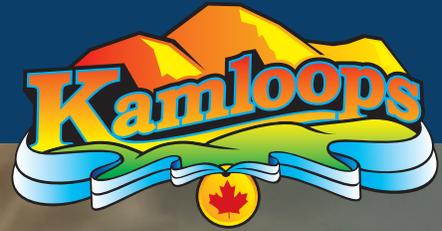


# 2023 KAMLOOPS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT REPORT



Canada's Tournament Capital



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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## Land Acknowledgment

The City of Kamloops occupies land that, since time immemorial, has been a place of great cultural and economic importance in our region. The City acknowledges that we are located on Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc territory, situated within the unceded ancestral lands of the Secwépemc Nation. We honour and respect the people, the territory, and the land that houses our community.

The City would like to thank everyone who contributed their time and expertise to the Kamloops 2023 Point-in-Time Count, including all of the organizations and the volunteers that participated. Without the community's support, the Kamloops Point-in-Time Count would not be possible. The City would also like to thank the individuals who are experiencing homelessness and took the time to share their personal stories with us. The City hopes this report can add to the efforts to reduce homelessness in our region.

### The project team and community partners include the following:

- City of Kamloops
- Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc
- A Way Home Kamloops
- ASK Wellness
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Interior Community Services
- Interior Health
- Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society
- Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society
- Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
- Out of the Cold Shelter
- The Mustard Seed
- United Way BC

### Funder:

Reaching Home Program: Canada's Homelessness Strategy



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Kamloops' 2023 Point-in-Time Count took place on April 12 and April 13, 2023. Point-in-Time Counts provide a snapshot of the number of people experiencing homelessness within a community in a 24-hour period. The Point-in-Time Count serves two functions—to count the number of people experiencing homelessness in Kamloops over a specified period and to gather information on the demographics and service needs of the local population of unhoused individuals.

Funding for this initiative comes from the federal government's Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy grant. Like many communities across British Columbia, Kamloops aligned this count with our provincial partners—the Homelessness Services Association of BC and BC Housing.

Strong community partnership is required for a Point-in-Time Count to be successful. The City partnered with Tk'emlups te Secwépemc and several agencies representing Kamloops' homeless-serving sector. A Point-In-Time Committee was struck and was instrumental in the project's success. Over 75 volunteers—composed of outreach workers, shelter staff, people with lived experiences of homelessness, cultural educators, social workers, and more—participated in the Kamloops Point-in-Time Count.

Data was provided from eight shelters, and surveys were completed throughout the community both on the Tk'emlups te Secwépemc reserve and within the City of Kamloops, along various walking routes on streets, in parks, along riverbanks, and at two magnet events designed to encourage participation. During the 24-hour period, 312 individuals were counted and 220 surveys were completed. The information collected in these surveys will help guide decision makers, planners, and service providers in advocating for and developing programs and services that support the community's most vulnerable.

The Point-in-Time Count methodology is representative of how many people are experiencing homelessness on a given day. It provides a baseline for understanding the most visible and often most vulnerable individuals in our community. The actual ongoing number of people experiencing homelessness is likely much greater. The information within this report should not be taken in isolation. Other additional forms of data should be used to provide a more fulsome understanding of homelessness in our community.

What is evident from the Point-in-Time data is that the causes of homelessness are a combination of structural factors, systems failures, and individual circumstances. Notable within the data is the legacy of colonization and residential schools, and how this has contributed to the over representation of Indigenous Peoples experiencing homelessness. The data also provides signs that the systems set up to support vulnerable youth have significant gaps that negatively impact social and health outcomes for many young people. **Our response to this crisis will require a continued and intentional approach to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and a purposeful, proactive, and long-term plan to better support our youth.**



**75**  
VOLUNTEERS



**24**  
HOUR WINDOW



**312**  
INDIVIDUALS  
IDENTIFIED

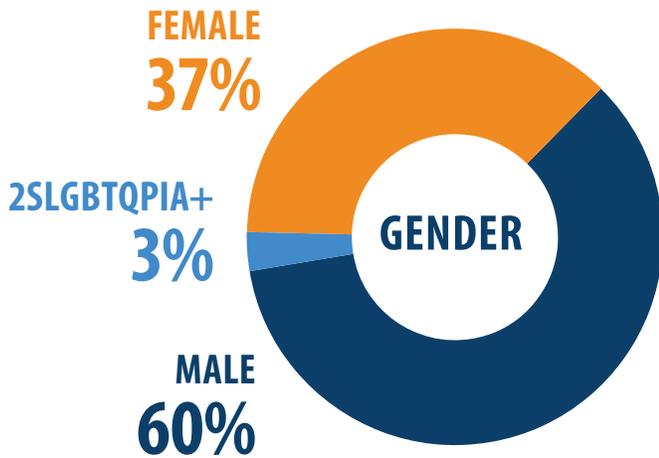
# POINT-IN-TIME 2023 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

**312**  
**PEOPLE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS**  
 IN KAMLOOPS ON APRIL 12 & 13, 2023

**51%**  
**INCREASE IN PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**  
 FROM 2021

**95%**  
**OCCUPANCY IN SHELTERS**  
 ON APRIL 12, 2023

**84%**  
**OF RESPONDENTS ARE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS**

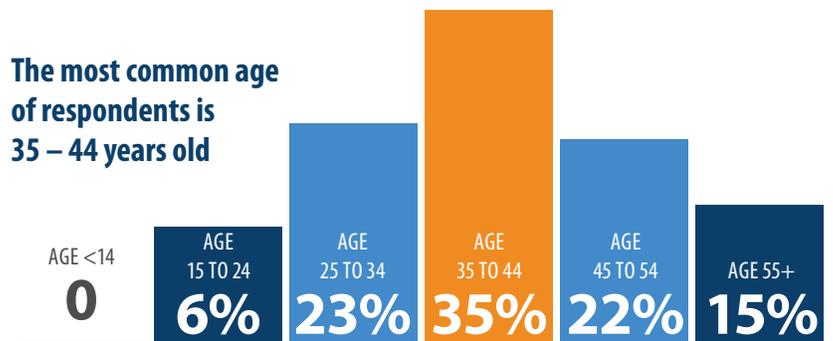


## INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS

- 52%** of respondents identified as Indigenous
- 43%** of respondents have residential school experience
- 48%** of Indigenous respondents were in the foster care system
- 30%** of Indigenous respondents have experienced discrimination as a barrier to housing

**55%**  
**OF RESPONDENTS EXPERIENCED ABUSE OR CONFLICT WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THEIR MOST RECENT HOUSING LOSS**

The most common age of respondents is 35 – 44 years old



**YOUTH**

**46%** OF RESPONDENTS WERE IN THEIR YOUTH (UNDER 24 YEARS OF AGE) THE FIRST TIME THEY EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS

**35%** OF RESPONDENTS WERE IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

**56%**  
**OF RESPONDENTS HAVE ALWAYS LIVED IN KAMLOOPS OR HAVE LIVED IN KAMLOOPS FOR FIVE OR MORE YEARS**

**TOP 3 BARRIERS TO HOUSING**

- 71%** CANNOT AFFORD HOUSING
- 42%** HAVE NO CREDIT/BAD CREDIT
- 36%** DO NOT HAVE A REFERENCE

# INTRODUCTION

The Point-in-Time Count provides a snapshot of the number of people experiencing homelessness within a community in a 24-hour period. Point-in-Time Counts are typically conducted every two to three years in communities across Canada.

The Point-in-Time Count serves two functions—to count the number of people experiencing homelessness in Kamloops over a specified period and to gather information on the demographics and service needs of the local population of unhoused individuals.

Point-in-Time Counts have been conducted in Kamloops since the 2000s. The most recent count took place on April 12 and 13, 2023. Over 75 volunteers—composed of outreach workers, shelter staff, people with lived experiences of homelessness, cultural educators, social workers, and more—participated in the 2023 Point-in-Time Count.

Data was provided from eight shelters, and surveys were completed throughout the community along various walking routes on streets, in parks, along riverbanks, and at two magnet events designed to encourage participation. During the 24-hour period, 312 individuals were counted and 220 surveys were completed. The information collected in these surveys will help guide decision makers, planners, and service providers in advocating for and developing programs and services that support our community's most vulnerable.



# BACKGROUND

## DEFINITIONS OF HOMELESSNESS

The Canadian Observatory on Homelessness defines homelessness as, “the situation of an individual, family or community without stable, safe, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it.” (Gaetz et al., 2017). For the purpose of the Point-in-Time Count, the definition is further refined to be, “an individual who does not have a place of their own where they can stay for more than 30 days, as well as if they do not pay rent,” (Homelessness Services Association of British Columbia, 2021).

### This includes:

- **Sheltered homelessness:** An individual stays in an emergency shelter, transition house for women and children fleeing violence, or a safe house for youth.
- **Unsheltered homelessness:** An individual has no physical shelter and is sleeping outdoors in parks, alleys, or makeshift shelters.
- **Hidden homelessness:** An individual is couch-surfing, or staying in a motel/hotel, hospital, or jail.
- **Chronic homelessness:** An individual experiences homelessness for at least six months in the past year or they have experienced 18 months of homelessness in the past three years.

## FACTORS INFLUENCING HOMELESSNESS

In 2016, the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness estimated that 235,000 Canadians experience homelessness, and the number of Canadians who experience homelessness on any given night to be 35,000 people (Gaetz et al., 2016).

**The causes of homelessness are a combination of structural factors, systems failures, and individual circumstances. There is no one cause of homelessness, and there are typically compounding factors** (Gaetz et al., 2016).

Key structural factors identified include poverty, access to affordable housing, access to health supports, and ongoing discrimination. Additionally, gaps exist *within* systems that support vulnerable populations, including the government care system, mental health and substance use services, and discharge planning for hospitals. Personal health circumstances—such as traumatic events, mental health problems, substance use disorder, physical disabilities, and relational issues—may also factor into someone’s likelihood of experiencing homelessness.

## HOMELESSNESS IN KAMLOOPS

Over the past nine years, Kamloops has seen an over 200% increase in the number of unhoused individuals identified in Point-in-Time Counts. Community safety concerns, significant rental and ownership cost increases in the housing market, an overstretched health care system, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the childcare crisis are some of the local, regional, and national factors impacting Kamloops and other communities. These factors have a greater impact on individuals who are more vulnerable.

The City worked with Thompson Rivers University's Research-in-Residence program to explore the Point-in-Time Count data in more detail, with the intent to better understand the clusters of individuals that make up the city's unhoused population and what possible factors contribute to local increases of homelessness.

The project team completed what is referred to as a latent profile analysis of the raw survey data. Latent profile analysis is a statistical approach to analyzing data that identifies types or groups of people in a set of data. When results are averaged out, there is potential to lose groupings of people that may provide a more robust explanation of the challenges that that group faces. This is relevant to the Point-in-Time Count data as social services typically target different populations. Exploring the data further can help to identify some of the key trends and needs of those surveyed and provide a better analysis, which may help develop more effective solutions.

The analysis was conducted using variables such as age, length of time unhoused, age of first experience of homelessness, and years spent in community. The data was also compared to the 2021 Point-in-Time Count data to see if there were any significant changes.



The analysis found four distinct profiles:

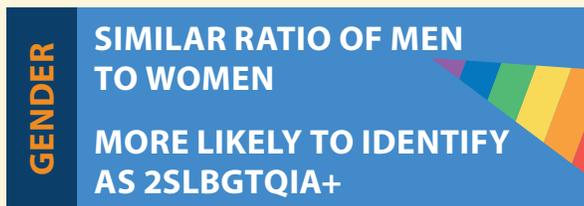
## Profile 1: Young Adult with a Rough Start in Life

This is the largest profile representing **more than half** of those surveyed.



Members of this profile have been homeless for approximately **nine months** in the past year.

Almost half of the members of this profile identified as having residential school experience in their family.



Members of this profile have undergone more than three years of homelessness since their first experience of homelessness.

## Profile 2: Middle-Aged Female Recently Unhoused

Second largest profile with approximately **25%** of those surveyed



This profile has grown in size relative to other profiles since the last count



## Profile 3: Older Adult Recently Unhoused

This profile represents around **15%** of those surveyed

**AGE**  
AVERAGE AGE **60**

**TIME IN KAMLOOPS**  
AVERAGE YEARS LIVED IN KAMLOOPS **17+**

Members of this profile have experienced homelessness for the first time relatively recently (i.e., in the last three to five years).



## Profile 4: Older Male with a Rough Start in Life

This profile represents about **10%** of those surveyed

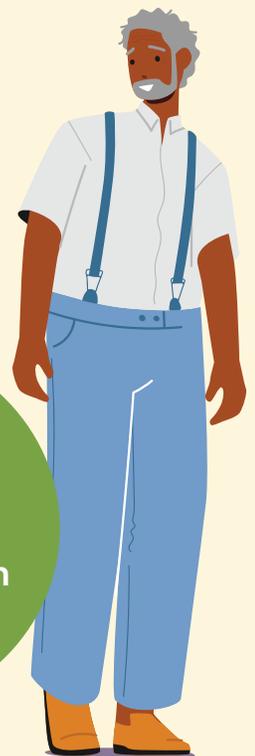
**AGE**  
AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST HOMELESS EXPERIENCE **16-17**  
AVERAGE AGE **55**

**TIME IN KAMLOOPS**  
AVERAGE YEARS LIVED IN KAMLOOPS **30**

Members of this profile have experienced five or more years of homelessness since their first experience.



Members of this profile have experienced more episodes of homelessness than others



## What do these profiles tell us?

### Youth Homelessness

The prevalence of youth onset of homelessness is immediately visible in the data. Most survey participants experienced homelessness early in their lives. This analysis clustered two distinct profiles that were characterized by youth onset of homelessness—profiles 1 and 4. Profile 1 is a large and growing group of young adults who first experienced homelessness as youth in the last 15 years. Profile 4 is an older, more likely to be male population

that first experienced homelessness in their youth approximately 40 years ago. This older group continues to experience chronic homelessness. This indicates individuals are more likely to be homeless in their later years if their first experience of homelessness was in their youth. Current services and programs should aim to support both groups. **Preventing youth homelessness in the first place is one of the most effective policies to address homelessness.**

### Legacy of Colonization and Residential Schools

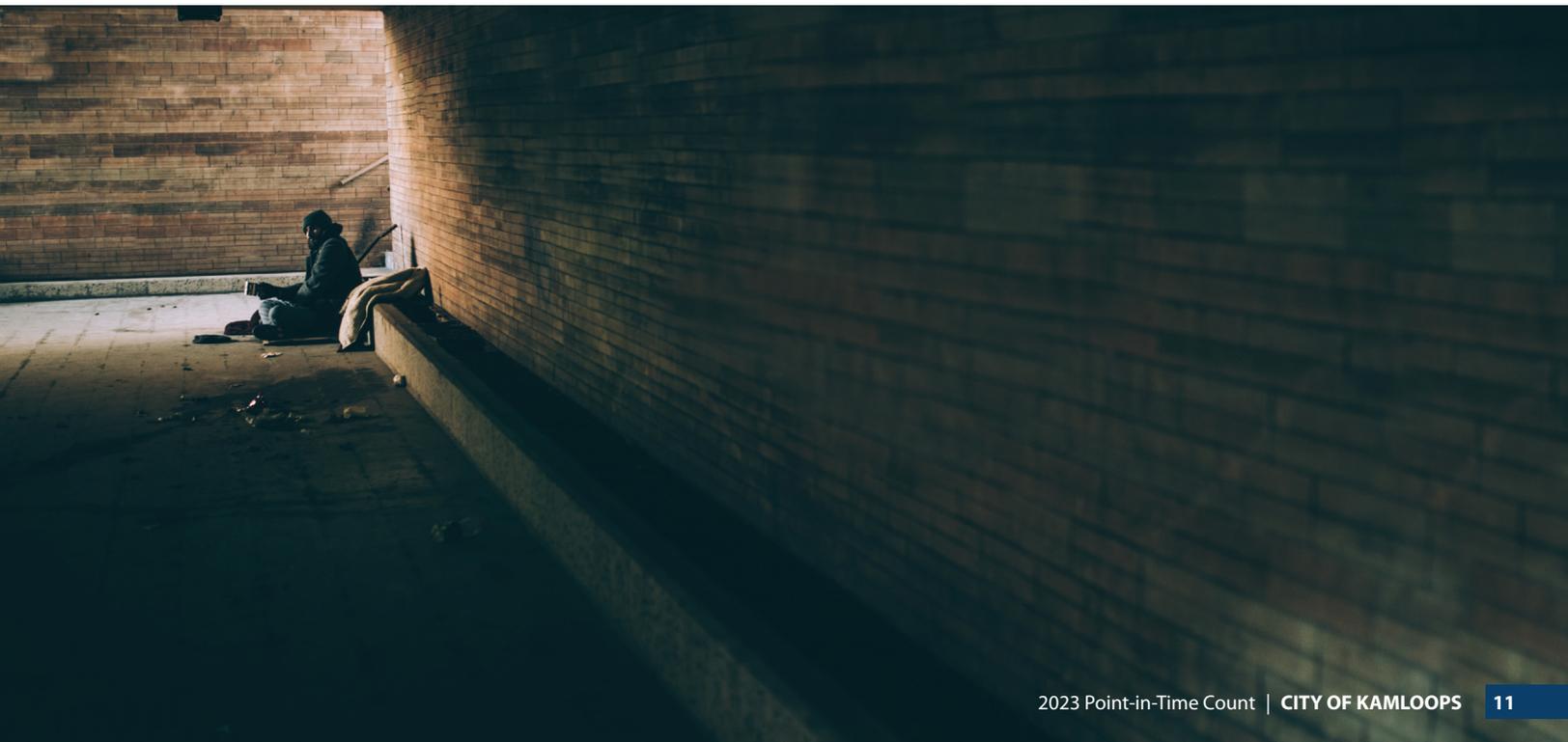
The general summary data clearly shows the significant impact of the residential school system on this sample population. The implications of these historic policies are evident by the disproportionate representation of both Indigenous Peoples in the sample as well as those that identify as survivors of the residential school system. This

was most prevalent with the largest profile, profile 1. This legacy is not an echo of an issue and will not naturally resolve itself with time. Rather, the **legacy of colonization is a lingering trauma that compounds other societal issues across generations**, such as financial and interpersonal challenges that we all face.

### The Housing Crisis and Economic Precarity

The data shows that the housing crisis and economic precarity are changing the overall demographic of the unhoused population. In general, women and youth earn less; therefore, these populations are more sensitive to difficult economic conditions. Historically, women have been underrepresented in Point-in-Time Count data as research shows that women are more likely to experience hidden homelessness due to couch-surfing with friends or relatives. As shown in Profile 2, there is an emerging profile

of recent, later-in-life onset of homelessness for women. There is also an emerging trend towards a similar ratio of women to men in the younger profile of homelessness (profile 1), which may suggest a change in the demographics of people experiencing homelessness since 2021. **The increase in later-in-life onset of homelessness, specifically for females, appears to be tied to financial difficulties.**



# METHODOLOGY

The Point-in-Time Count is a commonly used methodology across Canada that aims to provide a snapshot of the number of people experiencing homelessness within a community in a 24-hour period.

Point-in-Time Counts provide a common language and comparable data sets for service providers, governments, and communities to use in planning. The year-over-year comparisons identify trends or changes in the number and type of people experiencing homelessness. The information gathered will contribute to the local, provincial, and national understanding of homelessness.

The Point-in-Time Count serves two functions—to count the number of people experiencing homelessness in Kamloops over a specified period, referred to as enumeration, and to gather information on the demographics and service needs of the local population of unhoused individuals via a survey.

## POINT-IN-TIME ENUMERATION

Enumeration is derived from two components. The first component is a shelter count provided by the staff at local shelters sites, which provides the total number of clients staying in sheltered locations on the night of the count. The second component comes from the survey data, where individuals who indicated that they had stayed in an unsheltered location the previous night are also included in the enumeration. These individuals were reached by volunteers conducting surveys during the day following the shelter count.

## POINT-IN-TIME SURVEY

A total of 75 trained community members, including shelter staff, health care workers, outreach teams, people with lived experience of homelessness, and City staff conducted 220 surveys over the 24-hour period. The surveys were completed within shelters the night of the count as well as the following day in locations such as streets, parks, beaches, encampments, and alleys. There were also two magnet events, which were designed to encourage participation in the Point-in-Time Count and were hosted by Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society and the Canadian Mental Health Association.

**The survey conducted during the day included the following screening questions:**

- Have you already answered this survey?
- Do you currently have a place to stay where you pay monthly rent?
- Where did you stay last night?
- Did you feel safe there?

The definition of rent for the purpose of this survey is a fixed amount of money a person pays to be allowed to stay there for 30 or more days and can expect to do so for the foreseeable future. Individuals who identified as paying rent were asked a further question for clarity but were not asked to continue the survey if they identified as paying rent at their own place or as staying with relatives who they could safely stay with for as long as they liked.

If an individual fulfilled the criteria of experiencing homelessness but did not want to take the survey, they were still counted without any identifiers. The survey was voluntary, and respondents could choose to end the survey at any point. There are standardized questions across British Columbia, which are added based on advocacy and engagement. The final version for the 2023 survey included a total of 30 questions including both the screening questions and some community-specific questions.

## ENGAGEMENT

Funding for this initiative comes from the federal government's Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy grant. Like many communities across British Columbia, Kamloops aligned this count with our provincial partners—the Homelessness Service Association of BC and BC Housing.

Strong community partnership is required for a Point-in-Time Count to be successful. The City partnered with several agencies representing the homeless-serving sector of Kamloops. A Point-In-Time Committee was struck and was instrumental in the project's success.

The committee's role was to provide guidance and relevant information to:

- promote a safe and successful count
- support the recruitment of volunteers and/or participants from their respective organizations
- promote awareness about the Point-in-Time Count with the community and clients
- identify key areas where volunteers should be assigned
- provide guidance on how to best support individuals during and after participating in the survey
- host magnet events
- provide input regarding survey questions

## INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT

Given the understanding that Indigenous Peoples have been overrepresented in previous Point-in-Time Counts in Kamloops, it was important that the City was intentional in its approach to engaging Indigenous organizations and First Nations leadership to help guide us on how the City connects with Indigenous Peoples and how the City possibly shares that information more broadly.

The City worked closely with the Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society, which supports and facilitates various programs for the urban Indigenous population of Kamloops. A member of their organization sat on the Point-in-Time Committee, providing input on all aspects of the project. Additionally, the organization took a lead role in hosting a magnet event, which included various cultural activities and supports aimed at encouraging Indigenous individuals to participate in the surveys.

For the first time, with leadership support and direction from Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, the count included surveying individuals on Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc lands, specifically those lands immediately adjacent to the city, such as areas along the North and South Thompson Rivers where a small number of surveys were collected. Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc staff were invited to participate at the Point-in-Time Committee workshops and took part on the day of the count. Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc leadership was asked to provide feedback and guidance on the Indigenous-specific content within this document and received a presentation of the results prior to its release.

The City is committed to continuing to work closely with local First Nation leadership, Indigenous organizations, and Indigenous Peoples to ensure that Point-in-Time Counts are reflective of their communities, provide opportunities for advocacy, and help make individuals feel safe and respected while participating and in the publication of the results.

## LIMITATIONS TO THE METHOD

Point-in-Time counts provide a snapshot of the number of individuals experiencing homelessness over a 24-hour period. While results provide a trend over time and allow for a common language across communities, there are limitations to the methodology, such as:

- The Point-in-Time Count is an estimate of the MINIMUM number of people experiencing homelessness. It is important to recognize that this is an undercount.
- The hidden homeless, which are individuals usually staying with friends, family, or strangers who do not have the security of continued residency, are hard to connect with and may be missed in the count.
- Women and youth are more likely to experience hidden homelessness. Families are also more likely to intentionally hide or not use regular homeless-serving agencies due to fear of losing their children.
- The survey is voluntary. Individuals may not be willing to participate, and the methodology requires that those administering the survey speak to an individual to include them in the enumeration (unless they are sleeping in a shelter).
- Volunteers do participate in training before the count; however, there is risk that they can interpret questions differently or lead responses based on their own bias when asking the interview questions.
- The survey is based on an individual's responses. Factors such as cultural barriers, language barriers, and current level of health may impact how an individual self-assesses.

# ENUMERATION

## KAMLOOPS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT 2023

At least 312 people were experiencing homelessness in Kamloops over a 24-hour period on April 12-13, 2023. This number includes 194 people who were counted in shelters on the night of April 12, and 121 people who were counted by volunteers as per the survey screening criteria during the day on April 13.

People In Kamloops Experiencing Homelessness: 2014-2023



BETWEEN THE YEARS  
**2021 & 2023**  
THERE HAS BEEN A

**51% INCREASE**

IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN KAMLOOPS

OVER THE PAST  
**9 YEARS**  
THERE HAS BEEN A

**228% INCREASE**

IN HOMELESSNESS IN KAMLOOPS

# SURVEY RESULTS

The follow section summarizes the survey results for the 2023 Kamloops Point-in-Time count.

Of the 312 people who were identified as experiencing homelessness, a total of 220 individuals chose to respond to the additional survey questions.

The questions included in this section are deeply personal and the project organizers want to express gratitude to the individuals willing to share this information. The results are shared in a way that is meant to tell the larger story of homelessness in our community, but it is important to recognize that everyone who participated in this survey has their own unique story.

## SLEEPING LOCATIONS

One of the screening questions asked participants where they slept the night before. Shelter numbers were collected directly from the shelter operators. In addition to this, individuals were interviewed during the day and those who said they stayed in shelter were removed from the enumeration.

Sleeping Locations	2021		2023	
	#	%	#	%
Shelter	65	44%	192	62%
Outside	34	23%	70	22%
Makeshift shelter or tent	21	14%	33	11%
Someone else's place or couchsurfing	12	8%	12	4%
Other	15	10%	5	2%
Total responses	147		312	
Not listed / no response / declined to answer	59		0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>206</b>		<b>312</b>	



## SHELTER CAPACITY

When comparing shelter statistics from the night of April 16, 2021 and April 12, 2023 there was both an increase in the number of beds available and the use of those beds. In 2021, there were 180 shelter beds compared to 202 shelter beds in 2023. Based on the occupancy rates of 65% in 2021 and 95% in 2023, **more people experiencing homelessness were accessing shelter services at the time of the 2023 Point-In-Time Count.**

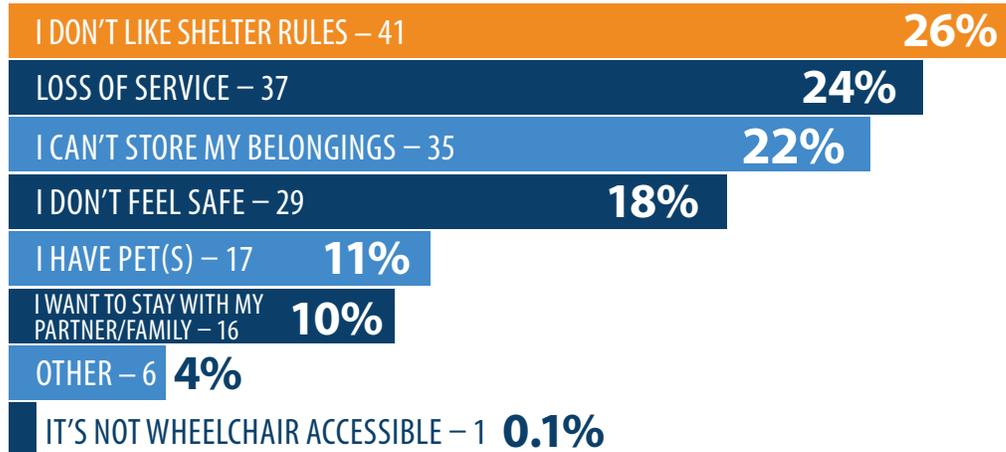
While shelters are an emergency response to homelessness and do not help to address the housing crisis, they provide individuals with the very basic necessities of life, and for some, a shelter can be the first step in rebuilding their lives. Accessing shelter can help individuals get connected to resources and provide someone with a short-term stable environment, which can help prepare them for more stable, longer-term housing.

Shelter Name	Occupancy April 16, 2021	Occupancy April 12, 2023
Emerald Centre	25/40	39/40
Merit Place	-	50/50
Moira House	-	37/41
Curling Club	40/50	-
Memorial Arena	23/40	-
Kamloops Youth Shelter	3/4	2/4
Y Women's Emergency Shelter	6/24	8/8
West End Shelter	20/22	20/22
Harbour House	-	11/12
Out of the Cold Shelter	-	25/25
<b>TOTAL BEDS USED</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE BEDS</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>202</b>
<b>OCCUPANCY RATES</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>95%</b>

## REASONS INDIVIDUALS MAY NOT ACCESS SHELTER

194 individuals accessed shelter in Kamloops on the night of April 12. All survey participants – whether they stayed in shelter, couch-surfed, or slept outside – were asked to share reasons why they may not access shelter.

### % of Respondents



2023n=220 surveyed, 157 respondents, 182 responses

## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Of survey respondents, 16% said they stayed with another person the previous night. The most common responses of who they stayed with was a partner/spouse followed by pets.



## SLEEPING LOCATIONS IN THE LAST YEAR

Survey respondents could identify as many locations as applicable to their situation. In the past year, **98% of survey respondents spent at least one night in a shelter**. Of respondents, 78% identified spending at least one night in an unsheltered public space. Additional responses to this question included spending at least one night in the past year in an encampment (60%), couch-surfing (49%), in a hotel/motel (39%), and in a vehicle (32%).

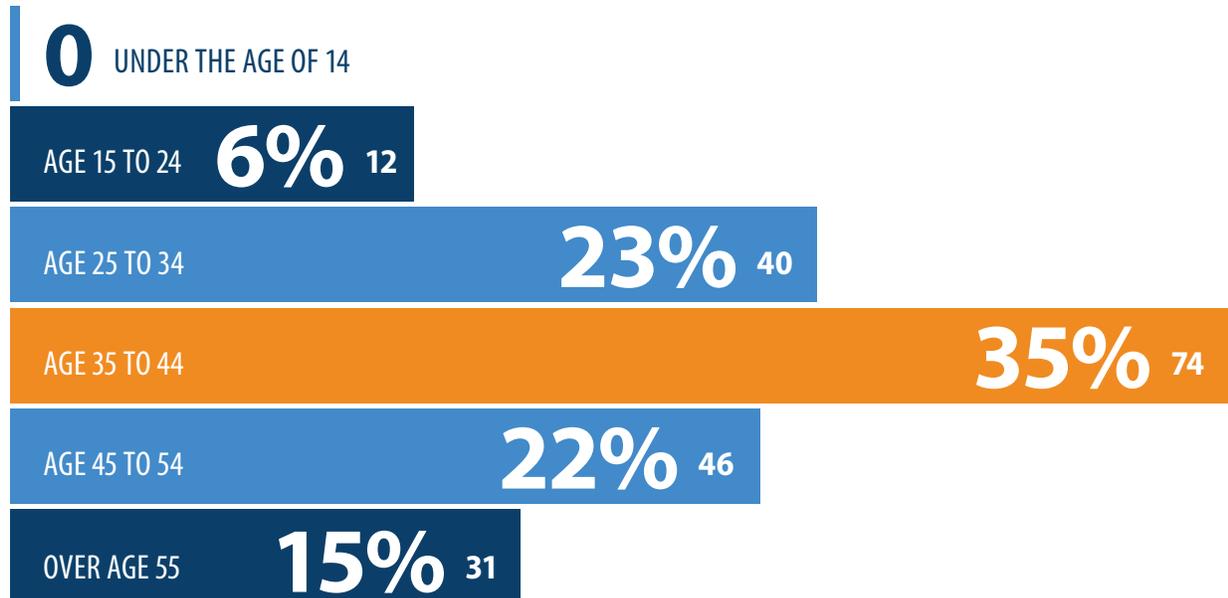
## AGE

The most common age of people experiencing homelessness in Kamloops is between 35-44 years old. A total of 80% of survey respondents are adults (25–54 years of age), while 15% of respondents identified as seniors (55 years of age or older). Youth (under 25 years of age) represented 6% of survey respondents. The youngest was 15 years of age and the oldest was 74 years of age. There was no significant change in the age distribution from 2021 to 2023.

**Have you spent at least one night in any of the following locations in the past year? Select all that apply.**

Homeless shelter	98%
Unsheltered public space	78%
Encampment	60%
Couchsurfing/someone else's place	49%
Hotel/motel	39%
Vehicle	32%
Transitional housing	7%
Second stage housing (after treatment)	7%
Second stage housing (after transition house)	4%
<b>NO RESPONSE</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>TOTAL SURVEY PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>220</b>

### How Old Are You?

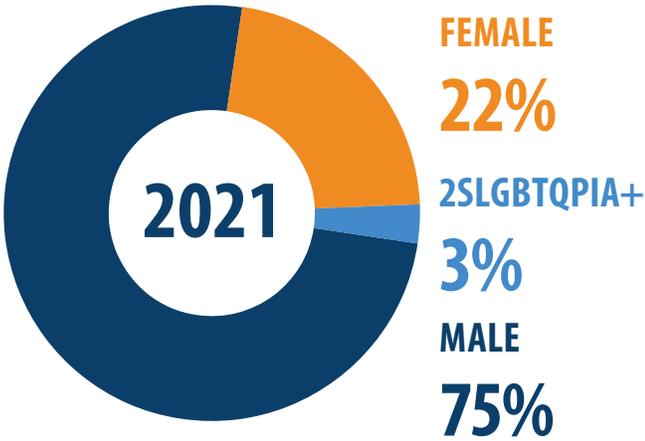


2023n=220 surveyed, 157 respondents, 212 responses

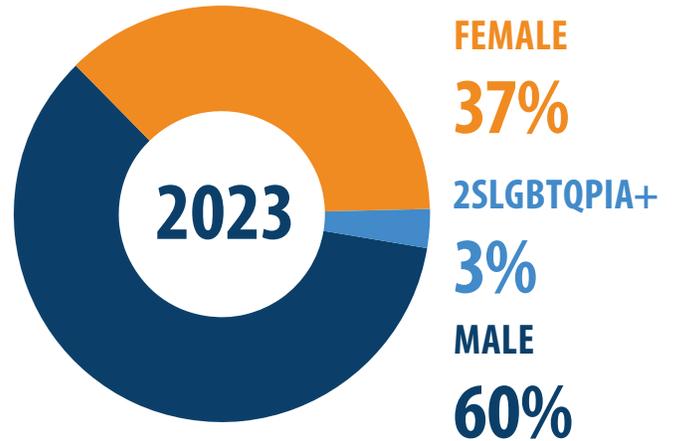
## GENDER

Among survey respondents, 60% identified as men, 37% identified as female, and 3% identified as another gender identity.

### What Gender Do You Identify With?



2021n=147 surveyed, 138 responses



2023n=220 surveyed, 204 responses



THOSE WHO IDENTIFIED AS FEMALE INCREASED FROM

**22%** (30) **TO** **37%** (76)  
IN 2021 IN 2023



THIS EQUATES TO A

**76%**  
**INCREASE**

IN FEMALE HOMELESSNESS SINCE 2021

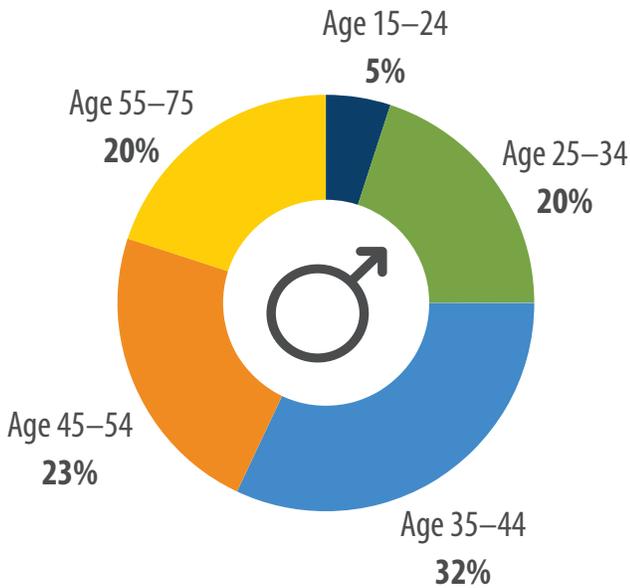


## AGE & GENDER DISTRIBUTION

When considering age and gender, 20% of males experiencing homelessness were over 55 years of age in comparison to 5% of females, which indicates that seniors experiencing homelessness are more likely to be male.

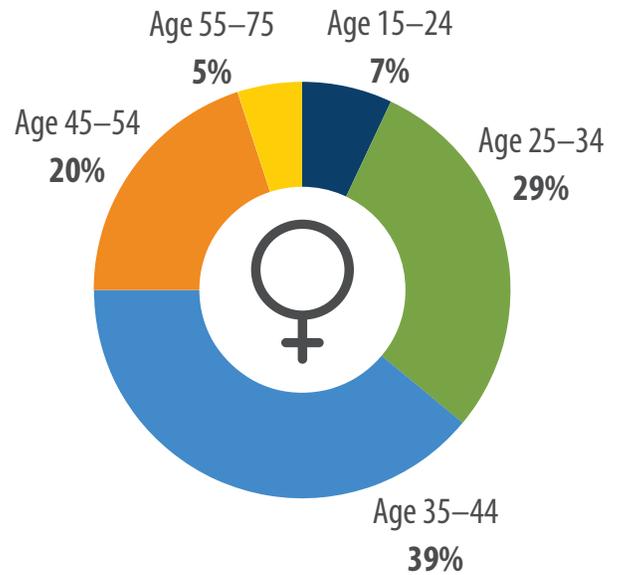
As described in the previous section, there was an increase in the number of people identifying as female since 2021. This analysis indicated that the largest increase was females 25–34 years of age, which went from 17% in 2021 to 29% in 2023.

### Age Distribution of Male Respondents



2023n=122 responses

### Age Distribution of Female Respondents



2023n=76 responses

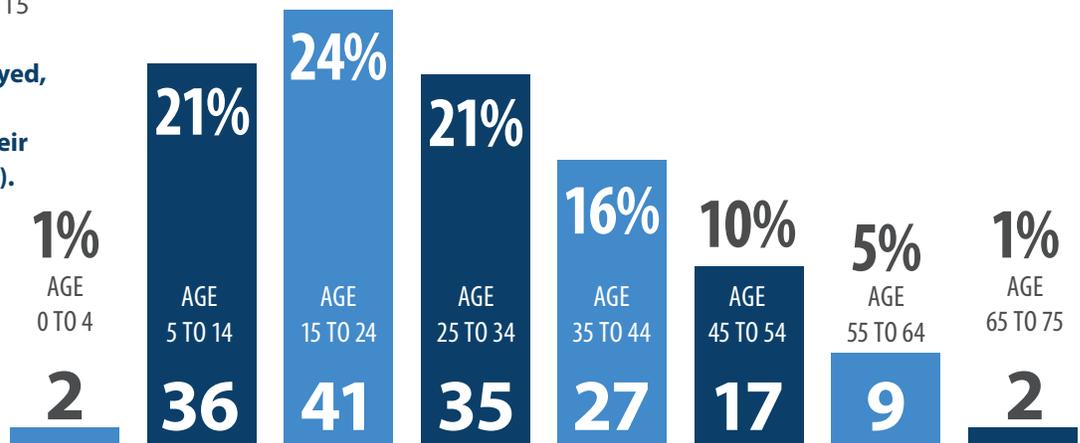
Due to small number of respondents (less than 5) we are unable to provide data on the age distribution of other gender identities.

## AGE OF FIRST HOMELESS EXPERIENCE

The most common age when an individual first experienced homelessness is between 15 and 24 years of age.

**Of the individuals surveyed, 46% first experienced homelessness during their youth (0-24 years of age).**

### How Old Were You The First Time You Experienced Homelessness?



2023n=220 surveyed, 169 responses

## FOSTER CARE

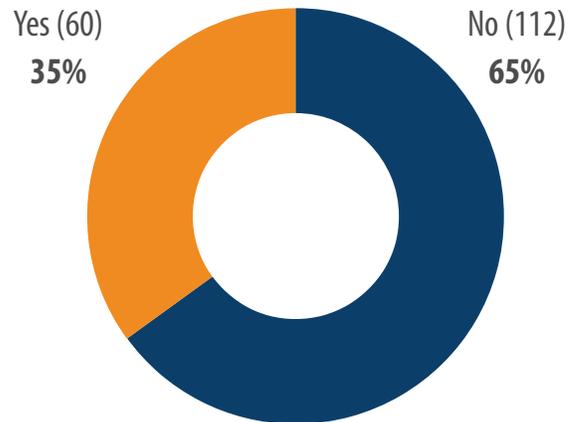
In the 2023 results, 35% (60 individuals) identified as being a part of the foster care system. This was a decline from 2021, where 50% (70 individuals) stated that they were in the foster care system as a youth.



Of those who first experienced homelessness as a youth,

**43%** also experienced the foster care system.

## As a youth or child, were you ever in foster care, in a youth group home, or on an Independent Living Agreement?



2023n=220 surveyed, 172 responses

## GENDER IDENTITY AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION

According to Statistics Canada's 2021 census data, 0.33% of Canada's population 15 years of age or older identified as transgender or non-binary (Statistics Canada, 2022). **Among survey respondents, 3% identified as transgender, which indicates that those experiencing homelessness in Kamloops are approximately 10 times more likely than the average population to identify as transgender or non-binary.**

According to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the 2SLGBTQIA+ community is disproportionately at risk of experiencing homelessness. Statistics Canada noted that those who are 2SLGBTQIA+ are twice as likely to have experienced some type of homelessness or housing insecurity (Statistics Canada, 2021). Based on the 2023 Point-in-Time Count data collected, **13% of the homeless population of Kamloops identified as 2SLGBTQIA+ in comparison to 4% of the total population of Canada 15 years of age or older** (Statistics Canada, 2021).

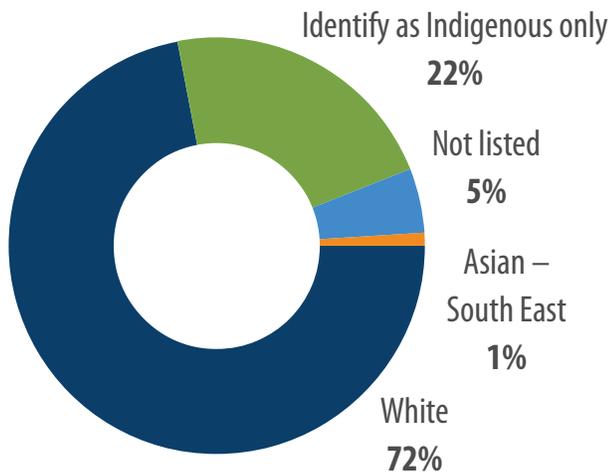
### How do you describe your sexual orientation?

	#	%
Straight/Heterosexual	148	86%
Bisexual	17	10%
Asexual	2	1%
Pansexual	2	1%
Two-spirit	1	1%
Not listed	1	1%
Gay	0	
Lesbian	0	
<b>Total respondents</b>	<b>171</b>	
<b>NO RESPONSE</b>	<b>49</b>	
<b>TOTAL SURVEY PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>220</b>	

## RACIAL & ETHNIC IDENTITY

Individuals were asked what racial groups they identified with. It is important to note that people could check all that apply. The results show that 72% identified as White, 22% identified as Indigenous only, 5% didn't list a racial group, and 1% identified as Asian-South East.

### What Racial Group Do You Identify With?

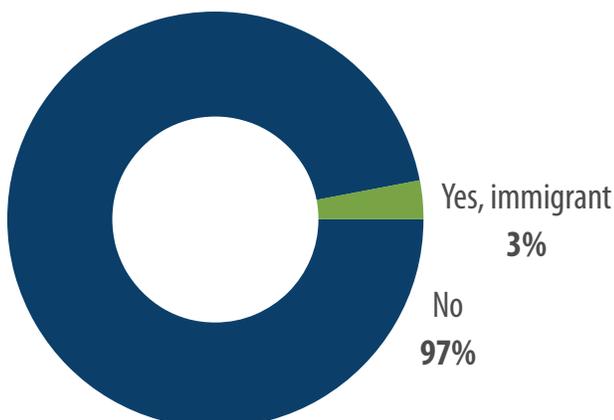


2023n=220 surveyed, 133 responses

## IMMIGRATION

Participants were asked if they had come to Canada as an immigrant or refugee. Of those surveyed, 3% moved to Canada after they were born. Of those that identified as an immigrant or refugee, all have been in Canada for 10 years or longer. There was no significant change in the data from the previous years.

### Did You Come to Canada as an Immigrant or a Refugee?

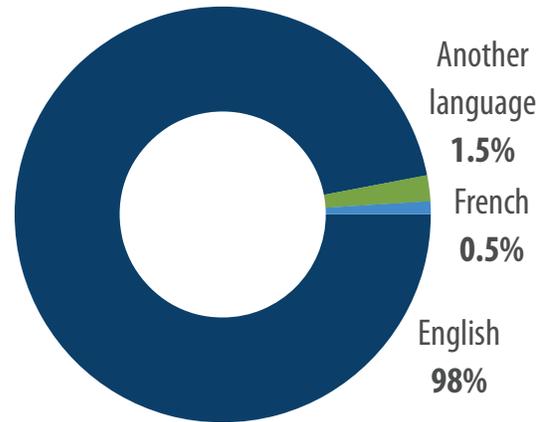


2023n=220 surveyed, 179 responses

## LANGUAGE

The majority of individual surveyed (98%) preferred to receive services in English.

### Preferred Language



2023n=220 surveyed, 192 responses

### VETERANS

Of those surveyed, **6%** indicated that they had served in the Canadian Forces. This includes the Canadian Army, the Royal Canadian Navy, the Royal Canadian Air Force (regular forces and reserve), and/or the RCMP.

## MOBILITY

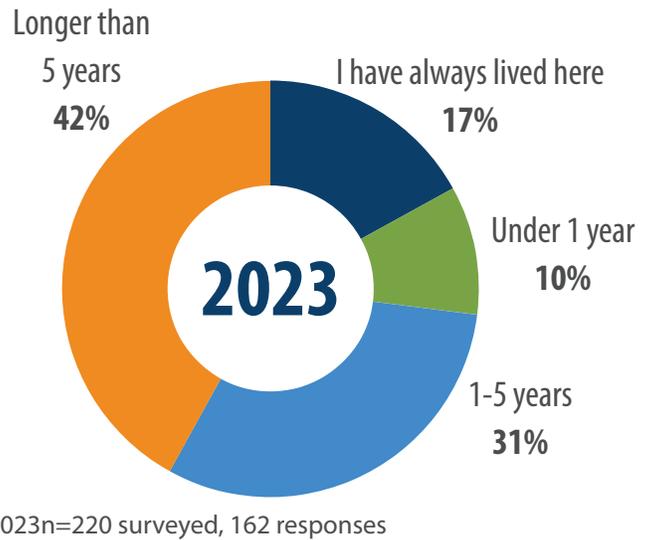
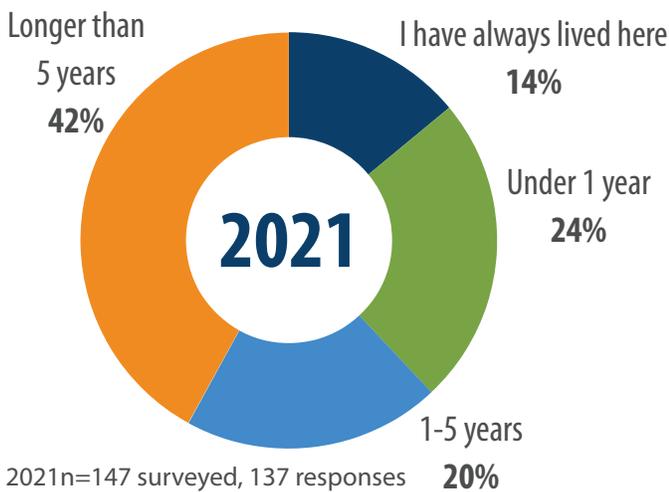
As with previous Point-in-Time results, most respondents (59%) have either always lived in Kamloops or have lived in Kamloops for five years or more. There was a notable drop in the number of respondents who said they had arrived in Kamloops in the last 12 months, going from 24% in 2021 to 10% in 2023. Additionally, there was an increase in those

that have now been unhoused between one and five years from 20% to 31%. This could be partly attributed to those arriving in 2021 or earlier continuing to be unhoused at the time of the 2023 Point-in-Time Count. This also speaks to the need for additional longer-term housing solutions.

**59%** OF RESPONDENTS HAVE EITHER ALWAYS LIVED IN KAMLOOPS OR HAVE BEEN LIVING IN KAMLOOPS FOR 5 YEARS OR MORE

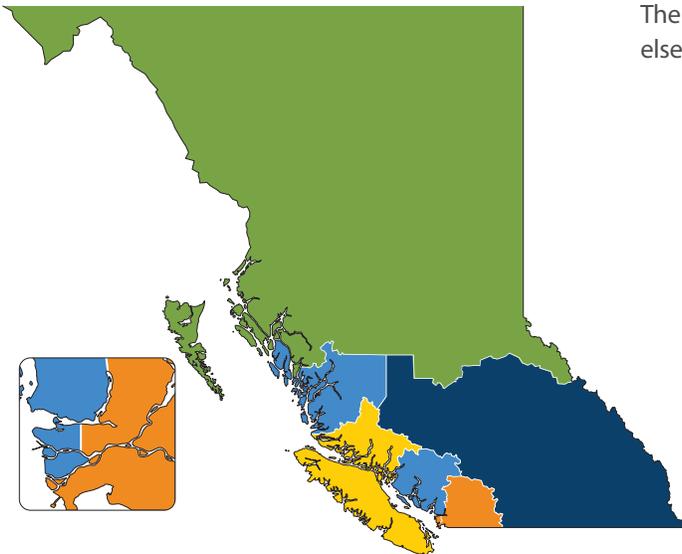


### Length of Time in Kamloops



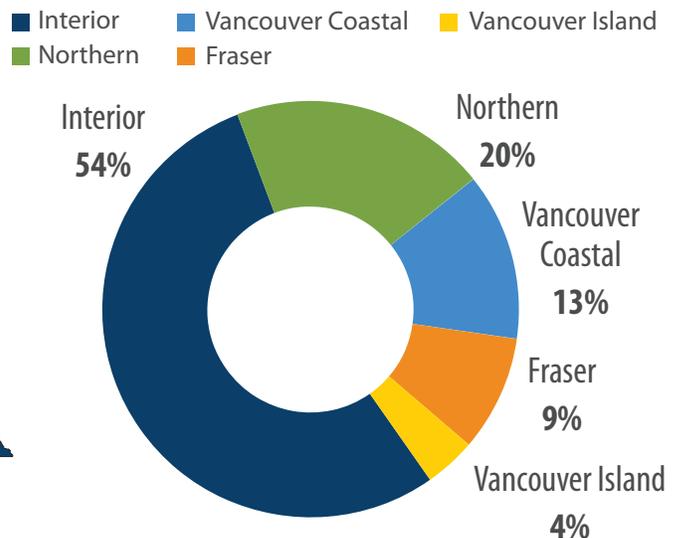
**Respondents were asked where they lived before coming to Kamloops.** Of those who responded, 71% lived within BC prior to Kamloops, 19% lived in Alberta prior to coming to Kamloops, and 10% lived in other provinces prior to coming to Kamloops.

### Health Regions in BC



### Respondents Who Lived Elsewhere in BC by Health Region

The chart below shows the breakdown of respondents who lived elsewhere in BC before coming to Kamloops by health region.



## RELOCATION DUE TO EMERGENCY EVENTS

New to the 2023 Point-in-Time-Count, respondents were asked if they had come to Kamloops because they were evacuated from their home community. Of those surveyed, **6% (10) indicated that their primary reason for originally coming to Kamloops was due to an evacuation in their home community.**

Respondents were also asked to share why they had stayed and could choose all that applied.

### The Top Three Responses Were:

- I have no means of transportation to return home (80%).
- I have friends/family in Kamloops (80%).
- I no longer have housing in my home community (70%).

## HOUSING LOSS

The survey asked participants the main reason for their most recent loss of housing. Respondents were given the opportunity to choose all options that applied to them.



### Top Six Reasons For Most Recent Housing Loss:

Conflict (with spouse, parent, other)	33%
Not enough income	31%
Substance use issue	28%
Landlord/tenant conflict	27%
Experience abuse (by spouse, parent, child, other)	22%
Mental health issue	15%

*Full list of reasons is included in the technical appendix*

## COVID-19



Respondents were asked if their most recent housing loss was due to the COVID-19 pandemic  
**10%** of respondents said **yes**



## LENGTH OF TIME EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

According to the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, it is important to distinguish the type and duration of homelessness as those who are considered episodically and chronically homeless tend to have much more severe challenges and consume a significant portion of the resources within the homeless-serving system (Gaetz et al., 2014).

### CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

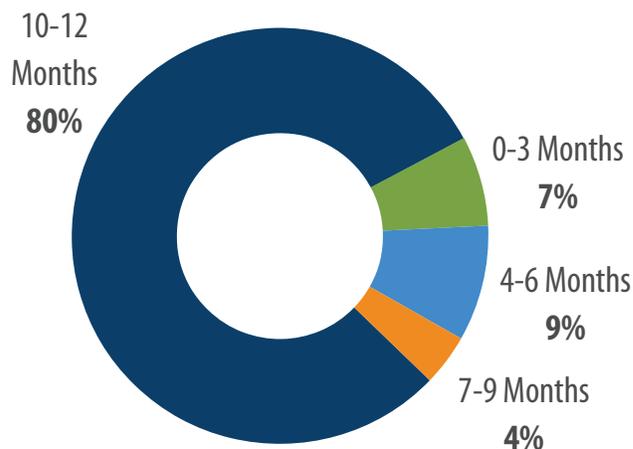
Chronic homelessness is defined as, "...someone who is currently unhoused, and has a total of at least six months (180 days) of homelessness over the past year" (Infrastructure Canada, 2019).

**Of those surveyed, 84% meet the criteria for chronic homelessness.**

### EPISODIC HOMELESSNESS

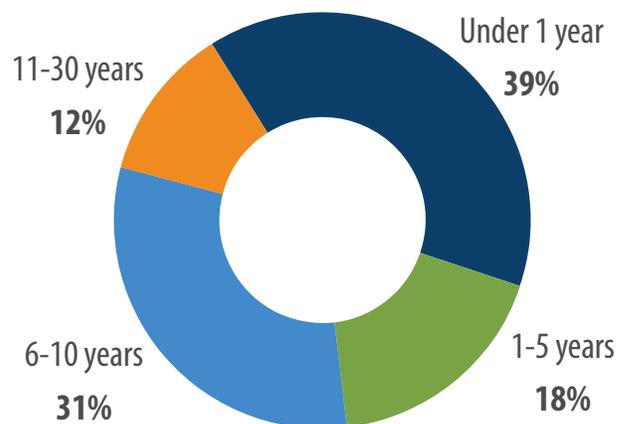
Homelessness can be episodic in nature, which is defined as moving in and out of homelessness (Gaetz et al., 2014). Respondents were asked how long they had been without a place of their own. Of respondents, 39% had been without a place of their own for less than one year.

## Amount of time experiencing homelessness over the past year



2023n=220 surveyed, 175 responses

## How long have you been without a place of your own?



2023n=220 surveyed, 94 responses



## HOUSING WAITLIST

Of those surveyed, 46% indicated they were on a housing wait list.

## BARRIERS TO HOUSING

Respondents were asked about their barriers to housing. **The most common barrier to housing was affordability (71%),** followed by bad credit (42%) and not having a reference (36%).

Poverty occurs across all demographic factors such as race, age and gender. One in seven Canadians experiences financial insecurity. This signifies that poverty is a structural and systemic problem and is not solely the result of an individual's personal choices.



### What barriers do you face accessing housing?

	%
I cannot afford it	71%
I have no credit/bad credit	42%
I don't have a reference	36%
I have faced discrimination	26%
I need a Vulnerability Assessment Tool (VAT)	23%
I need space for my family	13%
I don't understand the application process	12%
I have a pet(s)	10%
Other: substance use issues	6%
Other: interpersonal conflict	3%
Other: no housing available	2%
Other: I have a criminal record	2%
Other: I need ID	2%
Other: I'm on a housing wait list	1%
Other: I don't like the housing rules	1%
<b>NO RESPONSE</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>TOTAL SURVEY PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>220</b>



## HEALTH

Survey respondents were asked if they identify as having any of the following health challenges:

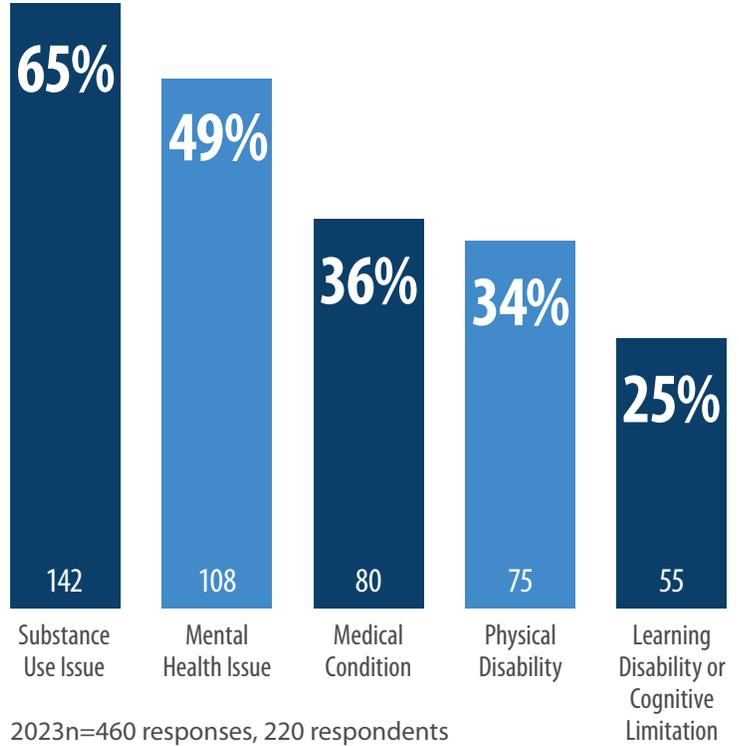
- medical condition/illness
- physical disability
- mental health issue
- substance use issue
- learning disability or cognitive limitation

**More than a third of respondents identified having either a medical condition (36%) or physical disability (34%).** One quarter of respondents identified as having a learning disability or cognitive limitation.

The intersection of substance use and mental health issues with homelessness is complex. The survey results show that the largest percentage of responses to health challenges were substance use (65%) followed by mental health issues (49%). This aligns with research that indicated substance use is disproportionately higher among unhoused people.

**It is also important to recognize that homelessness itself can contribute to increased mental health and substance use issues** (Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, 2021).

### Health Challenges



### BRAIN INJURIES

**33%** of respondents identified as having a **brain injury** that occurred after birth.



## INCOME

Survey respondents could identify as many income sources as applicable. Of those surveyed, 62% indicated income assistance/welfare followed by disability benefit (33%).

Additional top income results were informal employment (10%), Canada Pension Plan (8%), and GST/HST refund (7%).

### SOURCES OF INCOME

#### Government Transfers

	#	%
Income assistance/welfare	122	62%
Disability benefit	65	33%
Canada Pension Plan	16	8%
GST/HST refund	14	7%
Old Age Security/Guaranteed Income Supplement	7	4%

#### Employment

Informal employment	19	10%
Sex Work	7	4%
Casual job	4	2%
Part time job	4	2%
Full time job	3	1.5%

#### Other Sources

Money from family/friends	13	7%
Other	7	4%
Honoraria	3	1.5%

No income	7	4%
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<b>TOTAL RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>TOTAL RESPONSES</b>	<b>291</b>

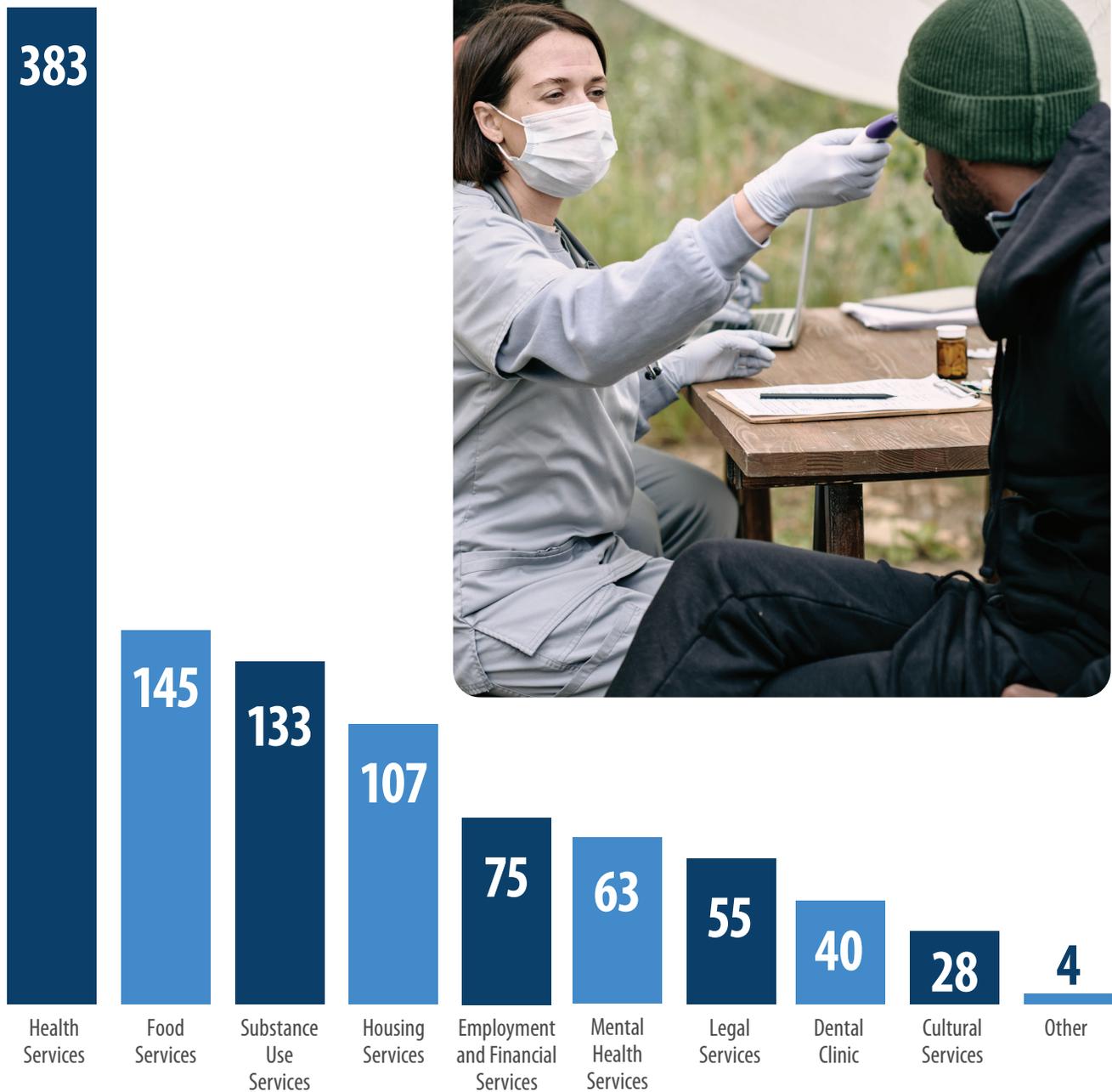
<b>NO RESPONSE</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>TOTAL SURVEY PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>220</b>

## ACCESSING SERVICES

Participants were asked which services they used in the last 12 months. Survey respondents could identify as many services as were applicable.

The most common services used were for immediate and basic health needs (emergency rooms, hospital, ambulance and health clinic), followed by food services, substance use services (inclusive of supervised consumption sites) and housing services.

### Services Accessed in the Past 12 Months



2023n=220 surveyed, 1,051 responses

## INDIGENOUS EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS

Land exploitation, systematic strategies to assimilate Indigenous Peoples, residential schools, the Sixties Scoop, the foster care system, the systemic bias in judicial system, and other government policies, institutions, and practices have created significant and ongoing trauma, racism, and discrimination (Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, 2019).

Across Canada, the rates of Indigenous homelessness vary by community; however, the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness states that typically between 20% and 50% of urban unhoused populations identify as Indigenous.

Of respondents, 52% identified as Indigenous in the 2023 Point-in-Time Count. This is up slightly from the 47% of respondents who identified as Indigenous in the 2021 Point-in-Time Count. This indicates a growing overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples in the unhoused population of this region. Further, 89% of Indigenous respondents meet the criteria for chronic homelessness compared to 79% of non-Indigenous respondents.

HOMELESSNESS  
**DISPROPORTIONATELY**  
IMPACTS  
**INDIGENOUS**  
**PEOPLES**  
ACROSS CANADA

**52%**  
OF RESPONDENTS  
IDENTIFIED AS  
**INDIGENOUS**

THIS IS A **DIRECT RESULT**  
OF **COLONIZATION** AND  
GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES TO  
ERADICATE **INDIGENOUS**  
**PEOPLES**  
AND THEIR CULTURES



## INDIGENOUS IDENTITY

Respondents who self-identified as Indigenous could further describe if they were First Nations, Métis, Inuit, or other Indigenous ancestry.

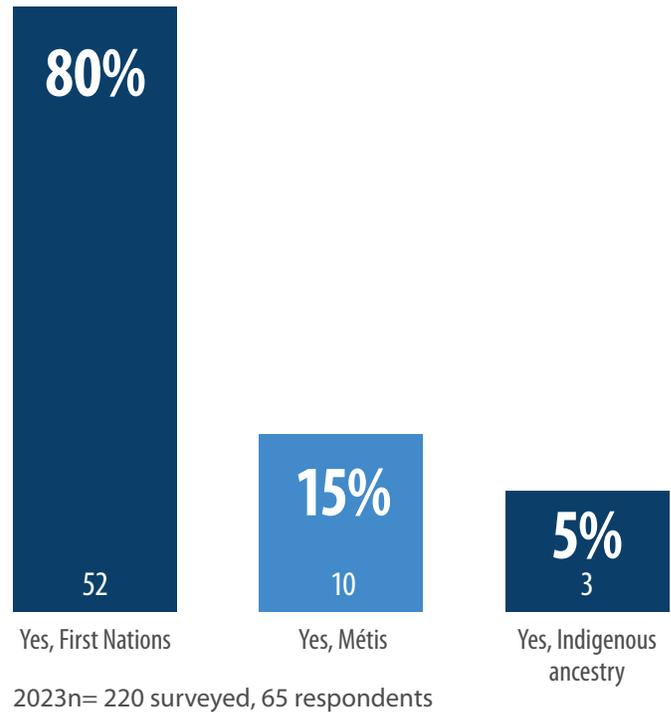
The Indigenous Foundations Program at the University of British Columbia defines the following Indigenous Peoples identities:

**First Nations:** “Term used to describe Indigenous Peoples of Canada who are ethnically neither Métis nor Inuit. While “First Nations” refers to the ethnicity of First Nations peoples, the singular “First Nation” can refer to a band, or reserve-based community;” (Hanson et al., 2020).

**Métis:** “Collective of cultures and ethnic identities that resulted from unions between Indigenous Peoples and European people in what is now Canada. The word initially referred to the children of these relationships, but over generations it came to refer to the multiple, distinct cultural identities these communities developed;” (Hanson et al., 2020)

**Inuit:** “Indigenous People generally living in the far north, Arctic region;” (Hanson et al., 2020).

## Self-identification of Indigenous Respondents



(Wonders, 2010)

### SECWÉPEMC TERRITORY AND MOBILITY

Secwépmc territory is located within the Interior of British Columbia. The territory stretches from the Columbia River valley to the Rocky Mountains, west to the Fraser River and south to the Arrow Lakes. The region is home to 17 bands that make up Secwépmc Nation (Tk'emlúps te Secwépmc, 2019).

Respondents that identified as Indigenous were asked if they were Secwépmc or if they had Secwépmc heritage. Of Indigenous respondents, 16% identified as having Secwépmc heritage.

**Indigenous respondents identified as having come from 31 different communities across Canada.**

## KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS RESPONSES

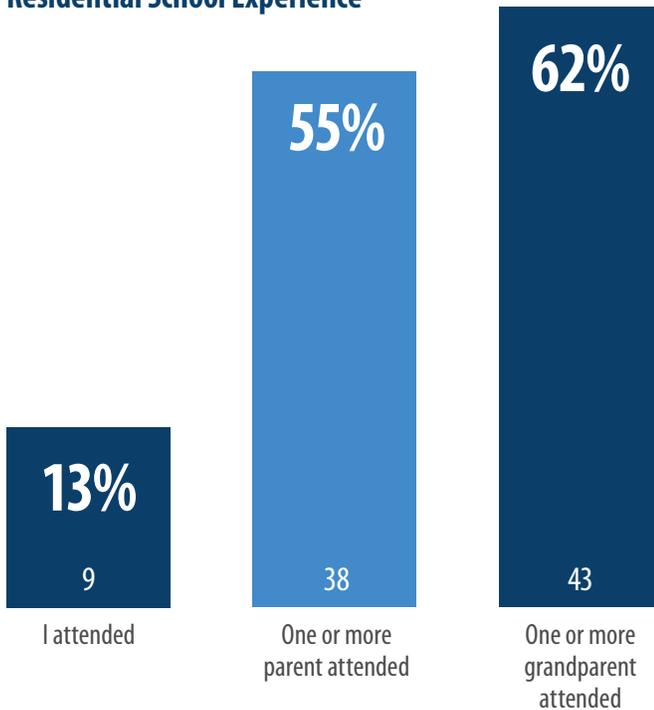
- Of the Indigenous respondents, 48% had experienced foster care, a youth group home, or an independent living agreement, whereas 21% of non-Indigenous respondents had foster care experience.
- Of female respondents, more than half (63%) identified as Indigenous, which indicates there is a disproportionate number of Indigenous females experiencing homelessness.
- Indigenous respondents stated they were more likely to face discrimination (30%) as a barrier to housing than non-Indigenous respondents (13%).
- The number one reason for loss of housing identified by Indigenous respondents was not enough income (30%). For non-Indigenous participants, the number one reason for loss of housing was conflict (40%).

## RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL HISTORY AND IMPACTS

Over 150,000 Indigenous children were forcibly separated from their families and forbidden from practising their cultures with the intention of assimilating them into Euro-Canadian and Christian ways of living. Residential school survivors describe significant physical, psychological, and sexual abuse. The legacy of residential schools has continued to have devastating impacts on those who attended as well as on their children and grandchildren. The loss of language, culture, identity, and a nurturing family paired with abuse, has created significant intergenerational trauma for Indigenous families (Hanson et al., 2020). The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada characterized the intent of residential schools as “cultural genocide” (National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, 2022).

The Kamloops Indian Residential School opened in 1890 and closed on July 31, 1978. It was the largest institution in the residential school system in Canada, peaking at 500 students in the 1950s. Students from over 100 different home communities from across BC attended the school (University of British Columbia, 2022).

### Residential School Experience



2023n= 69 respondents, 90 responses

OF OF THOSE SURVEYED,

43%



(69 PEOPLE) STATED THAT THEY HAD RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL EXPERIENCE, WHICH MEANS THEY, THEIR PARENT(S), AND/OR THEIR GRANDPARENT(S) ATTENDED A RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL.

When asked to elaborate further, 62% of these respondents had one or more grandparents attend a residential school, 55% had one or more parents attend a residential school, and 13% attended a residential school themselves. It is important to note that respondents could choose more than one option.

### The legacy of residential schools created intergenerational impacts on former students, which has led to an overrepresentation of Indigenous homelessness.

Residential school experiences continue to impact Indigenous Canadians. First, children who attended residential schools did not receive an academic education and were not provided necessary skills to help them enter the workforce beyond basic household or manual duties, which has contributed to a cycle of poverty.. Secondly, Indigenous youth were not allowed to celebrate their culture, practise their traditions, or speak their languages in an effort to erase Indigenous identity. Physical and mental abuse were frequently used in residential schools on children who attempted to speak or practice their Indigenous language and culture. Consequently, residential school survivors—and their families—experience unique mental health and wellness obstacles due to trauma experienced during critical childhood years (El Gharib, 2022). Furthermore, evidence suggests that residential schools have contributed to poorer health and higher prevalence of infectious disease among Indigenous communities. All of these factors are critically important to understanding the reasoning for an overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples among the unhoused population.

# CONCLUSION

Results from the Point-in-Time Count will be used by decision makers, planners, and service providers to help inform programs and services, direct advocacy efforts, and support funding applications.

The Point-in-Time Count methodology is representative of how many people are experiencing homelessness on a given day. It provides a baseline for understanding the most visible and often most vulnerable individuals in our community. The number of people experiencing homelessness is likely much higher. The information within this report should not be taken in isolation. Other sources of data should be used to add to a more fulsome understanding of homelessness..

What is evident from the data is that the causes of homelessness are a combination of structural factors, systems failures, and individual circumstances. To better support the vulnerable people in our community, there is a need for changes to key institutions and policies; the development of more inclusive and directed programs; and a notable change in the attitudes, biases, and treatment towards the unhoused population. **Our response to this crisis will require a continued and intentional approach to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and a purposeful, proactive, and long-term plan to better support our youth.**



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# APPENDIX 1: SURVEY QUESTIONS

Survey #:

Interviewer Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**STREET Survey | 2023 Homeless Count** Location: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART 1: SCREENING

1. Have you already answered this survey today or last night?

- Yes (END)
- No (Go to Q.2)
- Don't know/No answer (END)

**INTERVIEWER: The definition of "rent" is a fixed amount of money the person pays to be allowed to stay there for 30 days +, and can expect to do so for the foreseeable future.**

2. Do you currently have a place to stay where you pay monthly rent? [check one]

- Yes (Go to Q.3)
- No (Go to Q.3)
- Don't know/No answer (Go to Q.3)

3. Where did you stay last night? [check one]

- Outside (> Q.4)
- Makeshift shelter, tent (> Q.4)
- Abandoned/vacant building (> Q.4)
- Vehicle (Car, Van, RV, Truck, Boat). Type: \_\_\_\_\_ (> Q.4)
- Someone else's place or couchsurfing (> Q.4)
- A client's place (> Q.4)

Shelter, Safe House, Transition House.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (> Q.4)

Detox/Hospital/Jail. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (> Q.4)

Hotel/motel where I pay to stay for <30 days (> Q.4)

Hotel/motel where an organization is paying (> Q.4)

Parent(s) or guardian's house

I can safely stay as long as I want (END)

This is a temporary situation and I have a house or apartment I can safely return to (END)

This is a temp. situation and I do not have a house or apartment to safely return to (> Q.4)

Own place inside where you pay rent.

Specify: \_\_\_\_\_ (END)

Not listed. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_ (> Q.4)

Don't know/No answer (END)

4. Did you feel safe there? [check one]

Yes (Go to Q.5)

No (Go to Q.5)

Don't know/No answer (Go to Q.5)

## PART 2: SURVEY

5. How old are you (OR) what year were you born?

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Year born \_\_\_\_\_

Don't know/No answer

6. What gender do you identify with? [Show & check one]

- Agender
- Man
- Non-Binary
- Two-spirit
- Woman
- Not listed. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know/No answer

7. Do you identify as someone with trans experience (your gender identity is different than was assigned at birth)?

Yes  No  Don't Know/No Answer

8.a) Do you identify as Indigenous, including First Nations (with or without status, Treaty/Non-Treaty), Métis, or Inuit, or do you have other North American Indigenous ancestry?

- Yes. Check all that apply:
  - First Nations. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Inuit. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Métis. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Indigenous Ancestry. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Not listed. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- No
- Unsure/No answer

8.b) Are you Secwépemc, or do you have Secwépemc heritage?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know/No answer
- c) In addition to your response, what racial groups do you identify with (e.g. Black, South Asian, White, etc.)?

[Check all that apply]

- Identify as Indigenous only
- Arab (e.g. Syrian, Egyptian, Yemeni)
- Asian – East (e.g. Chinese, Korean, Japanese)
- Asian – South-East (e.g. Vietnamese, Filipino)
- Asian – South and Indo Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Indo-Fijian)
- Asian – West (e.g. Iranian, Afghan, Turkish)
- Black – African (e.g. Ghanaian, Ethiopian, Nigerian)
- Black – Afro-Caribbean and Afro-Latinx (e.g. Jamaican, Trinidadian, Afro-Brazilian)
- Black – Canadian/American
- Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Mexican, Chilean, Cuban)
- White (e.g. European – English, Italian, Ukrainian, French; or Euro-Latinx)
- Not listed. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

9. How long have you been without a place of your own?

Refer to Definition of Rent Above

\_\_\_\_\_ Days \_\_\_\_\_ Weeks \_\_\_\_\_ Months \_\_\_\_\_ Years

(#) (#) (#) (#)

Don't know/No answer

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

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Don't know/No answer

11. Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee or a refugee claimant (e.g. applied for refugee status after coming to Canada), or on a temporary visa?

Yes. Check one:

- Immigrant (Go to Q.11a)
- Refugee (Go to Q.11a)
- Refugee Claimant (Go to Q.11a)
- Work Visa (Go to Q.11a)
- Student Visa (Go to Q.11a)
- Temporary Foreign Worker Visa (Go to Q.11a)
- No (Go to Q.12)
- Don't know/No answer (Go to Q.12)

11a. How long have you been in Canada?

\_\_\_\_\_ Days \_\_\_\_\_ Weeks \_\_\_\_\_ Months \_\_\_\_\_ Years

(#) (#) (#) (#)

Or date of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Month Year

Don't know/No answer

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

- Straight/heterosexual
- Asexual
- Bisexual
- Gay
- Lesbian
- Pansexual
- Two-spirit
- Questioning
- Queer
- Not listed. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know/No answer

13. Do you have family members or anyone else who stayed with you last night?

- Yes. Check all that apply:
  - Partner/Spouse
  - Child(ren)/Dependents: #1 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ #2 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ #3 Age: \_\_\_\_\_ #4 Age: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Pets
  - Not listed. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- No
- Don't know/No Answer

**PART 2: SURVEY (CONTINUED)**

14. Do you identify as having the following health challenges at this time? **[Read list & Check all that apply]**

	Yes	No	Don't know/ No Answer
Medical Condition/Illness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health Issue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Addiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning Disability or Cognitive Impairment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. Do you identify as having an acquired brain injury that happened after birth? (e.g. from injury related to an accident, violence, an overdose, stroke or brain tumour)  
 Yes  No  Don't Know/No Answer

16. How long have you been in (city name)?  
 \_\_\_ Days \_\_\_ Weeks \_\_\_ Months \_\_\_ Yrs **(Go to Q.16a)**  
 (#) (#) (#) (#)  
 Always been here **(Go to Q.17)**  
 Don't know/No answer **(Go to Q.17)**

16a. Where did you live before you came here (i.e. city)?  
 Community: \_\_\_\_\_ AND province: \_\_\_\_\_  
 OR country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Don't know/No answer

17. As a child or youth, were you ever in foster care, in a youth group home, on an Independent Living Agreement?  
 Yes  
 No  
 Don't know/No answer

**INTERVIEWER: The following question is sensitive and can be prefaced by asking for consent ("can I ask you a question about residential school?")**

18. Did you, your parents, or grandparents ever attend residential school?  
 Yes. **Check all that apply:**  
 I did  
 One or more parents did  
 One or more grandparents did  
 No  
 Don't know/No answer

19. What services have you used in the past 12 months?  
**[Read list & Check all that apply]**

- Cultural Supports
- Ambulance
- Emergency room
- Hospital (non-emergency)
- Dental clinic or dentist
- Mental health services
- Safe consumption site (e.g OPS)
- (Other) addiction services
- Health clinic
- Food Services
- Legal Services
- Employment and Financial services
- Housing Services
- Other Services. **Specify:** \_\_\_\_\_
- No services used in the past 12 months
- Don't know/No answer

20. Do you prefer to access services in English, French or another language?  
 English  
 French  
 Other Preferred Language: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Don't know/no answer

21. Have you ever had any service in the Canadian Forces? (Includes army, navy, airforce, - regular forces and reserve, RCMP, or Canadian Rangers). **[Check all that apply]**  
 Yes, Canadian military (reg forces, reserve, Rangers)  
 Yes, RCMP  
 No  
 Don't know/No answer

22. In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR (the last 12 months)?  
 \_\_\_ Days \_\_\_ Weeks \_\_\_ Months  
 Don't know/No answer

23. What are your sources of income? **[Read list & Check all that apply]**

- Welfare/income assistance
- Job full time
- Job part time
- Job casual (e.g Contract work)
- Honoraria
- Informal employment (binning, panhandling)
- Sex Work
- Money from family/friends
- Employment insurance
- Disability benefit (e.g. PWD, PPMB)
- Old age security (OAS)/ guaranteed income supplement (GIS)
- CPP or other pension
- Youth agreement
- Veteran/VAC benefits
- Child and family tax benefits
- GST/HST refund
- Other source(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- No income
- Don't know/No answer

24. Have you spent at least one night in any of the following locations in the past year? **[Check all that apply]**

- Homeless Shelter (Emergency Shelter, Family Shelter, Transition House)
- Second Stage Housing - AFTER Transition House
- Second Stage Housing - AFTER Addictions Treatment
- Transitional Housing
- Someone else's place or couchsurfing
- Hotel/Motel (Funded by Government/Organization)
- Outside or Unsheltered in a public place (e.g. street, park, forest, abandoned building)
- Encampment (e.g. group of tents, makeshift shelters, or other long-term outdoor settlement)
- Vehicle (Car, Van, RV, Truck, Boat)
- None of the above. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know/No answer

25. Are you on a housing wait list?  
 Yes  No  Don't Know/No Answer

26. What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently? **[Do not read list & Check all that apply]**

- A. Housing and Financial Issue:
    - Not enough income for housing (e.g. Lost benefit, Income, or job)
    - Rental supplement (HPP, HOP, etc.) expired
    - Unfit/unsafe housing condition
    - Building sold or renovated
    - Owner moved in
    - Landlord/tenant conflict
    - Guest policy
    - Complaint (e.g. Pets/noise/damage)
    - Place not physically accessible
    - Left the community
  - B. Interpersonal and Family Issues
    - Conflict with: spouse / partner
    - Conflict with: parent / guardian / caregiver
    - Conflict with: other: \_\_\_\_\_
    - Experienced abuse by: spouse /partner
    - Experienced abuse by: parent /guardian / caregiver
    - Experienced abuse by: child / dependent
    - Experienced abuse by: other: \_\_\_\_\_
    - Death or departure of family member
    - Experienced discrimination
  - C. Health or Corrections
    - Physical health issue
    - Mental health issue
    - Addiction/substance use issue
    - Hospitalization or treatment program
    - Incarceration (jail or prison)
  - D. Other
    - Other reason: \_\_\_\_\_
    - Don't know/No answer
27. Was your most recent housing loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic?  
 Yes  No  Don't Know/No Answer

### PART 3: COMMUNITY QUESTIONS

**28a.** Did you originally come to Kamloops because you were **evacuated** from your home community?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know/No answer

**28b.** If YES, why did you remain in Kamloops?

**Check all that apply.**

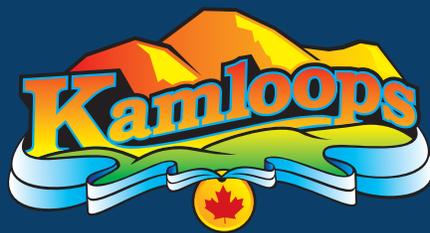
- I no longer have housing in my home community
- I no longer have family and/or friends in home community
- My home community was destroyed (i.e. Monte Lake and Lytton fires)
- No means of transportation to return
- Not enough services in home community
- There are more services that I can access in Kamloops
- I have friends & family in Kamloops
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**29.** Is there any reason you don't access shelter? **Check all that apply.**

- It's not wheelchair accessible
- I have a pet(s)
- I want to stay with my partner and/or family member(s)
- I don't feel safe
- I can't store my belongings
- Loss of service
- I don't like the shelter rules
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**30.** What barriers do you face accessing housing? **Check all that apply.**

- I have a pet(s)
- I need space for my family
- I need a VAT
- I can't afford it
- I have faced discrimination
- I have no credit/bad credit
- I don't have a reference
- I don't understand the application process
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



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City Hall: 7 Victoria Street West, Kamloops BC, V2C 1A2

250-828-3311 | [Info@Kamloops.ca](mailto:Info@Kamloops.ca)

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