

# Point-in-Time Count 2022

Thompson, Manitoba

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Suggested citation for this report:

Bonnycastle, C. R., & Deegan, L. A. (2022). Reaching Home Point-in-Time Count 2022  
Reaching Home Thompson, MB.

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## PiT Count Research Team

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*The roots of Indigenous homelessness involve colonial disruptions of relationships with self, family, community, land, water, place, animals, culture and language*

—Thistle & Smylie, 2020

This research was funded in part by Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy through the City of Thompson on the recommendation of the Thompson Community Advisory Board (CAB).

Point-in-Time (PiT) Count committee contributions have been integral to the process since 2015 when the original proposal was created. We thank the 2021/22 PiT Count committee for their continued support this year with the 2022 PiT Count. As in past counts, contributions were many and varied by service providers, local agencies, and groups, including Northern Regional Health Authority (NRHA), CMHA, Men are Part of the Solution Inc. (MAPS), Thompson Homeless Shelter (THS), 31 McGill, Thompson Crisis Centre (TCC), Y.W.C.A. Thompson, Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, and the Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre (MMWT).

Many thanks go out to the local volunteers who assisted with data collection. This includes staff from agencies who helped with the sheltered survey, residents of Phoenix House (MAPS), and community and agency volunteers who helped with the unsheltered surveys. Your community connections and ability to make survey participants feel more at ease by speaking to someone from their community or in their preferred language was of great benefit to the study. Special thanks and appreciation also go out to the individuals experiencing homelessness who participated in the survey.

We acknowledge Elder Jack Robinson, who has always been a valuable part of the PiT Count committee; he brings his wisdom and personal experience. Thanks to Andrea Hatley, the Community Entity (CE) coordinator, and Darren Fulford, CMHA for their guidance and support in the PiT Count planning and organizational process. Special thanks go to Manon Blais, PiT Count coordinator. In addition, appreciation to the THS, for providing the space to set up the volunteer control centre on the day of the count and to host the warm and healthy lunch provided by Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre on the day of the count. Finally, we want to acknowledge the Research Ethics Boards from the University of Manitoba and the Thompson Hospital for reviewing and approving the ethics applications in a timely manner, which allowed us to undertake the PiT count on a tight schedule.



# FOREWORD

The Canadian Observatory<sup>1</sup> on Homelessness recognises low-income, critical lack of affordable housing and supports, and discrimination as key factors contributing to homelessness in Canada. Systems factors such as inadequate care for people transitioning from child welfare, mental health and substance-use programs, corrections and hospitals are all associated with homelessness. Personal circumstances, particularly family violence, are also a factor in precipitating homelessness. A consistent theme in this and the three previous Point-in-Time (PiT) counts is the disproportionate representation of homeless Indigenous people in Thompson. Nearly 12% of Indigenous people report experiencing homelessness at some point in their lives compared with 2% of non-Indigenous people.<sup>2</sup>

The causes of homelessness for Indigenous people is best understood in the context of the historical injustices of the colonization processes.<sup>3</sup> The legacy of residential schools, the 60s scoop, where Indigenous children were forcibly removed from their families and communities, and displacement due to hydro development and mining are all aspects of colonization in northern Manitoba that continue to affect Indigenous communities. It is well understood that poverty, chronic health problems, public intoxication, and other interpersonal, social, and individual problems of Indigenous people are frequently the expressions of intergenerational traumas from historical and ongoing processes and prejudices pervasive in Canadian society.<sup>4</sup> The structural causes of homelessness of Indigenous people including the ongoing housing crisis in Indigenous communities in northern Manitoba are well established.<sup>5</sup> Homelessness clearly results in the exclusion and marginalization of these vulnerable groups in a region where homelessness often has dire consequences.

The COVID-19 pandemic created many challenges and intensified risks for those living without permanent shelter.<sup>6</sup> Homeless shelters are not particularly beneficial to the health of people who reside in them and the congregate living situation in many shelters was recognized as a significant health threat for clients, staff, and volunteers during the pandemic.<sup>7</sup> Social distancing that shelters were required to implement during the pandemic resulted in the displacement of clients. Permanent housing with supports was acknowledged to be the best mitigation strategy against spreading the virus but many communities in Canada, faced with limited housing options, employed the next best option — providing temporary transitional

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<sup>1</sup> Canadian Observatory on Homelessness. (2017). Homelessness 101. Why do people become homeless. Retrieved from: <http://homelesshub.ca/about-homelessness/homelessness-101/causes-homelessness>

<sup>2</sup> Uppal, 2022

<sup>3</sup> Thistle, J. (2017.) Indigenous Definition of Homelessness in Canada. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press

<sup>4</sup> Harper, V., Menzies, P., Lavallée, L., Centre for, A., & Mental, H. (2014).

<sup>5</sup> Deegan & Bonnycastle, 2020

<sup>6</sup> Koziel et al., 2020; Tsai & Wilson, 2020

<sup>7</sup> Baral et al., 2021; Doran, 2021; Hurtubise et al., 2009



housing in hotels and other facilities. COVID-19 encouraged collaborations in many communities across Canada and have been associated with shifting responses to Homelessness.<sup>8</sup> For example, several jurisdictions in Canada have already stopped, or are in the process of stopping funding shelters that use congregate living spaces and instead are providing semi-private and private room options.<sup>9</sup> The pandemic also resulted in the removal of barriers for managed alcohol implementation in isolation sites across Canada. Pandemic-inspired innovations also include the development of eviction prevention programs, partnerships between health and homelessness sectors, Indigenous led clinics, and rapid housing initiatives.<sup>10</sup>

Several initiatives focused on addressing homelessness have developed in Thompson over the last few years. In 2021, Phoenix House II, a transitional housing facility for women, opened and added an additional 12 sober-living beds in the community. Efforts began in 2021 to implement the Reaching Home-mandated Coordinated Access program, designed to streamline services and aid in data collection in the community. The community is also in the beginning stages of creating a lived-experience council to inform the governance of coordinated access.<sup>11</sup> The City of Thompson, in efforts to increase community safety, is also planning a sobering facility.<sup>12</sup> During the pandemic, the Y.W.C.A. housed 25 people from the Thompson Homeless Shelter (THS) in private and semi-private rooms as part of the Sheltering Homeless in Place Project (SHIPP) funded by Reaching Home, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO), the Thompson Community Foundation, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and various in-kind contributions.

The 2022 PiT Count is the fourth count in seven years of people who are homeless in Thompson. The data from this count is important in understanding the magnitude and complexity of the problem as well as providing insight into possible future action. It is not simply about gathering “numbers,” rather it is the outcome of working in partnership and engaging the community around an issue that directly or indirectly touches us all.

Vulnerabilities and risks for becoming infected or transmitting COVID-19 by people living homeless resulted in changes to responses at the community level, including the joint community decision to delay the PiT Count from April 2020 to the spring of 2022. As in previous counts, this project was a collaborative effort of local initiatives and the federal government to contribute to the development and wellbeing of a northern community. It is the result of directly working with homeless people and service providers to provide data for future development. With the engagement of different groups such as students and youth, this research will contribute to planting the seeds for future generations to continue finding venues to build a more inclusive and just society.

<sup>8</sup> Dosani, 2020

<sup>9</sup> Reibe, 2021; Baral et al., 2021

<sup>10</sup> NickfalvoConsulting, n.d ; Brocious et al., 2021

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.thompson.ca/p/recent-projects-reaching-home>

<sup>12</sup> Government of Manitoba, 2021, Province announces location of new Sobering Centre in Thompson: <https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=51579>

# PREFACE

## *What has changed?*

—Volunteer, 2022

This PiT Count was funded in part by Reaching Home, Canada’s Homelessness Strategy.<sup>13</sup> The City of Thompson has been part of federal programs to end homelessness since 2012, becoming a designated community under the Homeless Partnering Strategy and continuing with Reaching Home. As a designated community, the City of Thompson is required to work toward community level outcomes that include reducing chronic homelessness and new influxes of unsheltered people.<sup>14</sup> The Community Entity (CE) is designated by Reaching Home and must report annually on the amount received. The City of Thompson and the Community Advisory Board (CAB) measure progress on federally mandated outcomes toward a 50% reduction in homelessness by 2028.

PiT counts are coordinated events that normally occur on a single night with the goal to provide a snapshot of those who are living homeless in the community. Communities were to implement PiT counts in 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic created many challenges for homeless services and communities, including the increased risks for people living unhoused and a reduced capacity to plan and implement counts. Though some communities were able to do counts in 2020, many were postponed to 2021 or 2022. Methodologies for PiT counts were also modified in response to COVID-19 health orders.<sup>15</sup>

PiT counts assist communities in identifying needs and informing their planning to decrease homelessness. For example, between March and April 2018, over 60 communities across Canada, including Thompson, participated in Everyone Counts the second HPS Coordinated PiT Count. The findings from these communities will provide an unprecedented dataset on homelessness in Canada.

The Thompson 2022 count, the third PiT count coordinated by the federal government, was administered through the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Thompson. This is the fourth PiT Count completed in Thompson—previous counts were completed in 2015, 2016 and 2018. As in previous counts, the faculty of the University of Manitoba's Northern Social Work Program (NSWP) took the lead on data analysis and writing of the 2022 report. A total of 16 volunteers participated in the enumeration training and volunteered for the day of the count. Volunteers included people with lived experience of homelessness, staff from CMHA and the THS, faculty and staff from the NSWP, and other agencies.

<sup>13</sup> ESDC, 2022, <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/homelessness.html>

<sup>14</sup> Reaching home: Thompson, Manitoba Homelessness Plan (2019-2024): <https://www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/attachments/Finalized%20Community%20Plan%20-%20Thompson.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> ESDC, 2022, <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/homelessness/resources/point-in-time.html>

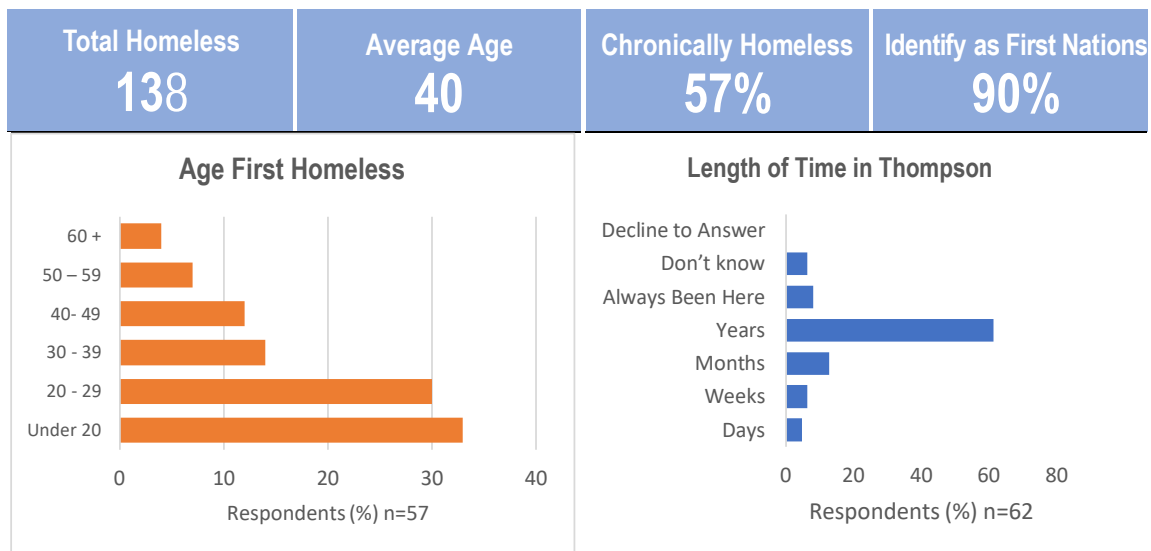
# KEY FINDINGS

## Total Count Results

On the day of March 31, 2022, and from counts taken in facilities between March 30th to April 13th, 138 individuals were considered homeless in Thompson.

## Demographics of Adult Participants

- 46% of adults counted were unsheltered (on the street) and 64% were sheltered (in transitional facilities).
- The largest age group was 30 to 39 years (31%).
- The average age was 40 years with a range between 21 and 71 years. 57% of the adult homeless people were considered chronically homeless.
- 1 child was with their parent(s) at the time of the count.
- 71% identified as male, 25% identified as female and 3% identified as Two-Spirit.
- 33% were homeless before the age of 20.
- 90% identify as First Nations (with or without status), Métis, or Inuit, or have North American Indigenous ancestry.
- 61% have lived in Thompson for years while 8% have always been here.
- 56% have, as a child or youth, been in foster care or in a youth group home.
- 73% have been to a residential school, or have a family member who has.
- 30% need services for addiction or substance abuse.
- 17% need services for physical disabilities.
- 17% need services for mental health.



# INTRODUCTION

## Point-in-Time Counts

The 2022 PiT Count is a survey of homeless adults in Thompson on the evening of March 30<sup>th</sup> through to April 13<sup>th</sup>. PiT counts provides a community level measure to participating communities of their sheltered and unsheltered populations, and a comparative analysis that aids in understanding the national picture of homelessness in Canada. According to the Reaching Home (2022), a PiT Count of homeless serves two main purposes for communities:

1. To identify service needs
2. Inform planning to prevent and reduce homelessness

The COVID-19 pandemic reduced the capacity of many communities across Canada to implement a 2020 PiT Count, resulting in communities implementing counts anytime between 2020 and 2022.

For the 2022 PiT Count, we were able to classify surveyed individuals as “chronically” or “episodically” homeless. The chronically homeless include those who spend their nights at the Thompson Homeless Shelter (THS), while those episodically homeless may reside temporarily at the MMWT hostel, the Thompson Crisis Centre, the Y.W.C.A., or at Phoenix House 1 or 2.

## Situating Homelessness in Northern Manitoba

The City of Thompson is the largest semi-urban centre in northern Manitoba and is situated in Treaty 5 of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation territory. The city is 750 km north of Winnipeg and serves as an economic and service hub for northern Manitoban communities, providing commercial, educational, recreational, and medical services. Resource-based employment opportunities, such as the Vale nickel mine or Manitoba Hydro, contribute to inward migration from outlying communities. According to the 2021 census, the average Thompson resident is 32.93 years, well below the provincial average age of 40.3. The areas surrounding Thompson have an even lower average age, estimated at 24 years, and this trend is growing in the region’s Indigenous communities. In communities such as Garden Hill and Split Lake, the average age is under 20 years. Thompson’s current population is estimated to be 43% Indigenous.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Statistics Canada, 2016

In 1956, the City of Thompson was built by Inco Ltd. to secure a stable workforce for its nickel mining operations. Thompson was an “...urban experiment in the midst of the boreal forest.”<sup>17</sup> There was no acknowledgement that the mine and town were being built on the traditional territory of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. Though First Nations people were hired to survey for the mine and build the town there was no room in the community for them; it was not until late in 1964 that they were allowed to work in the mine.

The city has experienced wide population fluctuations over the decades, with an all-time population high of over 20,000 in the 1970s.<sup>18</sup> According to the 2021 census profile Thompson’s population is about 13,035.<sup>19</sup> Just over 43% of the population identified as having Aboriginal identity in the 2016 census. According to Census 2016 data the immigrant population grew 47% between 2011 and 2016. Most immigrants to Thompson between 1980 and 2016 (77%) were economic migrants.<sup>20</sup> Though the City has asked for a review of the numbers, Statistics Canada census 2021 reported that Thompson is the fastest shrinking population in Manitoba.<sup>21</sup> The economy, the unique demographic make-up of Thompson, and its isolated northern location present challenges of access to housing and other core social goods for the vulnerable segments of the city’s population.

Nearly 65% of the housing stock in Thompson was built between 1961 and 1985. Housing prices have fluctuated in the city over the last number of years. According to CMHC (2022), there are 1746 rental units in Thompson. Fewer than 37% rental units in Thompson are bachelor and one bedroom. In comparison with other communities in Manitoba, rental rates are relatively high in Thompson. As of October 2017, the average rent for a one bedroom was \$809. Bachelor units rented for an average of \$720 per month, and 2-bedroom units went for \$923. The vacancy rate has crept up in the last quarter for 2021 to 8% for all rentals with the vacancy rate for 1-bedroom units at 9%.<sup>22</sup> According to the 2016 Census, the average monthly housing cost for renters was \$981 versus \$1,256 for those who owned their home. Thirteen percent of households spent more than 30% of their income on housing costs. In addition, 11% of households reported they were not living in suitable housing and 11% reported they were in housing in need of major repairs.

Though Thompson’s rental rates might be manageable for high earners, they remain prohibitive for youth, students moving to Thompson for higher education, those in service roles, migrants, and Indigenous families without secure employment, including lone parents.<sup>23</sup> Lone parents accounted for 34% of families living with low income in Thompson. The total number of low-income households was 14%. Low-income families with children 0-9 years ranged from 23% to 27%.

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<sup>17</sup> Stott, 2017

<sup>18</sup> FemNorthNet Project 2012, p.5

<sup>19</sup> Statistics Canada 2021

<sup>20</sup> Statistics Canada, 2016

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.thompsoncitizen.net/local-news/thompson-will-ask-stats-canada-to-review-citys-2021-census-population-count-5148694>

<sup>22</sup> CMHC 2017 Rental Market Report: Manitoba Highlights.

<sup>23</sup> The Thompson Economic Diversification Working Group (2012) *Housing Action Plan*. Final Report.

Young people, 20 to 29 years, also experienced higher rates of low-income than the general population, ranging from 14% to 16%. All these conditions lead to the growing gap between real income and housing prices.<sup>24</sup>

There is a well understood housing crisis in the communities surrounding Thompson. The 2016 Canadian census showed that overcrowding and lack of major repairs remains a significant problem on reserves.<sup>25</sup> Lack of resources in the First Nations and northern communities reinforces the need to move to Thompson. Sometimes it is a matter of survival that brings people to the city—for example, fleeing family conflict or leaving an overcrowded house on reserve. Mental health, domestic violence, and social issues such as racism all interconnect with housing needs in northern communities; and in the case of Indigenous people, these issues are associated with colonization and forced relocation.<sup>26</sup>

The Manitoba Government is considering shifting its approach to homelessness from crisis response to “aiming to end homelessness.”<sup>27</sup> The new strategy, if implemented, promises to advance reconciliation and take heed of lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic. The five pillars of the strategy are:

1. Modernizing emergency response
2. Ensuring housing is provided with supports
3. Focusing on prevention
4. Understanding the unique nature of homelessness in rural and northern Manitoba.
5. Understanding the unique nature of homelessness in rural and northern Manitoba

## City of Thompson’s Strategy to Address Homelessness

The CAB was formed in 2011 when the City of Thompson became one of several designated communities under the Homeless Partnering Strategy, the first iteration of a federal attempt to address homelessness across Canada. Today, the City of Thompson is responsible for administering more than \$1.7 million in federal funding directed at preventing and ending homelessness.<sup>28</sup> As a designated community under Reaching Home, the City of Thompson is required to work toward community level outcomes that include reducing chronic homelessness and preventing new inflows into homelessness.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Silver, 2014.

<sup>25</sup> Statistics Canada (2017) Census in brief: The housing conditions of Aboriginal people in Canada.

<sup>26</sup> Christensen 2012; MacKinnon 2010; Hart 2010; Fernandez, MacKinnon, and Silver 2010; Hart et al. 2015.

<sup>27</sup> Government of Manitoba. (2022). Discussion paper: Developing Manitoba’s homeless strategy. <https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/homelessness/developing-homelessness-strategy.html>

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.thompson.ca/p/reaching-home>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.thompson.ca/p/reaching-home>

The city has been struggling under a housing crisis for many years.<sup>30</sup> The emergency shelter beds are split between a homeless shelter, a women’s crisis centre, and an addiction treatment centre. The Ma-Maw-We-Tak Friendship Centre, Men are Part of the Solution Ltd. (MAPS), and the Y.W.C.A. Thompson Residence provide transitional and emergency housing. During the COVID-19 pandemic the Y.W.C.A. provided temporary rapid housing for the highest-at-risk homeless residents in Thompson.<sup>31</sup> As a last resort, for those who, for various reasons, cannot get into the homeless shelter, there may also be the option of the RCMP intoxicated-person detention cells. The City of Thompson’s “Extreme Cold Weather Policy”—in effect only when temperatures reach -35°C and below (including windchill)—opens alternative ‘warm spaces’ for those who cannot get into the homeless shelter. During the winter, between Oct. 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, the policy was used 62 days and accommodated 743 individuals (473 men and 270 women). As in previous counts, what is not captured in the statistics from these resources are bed nights provided by friends and families, those living in bush camps around the city, and those sleeping rough on the street.

In 2014, new housing strategies were developed in Thompson to respond to the needs of different groups. For example, MAPS Ltd. opened Phoenix House 1, a 12-bed transitional sober housing living facility for men who have been homeless, that provides a supportive and empowering environment in which to practice healthy relationships. Another community initiative is ‘Project Northern Doorway’ (PND) that focuses on the needs of the chronically homeless. A component of PND is Minoskanawetaahk, a 16-bed permanent supportive house purchased by the Thompson Housing Authority and leased to CMHA. In 2021, MAPS opened Phoenix House 2—Transitional Housing for Women, a 12-bed sober-living facility, modelled after the original Phoenix House. As noted above, temporary, transitional, pandemic-related accommodations became available in April 2020 through SHIPP for 25 of the most at-risk people living unsheltered. This project was shuttered at the end of March 2022.

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<sup>30</sup> FemNorthNet Project 2012; CCPA (2009). The Housing Crisis in Thompson. <https://www.homelesshub.ca/resource/housing-crisis-thompson>

<sup>31</sup> COVID10 <https://www.thompson.ca/p/updates>



## METHODOLOGY

*...the pandemic had created upheaval in the homeless support system, in Edmonton and everywhere else across the country. The shelters that have been the ill-fitting Band-Aid on homelessness for decades were suddenly unviable. The response that was hastily cobbled together in their stead didn't keep a roof over every head. But it markedly shifted the conversation: what if, actually, we just solved this problem for good?*

—Dolan, 2020

This study uses Everyone Counts PiT coordinated count methodology. This is the fourth count and the fourth time this method has been used in Thompson. A PiT count records the number of sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness on a single day. According to the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (2017) the PiT count is a research strategy used to help determine the extent of homelessness in a community on a given night, or at a single point-in-time. PiT counts aid in understanding the nature and extent of homelessness in a community and the characteristics of the population.

The PiT count is the most used method of counting homeless. The PiT Count methodology provides a “snapshot” of the homeless population at the time of the survey. Two types of surveys were used to enumerate individuals: sheltered and unsheltered. Sheltered individuals were counted by staff in the homeless shelter and in other transitional facilities in the community. Unsheltered individuals were counted on the street by volunteers during the morning hours of the day following the sheltered survey. The research team, with input from the PiT Count committee, prepared the proposal and developed the methodology in accordance with Reaching Home’s Everyone Counts: A Guide to Point-in-Time Counts in Canada (ESDC, 2021).

The COVID-19 pandemic created many challenges for communities seeking to implement a PiT count.<sup>32</sup> Adaptations to the methodology were available to communities to ensure implementation of counts that reduced risks for communities and the homeless population. Communities were allowed to survey the unsheltered population over several days and the sheltered population over several weeks, so long as the number of people counted approximated the number from previous counts.

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<sup>32</sup> Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), 2021

## Ethics

Ethics approval was requested and approved by the University of Manitoba and by the Northern Health Region. A copy of the University of Manitoba Ethics Board Certificate is attached as Appendix A.

## Informed Consent

For the purpose of the PiT count, when volunteer enumerators approached a person who was, or appeared to be, experiencing homelessness, they used a verbal consent process, explained the purpose of the count, and asked for his/her voluntary participation (Appendix E). Due to pandemic protocols at the University of Manitoba, the Research Ethics Board required all survey participants sign a COVID-19 consent form and to participate in a short COVID-19 screening. If the voluntary and the COVID-19 consent/screening was given by the participant, the enumerator continued with the two screening questions (Appendix F).

As per the sample script, the enumerators obtained a written COVID consent along with the verbal consent from participants for the surveys. The enumerators recorded refusals and acceptances to participate on the tally sheet (Appendix G), which helped to gauge the participation rate in the count.

## Piloting the Surveys

The PiT Count committee reviewed the two federal surveys (sheltered and unsheltered). The surveys included core screening questions and 15 required questions (along with sub-questions) from the Reaching Home Everyone Counts guide. The committee also recommended the inclusion of four questions from the 2018 count to provide additional information for service providers to improve programs and services. These included questions regarding experience with the foster care system; need for services; recent barriers to finding a place to live; and attendance at residential schools. In designing the survey, we followed the recommended federal format.

## Advertising the PiT Count

Three initiatives were used to promote the 2022 PiT Count:

1. Posters were distributed to the homeless shelter, transitional houses, agencies, universities, and public places.
2. A radio interview with a member of the PiT Count committee in the weeks preceding the count.

3. Advertisements were placed in the Thompson Citizen newspaper.
4. A website was created and hosted by the City of Thompson.

## Volunteer Training

Volunteers were recruited from the two local universities, people with lived experience from Phoenix House I, the general community, and social agencies. In total, 16 volunteers worked on completing the survey of unsheltered homeless individuals. In addition, volunteers from the community and staff from the homeless shelter and transitional housing facilities worked on completing the survey for the sheltered individuals. Three training sessions for volunteers were completed on March 16<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, and March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The training included a short background of the PiT Count, ethics protocol, the consent form, personal safety, COVID-19 safety measures and consent, sheltered and unsheltered surveys, teamwork, logistics, and an overview of what to expect the day of the count.

## Description of Survey Forms

The 2022 Thompson PiT Count committee and the research team developed the two surveys and several additional forms to be completed by volunteers working on the count. The Sheltered Homeless People Survey (Appendix C) was used by the facilities participating in the count, and the Unsheltered Homeless People Survey (Appendix D) was used when approaching people on the street. The two surveys included the same survey questions, the only difference being the screening questions asked before starting the survey. As noted above, most of the questions included in the surveys came from Reaching Home's Guide. These questions focus on the demographics of the homeless and at-risk populations to help the community better understand their needs and aid future planning of services. The Verbal Consent (Appendix E) and the COVID Consent and Screening (Appendix F) forms, developed by the research team, are also included.

## Search Map

Prior to the 2016 PiT Count, a "search map" sub-committee, with representatives from the RCMP and the City of Thompson, created a map that identified areas where homeless people commonly stay (see Appendix B). This search map was updated for the 2022 PiT Count in recognition of changes in the placement of people in the community. On the day of the count teams were assigned specific areas of the map on which to focus. These volunteer teams included people with lived experience of homelessness who were familiar with areas where homeless people stay.

## Gift Bag for Participants

The PIT Count committee put together gift bags that included mitts, tuque, socks, neck warmer, lighter, and a five-dollar McDonalds gift card for each of the sheltered and unsheltered participants.

## Facility Count (Sheltered Homeless)

To capture the number of sheltered homeless people, various shelters and transitional housing facilities were asked to conduct a survey and/or tally of all people in their facilities during a 14-day period beginning on the evening of March 30<sup>th</sup>. Data reported on the Facility Bed Capacity Forms supplied to each facility showed a minimum of 236 beds were available as temporary housing for potentially homeless individuals on March 30<sup>th</sup>. This is broken down in Table 1. Facility Bed Capacity/Count.

**Table 1. Facility Bed Capacity/Count**

Facility	Total Licensed Beds	Number of Beds		
		Individuals	Families	In Use Mar 30–Apr 13
Thompson Homeless Shelter	24	24	0	24
31 McGill	16	16	0	16
Thompson Crisis Centre	13	11	3	12
Y.W.C.A.	130	32	98	64
Ma-Mow-We-Tak Hostel	2			2
RCMP holding cells*	3	3	0	NR <sup>33</sup>
Addictions Foundation of Manitoba	24	24	0	NR
MAPS (Phoenix I/II)	24	24	0	17
Thompson General Hospital				10
<b>Total</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>145</b>

## Day Street Count (Unsheltered Homeless)

To capture the number of unsheltered homeless people on the count day, surveys were conducted on the street on March 31 between 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers

<sup>33</sup> Not reported

were divided into diverse teams that included people with lived experience of homelessness, students, people from the community, and staff from service agencies. These volunteer enumerators were identified with a PiT Count button.

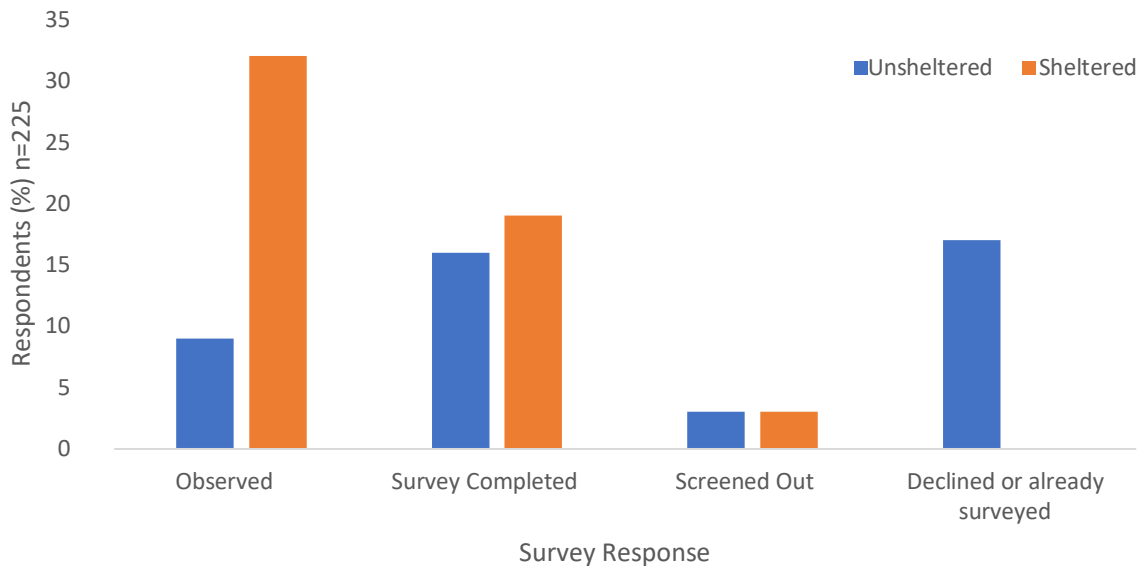
The volunteer teams concentrated on the downtown areas of Thompson: around Plaza Mall, Canadian Tire, the THS, and in and around the City Centre Mall (see Appendix B). They used screening questions to search for potential participants. A volunteer base was also set up at the THS. Some survey participants were invited into the shelter to warm up while they answered the survey questions. In addition, the THS hosted an open house and lunch for homeless people, volunteers, and staff involved in the count.

# FINDINGS — NUMBER OF HOMELESS

## PiT Count Participation Rate

During the count period, a total 225 people were approached. Between March 30th and April 13th, staff and volunteers approached 98 people staying at shelter facilities in the City of Thompson. Of those approached 6 people either declined to complete the survey or were screened out. An additional 64 were observed as homeless but unable to participate. Thirty-four people completed the sheltered survey. On the morning of March 31st, 82 people were approached on the streets of Thompson. Of these, 53 individuals either declined to be surveyed, had already been surveyed, or were screened out. Twenty-nine people completed the unsheltered survey. In total there were 63 surveys completed during the 2022 Thompson PiT Count. The following is a breakdown of the results of the surveys completed.

**Figure 1. PiT Count Participation Rate**



(See also [Table 2, page 77](#))

# SURVEY QUESTION RESULTS

Both the sheltered and unsheltered surveys ask the same 17 questions and sub-questions of each participant. Fifteen of these questions came directly from the recommended federal government’s Reaching Home 2021 Everyone Counts (ESDC, 2017). The remaining questions, with sub-questions, were developed by the PiT Count committee.

## 1. What Family Members Are with You?

As can be seen in Figure 2, the vast majority (73%) of participants stated that they had no family members with them. Another 21% said they were with a partner or another adult that day.

One participant stated that they had a male child with them, age 2 ([Table 4, page 78](#)).

**Figure 2. What Family Members Are With You?**



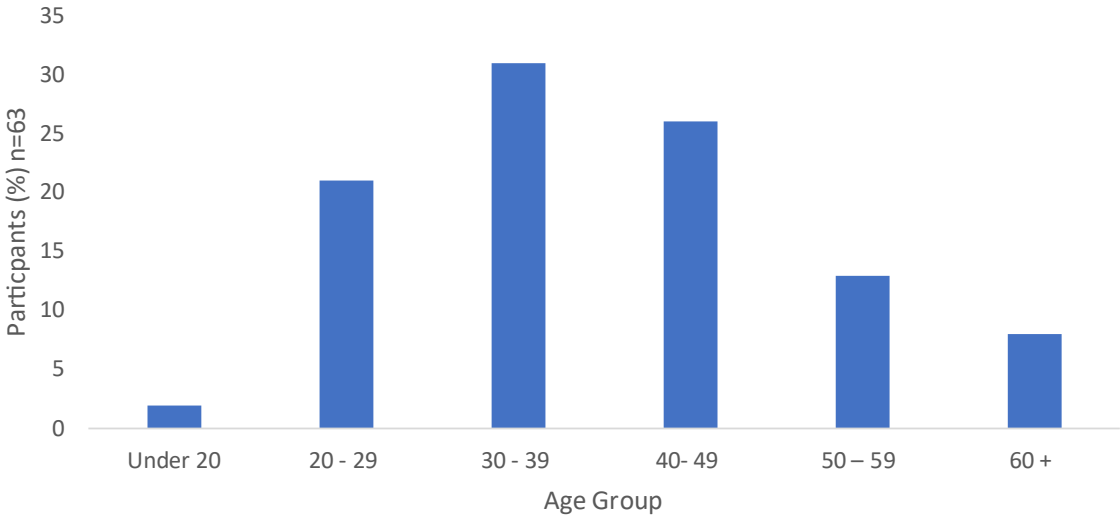
(See also [Table 3, page 77](#))



## 2. How Old Are You?

The age of participants ranged between 21 and 71 years old, with an average age of 40. For the purpose of analysis, the ages are clustered into six age groupings. The largest age group was that of the 30 – 39 years of age (31%). The numbers in each age group reduce in either direction, with 21% in the 20-29 years category and 26% in the 40-49 years category.

**Figure 3. Participants By Age Group**



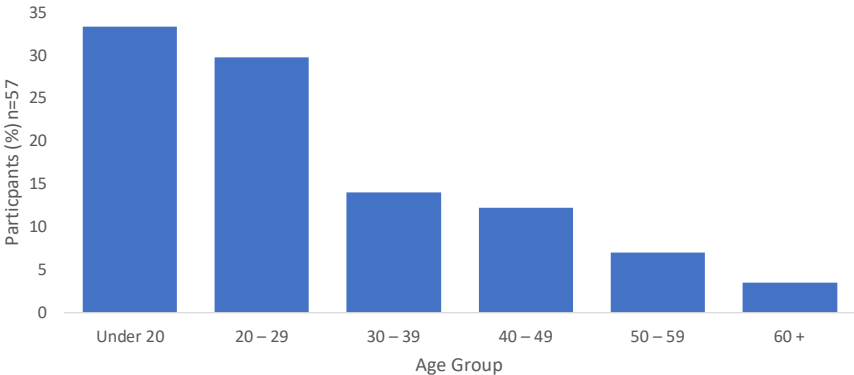
(See also [Table 5, page 78](#))

## 3. How Old Were You the First Time You Experienced Homeless?

The average age of 57 respondents for their first experience of homeless was 28 years with a range between 1 year and 70 years of age. As in the previous question for the purpose of analysis, the ages are clustered into six age groups.

Just over 63% of participants were under 30 years when they first experienced homelessness. The first experience of homelessness decreases with increasing age, only 11% of participants first experienced homelessness after the age of 50.

Figure 4. First Experience of Homelessness

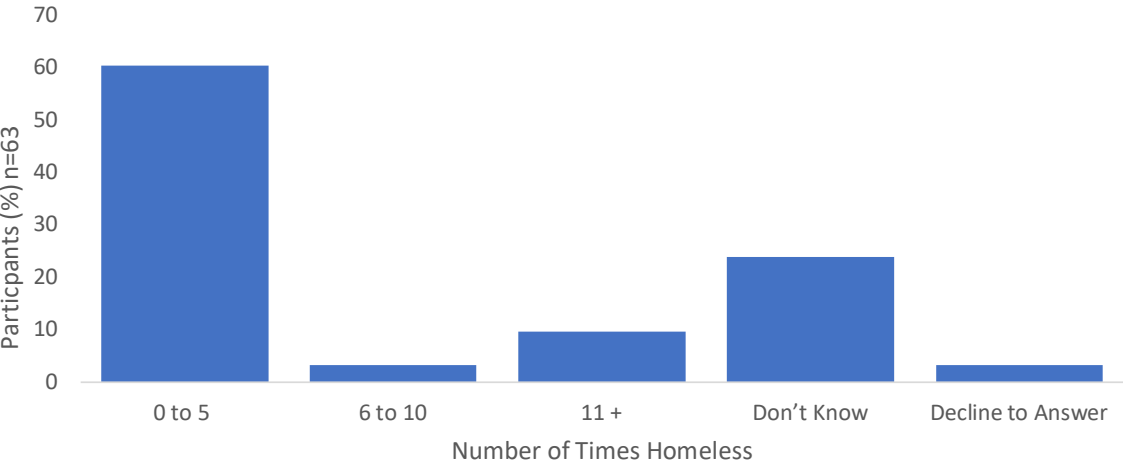


(See also [Table 6, page 78](#))

### 4a. In Total, How Many Different Times Have You Experienced Homelessness Over the Last Year?

The average number of times a survey participant experienced homelessness over the last year was 3.23 times with a range from 0 to 15 times. For reference, a person is considered episodically homeless if they have experienced homelessness three or more times in the last year. The following further breaks these numbers down into five categories.

Figure 5. Times Homeless During Past Year



(See also [Table 7, page 78](#))

The Figure 5 shows that 60% of participants stated that they had experienced homelessness 0 to 5 times over the last year. Three percent of participants had experience homelessness 6 to 10 times, while 24% of participants had experienced homelessness 11 or more times. Almost a quarter of participants did not know how many times they had experienced homelessness over the last year.

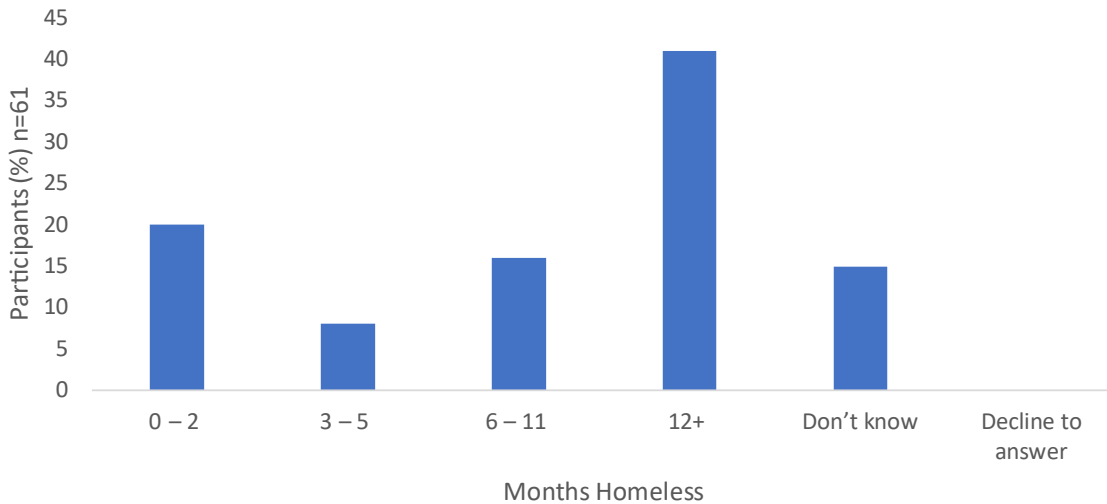
#### 4b. In Total, How Much Time Have You Been Homeless Over the Past Year?

Eighty-five percent of participants who answered this question provided a time in months. In relation to this question, of the 63 participants, 52 participants provided a time in months. The average (mean) length was 7.82 months, with a range from 0 to 12 months.

Figure 6 breaks down the data into specific time periods to show frequency and precents. The graph shows that 57.35% of respondents stated that they had been homeless between 6 to 12+ months of the last year. Of these 40.98% were homeless during the entire period.

Well over half of the participants that answered question 4b are considered chronically homeless (on the street for more than six months in the last year).

**Figure 6. Duration of Homelessness Over the Past Year**



(See also [Table 8, page 79](#))

#### 5. Have You Stayed in an Emergency Shelter in the Past Year

During the past year, 60% of participants stated they had stayed in an emergency shelter (see [Table 9, page 79](#))

## 6. Did You Come to Canada as an Immigrant, Refugee, or Refugee Claimant?

None of the participants stated that they were an immigrant, refugee, or refugee claimant; 10% declined to answer the question.

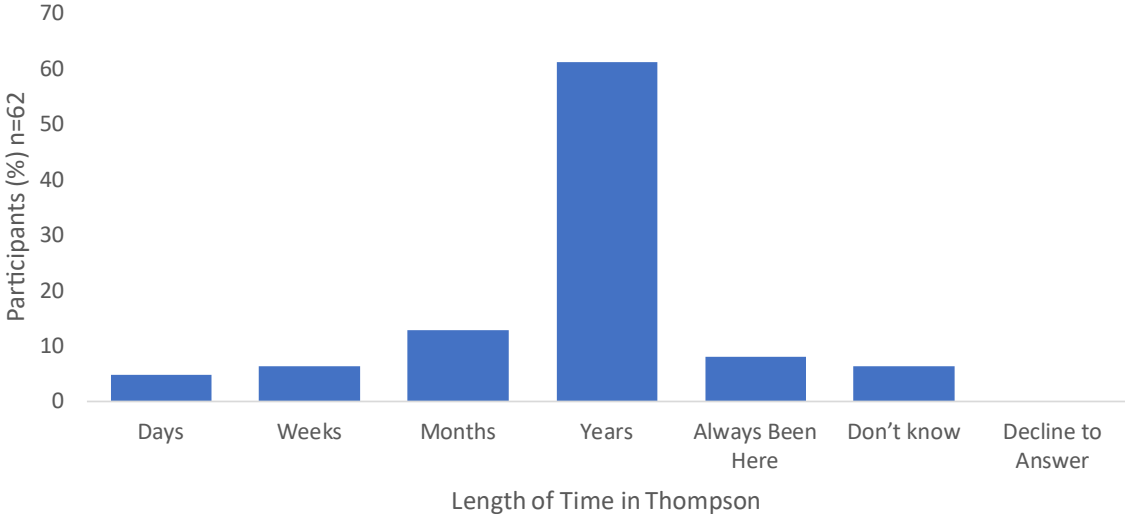
As no participant answered yes to being an immigrant, refugee, or refugee claimant, the second part of the question, "How long have you been in Canada?" was not asked of the participants. (See [Table 10, page 79](#))

## 7a. How Long Have You Been in Thompson?

When asked how long they had been in Thompson, there were several time periods given. Of those who responded to this question, their answers ranged from days, weeks, months, and years to "always been here" or "don't know". Figure 7 shows the range in responses.

Well over half (61%) stated that they had lived in Thompson for years while an additional 8% stated that they had always been here. For those stating that they had lived here for years, further data analysis showed that the length of time ranges from 2.5 years to 46 years, with an average of 13 years. Thirteen percent stated that they had lived in the city for several months, with an average of 4.75 months and a range between two and eight months. Six percent had been here for several weeks, with an average of one and a half weeks and a range between one and three weeks. Five percent of participants stated they had only been in Thompson for days, with an average of three days and a range of two to five days.

**Figure 7. Length of Time in Thompson**

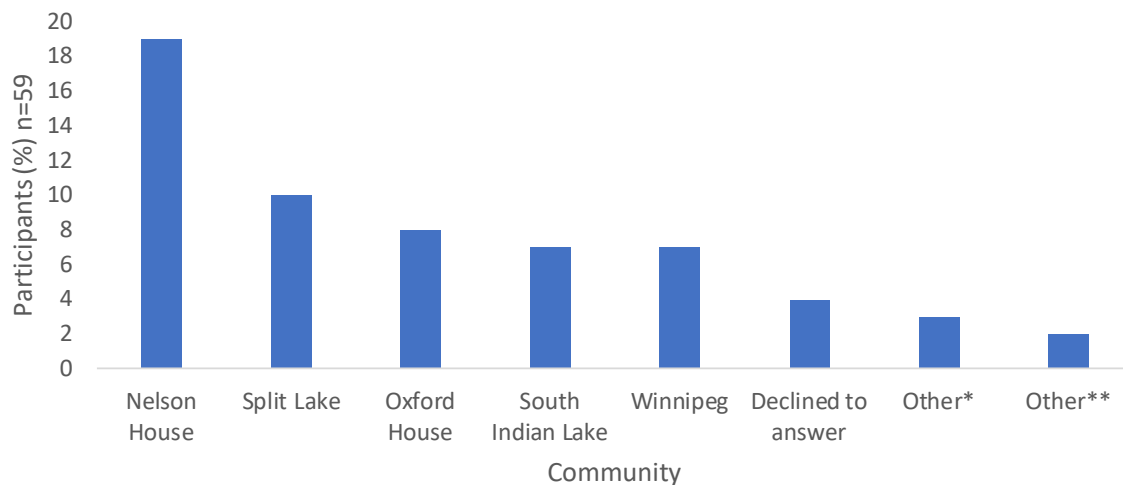


(See also [Table 11, page 80](#))

## 7b. Where Did You Live Before You Came to Thompson?

Figure 8 shows a breakdown of the 21 communities mentioned by 59 participants. The vast majority were from Northern First Nations communities in Manitoba. The highest proportion (19%) came from the closest community Nelson House .

**Figure 8. Where Did You Live Before You Came to Thompson?**



\*Brandon, Churchill, Cross Lake, Gilliam, Grand Rapids, Norway House, Pukatawagan, Beaujour

\*\*Fox Lake, Gods Lake, Lac Brochet, Moose Lake, Saskatchewan, Shamattawa, The Pas, Thompson, York Landing

(See also [Table 12, page 80](#))

## 8a. Do You Identify as First Nations (with or without status) Métis, or Inuit, or Do You Have North American Indigenous Ancestry?

The majority of participants who answered this question, 90%, stated that they identify as First Nations (with or without status) Métis, or Inuit, or have North American Indigenous ancestry, while only 10% answered that they did not.

For those that answered yes to the first part of question 8, the second part of the question ask that they be more specific. The majority of participants (98%) stated that they identify as First Nation, while 2% stated that they were of Métis ancestry. (See Tables 13 & 14, [page 80](#) and [81](#))

### 8b. Do You Identify with any of the Racial Identities Listed Below?

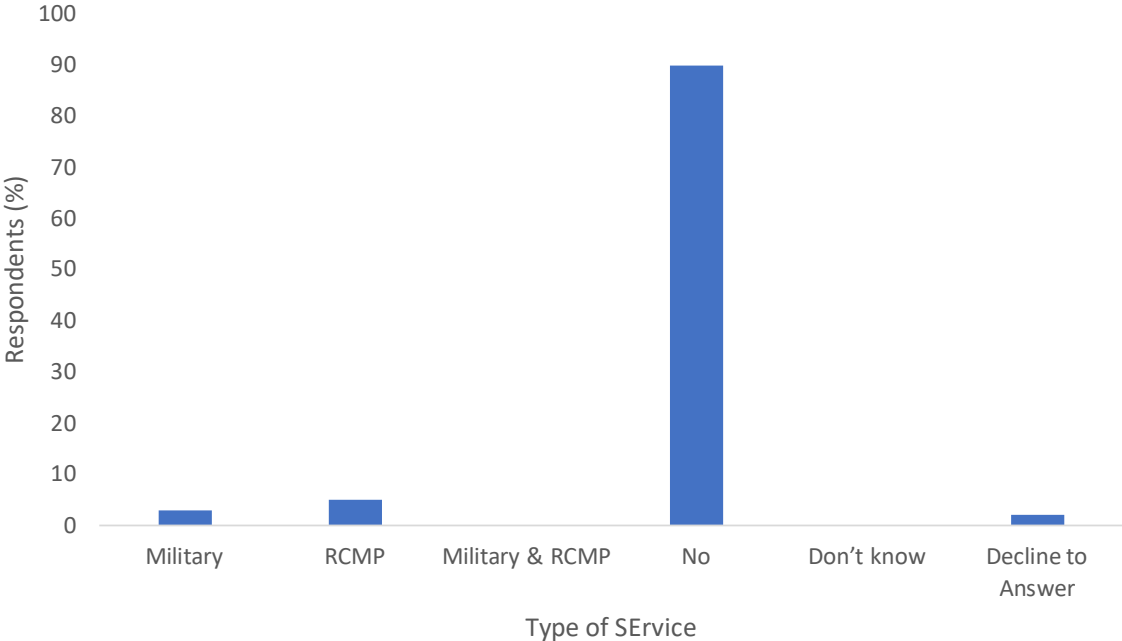
Participants were offered a list of 11 possible racial identities to answer this question. The list included Arab, Asian-East, Asian-South or Indo Caribbean, Asian-West, Black-Canadian or American, Black-African, Black-Afro Caribbean or Afro-Latinx, Latin American, White, and Not listed.

Most participants, 64%, indicated they did not identify with any of the listed racial identities, 30% identified as “Indigenous only,” and of the 5% that answered yes to the question, two stated that they identified as white and one stated that their identity was not listed. (See [Table 15, page 81](#))

### 9. Have You Ever Served in the Canadian Military or the RCMP?

The majority of participants (90%) responded “no” to this question. Only 3% stated that they had previous military service and 5% stated they had previous RCMP service, while 2% declined to answer.

**Figure 9. Canadian Military or RCMP Service**



(See also [Table 16, page 81](#))

## 10a. As a Child or Youth, Were You Ever in Foster Care or in a Youth Group Home?

Just under half the participants reported they had previously been in foster care or a youth group home. Answers to this question were evenly divided, 48% answering “yes” and 49% answering “no,” while 3% stated they did not know. (See [Table 17, page 82](#))

## 10b. Has Someone in Your Family Ever Been in Foster Care or Group Homes?

Following up on the previous question, participants were then asked if someone in their family had ever been in foster care/or group homes. Responses were mirrored with 48% answering “yes” and 49% answering “no,” while 3% stated they did not know. (See [Table 18, page 82](#))

If Yes, select any that apply

Of the 48% who responded yes to 10b, 20% indicated they had been in foster care or a group home, while 80% stated another family member had been in foster care or a group home.

As there was the possibility that a participant could answer yes to both categories, there were 55 answers given from the 46 participants who answered yes to question 10c. (See [Table 19, page 82](#))

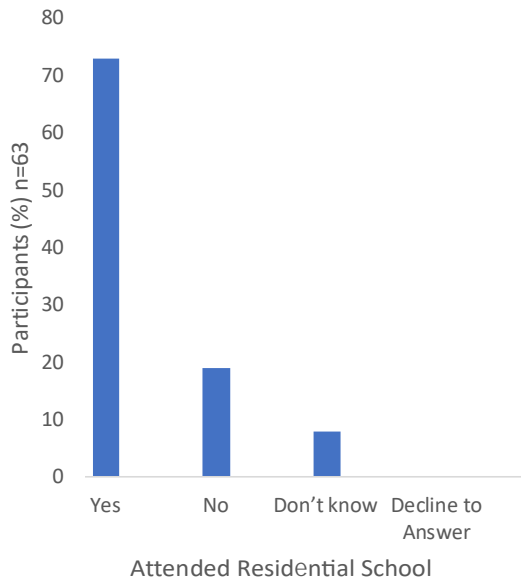
## 10c. Have You or Someone in Your Family Ever Been to Residential School?

Almost three quarters or 73% of the participants stated that they or a family member had been to a residential school. Nineteen percent of participants stated no, while another 8% stated that they did not know.

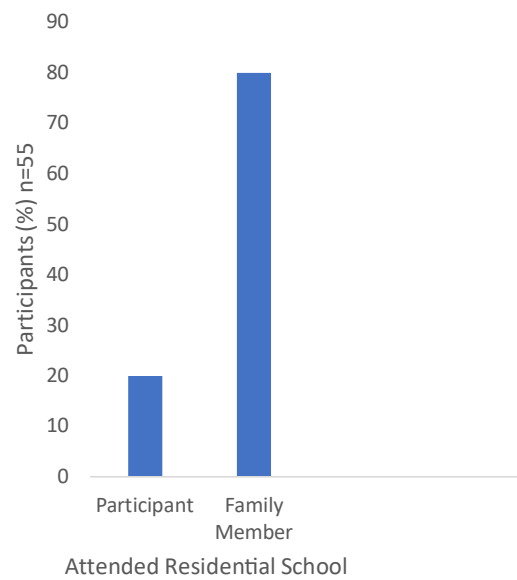
Of those who answered yes to question 10c, 20% had been in a residential school, while 80% had a family member who had attended a residential school.



**Figure 10. Attended Residential School**



**Figure 11. Breakdown of Residential School Attendance**



(See also [Table 20, page 82](#))

## 11. Do You Identify as Having Any of the Following Health Challenges at This Time?

This question is broken down into four parts, each dealing with a particular health challenge. The first part asks of an illness or medical condition the participant might be living with. Figure 12 shows the percentages of individuals with health challenges.

### Part 1: Illness or Medical Condition

Just over a third, 36%, of the participants that responded to this question, stated that they had an illness or medical condition.

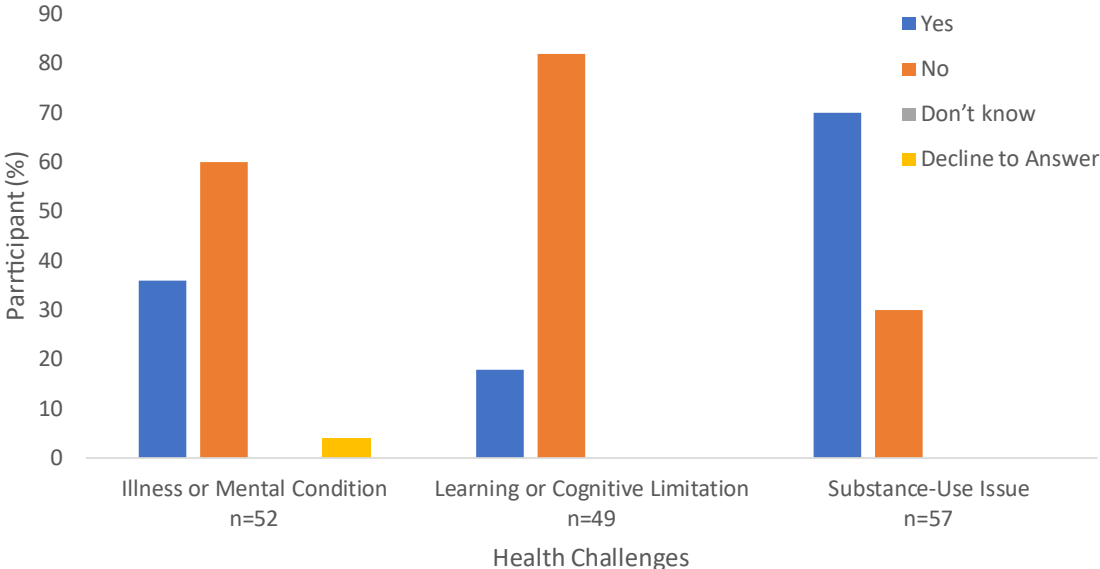
### Part 2: Learning or Cognitive Limitations

Of the participants that responded to this question, 18% stated that they had a learning or cognitive limitation.

### Part 3: Substance-Use Issue

Of the participants that responded to this question, 70% stated that they had a substance-use issue.

Figure 12. Identification of Health Challenges

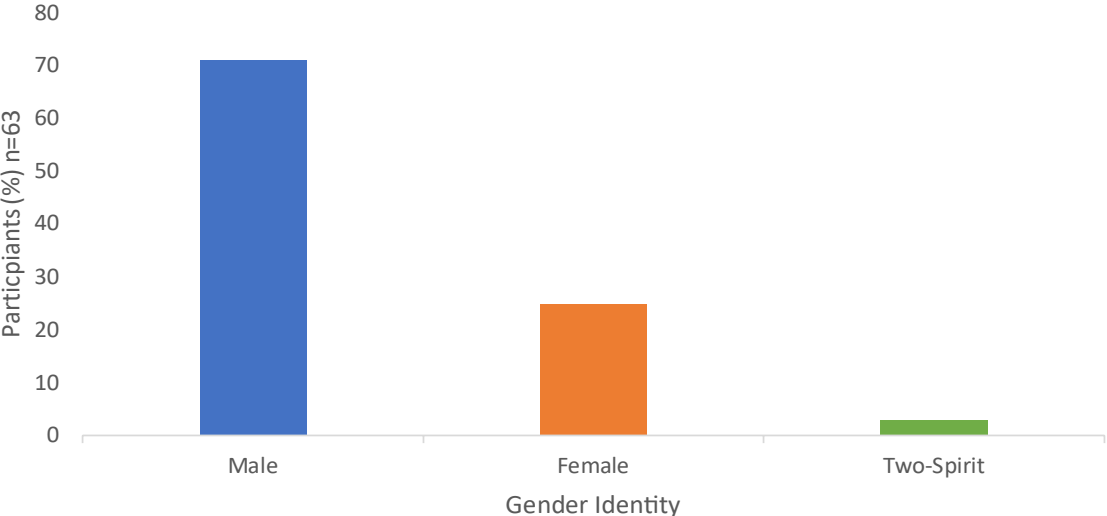


(See also [Tables 21, 22, & 23, page 83](#))

## 12. What Gender Do Identify With?

While there were nine possible responses to this question (see the sample survey in Appendices), the responses were captured in three categories. Seventy-one percent identified as a male, while 25% participants identified as a female, while 3% identified as two-spirit.

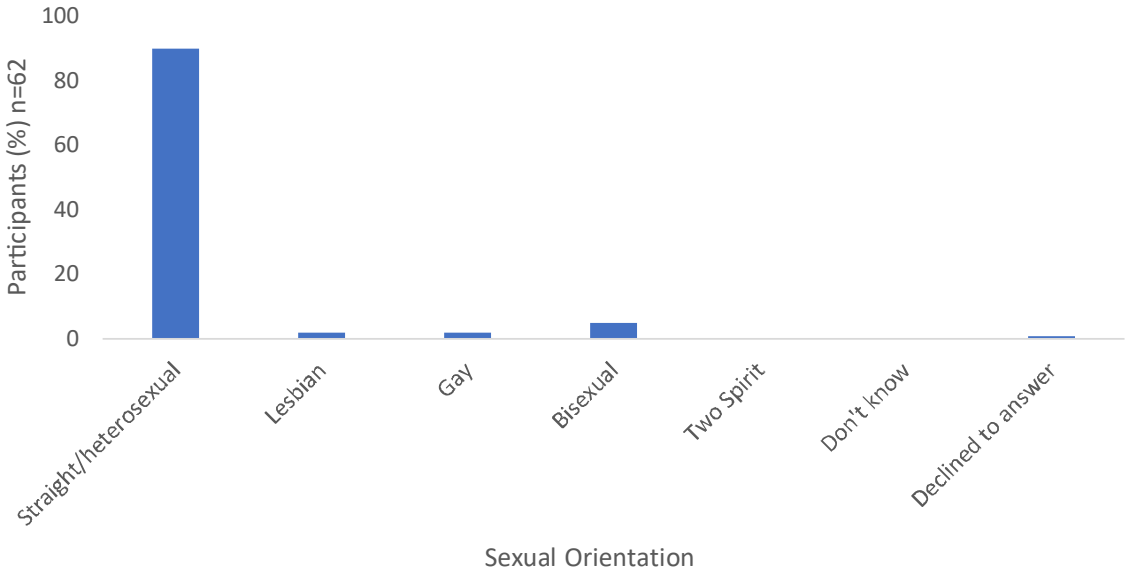
Figure 13. Gender Identification



### 13. How Do You Describe Your Sexual Orientation?

While there were 12 possible responses to this question (see the sample survey in Appendices), the responses from were captured in five categories. The majority, 90%, described their sexual orientation as straight/heterosexual, 2% identified as gay, 2% as lesbian, 5% as bisexual, while another 2% declined to answer.

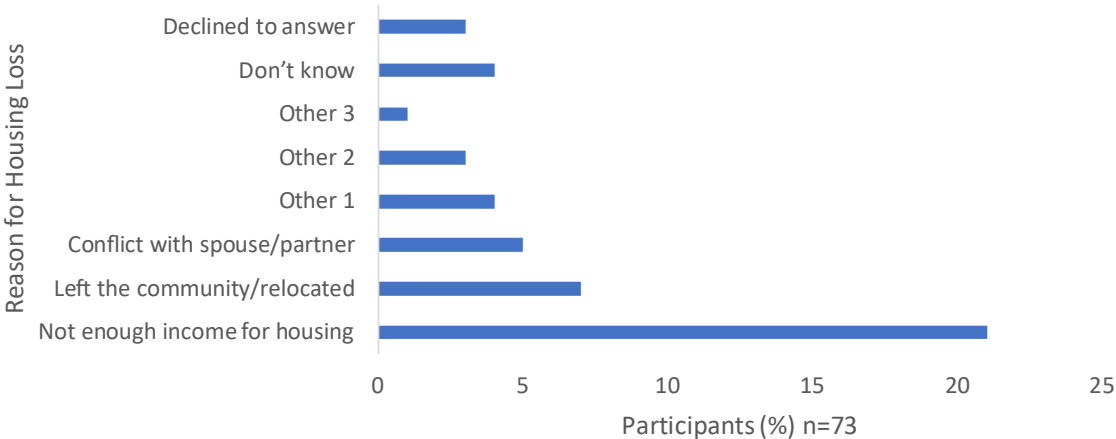
**Figure 14. Sexual Orientation**



### 14a. What Happened That Caused You to Lose Your Housing Most Recently?

Participants were given the opportunity to answer from a list of 24 possible choices. They could also select more than one category. The most frequent responses, 21%, were “Not enough income for housing” and “Other reasons”. Other categories of note are “Left the community/relocated” (7%), “Substance abuse” (10%), conflict with spouse/partner” (5%) and “Mental health issues (5%).

Figure 15. Reason for Housing Loss



Other 1: Unfit/unsafe living conditions; conflict with parent/guardian; experienced abuse by parent/guardian

Other 2: Landlord/tenant conflict; experienced abuse by spouse/partner

Other 3: Experienced discrimination; experienced abuse by other; departure of family member; physical health issue

(See also [Table 24, page 84](#))

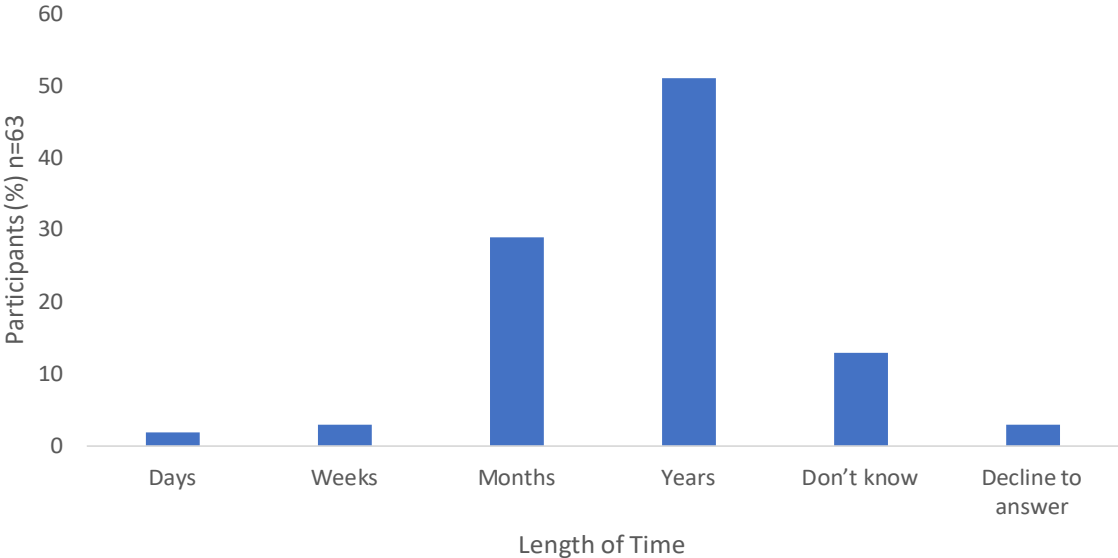
### 14b. How Long Ago Did That Happen (That You Lost Your Housing Most Recently)?

As an addition to question 14a, participants were asked how long ago was it that they lost their most recent housing. They had the choice of answering in days, weeks, months, or years. As the table show just over half the 63 participants who answered this question in terms of it being years (32/51%). Their answers ranged from 1 to 30 years ago.

The next largest category was length in months (18/29%). Their answers ranged from 1 to 8 months.

There were also more recent losses of housing, with one participant stating that they lost there housing just 1 day ago and two participants stating they loss their housing between 1 and 2 weeks ago.

Figure 16. How Long Ago Did You Lose Your Housing?

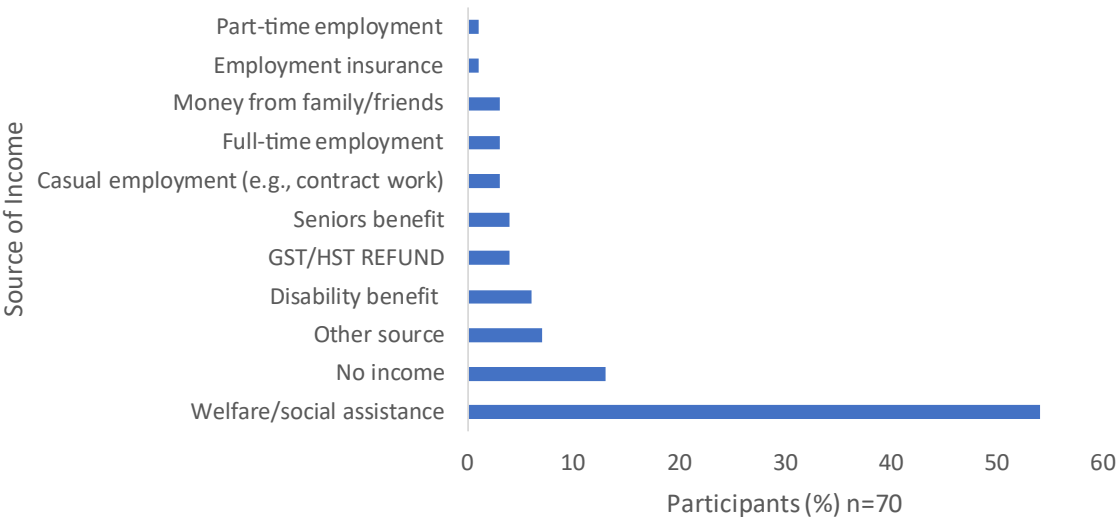


(See also [Table 25, page 84](#))

### 15. What Are Your Sources of Income?

Participants were encouraged to check off all the responses that applied to them individually. In total 70 responses were received. Over half of the sources of income for participants (54%) was welfare/social assistance, followed by “No Income” for 13%, and “Other Sources” for 7%. Ten percent of participants stated that they received senior benefits or disability benefits. Full-time/part-time and/or casual employment when combined provided only 7% of participants with a source of income.

Figure 17. Sources of Income

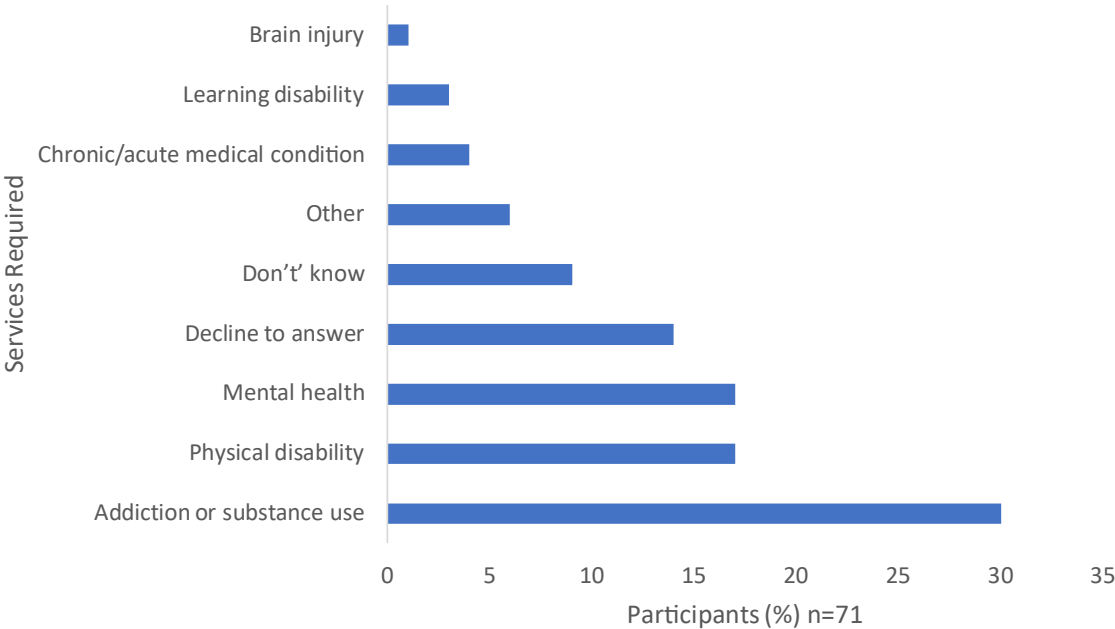


(See also [Table 26, page 85](#))

### 16. Do You Have a Need for Services Related To...?

As in the previous question, participants were encouraged to check off all the responses that applied to them individually. In total 71 responses were received. The most service with the greatest need is related to addiction or substance use, selected by 30% of participants, followed by services for physical disabilities (17%) and mental health (17%).

**Figure 18. Need for Services**

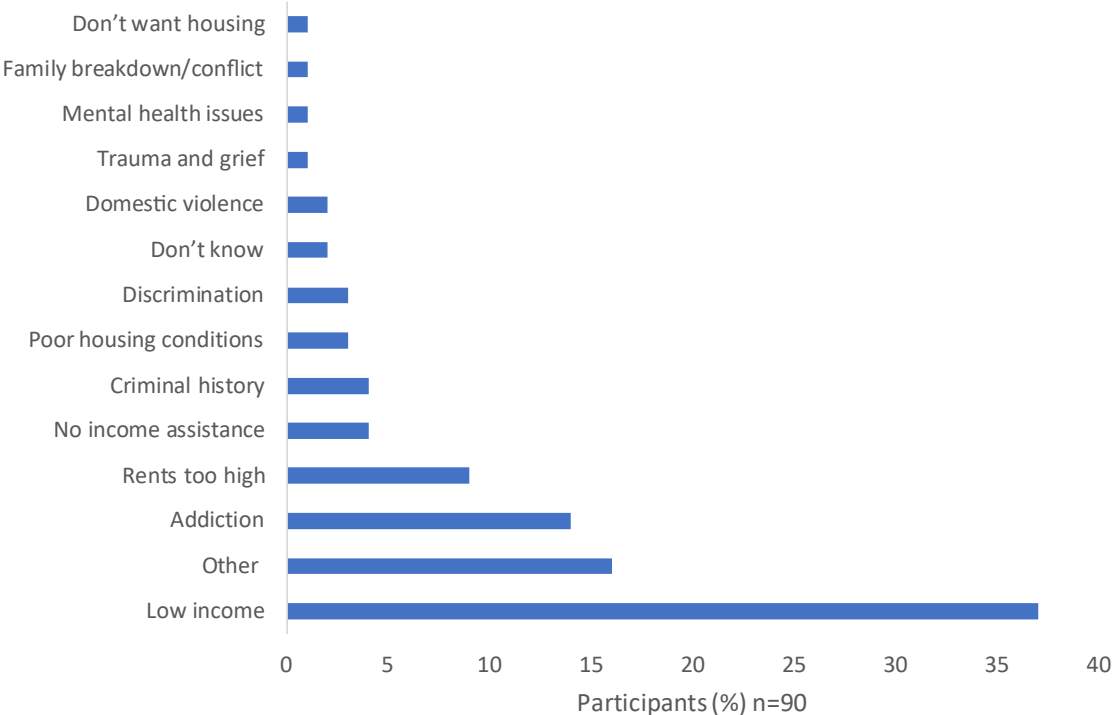


(See also [Table 27, page 85](#))

### 17. What Is Keeping You from Finding a Place of Your Own?

The final question of the survey offered 17 possible categories from which the participants could choose a reason that is keeping them from finding a home. The participants were allowed to check off as many as they felt applied to them. Most categories were selected at least once; three categories that were not selected by any participants were “Pets”, “Children” and “Decline to Answer”. “Low Income” was the most often selected at 37%. “Other” was also a common choice at 16%, with “Addications” following closely at 14%.

Figure 19. Barriers to Housing



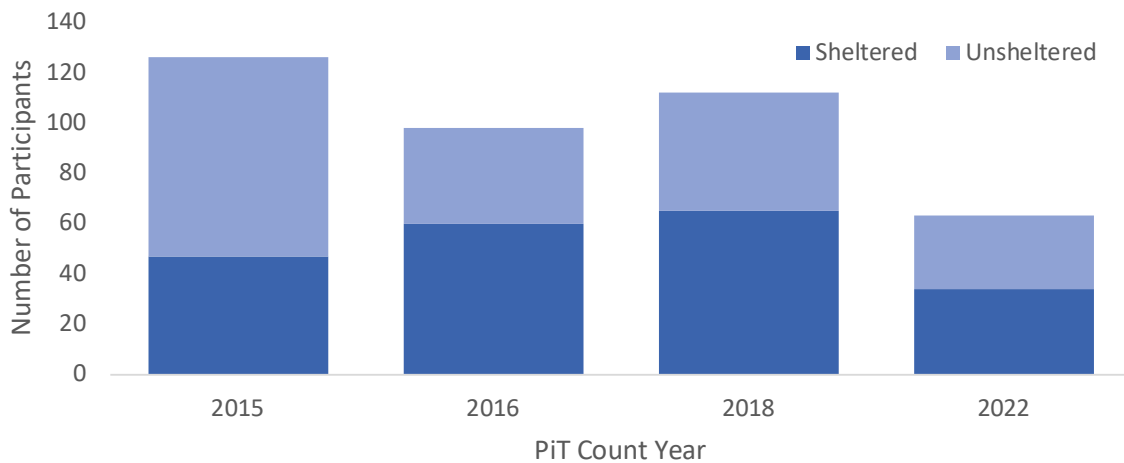
(See also [Table 28, page 86](#))



# COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS PIT COUNTS

The four Thompson PiT Counts were done at approximately the same time every year. The 2015 PiT Count was done in early March; the 2016 count in late February; the 2018 count in mid-March, and the 2022 count was completed between March 31 and April 13th. The first comparison looks at the number of participants in each of the four counts.

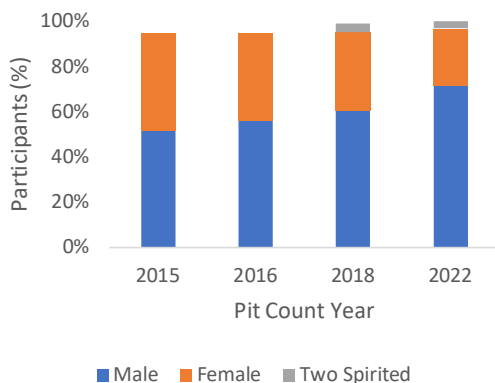
**Figure 20. Comparison of Participation Rates**



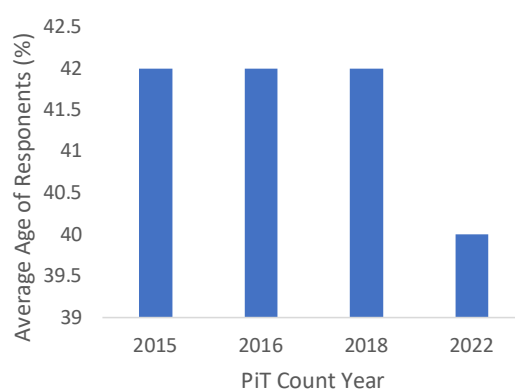
(See also [Table 29, page 86](#))

Figures 21, 22, and 23 show the similarities and some differences found between the four PiT counts about Indigenous identity, gender, and age. In the 2022 count there were significantly higher number of males who participated.

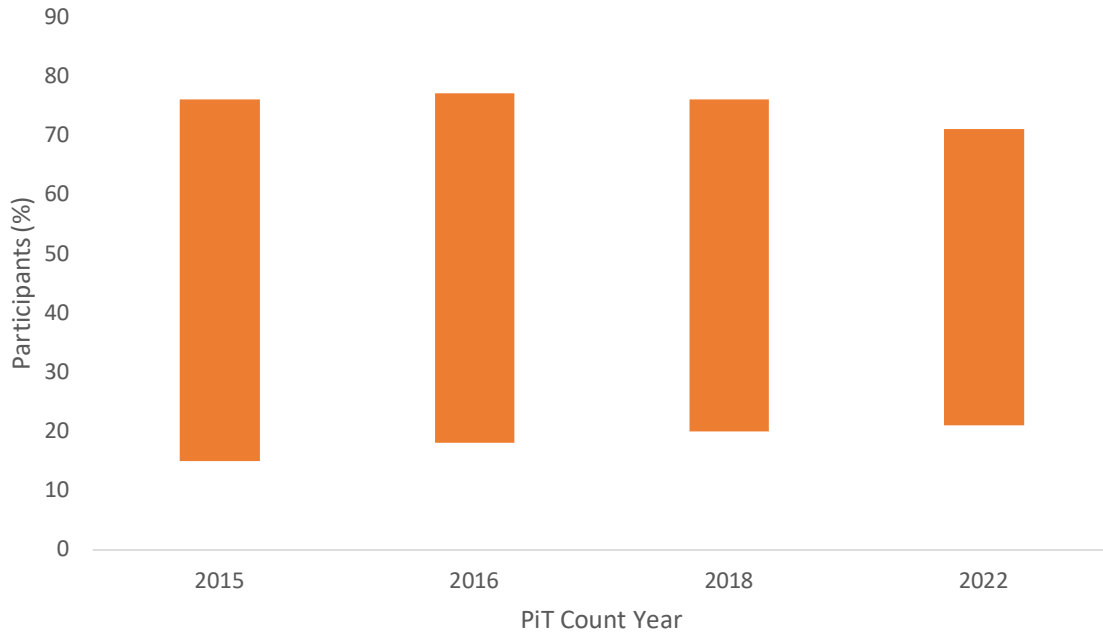
**Figure 21. Comparison of Gender Identity**



**Figure 22. Comparison of Average Age**



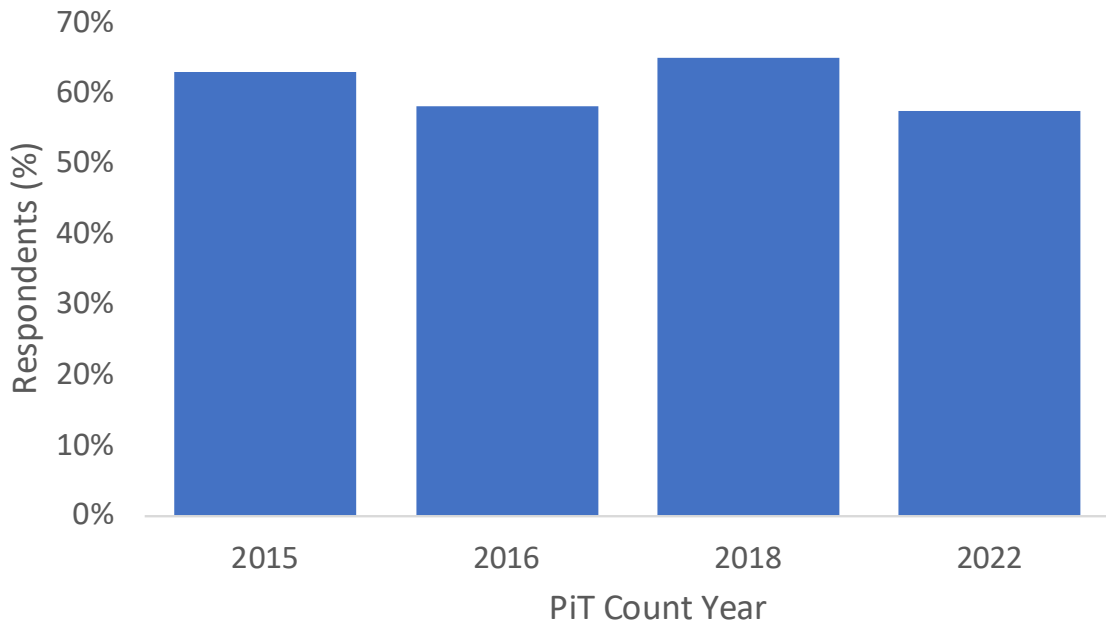
**Figure 23. Comparison of Age Range of Participants**



(See also [Table 30, page 87](#) for Figures 21, 22, & 23)

The findings on chronic homelessness from each of the four counts clearly shows that there is a consistently high level of chronic homelessness, 57% to 65%, over this seven-year period.

**Figure 24. Comparison of Chronic Homelessness**



(See also [Table 31, page 87](#))

## DISCUSSION

The four PiT counts show chronic homelessness is persistently high in Thompson. Lack of affordable and accessible housing remains a barrier in the community. Over half the participants in the survey had lost their housing one to thirty years ago. A significant proportion of the people who responded to the survey (54%) reported they were on social assistance, however nearly 13% stated they had no income at all. Many participants identified they are living with health conditions and/or in need of services. These findings highlight the necessity of increasing access to affordable housing, improving access to, and coordination of services. Many people who completed the survey, nearly 70%, report they have resided in Thompson for a year or more. The high rates of Indigenous people living unsheltered in Thompson point to the vital importance of moving forward with meaningful engagement and ensuring services are culturally safe.

# LIMITATIONS

## PiT Count Limitations

It is well known that there are limitations to a method that measures homelessness over a 24-hour period. The PiT Count methodology tends to underestimate the number of individuals experiencing homelessness because this is generally a difficult population to contact. For example, this count does not count:

- “Couch-surfers” those staying with family and friends and constantly moving around.
- Those not using services such as the Thompson Shelter.
- Those who don’t tend to congregate in public places, but who could be categorized as episodically homeless. Youth particularly come to mind here.
- Those who simply do not want to participate.
- Those who may have temporarily travelled back to their home community for various reasons.

Though this method provides a “snapshot” of what homelessness looks like on one day, it does not necessarily account for seasonal differences in the number of individuals staying in places not meant to be housing. This has led to several remarks in the count this year and previous years about holding the count at different times of the year.

Many factors influence the outcomes of PiT counts. For example, people may choose not to identify as homeless, in fact in a recent research project done in the region, a participant stated people should stop calling the THS a homeless shelter, stating it is in fact, people’s home.<sup>34</sup> Other impacts on PiT counts include resource levels and external factors that cause variations in the numbers of sheltered and unsheltered people to complete the survey. The 2022 count had a significantly lower number of volunteers for the street surveys, nearly 50 percent fewer than the previous count. Reaching Home added questions to the survey and COVID protocols also significantly lengthened the time required to complete surveys (Appendix E). These three factors alone impacted significantly on the 2022 count. Nonetheless, given the limitations in the methods used to by PiT counts generally and the challenges of doing this project during a pandemic, caution must be given in interpreting trends from the data.

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<sup>34</sup> Deegan & Bonnycastle, 2020

## Survey Limitations

While we based the survey questions on recommendations from the Reaching Home, like the previous counts, there are some questions that were not self-evident for the volunteers and the participants. Even with some training, there were some questions that were left blank. This is something that can be remedied in the future with simpler language and more interview training. How widely the surveys were distributed within organizations and the skill of the interviewer was out of our control. Many people working in shelters and transitional housing are extremely busy which may have also resulted in not everyone being surveyed as the residents are coming and going throughout the evening and the next day. As above, the pandemic lowered capacity and impacted the street count and the count in facilities likely resulting in a lower number of surveys that were completed.

## CONCLUSION

The 2022 Thompson PiT Count is the fourth count of people who are homeless in the City of Thompson. The count provides valuable information to inform service planning and delivery in Thompson and the region. The results of the 2022 Thompson Homeless PiT Count once again demonstrate that homelessness remains a significant problem in the City of Thompson.

The pandemic brought many services, programs, and agencies together to respond to the threats COVID-19 created for the people experiencing homelessness and those who serve them. These collaborations may have shifted perceptions about homelessness and most certainly resulted in some innovative responses such as managed alcohol. Sadly, there is a risk these gains will not be maintained given the closure of SHIPP where 25 people were temporarily housed in private rooms. There is growing recognition in Canada and around the world that housing people in congregate spaces, such as is provided in many homeless shelters, does not promote good health and works against aims to end homelessness. SHIPP showed, at least temporarily that people don't have to be to be sober to be successfully housed.

Over the last few years Housing First initiatives in Thompson were able to move some homeless into more permanent housing. As noted in the previous report, this is an approach that has been quite successful in communities across Canada.<sup>35</sup> That said, the findings from this and the three previous PiT counts have been relatively consistent in the number of people needing services and support. This may mean that added initiatives and programs are still necessary, if as a community we are intent on reducing the homeless population in Thompson. It may also mean that an entire new approach is called for. The Indigenous Lived-Experience Council (LEC) is being considered a pilot project for a new CAB model. Perhaps if those with lived experience of homelessness are given an opportunity to lead, the path out of homelessness may be found. There may be hope on the horizon as the Government of Manitoba is promising to shift its' strategy of minimum crisis response to a more holistic vision aimed at ending homelessness.<sup>36</sup>

It is the wish of the PiT Count Committee that the 2022 PiT Count data will inform future development strategies and action plans and allow the CAB to continue their collaborative work with members of the social service and business communities, as well as the community. Though Reaching Home is focused on funding for emergency shelters and transitional housing, the aim for more permanent housing is still at the forefront of the Thompson CAB and the information provided in this report supports this.

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<sup>35</sup> Distasio, Sareen & Isaak 2014.

<sup>36</sup> Government of Manitoba, Developing Manitoba's Homelessness Strategy

Questions remain from the 2018 count along with some new observations in 2022:

- How to address the issues of youth homelessness and aging out of care. This is reflected in the data—particularly that, once again, nearly 63% of the homeless captured in the survey were under the age of 30.
- There remains a need for permanent housing that is both accessible and affordable – this includes a better understanding of what the barriers are and what possible solutions can be initiated. Paying attention to new funding opportunities, particularly in areas of public housing that has rent geared to income, may be one important step. There were important lessons learned during the pandemic<sup>37</sup> in Thompson and across Canada, particularly for vulnerable people are who are living unsheltered and that it is possible to house people rapidly, that can inspire future actions in the community.
- The fact that so many participants, nearly 70%, stated they have been residents of Thompson for years challenges perceptions that homelessness is simply the result of circular mobility between outlying communities in the region and Thompson. This suggests the need to consider how these community members can be supported to move from the margins to being recognized as residents of Thompson.

## Recommendations

- The next PiT count be done in the summer months as the number of people experiencing homelessness appears to increase significantly during this period.
- Members of CAB and the PiT Count committee take a more active role in the activities, particularly on the day of the count.
- A coordinator should be hired for the duration of all PiT Count activities, up to and including the community cafe.
- Volunteer recruitment should be started well ahead of the scheduled count.
- Magnet events should be held during the next PiT count – music, haircuts, I.D. fairs, etc., to draw people in. These events might include sharing circles to give people the opportunity to share their stories with the volunteers.
- Volunteers formally evaluate the count and share lessons learned, challenges faced, and offer suggestions for improvement.
- Reconsider using the THS as a count coordination centre; there was concerns of intruding and disrupting people in their “home.”

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<sup>37</sup> Koziel, Savidov & Frick, 2020

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# DEFINITIONS

*“What is considered to be homeless might be different for different people”*

—Stakeholder (cited in Vink et al., 2014, p.9)

## Community Advisory Board (CAB)

The CAB is a construct of the federal Reaching Home: Canada’s Homelessness Strategy (RH) program. It is a requirement of all designated communities in the Reaching Home program. A CAB should have an inclusive and representative membership, provide advice and guidance in the assessment of proposals and recommend projects for funding, and assist in setting the direction for and coordinating efforts to address homelessness in a community

## Community Entity Model

Under the CE funding delivery model, the federal government entrusts a community body, often the community’s municipal government, with the ability to implement the local Reaching Home community plan. This includes developing a community plan in collaboration with the CAB, publishing calls for proposals, approving projects recommended by a CAB, developing and monitoring agreements with sub-projects (financially and for results), reporting on activities and disbursements, and reporting on the results and outcomes for these agreements.

## Chronically Homeless

According to the Reaching Home, chronic homelessness refers to individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness AND who meet at least one of the following criteria: they have a total of at least 6 months (180 days) of homelessness over the past year they have recurrent experiences of homelessness over the past 3 years, with a cumulative duration of at least 18 months (546 days). Chronic homelessness includes time spent in the following contexts:

- Staying in unsheltered locations, that is public or private spaces without consent or contract, or places not intended for permanent human habitation.
- Staying in emergency shelters, including overnight shelters for people experiencing homelessness (including those for specific populations, such as

youth, families, and newcomers), shelters for people impacted by family violence, and emergency shelters for people fleeing a natural disaster or destruction of accommodation.

- Staying temporarily with others without guarantee of continued residency or the immediate prospects for accessing permanent housing, or short-term rental accommodations (for example, motels) without security of tenure.

It does not include situations where individuals have access to secure, permanent housing, whether subsidized or not. The definition also does not include time spent in transitional housing or in public institutions (for example, health and corrections), although individuals who are discharged into homelessness from transitional housing or public institutions can be considered chronically homeless if they were experiencing chronic homelessness upon entry to transitional housing or the public institution.<sup>37</sup>

### Congregate Living

A congregate living setting is where several unrelated people reside together in proximity for an extended period. The THS is a congregate living space where people share a common room and sleep on mats placed 0.75 metres apart on the floor<sup>38</sup>.

### Eligible to Participate

People who were approached and were identified as not having a permanent residence to return to on the night of the count.

### Emergency Shelter

Short-term accommodation intended for individuals and families who have no shelter.

### Episodically Homeless

Individuals, often with disabling conditions, who are currently homeless and have in the past year experienced three or more episodes of homelessness. Episodes are defined as periods when a person would be in a shelter or place not fit for human habitation for a certain period and, after at least 30 days, would be back in the shelter or place.

### Economic Migrant

Economic migrants include immigrants who have been selected for their ability to contribute to Canada's economy through their ability to meet labour market needs,

<sup>37</sup> Government of Canada. Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy Directives. <https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/homelessness-sans-abri/directives-eng.html#h2.2>

<sup>38</sup> Government of Manitoba, 2009, Shelter Standards

to own and manage or to build a business, to make a substantial investment, to create their own employment or to meet specific provincial or territorial labour market needs.<sup>39</sup>

## Harm Reduction

Harm reduction aims to reduce the “risks and harmful effects associated with substance use and addictive behaviours for the individual, the community and society. It is deemed a realistic, pragmatic, humane and successful approach to addressing issues of substance use. Recognizing that abstinence may be neither a realistic or a desirable goal for some users (especially in the short term), the use of substances is accepted as a fact and the focus is placed on reducing harm while use continues.”<sup>40</sup>

## Homelessness

Homelessness is the situation of an individual or family who does not have a permanent address or residence; the living situation of an individual or family who does not have stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it.

It is often the result of what are known as systemic or societal barriers, including a lack of affordable and appropriate housing, the individual/household’s financial, mental, cognitive, behavioural or physical challenges, and/or racism and discrimination.<sup>41</sup>

## Housing First

An approach that focuses on moving people who are experiencing homelessness as rapidly as possible from the street or emergency shelters into permanent housing with support that varies according to client need. A case management team and/or a case manager that serves as a main point of contact for the client from assessment to follow-up provide the supports. The focus is primarily on the chronically and episodically homeless. The Housing First model, developed in New York City in 1992 by Dr. Sam Tsemberis, is premised on the notion that housing is a basic human right, and so should not be denied to anyone, even if they are abusing alcohol or other substances.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>39</sup> Statistics Canada (2016) Census of Population

<sup>40</sup> Homeless hub (n.d) Harm reduction. <https://www.homelesshub.ca/about-homelessness/substance-use-addiction/harm-reduction>

<sup>41</sup> From the National Housing Strategy – adapted from the Canadian Definition of Homelessness developed by the Canadian Observatory of Homelessness

<sup>42</sup> <https://pathwaystohousing.org/housing-first-model>.

## Housing with Supports

Housing initiatives that involve:

- Identifying permanent housing with supports for clients and working with them to secure permanent housing, with the expectation of a coordinated intake management system in place. Housing services staff would work with landlords to identify units, show possible units to clients, negotiate leases and follow-up with clients through regular visits to ensure that housing is maintained.
- Supports to ensure that those who benefit from Housing First remain permanently housed. These include: facilitating landlord-tenant relationships; offering training in life skills related to maintaining a stable home (e.g., cooking, household maintenance, health and financial literacy); bridging supports (e.g., short-term assistance with rent subsidies); and providing assistance with furnishing the apartment, utilities, first and last month's rent, security or damage deposits, cleaning, necessary repairs, and insurance. It would also include re-housing clients who may not be successful in maintaining their housing.

## Indigenous Homelessness

Recognizing the diversity of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, and that Indigenous Peoples may choose to refer to themselves in their own languages, the following definition of Indigenous homelessness is inclusive of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit, status and non-status persons, regardless of residency or membership status.

For the purposes of Reaching Home, and subject to revision based on ongoing engagement and consultation with Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous homelessness refers to "Indigenous Peoples who are in the state of having no home due to colonization, trauma and/or whose social, cultural, economic, and political conditions place them in poverty. Having no home includes: those who alternate between shelter and unsheltered, living on the street, couch surfing, using emergency shelters, living in unaffordable, inadequate, substandard and unsafe accommodations or living without the security of tenure; anyone regardless of age, released from facilities (such as hospitals, mental health and addiction treatment centres, prisons, transition houses), fleeing unsafe homes as a result of abuse in all its definitions, and any youth transitioning from all forms of care."<sup>43</sup>

## Ineligible to Participate

People who were approached and were identified as having a permanent residence to return to on the night of the count.

## Minoskanawetaahk (95 Cree Road)

A facility of the PND initiative. It offers permanent supportive housing to individuals with a history of chronic homelessness, with many residents experiencing a mental

<sup>43</sup> Government of Canada, 2022



illness with concurrent substance use. Staff utilize a Housing First and “low barrier” approach, meaning that they provide supported housing without length of residency restrictions to those with challenging behaviours, active and ongoing substance use, and for those who have minimal mental health support or are in need of support with medication compliance.<sup>44</sup> As with the previous PiT Count, residents at this facility were not asked to participate in this study.

### Overcrowding

Housing that does not have enough bedrooms for the size and composition of the household.

### Reaching Home: Canada’s Homelessness Strategy

A federal program that provides funding to 66 communities in Canada, primarily major urban centres, identified as having a significant problem with homelessness and needing ongoing support to address the issue.

### Sheltered

Individual staying overnight in an emergency homeless shelter, a family violence facility, or a safe house.

### Survey Participants

People who identified themselves as chronically or episodically homeless or transitionally housed during the PiT Count period for purposes of the Thompson Homeless PiT Count.

### Transitionally Housed

Housing facilities that provide services beyond basic needs and that, while not permanent, generally allow for a longer length of stay (up to three years) than emergency housing facilities. These facilities offer more privacy to residents than emergency housing. Transitional housing is targeted to those in need of structure, support, and/or skill building to move from homelessness to housing stability, and ultimately to prevent a return to homelessness. Transitional housing can be used with Housing First clients on a temporary basis (maximum 3-4 months) or on an extended basis (maximum 3 years) while permanent housing is being secured.

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<sup>44</sup> Paulette Carriere Simkins (personal communication, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015).



### Undetermined Responses

This category included survey questions that were left blank or the answer did not pertain to the question.

### Unsheltered

Individuals staying in a place not meant to be housing, such as a shack, shed, tent or a public space.

# APPENDICES

# Appendix A. Ethics Approval



University  
of Manitoba

Research Ethics and Compliance

Human Ethics - Fort Garry  
208-194 Dafoe Road  
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2  
T: 204-474-8872  
humanethics@umanitoba.ca

## PROTOCOL APPROVAL

Effective: March 18, 2022

Expiry: March 17, 2023

Principal Investigator: C Lee Anne Deegan  
Protocol Number: HE2022-0015  
Protocol Title: *Thompson Point in Time Count 2022*

Jonathan Marotta, Chair, REB1

**Research Ethics Board 1** has reviewed and approved the above research. The Human Ethics Office (HEO) is constituted and operates in accordance with the current *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans- TCPS 2 (2018)*.

This approval is subject to the following conditions:

- i. Approval is granted for the research and purposes described in the protocol only.
- ii. Any changes to the protocol or research materials must be approved by the HEO before implementation.
- iii. Any deviations to the research or adverse events must be reported to the HEO immediately through an REB Event.
- iv. This approval is valid for one year only. A Renewal Request must be submitted and approved prior to the above expiry date.
- v. A Protocol Closure must be submitted to the HEO when the research is complete or if the research is terminated.
- vi. The University of Manitoba may request to audit your research documentation to confirm compliance with this approved protocol, and with the UM *Ethics of Research Involving Humans* [Ethics of Research Involving Humans](#) policies and procedures.

# Appendix B. Survey Map



# Appendix C. Sheltered Survey



## THOMPSON POINT-IN-TIME COUNT 2022 SHELTERED SURVEY

### SCREENING QUESTIONS

**A. Have you answered this survey with a person with this [identification e.g., button?]**

YES: Thank and tally

NO: Go to B

**B. Are you willing to participate in the survey?**

YES: Go to C

NO: Thank and tally

**C. Where did you stay last night?**

<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER <input type="checkbox"/> OWN APARTMENT/ HOUSE <input type="checkbox"/> 95 CREE ROAD	<input type="checkbox"/> SOMEONE ELSE'S PLACE ->ASK C1 <input type="checkbox"/> MOTEL/HOTEL ->ASK C1 <input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL, JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE ->ASK C1	<input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY SHELTER, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC SPACE (E.G., SIDEWALK, PARK, FOREST, BUS SHELTER) VEHICLE (CAR, VAN, RV, TRUCK) <input type="checkbox"/> MAKESHIFT SHELTER, TENT OR SHACK <input type="checkbox"/> ABANDONED/VACANT BUILDING <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER UNSHELTERED LOCATION <input type="checkbox"/> RESPONDENT DOESN'T KNOW [LIKELY HOMELESS]
[THANK & END SURVEY]	[FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS]	[SKIP TO SURVEY QUESTION 1]

**C1: Do you have access to a permanent residence where you can safely stay as long as you want?**

<input type="checkbox"/> AS LONG AS WANTED [THANK AND END SURVEY] <input type="checkbox"/> TEMPORARY SITUATION [BEGIN SURVEY] <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW [BEGIN SURVEY] <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER [THANK AND END SURVEY]
---

<b>BEGIN SURVEY</b>
---------------------

**1. Do you have family members or anyone else who is staying with you tonight?** [indicate survey number of adults. Check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER ADULT - Survey # _____							
<input type="checkbox"/> PARTNER - Survey #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINED TO ANSWER							
<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD(REN)/DEPENDENT(S)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
[indicate age and gender for each ]	<b>Gender</b>							
	<b>Age</b>							

**2. How old are you? [Or] What year were you born? [if unsure, ask for best estimate]**

AGE _____ OR YEAR BORN _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> 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 (in years) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---

**4a. In total, how many different times have you experienced homelessness over the last year?** [Best estimate]

NUMBER OF TIMES _____ (include this time) <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
--

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

LENGTH _____ DAYS   WEEKS   MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---

**5. Have you stayed in a homeless shelter in the past year? For example, \_\_\_\_\_**  
 [Community Note: Include examples of emergency shelters and extreme weather shelters.]

<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---

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

<input type="checkbox"/> YES, IMMIGRANT -----> <input type="checkbox"/> YES, REFUGEE -----> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, REFUGEE CLAIMANT -----> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	<b>If Yes: How long have you been in Canada?</b>  LENGTH: _____ DAYS   WEEKS   MONTHS   YEARS OR DATE: _____ DAY   MONTH   YEAR  <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---	---

**7. How long have you been in Thompson?**

Length _____ Days   Weeks   Months   Years ----->  <input type="checkbox"/> Always been here <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to answer	<b>Where did you live before you came here?</b>  Community _____  Province _____ or Country _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Declined to answer
---	--

**8a. Do you identify as First Nations (with or without status) Metis, or Inuit, or do you have North American Indigenous ancestry? [If yes, specify].**

<input type="checkbox"/> YES -----> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to answer	<b>if YES,</b> <input type="checkbox"/> FIRST NATIONS (with or without status) <input type="checkbox"/> INUIT <input type="checkbox"/> MÉTIS <input type="checkbox"/> HAVE ABORIGINAL ANCESTRY
---	---

**8b. Do you identify with any of the racial identities listed below?** [Show or read list. Select all that apply].

<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Identify as Indigenous only	<b>if YES,</b> <input type="checkbox"/> ARAB (Ex. Syrian, Egyptian) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-EAST (Ex. Chinese, Korean) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-SOUTH-EAST (Ex. Filipino, Vietnamese) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-SOUTH OR INDO CARIBBEAN (Ex. Indian, Pakistani) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-WEST (Ex. Iranian, Afghan) <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-CANADIAN OR AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRICAN (Ex. Ghanaian, Nigerian) <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRO-CARIBBEAN OR AFRO-LANTINX (Ex. Jamaican, Haitian) <input type="checkbox"/> LATIN AMERICAN (Ex. Brazilian, Mexican) <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE (Ex. European, Ukrainian) <input type="checkbox"/> NOT LISTED (Please specify) _____
--	--

**9. Have you ever served in the Canadian Military or the RCMP?** [Prompt: Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force].

<input type="checkbox"/> YES, MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, RCMP	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, BOTH MILITARY AND RCMP
<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**10a. As a child or youth, were you ever in foster care or in a youth group home (?** [Note: This question applies specifically to child welfare programs.] (Community note: include any other Provincial child welfare programs)

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**10b. Has someone in your family ever been in foster care/or group homes?**

<input type="checkbox"/> YES .....→ <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	<b>If Yes, select all that apply</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Parent(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Sibling(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extended (Aunts, Uncles, Cousins)
---	--



**10c. Have you or someone in your family ever been in a residential school?**

<input type="checkbox"/> YES .....→ <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	If Yes, select all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> You <input type="checkbox"/> Another family member
---	---

**11. Do you identify as having any of the following health challenges at this time?**

<p><b>a. Illness or medical condition</b> [for example, diabetes, arthritis, TB, HIV]:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW      <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER</p>
<p><b>b. Physical limitation</b> [for example, challenges with mobility, physical abilities or dexterity]:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW      <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER</p>
<p><b>c. Learning or cognitive limitations</b> [for example, dyslexia, autism spectrum disorder, or as a result of ADHD or an acquired brain injury]:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW      <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER</p>
<p><b>d. Mental health issue</b> [for example, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar disorder]:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW      <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER</p>
<p><b>e. Substance use issue</b> [for example, tobacco, alcohol, opiates]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW      <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER</p>

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

<input type="checkbox"/> MAN <input type="checkbox"/> WOMAN <input type="checkbox"/> TWO-SPIRIT <input type="checkbox"/> TRANS MAN <input type="checkbox"/> TRANS WOMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> NONBINARY (GENDERQUEER) <input type="checkbox"/> NOT LISTED _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---	--

**13. How do you describe your sexual orientation, for example straight, gay, lesbian [show list]**

<input type="checkbox"/> STRAIGHT/HETEROSEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> ASEXUAL
<input type="checkbox"/> GAY	<input type="checkbox"/> QUEER
<input type="checkbox"/> LESBIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> QUESTIONING
<input type="checkbox"/> BISEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT LISTED _____
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO SPIRIT	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> PANSEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**14. What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently?** [Note: Do not read the options. Check all that apply. "Housing" does not include temporary arrangements (e.g., couch surfing) or shelter stays. Follow up for the reason if the respondent says "eviction" or that they "choose to leave".]

<input type="checkbox"/> NOT ENOUGH INCOME FOR HOUSING	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: PARENT/GUARDIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> UNFIT/UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCE ABUSE BY OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING SOLD OR RENOVATED	<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTURE OF FAMILY MEMBER
<input type="checkbox"/> OWNER MOVED IN	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> LANDLORD/TENANT CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> COMPLAINT (e.g. pet/noise/damage)	<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANCE ABUSE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION	<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALIZATION/TREATMENT PROGRAM
<input type="checkbox"/> LEFT THE COMMUNITY/RELOCATED	<input type="checkbox"/> INCARCERATION (jail or prison)
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: SPOUSE/PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 PANDEMIC
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: PARENT/GUARDIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER REASON: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH OTHER: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: SPOUSE/PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**14b. How long ago did that happen (that you lost your housing most recently)?** [best estimate].

<input type="checkbox"/> LENGTH: _____ DAYS   WEEKS   MONTHS   YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINED TO ANSWER	

**15. What are your sources of income?** [Reminder that this survey is anonymous. Read list and check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> WELFARE/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (name of provincial social service assistance)
<input type="checkbox"/> PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> VETERANS/VAC BENEFITS
<input type="checkbox"/> CASUAL EMPLOYMENT (e.g. contract work)	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD AND FAMILY TAX BENEFITS
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMAL/SELF-EMPLOYMENT (e.g. bottle returns, panhandling)	<input type="checkbox"/> GST/HST REFUND
<input type="checkbox"/> MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/> MONEY FROM A SERVICE AGENCY
<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER SOURCE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY BENEFIT (name province benefit)	<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME
<input type="checkbox"/> SENIORS BENEFITS	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**16. Do you have a need for services related to...?** [Read list and check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> CHRONIC/ACUTE MEDICAL CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (FASD)
<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANCY (IF RESPONDENT IS FEMALE)
<input type="checkbox"/> LEARNING DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAIN INJURY	

**17. What is keeping you from finding a place of your own?** [Read list and check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> LOW INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> CRIMINAL HISTORY
<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME ASSISTANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> PETS
<input type="checkbox"/> RENTS TOO HIGH	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILDREN
<input type="checkbox"/> POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> DISCRIMINATION
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY BREAKDOWN/CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T WANT HOUSING
<input type="checkbox"/> TRAUMA AND GRIEF	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	

## Appendix D. Unsheltered Survey



### THOMPSON POINT-IN-TIME COUNT 2022 UNSHeltered SURVEY

#### SCREENING QUESTIONS

**A. Have you answered this survey with a person with this [identification e.g., button?]**

- YES: Thank and tally                       NO: Go to B

**B. Are you willing to participate in the survey?**

- YES: Go to C                                       NO: Thank and tally

**C. Where did you stay last night?**

<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER  <input type="checkbox"/> OWN APARTMENT/ HOUSE  <input type="checkbox"/> 95 CREE ROAD	<input type="checkbox"/> SOMEONE ELSE'S PLACE ->ASK C1 <input type="checkbox"/> MOTEL/HOTEL ->ASK C1 <input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITAL, JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE ->ASK C1	<input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY SHELTER, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC SPACE (E.G., SIDEWALK, PARK, FOREST, BUS SHELTER) VEHICLE (CAR, VAN, RV, TRUCK) <input type="checkbox"/> MAKESHIFT SHELTER, TENT OR SHACK <input type="checkbox"/> ABANDONED/VACANT BUILDING <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER UNSHELTERED LOCATION <input type="checkbox"/> RESPONDENT DOESN'T KNOW [LIKELY HOMELESS]
[THANK & END SURVEY]	[FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS]	[SKIP TO SURVEY QUESTION 1]

**C1: Do you have access to a permanent residence where you can safely stay as long as you want?**

<input type="checkbox"/> AS LONG AS WANTED [THANK AND END SURVEY] <input type="checkbox"/> TEMPORARY SITUATION [BEGIN SURVEY] <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW [BEGIN SURVEY] <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER [THANK AND END SURVEY]
---

**BEGIN SURVEY**

**1. Do you have family members or anyone else who is staying with you tonight?** [indicate survey number of adults. Check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER ADULT - Survey # _____								
<input type="checkbox"/> PARTNER - Survey #: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINED TO ANSWER								
<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD(REN)/DEPENDENT(S)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
[indicate age and gender for each]	<b>Gender</b>							
	<b>Age</b>							

**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 homeless?**

AGE (in years) \_\_\_\_\_
  DON'T KNOW
  DECLINE TO ANSWER

**4a. In total, how many different times have you experienced homelessness over the last year?** [Best estimate]

NUMBER OF TIMES \_\_\_\_\_ (include this time)
  DON'T KNOW
  DECLINE TO ANSWER

**4b. 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. Have you stayed in a homeless shelter in the past year? For example, \_\_\_\_\_**  
 [Community Note: Include examples of emergency shelters and extreme weather shelters.]

<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---

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

<input type="checkbox"/> YES, IMMIGRANT -----> <input type="checkbox"/> YES, REFUGEE -----> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, REFUGEE CLAIMANT -----> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	<p><b>If Yes: How long have you been in Canada?</b></p> LENGTH: _____ DAYS   WEEKS   MONTHS   YEARS OR DATE: _____ DAY   MONTH   YEAR  <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---	---

**7. How long have you been in Thompson?**

Length _____ Days   Weeks   Months   Years ----->  <input type="checkbox"/> Always been here <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to answer	<p><b>Where did you live before you came here?</b></p> Community _____  Province _____ or Country _____  <input type="checkbox"/> Declined to answer
---	--

**8a. Do you identify as First Nations (with or without status) Metis, or Inuit, or do you have North American Indigenous ancestry? [If yes, specify].**

<input type="checkbox"/> YES -----> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to answer	<p><b>if YES,</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> FIRST NATIONS (with or without status) <input type="checkbox"/> INUIT <input type="checkbox"/> MÉTIS <input type="checkbox"/> HAVE ABORIGINAL ANCESTRY
---	--

**8b. Do you identify with any of the racial identities listed below?** [Show or read list. Select all that apply].

<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Decline to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Identify as Indigenous only	<b>if YES,</b> <input type="checkbox"/> ARAB (Ex. Syrian, Egyptian) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-EAST (Ex. Chinese, Korean) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-SOUTH-EAST (Ex. Filipino, Vietnamese) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-SOUTH OR INDO CARIBBEAN (Ex. Indian, Pakistani) <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-WEST (Ex. Iranian, Afghan) <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-CANADIAN OR AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRICAN (Ex. Ghanaian, Nigerian) <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRO-CARIBBEAN OR AFRO-LANTINX (Ex. Jamaican, Haitian) <input type="checkbox"/> LATIN AMERICAN (Ex. Brazilian, Mexican) <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE (Ex. European, Ukrainian) <input type="checkbox"/> NOT LISTED (Please specify) _____
--	--

**9. Have you ever served in the Canadian Military or the RCMP?** [Prompt: Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force].

<input type="checkbox"/> YES, MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, RCMP	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, BOTH MILITARY AND RCMP
<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**10a. As a child or youth, were you ever in foster care or in a youth group home (?)** [Note: This question applies specifically to child welfare programs.] (Community note: include any other Provincial child welfare programs)

<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
------------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

**10b. Has someone in your family ever been in foster care/or group homes?**

<input type="checkbox"/> YES -----> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	<b>If Yes, select all that apply</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Parent(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Sibling(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extended (Aunts, Uncles, Cousins)
---	--

**10c. Have you or someone in your family ever been in a residential school?**

<input type="checkbox"/> YES -----> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	If Yes, select all that apply <input type="checkbox"/> You <input type="checkbox"/> Another family member
---	---

**11. Do you identify as having any of the following health challenges at this time?**

<b>a. Illness or medical condition</b> [for example, diabetes, arthritis, TB, HIV]: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<b>b. Physical limitation</b> [for example, challenges with mobility, physical abilities or dexterity]: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<b>c. Learning or cognitive limitations</b> [for example, dyslexia, autism spectrum disorder, or as a result of ADHD or an acquired brain injury]: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<b>d. Mental health issue</b> [for example, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar disorder]: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<b>e. Substance use issue</b> [for example, tobacco, alcohol, opiates] <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

<input type="checkbox"/> MAN <input type="checkbox"/> WOMAN <input type="checkbox"/> TWO-SPIRIT <input type="checkbox"/> TRANS MAN <input type="checkbox"/> TRANS WOMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> NONBINARY (GENDERQUEER) <input type="checkbox"/> NOT LISTED _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---	--



**13. How do you describe your sexual orientation, for example straight, gay, lesbian [show list]**

<input type="checkbox"/> STRAIGHT/HETEROSEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> ASEXUAL
<input type="checkbox"/> GAY	<input type="checkbox"/> QUEER
<input type="checkbox"/> LESBIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> QUESTIONING
<input type="checkbox"/> BISEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT LISTED _____
<input type="checkbox"/> TWO SPIRIT	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> PANSEXUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**14. What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently?** [Note: Do not read the options. Check all that apply. "Housing" does not include temporary arrangements (e.g., couch surfing) or shelter stays. Follow up for the reason if the respondent says "eviction" or that they "choose to leave".]

<input type="checkbox"/> NOT ENOUGH INCOME FOR HOUSING	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: PARENT/GUARDIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> UNFIT/UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCE ABUSE BY OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING SOLD OR RENOVATED	<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTURE OF FAMILY MEMBER
<input type="checkbox"/> OWNER MOVED IN	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> LANDLORD/TENANT CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> COMPLAINT (e.g. pet/noise/damage)	<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANCE ABUSE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION	<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALIZATION/TREATMENT PROGRAM
<input type="checkbox"/> LEFT THE COMMUNITY/RELOCATED	<input type="checkbox"/> INCARCERATION (jail or prison)
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: SPOUSE/PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 PANDEMIC
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: PARENT/GUARDIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER REASON: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH OTHER: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: SPOUSE/PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**14b. How long ago did that happen (that you lost your housing most recently)?** [best estimate].

<input type="checkbox"/> LENGTH: _____ DAYS   WEEKS   MONTHS   YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINED TO ANSWER	

**15. What are your sources of income?** [Reminder that this survey is anonymous. Read list and check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> WELFARE/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (name of provincial social service assistance)
<input type="checkbox"/> PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> VERTERNS/VAC BENEFITS
<input type="checkbox"/> CASUAL EMPLOYMENT (e.g. contract work)	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD AND FAMILY TAX BENEFITS
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMAL/SELF-EMPLOYMENT (e.g. bottle returns, panhandling)	<input type="checkbox"/> GST/HST REFUND
<input type="checkbox"/> MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/> MONEY FROM A SERVICE AGENCY
<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER SOURCE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY BENEFIT (name province benefit)	<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME
<input type="checkbox"/> SENIORS BENEFITS	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**16. Do you have a need for services related to...?** [Read list and check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> CHRONIC/ACUTE MEDICAL CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (FASD)
<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANCY (IF RESPONDENT IS FEMALE)
<input type="checkbox"/> LEARNING DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAIN INJURY	

**17. What is keeping you from finding a place of your own?** [Read list and check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> LOW INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> CRIMINAL HISTORY
<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME ASSISTANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> PETS
<input type="checkbox"/> RENTS TOO HIGH	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILDREN
<input type="checkbox"/> POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> DISCRIMINATION
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY BREAKDOWN/CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T WANT HOUSING
<input type="checkbox"/> TRAUMA AND GRIEF	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	

# Appendix E. Informed Consent



**THOMPSON POINT-IN-TIME COUNT 2022  
VERBAL INFORMED CONSENT**

UNSHeltered SURVEY ____	SHeltered SURVEY ____	SURVEY NUMBER: _____
Location: _____		Time: _____ AM/PM
Interviewer: _____		Contact phone: _____

Hello, would you like a \_\_\_\_\_ (engagement gift)? (Offer gift: granola bars, blanket, backpack, cigarette, etc.)

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ (first name only) and I am a volunteer working for the **Thompson housing need survey**. We are conducting a survey to provide better programs and services to people experiencing homelessness. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete.

- Participation is voluntary and your name will only be recorded for the purpose of COVID contact tracing. All identifying information will be kept separate from the survey data.
- You can choose to skip any question or to stop the interview at any time.
- If you choose to end the survey at anytime, your survey will be destroyed and your data will not be included in the study.
- Results will contribute to the understanding of homelessness across Canada, and will help with research to improve services.

**Important Note:** Please know that we will have to share what you tell us in the following circumstances: if you disclose information about plans to harm yourself or others,

information concerning any unknown emotional, physical or sexual abuse of children, or information about any other criminal activities not already known to authorities. In these cases, we are required to report this information to the appropriate authorities.

The Thompson homeless PIT count 2022 is sponsored by the University of Manitoba and funded by the Government of Canada's Reaching Home. If you want more information or have concerns about this project, feel free to contact Lee Anne Deegan at 204 677 1452

This research has been approved by the Research Ethics Board at the University of Manitoba, Fort Garry campus. If you have any concerns or complaints about this project you may contact any of the above-named persons or the Human Ethics Officer at 204-474-7122 or HumanEthics@umanitoba.ca. A copy of this consent form has been given to you to keep for your records and reference.

**DO YOU AGREE TO PARTICIPATE: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_**

If yes, proceed with COVID consent and screening questions.

If no, thank the person for their time and record refusal in the unsheltered tally sheet or on the sheltered survey form. Place signed informed consent in envelope provided, print your name (volunteer) on the front, seal it and hand it in to Lee Anne Deegan at the PiT Count headquarters.

## Appendix F. COVID Consent



### THOMPSON POINT-IN-TIME COUNT 2022 COVID CONSENT

#### Important Notes:

This document contains important information about in-person research during the COVID-19 public health crisis. COVID-19 (also called SARS-CoV2) is an illness caused by the coronavirus.

Coronaviruses are most commonly spread from an infected person through: a) respiratory droplets when you cough or sneeze; b) close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands; or c) touching something with the virus on it, then touching your eyes, nose or mouth before washing your hands.

The University of Manitoba is committed to taking measures to protect the health and safety of their campuses and the wider community. Your safety is important to us. The university has suspended most research that cannot be conducted remotely or virtually. This project requires in-person visits. Therefore, it is important to understand that your participation in this study may increase your exposure to COVID-19.

Our project has been approved to proceed by the Research Ethics Board, our Faculty, the COVID Recovery Response Team, the COVID Recovery Steering Committee, and the University Provost. In order to gain approval, we created policies/precautions to ensure the safety of the research team and participants. These plans were reviewed and approved by the parties above. These precautions include:

- The research team have been required to pre-screen using the COVID-19 Screening Tool at Manitoba Shared Health before attending to volunteer today.
- Research teams members are equipped with PPE (3-ply) and hand sanitizer.
- PPE and hand sanitizer will be supplied at each site and to participants at the onset of in-person surveys.

- The indoor research sites have been decontaminated and social distancing will be maintained.

COVID-19 is a serious health threat and the situation is evolving rapidly. If you feel that you are from a group that is more vulnerable to COVID-19 effects (e.g., senior (over the age of 60 years), immuno-compromised), please discuss your participation with the research team before providing your consent. You are under no obligation to participate and can change your mind about participating in the research at any time and without consequence.

There is a possibility that during your participation in the study you could come into contact with someone with COVID-19. As above, we are required to collect your personal contact information that we must retain it in order to follow up with you and/or conduct contact tracing if you may have been exposed to COVID-19 in coming to the research site. We cannot guarantee anonymity as the personal contact information identifies you as a participant and we may be required to disclose this information in the event of a possible exposure. Your contact information will be kept separately from data collected through the research study to allow for de-identification of the research data.

You maintain your right to withdraw from the study at any time, including your research data. If you do withdraw from the study, we will still need to continue to maintain your contact information and will only give it to the University's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Office and/or Manitoba Health if required for contact tracing.

The Thompson homeless PIT count 2022 is sponsored by the University of Manitoba and funded by the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy. If you want more information or have concerns about this project, feel free to contact Lee Anne Deegan at 204 677 1452

This research has been approved by the Research Ethics Board at the University of Manitoba, Fort Garry campus. If you have any concerns or complaints about this project you may contact any of the above-named persons or the Human Ethics Officer at 204-474-7122 or [HumanEthics@umanitoba.ca](mailto:HumanEthics@umanitoba.ca). A copy of this consent form has been given to you to keep for your records and reference.

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: (phone/email) \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Co \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**COVID-19 symptom checklist:**

Have you had contact with anyone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

- Yes
- No

Do you suspect you may have COVID-19 based on the following symptoms? · New or worsening cough · New or worsening shortness of breath or difficulty breathing · New or worsening feeling of fever or chills · New or worsening fatigue or weakness · New loss of smell or taste · New or worsening headache · New or worsening abdominal pain · Diarrhea, Vomiting, or Feeling very unwell

- Yes
- No

IF YES TO QUESTION 2: Would you like to arrange for a COVID-19 test?

- Yes (Provide Thompson Clinic hand out)
- No

Thank you for your responses.

# Appendix G. Tally Sheet

<b>SHELTERED SURVEY</b>	<b>SURVEY NUMBER:</b> _____
Location: _____	Time: _____ AM/PM
Interviewer: _____	Contact phone: _____

**Instructions:** For those who are **not surveyed**, please fill in the sheet below indicating the reason. For those who DECLINE or are OBSERVED only, but who are clearly homeless, please also indicate their gender, approximate age, and the reason you believe they are homeless (e.g., asleep outside with belongings).

#	Location	Reason not Surveyed				* Indicators of Homelessness
		Declined	Already Responded	Screened Out	Observed*	
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						



## Appendix H. Table Data

**Table 2. Participation Rate**

Survey Form	Survey Response	Actual Number	Total Approached (%)
<b>Unsheltered Survey</b>	Declined or already surveyed	30	17
	Screened Out	6	3
	Observed	17	9
	Survey Completed	29	16
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Sheltered Survey</b>	Declined or already surveyed	0	0
	Screened Out	6	3
	Observed	58	32
	Survey Completed	34	19
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Combined</b>	Total Approached	180	100
	<b>Total Surveys Completed</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>35</b>

**Table 3. Accompanying Family Members**

Family Members	Actual Number	Percent
None	53	82
Partner	1	2
Other adult	7	11
Children/dependents	1	2
Declined to answer	3	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4. Breakdown of Accompanying Children/Dependents

Participant	# Of Children/Dependants	Age(s)	Gender(s)
1	1	2	M

Table 5. Age Groups

Year of Age	Actual Number	Percentage
Under 20	1	2
20 - 29	13	21
30 - 39	19	31
40- 49	16	26
50 – 59	8	13
60 +	5	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 6. First Time Homeless (Age Groups)

Times Experiencing Homelessness During the Past Year	Actual Number	Percent
0 – 5	38	60
6 – 10	2	3
11 +	6	10
Don't know	15	24
Decline to answer	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 7. Times Homeless in Past Year

Times Experiencing Homelessness During the Past Year	Actual Number	Percent
0 – 5	38	60
6 – 10	2	3
11 +	6	10
Don't know	15	24
Decline to answer	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 8. Duration of Homeless Over the Past Year?**

Months Homeless	Actual Number	Percent
0 – 2	12	20
3 – 5	5	8
6 – 11	10	16
12+	25	41
Don't know	9	15
Decline to answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 9. Stayed in a Shelter in Past Year**

Shelter Usage	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	38	60.32
No	25	39.68
Don't Know	0	0
Decline to Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 10. Did You Come to Canada as an Immigrant, Refugee...?**

Immigration to Canada	Actual Number	Percent
Yes Immigrant	0	0
Yes Refugee	0	0
Yes Refugee Claimant	0	0
No	57	90
Don't Know	0	0
Decline to Answer	6	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 11. Length of Time in Thompson?

Time Period	Actual Number	Percent
Days	3	5
Weeks	4	6
Months	8	13
Years	38	61
Always Been Here	5	8
Don't Know	4	6
Decline To Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 12. Previous Residence

Community Name	Actual #	%	Community Name	Actual #	%
Nelson House	11	19	Beaujour	1	3
Split Lake	6	10	Fox Lake	1	2
Oxford House	5	8	Gods Lake	1	2
South Indian Lake	4	7	Lac Brochet	1	2
Winnipeg	4	7	Moose Lake	1	2
Brandon	2	3	Saskatchewan	2	2
Churchill	2	3	Shamattawa	1	2
Cross Lake	2	3	The Pas	1	2
Gilliam	2	3	Thompson	1	2
Grand Rapids	2	3	York Landing	1	2
Norway House	2	3			
Pukatawagan	2	3	Decline to Answer	4	7
				n= 59	

Table 13. Do You Identify as First Nations?

Identify as First Nation	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	57	90
No	6	10
Don't Know	0	0
Decline to Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 14. Indigenous Identity**

First Nation, Métis, or Inuit	Actual Number	Percent
First Nation (with or without status)	55	98
Inuit	0	0
Métis	1	2
Have Aboriginal Ancestry	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 15. Do You Identify with Any of the Racial Identities Listed Below?**

Racial Identities	Actual Number	Percent
Non-Indigenous Identity Yes	3	5
Non-Indigenous No	40	64
Don't Know	1	2
Decline to Answer	0	0
Indigenous Only	19	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 16. Canadian Military or RCMP Service**

Served in Canadian Military or RCMP	Actual Number	Percent
Yes, Military	2	3
Yes, RCMP	3	5
Yes, Military and RCMP	0	0
No	55	90
Don't Know	0	0
Decline to Answer	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 17. In Foster Care as a Child/Youth

In Foster Care as a Child/Youth	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	30	48
No	31	49
Don't Know	2	3
Decline to Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 18. Family Member in Foster Care/Group Home

Family Members in Foster Care/Group Homes	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	30	48
No	31	49
Don't Know	2	3
Decline to Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 19. Breakdown of Foster Care/Group Home Attendance

Breakdown of Foster Care/Group Home	Actual Number	Percent
You	11	20
Another Family Member	44	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 20. Attended Residential School

Attended Residential School	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	46	73
No	12	19
Don't Know	5	8
Decline to Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 21. Do you identify as having an illness or medical condition?

Illness or Mental Condition	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	19	36
No	31	60
Don't Know	0	0
Decline to Answer	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 22. Do You Identify as Having a Learning or Cognitive Limitation?

Learning or Cognitive Limitation	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	9	18
No	40	82
Don't Know	0	0
Decline to Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 23. Do You Identify as Having a Substance Use Issue?

Substance-Use Issue	Actual Number	Percent
Yes	40	70
No	17	30
Don't Know	0	0
Decline to Answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 24. Reason for Loss of Housing

Reason for Loss of Housing	Actual Number	Percent
Not enough income for housing	15	21
Left the community/relocated	5	7
Conflict with spouse/partner	4	5
Unfit/unsafe living conditions	3	4
Conflict with parent/guardian	3	4
Experienced abuse by: parent/guardian	3	4
Don't know	3	4
Landlord/tenant conflict	2	3
Experienced abuse by spouse/partner	2	3
Decline to answer	2	3
Experienced discrimination	1	1
Experienced abuse by other: _____	1	1
Departure of family member	1	1
Physical health issue	1	1
Building sold or renovated	0	0
Owner moved in	0	0
Complaint (e.g., pet/noise/damage)	0	0
Conflict with other _____	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 25. How long ago did that happen?

Length of Time	Actual Number	Percent	Range
Days	1	2	1 day
Weeks	2	3	1-2 weeks
Months	18	29	1-8 months
Years	32	51	1-30 years
Don't know	8	13	N/A
Decline to answer	2	3	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>N/A</b>



**Table 26. Sources of income**

Source of Income	Actual Number	Percent
Welfare/social assistance	38	54
No income	9	13
Other source: _____	5	7
Disability benefit	4	6
GST/HST REFUND	3	4
Seniors benefit	3	4
Casual employment (e.g., contract work)	2	3
Full-time employment	2	3
Money from family/friends	2	3
Employment insurance	1	1
Part-time employment	1	1
Child and family tax benefits	0	0
Informal/self-employment (e.g., bottle returns, panhandling)	0	0
Money from a service agency	0	0
Veterans/VAC benefits	0	0
Decline to answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 27. Need for Services?**

Services Required	Actual Number	Percent
Addiction or substance use	21	30
Physical disability	12	17
Mental health	12	17
Decline to answer	10	14
Don't know	6	9
Other: _____	4	6
Chronic/acute medical condition	3	4
Learning disability	2	3
Brain injury	1	1
Fetal alcohol syndrome disorder (FASD)	0	0
Pregnancy (if respondent is female)	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 28. Barriers to Housing**

Barriers to Housing	Actual Number	Percent
Low income	33	37
Other (specify) _____	14	16
Addiction	13	14
Rents too high	8	9
No income assistance	4	4
Criminal history	4	4
Poor housing conditions	3	3
Discrimination	3	3
Don't know	2	2
Domestic violence	2	2
Trauma and grief	1	1
Mental health issues	1	1
Family breakdown/conflict	1	1
Don't want housing	1	1
Pets	0	0
Children	0	0
Decline to answer	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 29. Comparison of Number of Sheltered and Unsheltered Participants in PiT Counts Since 2015**

# Participants	2015	2016	2018	2022
Sheltered	47	60	65	34
Unsheltered	79	38	47	29
Total	<b>126</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>63</b>

**Table 30. Comparisons of PiT Count Demographics**

Demographic	2015	2016	2018	2022
	Percentage			
Indigenous Identity	95	91	95	91
Gender				
Male	52	56	60	71
Female	43	39	35	25
Two-Spirit			4	3
	Age] (years)			
Average Age	42	42	42	40
Age Range	15-76	18-77	20-76	21-71

**Table 31. Comparison of Chronic Homelessness**

Year	2015	2016	2018	2022
Percent Chronic Homelessness	63%	58%	65%	57%