



YELLOWKNIFE ↗

POINT-IN-TIME (PIT) COUNT REPORT 2015



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Cover Photo by:
Bob Wilson

THE 2015 POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT

On Wednesday, May 13th the City of Yellowknife's Community Advisory Board on Homelessness conducted its first-ever Point-in-Time Homeless Count.

The 2015 Point-in-Time Count—a significant step towards better understanding homelessness in Yellowknife—yielded valuable information about the minimum number of individuals experiencing homelessness in the community.

In addition to important data on homelessness, the 2015 PiT Count allowed Yellowknife, as a community, to improve its capacity to conduct PiT Counts. The learning from the 2015 Count will inform future counts led by the City of Yellowknife.

HOMELESSNESS IN YELLOWKNIFE ON MAY 13TH, 2015

On May 13th, 2015 a minimum of 139 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.

THANKING OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND VOLUNTEERS

The 2015 Yellowknife Point-in-Time Count would not have been successful without the enthusiasm and commitment from our volunteers. After training 36 volunteers, 32 attended the count to administer the PiT Count surveys. In addition to our volunteers, 6 Team Leaders oversaw the coordination of the magnet events.

Additional thanks to the RCMP and the Yellowknife Fire Department that were available for assistance onsite.

We would also like to thank the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness for data analysis and report design.

METHODOLOGY

DEFINING HOMELESSNESS

EXCERPT FROM THE CANADIAN DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness describes the situation of an individual or family without stable, 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, behavioural or physical challenges, and/or racism and discrimination. Most people do not choose to be homeless, and the experience is generally negative, unpleasant, stressful and distressing.

Homelessness describes a range of housing and shelter circumstances, with people being without any shelter at one end, and being insecurely housed at the other. That is, homelessness encompasses a range of physical living situations, organized here in a typology that includes:

1. **Unsheltered**, or absolutely homeless and living on the streets or in places not intended for human habitation;
2. **Emergency Sheltered**, including those staying in overnight shelters for people who are homeless, as well as shelters for those impacted by family violence;
3. **Provisionally Accommodated**, referring to those whose accommodation is temporary or lacks security of tenure, and finally,
4. **At Risk of Homelessness**, referring to people who are not homeless, but whose current economic and/or housing situation is precarious or does not meet public health and safety standards.

Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (2012) Canadian Definition of Homelessness. Homeless Hub: www.homelesshub.ca/homelessdefinition/

The Canadian Definition of Homelessness provides clarity and consistency around the definition of homelessness. As part of the 2015 Count, the City of Yellowknife enumerated the following forms of homelessness (indicated with a ✓). While not each of these categories was enumerated in full, individuals that described at least one of the following living situations were deemed eligible to participate in the count.

OPERATIONAL CATEGORY		LIVING SITUATION		2015 COUNT
1	Unsheltered	1.1	People living in public or private spaces without consent or contract	✓
		1.2	People living in places not intended for permanent human habitation	✓
2	Emergency Sheltered	2.1	Emergency overnight shelters for people who are homeless	✓
		2.2	Violence-Against-Women (VAW) shelters	✓
		2.3	Emergency shelter for people fleeing a natural disaster or destruction of accommodation due to fires, floods etc.	
3	Provisionally Accomodated	3.1	Interim Housing for people who are homeless	✓
		3.2	People living temporarily with others, but without guarantee of continued residency or immediate prospects for accessing permanent housing.	✓
		3.3	People accessing short term, temporary rental accommodations without security of tenure.	✓
		3.4	People in institutional care who lack permanent housing arrangements.	
		3.5	Accommodation / Reception centres for recently arrived immigrants and refugees	
4	At Risk of Homelessness	4.1	People at imminent risk of homelessness	
		4.2	Individuals and families who are precariously housed.	

Based on the preceding 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, 188 individuals completed the screening questions. During the data analysis we removed anyone who failed to meet all three criteria. For example, we removed individuals that indicated they had previously completed the PiT Count Survey. Additionally, we removed individuals that indicated a history of homelessness but were currently staying in a permanent residence.

There were several exceptions made to the eligibility criteria. If a survey participant indicated that they had a permanent place to stay, but later described their current living situation as one not intended for permanent habitation - such as a bush or a vehicle - the participant was deemed eligible and included in the count.

**IN TOTAL, 139 INDIVIDUALS —
BASED ON THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA — WERE DEFINED
AS HOMELESS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE COUNT.**

PIT COUNT EXERCISE

A Point in Time (PIT) Count is a research strategy used to enumerate the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in a community on a given night, or set period of time. PiT Counts help communities to better understand the extent and the nature of homelessness in their community. With successive counts, communities can measure their progress towards ending homelessness.

Typically, a PiT Count offers a one-day snapshot of the number of people experiencing homelessness on the street, in emergency shelters and transitional housing units. To capture this information, volunteers are deployed to the street and in shelters to enumerate and survey eligible participants.

The 2015 PiT Count is the first count in Yellowknife. As such, we employed a modified approach. In lieu of conducting surveys on the street and in shelters, the 2015 PiT Count exercise used magnet events and a targeted telephone survey.

Magnet events, advertised prior to the count, are community events with food, music and resources targeted at individuals experiencing homelessness. All individuals, regardless of housing status, are welcome to attend. Upon arrival, attendees are given the option to participate in a PiT Count survey.

The decision to focus largely on magnet events was two-fold. First, in Yellowknife and the surrounding area many individuals experiencing homelessness live in remote bush camps. To send teams of volunteers to the bush camps is resource intensive and requires a great deal of planning and volunteer training. As a first effort, the City of Yellowknife used the 2015 PiT Count to gauge local support for a PiT Count and to measure the willingness of individuals to participate in the PiT Count Survey. In future counts, we will consider how best to expand and improve the methodology.

We held two magnet events at the same time in different outdoor locations. In addition, YWCA staff administered phone surveys to individuals on a waiting list for transitional housing. The screening criteria used in each location was identical.

Through these data collection methods, 188 people completed at least the screening questions. Of the completed surveys, 139 individuals were categorized as homeless on the day of the count.

PIT COUNT METHODOLOGY	MAGNET EVENT 1 & 2	YELLOWKNIFE YWCA
Target Population	Unsheltered, Emergency Sheltered, Provisionally Accommodated	Unsheltered, Emergency Sheltered, Provisionally Accommodated
Timing and Location	May 13th: 4 Hours 10:30-2:30	May 14th: 6 hours 10:00-4:00
Volunteers	54 Volunteers, 36 Trained 32 Administered Surveys	Phone survey administered by YWCA
Surveys Completed	151	37
Eligible Surveys	105	34

SURVEY PARTICIPATION

Typically, the number of people enumerated through a PiT Count is far greater than those surveyed. The reasons for this vary: individuals may refuse to participate in the survey, or shelters and other facilities may provide total occupancy without conducting the PiT Count survey with their clients.

The 2015 Yellowknife PiT Count differs, in that the valid surveys (those deemed eligible based on the screening questions) comprise the total PiT Count sample. While the methodology does not provide a complete count of homelessness in Yellowknife—nor do traditional PiT Count methods - the 139 valid surveys are a significant source of data on homelessness in our community.

While a response rate cannot be calculated, the number of completed and valid surveys suggests a high degree of trust and willing participation by those experiencing homelessness. In future counts, with an enhanced methodology, the City of Yellowknife will seek to replicate this success.

LIMITATIONS

A PiT Count provides an estimate of homelessness. Regardless of the methodology used, it is important to recognize that any PiT Count will inherently undercount the extent of homelessness in a community.

It is probable, if not certain, that the 2015 Count reflects a low estimate of homelessness in Yellowknife. The count was affected by the following limitations:

- The 2015 Yellowknife PiT Count only captured those that attended one of the two magnet events and were willing to be surveyed or individuals that completed the YWCA telephone survey. Individuals that refused to participate in the survey but who may otherwise be eligible would not have been included in the count. It is for this reason that we emphasize that the 139 eligible surveys represent the *minimum* number of individuals that experienced homelessness during the 2015 PiT Count.
- Based on shelter data, 66 individuals accessed the emergency shelter system on May 13th 2015. Therefore, the 24 individuals that indicated that they were staying in an emergency shelter on the night of the count is likely a low estimate of the extent of sheltered homelessness on May 13th, 2015.
- While 27 survey participants indicated that they were rough sleeping, a full street count was not conducted. Therefore, it is plausible that individuals who were rough sleeping on May 13th, 2015 did not attend the magnet events and as such, were not included in the count.
- Individuals experiencing hidden homelessness, including couchsurfing, were included in the count; however, the PiT Count methodology is not traditionally designed to fully enumerate this form of homelessness. While a PiT Count can capture useful data on the experiences of individuals that are couchsurfing, it cannot provide a complete estimate of the number of couchsurfers in a community. The City of Yellowknife presumes that the 46 individuals who were couchsurfing represent only a fraction of Yellowknife's hidden homelessness population.

Despite the limitations of the count, the 2015 Yellowknife Count provided a significant opportunity to better understand the nature of homelessness in Yellowknife. The learning from this count will inform an enhanced methodology, as the City of Yellowknife looks towards planning and implementing future counts.

RESULTS

SLEEPING LOCATION

The 2015 Yellowknife PiT Count enumerated 139 individuals experiencing homelessness on May 13th, 2015. This represents the minimum number of people experiencing homelessness in Yellowknife over a 24-hour period.

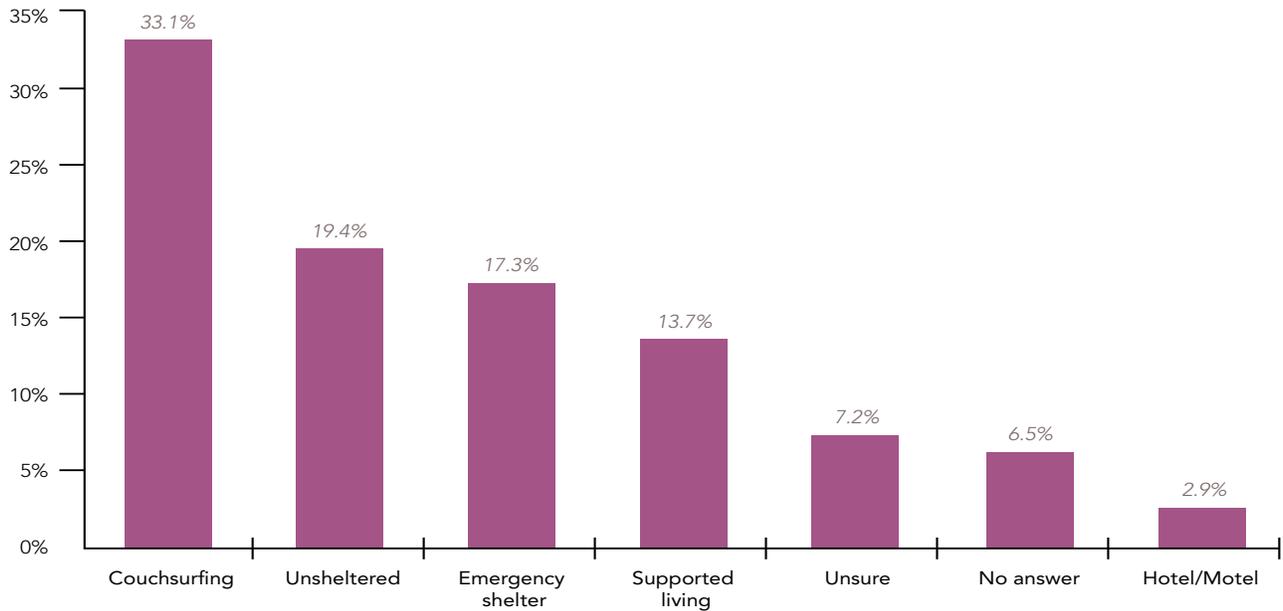
TABLE 1. SLEEPING LOCATION

CATEGORIES OF HOMELESSNESS	FREQUENCY
Couchsurfing	46
Unsheltered	27
Emergency shelter	24
Supported living	19
Hotel/Motel	4
No answer	9
Multiple response	10
TOTAL	139

The results should be interpreted with caution. While those who are couchsurfing represented 33% of the total PiT Count sample, the PiT Count methodology is not traditionally designed to capture hidden homelessness. Couchsurfing, for example, is inherently difficult to enumerate through a PiT Count.

While the magnet events were successful in drawing out individuals that were couchsurfing, the methodology will not have captured the full extent of hidden homelessness in Yellowknife. Nonetheless, including those who are couchsurfing in the PiT Count, allowed us to gain additional insight into the experiences of hidden homelessness in our community.

FIGURE 1 SLEEPING LOCATION
Where are you staying tonight? (n=139)



ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

In an effort to augment the survey data, Yellowknife shelters reported their total occupancy on the night of May 13th, 2015.

TABLE 2. SHELTER OCCUPANCY

SHELTER	TYPE	CAPACITY	OCCUPANCY
Centre for Northern Families	Adult Women's	23	25
SideDoor Youth Ministries	Youth	10	9
Salvation Army	Adult Men's	44	32
Alison McAteer House (YWCA)	Family	6	4 adults, 8 children
TOTAL			78

We cannot determine how many of these individuals participated in the magnet event; however, it does suggest that the PiT Count underestimated the extent of sheltered homelessness.

Since the PiT Count is intended as a snapshot of homelessness, the 139 valid surveys provide us with key information such as gender, age and experience of homelessness.

GOING FORWARD

Based on the learning from the 2015 Yellowknife Point-in-Time Count, we will consider the following, as we plan for our next count.

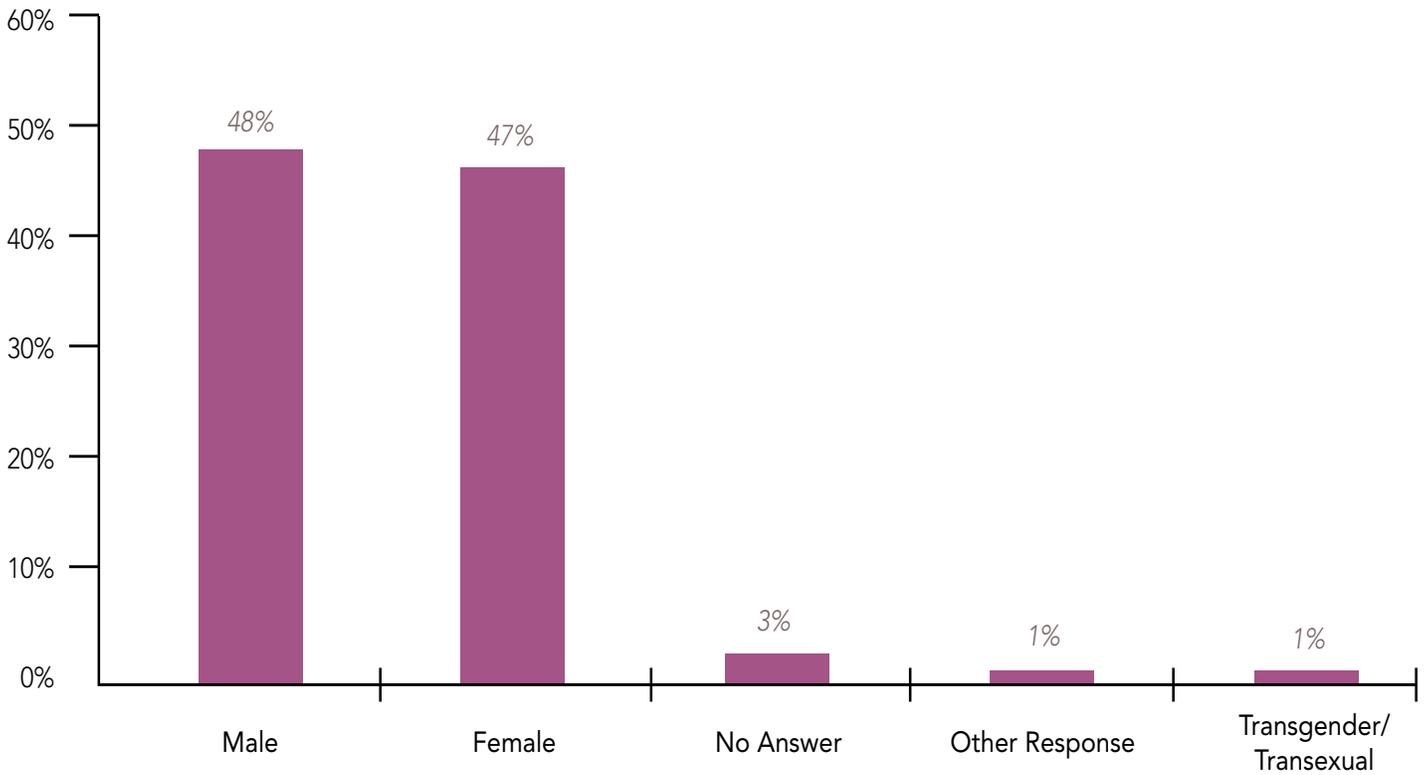
- We will partner with all shelters and supportive housing units in Yellowknife to determine the total occupancy rate during the next Yellowknife PiT Count.
- While recognizing the limitations of enumerating hidden homelessness, we will consider how best to include hidden homelessness in future counts.

GENDER

48% of respondents identified as male; 46% as female. An additional 2% of respondents identified as transgender or indicated “other response.”

FIGURE 2 GENDER OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

Self-identified Gender (n=139)



The proportion of males in the PiT Count sample is considerably less than other metropolitan areas such as Toronto and Calgary, 65% and 75% respectively. The increased representation of females is likely due to the fact that a third of the surveys were conducted through a phone survey administered by the Yellowknife YWCA to families on their waiting list for transitional housing.

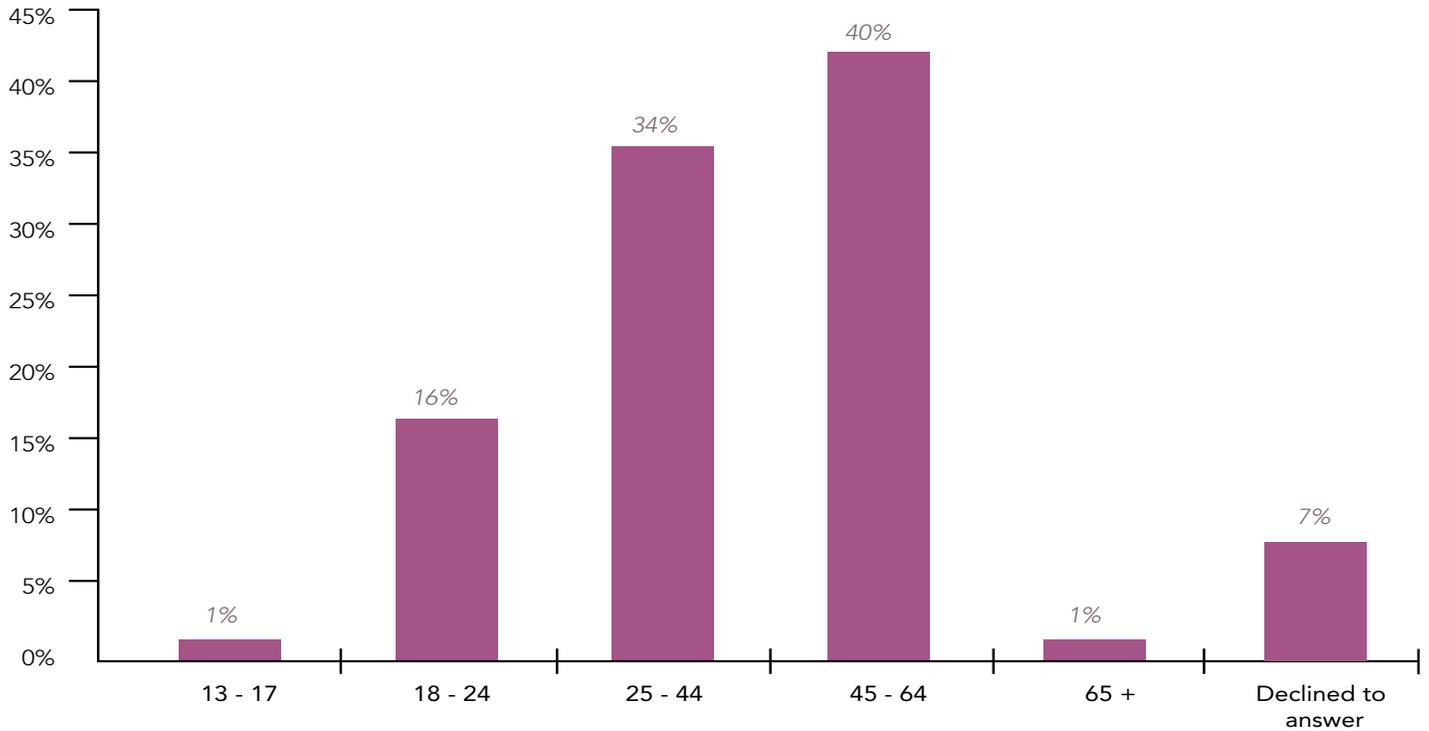
GOING FORWARD

- We will seek to maintain a high participation rate from women—a subpopulation that is often undercounted in PiT Counts—while ensuring accurate representation of all genders.
- Through our survey design and volunteer training, we will make every effort to ensure that survey participants feel comfortable and safe disclosing their gender.

AGE

The average age of the respondents was 40 years old with a minimum age of 17 years and a maximum age of 77 years. 17% of the sample were youth aged 24 years and younger, and 45% were 45 years or older.

FIGURE 3 AGE OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS
Age (n=139)



GOING FORWARD

- To ensure that youth are accurately represented within the PiT Count, we will partner with youth housing services to deliver a youth-specific magnet event in our next count.
- In consultation with stakeholders, we will add youth-specific questions to our PiT Count Survey.

ABORIGINAL BACKGROUND

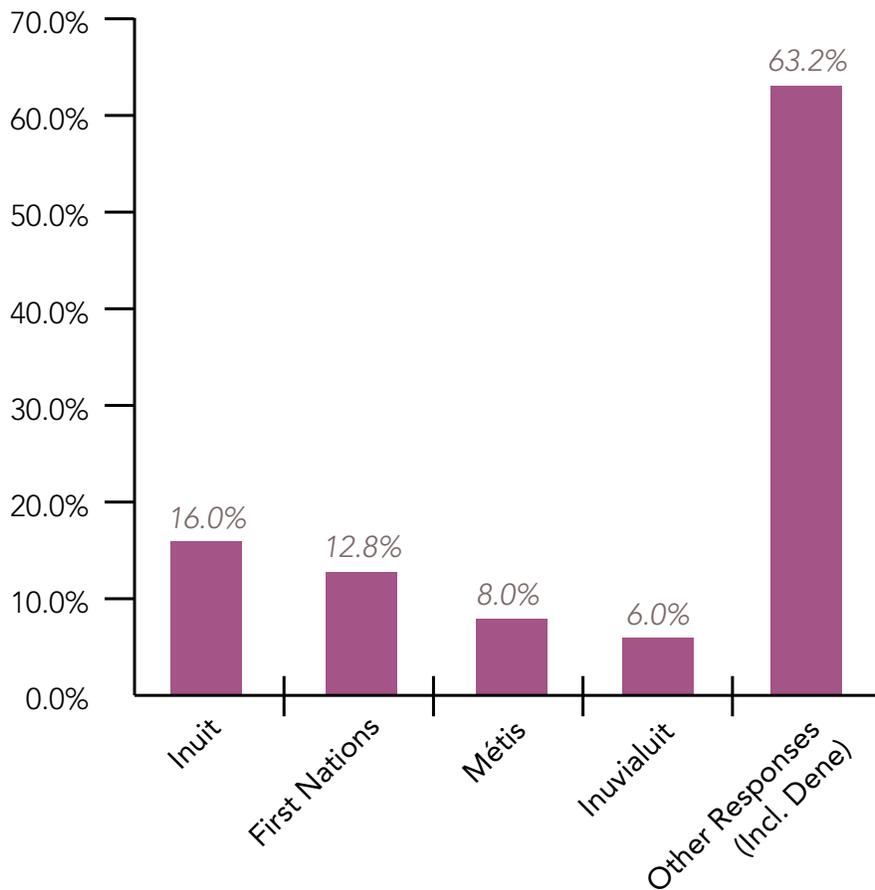
Survey participants were asked if they “Would identify as being Aboriginal, including First Nations, Métis, and/or Inuit?” 91% of the 123 individuals that answered the question identified as Aboriginal.

As with other communities across Canada, Aboriginal Peoples are overrepresented among those experiencing homelessness. In Yellowknife, 23% of the general population identify as Aboriginal; significantly less than the 91% of individuals who identified as Aboriginal as part of the 2015 PiT Count.

Figure 4a indicates the percentage of respondents that identified as Inuit, First Nations, or Metis. Over 60% of respondents provided alternative responses, including Dene, in the “Other Response” category. A breakdown of the responses provided by participants is available in Figure 4b.

FIGURE 4A. ABORIGINAL GROUP

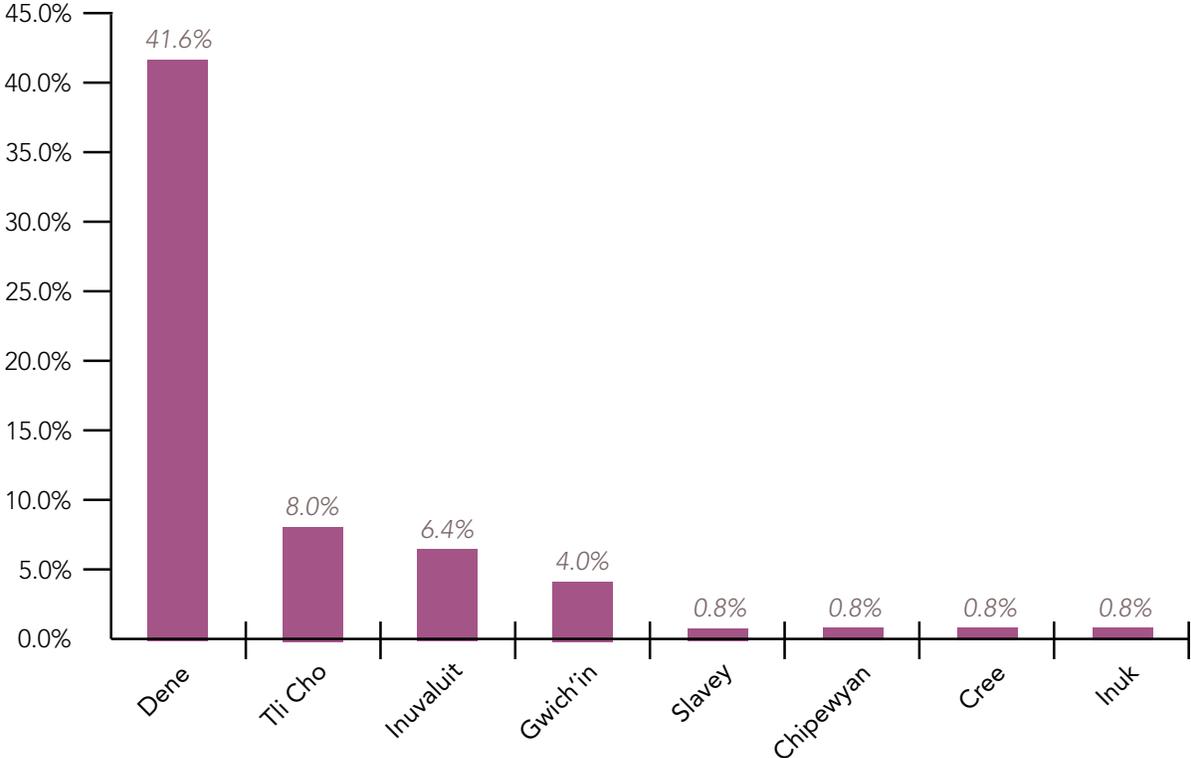
Aboriginal group (112 respondents; 125 responses)



As a follow-up question, survey participants were then asked to identify which group they belong to. The 'other' response options included: Inuit, First Nations, Metis, Inuvialuit and Other Response. Some respondents identified belonging to more than one Aboriginal group.

FIGURE 4B. ABORIGINAL GROUP "OTHER RESPONSES"

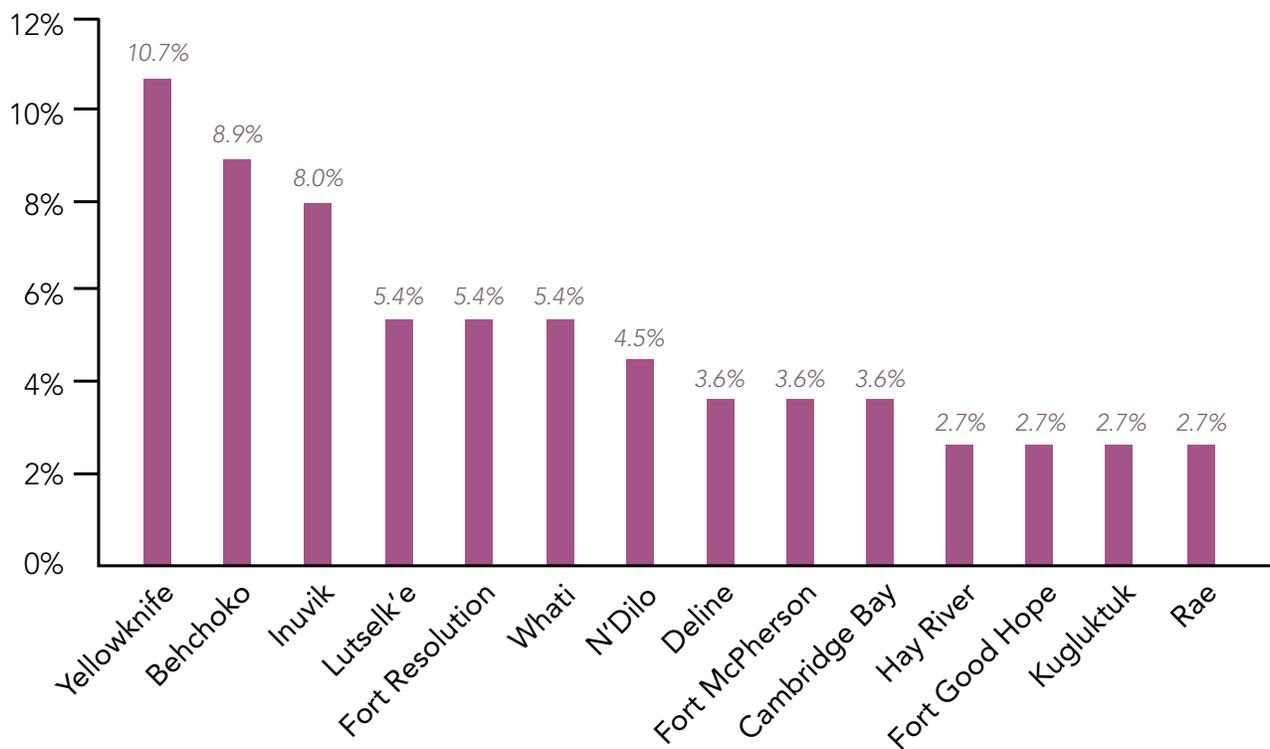
(n=79)



Participants that identified as Aboriginal were asked what Aboriginal community they were from. Volunteers were instructed to record the respondents' answers, as they were provided, without interpretation. As a result, answers varied. Some participants provided the name of their community; others provided a treaty number or a Province/Territory.

Only communities with at least three respondents are listed Figure 5. An additional 32 respondents provided answers. To protect the confidentiality of participants, these are not indicated here.

FIGURE 5 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY
What Aboriginal Community are you from? (n=78)



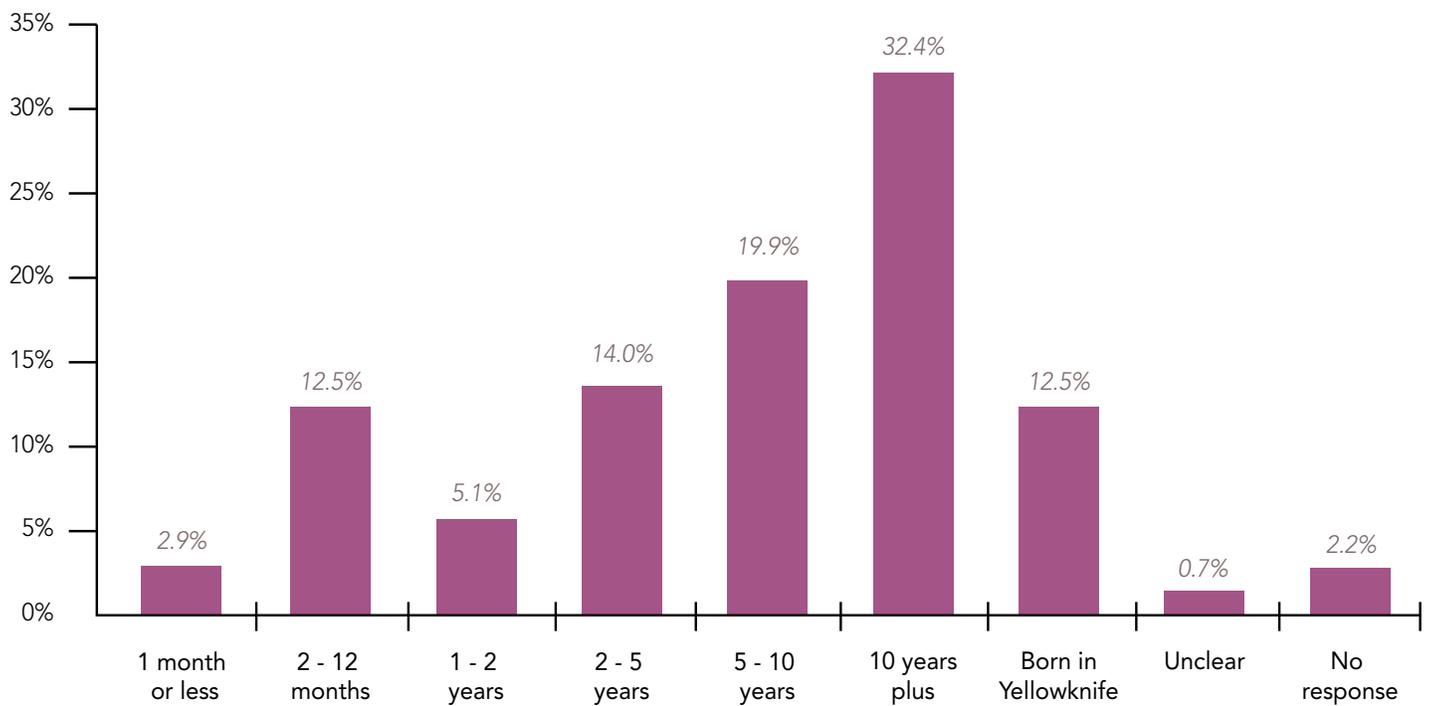
MIGRATION

LENGTH OF TIME IN YELLOWKNIFE

Most survey participants had resided in Yellowknife for over 10 years, with many being born here. However, a notable percentage (13%) of respondents arrived in Yellowknife within the previous year.

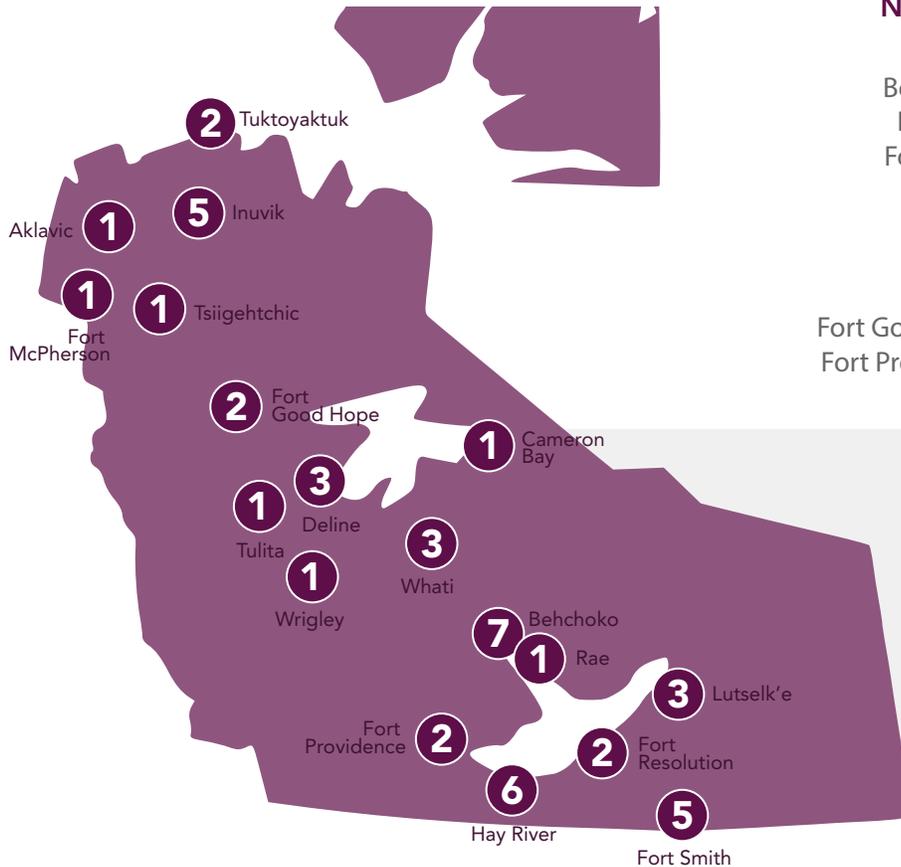
FIGURE 6 LENGTH OF TIME IN YELLOWKNIFE

Length of time in Yellowknife (n=139)



COMMUNITY OF ORIGIN

Survey participants, that were new to Yellowknife, were asked which community they lived in prior. A definition of 'new' was not provided to participants. The results show that at least 51% of the 139 individuals included in the count had previously lived elsewhere; though this is likely an underestimate based on the previous question, which revealed that only 12.2% of survey respondents were born in Yellowknife. It is unknown whether individuals came to Yellowknife prior to becoming homeless or after. Nonetheless, this finding suggests a need for a coordinated, territorial response to homelessness.



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES MUNICIPAL TOTALS:

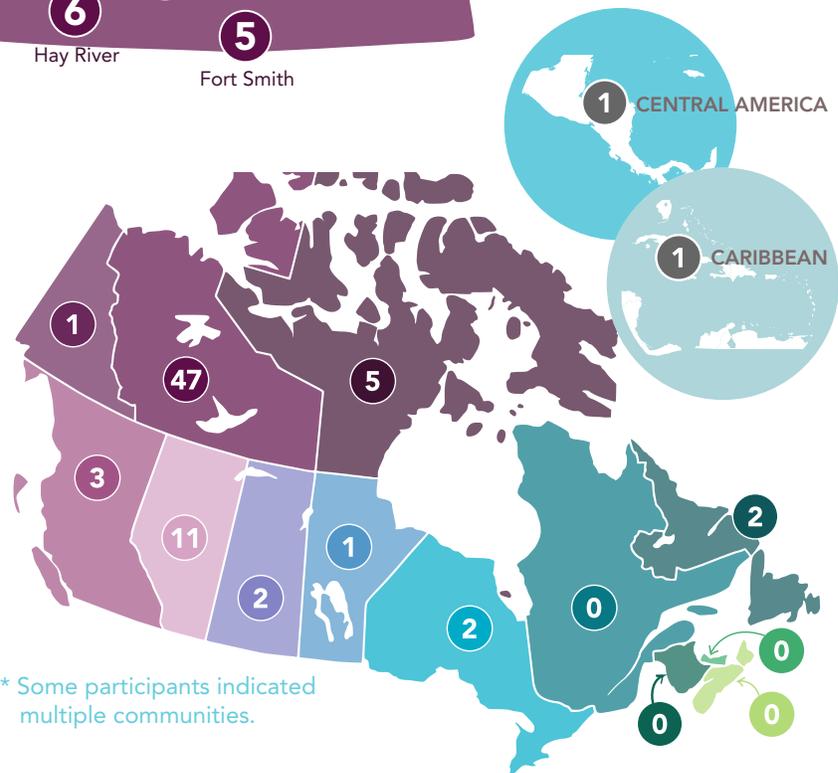
Behchoko	7	Fort Resolution	2
Hay River	6	Tuktoyaktuk	2
Fort Smith	5	Aklavik	1
Inuvik	5	Cameron Bay	1
Deline	3	Fort McPherson	1
Lutselk'e	3	Rae	1
Whati	3	Tsiigehtchic	1
Fort Good Hope	2	Tulita	1
Fort Providence	2	Wrigley	1

OTHER RESPONSES:

- All over 1
- Across Canada 1
- No Response 61
- Don't know 2
- Declined to Answer 2
- Checked Box, did not specify 2

PROVINCIAL TOTALS:

North West Territories	47
Alberta	11
Nunavut	5
British Columbia	3
Newfoundland and Labrador	2
Ontario	2
Saskatchewan	2
Manitoba	1
Yukon	1
New Brunswick	0
Nova Scotia	0
Prince Edward Island	0
Quebec	0



* Some participants indicated multiple communities.

HISTORY OF HOMELESSNESS

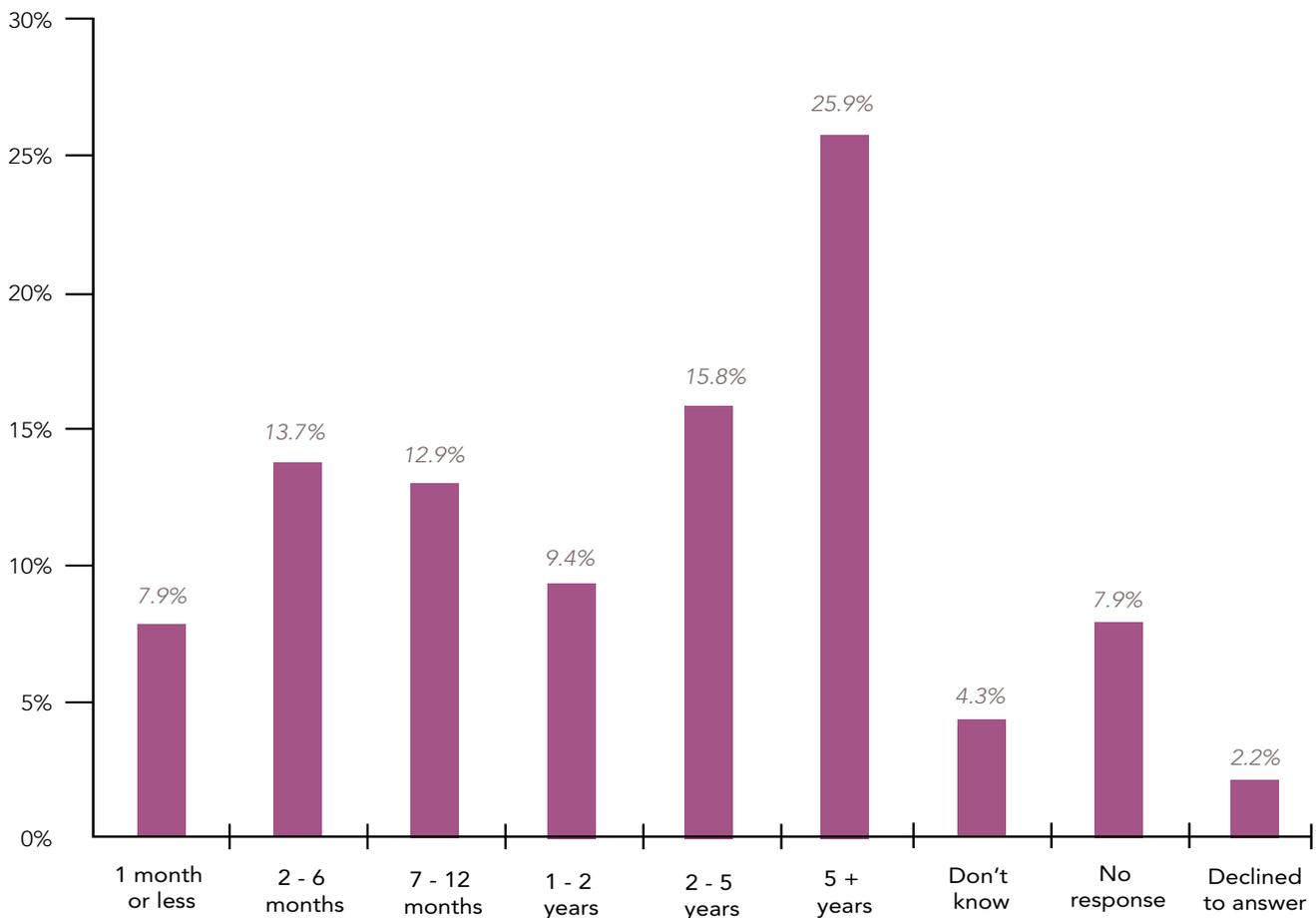
Survey participants were asked about their history of homelessness including: the length of their most recent experience, the number of times they have been homeless and how old they were when they first experienced homelessness. Together, these questions help us to better understand the nature of homelessness in Yellowknife.

DURATION OF HOMELESSNESS

On average, survey respondents had been most recently homeless for 5.75 years. However a quarter of respondents experienced a much shorter duration of homelessness, indicating that they had been homeless for less than six months.

FIGURE 7 DURATION OF HOMELESSNESS

Duration (n=139)

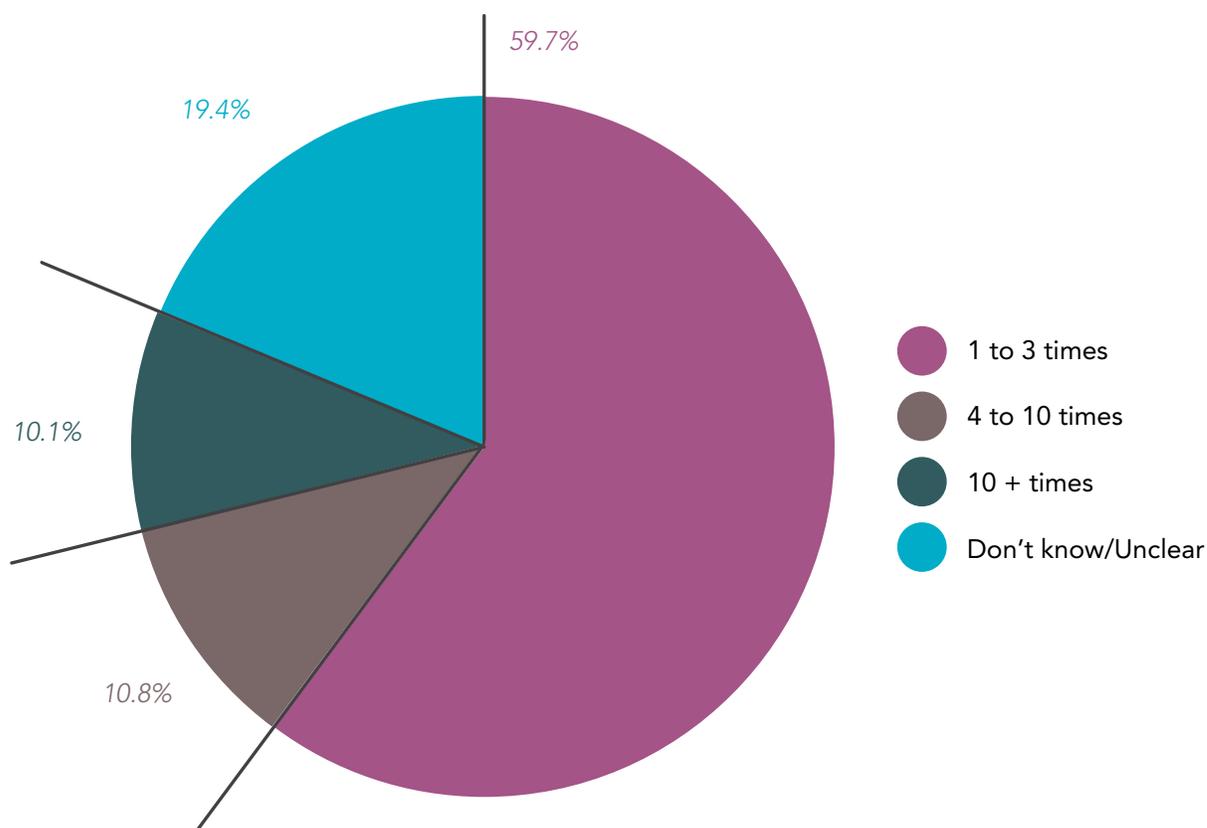


NUMBER OF TIMES HOMELESS

35% of the survey respondents indicated that they were experiencing their first instance of homelessness; however, further to the section above, many of these respondents are not new to homelessness and had been experiencing homelessness for multiple years. 35% of the survey respondents indicated that they were experiencing their first instance of homelessness; however, further to the section above, many of these respondents are not new to homelessness and had been experiencing homelessness for multiple years.

FIGURE 8 NUMBER OF TIMES HOMELESSS

Past three years (n=139)



PATTERNS OF HOMELESSNESS

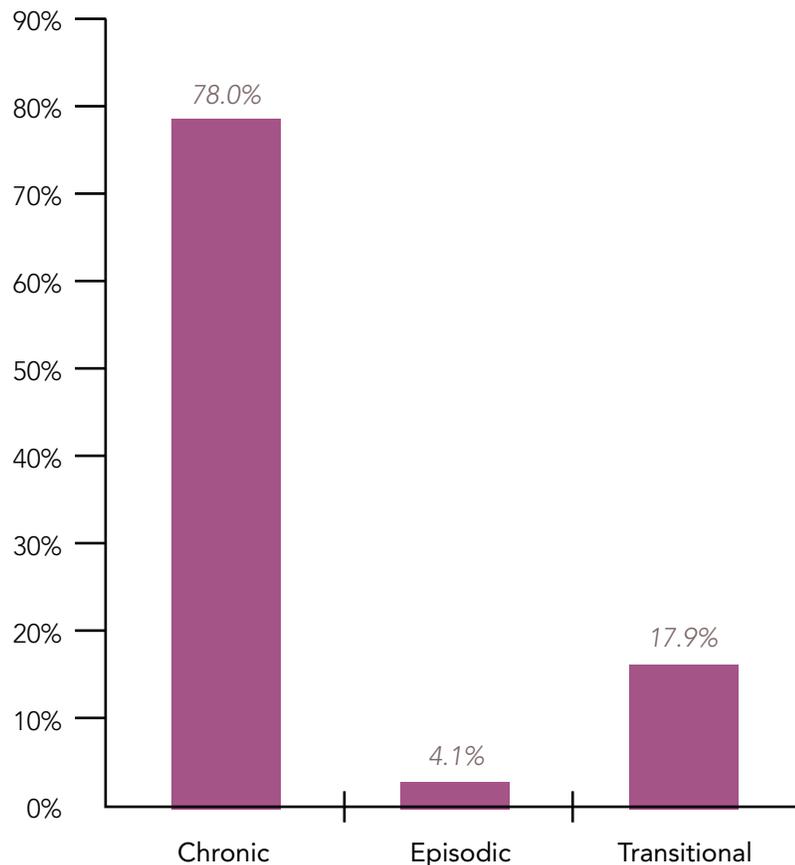
Based on the data yielded from the questions about duration of homelessness and the number of experiences of homelessness, we classified respondents into three categories: transitional, episodic and chronic. These classifications allow us to better understand the nature of homelessness in Yellowknife and ultimately, shape our community-wide response to the issue.

TABLE 3. DEFINITIONS OF HOMELESSNESS²

CONDITIONS	CATEGORIZATION
6 months +	Chronic
4+ episodes, regardless of duration	Chronic
3-4 episodes, less than 6 months	Episodic
1-2 episodes, under six months	Transitional
Unclear/Incomplete Information	Not Included
Declined to Answer	Not Included

FIGURE 9 CLASSIFICATION OF HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness Typology (n=123)



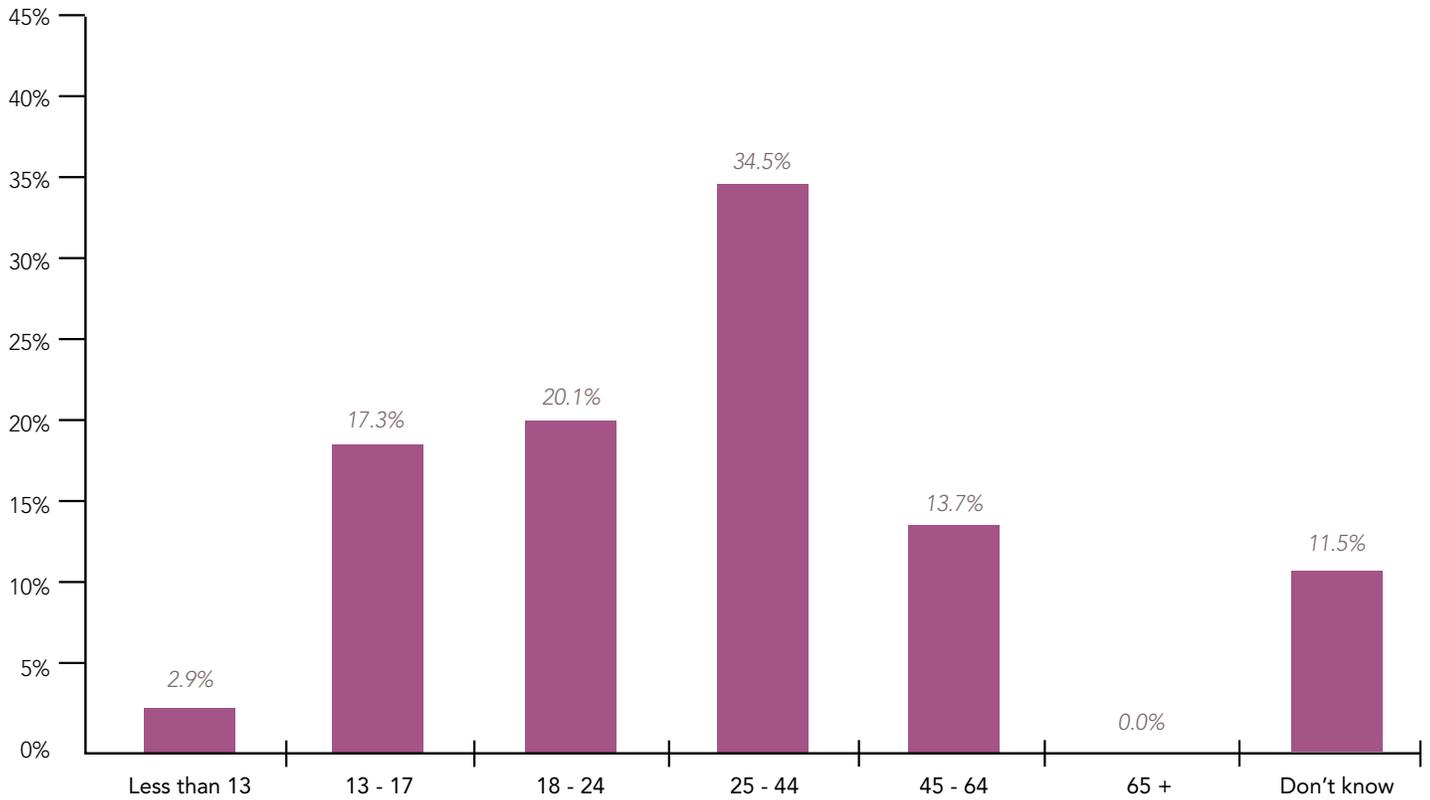
² The Conditions of Homelessness were adapted from the Regina 2015 PiT Count Report. The decision to define chronicity at 6 months or more is based on the definition of chronic homelessness used by the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy.

FIRST EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

Notably, many individuals (45%) first experienced homelessness before the age of 24. In comparison, 39% experienced homelessness for the first time between the ages of 25 and 44 and only 15.4% had their first experience of homelessness between 45 and 64. This suggests that our community response to youth homelessness may be integral in our efforts to address chronic homelessness.

FIGURE 10 FIRST EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

Age (n=139)



SERVICE IN THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

Overall, 13% of respondents (n=132) reported time in Canadian Armed forces, with many indicating time spent as a Canadian Ranger. This figure is a significant over-representation compared to the 1.6% of the general population who had reported Veteran status.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Those that participated in the surveys administered at the Yellowknife YWCA were asked additional questions about accompanying family members and dependents. 26 of 37 Yellowknife YWCA respondents reported at least one child living with them at the time of the PiT Count.

TABLE 4. ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN UNDER 18

NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 18	FREQUENCY	%
1	6	23.1%
2	9	34.6%
3	8	30.8%
4	2	7.7%
5+	1	3.8%
TOTAL	26	100%

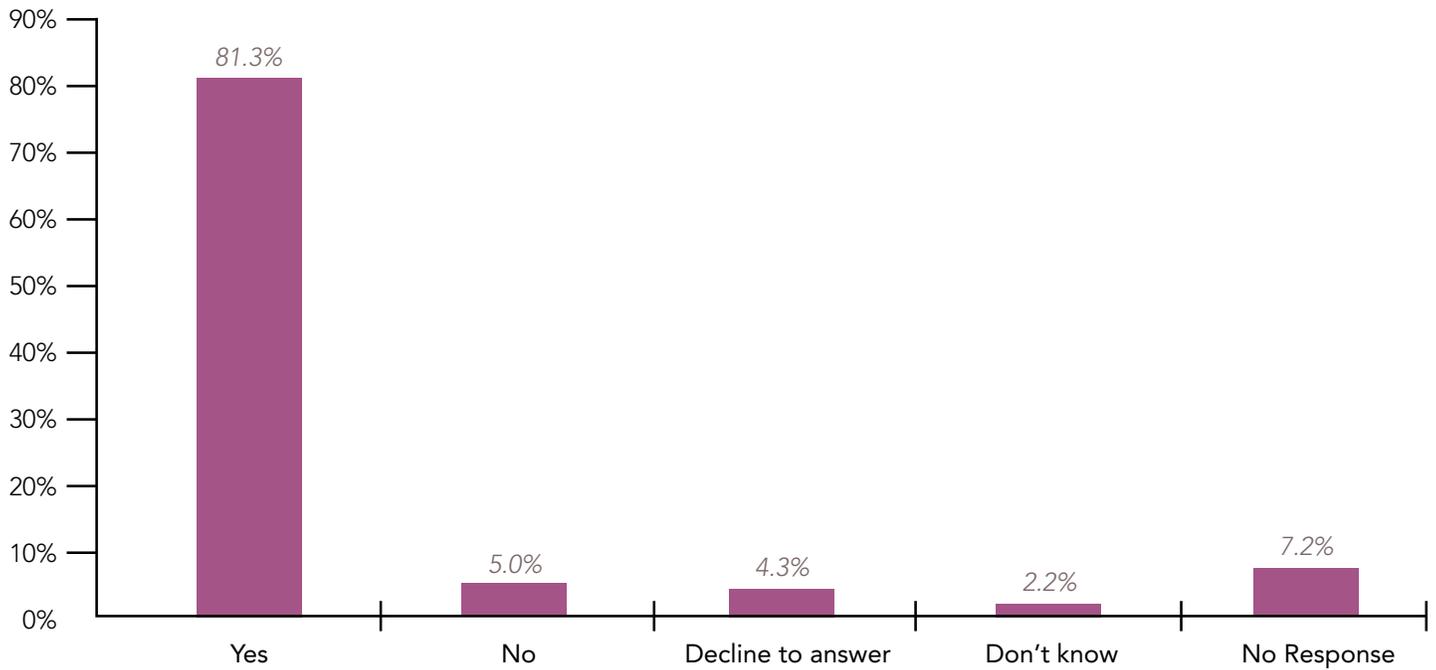
GOING FORWARD

- It is important to understand the rate of family homelessness in Yellowknife. In future counts we will build on this year's data by asking all eligible survey participants about accompany family members, particularly children.

PERMANENT HOUSING

There is often a misconception amongst the general population that individuals experiencing homelessness choose to be homeless and do not want housing. However our results suggested that the opposite was true; 81% of respondents indicated that they wanted secure permanent housing.

FIGURE 11 PERMANENT HOUSING
Do you want permanent housing? (n=139)



KEY LEARNINGS

The 2015 Yellowknife PiT count was the first of its kind in Yellowknife and provided an unprecedented opportunity to gain insight into the state of homelessness in our community. In our next count we will build on the successes of this count to ensure that we can:

- More closely estimate the total size of the homeless population living in Yellowknife;
- Understand the demographics of those experiencing homelessness in Yellowknife; and
- Measure our progress towards ending homelessness.

In addition to the key learning found throughout this report, we will consider the following for future counts:

1. MANDATORY, COMPREHENSIVE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Volunteer support indicates that there is an eagerness and willingness to tackle homelessness issues in Yellowknife. In the next count, we will enhance the volunteer experience by providing greater training on the issue of homelessness and the administration of the PiT Count Survey. Enhanced volunteer training will encourage accurate data collection and ensure that the PiT Count experience is positive for volunteers and survey participants.

2. EXPANDING THE METHODOLOGY

The magnet event attracted survey participants who may not otherwise be enumerated through traditional PiT Count methods. We will consider expanding the methodology to include a street survey component, whether administered by volunteers or outreach workers. Secondly, we will partner with emergency housing providers to gather data on the total occupancy during the count. More data will allow us to more closely estimate the extent of homelessness in Yellowknife, while continuing to collect as many surveys as possible.

3. UNIQUE IDENTIFIERS

Although it is thought that PiT Count's commonly underestimate the extent of homelessness in a community, all efforts should be made to reduce double-counting. In an effort to avoid duplication, we stamped the hands of those that were willing and had completed the survey. In future counts, we will consider employing a unique identifier system or another method to avoid double-counting.

APPENDIX

2015 YELLOWKNIFE POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT SURVEY

SCREENING QUESTIONS

1. Have you answered this survey with a person wearing this 'Volunteer' button?

- Yes (end survey!)
- No (go to next question)

2. Do you have a permanent home that you pay rent, that you can return to tonight?

- Yes (end survey after question 3)
- No

3. Where are you staying tonight?

- Public space, such as sidewalks or bus shelters
- Vacant buildings
- Motel/Hotel
- Cars or other vehicles
- In the bush
- Garages, attics, closets or buildings not designed for habitation
- Makeshift shelter or tent in a park, parkland, forest or other public land
- Emergency Shelter, Family Violence Shelter, Transitional Housing
- Supported Living (Salvation Army, YK Association for Community Living)
- Someone else's place (ie: family or friend's house ~ Couch Surfing)
- My Own Place; room, apartment, trailer etc. where I pay rent
- Declined to answer

4. This survey information will be used to help people experiencing homelessness. None of your answers will be used to identify you and it will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Do you give permission for us to use this survey information?

- Yes (go to next question)
- No (end survey)

CORE QUESTIONS

5. GENDER: Do you identify as: (select all that apply)

- Female
- Male
- Transgender/Transsexual
- Other (specify)_____
- No answer

6. AGE: How old are you/what year were you born?

- _____ years old (age)
- OR Birth Year_____
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

7. ABORIGINAL BACKGROUND:

7.1. Would you identify as being Aboriginal, including First Nations, Métis, and/or Inuit?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

7.2. If you self-identify as Aboriginal, which group do you belong to?

- First Nations
- Dene
- Métis
- Inuvialuit
- Inuit
- Other (specify)_____
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

7.3. What Community are you from originally?

- _____ (community name)
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

8. MIGRATION:

8.1. How long have you been in Yellowknife?

- Born here
- _____ # years
- OR _____ # months
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

8.2. If you are new to Yellowknife, where were you living prior to coming here?

- Community name, province/territory or country _____
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

9. HOMELESSNESS HISTORY:

9.1. How long have you been homeless?

- # years _____
- OR # of months _____
- OR # of days _____
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

9.2. How many different times have you been homeless in the past three years (i.e. number of episodes of being in and out of homelessness)?

- First time homeless
- If more than one, how many times? # of times _____
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

(If more than one time homeless, but can't recall, probe for:)

- 1-3 times
- 4-10 times
- 10+ times
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

9.3. How old were you when you first became homeless in your life?

- _____(age)
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

10. VETERAN STATUS:

10.1 Have you ever had any military service in the Canadian Forces (includes army, navy, air force)?

- Yes No Don't know Declined to answer

11. REHOUSING:

11.1. Do you want to get into permanent housing?

- Yes No Don't know Declined to answer

11.2 Contact Information for Housing

Would you like us to contact you *if a home becomes available* in the next few years? If so, we would need to take **your contact information and write down the best way to get in touch with you** (Prompt for cellphone, email, relative contact, etc., *****remember***** - we cannot guarantee housing as result of this survey):

- First Name _____
- Last Name _____
- Best way to connect with you: _____
- Don't know
- Declined to answer

Thank you!

On behalf of the Yellowknife Community Advisory Board on Homelessness, we thank you for your time and willingness to participate in our survey today! This information will assist us in responding with appropriate programs and services to address homelessness in Yellowknife.

Surveyor: Please direct the person to be stamped on the hand: **"I Count!"**

(This will assist us in no duplication of survey interviews)