



City of Kamloops | June 2018 – Final Report

# Everyone Counts: 2018 Point-in-Time Count

Part of the 2018 National Homelessness Count

Published on the Traditional and Unceded Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Territory. The Secwepemc maintain a spiritual and practical relationship to the land, water, air, animals, plants, and all things needed for life.



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A project with the complexity of the Everyone Counts: 2018 Point-in-Time (PiT) Count in the City of Kamloops could not have been completed without the participation and support of many individuals and organizations.

The Kamloops Point-in-Time Count Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all agencies, service providers, government staff, businesses, and other individuals who helped organize and implement the PiT Count. In particular, we would like to thank:

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All City of Kamloops staff who assisted in the gathering of donation items, creation of maps, and their in-kind contributions.

Thanks to the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) as the key funder of the PiT Count.

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A very special thank you to our dedicated volunteers who contributed their time, enthusiasm, and compassion to the success of the 2018 PiT Count. Volunteers not only spent their shifts walking and surveying individuals on the streets and in shelters, they, most importantly, connected individuals to available resources and made sure that everyone's voice was heard, because *Everyone Counts*.

Lisa Bajkov  
Point-in-Time Count Coordinator

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Indigenous Engagement Coordinator

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### BACKGROUND

The 2018 PiT Count is partially funded by the Government of Canada's HPS. This is the second time that the HPS has provided funding to conduct a nation-wide PiT Count and the first time the City of Kamloops has participated.

Through a call for applications issued to the community in September 2017, two coordinators were contracted to coordinate the count—an Indigenous Engagement Coordinator and a Point-in-Time Count Coordinator. These positions were fully funded by the HPS, and their objectives were to:

- a) Implement the PiT Count for Kamloops between March 1, 2018, and April 30, 2018, as part of the national Everyone Counts: 2018 Point-in-Time Count to contribute to a better understanding of homelessness in the region and in Canada.
- b) Conduct a count of people experiencing absolute homelessness and deliver activities that aim to identify the number of people in the community experiencing homelessness in shelters and on the streets.
- c) Serve as a comparison to the fall counts that have been conducted over the years. Additionally, using a common approach with other communities, at the same time of year, the count will provide a better understanding of homelessness in Canada.
- d) Conduct a survey of the homeless population in order to determine comparable community information on the demographics and service needs of the homeless population. This information will be used to identify community resources that are most needed. Additionally, the information collected from the surveys will contribute to the national understanding of homelessness.
- e) Engage Indigenous people and agencies to participate, and strive for a culturally appropriate and respectful delivery of the count.

To keep research methodology consistent and to allow for comparison between communities, the Kamloops PiT Count followed the 14 HPS core questions. In addition to those questions, through consultation with our PiT Committee, 14 additional questions were integrated, for a total of 28 questions. Participants had the option to withdraw at any point and/or to skip any questions they did not feel comfortable answering.

The findings are an estimate of Kamloops' homeless population *in one day*. The homelessness count provides a 'point-in-time' snapshot of people who are experiencing homelessness in a 24-hour period; therefore, this picture can fluctuate over the course of the year. It should be noted that the point-in-time count is typically an undercount: the hidden homeless population is particularly difficult to enumerate as some individuals may choose not to be counted, and perfect coverage of the city by volunteers is not possible. Despite this, the count is a sound method for collecting data on homelessness at a single point-in-time. The 2018 PiT Count took place on the evening of March 27 and the day of March 28, 2018.

## OVERVIEW OF INDIGENOUS CHILD WELFARE AND INDIGENOUS HOMELESSNESS

### Aging Out of Provincial Child Welfare Services

In BC, when youth age out of the system at 19 years old, they no longer receive Ministry supports, thereby positioning them for serious risk of loss of identity, family, community, and culture; homelessness; and high risk behaviours. In Canada, about half of the youth in care are Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit). What makes this statistic alarming is that Indigenous children 14 years and younger represent only 8% of the Canadian population (Statistics Canada, 2011). Currently, there are few culturally safe and competent support services that are available to help Indigenous youth navigate and overcome the multiple barriers that present themselves when they age out. Some of the well documented barriers include low self-esteem, depression, trauma, inter-generational trauma, insufficient education, poverty, racism, and prejudice.

The Executive Summary of Child Welfare and Youth Homelessness in Canada, A Proposal for Action (2017), found that 58% of youth experiencing homelessness reported some type of involvement with child protection services over a lifetime, and, compared to the general public, youth experiencing homelessness are 193 times more likely to have been involved with the child welfare system.

There is a clear, straight line from aging out of the provincial child welfare system, to increase risk of homeless, incarceration, addictions, human trafficking and death. This path is even more defined for Indigenous youth. The need for housing for youth aging out of care is obvious.

There is a need to do things differently. This is supported over and over again by a literature review of historical practices and outcomes and more enforced by more recent publications such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, Grand Chief Ed John's report entitled, "Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunifications - From Root Causes to Root Solutions"; and the Representative for Children and Youth's most recent release of "Broken Promises; Alex's Story", a story of a young Métis man who ended his life just prior to aging out of the provincial child welfare system. In addition to the findings and recommendations found in these and other reports, there is a rental housing challenge in Kamloops that disproportionately affects one of our most vulnerable and often forgotten populations - Indigenous youth aging out of the provincial child welfare system. Remembering that our Indigenous youth eventually grow into adults.

[References]

A Report on Indigenous Child Welfare in Canada. Final Report of Special Advisor Grand Chief Ed John. *Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification - From Root Causes to Root Solutions*. 2016.

Nichols, N., Schwan, K., Gaetz, S., Redman, M., French, D., Kidd, S., O'Grady, B. (2017). Child Welfare and Youth Homelessness.

Representative for Children and Youth. *Broken Promises, Alex's Story*. 2017.

Statistics Canada. 2011. Ottawa, Ont.: Statistics Canada.

Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling the Future*. 2015.

### **Definition of Indigenous Homelessness in Canada**

Jesse Thistle, Métis/Cree/Scot from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, is currently pursuing a PhD at York University. Jesse is also a researcher and the National Representative for Indigenous Homelessness for the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, and in 2017, he published a comprehensive definition of Indigenous Homelessness: "Indigenous homelessness is a human condition that describes First Nations, Métis, and Inuit individuals, families, or communities lacking stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means, or ability to acquire such housing. Unlike the common colonialist definition of homelessness, Indigenous homelessness is not defined as lacking a structure of habitation; rather, it is more fully described and understood through a composite lens of Indigenous worldviews. These include: individuals, families, and communities isolated from their relationships to land, water, place, family, kin, each other, animals, cultures, languages, and identities. Importantly, Indigenous people experiencing these kinds of homelessness cannot culturally, spiritually, emotionally, or physically reconnect with their Indigeneity or lost relationships" (Thistle, J.A., 2017). The 12 Dimensions of Indigenous Homelessness, as defined by Thistle, are: Historic Displacement, Contemporary Geographic Separation, Spiritual Disconnection, Mental Disruption and Imbalance, Cultural Disintegration and Loss, Overcrowding, Relocation and Mobility, Going Home, Nowhere to Go, Escaping or Evading Harm, Emergency Crisis, and Climatic Refugee.

[Reference]

Thistle, J.A. (2017). Definition of Indigenous Homelessness in Canada. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press.

## KEY FINDINGS

While the 2018 Kamloops PiT Count, which was conducted on March 27 and March 28, 2018, is the first nation-wide, coordinated count the City has participated in, homeless counts have been conducted in Kamloops since 2005. In 2018, a total of **201 individuals were identified as experiencing homelessness**: 180 survey respondents (114 unsheltered, 66 sheltered), 10 dependents who were accompanied by an adult but did not complete a survey during the count (ages 0 to 14), and 11 individuals who stayed at an emergency shelter who did not complete a survey at any time. The following demographic profile examines the results from the surveyed individuals who make up the sample.

- **A total of 180 homeless individuals were surveyed.** This included: 152 adults, 9 youth (under the age of 25), 5 seniors (65 years of age or older), and 14 individuals who did not disclose their age.
- Males represented 60% of the homeless population, females represented about one quarter (27%), 9% of survey respondents declined to answer, and 4% identified as LGBTQ2S+.
- The average age of survey respondents was 38, with the maximum age reported being 78 and the minimum age 17.
- 52% of respondents stated that they had been homeless for a year or more.
- 48% of survey respondents identified as Indigenous or were of Indigenous descent.
- 8% of survey respondents either declined to answer or left this answer option blank.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the PiT Count is to estimate the minimum number of people experiencing homelessness in Kamloops, to obtain a demographic profile of this population, and to identify trends compared to previous counts.

## DEFINITIONS

A person was considered homeless for the purpose of this count if they did not have a place of their own where they could expect to stay for more than 30 days and if they did not pay rent. This included people who:

- had no physical shelter - who were staying 'outside' in alleys, parks, vehicles, makeshift shelters, or in abandoned/vacant buildings
- were staying temporarily in emergency shelters for the homeless, in a transition house for women and children fleeing violence, or in a safe house for youth
- were staying temporarily at someone else's place (e.g. couch surfing)

**Sheltered homeless** - includes individuals who were identified as homeless and stayed in an emergency shelter, a transition house for women and children fleeing violence, or a safe house for youth over night during the duration of the count.

**Unsheltered homeless** - includes all homeless individuals who completed a survey and who had no physical shelter (e.g. staying "outside" in alleys, parks, vehicles, makeshift shelters, and abandoned/vacant buildings).

**Hidden homeless** - includes all individuals who completed a survey and who stayed at someone else's place, in a motel/hotel, hospital, jail, prison, or remand centre.<sup>1</sup> This population is historically the most difficult to identify as being homeless.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The 2018 PiT Count followed the Government of Canada's HPS Guide to Point-in-Time Counts and the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness toolkit. It measured homelessness from 8:00 pm on Tuesday, March 27, to 8:00 pm on Wednesday, March 28, and consisted of two components to enumerate (1) the sheltered homeless and (2) the unsheltered homeless. A questionnaire consisting of screening and survey questions was used for each component.

## **COUNT INTRODUCTION**

### **Screening Questions**

Volunteers began by asking respondents three screening questions designed to avoid double counting the same individual. Screening questions for the sheltered homeless ensured they were staying at the shelter that night, were willing to participate in the survey, and eliminated those who had already been interviewed.

Screening questions for the unsheltered homeless eliminated those who had already been interviewed, were not willing to participate in the survey, or stayed in their own apartment or house (paying rent). The unsheltered screening questions also targeted the hidden homeless by asking if they had stayed at someone else's place the previous night; if the respondent answered 'yes', a follow-up question inquired if this was a temporary situation and if they had a safe place to return to. If they stayed with a friend or family member temporarily and did not have a safe place to return to, the individual was screened into the survey.

### **Survey Questions**

Following the screening questions, the survey questions for both the sheltered and the unsheltered components included fourteen core questions used by all communities that participated in the 2018 federally-funded Point-in-Time counts. Twelve of these core questions were used in the 2016 Point-in-Time Count in Kamloops.

The 14 core questions assess variables relating to: age, gender<sup>2</sup>, Indigenous ancestry, family members, immigration/refugee status, foster care, stays in emergency shelters, duration of homelessness, cumulative homelessness, length of stay in Kamloops, reasons for housing loss, source(s) of income, and military service. The Point-in-Time Committee - a group consisting of representatives from several local service organizations - implemented additional questions

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<sup>1</sup> Conducting a "systems count", wherein either volunteers would attend these institutions or the data would be provided by the institutions to be included in the count, in order to assess the extent of hidden homelessness was outside the scope of the 2018 PiT Count due to logistical constraints.

<sup>2</sup> In the past, the demographic analysis of gender relied on responses of male/female/transgender/two-spirited; this was followed by "Do you identify as part of the LGBTQ2S+ community"? To better reflect gender self-identity this year and to avoid exclusion, the question on gender identity was modified to provide a more comprehensive choice for survey respondents. Further, the previously two-part question was combined into one.

relating to existing services, health, and areas in need of improvement. New survey questions added include:

- whether they came to Kamloops because of the 2017 wildfires in BC
- whether they were given a bus ticket to come to Kamloops
- whether the respondent owned a pet and, if so, if the pet is with them
- whether the respondent ever chose homelessness over being in foster care
- whether the respondent felt that the provincial child welfare system prepared them for transitioning into independence after leaving care
- if they had accessed medical care in the last year and, if so, what services they accessed
- what mode of transportation they use to access local services
- what activities the respondent participates in during the day
- whether the respondent had witnessed or experienced an overdose
- if the respondent had accessed the supervised consumption site
- whether they currently had valid, government-issued ID
- what obstacles they faced when attempting to secure government-issued ID
- if they had ever been denied access to services due to not having government-issued ID

## **COUNT PROCEDURE**

### **Enumerating the Sheltered Homeless**

The sheltered component of the count enumerated homeless individuals staying at emergency shelters overnight on March 27. These individuals are referred to as the 'sheltered homeless'. Two approaches were used to gather information for this group:

1. Staff at two of the four emergency shelters conducted the sheltered survey with clients.
2. Volunteers conducted the questionnaire in the remaining two emergency shelters. At the end of the night, staff completed surveys with individuals who may have arrived after the volunteers had left.

The next day, each shelter was asked to provide the total number of occupants on count night. There was a total of 91 shelter occupants the night of the count. 66 of these individuals completed the survey at the shelter, and 14 people completed the survey during the street count who claimed to have stayed at a shelter the night before. This leaves 11 individuals who were in shelter but did not complete a survey anywhere. Individuals may have refused to participate because they were uncomfortable and/or tired, but may have chosen to participate with a volunteer during the street count (i.e. the 14 individuals indicated above).

In order to exclude any instances of double counting between the sheltered and unsheltered survey responses, the data sets were compared and there were no instances of duplicate surveys based on all other questions not relating to where they stayed the night before.

On the night of the sheltered count, all shelter volunteers met at a designated meeting area where they picked up their count packages containing the surveys and other materials, essential bags, and name tags. After briefing, volunteers were divided into two groups and

went to their designated shelter where they conducted the surveys with support from shelter staff. Interview packages from one shelter were returned at the end of the night while the other shelter kept their surveys for safekeeping overnight and the following day were returned to the PiT Coordinator.

Interviewers obtained consent from clients staying in shelters in order to proceed with the questionnaire. Although this is the beginning of the 24-hour PiT, participants were asked a screening question designed to avoid double counting, just in case. If they were screened in, the interviewer proceeded with the rest of the survey.

### **Enumerating the Unsheltered Homeless**

The unsheltered count took place in the daytime hours of March 28. It was intended to enumerate individuals staying in public places or who stayed at someone else's place without a safe place of their own to return to, otherwise referred to as the "unsheltered homeless." People who stayed in emergency accommodation the night before, but who hadn't already completed a survey, were asked to complete one during the street count.

Trained volunteers interviewed people who were homeless at pre-identified locations such as the Food Bank, New Life Community, ASK Wellness, in alleys, in bus shelters, and on riverbanks. In advance of the count, the City's Bylaw Services Division, Kamloops Fire Rescue, BC Ambulance, and the RCMP were in consultation with other outreach teams that are knowledgeable on where homeless individuals may be found. A series of maps were created, marking known locations of where persons experiencing homelessness might gather or seek shelter, in order to assign areas to volunteers.

Beginning at approximately 7:00 am, trained volunteers assembled at the Kamloops United Church to form teams of three people. These teams were debriefed and were assigned a route based on priority areas. One person on each team was given a clipboard and surveys, while the other two were given a map, a resource referral list, a list of upcoming free events, and essential bags to be handed out to the interviewees. Each team also had to have at least one fully charged cell phone and provide the PiT Coordinator with that phone number. When volunteer teams returned, they handed in their surveys, maps, and were asked about their experiences. Some teams were either assigned another route or were finished for the day. Teams could drop off their supplies and finish their shift at either the Kamloops United Church on the South Shore or at Parkview Activity Centre on the North Shore. Each volunteer was also invited to spend some time at one of these locations, referred to drop-in centres, to socialize with other volunteers or people experiencing homelessness, have a meal, and enjoy live music. A team of outreach nurses from the Interior Health also provided voluntary training to volunteers and individuals who had been interviewed on the use of Naloxone kits.

While volunteers were asked not to wake people who may be sleeping, they were asked to get a visual on the person's breathing patterns and to notice any bluing of the skin.

The essential bags given to the interviewees contained several items such as a blanket, socks, a Tupperware container, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sexual health products, deodorant, bandages, Q-tips, feminine hygiene products, and snacks. The drawstring bags were generously donated by New Gold - New Afton Mine; the blankets by the CMHA - Kamloops Branch; most of the snacks and bathroom essentials by the Kamloops Food Bank and the United Steelworkers Local 7619. The remaining items were purchased through the 2018 PiT Count budget.

### **Volunteer and Count Coordination**

The success of the 2018 count depended on the work of 112 volunteers. Each and every one of these generous people helped in various ways, with most of them participating in the street count. Skilled outreach workers, social service personnel, people with experience from previous counts, and motivated individuals were recruited through social media, television and radio ads, posters, and networking through social service agencies. All volunteers were required to attend one of three 2-hour training sessions held on the evenings of March 12, 13, and 15. This helped to ensure that surveys would be completed as accurately and consistently as possible and that volunteers felt adequately prepared for their shift, both in terms of safety and their ability to approach individuals to complete the survey. During these sessions, volunteers were also trained on the background and purpose of each of the survey questions. This would enable volunteers to clarify a question if the interviewee didn't understand, and it was an opportunity to highlight the significance why a question is asked.

A volunteer shelter count coordinator was responsible for the sheltered portion of the count, while the contracted PiT Count Coordinator coordinated the unsheltered component. The shelter coordinator was responsible for ensuring that all materials were returned to the 2018 PiT Count Coordinator at the end of the count.

### **DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS**

In the days following March 28, all survey data was entered into the *Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS)*. The data was used to determine totals for the count itself as well as to generate percentages and graphs outlined in the Results section of this report.

### **Limitations**

All homeless counts underestimate the number of people who are homeless at any one time. This count is no different, as it did not enumerate every homeless person in the city on March 27-28; however, homeless counts provide valuable information on the minimum number of individuals experiencing homelessness in a given period. Although every effort was made to enumerate all homeless people, it was not possible to assign volunteers to all parts of the city for an entire day or interview all homeless individuals. Some parts of the city were missed, some homeless people did not wish to be identified, and some were not possible to find. For example, this method does not count all people who are staying at someone else's place, as they are, by their very nature, hidden. This group is only included in the count if on the day of the count they visited a place where they could be identified and counted.

As well, individuals had a choice whether to participate in the survey or not. Some may have been counted as homeless but declined to answer some or all of the survey questions and therefore didn't contribute to the statistics and graphs, other than their head count.

Despite the knowledge gained through our mapping sessions, it is not always possible to find all homeless people. In fact, many individuals deliberately avoid people and refuse to participate in yet another survey.

Another limitation in the data is that the analysis of shelter clients is based on only a portion of shelter guests. The percentage of shelter guests who completed the survey was 74%. It is not known how the other 26% of shelter clients would have responded to the survey, thereby influencing the analysis. There are several reasons for lower shelter response rates. Volunteers started their shift at 8:00 pm and left the shelters around 11:00 pm. Because of this limited window for interviews, volunteers may miss clients who arrive after they have left. Further, some clients may have already been settled and sleeping and therefore couldn't participate in the survey. These individuals are counted through the shelter numbers, but they do not contribute to the data set. Additionally, some shelter clients may refuse to be interviewed.

It should also be noted that a PiT count such as this does not reflect the number of people who move in and out of homelessness over a longer period of time (e.g. over the course of one year). However, the PiT methodology is consistent with past counts, allows for comparisons between years, and provides the best available information on the size, composition, and trends in the homeless population in Kamloops.

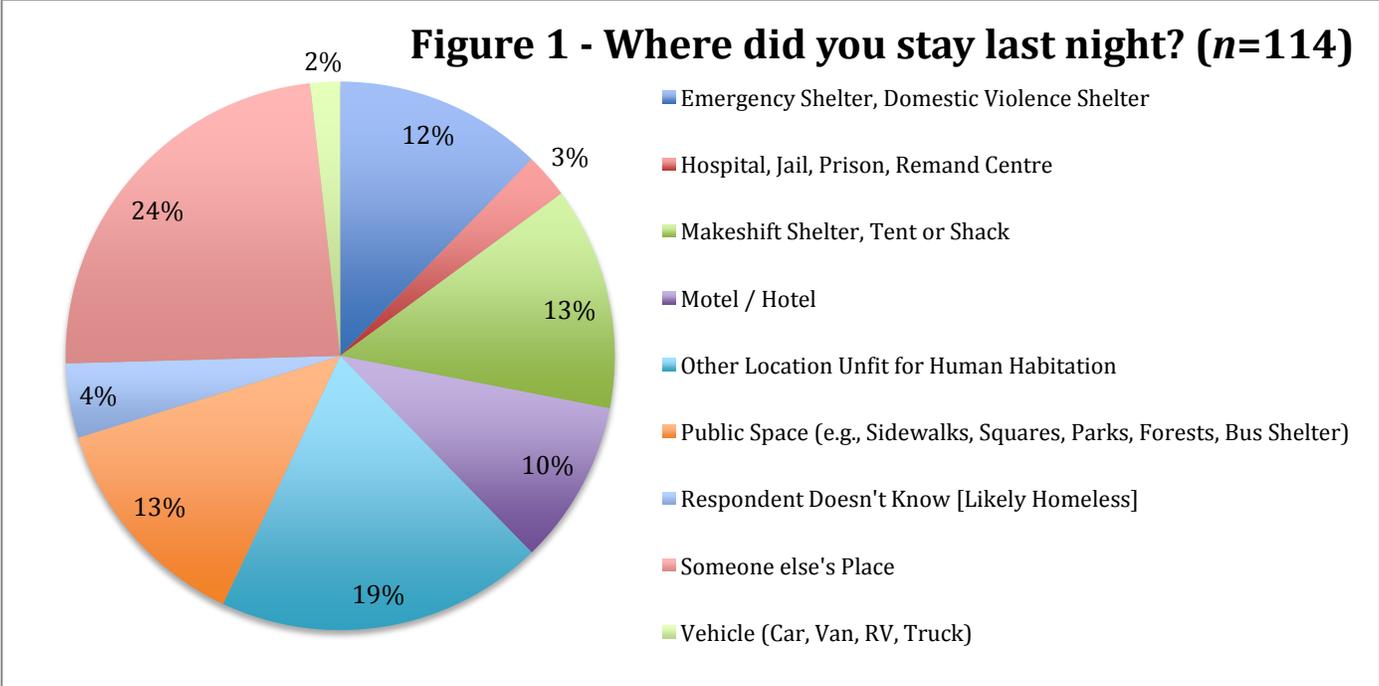
## **DATA ANALYSIS**

### ***Screening question 1: Where did you stay last night?***

All 114 unsheltered survey participants answered this question. This screen-in question was not relevant to sheltered individuals as they were considered homeless when they spent the night at one of the shelters. The 14 individuals surveyed during the unsheltered/street count who indicated they spent the night in an emergency shelter and had not previously completed the survey were included in the category of unsheltered homeless<sup>3</sup>. Figure 1 below outlines where respondents spent the evening of March 27.

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<sup>3</sup> Refer to *Enumerating the Sheltered Homeless* on page 8 of this report.



**SURVEY QUESTIONS**

**Question 1: What family members stayed with you last night?**

Of the 114 *unsheltered respondents*, 82% (94) reported to have been alone the night before. 4% (4) reported to have stayed with a partner, 2% (2) reported to have stayed with another adult, and 12% (14) reported to be the family head; those considered to be the *family head* were staying with their children. Some respondents did not disclose the age, gender, or number of children staying with them; therefore, the numbers of reported children are underestimated.

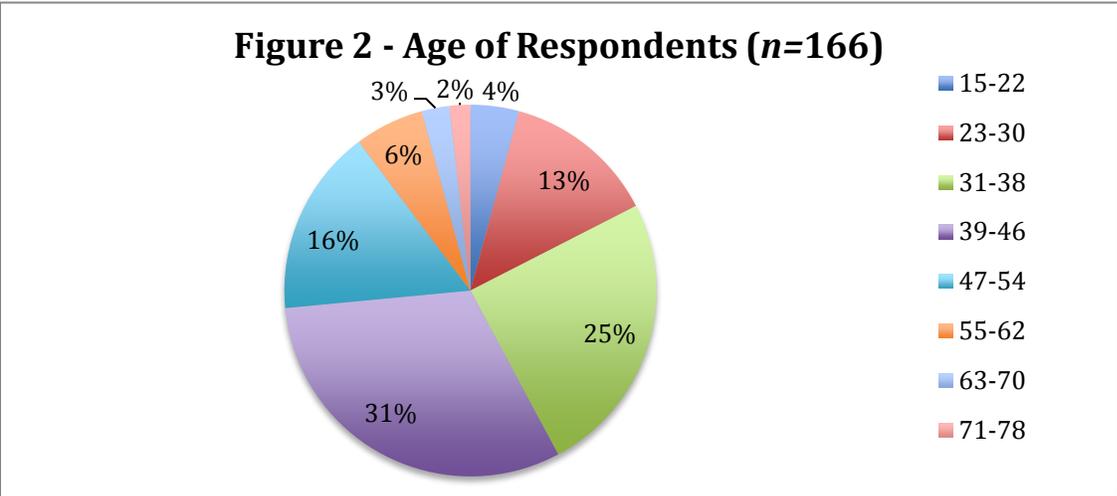
Of the 66 sheltered respondents, 94% (62) claimed to be staying there alone, while 6% (4) of respondents reported to be the family head or to have stayed with a partner (see Table 1).

One 37-year-old, self-identified female reported to have stayed at someone else's place with her two children aged seven (male) and four (female). One male respondent reported that he was staying in a hotel with his six-year-old child (male). One female respondent (age unknown) reported that she was staying at someone else's place with her child (age/gender unknown). A 25-year-old female stayed with her three-year-old in an unidentified location. One 19-year-old respondent stayed with her three-year-old (female) in a shelter overnight.

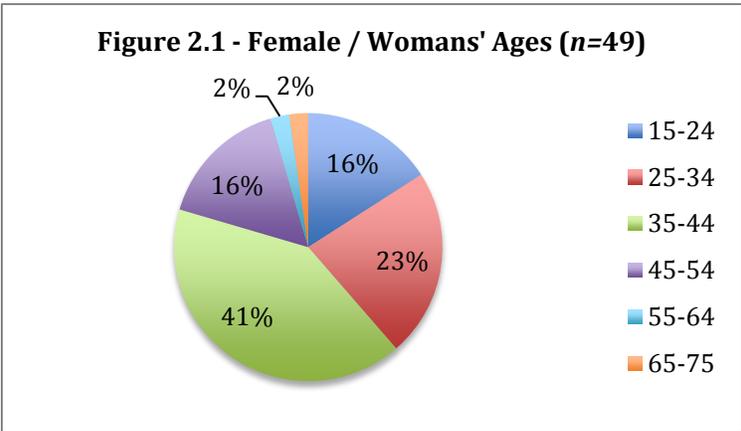
Table 1 - Who Respondents had Stayed With					
	Single	Other Adult	Partner	Family Head	Children
Sheltered	66	0	1	3	1
Unsheltered	94	2	4	14	9
TOTAL	160	2	5	17	10

**Question 2: How old are you?**

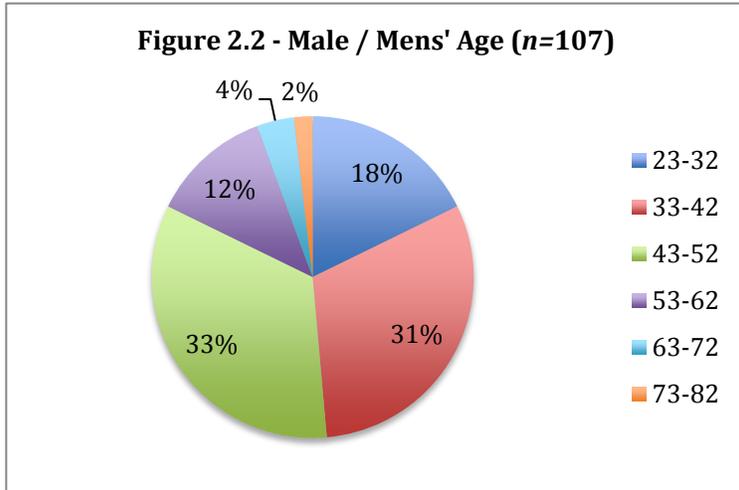
Of the 180 respondents, 14 chose not to disclose their age, which reduced the sample size to 166. Ages for all individuals surveyed can be found in Figure 2.



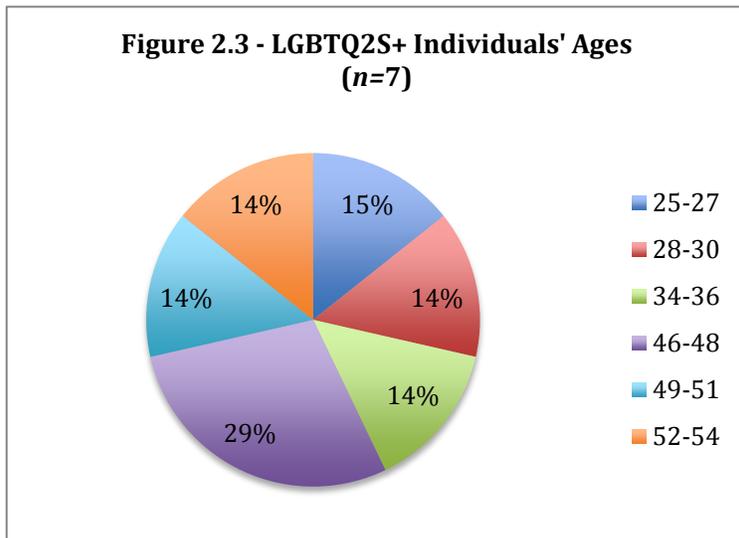
Those individuals identifying as female/woman comprised a sample of n=49. The age profile of these individuals can be found below in Figure 2.1. The oldest individual identifying as female/woman was 75 years of age.



Those individuals identifying as male/man comprised a sample of  $n=107$ . The age profile of these individuals can be found below in Figure 2.2. The oldest individual identifying as male/man was 78 years of age.

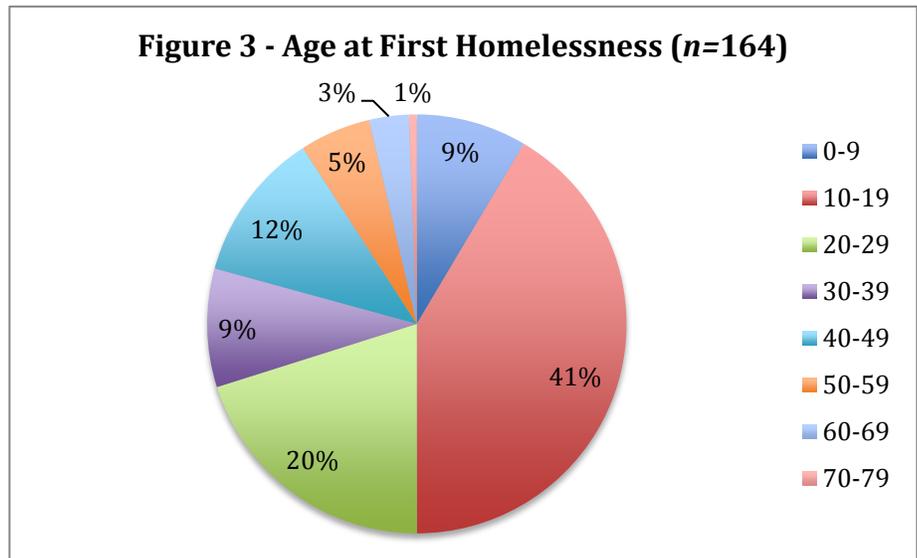


For those respondents not identifying as one of the binary genders, their age profile can be found below in Figure 2.3. One individual identified as "other" and did not further specify. One more individual identified as male/man and female/woman. Two individuals identified as gender-queer/ gender non-conforming, and three individuals identified as two-spirited.



**Question 3: How old were you the first time you experienced homelessness?**

Of the 180 survey respondents, 6% (10) declined to answer this question and another 3% (6) either didn't know or left their answer blank. The 164 responses received for this question are shown in Figure 3. The average age at which respondents first experienced homelessness for the first time is 25 years of age.



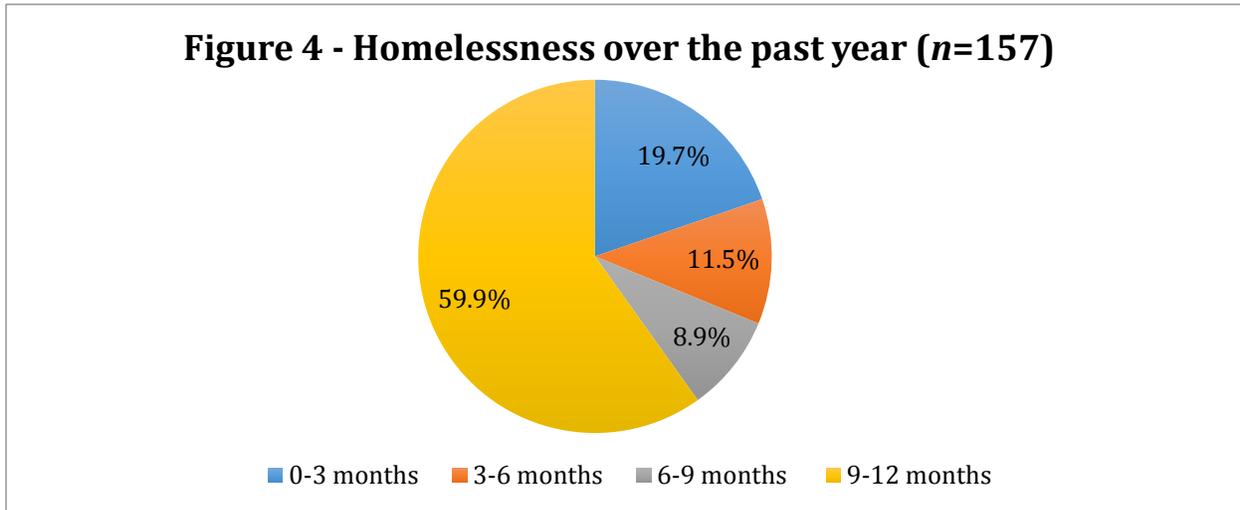
When correlating current age with age at first homelessness, the majority of survey respondents (41%) were between the ages 10-19 when they first experienced homelessness. One male respondent between the ages of 67-78 became homeless in his senior years; three more of the same age cohort became homeless between 60-69 years of age. 15 participants reported to have been homeless before they reached their ninth birthday.

**Table 2 - Current Age and Age when Homelessness First Experienced (n=164)**

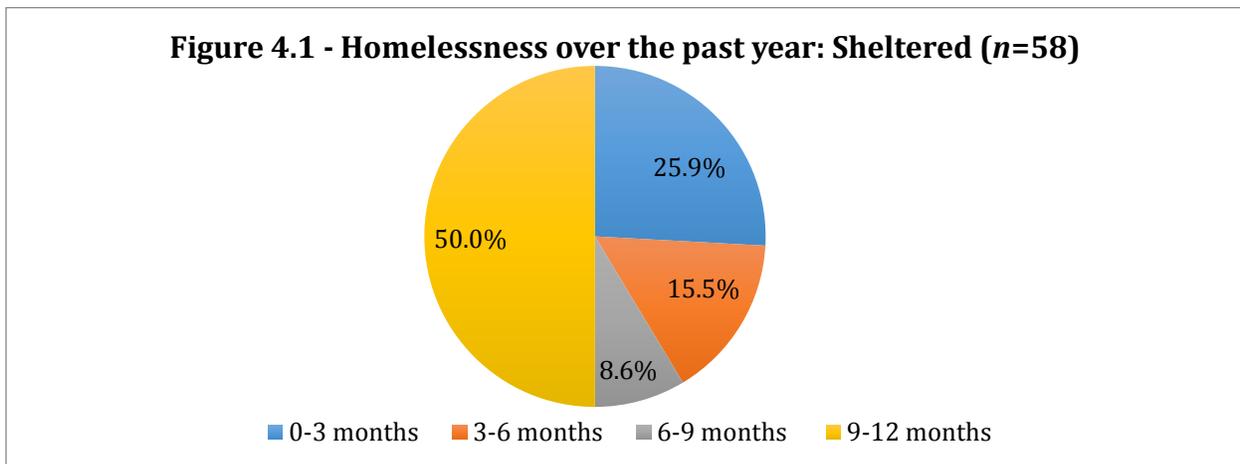
Age at first homelessness	Current Age						Total
	17-26	27-36	37-46	47-56	57-66	67-79	
0-9		3	9	3			15
10-19	14	13	29	11			67
20-29	3	15	11	4			33
30-39			6	6	2	1	15
40-49			12	7			19
50-59				4	5		9
60-69					2	3	5
70-79						1	1

**Question 4: In total, how much time have you been homeless over the past year?**

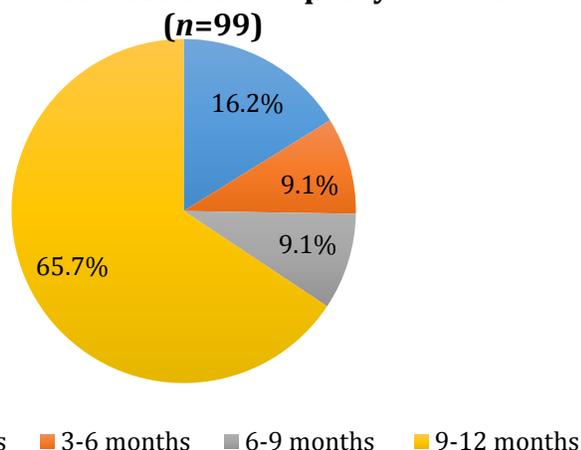
Respondents (n=157) to this question were broken down into four categories: those who have been homeless for up to 3 months in the last year, those who have been homeless between 3-6 months in the last year, those who have been homeless between 6-9 months in the last year, and those who have been homeless for 9-12 months or more. The majority of respondents (59.5%) have been homeless for 9 months or more (Figure 4).



If we distinguish between sheltered (n=58) and unsheltered (n=99) respondents (Figures 4.1 and 4.2, respectively), we see that the former tends to have spent less time experiencing homelessness overall, as seen in the higher proportion of individuals having been without housing for 0-3 and 3-6 months in the previous year. That said, the majority of each type of respondent had still spent 9-12 months of the last year experiencing homelessness.



**Figure 4.2 - Homelessness over the past year: Unsheltered**



***Question 5: In total, how many different times have you experienced homelessness over the past year?***

This question assessed how often individuals moved in and out of homelessness (episodic homelessness) over the past year and whether or not individuals were housed for even a brief period of time. If an individual had been homeless all year, it was counted as “1”. Further, shelter stays or couch surfing for brief periods were not considered housing. It should be noted that some answers provided to this question were unclear, i.e. many survey respondents answered “all”, which was interpreted as them having been homeless all year and, hence, counting as “1”. Of the 180 total participants, 13 declined to answer or left the answer option blank, and 14 reported “don’t know”. With a sample size of n=153, the average number of times a respondent experienced episodic homelessness was 1.6. Eight individuals reported to have been homeless over six times, and up to 20 different times over the last year. The majority of respondents (n=105) reported to have experienced homelessness only one time. The wide array of responses (0-20) shows both that a) this question requires further evaluation and b) there may be possible flaws with volunteer training (i.e. how the question was asked or even with the validity of the question itself).

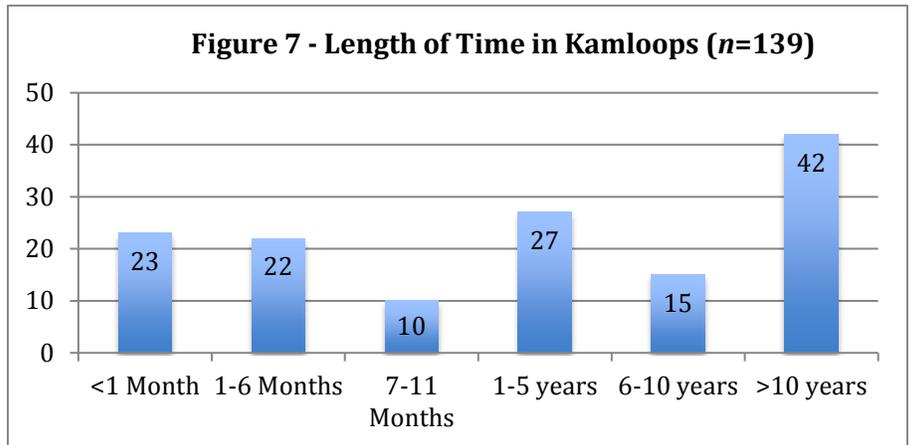
***Question 6: In the past year, have you stayed in an emergency shelter (e.g. Emerald Centre, Stuart Wood, or Out-of-the-cold)?***

Of the 114 individuals that were surveyed during the unsheltered/street count, one individual declined to answer this question and another individual did not provide an answer. 69% (77) of respondents answered positively to this question.

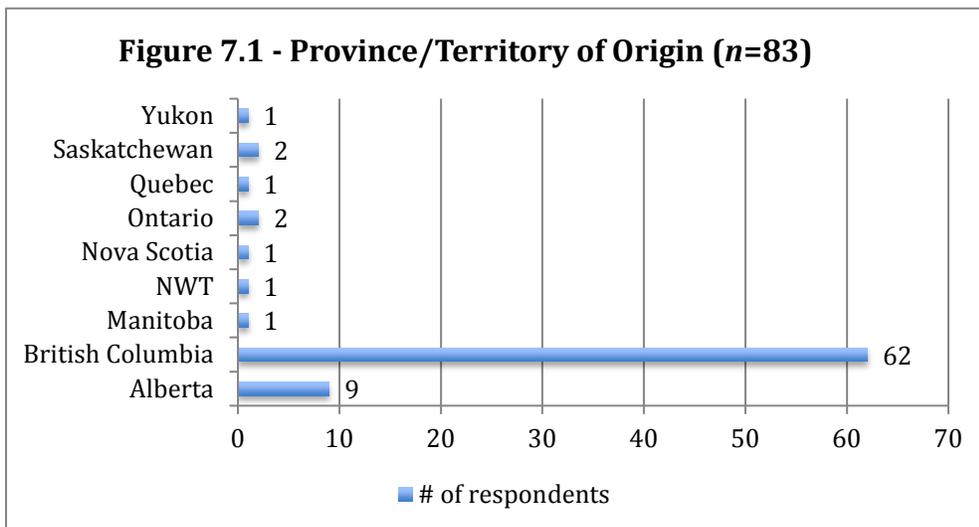
Of the 31% (35) of respondents that disclosed to have not stayed in an emergency shelter over the last year, eight disclosed “fear for safety” as the main reason; one individual reported “lack of transportation”, and three reported that they “prefer to stay with friends/family”. None of the respondents reported to have been turned away because they have been banned or the shelters are full.

**Question 7: How long have you been in Kamloops?**

Of the 180 survey respondents, 17% (30) reported that they have always been here. Seven individuals declined to answer, two individuals didn't know, and another two left their response blank. The remaining 139 individuals indicated a length of time they have been in Kamloops, which can be found in Figure 7.



These 139 individuals were asked the follow-up question of where they came from. 83 (60%) respondents answered the question while the remaining 56 (40%) did not. Of the new sample (n=83), 80 (96%) people said they were from Canada and three (4%) reported to be from the United States. Details on provinces and territories of origin are found in Figure 7.1.



**Question 8: Did you come to Kamloops because of the wildfires?**

Of the aforementioned 150 individuals that were **not** born and/or raised in Kamloops (Question 7), 138 (92%) people reported that they did not come to Kamloops because of the wildfires. One person declined to answer while seven (5%) others left this response blank. Only four (3%) reported to have come to Kamloops due to the wildfires.

**Question 9: Were you given a bus ticket to come to Kamloops?**

Of the 180 survey respondents, 151 (84%) responded negatively to this question; 18 (10%) individuals did not answer this question, and 11 (6%) reported that they were given a bus ticket to come to Kamloops.

Of those given a bus ticket ( $n=11$ ), five were given a ticket by their support worker, three were given a ticket by their friend or family member, one person did not disclose, and two people indicated that they were given a ticket by either a court or a jail/prison.

**Question 10: Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee, or refugee claimant?**

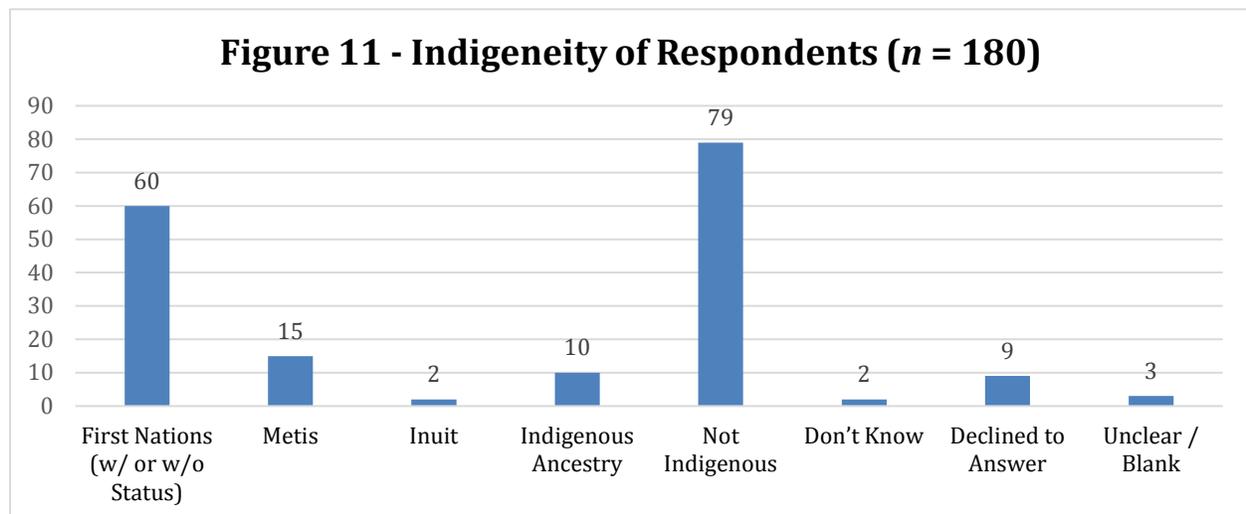
Nineteen (11%) respondents either declined to answer or left their response blank, and 156 (87%) respondents answered in the negative. Four (2%) respondents reported to be immigrants, and one came to Canada as a refugee.

All five individuals who indicated to have come to Canada as a refugee or immigrant disclosed that they had been here for over 25 years.

**Question 11: Do you identify as Indigenous or do you have Indigenous ancestry? This includes First Nations with or without status, Métis, and Inuit.**

First Nations (w/ or w/o Status)	Metis	Inuit	Indigenous Ancestry	Not Indigenous	Don't Know	Declined to Answer	Unclear/Blank
60/33.3%	15/8.3%	2/1.1%	10/5.6%	79/43.9%	2/1.1%	9/5.0%	3/1.7%

While nine respondents declined to answer, two responded they didn't know, and three left a blank/unclear response, 87 (52%) of the remaining 166 respondents self-identified as Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) in some way (outlined in Figure 11/Table 3). As per Statistics Canada, only 9.8% (2016)<sup>4</sup> of the total Kamloops population identify as Indigenous; our data shows that those identifying as Indigenous are overrepresented amongst Kamloops' homeless population.



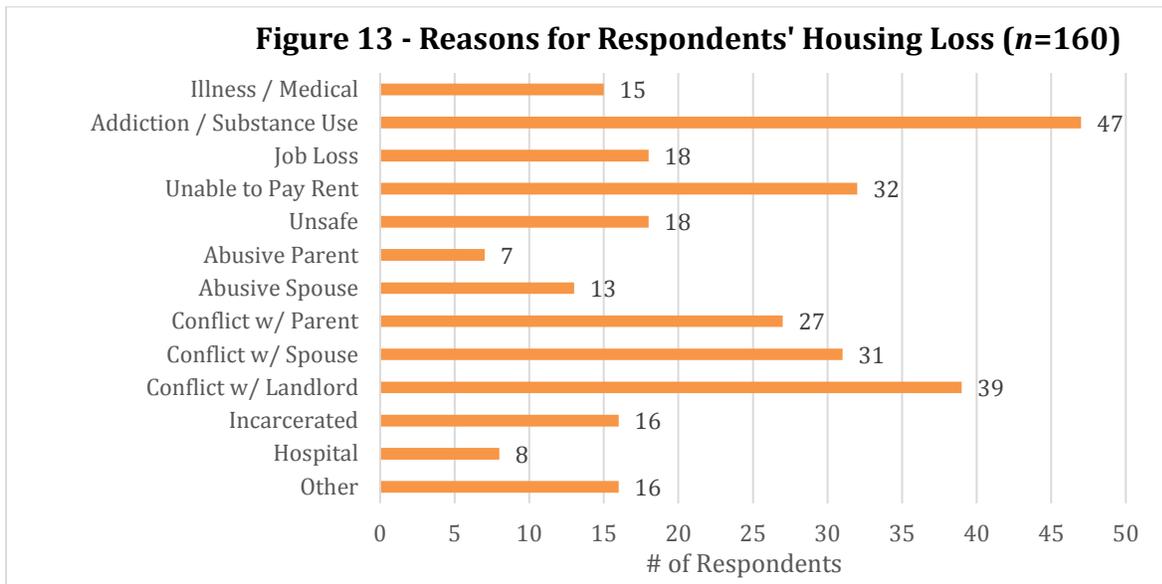
<sup>4</sup> Census Profile – Kamloops (CY) 2016 - <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=5933042&Geo2=CD&Code2=5933&Data=Count&SearchText=Kamloops&SearchType=Begin&SearchPR=01&B1=All&TABID=1>

**Question 12: Have you ever had any service in the Canadian Military or the RCMP?**

Eleven respondents declined to answer this question; of the remaining 169 individuals, 94% (159) did not report any service in the Canadian Military or the RCMP, and 6% (10) of individuals claimed to have served in the Canadian Military.

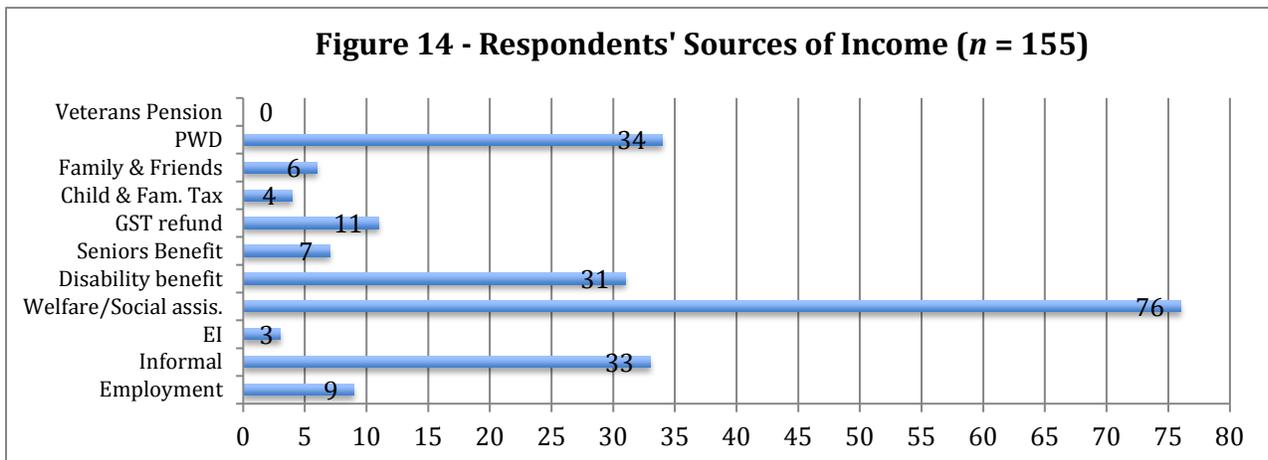
**Question 13: What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently?**

Of 180 respondents, 20 did not answer this question. The remaining respondents (n=160) often gave multiple reasons for having lost their homes, so the following totals reflect their collective responses. The most prevalent reason given for being unable to secure or maintain housing was 'addiction/substance use,' at 47 (29%) respondents. Other leading reasons include: conflict with one's landlord, spouse, or parent as well as an inability to afford rent.



**Question 14: What are your sources of income?**

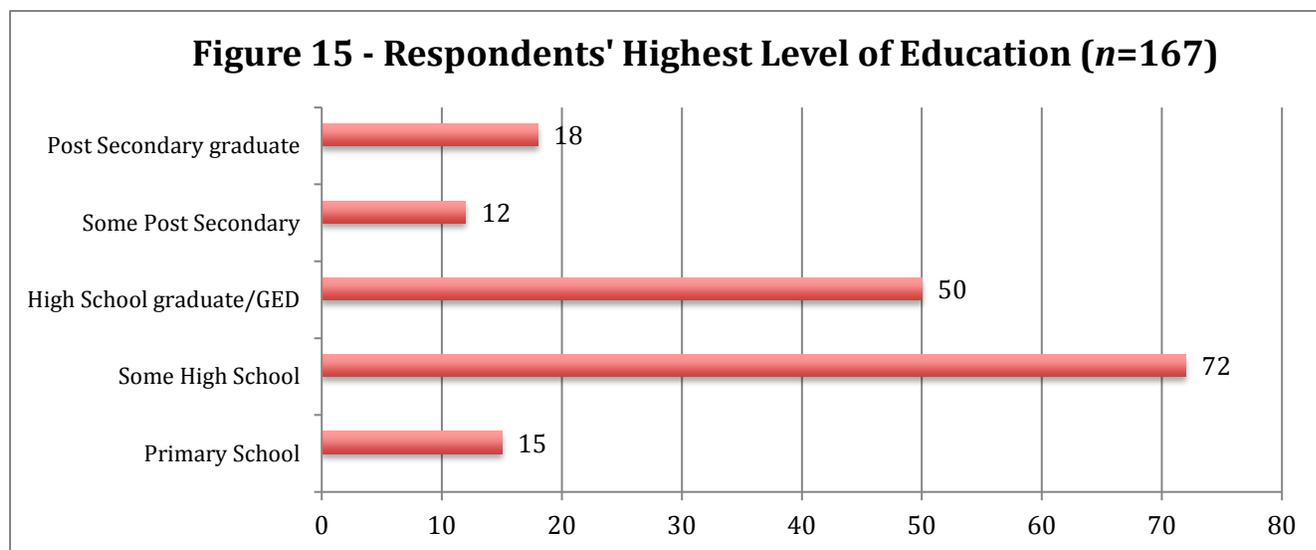
Fourteen of the 180 respondents (8%) reported to have no income of any sort, while 11 declined to answer; the remainder (n=155) reported one or more sources of income. An "informal" income was defined as money earned through bottle returns or panhandling.



Again, these totals represent respondents' ability to cite more than one source of income. The results show that the vast majority of respondents are receiving some form of government assistance, and yet this assistance is insufficient to cover the cost of their shelter, or it does cover this cost but leaves individuals with so few funds left over that the shelter is unmaintainable.

**Question 15: What is the highest level of education you completed?**

Thirteen respondents did not answer this question; of the remaining respondents ( $n=167$ ), the majority revealed to have completed some high school (43%) and the second most reported education level was high school graduate (30%). What might be surprising for some readers is that those with a partial (7%) or complete (11%) post-secondary education are among those surveyed, showing that homelessness can be experienced by those from all walks of life and socio-economic backgrounds.



**Question 16: Are you a pet owner?**

This question aimed to examine the number of people that have owned pets but were unable to keep them due to various reasons (e.g. shelters stays or not pet-friendly rental properties). Ten respondents chose not to answer this question, while the majority (145) said they did not own pets. The remaining 25 said they owned pets; and 17 had their pet(s) with them.

**Question 17: Have you ever been in foster care and/or group home?**

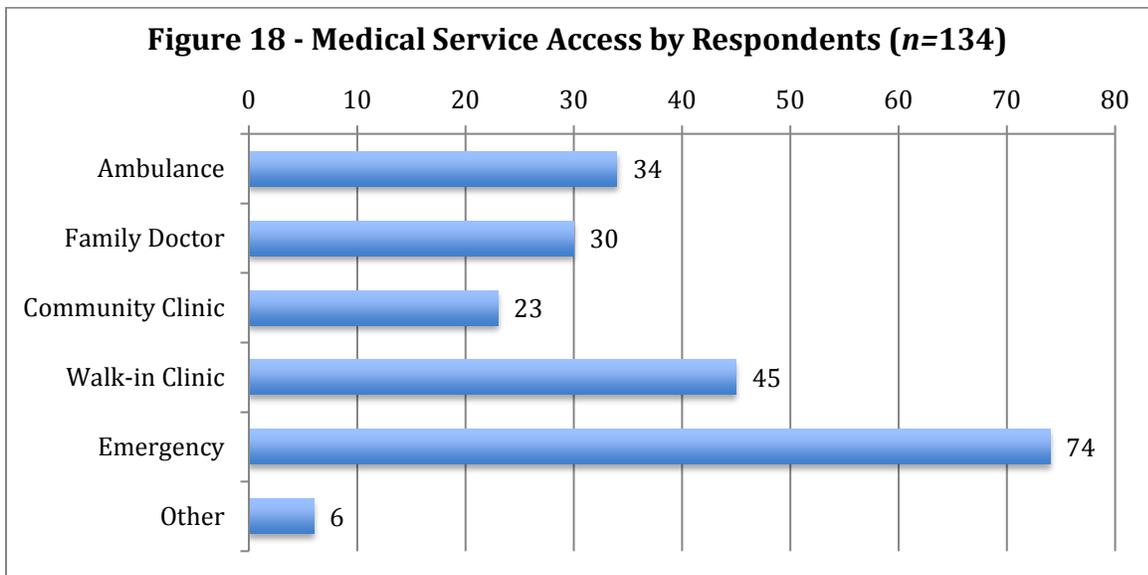
Sixteen respondents did not answer this question. One hundred and two (57%) respondents answered negatively, and 62 (34%) said they had been in foster care.

Those who answered “yes” to the previous question ( $n=62$ ) were asked a follow-up question: if they had ever chosen homelessness over being in care; 38 (61%) respondents said they did. The remaining 24 (39%) said they had never chosen homelessness over being in care.

Another follow-up question asked those who had been in foster care and/or a group home ( $n=62$ ): if they felt the provincial child welfare system sufficiently prepared them for their transition into independence. Six people did not provide an answer, seven individuals didn't know, and 41 (66%) said they did not feel well-prepared for independence; only eight people (13%) reported they felt the provincial child welfare system had prepared them well enough to live independently

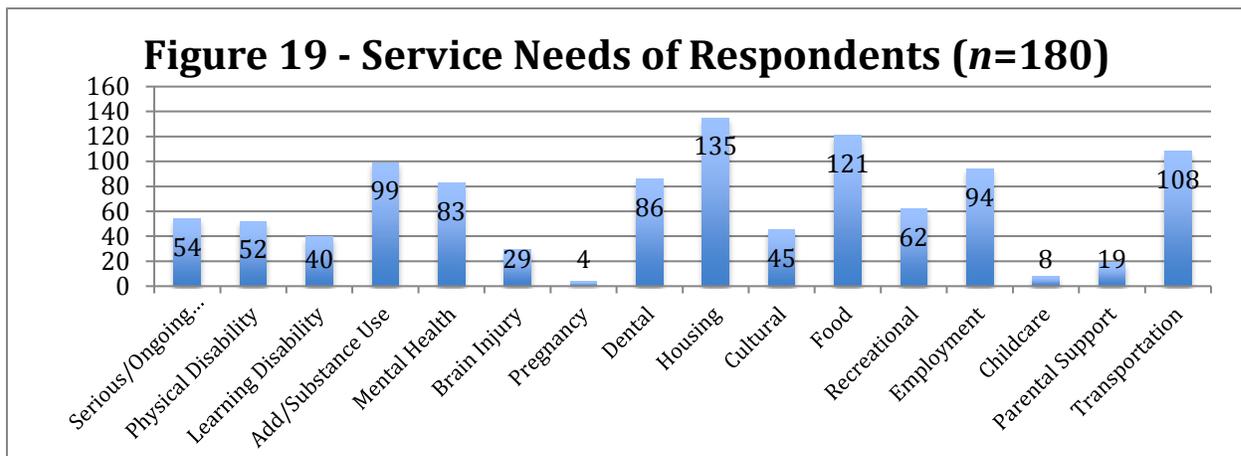
**Question 18: In the past year, have you accessed medical care?**

Thirty-two respondents (18%) reported to have not accessed medical care, 14 declined to answer, and the remaining 134 (74%) stated to have accessed one or more forms of medical care, and these have been outlined below (Figure 18). As with similar questions, these totals represent the collective responses of individuals who had accessed some or all of the listed medical services.



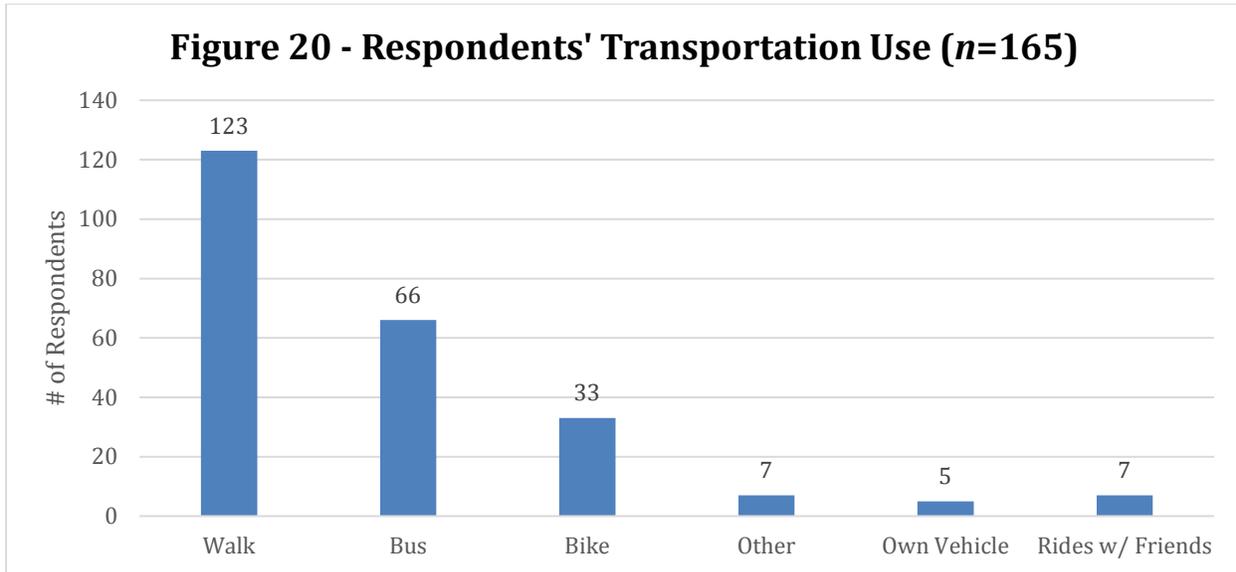
**Question 19: I'm going to read a list of services that you may or may not need. Let me know which one of these apply to you.**

Respondents could select as many services as they felt the need to. Details of the responses can be found in Figure 19.



**Question 20: How would you usually get to these services?**

Transportation is an identified barrier in the lives of those experiencing homelessness. Respondents ( $n=165$ ) could select more than one answer, so the totals should not be considered as “ $n$  respondents walk and nothing else.” The majority of answers were “Walk” (123), followed by “Bus” (66) and “Bike” (33).



**Question 21: Where do you go during the day?**

This was an open-ended question; participants could answer this question in any way they chose, and responses were recorded as accurately as possible. While listing every individual response here would be cumbersome, a list of the most popular responses is as follows:

- various shopping centers and parks
- JUMP
- Food Bank
- Downtown or North Shore Public Libraries
- New Life Community
- ASK Wellness
- CMHA Clubhouse
- Transit exchange(s)
- Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Centre
- My Place drop-in centre
- various government offices (e.g. Ministry of Children and Family Development and WorkBC)
- travelling around (i.e. walking the streets, alleys, etc. to keep busy/find a resting place)

**Question 22: In the past year, have you experienced or witnessed an overdose?**

Twenty-two interviewees did not answer this question; 51 (32%) of the remainder ( $n= 158$ ) answered negatively, while 107 (68%) respondents said they had, in fact, witnessed or

experienced an overdose within the past year. Volunteers were instructed to refer individuals that responded with “yes” to our drop-in stations for Naloxone training, which was provided by Interior Health.

**Question 23: In the past year, have you accessed the supervised consumption site?**

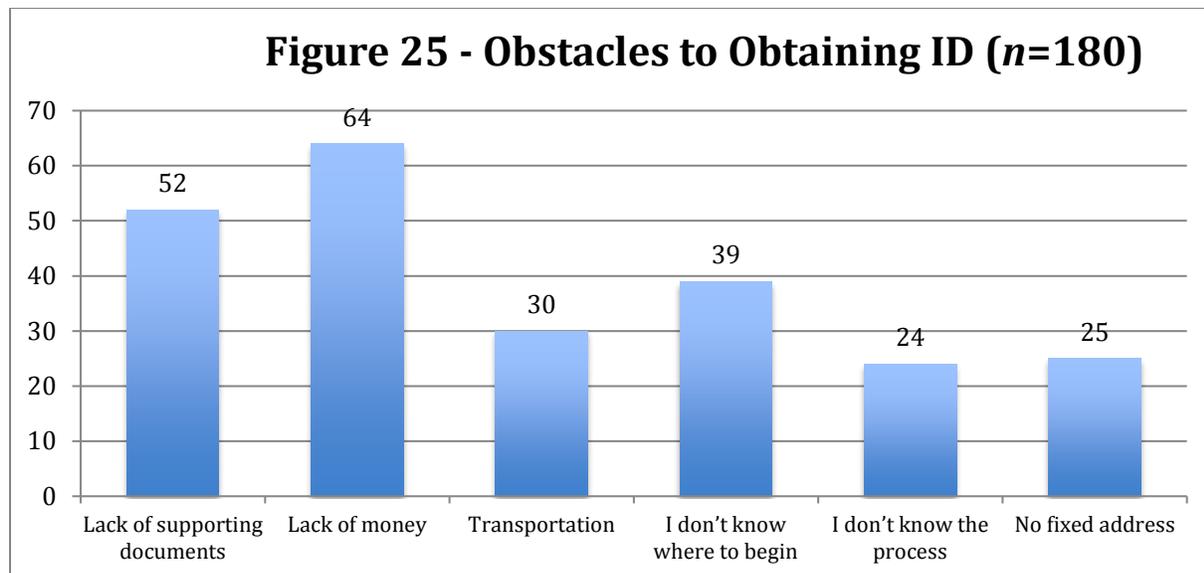
Of the 107 respondents who had witnessed or experienced an overdose over the past year, 48 (45%) had accessed the supervised consumption site and 55 (51%) individuals had not; four respondents did not provide an answer. Of note is that six people accessed the supervised consumption site although they did not witness or experience an overdose. Further to this, Kamloops was one of the first communities outside of a major metropolitan area to have been approved for a supervised consumption site.

**Question 24: Do you currently have valid, government-issued ID?**

Given the importance of being able to identify oneself when applying for a host of public and private services, identifying whether a lack of government ID acts as a barrier for individuals experiencing homelessness in Kamloops is important for service providers. Twenty respondents chose not to answer this question while 69 (38%) reported to have ID, and the remaining 91 (51%) reported to not have ID.

**Question 25: What are the primary obstacles you have faced in attempting to secure ID?**

This question was posed to all participants regardless of their previous indication of currently having or not having ID; furthermore, participants could select more than one answer option (Figure 25).



**Question 26: Have you ever been denied services because you didn't have ID?**

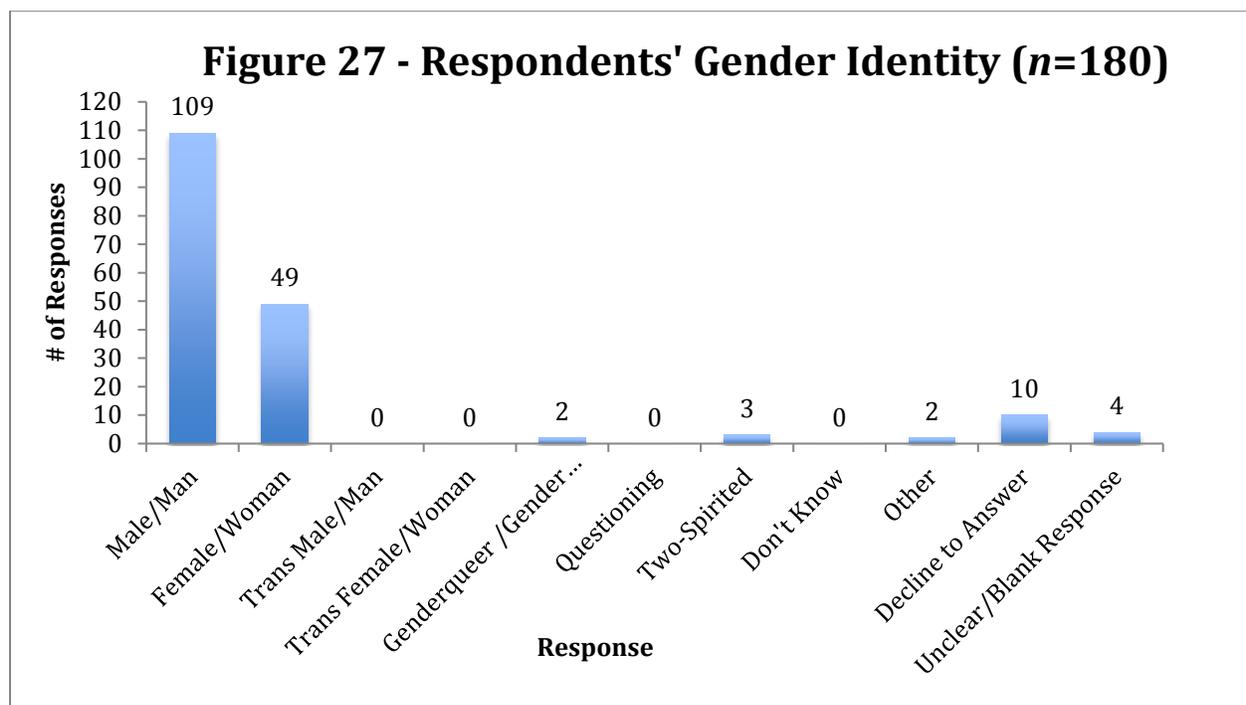
Thirty-nine (22%) of respondents did not answer this question. Fifty-three (29%) reported to have never been denied services in the past, and 88 (49%) reported to have been denied services due to not having ID. This finding confirms that something as seemingly simple as

not having access to government ID can prove a stumbling block for those navigating their way through and out of homelessness.

**Question 27: What gender do you identify with?**

This question was deliberately placed at the end of the survey and respondents were encouraged to answer on their own; this was intended to increase levels of comfort for all individuals as well as to provide people with the opportunity to “see themselves” or to self-identify with one or more of the options. Additionally, the hope was to show those identifying as LGBTQ2S+ that the questions on gender identity and sexual orientation provide a comprehensive range of choices.

Ten people declined to answer this question, 49 (27%) people identified as female/woman, 109 (61%) participants identified as male/man. Two people identified as genderqueer/ gender non-conforming, three identified as two-spirited, one person identified as both male/man AND female/woman.

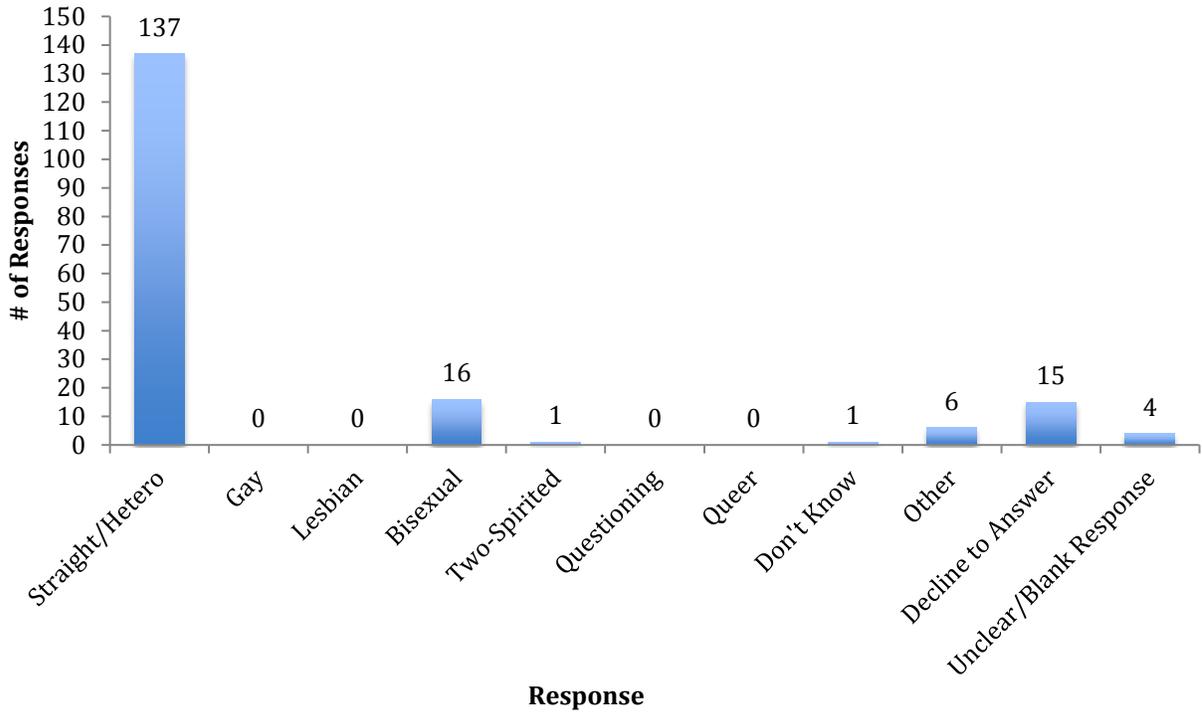


**Question 28: How do you describe your sexual orientation (e.g. straight, gay, lesbian)?**

This question, as with the previous one, was placed at the end of the survey and participants were shown the list to see the provided options. The reasons for this are discussed in Question 27.

Thirty-seven respondents ( $n=180$ ) described their sexual orientation as straight/heterosexual, 16 identified as bisexual, and six people identified as other; 15 declined to answer and 4 left unclear/blank responses. One individual did not know their sexual orientation.

**Figure 28 - Respondents' Sexual Orientation (n=180)**



## APPENDIX A

### 2018 Point-in-Time Count Survey

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm a volunteer for the Kamloops housing needs project. We are conducting a survey to provide better programs and services to people experiencing homelessness. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete.

- Your participation is voluntary and your name will not be recorded.
- You can choose to skip any question or to stop the interview at any time.
- Results will contribute to the understanding of homelessness in Kamloops and across Canada and will help with research to improve services.

**A. Have you already answered this survey with another person wearing this Volunteer badge?**

- **YES:** Thank and end
- **NO:** Go to B

**B. Have you already answered a housing-needs survey within the last six weeks in another Community?**

- **YES:** Community name \_\_\_\_\_
- **NO**

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

- **YES:** Go to D
- **NO:** Thank and end

**D. Where did you stay last night? [DO NOT READ CATEGORIES]**

<p><b>a.</b> Decline to Answer <b>b.</b> Own Apartment/ House</p>	<p><b>c.</b> Someone else's Place -&gt;<b>Ask D1</b> <b>d.</b> Motel/Hotel -&gt;<b>Ask D2</b> <b>e.</b> Hospital, Jail, Prison, Remand Centre -&gt;<b>Ask D2</b></p>	<p><b>f.</b> Emergency Shelter, Domestic Violence Shelter <b>g.</b> Transitional Shelter/Housing <b>h.</b> Public Space (e.g. Sidewalk, Park) <b>i.</b> Vehicle (Car, Van, RV, Truck) <b>j.</b> Makeshift Shelter, Tent, or Shack <b>k.</b> Abandoned/Vacant Building <b>l.</b> Other Unsheltered Location <b>m.</b> Respondent Doesn't Know [Likely Homeless]</p>
<b>[THANK and END SURVEY]</b>	<b>[FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS]</b>	<b>[SKIP TO SURVEY QUESTION 1]</b>

**D1: Can you stay there as long as you want or is this a temporary situation?**

- |  |
|--|
| <p>a. AS LONG AS WANTED <b>[THANK AND END SURVEY]</b><br/> b. TEMPORARY SITUATION -----&gt; <b>GO TO D2</b><br/> c. DON'T KNOW -----&gt; <b>GO TO D2</b><br/> d. DECLINE TO ANSWER <b>[THANK AND END SURVEY]</b></p> |
|--|

**D2: Do you have a house or apartment that you can safely return to?**

- |   |
|---|
| <p>a. YES <b>[THANK AND END SURVEY]</b><br/> b. NO -----&gt; <b>BEGIN SURVEY</b><br/> c. DON'T KNOW -----&gt; <b>BEGIN SURVEY</b><br/> d. DECLINE <b>[THANK AND END SURVEY]</b></p> |
|---|

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the survey. Please note that you will receive an ESSENTIAL BAG as a thank you for your participation.

**Survey #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Interviewer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Time:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AM/PM**

**Contact #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. What family members stayed with you last night?** [Indicate survey numbers. Check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> PARTNER - Survey #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER ADULT - Survey #: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> CHILD(REN) - Survey #: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER																								
<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD(REN)/DEPENDENT S <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;">           GENDER R AGE         </div>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="width: 12.5%; text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8																
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8																		

**2. How old are you? [OR] What year were you born?**

<input type="radio"/> AGE _____ OR YEAR BORN _____	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> 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?**

<input type="radio"/> AGE _____	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---------------------------------	----------------------------------	---

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

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

**5. In total, how many different times have you experienced homelessness over the past year?**

<input type="radio"/> NUMBER OF TIMES _____ [Includes this time]	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	----------------------------------	---

**6. In the past year, have you stayed in an emergency shelter (e.g. Emerald Centre, Stuart Wood, or Out of the Cold)?**

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO (ask 6b)	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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→ **6b If no, what are the main reasons?** [Do not read categories; select all that apply]

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

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

<input type="radio"/> LENGTH _____ DAYS/WEEKS/MONTHS/YEARS -----→ <input type="radio"/> ALWAYS BEEN HERE <input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	<b>Where did you live before you came here?</b> <input type="radio"/> COMMUNITY _____ PROVINCE _____ OR COUNTRY _____ <input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	---

**8. Did you come to Kamloops because of the wildfires?**

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**9. Were you given a bus ticket to come to Kamloops?**

<input type="radio"/> YES (ask 9b)	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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→9b What institution or organization gave you the ticket?

<input type="radio"/> COURT	<input type="radio"/> JAIL/PRISON	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> OTHER _____
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10. Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee or refugee claimant?

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

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

<input type="radio"/> YES ----- -----> <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW <input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER	<b>If YES:</b> <input type="radio"/> FIRST NATIONS (with or without status) <input type="radio"/> INUIT <input type="radio"/> MÉTIS <input type="radio"/> HAVE INDIGENOUS ANCESTRY
--	---

12. Have you ever had any service in the Canadian Military or the RCMP?

[Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force; Cadet is not part of Military]

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

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

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

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

<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY BENEFIT	<input type="checkbox"/> PWD
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMAL/SELF-EMPLOYMENT (E.G., BOTTLE RETURNS, PANHANDLING)	<input type="checkbox"/> SENIORS BENEFITS (E.G., CPP/OAS/GIS)	<input type="checkbox"/> VETERANS PENSION
<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> GST REFUND	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER SOURCE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> WELFARE/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD AND FAMILY TAX BENEFITS	<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME
	<input type="checkbox"/> MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

15. What is the highest level of education you completed?

<input type="checkbox"/> PRIMARY SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRADE	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> SOME HIGH SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> SOME POST SECONDARY	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="checkbox"/> HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE/GED	<input type="checkbox"/> POST SECONDARY GRADUATE	

**16. Are you a pet owner?**

<input type="radio"/> YES (ask 16b)	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
-------------------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------------	---

**→16b Is/are your pet(s) with you?**

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

**17. Have you ever been in foster care and/or group home?**

<input type="radio"/> YES (ask 17b & 17c)	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
---	--------------------------	----------------------------------	---

**→17b Did you ever choose homelessness over being in care?**

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**→ 17c Do you feel that the provincial child welfare system prepared you enough for transitioning into independence?**

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**18. In the past year have you accessed medical care?**

<input type="radio"/> YES (ask 18b)	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**→ 18b If yes, what Services have you accessed?**

<input type="checkbox"/> AMBULANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY CLINIC (MISSION, AFC)	<input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY DOCTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> WALK IN CLINIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**19. I'm going to read a list of services that you may or may not need. Let me know which of these apply to you. Do you have a need for services related to:** [Read categories, select all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> SERIOUS OR ONGOING MEDICAL CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> CULTURAL
<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> FOOD
<input type="checkbox"/> LEARNING DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE	<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ( <i>Counselling, treatment, etc.</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILDCARE
<input type="checkbox"/> BRAIN INJURY	<input type="checkbox"/> PARENTAL SUPPORT I.E. PARENTING SKILLS
<input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANCY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> DENTAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NONE OF THE ABOVE
<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSING	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

**20. How would you usually get to these services?** [Check all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> WALK	<input type="checkbox"/> BUS	<input type="checkbox"/> BICYCLE	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____
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**21. Where do you go during the day?** [This is an open-ended question. Please record all responses, i.e. Park, Clubhouse, Ask Wellness, etc.]

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**22. In the past year have you experienced or witnessed an overdose?**

(If yes, refer client to drop- in stations)

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**23. In the past year, have you accessed the supervised consumption site?**

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**24. Do you currently have valid, government-issued ID?**

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**25. What are the primary obstacles you have faced in attempting to secure ID?**

<input type="checkbox"/> LACK OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/> LACK OF MONEY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	<input type="checkbox"/> I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN	<input type="checkbox"/> NO FIXED ADDRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____
				_____	
				_____	

**26. Have you ever been denied access to services because you didn't have ID?**

<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
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**27. What gender do you identify with? [Participant to fill out this section; show list]**

<input type="radio"/> MALE/MAN	<input type="radio"/> TRANS FEMALE/TRANS WOMAN	<input type="radio"/> NOT LISTED: _____
<input type="radio"/> FEMALE/WOMAN	<input type="radio"/> TRANS MALE/TRANS MAN	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="radio"/> TWO-SPIRIT	<input type="radio"/> GENDERQUEER/GENDER NON-CONFORMING	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="radio"/> QUESTIONING		

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

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