CITY OF
YELLOWKNIFE

2018
Yellowknife
Point-in-Time Homeless Count
at a Glance

KEY FINDINGS

THE PIT COUNT SERVES AS CRITICAL PART OF YELLOWKNIFE'S RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS. CONDUCTING PIT COUNTS ENABLES THE COMMUNITY TO MEASURE PROGRESS IN REDUCING HOMELESSNESS, PARTICULARLY AS MORE HOUSING FIRST PROGRAMS ARE IMPLEMENTED.

338 people counted as experiencing homelessness during the 2018 Yellowknife Point-in-Time (PiT) Homeless Count.

NOTABLE FINDINGS

HIGH NUMBERS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

There were **42%** of those enumerated who were youth (up to 24 years old). Of these, 104 were children under 18.

PEOPLE WANT TO BE HOUSED.

Of those enumerated, **95%** said they want permanent housing.

MOST WERE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS.

In fact, **75%** of those enumerated were experiencing chronic homelessness according to the federal definition.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ARE SIGNIFICANTLY OVERREPRESENTED.

With **90%** reporting Indigenous identity in the survey data, this is a significant over-representation compared to the overall Yellowknife population at 23%.
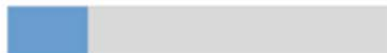
MOST ARE MIGRANTS TO YELLOWKNIFE.

Only **16%** reported being from Yellowknife; about a third (36%) of survey participants had arrived in the past 5 years. The top reasons people reported for migrating is connecting with families and employment.

MIGRATION FROM OTHER N.W.T. COMMUNITIES IS A MAJOR DRIVER.

The majority of people arriving **(68%)** are from other communities within N.W.T

The top three communities from which the highest frequency of people migrated from are Behchoko, Hay River and Fort Smith. Many respondents arrive from smaller settlements throughout the N.W.T. The remainder (32%) of people arrive from other provinces in Canada particularly Kugluktuk and Edmonton.

UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING AND LOW INCOMES PLAY KEY ROLES. *The most common reasons reported for becoming homeless were inability to pay rent/mortgage, addiction or substance use, conflict with spouse/partner, and job loss. Low income and high rent are the top two challenges with seeking housing.*
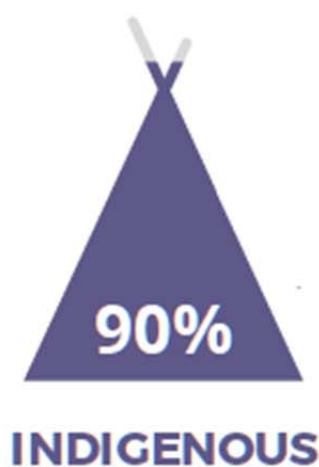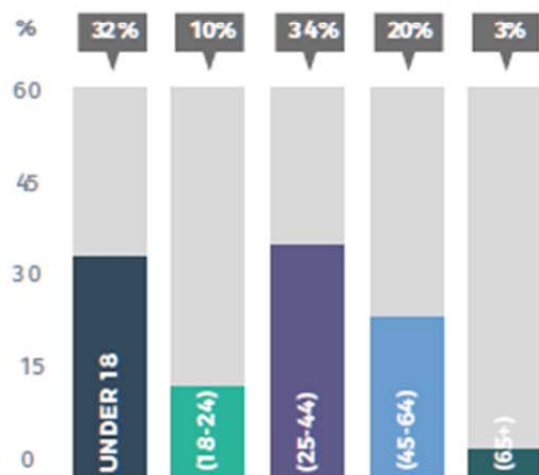
KEY DEMOGRAPHICS

GENDER
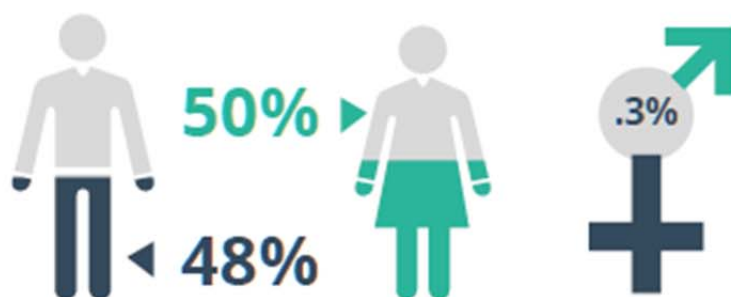
50% ▶

◀ **48%**

.3%

Females were slightly more prevalent (50%) in the homeless population than males (48%), as a result of under 18s being included in the dataset.

AGE (survey data)

% | 32% | 10% | 34% | 20% | 3%

60

45

30

15

0

UNDER 18 | (18-24) | (25-44) | (45-64) | (65+)

90%

INDIGENOUS

42%

YOUTH

fall into the "youth" age category: children (under 18) and young adults (18-24)

2 individuals in total self-reported as having served in the Canadian military and/or the RCMP

METHODS REFINEMENT

In comparison to 2015, the 2018 count showed a significantly higher total enumerated (139 vs 338). Note that the cause of this increase is a change in methodology that better accounts for dependents and children (under 18 years), and additional facilities in the data set, which caused undercounting in 2015.

Because of these changes in methods, it is not possible to accurately compare 2015 to 2018.

2015	#	%
Unsheltered	27	19
Unsure (multiple response)	10	7
Emergency shelter	24	17
Couchsurfing	46	33
Supported Living	19	14
Hotel Motel	4	3
No answer	9	7

2018	#	%
Unsheltered	17	5
Respondent Unsure [Likely Homeless]	15	4
Emergency Shelter, Domestic Violence Shelter	93	28
Provisionally Accommodated	213	63
No answer	0	0

Note: 2018 Children/dependents inherited Family Head responses for this survey question. Percentages rounded, thus may not add to 100%.

Nationally, there were methods implemented through the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness that had not been adopted in previous provincial counts (i.e. conducting a tally of observed homelessness or using honoraria for Count participants). Advancements in the core questions that were also introduced nationally differed from previous counts.

SEPT
2018

2018
Yellowknife

Point-in-Time Homeless Count

TECHNICAL REPORT

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Tables and Figures

KEY FINDINGS

How Many:

There were **338** people counted as experiencing homelessness during the 2018 Yellowknife Point-in-Time (PiT) Homeless Count. The PiT Count serves as critical part of Yellowknife's response to homelessness. Conducting PiT Counts enables the community to measure progress as a response to homelessness and to target housing and support programs.

Notable Findings

- **High numbers of children and youth.** There were 42% of those enumerated who were youth (up to 24 years old). Of these, 104 were children under 18.
- **Unaffordable housing and low incomes play key roles**. The most common reasons reported for becoming homeless were inability to pay rent/mortgage, addiction or substance use, conflict with spouse/partner, and job loss. Low income and high rent are the top two challenges with seeking housing.
- **People want to be housed.** Of those enumerated, 95% said they want permanent housing.
- **Most were chronically homeless.** In fact, 75% of those enumerated were experiencing chronic homelessness according to the federal definition.
- **Indigenous people are significantly overrepresented**. With 90% reporting Indigenous identity in the survey data, this is a significant over-representation compared to the overall Yellowknife population at 23%.
- **Most are migrants to Yellowknife.** Only 16% reported being from Yellowknife; about a third (36%) of survey participants had arrived in the past five years. The top reasons people reported for migrating is connecting with families, and employment.
- **Migration from other NWT communities is a major driver**. The majority of people arriving (68%) are from other communities within NWT: the top three communities from which the highest frequency of people migrated from are Behchoko, Hay River, and Inuvik. Many respondents arrive from smaller settlements throughout the NWT. The remainder (32%) of people arrive from other provinces and territories in Canada particularly Kugluktuk, Edmonton, and Montreal.

Key Demographics

- Females were slightly more prevalent (50%) in the homeless population than males (48%), as a result of dependent children record addition.
- 42% fall into the "youth" age category: children (under 18) and young adults (18-24).[1]
- Two individuals in total self-reported as having served in the Canadian military and/or the RCMP

Age	Survey Data[2]

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[1] See limitations section for dependent children deduplication process.

- Under 18   32%
- (18-24)   10%
- (25-44)   34%
- (45-64)   20%
- (65+)   3%

Gender
- Male   48%
- Female   50%
- Transgender   0.3%

Indigenous   90%

Methods Refinement

In comparison to 2015, the 2018 count showed a significantly higher total enumerated (139 vs 338). Note that the cause of this increase is a change in methodology that better accounts for dependents and children (under 18 years), and additional facilities in the data set, which caused undercounting in 2015.

In 2018, the count was hosted at four different facilities that service homeless individuals, the YWCA, the Salvation Army, the Day Shelter, and the Side Door. The hours and date of each count were catered to when people would be most likely to access the services. This year participants also received a $20 gift card

In 2015, there was a public BBQ in the downtown core, which attracted a lot of non-homeless people and detracted from the count.

Because of these changes in methods, it is not possible to accurately compare 2015 to 2018.

2015	#	%	2018	#	%
Unsheltered	27	19%	Unsheltered	17	5%
Unsure (multiple responses)	10	7%	Respondent Doesn't Know [Likely Homeless]	15	4%
Emergency shelter	24	17%	Emergency Shelter, Domestic Violence Shelter	93	28%
Couchsurfing	46	33%			
Supported Living	19	14%	Provisionally Accommodated	213	63%
Hotel Motel	4	3%			
No answer	9	7%	No answer	0	0%
Total	**139**	**100%**	**Total**	**338**	**100%**

Note: 2018 Children/dependents inherited Family Head responses for this survey question. Percentages rounded, thus may not add to 100%.

Nationally, there were methods implemented through the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness that had not been adopted in previous provincial counts (i.e. conducting a tally of observed homelessness, or using honoraria for Count participants). Advancements in the core questions that were also introduced nationally differed from previous counts.

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[2] NOTE: Percentages calculated by removing nulls - unclear/blank responses only from survey data totals. 'Don't Know' and 'Decline to Answer' responses have been retained. As data was rounded, it may not add to 100%.

INTRODUCTION

In February 2017, the Government of Canada announced Everyone Counts 2018, the second HPS Coordinated Point-in-Time (PiT) Count, to be held between March and April 2018. The Yellowknife Community Advisory Board (CAB) coordinated their count of homeless people as part of this 2018 National Count, and along with other participating communities nationwide, used a common set of survey questions which will contribute to an improved understanding of homelessness not just in Yellowknife, but across Canada. There were additional questions added to the survey from consultation with the PiT Committee.

This year, the Yellowknife PiT Count was conducted via youth event and adult events on April 22, 2018 and a family event on April 23, 2018.

The PiT Count in the Context of Yellowknife's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness

In 2017, the community launched "Everyone is Home: Yellowknife's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness". Through the development of this Plan, it became evident that there are some key knowledge gaps impacting Yellowknife's capacity to respond to homelessness. There is limited access to local data on trends, making it challenging to understand the scope of the issue and how to respond. Thus, a priority of the Plan is to improve information and knowledge about homelessness. As such, this standardized Point-in-Time Count can be leveraged to help address some of these basic knowledge gaps around homelessness in the community, evaluate progress in reducing homelessness, track demographic changes, and monitor evolving service needs in Yellowknife. The PiT Count is a critical part of Yellowknife's response to homelessness and will be held biannually moving forward.

Benefits of PiT Counts

The PiT Count provides a snapshot of sheltered and unsheltered homeless people in Yellowknife, an opportunity to educate a broad range of stakeholders regarding homelessness, and consistent data to help guide programs and services in our efforts to end homelessness. Homeless counts are one of the ways that we can determine the overall scope of homelessness and the sub-populations of people who are experiencing homelessness or who may be at risk of homelessness. This includes individuals or families who may be temporarily sheltered in various institutions like hospitals, jails, or emergency shelters.[3]

Improvements from 2015 PiT Count

Yellowknife held its first PiT Count in 2015, and the learnings from 2015 informed the 2018 Count.[4] PiT Counts are not mandatory, but are done voluntarily by communities hoping to understand and effectively address homelessness and related issues. The PiT Count provides a vital benchmark particularly valuable in the implementation of Housing First. It enables us to speak to trends over time with confidence, and gives us a common language and information to compare successes and teachings in order to support our community in our collective efforts to end homelessness.[5]

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[3] City of Yellowknife. 2018. Point in Time Count. Retrieved from https://www.yellowknife.ca/en/living-here/resources/Homelessness/Point-In-Time-Count/2018-PiT_Count_Volunteer_Information.pdf
[4] City of Yellowknife. 2016. Point in Time Count 2015 Report. Retrieved from https://www.yellowknife.ca/en/living-here/resources/Social_Services/Homelessness/Yellowknife-2015-Point-in-Time-Count-REPORT.pdf
[5] City of Yellowknife. 2018. Point in Time Count. Retrieved from https://www.yellowknife.ca/en/living-here/resources/Homelessness/Point-In-Time-Count/2018-PiT_Count_Volunteer_Information.pdf

On April 22nd, 2018 a minimum of 338 individuals were experiencing homelessness during the Count. The City of Yellowknife recognizes that this only represents a fraction of those experiencing homelessness in Yellowknife; however, the survey data provides useful insights into the experiences of those counted.

The following data analysis allows the community to identify needs, trends, and key issues related to homelessness in Yellowknife. Policy makers, service providers, and funders will use the data to enhance planning for programs, services, and housing to end homelessness.

Table 1: Total Number of Valid Surveys by City

City	Valid Surveys	Records Generated for Children/Dependents	Total Records
Yellowknife	224	114	338

METHODOLOGY

The methodology was determined to be three different magnet events. One for youth (ages 15-24) at the Side Door Resource Centre, one for families at the YWCA Transition Housing Program, and a third for adults in general which was held at the Safe Harbour Day Shelter. It was also decided to visit the Salvation Army the evening of April 22nd to get any of the adults who may have been missed from the Day Shelter.

The PiT Committee consisted of three CAB members which included two sheltering agencies, a local sheltering agency the NWT Housing Corporation Homelessness Manager, GNWT Integrated Case Management Manager (Justice), a manager from the NWT Bureau of Statistics, the PiT Count Administrator, and the Community Entity's Homelessness Coordinator/Specialist.

The 2018 PiT Count was hosted at the three venues with a magnet event which supplied food and drinks for people who attended the magnet events and a $20 grocery gift card for those who participated in the survey. This resulted in more of the hidden homeless showing up to the Safe Harbour Day shelter.

The Side Door Resource Centre also partnered with local resources such as a hair dresser who provided free hair cuts, and a tax specialist who assisted youth with filing taxes.

The hours were:

- Side Door Resource Center – Sunday April 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. conducted by two staff members and food volunteers.
- Safe Harbour Day Shelter – Sunday April 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. conducted by three staff members and three volunteers (there were two shifts of three volunteers, totalling six volunteers).There was a councillor onsite during all of the adult surveys in case there was any trauma that arose from participating in the survey, which proved helpful at the day shelter.
- YWCA Transition Housing Program – Monday April 23rd between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., conducted by five staff members.
- The Shelter count took place at the Salvation Army between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. with four volunteer surveyors, as well as the PiT Coordinator and Councillors.

By having staff members at each of the survey sights it helped to eliminate the number of "double" surveys. Most of the staff at each location were familiar with the majority of the participants, and would let other staff or the PiT Coordinator know if the same person was attempting to take the survey twice.

2017 Canadian Definition of Homelessness[6]

The Canadian Homelessness Research Network has released a new definition of homelessness that is based on a typology providing definitions and a range of housing situations along a homelessness continuum.

Homelessness describes the situation of someone who is without stable, permanent, and appropriate housing. Along the continuum there are four main categories of homeless: unsheltered, emergency sheltered, provisionally accommodated, and at risk of homelessness.

Please refer to Appendix A for the full definition.

The definition also identifies eight situations which could lead someone to be homeless, such as being precariously employed (part-time, temporary, low-pay) or having a serious and persistent mental illness. The goal of ending homelessness includes ensuring housing stability that includes the supports (such as supportive housing or income supports) that are required to remain permanently housed.

Based on this definition, screening questions were used to determine eligibility.

Eligibility Criteria

1. The participant had not yet completed a PiT Count Survey.
2. The participant indicated that they were without a permanent residence.
3. The participant was defined as homeless, as per the Canadian Definition of Homelessness.

In total, individuals completed the screening questions. During the data analysis anyone who failed to meet all three criteria were removed. For example, individuals who indicated they had previously completed the PiT Count Survey, or declined to answer the first question were removed:

"Where are you staying tonight?"

Additionally, individuals who indicated a history of homelessness but were currently staying in a permanent residence were also removed.

Limitations

1. The dataset contained a number of records that were double counted children (i.e. both parents recorded as a family head with children and thus the dependent child(ren) may have been added to the final dataset twice). Efforts to de-duplicate these focused on cross-referencing age and gender of children. Some duplicates may remain.
2. Dependents records inherited the typology question only: "Where are you staying tonight?"

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[6] Canadian Observatory on Homelessness. 2017. Canadian Definition Of Homelessness. Retrieved from http://homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/COHhomelessdefinition.pdf

DATA ANALYSIS

Descriptive statistics were used to describe the basic features of the data in the Count. They provide simple summaries and, together with simple graphics analysis, they present the data in a manageable form.

- Frequency distributions were used summarize and compress data by grouping it into classes (answer categories) and record how many data points fall into each class. Converting these raw numbers into percentages provides an even more useful description of the data. Percentages were calculated upon removing the null (blank/unclear) responses. 'Don't Know' and 'Decline to Answer' responses were retained.
- Cross tabulations were used to examine the relationship between two categorical variables. For example, using the Age category as a row variable and Gender as a column variable, a two-dimensional cross tabulation is generated that shows the number of males and females in each age category. Again, converting these raw numbers into percentages provides an even more useful description of the data.

Web mapping was also implemented this year: using an online template with a base map, additional data content (i.e. web services, shapefiles, and the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet of the survey data) were combined to create an interactive map.

Click to access:

[2018 Yellowknife PIT Count Mapping Application](#)
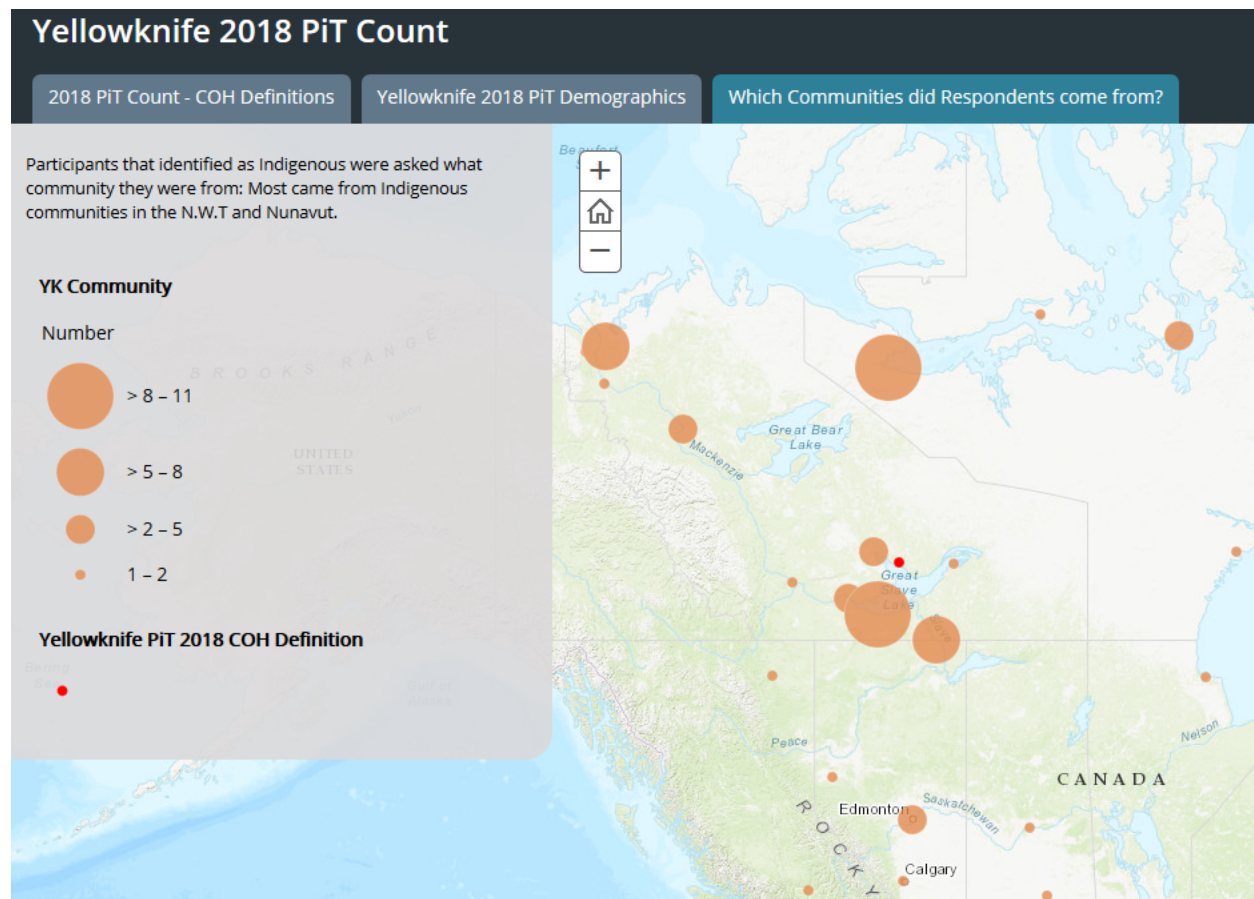
2018 COUNT RESULTS

338 individuals were enumerated during Yellowknife's 2018 Point-in-Time Homeless Count. Looking at the data per capita, Yellowknife has a rate of 17 individuals experiencing homelessness per 1,000. The most recent available population data was obtained from the Statistics Canada 2016 Census.

Table 2: Individuals Experiencing Homelessness Per 1,000 Population

City	2018 Survey, Facility, System Data	2016 Census Population	2018 ate per 1,000 People
Yellowknife	338	19,569	17

More than half of the population counted as experiencing homelessness in Yellowknife were provisionally accommodated (63%), followed by those staying at an emergency shelter (28%). People reporting to be unsheltered (5%) and also not knowing where they would stay that night (4%) make up the remaining percentages.

Table 3: Survey - Sheltered Status of Homeless Population

Yellowknife	Unsheltered	Unknown (respondent likely homeless)	Emergency Sheltered	Provisionally Accommodated (Couch Surfing and Transitional Housing)	Total
Total	17	15	93	213	338
Percentage	5%	4%	28%	63%	100%

*Children/dependents inherited family head of household records.

Contextualizing the Findings

While there were advancements in the methodology between the 2015 and 2018 counts, proportional differences in demographics can be observed.

Table 4: PiT Count Comparison

Yellowknife PiT Count	2015	2018^
Total	139	338
Male	48%	48%
Female	47%	50%
Transgender	1%	0.3%
Indigenous	91%	90%
Under 18*	**1%**	**32%**
18-24	16%	10%
25-44	34%	34%
45-64	40%	20%
65+	1%	3%

*2018 dependent children demographic records added to database based on family head of household response.
^ 'Declined to Answer' and 'Don't Know' retained; and Nulls (blanks/unclear) removed from total for percentage calculations.

Population

NWT's population has remained stable through the 2011 and 2016 population census, with a growth rate dropping to near zero (0.8%). Statistics Canada reported 41,786 residents in 2016, up from 41,462 in 2011.[7]

Yellowknife, the territory's capital, saw a net increase of 335 new residents over the five-year period.

The land area of Yellowknife is 105.47 square kilometres, and the population density was 185.5 people per square kilometre. In 2016, there were 7,131 private dwellings occupied in Yellowknife, which represent a change of 2.8% from 2011.[8]

Migration between communities may explain the territory's stable population overall.[9]

Housing Affordability

Affordability issues continued to rise across the territory in 2018, and Yellowknife observed an increase in Core Housing Need from 10.1% in 2011 to 10.7% in 2016.

Further context is provided in the CMHC 2018 Northern Housing Report[10]

- Average rent (2BR): $1,699
- Vacancy rate: 3.5%
- Total title transfers: 454
- Total starts: 65

Housing Policy

The Northwest Territories Housing Corporation (NWTHC) provides assistance both to renters and homeowners. NWTHC assistance comes in several forms; the most supportive being significantly reduced rents in social housing, while the most modest is the Transitional Rent Supplement Program (TRSP). Under this program, households that earn under $70,000 and pay over 30% of their income in rent are eligible to have their rent subsidized by up to $500 a month.

Previously, the program only provided a subsidy for two years, but the NWTHC decided to extend the program in 2017 due to ongoing affordability problems. The NWTHC hopes this program will provide better support for eligible households in core housing need. Increased uptake could lower vacancy rates in larger-sized units as renters move into accommodations that are of an appropriate size that have become financially available to them.

Rental Market

Despite weaker employment conditions, the overall vacancy rate increased since the last count to 3.5%.

New Home Markets

New construction in Yellowknife was weak overall in 2017, trailing a strong 2016. There were 49% fewer units started in 2017 compared to 2016.

Figure 1: Housing Trends since 2015 (Previous PiT Count)[11]

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[7] CBC News. 2017. Census 2016: Canada's North sees population bump. Retrieved from
http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/canada-population-north-census-2016-1.3971969

[8] Statistics Canada. 2017. Focus on Geography Series, 2016 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-404-X2016001. Ottawa, Ontario. Data products, 2016 Census.

[9] CBC News. 2017. N.W.T. communities shrink while Yellowknife grows in 2016 Census. Retrieved from
https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/nwt-population-trends-communities-yellowknife-1.3974284

[10] CMHC. 2018. Housing Market Outlook — Highlight Reports. Retrieved from https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/data-and-research/publications-and-reports/housing-market-outlook-highlights

Yellowknife Forecast Summary 2018

	2015	2016	2017	2018(F) (L)	2018(F) (H)
New Home Market*					
Total Starts (units)	105	126	65	25	55
Single-Detached Starts	42	59	19	10	30
Multiple Starts	63	67	46	15	45
Real Estate Transactions					
Residential sales	345	460	454	390	510
Average price ($)	417,000	395,500	408,290	384,750	415,250
Rental Market (October Survey)					
Apartment Vacancy Rate (%)	1.9%	4.2%	3.5%	3.5%	
Average Two-Bedroom Apartment Rent ($)	1,700	1,636	1,699	1,700	

Source: CMHC, CMHC Forecast

*It is possible that the low and the high end of forecast ranges for housing starts for singles and multiples jointly may not add up to the total. This is caused by rounding as well as the volatility of the data.

[11] CMHC. 2018. Housing Market Outlook — Highlight Reports. https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/data-and-research/publications-and-reports/housing-market-outlook-highlights

2018 KEY DEMOGRAPHICS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The following section presents the 2018 findings on key demographics and characteristics. Records categorized as Unknown (Do Not Know and Decline to Answer) and Null values have been removed to calculate percentages.

Gender and Sexual Orientation

This year's survey included two new questions regarding sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). In Yellowknife, females (50%) were slightly more prevalent than males (48%), and transgender individuals accounted for 0.3% of the homeless population in Yellowknife.

Figure 2: Survey – Gender Identity
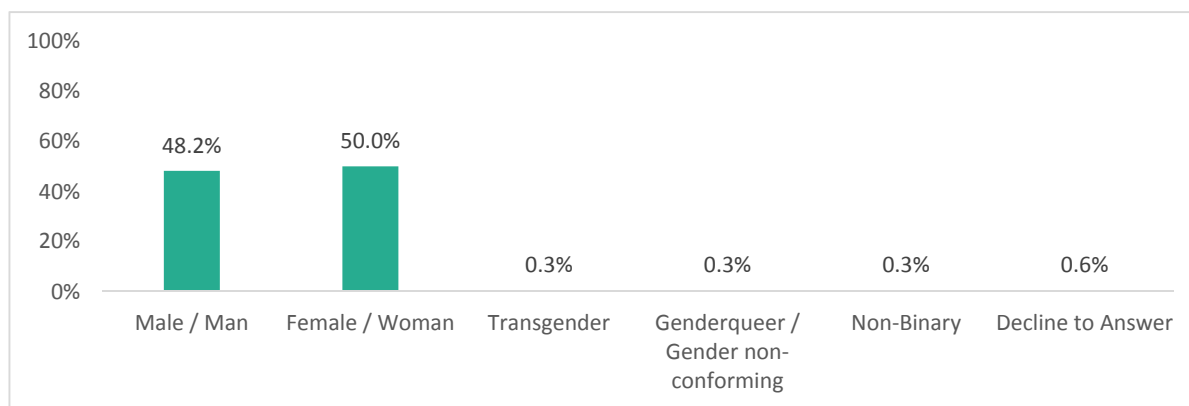
During the Count, 4% of individuals identified as LGBTQ2S+ in Yellowknife. This may have been a challenging question to administer, given the 4% declining to answer.

Table 5: Survey – Sexual Orientation

| Yellowknife	Straight/ Heterosexual	Bisexual	Not Listed	Decline to Answer
Total	93%	3%	1%	4%

Age

Not including dependent children, the average age of the survey respondents was 39 years old with a minimum age of 16 years, and a maximum age of 78 years.

These individuals also indicated their age when they had their first homelessness experience: 27 years old was the average for this group.

Looking at the entire population, including dependent children enumerated that night, 10% of the sample were young adults aged 18-24 years, and 23% were 45 years or older.
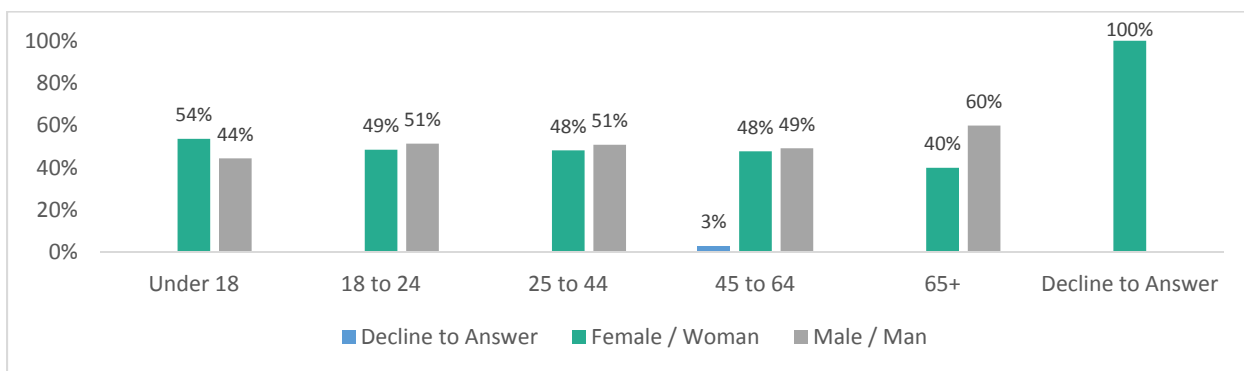
Combining the number of children under 18 and young adults results in 42% of those enumerated falling into the "youth" age category.

Figure 3: Survey – Age Groups
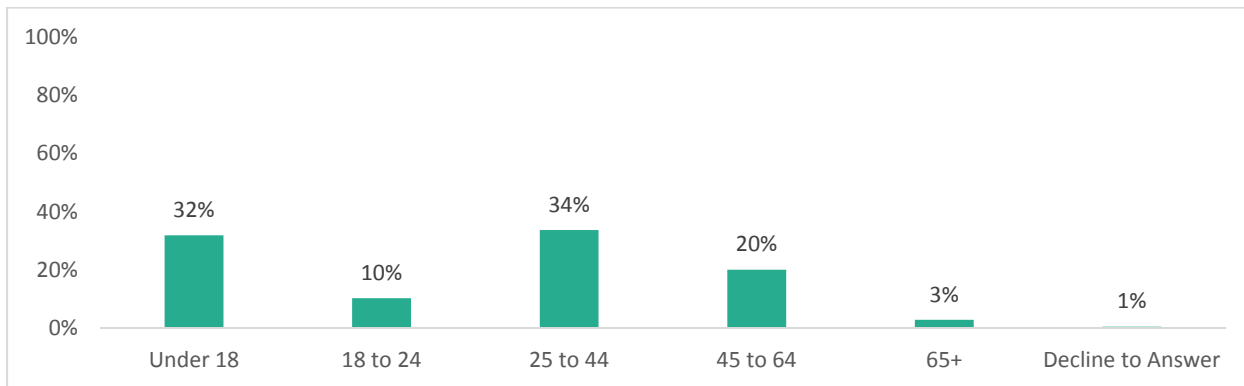
Looking at respondents who reported their age, across age groups, males emerge as slightly more prevalent, as some women declined to divulge their age.

Figure 4: Survey - Gender and Age

Indigenous Peoples

In 2016, there were 4,460 Indigenous people in Yellowknife, making up 23% of the population. With 90% reporting Indigenous identity in the survey data, this is a significant over-representation compared to the overall Yellowknife population.

Figure 5: Survey – Indigenous Groups
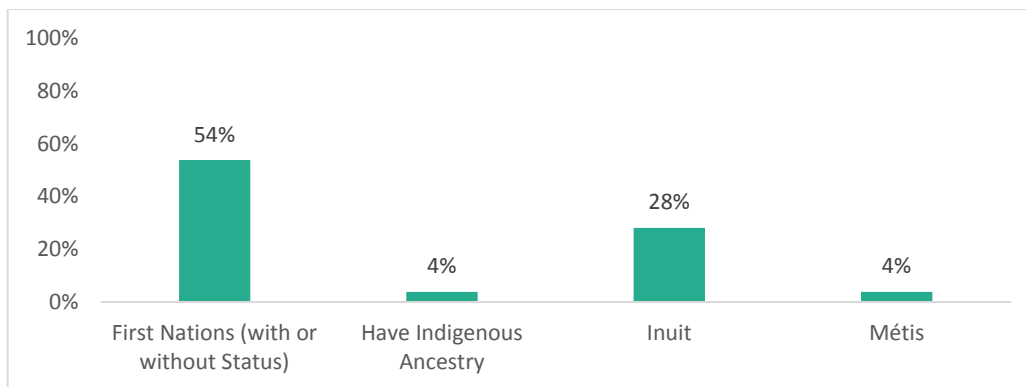
Participants who identified as Indigenous were asked what community they were from. The top 10 communities were all in the NWT and Nunavut.

Figure 6: Survey – Top 10 Indigenous Communities
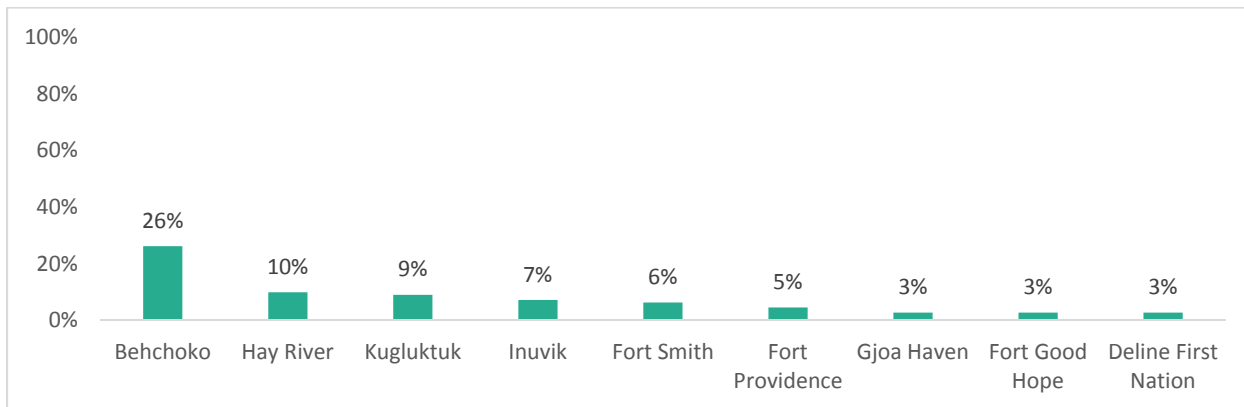
Education

More than 60% have not completed their high school education. Research indicates that individuals with lower educational attainment are at higher risk of unemployment, underemployment, and poverty.[12]

Figure 7: Survey – Education

For many homeless youth and children, homelessness can disrupt their efforts to stay in school and often leads to dropping out despite their desires to remain in school.
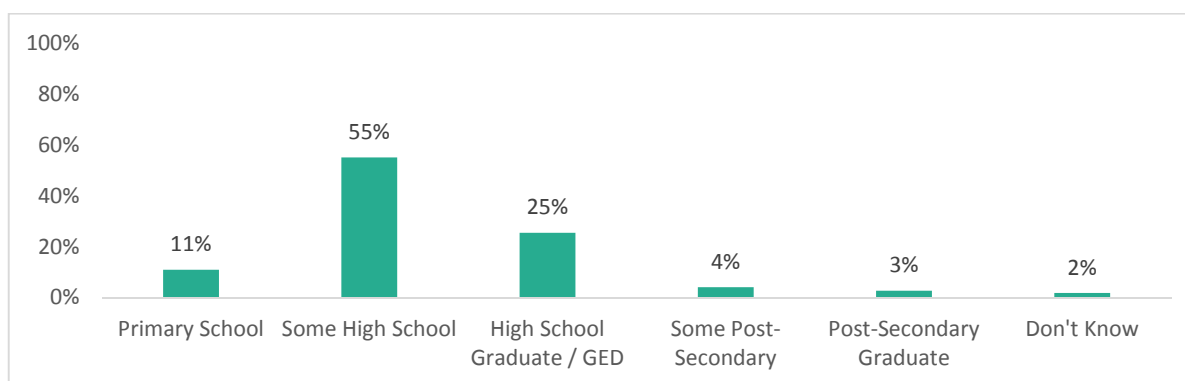
Table 6: Survey - Highest Level of Education and Age

| Age Group	Primary School	Some High School	High School Graduate / GED	Some Post-Secondary	Post-Secondary Graduate
13 to 17		100%			
18 to 24	4%	68%	25%	4%	
25 to 44	7%	56%	27%	6%	4%
45 to 64	19%	46%	31%	2%	3%
65+	30%	70%			

Foster Care

34% stated they had been in foster care or a group home.

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[12] Aleman, A. 2016. Education and Homelessness. Retrieved from http://homelesshub.ca/blog/education-homelessness
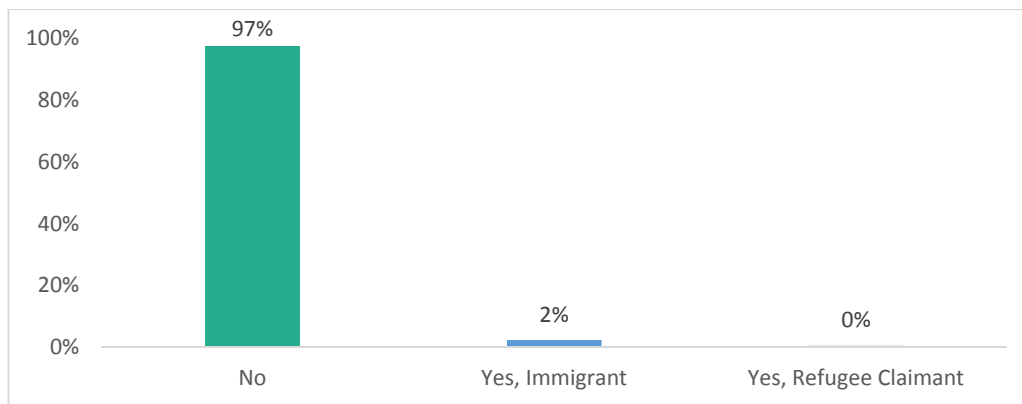
Immigration and Migration

Approximately one third (36%) of survey participants had arrived in the past five years.

Figure 8: Survey – Length of time in Yellowknife
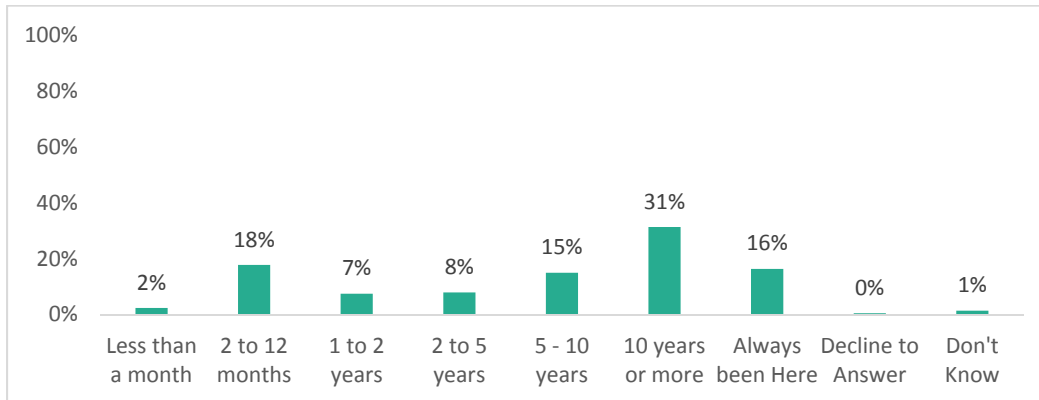
A very small number (six) indicated that they had come to Canada as an immigrant or refugee, representing just 2% of the total responses to this question.

Figure 9: Survey – Immigrants and Refugees as a percent of the valid responses in 2018

Migration is defined as individuals who moved to their respective city in the past year. Forty-three people had moved to Yellowknife within the past year.

Figure 10 shows where people arrived from regardless of timeframe. The majority of people arriving (68%) are from communities within NWT (intraprovincial/territorial migration). The top three communities from which the highest frequency of people migrated from are Behchoko, Hay River, and Fort Smith. Many respondents arrived from smaller settlements throughout the NWT.

The remainder (32%) of people arrived from other provinces/ cities in Canada (interprovincial/territorial migration), e.g. Kugluktuk, Edmonton, and Montreal were the main towns from which people arrived.

Figure 10: Survey – Intraprovincial and Interprovincial Arrivals

7.4%	4.1%	0.7%	0.7%	67.6%	14.2%	1.4%	2.7%	1.4%
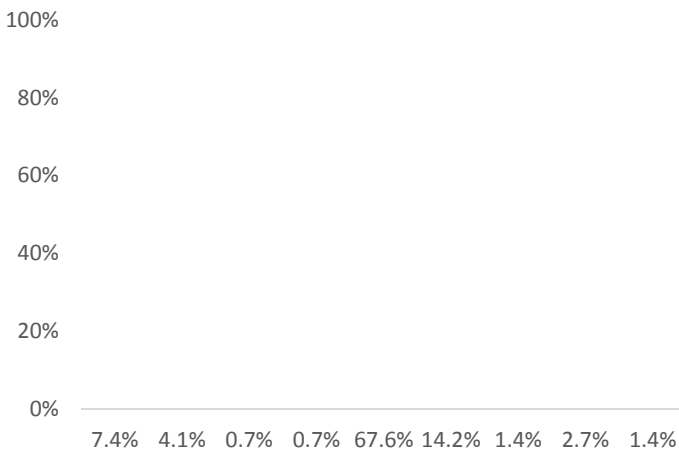
What is the main reason you came to Yellowknife?

This was an optional question suggested by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness in order to capture reasons for migration into various communities. As noted in the figure below, the top reasons concern connecting with families and employment.

Figure 11: Survey – Reasons for Coming to Yellowknife

Reason	%
Family Moved Here	22%
Employment (seeking)	18%
To Visit Friends / Family	9%
To access Emergency Shelter(s)	9%
To Find Housing	7%
To access Services and Supports	6%
Seek New Opportunities	6%
Medical	4%
Family Circumstances Changed	4%
Employment (secured)	4%
Fear for Safety	3%
To attend School	3%
Family Member Illness	3%
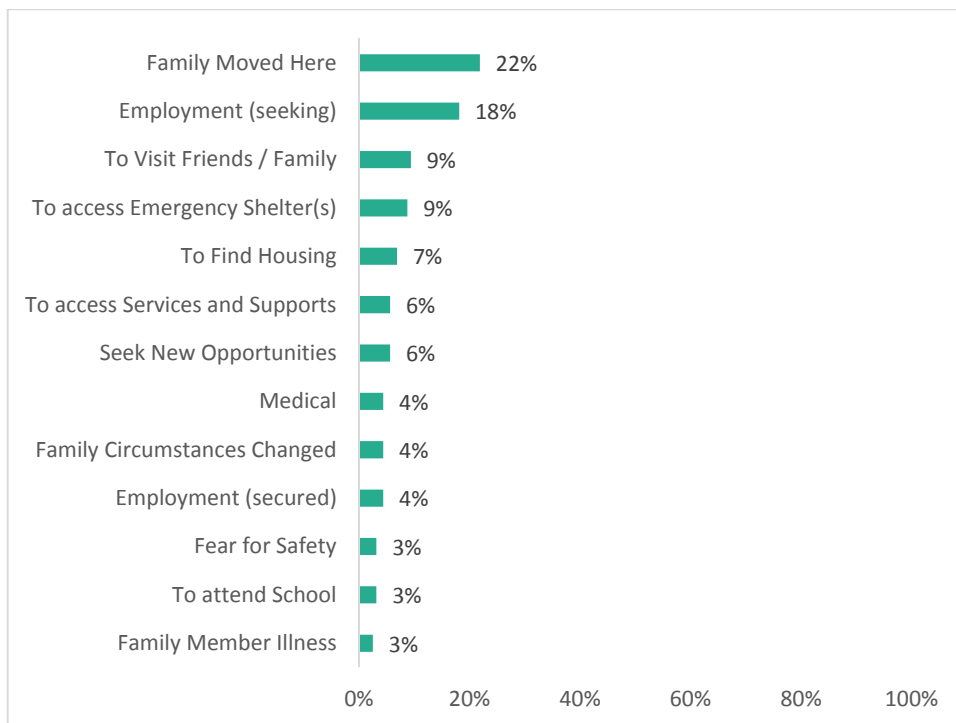
Chronic Homelessness

For Yellowknife, 75% are experiencing chronic homelessness according to the federal definition; 3% are episodic, and 16% are transitional. This is similar to the 2015 results.
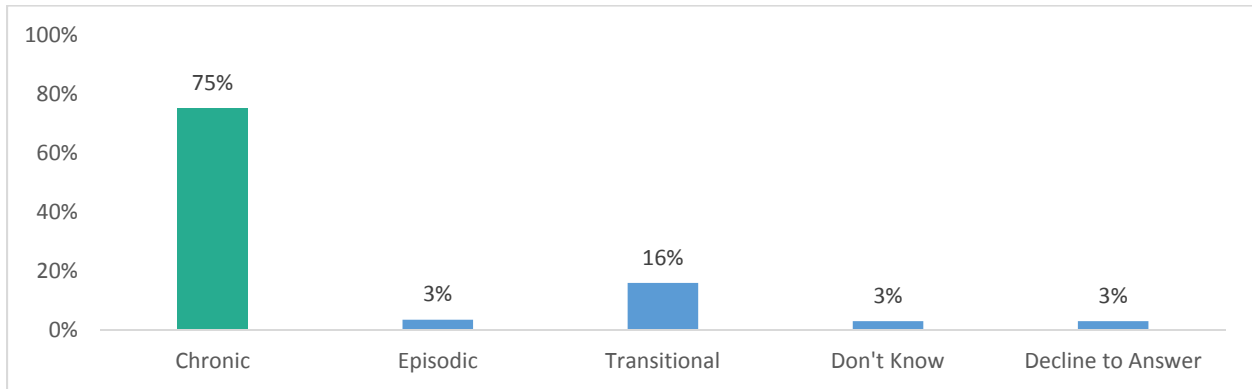
Over half of the population (64%) counted as experiencing homelessness were reported to have stayed at an emergency shelter in the last 12 months. For those who chose not stay in a shelter, their main reason for doing so was that they preferred to stay with family or friends.

Service in the Canadian Forces and RCMP

In 2018, the survey asked if an individual had served in the Canadian military or the RCMP. Two individuals out of the 224 completed responses to this question (less than 1%) self-reported as having served in the Canadian military and/or the RCMP.

Children and Families

Those who participated in the surveys administered were asked additional questions about accompanying family members and dependents. Seventy Yellowknife YWCA respondents, and two respondents at other locations reported at least one child living with them at the time of the PiT Count. Upon further investigation, some of the 70 YWCA individuals were two parents in one family, and children were added twice to the dataset. De-duplication efforts focused on reviewing the dependents for the same gender, age, and ethnicity reported by heterosexual parents. Parent records were joined resulting in 54 families. Duplicate dependents were removed (33 records in total).

Table 7: Dataset - Families and Children

Families	Location	Number of Children Under 18	Number of Dependents Over 18	Total Dependents
54 families	YWCA	102	4	106
5 families	SideDoor, Safe Harbour Day, Salvation Army	2	6	8

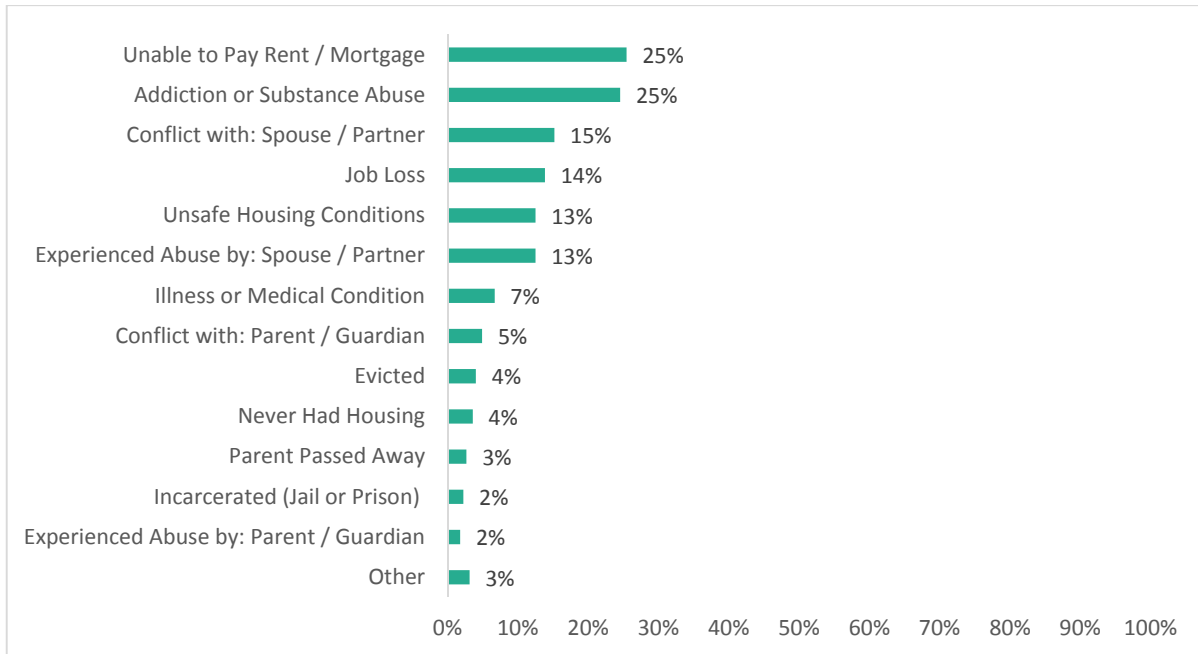Given the uncertainty with the de-duplication and the higher-than-expected number of children reported this year in the 2018 PiT Count, further analysis is problematic.

Reasons for Loss of Housing

The 2018 survey asked individuals about the cause(s) of their most recent loss of housing. In many cases, there are multiple reasons, and thus this was a multiple-response question, and percentages will not

total 100. The most common reasons were inability to pay rent/mortgage, addiction or substance use, conflict with spouse/partner, and job loss.

Figure 13: Survey – Reasons for Housing Loss

Unable to Pay Rent / Mortgage — 25%
Addiction or Substance Abuse — 25%
Conflict with: Spouse / Partner — 15%
Job Loss — 14%
Unsafe Housing Conditions — 13%
Experienced Abuse by: Spouse / Partner — 13%
Illness or Medical Condition — 7%
Conflict with: Parent / Guardian — 5%
Evicted — 4%
Never Had Housing — 4%
Parent Passed Away — 3%
Incarcerated (Jail or Prison) — 2%
Experienced Abuse by: Parent / Guardian — 2%
Other — 3%

Obstacles to Finding Housing

Low income and high rent are the top two challenges with seeking housing. Ninety-five percent want permanent housing.

Figure 14: Survey – Housing Challenges

Low Income — 62%
Rent Too High — 54%
Addiction — 30%
No Income Assistance — 29%
Family Breakdown / Conflict — 18%
Criminal History — 13%
Health/ Disability Issues — 13%
Domestic Violence — 13%
Poor Housing Conditions — 12%
Discrimination — 10%
Children — 9%
Mental Health Issues — 9%
Pets — 3%

Figure 15: Survey - Permanent Housing Desired

What resources do you need to get a place of your own?

The word cloud gives greater prominence to words that appear more frequently among the respondents' detailed answers to this question.
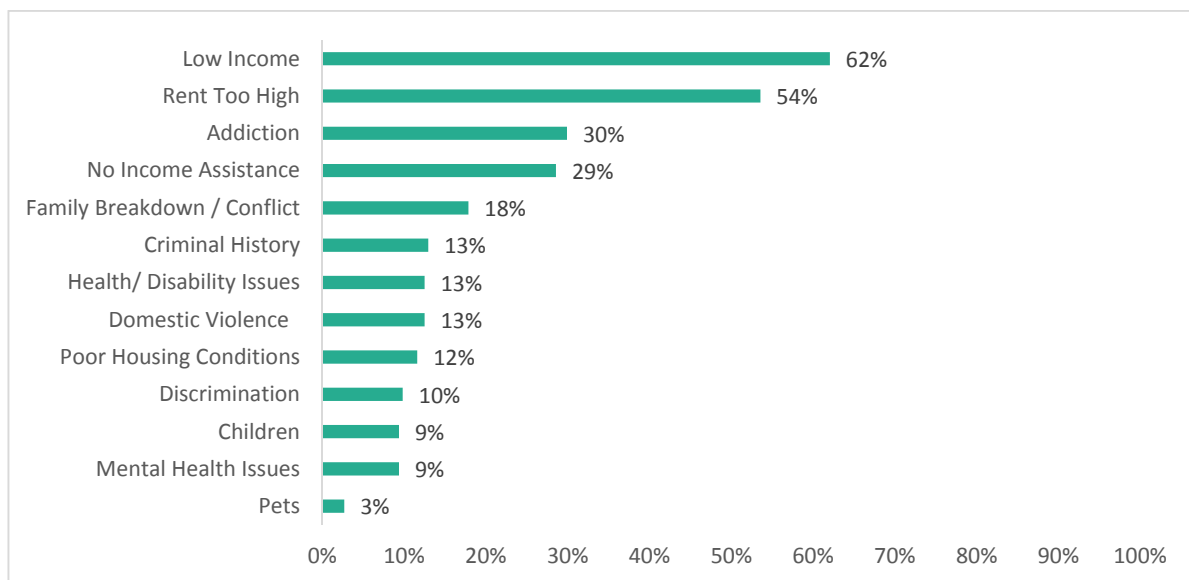
*Figure 16: Survey – Resources Required*

Income Sources

The 2018 survey asked individuals about their main source or sources of income. As there can be multiple income sources for individuals, this was a multiple-response question, and percentages will not total 100. In Yellowknife, the most common sources were welfare or social assistance, GST Refunds, formal employment, and Child and Family tax benefits.

Figure 17: Survey – Income Sources
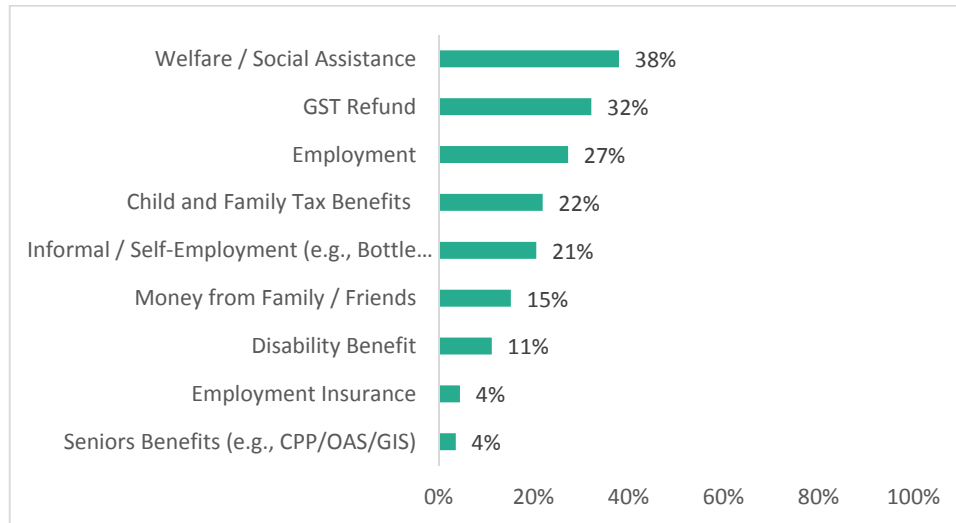
Health and Justice Contact

Forty-six percent of respondents reported health system contact. These individuals visited the ER three times on average, and some have been hospitalized four times on average. No full days in hospital were recorded.

Thirty-three percent of respondents reported justice system contact. These individuals interacted with police 10 times on average, and some have been to prison or jail two times on average. No full days in prison were recorded.

KEY LEARNINGS

The 2018 PiT Count was based on learning from the 2015 PiT Count. In 2015 the count was held at a large downtown BBQ during noon hour that attracted a lot of the downtown working population. It was determined that there many homeless who did not attend the BBQ and actually sat across the street at the post office and watched the BBQ take place. This also caused some issues, as there were many volunteers that could have possibly double counted observed homeless. There were also issues with volunteers all administering the survey in different manners, and many of the completed surveys being unusable as they were not completed properly.

In 2018 the PiT Committee met several times and discussed each question with the PiT Coordinator. It was determined that there would be a qualified trainer hired to train survey volunteers, walk through the whole survey, and ensure that all volunteers have a good understanding of the survey and why it is important. This took place through two, separate three-hour training sessions.

The 2015 PiT Count utilized 38 volunteers for the survey and BBQ, while the 2018 Count Utilized 10 volunteer surveyors as well as sheltering staff members and five food volunteers. In 2018 there were also counsellors who were available at both the Day Shelter and the Salvation Army for any people who needed help after the survey.

Moving towards the HPS methods (aligning with national definitions and data collection) resulted in …

- Larger sample of those experiencing homelessness is Yellowknife;
- Understating the age ranges and genders of those experiencing homelessness;
- More closely estimate the total size of the homeless population living in Yellowknife;
- Track changes in the demographics of those experiencing homelessness in Yellowknife;
- Begin to measure our progress towards ending homelessness;
- Get an understanding of shelter use from those who use it; and
- Understanding how participants are supporting themselves (income sources).

For 2020:

1. Interview the family and record children under the Family Head; record once; do not assign the second parent as Family Head.
2. Administrative data – HIFIS. To work with HIFIS 4.0 and work from tablets to instantly record results
3. Work with service providers to ensure that we are not "doubling" the people we count
4. Ensure the next PiT Count is culturally appropriate

CONCLUSION

This 2018 Point-in-Time Count was a collaborative effort undertaken by members of the City of Yellowknife's CAB on Homelessness and the City of Yellowknife over the course of several months. Efforts to align Count methods with the National Point-in-Time Count resulted in methodologic advancements from 2015.

A total of 338 individuals were identified as experiencing homelessness. Breakdowns in proportions of women, Indigenous persons, veterans, and immigrants were similar to those seen in 2015.

The number of youth recorded this year warrants further investigation.

Coordinating a Point-in-Time Count is a significant undertaking requiring considerable investments of time, research, and discussion from all involved. Within Yellowknife there is significant engagement around planning and the execution of the Count, which is informed by past methodology and local circumstances.

Acknowledgments

GLOSSARY

Table 8: List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Organization or Term
CAB	City of Yellowknife Community Advisory Board on Homelessness
COH	Canadian Observatory on Homelessness
RCMP	Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Table 9: Definitions

Term	Definition
Adult	An individual 18 years of age or older (where noted, this may include youth between the ages of 18-24).
Dependents/Children	Individuals who a caregiver indicated would be staying with them on the night of the Count.
Emergency Shelters	Overnight accommodation for individuals who have no permanent address.
Homeless Count	The total number of individuals approached who reported not having a permanent place to stay on the night of Count day plus the total number of individuals staying at a shelter on the previous night. Both figures also include the number of children staying with an adult caregiver on the night of the Count.
Indigenous	A respondent was classified as "Indigenous" if they identified as First Nations, Métis, Inuit, non-status, or as having Indigenous ancestry.
Sheltered Homeless	Homeless individuals counted at a shelter or in a hotel (funded by the province) on an emergency basis on the night prior to Count day.
Transitional Housing	Temporary housing with support to assist client movement into permanent housing.
Unsheltered Homeless	Homeless individuals counted in the Street Count (at an agency or service, on a walking route, at a bottle depot, or by outreach teams and mobile vans). Individuals enumerated in this category may be staying in motels/hotels on their own, or sleeping in a car, a tent or outside.
Veteran	An individual who has previously served with the Canadian military or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).
Youth	An individual 18-24 years of age.

APPENDIX A: 2017 Canadian Definition of Homelessness

TYPOLOGY

The typology describes the range of accommodations that people without appropriate, stable, and permanent housing may experience. Those without acceptable housing experience a range of different types of homelessness, from being unsheltered to having housing that is insecure or inappropriate. As homelessness is not one single event or state of being, it is important to recognize that at different points in time people may find themselves experiencing different types of homelessness.

1) Unsheltered

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.

1.1 PEOPLE LIVING IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SPACES WITHOUT CONSENT OR CONTRACT

- Public space, such as sidewalks, squares, parks, forests, etc.
- Private space and vacant buildings (squatting)

1.2 PEOPLE LIVING IN PLACES NOT INTENDED FOR PERMANENT HUMAN HABITATION

- Living in cars or other vehicles
- Living in garages, attics, closets, or buildings not designed for habitation
- People in makeshift shelters, shacks, or tents

2) 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. Such accommodation represents a stop-gap institutional response to homelessness provided by government, non-profit, faith-based organizations, and/or volunteers.

2.1 EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTERS FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS

These facilities are designed to meet the immediate needs of people who are homeless. Such short-term emergency shelters may target specific sub-populations, including women, families, youth, or Indigenous persons for instance. These shelters typically have minimal eligibility criteria, offer shared sleeping facilities and amenities, and often expect clients to leave in the morning. They may or may not offer food, clothing, or other services. Some emergency shelters allow people to stay on an ongoing basis while others are short term and are set up to respond to special circumstances, such as extreme weather.

2.2 SHELTERS FOR INDIVIDUALS/FAMILIES IMPACTED BY FAMILY VIOLENCE

These shelters provide basic emergency and crisis services including safe accommodation, meals, information, and referral. They provide a high security environment for women (and sometimes men) and children fleeing family violence or other crisis situations. Residents are not required to leave during the day. These facilities offer private rooms for families and a range of supports to help residents rebuild their lives.

2.3 EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR PEOPLE FLEEING A NATURAL DISASTER OR DESTRUCTION OF ACCOMMODATION DUE TO FIRES, FLOODS, ETC.

3) 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.

3.1 INTERIM HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS

Interim housing is a systems-supported form of housing that is meant to bridge the gap between unsheltered homelessness or emergency accommodation and permanent housing. In some cases referred to as 'transitional housing', this form of accommodation typically provides services beyond basic needs, offers residents more privacy, and places greater emphasis on participation and social engagement. Interim housing targets those who would benefit from structure, support, and skill building prior to moving to long-term housing stability with the ultimate goal of preventing a return to homelessness. In the case of second-stage housing for those impacted by family violence, the key characteristics of this housing are the safety and security it provides, trauma recovery supports, along with the ultimate goal of preventing re-victimization. Interim housing has time limitations on residency, but generally allows for a longer stay (in some cases up to three years) compared to emergency shelters.

3.2 PEOPLE LIVING TEMPORARILY WITH OTHERS, BUT WITHOUT GUARANTEE OF CONTINUED RESIDENCY OR IMMEDIATE PROSPECTS FOR ACCESSING PERMANENT HOUSING

Often referred to as 'couch surfers' or the 'hidden homeless', this describes people who stay with friends, family, or even strangers. They are typically not paying rent, their duration of stay is unsustainable in the long term, and they do not have the means to secure their own permanent housing in the future. They differ from those who are staying with friends or family out of choice in anticipation of prearranged accommodation, whether in their current hometown or an altogether new community. This living situation is understood by both parties to be temporary, and the assumption is that it will not become permanent.

3.3 PEOPLE ACCESSING SHORT TERM, TEMPORARY RENTAL ACCOMMODATIONS WITHOUT SECURITY OF TENURE

In some cases, people who are homeless make temporary rental arrangements, such as staying in motels, hostels, rooming houses, etc. Although occupants pay rent, the accommodation does not offer the possibility of permanency. People living in these situations are often considered to be part of the 'hidden homeless' population.

3.4 PEOPLE IN INSTITUTIONAL CARE WHO LACK PERMANENT HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS

Individuals are considered to be provisionally accommodated and 'at risk' of homelessness if there are no arrangements in place to ensure they move into safe, permanent housing upon release from institutional care. This includes individuals who:

a) were homeless prior to admittance (where their stay may be short-term or long-term) and who have no plan for permanent accommodation after release; or
b) had housing prior to admittance, but lost their housing while in institutional care; or
c) had housing prior to admittance, but cannot go back due to changes in their needs.

In either case, without adequate discharge planning and support – which includes arrangements for safe and reliable housing (and necessary aftercare or community-based services) – there is a likelihood that these individuals may transition into homelessness following their release. Institutional care includes:

- Penal institutions
- Medical/mental health institutions
- Residential treatment programs or withdrawal management centers
- Children's institutions/group homes

3.5 ACCOMMODATION/RECEPTION CENTERS FOR RECENTLY ARRIVED IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Prior to securing their own housing, recently arrived immigrants and refugees may be temporarily housed while receiving settlement support and orientation to life in Canada. They are considered to be homeless if they have no means or prospects of securing permanent housing.

UNSHELTERED SURVEY [OVERNIGHT]   **Survey Num**

Location: _____   **Time:** _____AM/PM

Interviewer: _____   **Contact #:** _____

C. [Surveyor: Indicate overnight location]

a. DECLINE TO ANSWER	f. EMERGENCY SHELTER, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER
b. OWN APARTMENT/ HOUSE	g. TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING
c. SOMEONE ELSE'S PLACE	h. PUBLIC SPACE (E.G., SIDEWALK, PARK, FOREST, BUS SHELTER)
d. MOTEL/HOTEL	i. VEHICLE (CAR, VAN, RV, TRUCK)
e. HOSPITAL, JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE	j. MAKESHIFT SHELTER, TENT OR SHACK
	k. ABANDONED/VACANT BUILDING
	l. OTHER UNSHELTERED LOCATION
	m. RESPONDENT DOESN'T KNOW [LIKELY HOMELESS]

BEGIN SURVEY

1. What family members are staying with you tonight? [Indicate survey numbers for adults. Check all that apply]

☐ NONE   ☐ OTHER ADULT - Survey #: ___ ___ ___ ___
☐ PARTNER - Survey #: ___ ___ ___ ___   ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

☐ CHILD(REN)/DEPENDENT(S)		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
[indicate gender and age for each]	GENDER								
	AGE								

2. How old are you? [OR] What year were you born? [If unsure, ask for best estimate]

o AGE _____ **OR** YEAR BORN _____	o DON'T KNOW	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

➔ For the next questions, "homelessness" means any time when you have been without a secure place to live, including sleeping in shelters, on the streets, or living temporarily with others.

3. How old were you the first time you experienced homelessness?

o AGE_____	o DON'T KNOW	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

4. In total, *how much time* have you been homeless over the PAST YEAR? [Best estimate.]

o LENGTH _____ DAYS	WEEKS	MONTHS	o DON'T KNOW	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

5. In total, *how many <u>different times</u>* have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR? [Best estimate.]

o NUMBER OF TIMES _____ [Includes this time]	o DON'T KNOW	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

6. Have you stayed in an emergency shelter in the past year? [Give local examples of homeless shelters]

o YES	o NO	o DON'T KNOW	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

06b. If not, what are the main reasons? [Do not read categories; select all that apply)

o TURNED AWAY (SHELTERS ARE FULL)	o PREFER TO STAY WITH FRIENDS/FAMILY
o TURNED AWAY (BANNED)	o PET(S)
o LACK OF TRANSPORTATION	o OTHER: _____
o FEAR FOR SAFETY	o DON'T KNOW
o BED BUGS & OTHER PESTS	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

7. How long have you been in (*community name*)?

o LENGTH _____ DAYS / WEEKS / MONTHS / YEARS ---------->	**Where did you live before you came here?**
o ALWAYS BEEN HERE	o COMMUNITY _____ PROVINCE_____
o DON'T KNOW	OR COUNTRY_____
o DECLINE TO ANSWER	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

➔ **07c What is the main reason you came to (*community name)?*** [Do not read categories; select one)

☐ TO ACCESS EMERGENCY SHELTER(S)	☐ TO ATTEND SCHOOL
☐ TO ACCESS SERVICES AND SUPPORTS	☐ FEAR FOR SAFETY
☐ FAMILY MOVED HERE	☐ RECREATION/SHOPPING
☐ TO VISIT FRIENDS/FAMILY	☐ OTHER: _____
☐ TO FIND HOUSING	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ EMPLOYMENT (SEEKING)	☐ DECLINE TO ASNWER
☐ EMPLOYMENT (SECURED)	

8. Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee or refugee claimant?

o YES, IMMIGRANT ------------------>	**If YES:** **How long have you been in Canada?**
o YES, REFUGEE---------------------->	
o YES, REFUGEE CLAIMANT--------->	o LENGTH: _____ DAYS | WEEKS | MONTHS | YEARS
o NO	OR DATE: _____/_____/_____ DAY / MONTH / YEAR
o DON'T KNOW	o DON'T KNOW
o DECLINE TO ANSWER	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

9. Do you identify as Indigenous or do you have Indigenous ancestry? This includes First Nations with or without status, Métis, and Inuit. [If yes, please follow-up to specify.]

o YES -->	**If YES:** o FIRST NATIONS (with or without status)
o NO	o INUIT
o DON'T KNOW	o MÉTIS
o DECLINE TO ANSWER	o HAVE INDIGENOUS ANCESTRY

10. Have you ever had any service in the Canadian Military or RCMP?
[Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force]

○ YES, MILITARY ○ YES, RCMP	○ NO	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

11. What gender do you identify with? [Show list.]

○ MALE / MAN	○ TRANS FEMALE / TRANS WOMAN	○ NOT LISTED: _____
○ FEMALE / WOMAN	○ TRANS MALE / TRANS MAN	○ DON'T KNOW
○ TWO-SPIRIT	○ GENDERQUEER/GENDER NON-CONFORMING	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

12. How do you describe your sexual orientation, for example straight, gay, lesbian? [Show list.]

○ STRAIGHT/HETEROSEXUAL	○ BISEXUAL	○ QUEER	○ DON'T KNOW
○ GAY	○ TWO-SPIRIT	○ NOT LISTED:	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER
○ LESBIAN	○ QUESTIONING	_____	

13. What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently? [Do not read the options. Check all that apply. "Housing" does not include temporary arrangements (e.g., couch surfing) or shelter stays.]

☐ ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION	☐ CONFLICT WITH: PARENT / GUARDIAN
☐ ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE	☐ CONFLICT WITH: SPOUSE / PARTNER
☐ JOB LOSS	☐ INCARCERATED (JAIL OR PRISON)
☐ UNABLE TO PAY RENT OR MORTGAGE	☐ HOSPITALIZATION OR TREATMENT PROGRAM
☐ UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITIONS	☐ OTHER REASON: _____
☐ EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: PARENT / GUARDIAN	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: SPOUSE / PARTNER	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

14. What are your sources of income? [Read list and check all that apply]

☐ EMPLOYMENT	☐ DISABILITY BENEFIT	☐ OTHER SOURCE:
☐ INFORMAL/SELF-EMPLOYMENT (E.G.,	☐ SENIORS BENEFITS (E.G., CPP/OAS/GIS)	_____
BOTTLE RETURNS, PANHANDLING)	☐ GST REFUND	☐ NO INCOME
☐ EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	☐ CHILD AND FAMILY TAX BENEFITS	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER
☐ WELFARE/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	☐ MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS	

C01 What is the highest level of education you completed?

☐ PRIMARY SCHOOL	☐ SOME POST SECONDARY	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ SOME HIGH SCHOOL	☐ POST SECONDARY GRADUATE	☐ DECLINE TO
☐ HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE/GED	☐ GRADUATE DEGREE (E.G., MASTERS, Ph.D.)	ANSWER

C02 Have you ever been in foster care and/or group home?

○ YES	○ NO	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

➔ **C02b Approximately how long after leaving foster care/group home did you become homeless?**

○ LENGTH _____ DAYS / WEEKS / MONTHS / YEARS	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

C03 In the past year (12 months) have you: [Ask respondents to give their best estimate]

BEEN TO AN EMERGENCY ROOM	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
BEEN HOSPITALIZED	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
→DAYS YOU HAVE SPENT HOSPITALIZED		_____ *Days Total*
INTERACTED WITH POLICE (*Tickets, arrests, searches*)	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
BEEN TO PRISON/JAIL	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
→DAYS YOU HAVE SPENT IN PRISON/JAIL		_____ *Days Total*

C04 Do you want permanent housing?

○ YES	○ NO	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

C05 What resources do you need to get a place of your own?

○ _____	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

C06 What challenges or problems have you experienced when trying to find housing?
[Select all that apply]

☐ LOW INCOME	☐ MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	☐ DISCRIMINATION
☐ NO INCOME ASSISTANCE	☐ ADDICTION	☐ DON'T WANT HOUSING
☐ RENTS TOO HIGH	☐ FAMILY BREAKDOWN/CONFLICT	☐ OTHER: _____
☐ POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS	☐ CRIMINAL HISTORY	☐ NO BARRIERS TO HOUSING
☐ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	☐ PETS	☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE
☐ HEALTH/DISABILITY ISSUES	☐ CHILDREN	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

SHELTERED SURVEY

Survey Num

Facility/Program Name: _____ Time: _____

_____AM/PM

Interviewer: _____ Contact #: _____

_____

C. [Surveyor: Indicate overnight location]

f. EMERGENCY SHELTER, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER **g.** TRANSITIONAL SHELTER	**Other location:**

BEGIN SURVEY

1. What family members are staying with you tonight? [Indicate survey numbers for adults. Check all that apply]

☐ NONE   ☐ OTHER ADULT - Survey #: ___ ___ ___ ___

☐ PARTNER - Survey #: ___ ___ ___ ___   ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

☐ CHILD(REN)/DEPENDENT(S) [indicate gender and age for each]		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	GENDER								
	AGE								

2. How old are you? [OR] What year were you born? [If unsure, ask for best estimate]

○ AGE _____**OR** YEAR BORN _____	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

➔ **For the next questions, "homelessness" means any time when you have been without a secure place to live, including sleeping in shelters, on the streets, or living temporarily with others.**

3. How old were you the first time you experienced homelessness?

○ AGE_____	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

4. In total, *how much time* have you been homeless over the PAST YEAR? [Best estimate.]

○ LENGTH _____ DAYS | WEEKS | MONTHS	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

5. In total, *how many different times* have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR? [Best estimate.]

○ NUMBER OF TIMES _____ [Includes this time]	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

6. Have you stayed in an emergency shelter in the past year? [Give local examples of homeless shelters]

○ YES	○ NO	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

06b If not, what are the main reasons? [Do not read categories; select all that apply)

○ TURNED AWAY (SHELTERS ARE FULL)	○ PREFER TO STAY WITH FRIENDS/FAMILY
○ TURNED AWAY (BANNED)	○ PET(S)
○ LACK OF TRANSPORTATION	○ OTHER: _____
○ FEAR FOR SAFETY	○ DON'T KNOW
○ BED BUGS & OTHER PESTS	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

7. How long have you been in (*community name*)?

○ LENGTH _____ DAYS / WEEKS / MONTHS / YEARS --------->	**Where did you live before you came here?**
○ ALWAYS BEEN HERE	○ COMMUNITY _____ PROVINCE_____
○ DON'T KNOW	OR COUNTRY_____
○ DECLINE TO ANSWER	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

**→ 07c What is the main reason you came to (*community name)?* **[Do not read categories; select one)

☐ TO ACCESS EMERGENCY SHELTER(S)	☐ TO ATTEND SCHOOL
☐ TO ACCESS SERVICES AND SUPPORTS	☐ FEAR FOR SAFETY
☐ FAMILY MOVED HERE	☐ RECREATION/SHOPPING
☐ TO VISIT FRIENDS/FAMILY	☐ OTHER: _____
☐ TO FIND HOUSING	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ EMPLOYMENT (SEEKING)	☐ DECLINE TO ASNWER
☐ EMPLOYMENT (SECURED)	

8. Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee or refugee claimant?

○ YES, IMMIGRANT ------------------>	**If YES:** **How long have you been in Canada?**
○ YES, REFUGEE---------------------->	
○ YES, REFUGEE CLAIMANT--------->	○ LENGTH: _____ DAYS | WEEKS | MONTHS | YEARS
○ NO	OR DATE: _____/_____/_____ DAY / MONTH / YEAR
○ DON'T KNOW	○ DON'T KNOW
○ DECLINE TO ANSWER	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

9. Do you identify as Indigenous or do you have Indigenous ancestry? This includes First Nations with or without status, Métis, and Inuit. [If yes, please follow-up to specify.]

○ YES -->	**If YES:** ○ FIRST NATIONS (with or without status)
○ NO	○ INUIT
○ DON'T KNOW	○ MÉTIS
○ DECLINE TO ANSWER	○ HAVE INDIGENOUS ANCESTRY

10. Have you ever had any service in the Canadian Military or RCMP?
[Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force]

○ YES, MILITARY	○ NO	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER
○ YES, RCMP			

11. What gender do you identify with? [Show list.]

○ MALE / MAN	○ TRANS FEMALE / TRANS WOMAN	○ NOT LISTED: _____
○ FEMALE / WOMAN	○ TRANS MALE / TRANS MAN	○ DON'T KNOW
○ TWO-SPIRIT	○ GENDERQUEER/GENDER NON-CONFORMING	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

12. How do you describe your sexual orientation, for example straight, gay, lesbian? [Show list.]

o STRAIGHT/HETEROSEXUAL	o BISEXUAL	o QUEER	o DON'T KNOW
o GAY	o TWO-SPIRIT	o NOT LISTED:	o DECLINE TO ANSWER
o LESBIAN	o QUESTIONING	_____	

13. What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently? [Do not read the options. Check all that apply. "Housing" does not include temporary arrangements (e.g., couch

☐ ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION	☐ CONFLICT WITH: PARENT / GUARDIAN
☐ ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE	☐ CONFLICT WITH: SPOUSE / PARTNER
☐ JOB LOSS	☐ INCARCERATED (JAIL OR PRISON)
☐ UNABLE TO PAY RENT OR MORTGAGE	☐ HOSPITALIZATION OR TREATMENT PROGRAM
☐ UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITIONS	☐ OTHER REASON: _____
☐ EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: PARENT / GUARDIAN	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: SPOUSE / PARTNER	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

surfing) or shelter stays.]

14. What are your sources of income? [Read list and check all that apply]

☐ EMPLOYMENT	☐ DISABILITY BENEFIT	☐ OTHER SOURCE:
☐ INFORMAL/SELF-EMPLOYMENT (E.G., BOTTLE RETURNS, PANHANDLING)	☐ SENIORS BENEFITS (E.G., CPP/OAS/GIS) ☐ GST REFUND	_____ ☐ NO INCOME
☐ EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	☐ CHILD AND FAMILY TAX BENEFITS	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER
☐ WELFARE/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	☐ MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS	

C01 What is the highest level of education you completed?

☐ PRIMARY SCHOOL	☐ SOME POST SECONDARY	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ SOME HIGH SCHOOL	☐ POST SECONDARY GRADUATE	☐ DECLINE TO
☐ HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE/GED	☐ GRADUATE DEGREE (E.G., MASTERS, Ph.D.)	ANSWER

C02 Have you ever been in foster care and/or group home?

o YES	o NO	o DON'T KNOW	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

➔ **C02b Approximately how long after leaving foster care/group home did you become homeless?**

o LENGTH _____ DAYS / WEEKS / MONTHS / YEARS	o DON'T KNOW	o DECLINE TO ANSWER

C03 In the past year (12 months) have you: [Ask respondents to give their best estimate]

BEEN TO AN EMERGENCY ROOM	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
BEEN HOSPITALIZED	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
➔DAYS YOU HAVE SPENT HOSPITALIZED		_____ *Days Total*
INTERACTED WITH POLICE (*Tickets, arrests, searches*)	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
BEEN TO PRISON/JAIL	Y ____ N____	# _____ *Times*
➔DAYS YOU HAVE SPENT IN PRISON/JAIL		_____ *Days Total*

C04 Do you want permanent housing?

○ YES	○ NO	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

○ _____	○ DON'T KNOW	○ DECLINE TO ANSWER

C05 What resources do you need to get a place of your own?

C06 What challenges or problems have you experienced when trying to find housing?
[Select all that   apply]

☐ LOW INCOME	☐ MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	☐ DISCRIMINATION
☐ NO INCOME ASSISTANCE	☐ ADDICTION	☐ DON'T WANT HOUSING
☐ RENTS TOO HIGH	☐ FAMILY BREAKDOWN/CONFLICT	☐ OTHER: _____
☐ POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS	☐ CRIMINAL HISTORY	☐ NO BARRIERS TO HOUSING
☐ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	☐ PETS	☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE
☐ HEALTH/DISABILITY ISSUES	☐ CHILDREN	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER