



2021 Point-In Time Homelessness Enumeration

Results Report

Funded in part by the Government of Canada through Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy.

Contents

Executive Summary 3

Background and Purpose 8

Methodology..... 8

 Planning..... 8

 Training..... 9

 Administration of Survey & Enumeration..... 9

 Challenges & Limitations 11

Results..... 12

 Enumeration Results 12

 Survey Results 12

Conclusion & Next Steps..... 24

References 25

Appendix A: Survey Questions 26

Appendix B: PIT Count Poster 32

Executive Summary

Objectives

A Point-In Time (PIT) Count of homelessness is required by both the Federal and Provincial government under existing funding agreements.

For the Federal government, a PIT Count of homelessness has two primary purposes:

1. An enumeration, or count, of people experiencing absolute homelessness. It is intended to identify how many people in a community experience homelessness in shelters and on the streets at a given time. Conducted over subsequent years, PIT counts can be used by the community to track progress in reducing homelessness.
2. A survey of people experiencing homelessness. Through an accompanying survey, the PIT Count gives the community information on the demographics and service needs of people affected by homelessness. This information can be used to target community resources to where they are most needed.

Under the Provincial requirements the objectives of local homeless enumeration are:

- i. To provide a snapshot of homelessness, including information on the scope and nature of homelessness in communities across Ontario.
- ii. To provide information about people experiencing homelessness and their needs to inform the development of programs and services and identify emerging needs.
- iii. To provide information about whether programs and initiatives are having the desired impact on homelessness and to drive continuous improvement in service delivery and program design.

Background & Methods

The Point-In Time (also known as PIT Count) is an event where individuals experiencing homelessness in the City of Greater Sudbury are counted and surveyed to determine at one Point-In Time, the picture of homelessness in our community. Participation in a PIT count is a requirement under the Federal Reaching Home and Provincial funding agreements.

A PIT Count was originally planned for March 2020 and March 2021 but were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The count and survey were conducted from October 19th to October 22nd throughout the City of Greater Sudbury by trained staff from homelessness-serving agencies in the community. 36 trained staff were involved in this year's count from the Homelessness Network, Community Outreach Team, N'swakamok Native Friendship Centre, Sudbury Action Centre for Youth, Canadian Mental Health Association – Sudbury/Manitoulin, Salvation Army Cedar Place, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services, YWCA Geneva House, Monarch Recovery Services, Samaritan Centre and City of Greater Sudbury Social Services.

The PIT Count includes two forms of data collection: a count of individuals experiencing homelessness on one night only and a survey of these individuals. Individuals participating in the survey were asked screening questions to ensure they met the definition of homelessness before staff proceeded with the survey. To align with the PIT count guidelines provided by the Federal and Provincial government, questions were focused on the respondents' experience of homelessness for the night of October 19th only. Surveys were captured through the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) in real time using computers and tablets. Paper copies of the survey were also provided to surveyors. Deidentified data is reported back to both the Federal and provincial government.

Results

On the night of October 19th, 2021 there were a total of 398 persons identified as experiencing homelessness in a shelter, transitional housing, and unsheltered (e.g., unsheltered in public space, encampment).

From the enumeration count 55% of people were identified as staying in an encampment/unsheltered in a public space or unknown, 24% were staying in an emergency shelter, and 18% in transitional housing or provincial systems.

There were 132 people who agreed to participate in a survey. 43% of people surveyed stated they were spending the night in a shelter, while 31% stated they were staying unsheltered/unsure or encampment, and 17% transitional housing or provincial systems (hospital or treatment centre), indicating a higher percentage of people agreed to participate in a survey when they were at an indoor location. This may

have been impacted by COVID-19 given that many indoor services are closed and there was a COVID-19 outbreak in Memorial Park at the time of the PIT count.

Experience of Housing and Shelter

75% of survey respondents stated they had stayed in an emergency shelter within the last year. For those who not stayed in a shelter the three top reasons were fear for safety, personal space and trust issues.

98% of respondents indicated they want to get into permanent housing. The most common challenges respondents reported when trying to find housing included the rent being too high (67%), having too low of an income (62%), and poor housing conditions (29%).

Reasons for Homelessness

The main reason respondents stated they lost their housing was due to unfit/unsafe housing conditions. 19% of respondents reported their most recent housing loss was related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chronic homelessness

Chronically homeless persons have been continuously homeless for six months or more in the previous year. 57% of the survey respondents were currently chronically homeless, with 36% experiencing homelessness for the full year.

Relocating to Sudbury

72% of survey respondents stated they had relocated to Sudbury from another City, with 33% of those being in Sudbury for less than a year and 15% less than 60 days. The two top reasons given for relocating to Sudbury was that their family moved here or to access services and supports.

Experiences of Child Welfare or Foster Care

Over 50% of survey respondents (52%) had their first experience of homelessness before the age of 24. 36% of respondents stated they had been in foster care or a youth group home and 81% of those felt that Child Protection Services was not helpful when transitioning to independence when leaving foster care or group home, with 45% becoming homeless within 30 days of leaving foster care/group home.

Number of Adult and Youth Participants

Most survey respondents (76%) were adults between the age of 25 to 59 years, with 14% of the respondents being youth between the ages of 16 – 24 years.

Demographic Results

- Consistent with the 2018 enumeration data, a larger number of individuals identified as Indigenous, 42%, (First Nations, Metis, Inuit or North American Indigenous Ancestry) compared to the proportion of individuals who identify as Indigenous in the total population of the City of Greater Sudbury (9.4%), according to 2016 census data (Statistics Canada, 2017).
- Women comprised 37% of those who indicated their gender as male or female, while men comprised 61%. Persons who self-identified their gender as two-spirit, transwoman, transman, genderqueer or don't know comprised 2% of the respondents based on self-reports of gender identity.
- Regarding sexual orientation, 86% of respondents self-reported that they identified as heterosexual while 14% indicated that they identified as asexual, bisexual, lesbian, pansexual, queer, questioning, two-spirit or demi-sexual.
- The number of people with backgrounds involving military service who participated in the survey was 3.
- The number of people who reported they came to Canada as an immigrant was 4.

Family Homelessness

Single adults comprise the largest percentage of the homeless population who participated in the survey (86%). There were 18 family households experiencing homelessness the night of the PIT Count. These households had one or more dependent child (n=7), other adult (n=3), or partner (n=8).

Health Challenges

With regards to health challenges, 80% of survey respondents reported a substance use issue and 66% reported a mental health issue. 45% of respondents reported a learning or cognitive limitation and 35% reported an acquired brain injury. 63% of respondents had been to emergency room in the past year, with the number of times ranging from one to 30 times.

Income Sources

Most survey respondents were in receipt of social assistance (86%) which includes both Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program benefits. 53% of the individuals receiving social assistance were in receipt of Ontario Works.

Education

There were 46% of respondents who had primary or some high school education, with 21% graduating from high school, 12% with some post-secondary education, and 21% were a post-secondary graduate or had a graduate degree.

Need for Services

Survey respondents reported they are in greatest need of addiction/substance use services (63%) and mental health services (61%).

Background and Purpose

The City of Greater Sudbury receives funding from the Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, a federal funding program designed to support communities to reach a 50% reduction in chronic homelessness over the next decade. Under the Reaching Home funding agreement, communities are required to participate in a coordinated Point-In Time count, as a measure of reducing chronic homelessness in the community when conducted over subsequent years. The City of Greater Sudbury also receives funding from the Provincial government for homelessness programs. In March 2021, the Provincial Government released Service Manager guidelines requiring communities to participate in a Point-In Time count to provide information on the scope of homelessness in our community and across Ontario.

Previously, the City of Greater Sudbury conducted enumerations in 2015 and 2018 in partnership with Laurentian University. These counts were conducted over a month-long period using period-prevalence methodology. The 2021 enumeration followed requirements set out by the Federal and Provincial governments using a Point-In Time count method, to count individuals experiencing homelessness on one-night only, October 19th. Participants were surveyed from October 19th to the 22nd and were asked questions about their experience of homelessness on the night of October 19th.

Methodology

Planning

A Point-In Time Count planning committee was formed late 2019 to prepare for the March 2020 PIT Count which was postponed until March 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The March 2021 PIT Count was again postponed until October 2021 due to an outbreak in the shelter system. The Point-In Time Count planning committee began meetings in August 2021 to prepare for the October 2021 PIT Count. Committee members included staff from the City of Greater Sudbury Social Services, Homelessness Network, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre, the Sudbury Action Centre for Youth, Canadian Mental Health Association – Sudbury/Manitoulin and Salvation Army Cedar Place.

Training

Staff from the homelessness-serving sector were leveraged to complete surveys with people experiencing homelessness due to their knowledge and experience working with this population. In total, 36 staff participated in the PIT Count from the following service providers: Homelessness Network, Community Outreach Team, N'swakamok Native Friendship Centre, Sudbury Action Centre for Youth, Canadian Mental Health Association – Sudbury/Manitoulin, Salvation Army Cedar Place, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services, YWCA Geneva House, Monarch Recovery Services, Samaritan Centre and City of Greater Sudbury Social Services.

Training for the PIT Count was delivered by the City of Greater Sudbury virtually through Microsoft Teams, which included resources, videos, COVID-19 precautions, a walk-through of the survey questions using the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS), and a safety discussion. Support materials for training were provided by the Federal government including information sheets on safety precautions, and videos on how to complete the survey questions and how to approach individuals on the street. All staff participating in the survey had completed naloxone training and Indigenous cultural competency training prior to the PIT Count.

Administration of Survey & Enumeration

The methodology for the PIT Count was consistent with the guidelines outlined by the Federal and Provincial governments. The PIT Count includes two forms of data collection: a count of individuals experiencing homelessness on one night only and a survey of these individuals.

The Federal Reaching Home guidelines require communities to conduct a count and survey of individuals staying in shelter, transitional housing, and unsheltered (e.g., unsheltered in public space, encampment). In addition, the Provincial guidelines require communities to conduct a count and survey with individuals staying in shelter, transitional housing and unsheltered, with the additional requirements to capture individuals experiencing homelessness in the entire City of Greater Sudbury (outlying areas) and those living provisionally accommodated (i.e., hospital, jail, temporarily staying with family/friends).

The count of individuals experiencing homelessness (“the enumeration”) included individuals staying in shelter, transitional housing, unsheltered in public space, encampments, and individuals staying in hospital and jail with no fixed address. The survey administered to individuals included questions identified by the Federal and Provincial governments (**Appendix A**).

Populations included in the survey were individuals staying in shelter, transitional housing, unsheltered in a public space, encampments, and those provisionally accommodated (i.e., couch surfing). Shelters participating in administering surveys included CMHA Off the Street Shelter, Salvation Army Cedar Place, YWCA Genevra House and Sudbury Action Centre for Youth N.E.S.T. Youth Shelter. Transitional housing units participating in administering the survey included CMHA Victoria Street Place, and Monarch Recovery Services Women’s After Care, Men’s Recovery Home and Men’s Transition Home.

Individuals in unsheltered locations were surveyed by staff from the Homelessness Network, Community Outreach Team, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS), Samaritan Centre, City of Greater Sudbury Social Services (Ontario Works) and N’Swakamok Native Friendship Centre. Prior to the PIT Count, the Community Outreach Team provided key zones within the downtown area and outlying areas where they could find individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. On the night of October 19th, staff surveying unsheltered individuals congregated at a headquarters location and were provided with tablets to complete surveys in HIFIS, paper copies of the survey, safety materials, and items for participants. Staff were assigned zones in the downtown core to complete surveys with unsheltered individuals and Community Outreach Team staff completed surveys with individuals in outlying unsheltered areas utilizing the Outreach Van. Surveys were completed on the night of October 19th from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak in Memorial Park announced October 12th and ongoing during the PIT Count, staff did not enter Memorial Park to complete surveys the night of October 19th, however staff completed surveys with individuals on the perimeter of the park that evening. Surveys were made available to individuals in Memorial Park the following afternoon on October 20th during COVID-19 swabbing performed by City of Greater Sudbury Paramedic Services.

To survey individuals temporarily staying with family/friends (“couch surfing”) a poster **Appendix B** was posted at food banks, libraries, and community service providers in the downtown core and within the City. Individuals couch surfing were also surveyed at the magnet event breakfast hosted by N’Swakamok Native Friendship Centre and the Sudbury Action Centre for Youth described above. To

capture data for individuals experiencing homelessness in hospital and jail, Health Sciences North provided administrative data for the number of individuals with no fixed address in the Emergency Department, Inpatient Services, and Withdrawal Management Services. The Sudbury Jail also provided administrative data for the number of individuals who will be imminently released from Jail within the following 30 days with no fixed address.

Surveys administered were anonymous, with the individual's initials and date of birth recorded to support the identification of duplicate surveys following the event. Participants were able to skip questions or withdraw from the survey at any time if they did not feel comfortable. Upon completion of the survey, participants were offered a \$10 gift card to a variety of locations or a 6-ride bus pass within the City of Greater Sudbury as an honorarium.

The PIT Count was conducted in accordance with Public Health guidelines which included staff completing surveys to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and to complete electronic surveys over paper surveys wherever possible.

Individuals completing the survey were also offered the opportunity to be added to the City of Greater Sudbury's By-Name List as a requirement under the Provincial guidelines. To read more about the By-Name List, visit: [Homelessness Coordinated Access System \(greatersudbury.ca\)](https://www.greatersudbury.ca/homelessness-coordinated-access-system).

Challenges & Limitations

The COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the ability to complete surveys with individuals for the PIT Count. Challenges included:

- Active outbreak in Memorial Park encampment affecting capacity for staff to complete surveys due to competing priorities.
- Many services were closed to in-person services, which may have been a barrier for persons to participate in the PIT Count by telephone.
- PPE requirements and guidelines for staff (physical distancing, COVID-19 screening, etc.), increasing staff responsibilities

Results

Enumeration Results

On the night of October 19th, 2021 there were 398 individuals experiencing homelessness identified through enumeration and surveys. Of the 398 individuals,

- 165 people were staying in an encampment
- 40 people were sleeping unsheltered in public space
- 97 people were staying in shelter
- 28 people were staying in transitional housing
- 42 people were staying in systems (i.e., hospital or jail)
- 12 people were experiencing hidden homelessness (e.g., couch surfing, self-funded motel/hotel)
- 14 people were unsure where they should stay that night.

Hospital includes data from the Health Sciences North Emergency Department, Inpatient Services and Withdrawal Management Services for individuals with no fixed address. Systems data also includes data from surveys completed with individuals who indicated they were staying in a Treatment Centre or Hospital that night. Jail includes data from the Sudbury Jail for individuals who have no fixed address and were planned to be discharged from jail within the following 30 days.

Survey Results

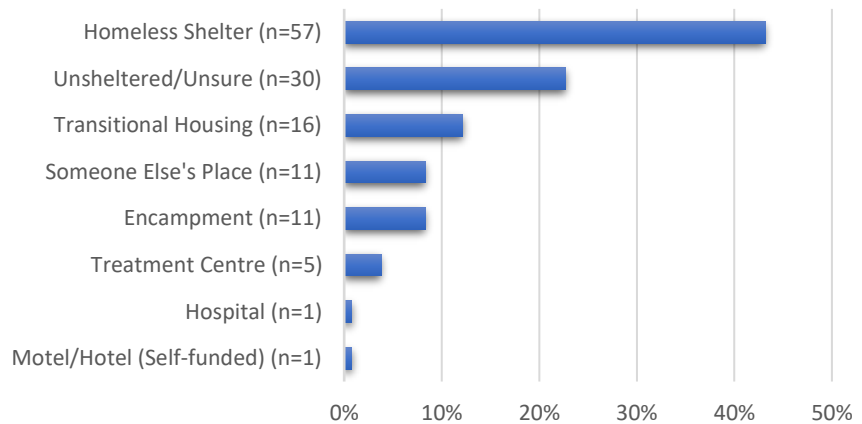
132 surveys were completed with people experiencing homelessness during the PIT Count. Of the 398 individuals encountered during the PIT Count, 132 individuals were screened in, met the definition of homelessness and consented to participate in the survey.

The PIT Count survey was provided by the Federal government with the mandatory questions. Individuals were screened out of the survey if they had already completed a survey, had a permanent place to stay, or declined to participate.

Sleeping Arrangements

Survey respondents were asked "Where are you sleeping tonight?" or if the survey was completed the following morning "Where did you sleep last night?". All survey responses were relative to the night of October 19th. Most survey respondents were staying in shelter (43%, n=57) or sleeping unsheltered in public space/ unsure where they would stay that night (23%, n=30).

Where are you staying tonight/Where did you stay last night?



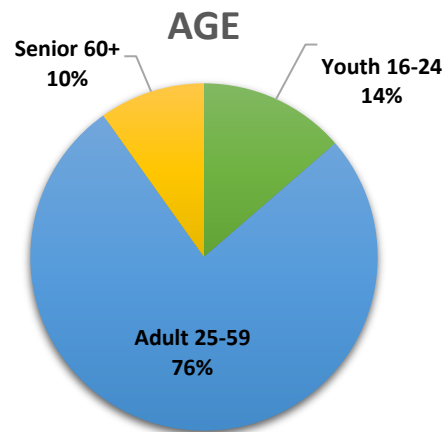
Demographics

Family Composition

Survey respondents were asked, "Do you have family members or anyone else who is staying with you tonight?". The majority of respondents were single adults (86%, n=109). There were 18 family households experiencing homelessness the night of the count. These households had one or more dependent child (n=7), other adult (n=3), or partner (n=8) staying with them that night.

Age

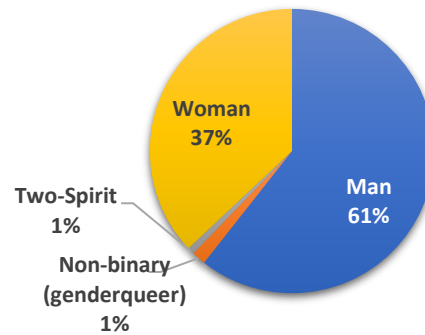
Survey respondents were asked "How old are you?". Most survey respondents were adults aged 25-59 (76%, n=101). The youngest survey respondent was 17 years old, and the oldest survey respondent was 72.



Gender Identity

Survey respondents were asked “What gender do you identify with?”. The majority of survey respondents identified as a man (61%, n=77) and 37% of survey respondents identified as a woman (n=47).

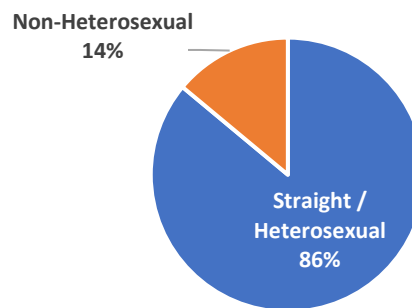
GENDER IDENTITY



Sexual Orientation

Survey respondents were asked “How do you describe your sexual orientation?”. 86% of respondents described their sexual orientation as “Straight/Heterosexual” (n=111). 14% of respondents described themselves as either asexual, bisexual, lesbian, pansexual, queer, questioning, two-spirit, or demi-sexual.

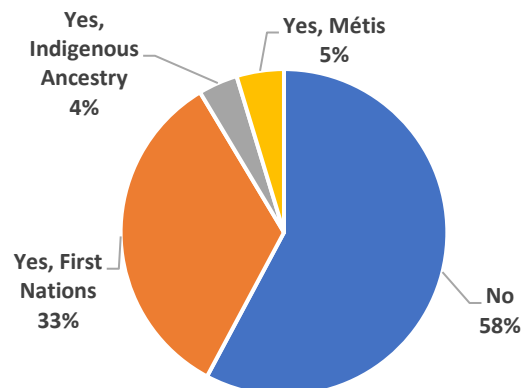
SEXUAL ORIENTATION



Indigenous Status

Survey respondents were asked “Do you identify as First Nations (with or without status), Metis, Inuit, or do you have North American Indigenous Ancestry? 58% of survey respondents did not identify as Indigenous (n=74). The largest population of individuals who identified as Indigenous identified as First Nations (33%) (n=43).

INDIGENOUS STATUS



Racial Identities

Survey respondents were asked "In addition to your response above (First Nations, Metis, Inuit, North American Indigenous Ancestry), do you identify with any of the racial identities listed below?". 67% of respondents identified as White (n=62) in addition to their Indigenous identity and 26% of respondents identified as Indigenous only (n=24). Other racial identities identified included Arab, Black-African, Black-Canadian/American, Italian, and Latin American.

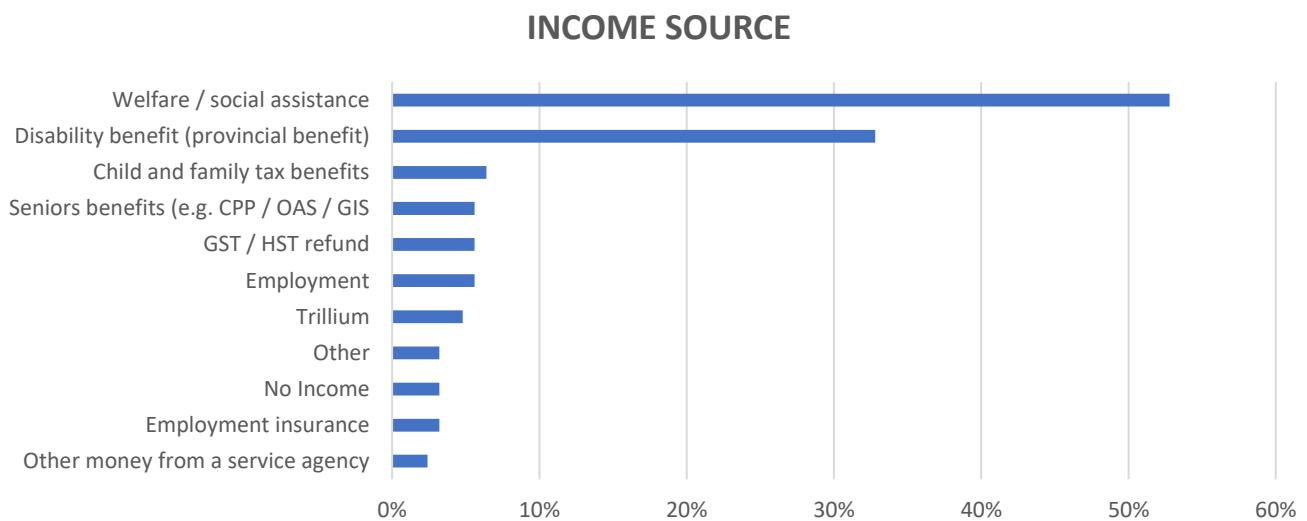
Veteran Status

Survey respondents were asked "Have you ever served in the Canadian Military or RCMP?". Of the respondents, three individuals indicated they had served in the Canadian Military (2%).

Immigration Status

Survey respondents were asked "Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee or refugee claimant?". Four individuals indicated they had come to Canada as an immigrant (3%). These individuals indicated they had been in Canada for between 7 and 20 years.

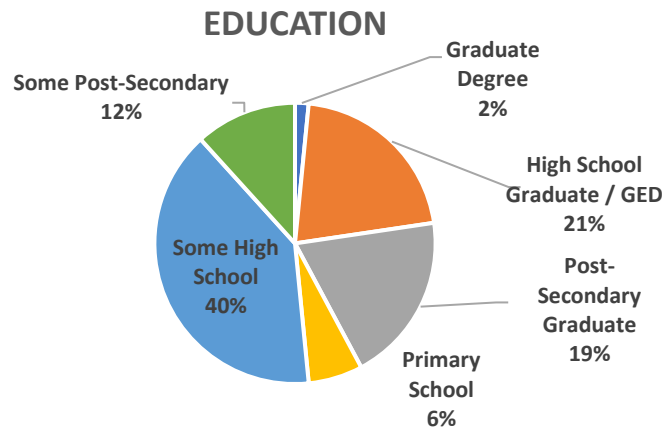
Income Source



Survey respondents were asked "What are your sources of income?". 86% of respondents were in receipt of social assistance (n=107), 53% of which were receiving Ontario Works (welfare) (n=66).

Education

Survey respondents were asked "What is the highest level of education you completed?". 40% of respondents had completed some high school (n=51).



Language

Survey respondents were asked "In what language do you feel best able to express yourself?". 98% of respondents felt best able to express themselves in English (n=122). Other languages included French and Ojibway.

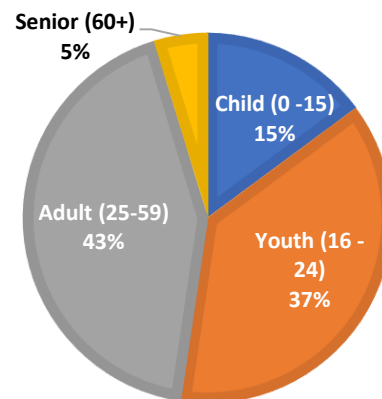
Experience of Homelessness

First Experience of Homelessness

Survey respondents were asked "How old were you the first time you experienced homelessness?". 52% of respondents had experienced homelessness before the age of 25 (n=67). 15% of respondents were a child between the age of 0 and 15 years when they first experienced homelessness (n=19),

37% of respondents were a youth aged 16 to 24 years (n=48), and 43% were an adult between the ages of 25 and 59 (n=55). The youngest experience of homelessness was 8 years of age, and the oldest was 72.

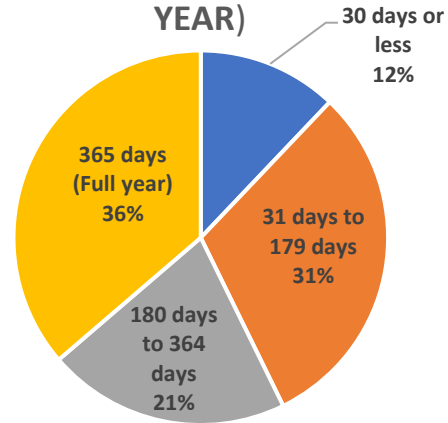
FIRST EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS



Length of Homelessness in the Past Year

Survey respondents were asked "In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the past year?" Most survey respondents had been homeless between one and six months (31%, n=38) and for the whole year (36%, n=45).

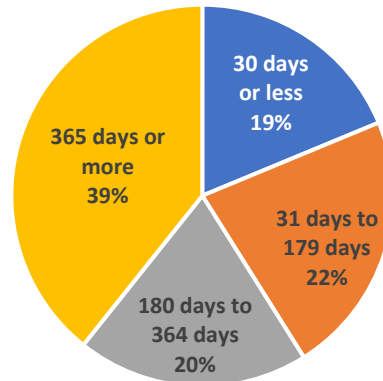
LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS (PAST YEAR)



Duration of Homelessness (Total)

Survey respondents were asked, "How long ago did you lose your housing most recently?" 39% of respondents had been homeless for one year or more (n=44). 19% of respondents had been homeless for 30 days or less (n=21).

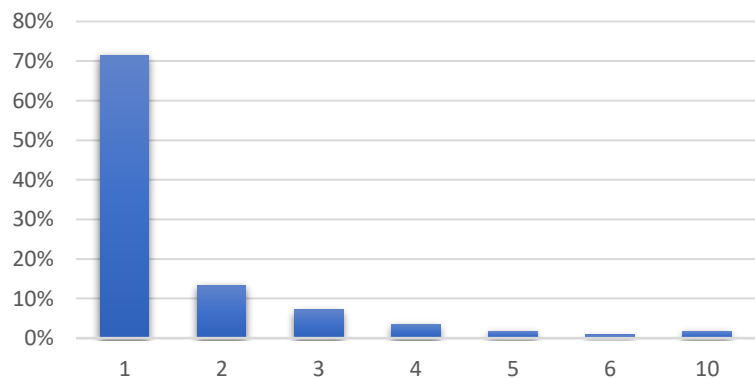
DURATION OF HOMELESSNESS (TOTAL)



Instances of Homelessness

Survey respondents were asked "In total, how many different times have you experienced homelessness over the past year?" Most survey respondents had been homeless for one instance over the past year (71%, n=80), which contributes to the above data for individuals who had been homeless for the entire year, with only one instance of homelessness.

INSTANCES OF HOMELESSNESS



Reason Housing Was Lost



Survey respondents were asked “What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently?”. The main reasons why respondents had lost their housing was due to unfit/unsafe housing conditions (n=33), conflict with a spouse/partner (n=26) or other person (n=23), substance use issue (n=20), eviction (n=18), not enough income for housing (n=17), and landlord/tenant conflict (n=17).

COVID-19 Impact on Housing Loss

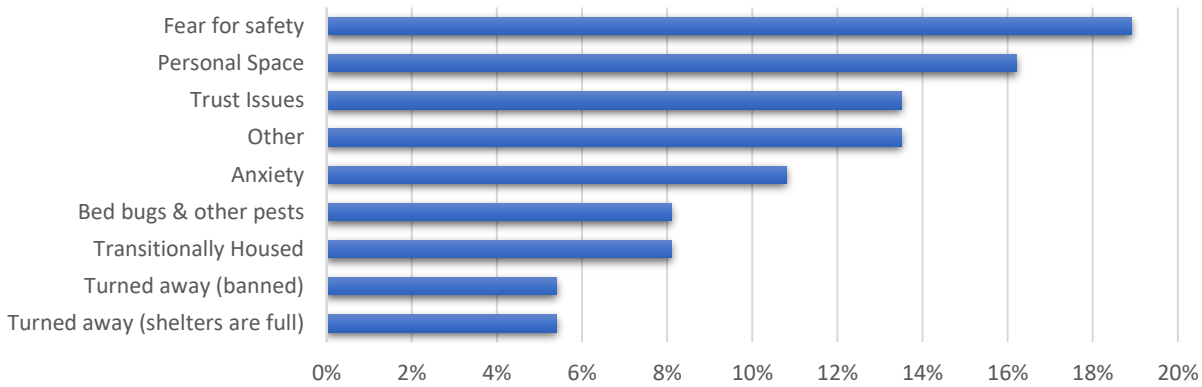
Survey respondents were asked “Was your most recent housing loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic?” 19% of respondents reported that their most recent housing loss was related to the COVID-19 pandemic (n=25).

Shelter Stays

Survey respondents were asked “Have you stayed in emergency shelter in the past year?”. 75% of survey respondents had stayed in shelter (n=97), while 25% had not (n=33).

Survey respondents were then asked, “If you have not stayed in shelter, what are the main reasons?”

REASON SHELTER NOT USED



The main reasons why people had not stayed in shelter included fear for safety (n=7), personal space (n=6), and trust issues (n=5). Responses in the “other” category included theft, too many rules, social distancing, didn’t know the location, and personal preference not to stay there.

Re-location to Sudbury

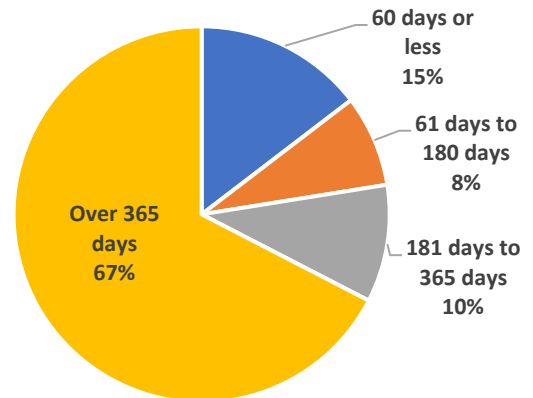
28% of survey respondents have always lived in the City of Greater Sudbury (n=36). **72%** of survey respondents had re-located to Sudbury from another City (n=94).

Survey respondents were asked “How long have you been in Sudbury?”. 33% of respondents had been in Sudbury for one year or less (n=29), with 15% being in Sudbury for less than 60 days (n=13).

Survey respondents were asked “Where did you live before you came here?”

Location’s individuals had re-located from included:

LENGTH OF TIME IN SUDBURY

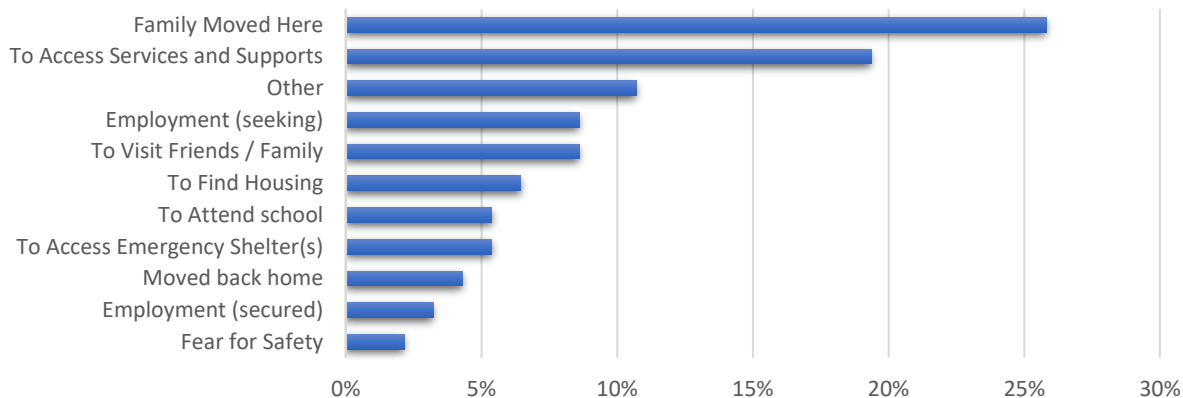


Birch Island	Northwest Territories
Cambridge	North Vancouver, BC
Chapleau	Oshawa
Edmonton, AB	Ottawa
Elliot Lake	Owen Sound
Halifax, NS	Quebec
Hamilton	Sault Ste. Marie

Huntsville	Scarborough
London	St. Catherines
Manitoba	Thunder Bay
Minden	Timmins
Newfoundland and Labrador	Toronto
Noelville	Wikwemikong
North Bay	Windsor

Survey respondents were asked "What is the main reason you came to Sudbury?"

WHAT IS THE MAIN REASON YOU CAME TO SUDBURY?



Most survey respondents had moved to Sudbury because their family had moved here, or they were seeking services and supports. Responses in the "Other" category included discharge from jail, medical reasons, and accessing a group home.

Foster Care Involvement

Survey respondents were asked, "As a child or youth, were you ever in foster care or in a youth group home?". 36% of respondents reported they had been in foster care or youth group home (n=47).

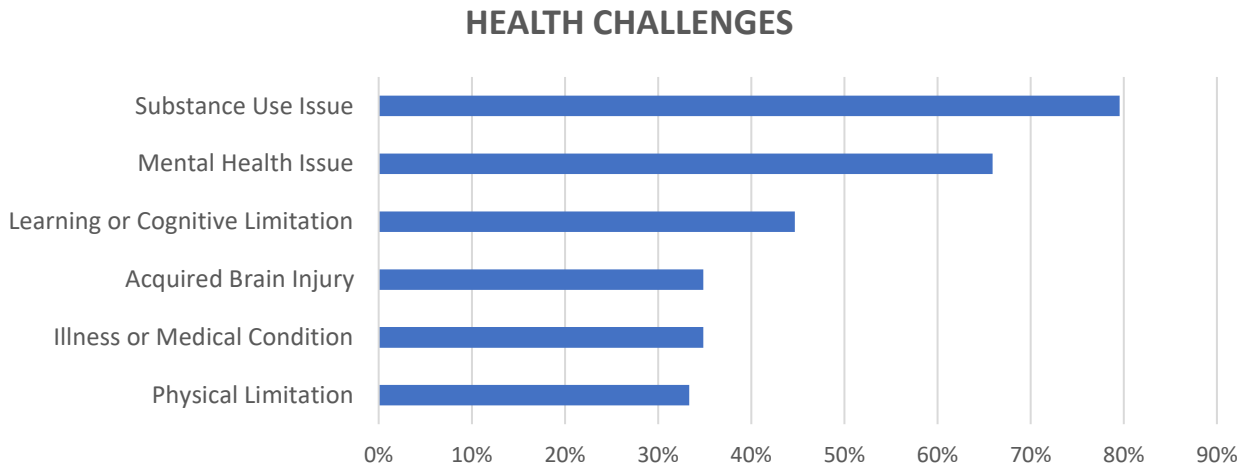
Survey respondents were then asked, "Approximately how long after leaving foster care/group home did you become homeless?". 58% of respondents reported becoming homeless within one year of leaving foster care/group home (n=19), with 45% becoming homeless within 30 days (n=15).

Survey respondents were also asked, "Did you feel that Child Protection Services was helpful in transitioning you to independence after leaving foster care/group home?". 81% of respondents felt that Child Protection Services was not helpful when transitioning to independence when leaving foster care or group home (n=35).

Health Challenges

Survey respondents were asked "Do you identify with having any of the following health challenges at this time:

- Illness or medical condition (e.g., diabetes, arthritis, TB, HIV)
- Physical limitation (e.g., challenges with mobility, physical abilities or dexterity)
- Learning or cognitive limitations (e.g., dyslexia, autism spectrum disorder, or a result of ADHD or acquired brain injury)
- Mental health issue (diagnosed/undiagnosed) (e.g., depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar disorder)
- Substance use issue (e.g., tobacco, alcohol, opiates)
- Acquired brain injury that happened after birth (e.g., injury related to an accident, violence, overdose, a stroke or brain tumour)."



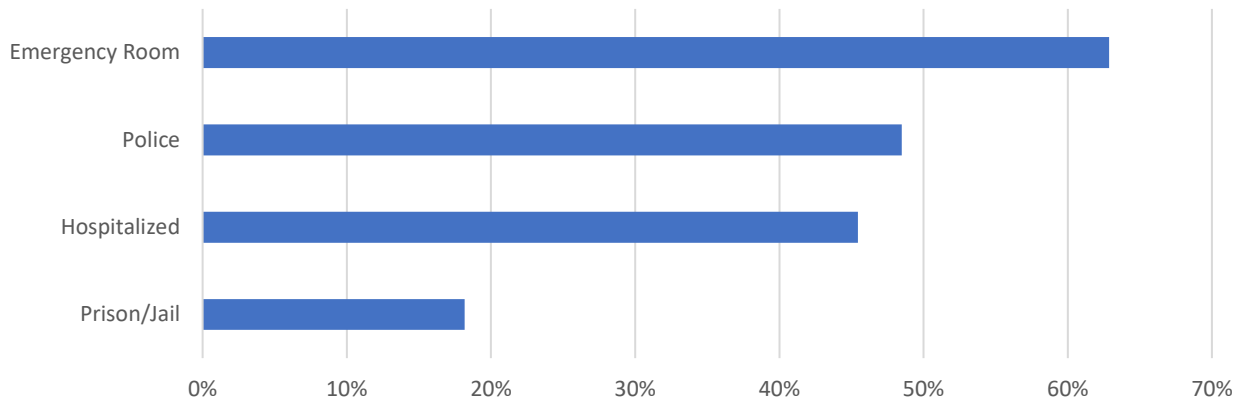
Of the 132 respondents, 80% of people reported having a substance use issue (n=105), 66% reported having a mental health issue (n=87), 45% reported having a learning or cognitive limitation (n=59), 35% reported having an acquired brain injury (n=46), 35% reported having an illness or medical condition (n=46) and 33% reported having a physical limitation (n=44).

Interaction with Systems

Survey respondents were asked, "In the past year (12 months), have you:

- Been to an emergency room?
- Been hospitalized?
- Interacted with police?
- Been to prison/jail?"

INTERACTION WITH SYSTEMS



63% of respondents had been to the emergency room in the past year (n=83) and 45% of respondents had been hospitalized (n=60). 48% of respondents had interacted with police (n=64) in the past year and 18% had been in prison or jail (n=24).

Respondents who had been in the emergency room were asked "How many times have you been in an emergency room?". The number of times respondents had been to the emergency room ranged from one time to 30 times.

Respondents who had been hospitalized were asked "How many times have you been hospitalized?". The number of times respondents had been hospitalized ranged from one to five times. Respondents were also asked the total number of days they had spent hospitalized. The total number of days spent hospitalized ranged from 0 days (hospitalized and released the same day) to 8 months.

Respondents who had interacted with police were asked the number of times they had interacted with police in the past year. The number of times ranged from one time to 120 times.

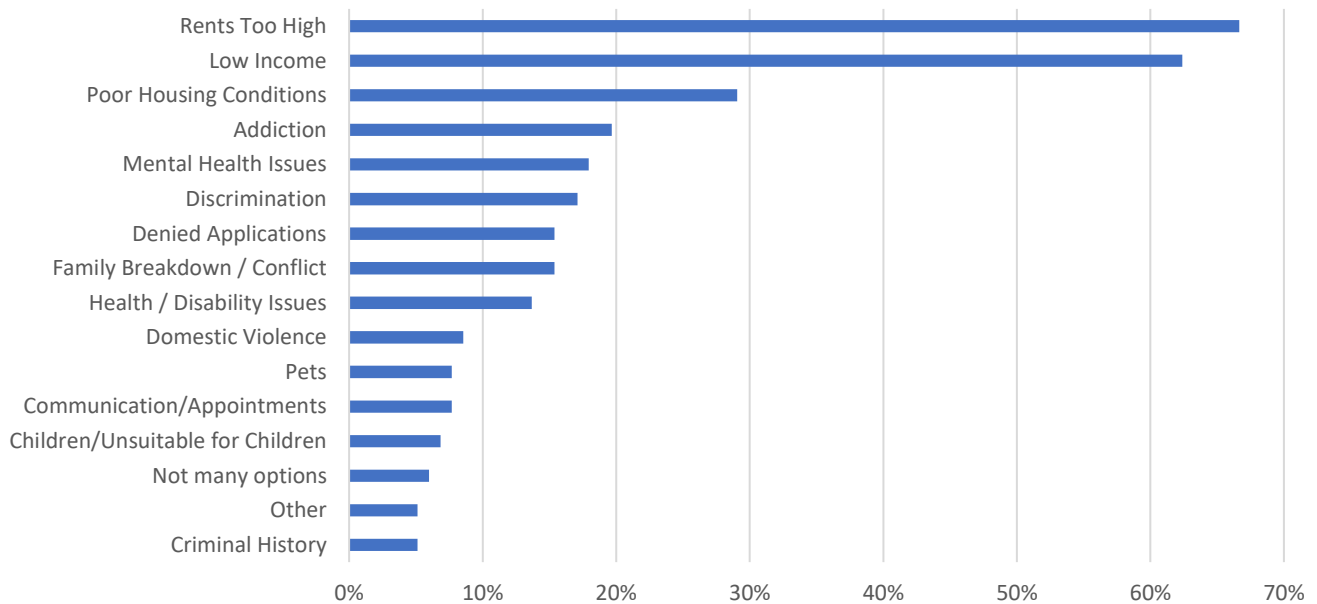
Respondents who had been to prison or jail were asked the number of times they had been to prison or jail in the past year. The number of times ranged from one time to six times. Respondents who had been in prison or jail were also asked the total number of days they had spent in prison or jail in the past year. The number of days spent in prison or jail ranged from two days to the full year.

Permanent Housing

Survey respondents were asked "Do you want to get into permanent housing?". 98% of respondents indicated that they want to get into permanent housing (n=124).

Survey respondents were also asked, "What challenges or problems have you experienced when trying to find housing?"

CHALLENGES TO ACCESS HOUSING



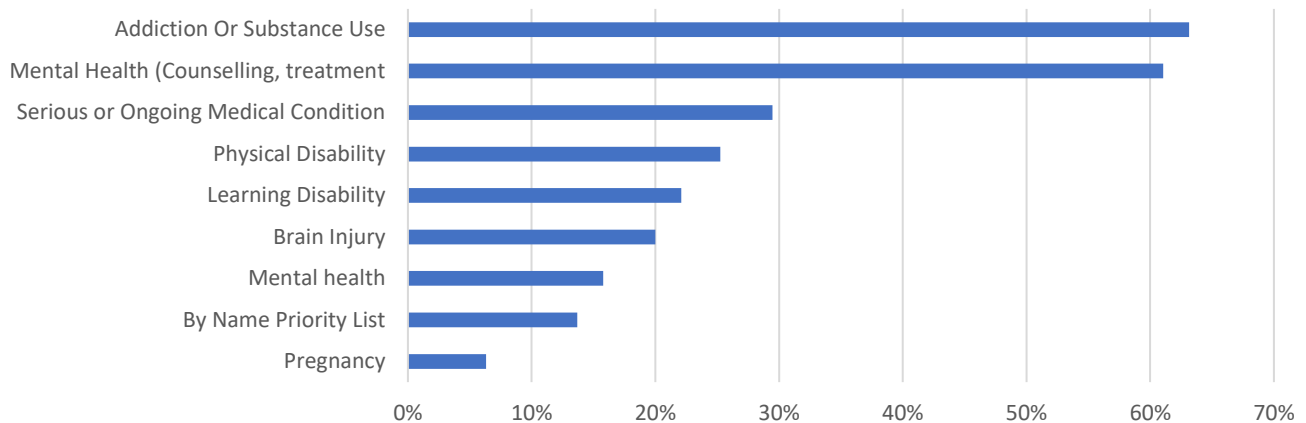
The most common challenges respondents had when trying to find housing included the rent being too high (67%, n=78), having too low of an income (62%, n=73), and poor housing conditions (29%, n=34).

Need for Services

Survey respondents were asked, "Do you have a need for services related to:

- Serious/Ongoing Medical Condition?
- Addiction or Substance Use?
- Mental Health (counselling, treatment, etc.)?
- Physical disability?
- Learning disability?
- Brain injury?
- Pregnancy?"

NEED FOR SERVICES



The services survey respondents were most in need of were addiction or substance use services (63%, n=60) or mental health services (61%, n=58).

Conclusion & Next Steps

The completion of the 2021 Point-In Time Count met the objectives of both the Federal and Provincial requirements and the results will inform future Provincial and National decisions with regards to homelessness services. Locally the Point-In Time Count provided valuable information about the number and characteristics of the people experiencing homelessness in the City of Greater Sudbury. This information will be integrated with other data and information received through the 2021 Homelessness Consultation, the Coordinated Access System and the ongoing HIFIS data to inform resource allocation and service delivery models here in Sudbury.

References

Everyone Counts 2021 – Recommended Standards for Participation

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/homelessness/reports/guide-point-in-time-counts.html>

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Service Manager Guidelines: By-Name List implementation and homeless enumeration

<https://files.ontario.ca/mmah-service-manager-guidelines-by-name-list-implementation-homeless-enumeration-en-2021-08-03.pdf>

Appendix A: Survey Questions

UNSHeltered SCREENING TOOL [OVERNIGHT]

Hello, my name is _____ and I'm a volunteer for the **City of Greater Sudbury Housing Needs Survey**. We are conducting a survey to provide better programs and services to people experiencing homelessness. The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete.

- **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 across Canada and will help with research to improve services here in Sudbury.

A. Have you answered this survey with a person with this button?

[YES: Thank and tally] [NO: Go to B]

B. Are you willing to participate in the survey?

[YES: Provide unique identifier] [NO: Thank and tally]

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the survey. Can you please provide your initials and date of birth? (e.g. Client Ref: JSddmmyyyy)

Client Ref: _____

C. Where are you staying tonight? [DO NOT READ CATEGORIES]

a. DECLINE TO ANSWER b. OWN APARTMENT / HOUSE	}	[THANK & END SURVEY]
c. SOMEONE ELSE'S PLACE d. MOTEL/HOTEL (SELF FUNDED) e. HOSPITAL f. TREATMENT CENTRE g. JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE	}	<p>C1. Do you have access to a permanent residence where you can safely stay as long as you want?</p> a. Yes [THANK & END] b. No (not permanent AND/OR not safe) [BEGIN SURVEY] c. Don't Know [BEGIN SURVEY] d. Decline to answer [THANK & END]
h. HOMELESS SHELTER (EMERGENCY, FAMILY OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER) i. HOTEL/MOTEL (FUNDED BY CITY OR HOMELESS PROGRAM) j. TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING k. UNSHELTERED IN A PUBLIC SPACE (E.G. STREET, PARK, BUS SHELTER, FOREST OR ABANDONED BUILDING) l. ENCAMPMENT (E.G. GROUP OF TENTS, MAKESHIFT SHELTERS OR OTHER LONG-TERM OUTDOOR SETTLEMENT) m. VEHICLE (CAR, VAN, RV, TRUCK, BOAT) n. UNSURE: INDICATE PROBABLE LOCATION _____(b. - m.)	}	[BEGIN SURVEY]

6b Are you a Canadian Citizen?

<input type="radio"/> YES	If NO:	<input type="radio"/> PERMANENT RESIDENT	<input type="radio"/> INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
<input type="radio"/> NO ----->		<input type="radio"/> REFUGEE CLAIMANT	<input type="radio"/> OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)
<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW		<input type="radio"/> TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKER	_____
<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER			

7. How long have you been in Sudbury?

<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
<input type="radio"/> Where did you live before you came here?	<input type="radio"/> CITY: _____	PROVINCE/TERRITORY/COUNTRY: _____	
	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER		

7b → What is the main reason you came to Sudbury? [Do not read categories; select one]

<input type="radio"/> TO ACCESS EMERGENCY SHELTER(S)	<input type="radio"/> EMPLOYMENT (SEEKING)	<input type="radio"/> RECREATION/SHOPPING
<input type="radio"/> TO ACCESS SERVICES AND SUPPORTS	<input type="radio"/> EMPLOYMENT (SECURED)	<input type="radio"/> OTHER: _____
<input type="radio"/> FAMILY MOVED HERE	<input type="radio"/> TO ATTEND SCHOOL	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="radio"/> TO VISIT FRIENDS/FAMILY	<input type="radio"/> FEAR FOR SAFETY	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="radio"/> TO FIND HOUSING		

8. Do you identify as First Nations (with or without status), Métis, or Inuit, or do you have North American Indigenous ancestry? [If yes, please specify] (COMMUNITY NOTE: The wording of this question can be adapted to what makes sense in your community, for example by listing specific First Nations)

<input type="radio"/> YES, FIRST NATIONS	<input type="radio"/> YES, MÉTIS	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
<input type="radio"/> YES, INUIT	<input type="radio"/> YES, INDIGENOUS ANCESTRY	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	

8b → Which Indigenous community are you from?

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

8c. In addition to your response in the question above, do you identify with any of the racialized identities listed below? [Show or Read list. Select all that apply]

<input type="checkbox"/> ARAB (e.g., Syrian, Egyptian, Yemeni)	<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRO-CARIBBEAN OR AFRO-LATINX (e.g., Jamaican, Haitian, Afro-Brazilian)
<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-EAST (e.g., Chinese, Korean, Japanese)	<input type="checkbox"/> LATIN AMERICAN (e.g., Brazilian, Mexican, Chilean, Cuban)
<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN- SOUTH-EAST (e.g., Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian)	<input type="checkbox"/> WHITE (e.g. European, French, Ukrainian, Euro-Latinx)
<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-SOUTH OR INDO-CARIBBEAN (e.g., Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Indo-Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian)	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT LISTED (PLEASE SPECIFY): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN-WEST (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)	<input type="checkbox"/> IDENTIFY AS INDIGENOUS ONLY
<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-CANADIAN/AMERICAN	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK-AFRICAN (e.g., Ghanaian, Ethiopian, Nigerian)	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

9. Have you ever served in the Canadian Military or RCMP?

[Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force]

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

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

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

10b → Approximately how long after leaving foster care/group home did you become homeless?

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

10c → Do you feel that Child Protection Services was helpful in transitioning you to independence after leaving foster care/group home?

YES NO DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION [e.g. diabetes, arthritis, TB, HIV]	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
PHYSICAL LIMITATION [e.g. challenges with mobility, physical abilities or dexterity]	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
LEARNING OR COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS [e.g. dyslexia, autism spectrum disorder, or as a result of ADHD or an acquired brain injury]	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE [diagnosed/undiagnosed] [e.g. depression, Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar disorder]	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER
SUBSTANCE USE ISSUE [e.g. tobacco, alcohol, opiates]	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

12. Do you identify as having an acquired brain injury that happened after birth? (e.g. from injury related to an accident, violence, overdose, a stroke or brain tumor)

YES NO DON'T KNOW DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

MAN TRANS WOMAN NOT LISTED: _____
 WOMAN TRANS MAN DON'T KNOW
 TWO-SPIRIT NON-BINARY (GENDERQUEER) DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

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

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

A: HOUSING AND FINANCIAL ISSUES	B: INTERPERSONAL AND FAMILY ISSUES	C: HEALTH OR CORRECTIONS
<input type="checkbox"/> NOT ENOUGH INCOME FOR HOUSING (E.G. LOSS OF BENEFIT, INCOME, OR JOB)	<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: SPOUSE / PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> UNFIT/UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: PARENT / GUARDIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING SOLD OR RENNOVATED	<input type="checkbox"/> CONFLICT WITH: OTHER (_____)	<input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANCE USE ISSUE
<input type="checkbox"/> OWNER MOVED IN	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: SPOUSE / PARTNER	<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALIZATION OR TREATMENT PROGRAM
<input type="checkbox"/> LANDLORD/TENANT CONFLICT	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: PARENT / GUARDIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> INCARCERATION (JAIL OR PRISON)
<input type="checkbox"/> COMPLAINT (E.G. PETS/NOISE/DAMAGE)	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: OTHER (_____)	
<input type="checkbox"/> LEFT THE COMMUNITY/RELOCATED	<input type="checkbox"/> DEPARTURE OF FAMILY MEMBER	
	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER REASON: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

15b. Was your most recent housing loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

YES
 NO
 DON'T KNOW
 DECLINE TO ANSWER

15c. How long ago did that happen (that you lost your housing most recently)? (Best estimate)

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

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

<input type="checkbox"/> FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> CHILD AND FAMILY TAX BENEFITS
<input type="checkbox"/> PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DISABILITY BENEFIT [Name of PROV. DISABILITY BENEFIT]	<input type="checkbox"/> GST/HST REFUND
<input type="checkbox"/> CASUAL EMPLOYMENT (E.G. CONTRACT WORK)	<input type="checkbox"/> SENIORS BENEFITS (E.G. CPP/OAS/GIS)	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER MONEY FROM A SERVICE AGENCY
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMAL INCOME SOURCES (E.G. BOTTLE RETURNS, PANHANDLING)	<input type="checkbox"/> WELFARE/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE [Prov. Benefit]	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER SOURCE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/> VETERAN/VAC BENEFITS	<input type="checkbox"/> NO INCOME
		<input type="checkbox"/> DON'T KNOW
		<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

<input type="radio"/> PRIMARY SCHOOL	<input type="radio"/> SOME POST SECONDARY	<input type="radio"/> NO FORMAL EDUCATION
<input type="radio"/> SOME HIGH SCHOOL	<input type="radio"/> POST SECONDARY GRADUATE	<input type="radio"/> DON'T KNOW
<input type="radio"/> HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE/GED	<input type="radio"/> GRADUATE DEGREE (E.G., MASTERS, Ph.D.)	<input type="radio"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

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

19. Do you want to get into permanent housing?

YES
 NO
 DON'T KNOW
 DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

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

21. In what language do you feel best able to express yourself?

ENGLISH
 NO PREFERENCE
 DON'T KNOW

FRENCH
 NEITHER (please specify) _____
 DECLINE TO ANSWER

22. I am 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/ONGOING MEDICAL CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> PREGNANCY
<input type="checkbox"/> ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE	<input type="checkbox"/> LEARNING DISABILITY	<input type="checkbox"/> NONE OF THE ABOVE
<input type="checkbox"/> MENTAL HEALTH (<i>Counselling, treatment, etc.</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> BRAIN INJURY	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLINE TO ANSWER



**Are you
homeless
or couch
surfing ?**

**If you experienced homelessness
on the night of October 19, 2021**

Call **705-674-4455** ext. **3812** or **3865**
before **October 22** to complete a
Housing Needs Survey.

**Homelessness
Point in Time Count**

