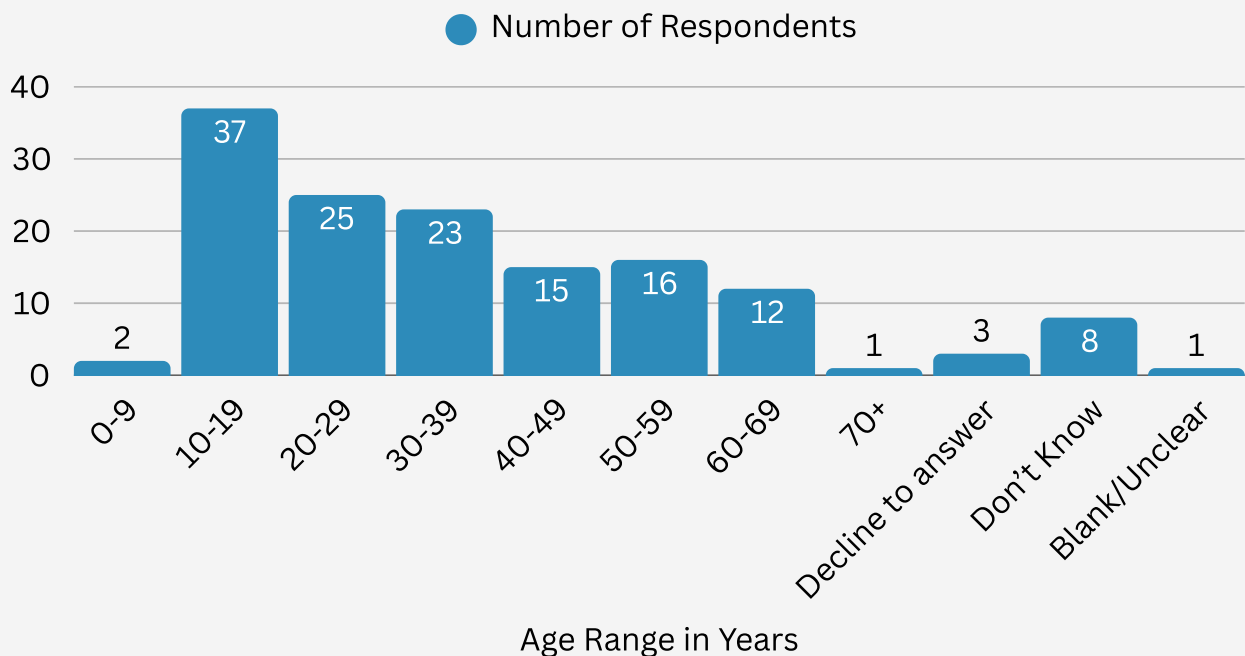
WHEN ASKED, “IN TOTAL, FOR HOW MUCH TIME HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS OVER THE PAST YEAR?” RESPONDENTS ANSWERED:



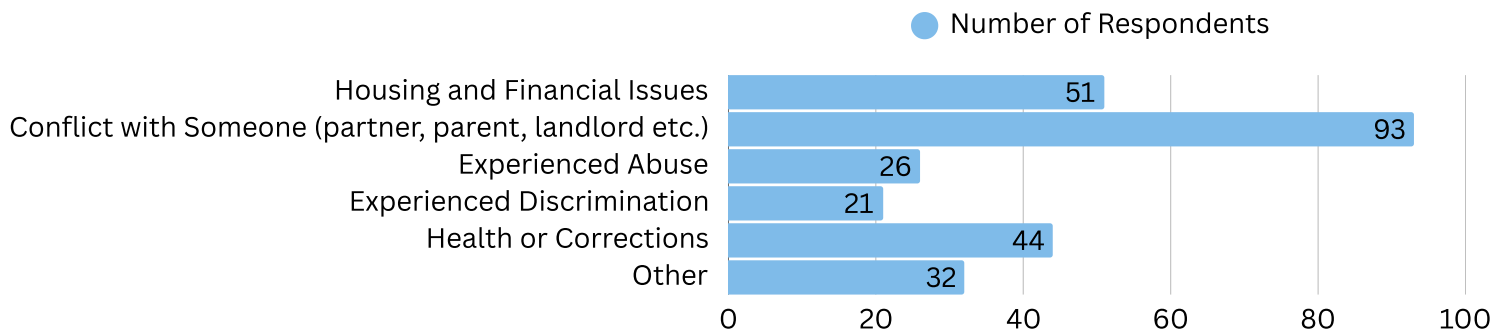
TOTAL TIME EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS OVER THE PAST THREE (3) YEARS



AGE AT THE FIRST EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS



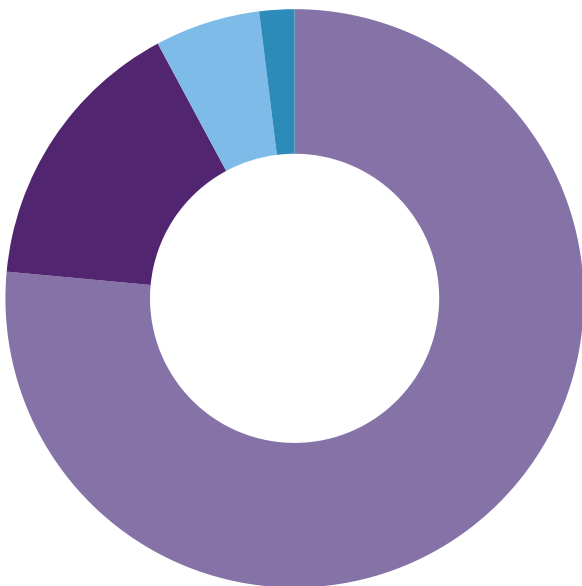
RESPONDENTS' CAUSES OF LOSING THEIR HOME MOST RECENTLY



The chart above can be broken down to the following specific reasons within each category of reason for respondents losing their home:

HOUSING & FINANCIAL ISSUES

- NOT ENOUGH INCOME (39)
- UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITIONS (8)
- BUILDING SOLD OR RENOVATED (3)
- OWNER MOVED IN (1)



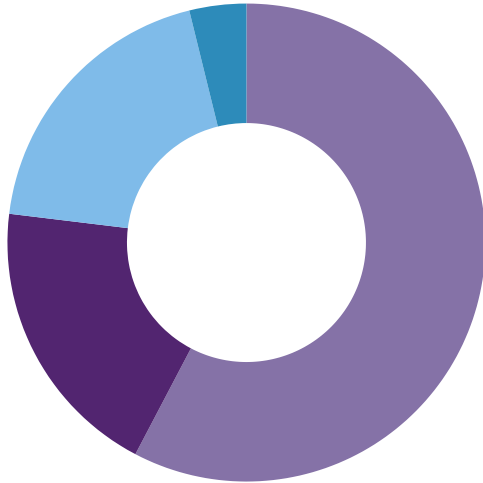
CONFLICT WITH:

- SPOUSE/PARTNER (41)
- PARENT/GUARDIAN (9)
- LANDLORD (27)
- OTHER (EG. ROOMATE, CHILD) (16)



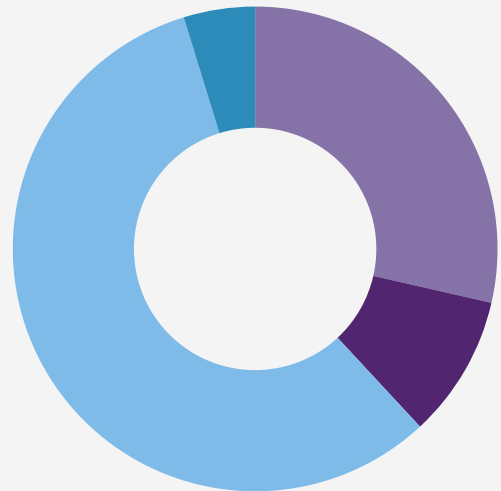
EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY:

- SPOUSE/PARTNER (15)
- PARENT/GUARDIAN (5)
- LANDLORD (5)
- OTHER (1)



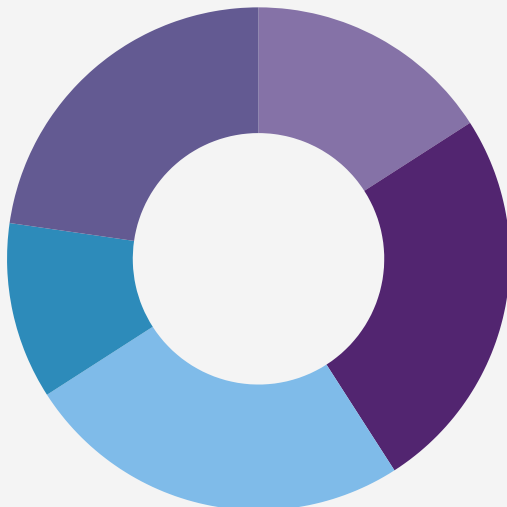
EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION BY:

- SPOUSE/PARTNER (6)
- PARENT/GUARDIAN (2)
- LANDLORD (12)
- OTHER (EG. HOUSEMATES) (1)



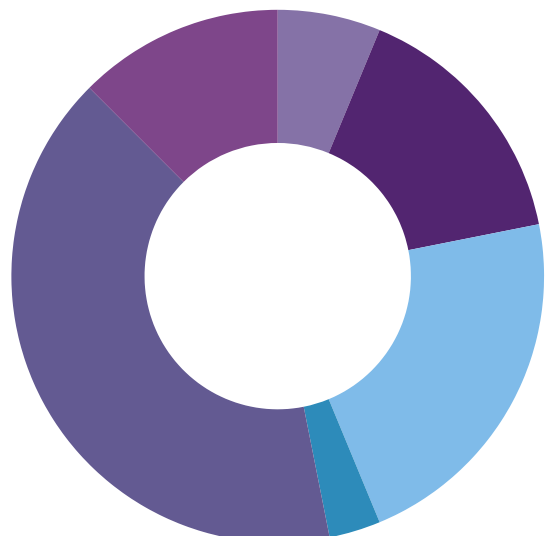
HEALTH OR CORRECTIONS

- PHYSICAL HEALTH/DISABILITY (7)
- MENTAL HEALTH (11)
- SUBSTANCE USE (11)
- HOSPITALIZATION OR TREATMENT (5)
- INCARCERATION (10)

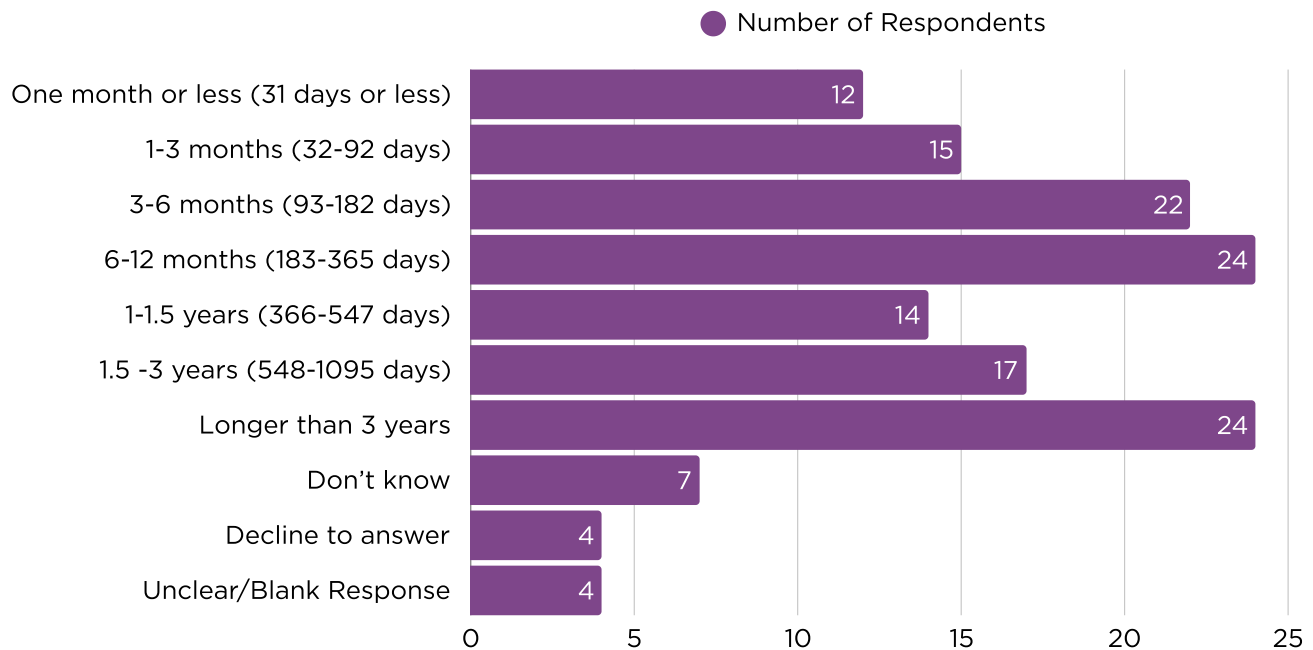


OTHER

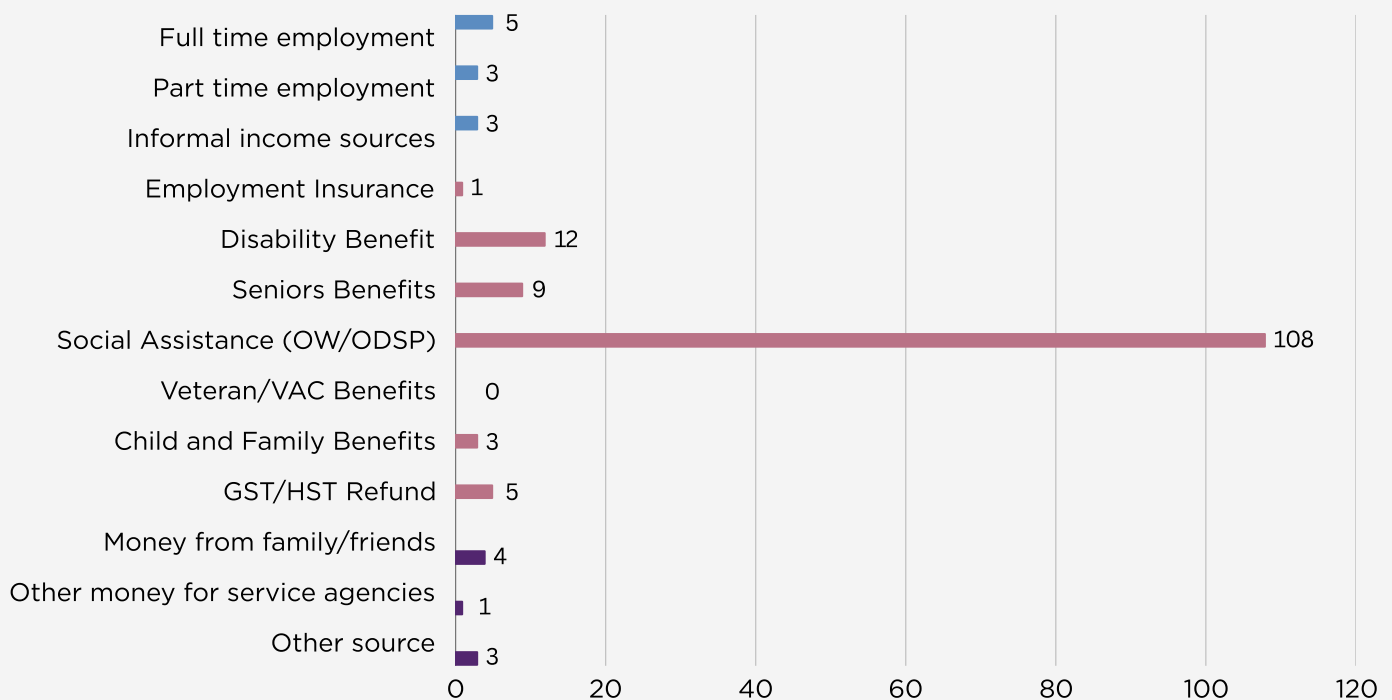
- COMPLAINT (2)
- RELOCATED (5)
- DEATH OR DEPARTURE OF FAMILY (7)
- PET(S) (1)
- OTHER REASON (13)
- DON'T KNOW/NO RESPONSE (4)



WHEN ASKED, “HOW LONG AGO DID YOU LOSE YOUR HOUSING MOST RECENTLY?” RESPONDENTS ANSWERED:



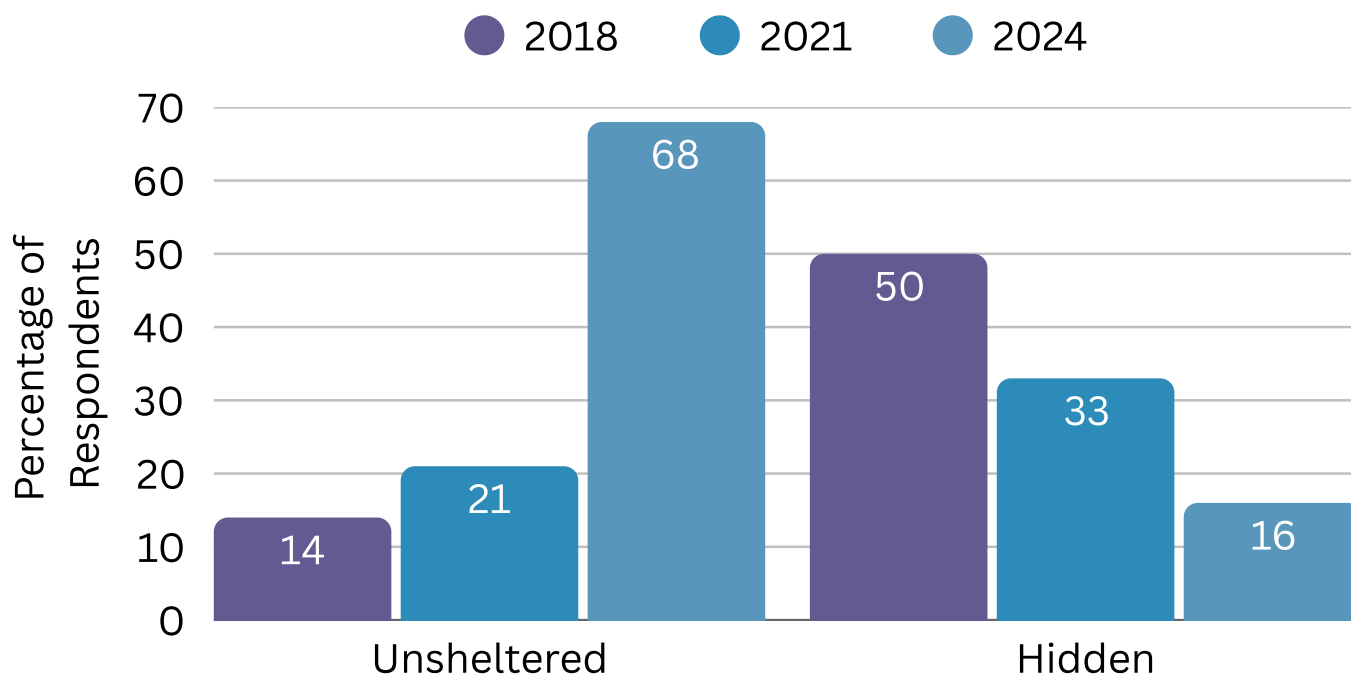
WHEN ASKED, “WHAT ARE YOUR SOURCES OF INCOME?” RESPONDENTS ANSWERED:



COMPARISON TO 2021 AND 2018

Point-in-Time Counts were conducted in April 2018 in various communities in Hastings County, in April 2021 in Belleville only, and again in November 2021 in response to provincial and federal government requirements.

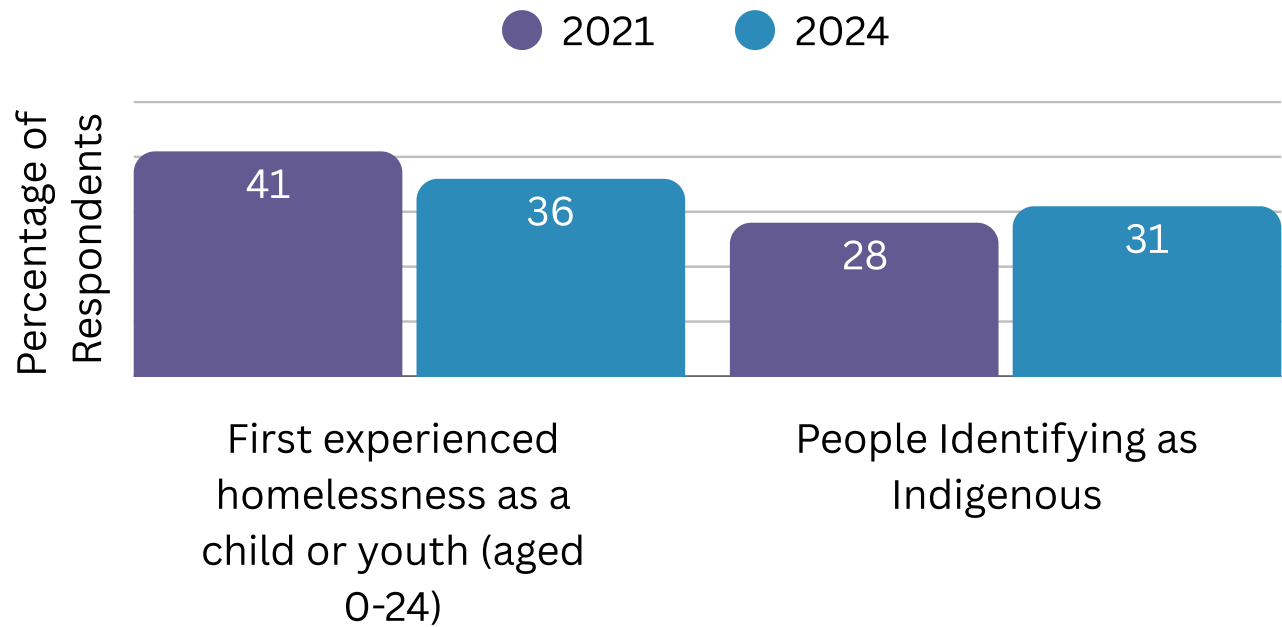
UNSHELTERED AND HIDDEN HOMELESSNESS OVER TIME



CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS (6 MONTHS+) OVER TIME

	2018	2021	2024
0 - <6 months	48%	12%	45%
6 - <12 months	20%	18%	8%
12 months	25%	42%	38%
Don't know	8%	12%	9%

DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARISON



FOSTER CARE AND CHILD PROTECTION/YOUTH GROUP HOME EXPERIENCE

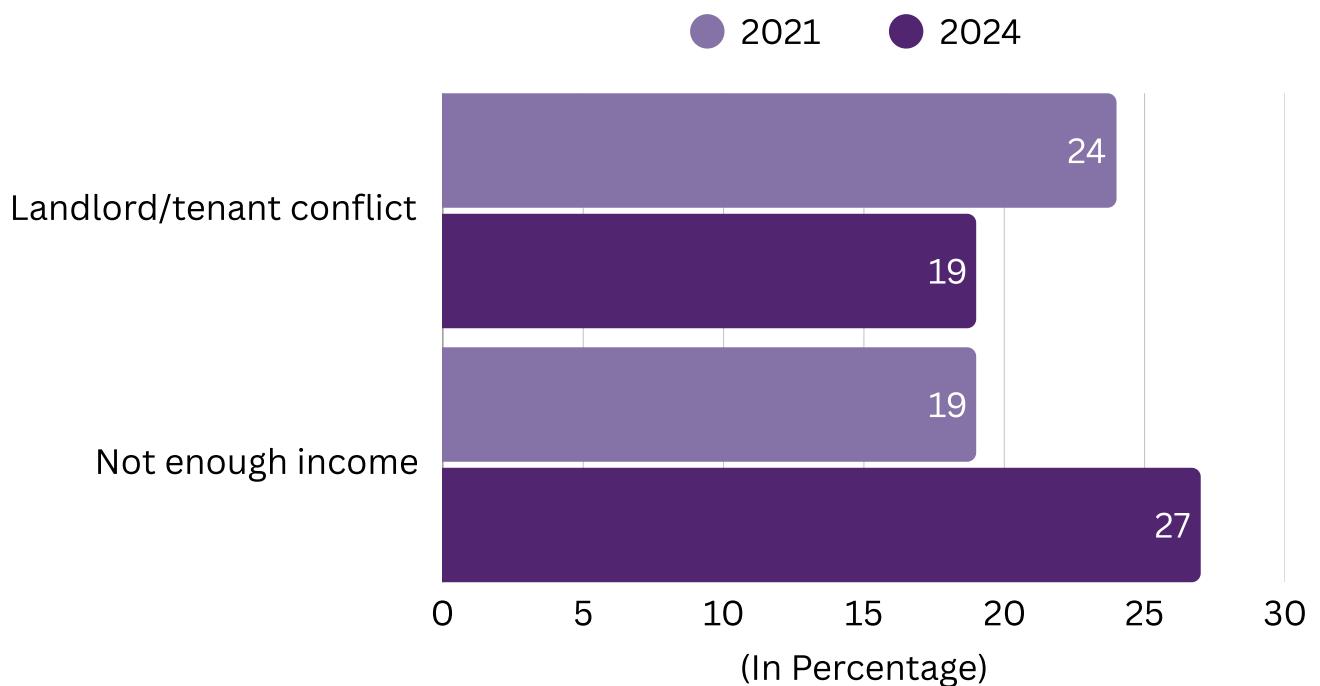
	2018	2021	2024
Percentage of people who experienced care as a youth	29%	33%	29%

VETERANS

Self-reported veteran homelessness remains relatively unchanged. Veterans experiencing homelessness can now be referred to the new program through the Trenton Military Family Resource Centre which provides case management, housing supports, and other wrap-around services.

	April 2021	2021	2024
Number of people who identified as veterans	12	8	11

TOP REASONS FOR LOSS OF HOUSING



During the 2021 enumeration, landlord/tenant conflict was the number one reason for loss of housing (24%). Conflict with spouse (29%) was the top reason for loss of housing in 2024. The prevalence of “not enough income for housing” over time is to be expected given the majority of respondents rely on social assistance (76% in 2021 and in 2024); OW rates have not increased since 2018.

CONCLUSION: 2024 HOMELESSNESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT – HASTINGS COUNTY

The 2024 Point-in-Time (PiT) Count and Homelessness Survey provide a critical snapshot of homelessness across Hastings County. With **210 individuals enumerated** and **143 individuals surveyed**, the data reveals not only the **prevalence** of homelessness but also **deep systemic challenges** contributing to chronic housing instability.

KEY INSIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Nearly **half (45.5%)** of those surveyed are chronically homeless, underscoring the need for **long-term, stable housing solutions** and coordinated case management.
- **Unsheltered homelessness remains alarmingly high**—over **142 individuals** were without shelter, far exceeding the **21 emergency shelter beds** available, with **no designated family shelter** space outside of domestic violence supports.
- **Indigenous peoples** continue to be overrepresented in the homeless population at **30.8%**, compared to 7.3% of the County’s population, reflecting ongoing impacts of systemic inequities and intergenerational trauma.
- A significant **28.7%** of respondents had prior involvement with the child welfare system, and **27.3%** first experienced homelessness as children or youth—highlighting the urgent need for **preventative measures targeted at young people and those aging out of care**.
- **Mental health (68.5%) and substance use (60.1%)** challenges were the most commonly reported difficulties, reinforcing the need for **integrated health and housing responses**.
- The most cited causes for housing loss were **conflict with a spouse (28.7%)**, **insufficient income (27.3%)**, and **eviction (35.7%)**, many of which are tied to the lack of affordable housing and stagnant social assistance rates.

The PiT Count data correlates closely with the County’s **By-Name Data (BND)**, which recorded **224 individuals actively experiencing homelessness** as of October 31, 2024. This consistency increases confidence in the accuracy of local data collection and reinforces the **need for continued investment** in evidence-based planning.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Expand supportive and transitional housing, with a focus on chronic homelessness and families.

2

Enhance Indigenous-led housing initiatives in partnership with local Indigenous organizations.

3

Invest in youth homelessness prevention, including school-based supports and wraparound services for youth leaving care.

4

Advocate for increased OW/ODSP rates and flexible rent supports to reflect local housing costs.

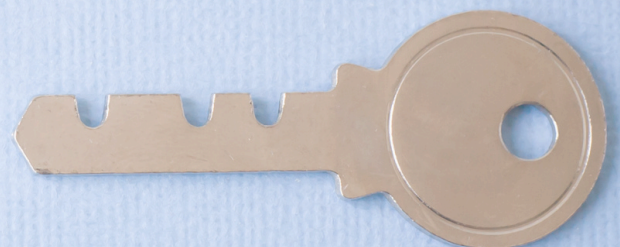
5

Continue to invest in Emergency Shelter Solutions to support the chronic homelessness reduction strategy and provide immediate relief from homelessness.

6

Continue to investigate mental health and substance use support services that strengthen the community and client-centered response system.

This data is a call to action. With collaborative leadership, Hastings County can continue to build a responsive, equitable, and coordinated homelessness response system that meets the needs of its most vulnerable residents.





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