

YORK REGION I COUNT 2024 REPORT



United Way
Greater Toronto



Land Acknowledgement

United Way Greater Toronto and The Regional Municipality of York humbly acknowledge that York Region is located on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Peoples, including the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat and Métis Peoples and the treaty territories of the Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Williams Treaties First Nations. Today this area is home to many diverse First Nation, Inuit and Métis Peoples, and we recognize their history, spirituality, culture and stewardship of this land.

We also acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as York Region's closest First Nation community. We respect Indigenous teachings and commit to fulfilling our obligations to the land and one another. Our commitment is grounded in the principles of Truth and Reconciliation and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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Message from York Region Chairman and CEO and Vice President of Community Impact and Mobilization at United Way Greater Toronto

Home to a diverse community of 1.29 million people, York Region stands out as a vibrant place to live and work. As the community grows, the Region is also witnessing a substantial increase in the number of people and families experiencing homelessness due to several factors, including rising costs of living and difficulty finding and keeping affordable housing.

The Regional Municipality of York and United Way Greater Toronto have a long-standing partnership and commitment to creating healthy, safe and thriving communities and are again collaborating to share updated data on homelessness in the Region through the Point-in-Time Count 2024 (*I Count 2024*).

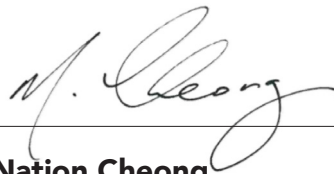
I Count 2024 shows homelessness in York Region has more than doubled since the last count in 2021. Findings reveal many people and families represented in the 2024 count are struggling with new and pre-existing social and economic challenges, barriers and inequities. It has become increasingly important to drive system-level solutions to address the needs of people at risk of or experiencing homelessness throughout York Region. By working together, we can help create a future where everyone in York Region has a place to call home.

I Count 2024 serves as a tool to help us understand homelessness trends over time informing program planning and service design and provides opportunities to further advocate to prevent and end homelessness across the Region. In collaboration with all our partners, we share the findings of *I Count 2024* and will continue to do our part to create long-term solutions to support people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

We extend our gratitude to the people who shared their lived/living experiences, offering powerful insights that will continue to shape and strengthen our collective response to homelessness in the Region. We recognize and thank all front-line staff, community partners and the York Region Homelessness Community Board, engaged in this important work every day, who were involved in *I Count 2024* data collection and made this report possible.



Eric Jolliffe
Chairman and CEO
The Regional Municipality of York



Nation Cheong
VP, Community Impact and Mobilization
United Way Greater Toronto

Executive Summary

Through the combined efforts of The Regional Municipality of York (the Region), United Way Greater Toronto (UWGT), local municipalities, community agencies, and volunteers, 878 people experiencing homelessness were counted and 428 were surveyed during I Count 2024.

York Region's fourth Point-in-Time Count, "I Count 2024," was conducted between November 26 at 4 p.m. and November 27, 2024, at 4 p.m. The Point-in-Time Count included counting people observed to be experiencing homelessness and surveying them about their experiences, characteristics, and needs.

Point-in-Time Counts complement other datasets related to homelessness, including the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS). Combined, the datasets support planning, advocacy, and the delivery of services, all of which enhance the community's ability to provide programs and services that prevent and reduce homelessness in York Region. The goal of this report is to help The Regional Municipality of York (the Region), United Way Greater Toronto (UWGT), and community partners understand recent trends in homelessness, local experiences and service needs, and the characteristics of people currently and most affected.

I Count 2024 included both counting the number of people experiencing homelessness and asking people counted to complete a survey. Staff conducted I Count 2024 at 148 locations within the community that people experiencing homelessness are known to frequent, seven emergency housing locations, three seasonal shelters, three hotel/motel overflow locations, four Violence Against Women shelters, 54 transitional housing sites, three addiction

recovery centres, five community organization locations, five drop-in programs, and a mobile outreach van counted people as well.

While I Count 2024 did include visiting the most locations to-date, it still has some limitations. Hidden homelessness was not counted as part of the enumeration methodology (as directed by Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada). Also, I Count 2024 did not observe all people staying in unsheltered locations, as staff visited locations that people experiencing homelessness are known to frequent, but people staying in other locations were not counted. Given those limitations, I Count 2024 should be considered a minimum number of people experiencing homelessness. To give a sense of how many people were missed by the I Count 2024 methodology, there were 1,755 unique people on the Region's By-Name List on the night of I Count 2024, which lists people who are accessing homelessness supports and prevention services in York Region.

While the Point-in-Time Count methodology has its limitations, I Count 2024 reports considerably more unsheltered locations and transitional housing sites than previous counts, including:

- 148 unsheltered locations, compared to 91 in 2018
- 54 transitional housing sites, compared to eight in 2018.

878 people experiencing homelessness were counted across three types of locations in York Region during I Count 2024.



178

Unsheltered

Streets, parks, transit stations, abandoned buildings, vehicles, encampments



475

Sheltered

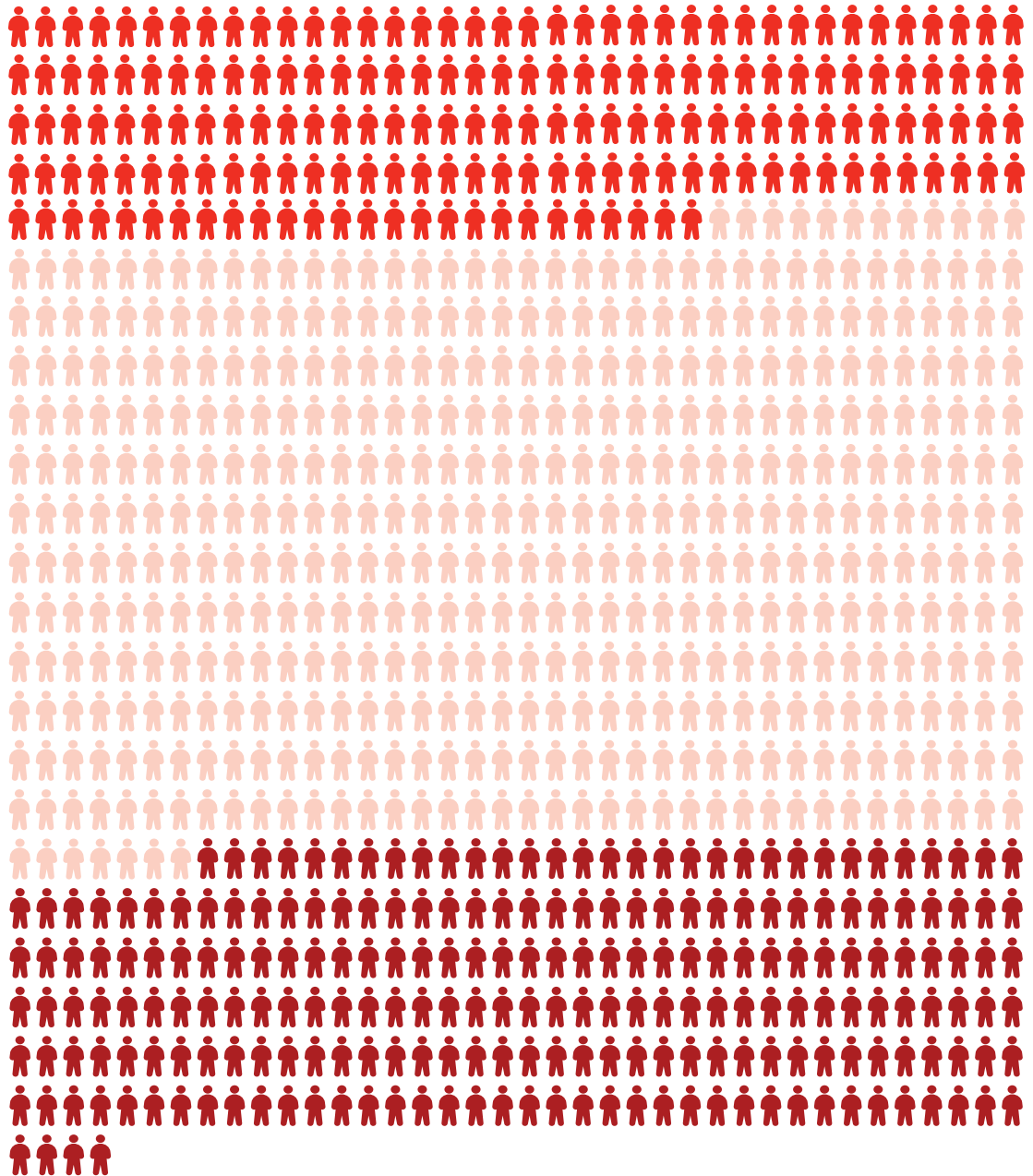
Emergency housing, hotel overflow beds, Violence Against Women shelters, seasonal shelters



225

Provisionally Accommodated

Transitional housing and addictions recovery centres



I Count 2024

A SNAPSHOT OF HOMELESSNESS IN YORK REGION

Note: All survey responses are self-reported

878

People experiencing homelessness in York Region were counted during I Count 2024

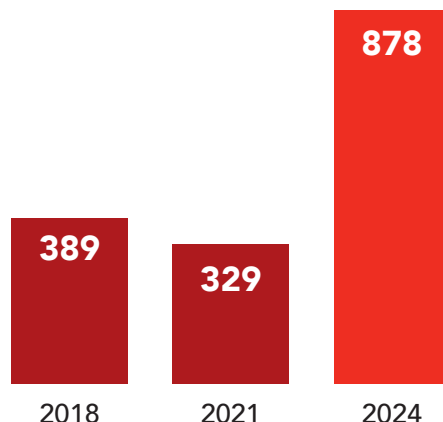
42%

of respondents said their most recent housing loss was due to an **eviction**



98%

of respondents wanted permanent housing



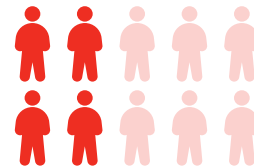
The number of people counted during I Count 2024 **more than doubled** from 2018 and 2021

60%

of respondents experienced **chronic homelessness** (at least 180 days of homelessness in the past year)

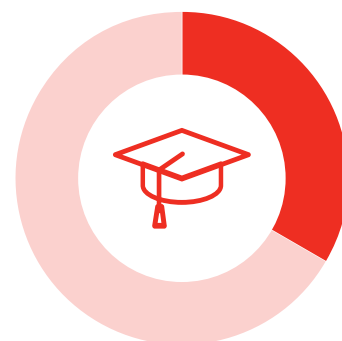
25%

of respondents were homeless for the **full 12 months** prior to the survey



40%

of survey respondents were **not born in Canada**



34%

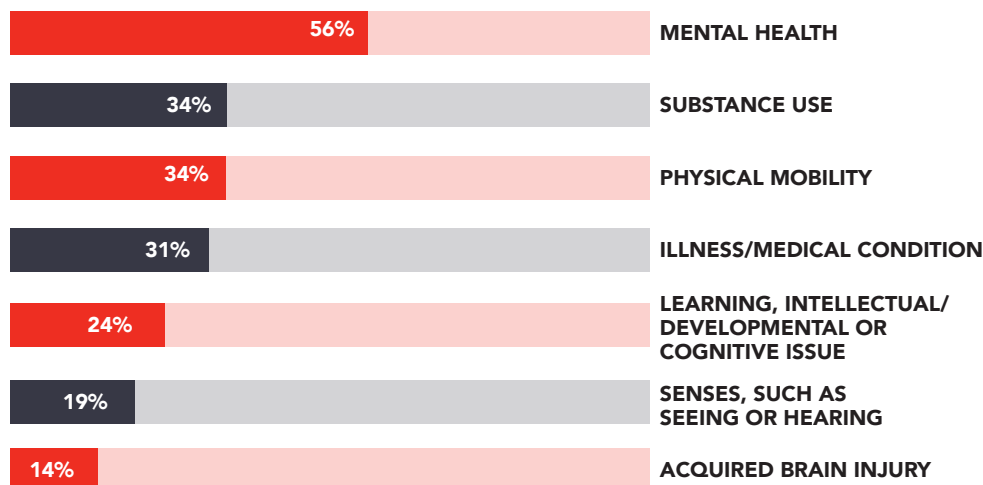
of respondents had a **post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree**



78%

of respondents reported dealing with at least one **health-related challenge**

Survey respondents reported struggling with:



Key Takeaways

The following takeaways summarize the most important insights from I Count 2024.



01.

Homelessness in York Region has increased.



02.

Demand for emergency shelter and housing has increased more than available supply and it is taking longer for people to find and move into permanent housing.



03.

People experiencing homelessness in York Region have a high prevalence of health issues with increased barriers to accessing primary care or other healthcare services.



04.

There are certain groups who continue to be more vulnerable to experiencing homelessness, such as Indigenous Peoples, Black people and people who have been in foster care or a youth group home.



05.

Male respondents, Canadian-born respondents, and respondents experiencing chronic homelessness are overrepresented among respondents staying in unsheltered locations.

Introduction

Communities conduct Point-in-Time Counts (Counts) to estimate how many people are experiencing homelessness in their community within a time period (usually 24 hours) and offer information about the people counted and their needs. The information collected is used to inform community plans that address homelessness.

In York Region, Point-in-Time Counts have been previously completed in 2016, 2018, and 2021. York Region's fourth Point-in-Time Count, "I Count 2024", was conducted between November 26 at 4 p.m. and November 27, 2024, at 4 p.m.

The Count was planned and carried out under the guidance of Housing, Infrastructure and

Communities Canada. This federally coordinated effort allows communities to adapt standardized methodology to local needs while allowing for comparisons to other jurisdictions across Canada.

Addressing Homelessness in York Region

In York Region, United Way Greater Toronto (UWGT) is the Community Entity under the federal government's Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, and The Regional Municipality of York (the Region) is one of 47 Service Managers in Ontario responsible for housing and homelessness. Both organizations have a strong history of collaboration — with each other and with many community partners — in working toward addressing homelessness.



UWGT is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing a [Coordinated Access System](#) to bring consistency, equity and efficiency to the processes through which people experiencing or at risk of homelessness access services and resources.
- Producing and using data to understand homelessness in local communities and to ensure local plans are evidence-based and outcomes-focused.
- Setting Reaching Home priorities, such as funding allocations and the Coordinated Access System.
- Providing funding to community partners to deliver services and develop housing for people experiencing and at imminent risk of homelessness.
- Convening the York Region Homelessness Community Board, which brings together community partners and people with lived and living experience to plan how to address homelessness in York Region's communities.

The Region is responsible for:

- Funding, planning, implementing, and delivering housing and homelessness programs and services in accordance with the provincial *Housing Services Act, 2011*.
- Administering and delivering homelessness prevention and housing stability supports, including funding for community agencies to provide services.
- Managing emergency and transitional housing, delivered in partnership with community agencies.
- Overseeing [HIFIS](#) and managing a [By-Name List](#) of people who are accessing homelessness supports and prevention services across York Region.
- Funding and encouraging the development of new housing options across the housing continuum.
- Managing the Region's community housing portfolio.
- Reporting key performance indicators to address homelessness.

Point-in-Time Count Purpose

The purpose of the Count is to help the Region, UWGT, and community partners understand:

- Trends related to homelessness.
- Client experiences, service use, and service needs of people experiencing homelessness.
- Characteristics* of people currently experiencing homelessness.

This information will support planning, advocacy, and the delivery of services — enhancing the community's ability to prevent and reduce homelessness in York Region.

* In this report, we use "characteristics" to refer to social identity and demographic characteristics. Social identity data is related to how individuals or groups self-identify or categorize themselves in terms of social identifiers such as age, sex at birth, gender identity, Indigenous identity, place of birth, race, sexual orientation, and language.¹

Methodology

2024 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT AND SURVEY

I Count 2024 was conducted through strong collaboration between UWGT and the Region, which led the overall planning and management, along with:



20

community agencies



9

local municipalities



169

community agency staff



26

United Way Greater
Toronto and York
Region staff



5

volunteers, including
one representative from
the People with Lived
and Living Experience
Committee

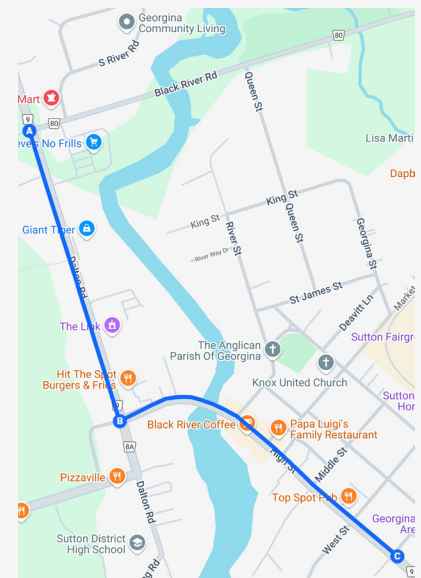


Dave Dewaal was experiencing homelessness before finding a bed and ultimately housing through Inn From The Cold. Dewaal was an I Count 2024 enumerator in Newmarket's downtown.



TOP: A selection of walking routes used during I Count 2024 to locate and survey people experiencing homelessness. These walking routes were based on locations that staff knew to be frequented by people experiencing homelessness. There were 148 walking routes in total.

RIGHT: Sample of a walking route in Georgina



I Count 2024 was conducted at the following locations:

UNSHELTERED



148

Unsheltered locations
(including streets, parks, transit stations,
abandoned buildings, vehicles and encampments)

SHELTERED



7

Emergency housing
locations



3

Hotel/motel
overflow locations



4

Violence Against
Women shelters



3

Seasonal shelters

PROVISIONALLY ACCOMMODATED



54

Transitional housing
sites



3

Addiction recovery centres

OTHER



5

Community locations
(libraries and community
agencies' locations)



5

Drop-in
programs



1

Outreach van
visited various
locations

See Appendix A: Definitions for definitions of the locations.

More details on how the Count was conducted can be found in
Appendix B: Additional Methodology Details.

I Count 2024 included both counting the number of people experiencing homelessness and asking people counted to complete a survey.

The Point-in-Time count methodology is primarily intended to count people who are living in emergency housing (shelter) or unsheltered conditions. People experiencing hidden homelessness are difficult to identify, making hidden homelessness difficult to quantify, and particularly challenging to understand. It requires a different methodology that includes a great deal of engagement, collaboration and planning across the system to understand and meet their needs.

By visiting community programs and places people experiencing homelessness are known to frequent, I Count 2024 did survey some people experiencing hidden homelessness. However, without conducting the count at people’s homes, the Point-in-Time count methodology significantly undercounts people experiencing hidden homelessness.

People counted could also decline to complete the survey. Overall, 413 of the 878 people counted (47%) completed a survey, with an additional 15 people experiencing hidden homelessness also completing a survey. To respect safety and dignity, some people were counted but not asked to complete a survey.

Number of people counted and surveyed

LOCATION		# (%) COUNTED	# (%) SURVEYED
Unsheltered homelessness	Staying outdoors, including vehicles, parks and bus shelters	178 (20%)	78 (18%)
	Emergency housing, including seasonal shelters and hotel/motel overflow beds	428 (49%)	237 (55%)
Sheltered homelessness	Violence Against Women shelters	47 (5%)	
Provisionally accommodated	Transitional housing	215 (24%)	91 (21%)
	Systems (Addiction recovery centre)*	10 (1%)	7 (2%)
	Staying with others	Excluded from Count	11** (3%)
	Self-funded hotel/motel	Excluded from Count	4**(1%)
Overall		878	428

TABLE 1 | Locations of people counted and surveyed

Note: Percentages do not add up to 100 due to rounding.

*In 2024, the only system locations included in the Count were addiction recovery centres.

**Surveyed but not included in the Count, as the Count excludes people experiencing hidden homelessness.

REPORTING PERCENTAGES

Previous York Region Point-in-Time Counts reported percentages based on the number of people who could have answered a question, including those who declined to answer or said they “don’t know.” This report lists percentages based on the number of people who answered each question. Unless otherwise stated, people saying they “don’t know,” are categorized as not answering the question.

Strengths and Limitations of York Region’s Point-in-Time Counts

Strengths include:

- I Count 2024 complements By-Name-List and other system data, such as HIFIS, by counting and gathering information about people not connected to services.
- When Point-in-Time Counts are conducted at the same time of year and using similar methodologies, they can provide reasonable comparisons between years and other regions.

Limitations include:

- Estimates suggest that hidden homelessness may account for up to 80% of the population of people experiencing homelessness.² A Point-in-Time Count underestimates the number of people experiencing homelessness, as it does not capture all people experiencing homelessness. On the night of I Count 2024, there were 1,755 active names on

the Region’s By-Name List. People staying temporarily with others (i.e., hidden homelessness) are not captured in I Count 2024’s enumeration numbers. York Region’s Counts use staff knowledge of locations known to be frequented by people experiencing homelessness, but people staying in unknown locations are not included.

- Unsheltered people are less likely to be counted and surveyed, while the number of people within shelters, transitional housing, or institutions are much more observable. People who experience shorter-term homelessness are less likely to be accessing services during the night of the Count compared to people experiencing longer-term homelessness, so are also less likely to be part of the Count.³
- The number of people experiencing homelessness—and where they stay—can vary seasonally.
- Counts do not track people over time, nor can they determine the exact causes of differences between Counts.
- Surveys often face non-response bias, where some people are more likely to respond than others. This can happen because people experience and interact with systems in different ways, which can leave certain groups underrepresented. While Counts usually do not know much about those who do not respond, this bias is likely and should be considered when interpreting results.

The Point-in-Time Count data should be considered along with other data and research when determining how to best address homelessness within York Region.

Comparisons with Previous Counts

Results from York Region's current and past Point-in-Time Counts may not be fully comparable due to differences in methodologies used. This report focuses on comparisons between the 2018 and 2024 Counts as their methods are the most similar, compared to other years. However, not all of the survey questions asked in 2024 were asked in 2018. In those situations we compare the 2024 survey data to 2016 or 2018, depending on when certain survey questions were asked.

Compared to the 2016 Count, I Count 2024 included drop-in programs and locations such as libraries and community agency offices. I Count 2024 included many additional unsheltered locations. This is a result of York Region's encampment mapping tool, enhancements to Outreach Services, and increased knowledge of locations that people experiencing homelessness tend to stay. The 2021 Count took place during COVID-19 restrictions, which resulted in visiting considerably fewer unsheltered locations.

While the 2018 and 2024 Counts are more similar in their methodologies, there are still some differences that should be considered when comparing their results.

- **People experiencing homelessness, especially people living in unsheltered locations, are more likely to be counted in 2024 compared to 2018.**

I Count 2024 included more drop-in and community survey locations ($n = 10$) than in 2018 ($n = 2$) and included more unsheltered locations ($n = 148$) due to increased knowledge of locations frequented by people experiencing homelessness.



Enumerator and client completing survey

- **People living in transitional housing are more likely to be counted in 2024.**
I Count 2024 included many more transitional housing sites ($n = 54$) compared to 2018 ($n = 8$). Part of that increase is due to additional investments in expanding transitional housing beds through rent subsidies in the community, and is reflective of an actual increase in people in transitional housing. Part of that increase is also due to changes in what could be counted as transitional housing, which is not reflective of an actual increase in people in transitional housing.
- **Survey representativeness may be lower in 2024 than in 2018. Only 47% of people counted in 2024 completed the survey, down from 58% in 2018.** Additionally, the rate of "don't know" or declined/missing responses increased from 5% in 2018 to 8% in 2024.

Count Findings

This section outlines the key findings from I Count 2024 data, including year-to-year comparisons.

Homelessness has Increased

I Count 2024 identified 878 people who were experiencing homelessness, which is more than double the 389 people counted in 2018.

Increases by Location

The number of people counted as staying in emergency and transitional housing has doubled from 345 in 2018 to 700 in 2024, while the count of unsheltered people increased by four times from 44 in 2018 to 178 in 2024 (see Figure 2).

Homelessness has increased since 2018.

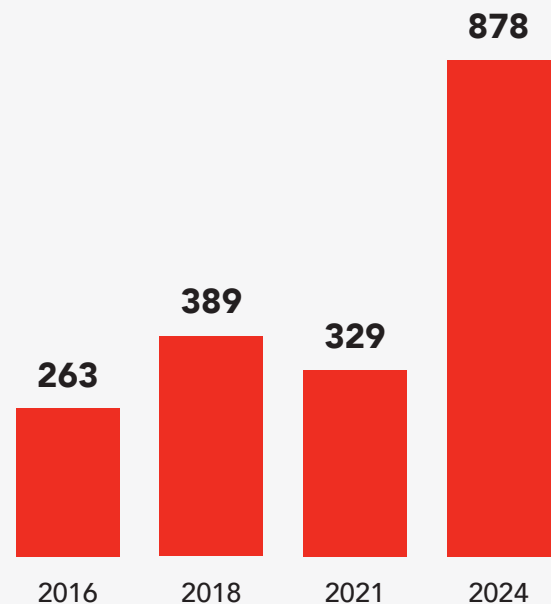
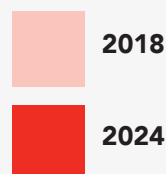
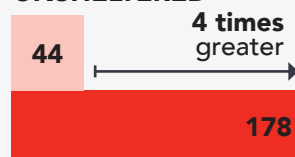


FIGURE 1 | The number of people observed to be experiencing homelessness during York Region's Counts

While people in emergency shelters accounted for the highest proportion of people experiencing homelessness, the number of unsheltered people had the greater relative percentage increase compared to 2018.



UNSHELTERED



SHELTERED



PROVISIONALLY ACCOMMODATED

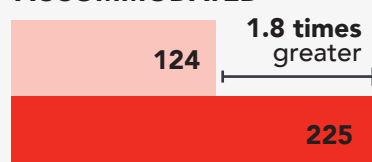


FIGURE 2 | People experiencing homelessness by location

I Count 2024 is compared to I Count 2018 because of pandemic-related limitations with I Count 2021 data.

Survey Findings

The following section presents key insights from the I Count 2024 survey, revealing crucial patterns among people experiencing homelessness in York Region.

The findings provide insight into the current extent of homelessness and the different circumstances faced by people who were surveyed. The data outlines demographic patterns, factors contributing to homelessness, challenges to securing stable housing, and trends in service usage. This information offers a basis for developing targeted programs and policies. The results also reflect the complex housing-related challenges encountered by residents of York Region.

Where respondents were staying.

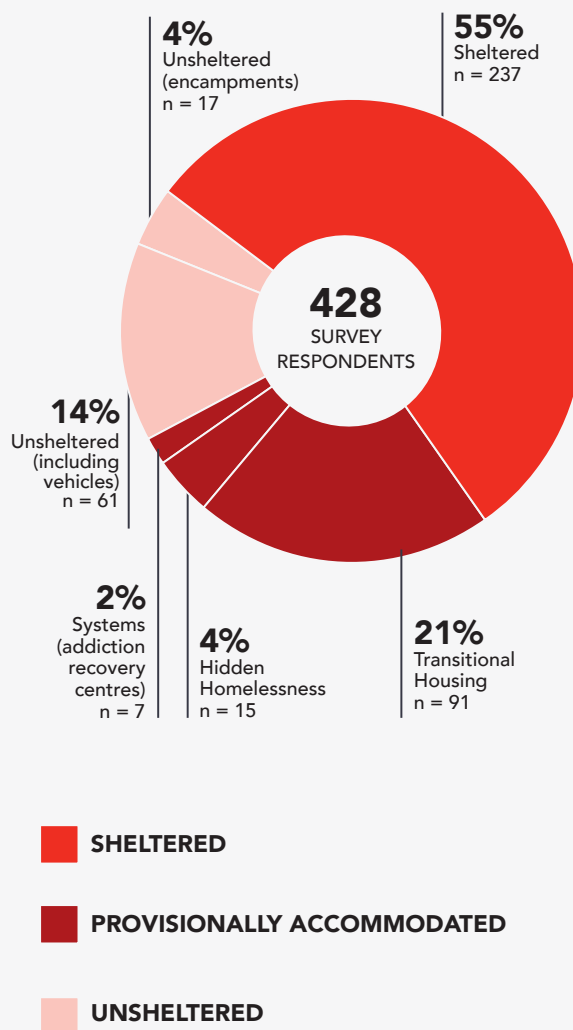


FIGURE 3 | Respondents' locations on the night of the Count

I Count 2024 Survey

Respondent Characteristics

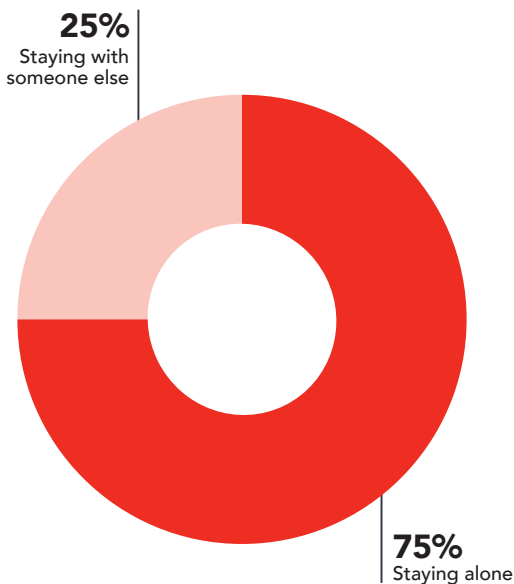


FIGURE 4 | Who people were staying with
n = 428

BORN IN CANADA



IMMIGRANT



REFUGEE



ASYLUM CLAIMANT IN CANADA



WORK PERMIT



STUDY PERMIT



TEMPORARY RESIDENT



OTHER (INCLUDING UNDOCUMENTED)



FIGURE 5 | Immigration status
n = 399

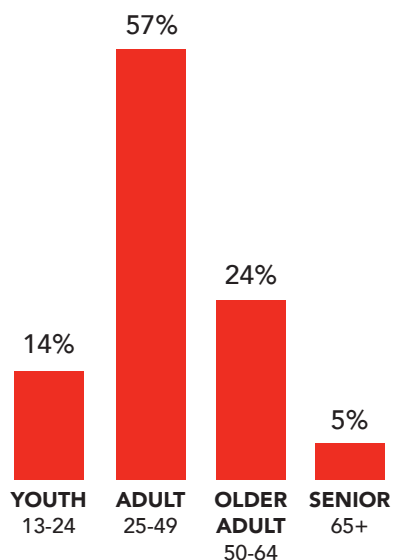


FIGURE 6 | Age at the time of I Count 2024
n = 395

The average age reported at the time of I Count 2024 was 41.

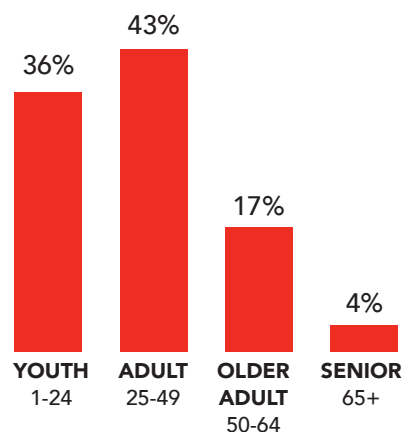


FIGURE 7 | Age at first experience of homelessness
n = 372

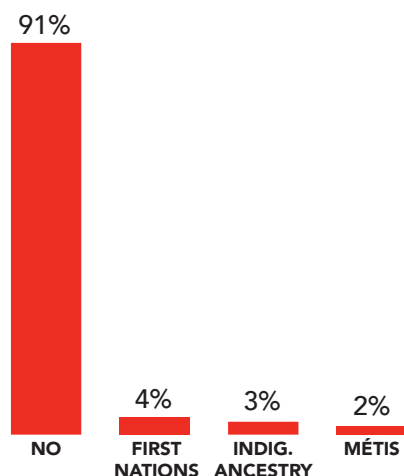


FIGURE 8 | Indigenous identity
n = 400
0 respondents identified as Inuit.

First Nations, Métis, and Inuit are distinct Indigenous identities. The survey uses 'Indigenous Ancestry' to refer to those who don't identify as any of the above but have some Indigenous ancestry.

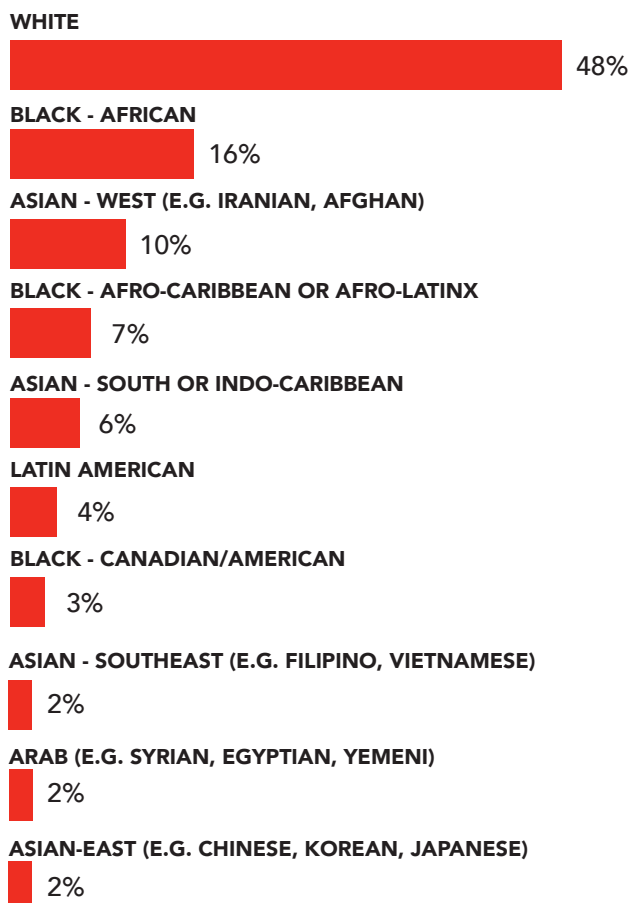


FIGURE 9 | Racial and ethnocultural identity
n = 298

Racial identity categories were grouped as per guidance from Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada.



FIGURE 10 | Have served in Canadian military or RCMP
n = 413



FIGURE 11 | Have ever been in foster care/youth group home
n = 398

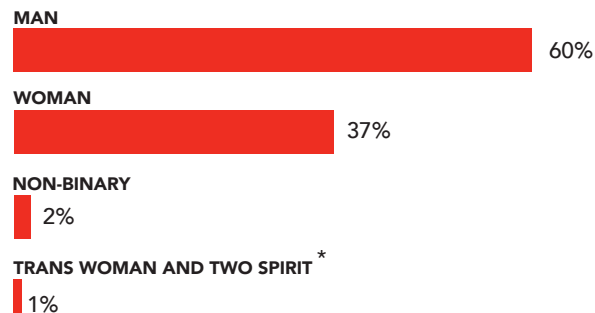


FIGURE 12 | Gender identity
n = 412

* Combined categories with five or fewer respondents to protect confidentiality

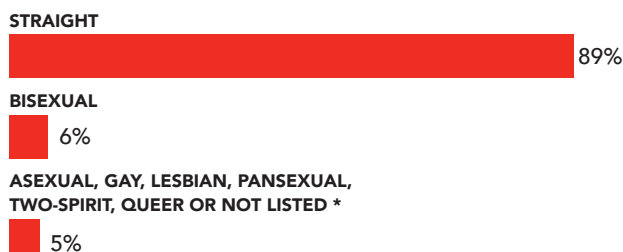


FIGURE 13 | Sexual orientation
n = 393

* Combined categories with five or fewer respondents to protect confidentiality

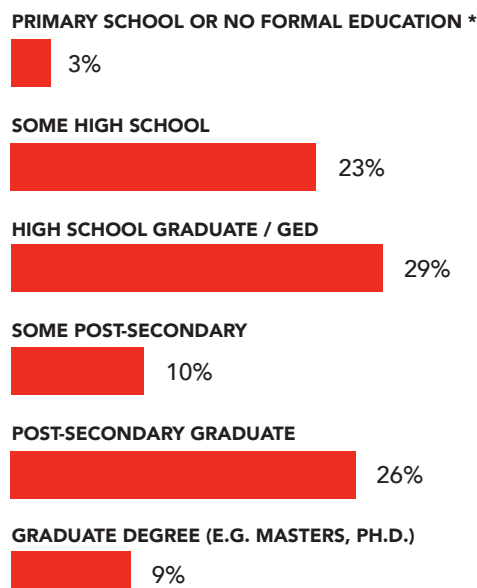


FIGURE 14 | Highest level of education
n = 395

* Combined categories with five or fewer respondents to protect confidentiality

Groups with higher representation in I Count 2024

 % OF YORK REGION'S POPULATION – CENSUS 2021

 % OF I COUNT 2024 SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Refugees

 5%

 9%

Non-permanent residents (work/study permits, temporary residents, asylum claimants)

 2%

 13%

Indigenous

 0.5%

 9%

West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)*

 5%

 10%

Black (Black Canadian/American, Black-African, Black-Afro-Caribbean or Afro-Latinx)*

 3%

 26%

FIGURE 15 | Groups with higher representation experiencing homelessness

Education n = 395; Citizenship n = 399; Indigenous Identity n = 400; Racial identity n = 298

*The 2021 Census does not group sub-ethnicities, so the comparison may not be exact.

Characteristics of People who are Overrepresented Among People Experiencing Homelessness

If the factors that lead to homelessness affected all people equally, then the characteristics of people experiencing homelessness within York Region should approximately match the characteristics of York Region's overall population. A higher percentage of I Count 2024 respondents with characteristics shown in Figure 15 were identified compared to their percentage in York Region's overall population.

While there is no data on the percentage of people who have the following characteristics within York Region, research⁴ indicates that these groups are at a greater risk of experiencing homelessness:

- 15% of 398 respondents reported spending time in foster care or a youth group home. We could not find data on how many people in York Region, Ontario, or Canada had ever been in foster care or a youth group home.
- 11% of 392 respondents reported being part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, while members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community make up 4% of Ontario's population.

Changes in Respondent Characteristics

This section examines how I Count 2024 respondents' characteristics have changed from previous Counts. We primarily compare 2024 to 2018 due to similar methodologies, and to other years when certain survey questions were only asked in those years.

Increase in respondents who have post-secondary education.

Compared to the 2016 Count,⁵ the percentage of people with post-secondary degrees increased in 2024 (13% to 34%)

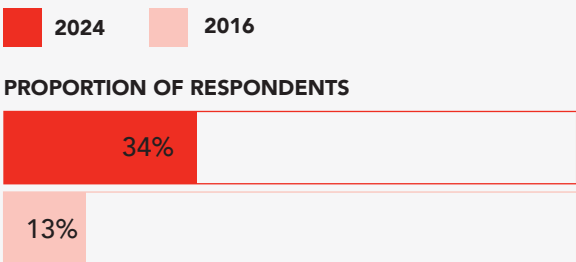


FIGURE 16 | Respondents with post-secondary education in 2016 and 2024 Counts
2024: n = 395; 2016: n = 142 |

Note: I Count 2024 is compared to I Count 2016 because this question was not asked in I Count 2018.

Increase in immigrants, refugees and asylum claimants.

Compared to the 2018 Count, the percentage of people experiencing homelessness who identify as an immigrant, refugee, or asylum claimant increased in 2024 (17% to 33%)

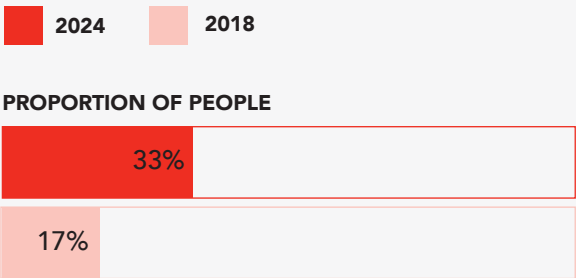


FIGURE 17 | Respondents who were immigrants, refugees, or asylum claimants in the 2018 and 2024 Counts | 2024: n = 399; 2018: n = 217

I Count 2024 is compared to I Count 2018 because of pandemic-related limitations with I Count 2021 data.

Characteristics of People Staying in Unsheltered Locations

People with the characteristics in Figure 18 are overrepresented among those observed to be staying in unsheltered locations during I Count 2024.

Male respondents, Canadian-born respondents, and respondents experiencing chronic homelessness are overrepresented among respondents staying in unsheltered locations.

Percentages below reflect the percentage of each group who were staying in unsheltered locations.

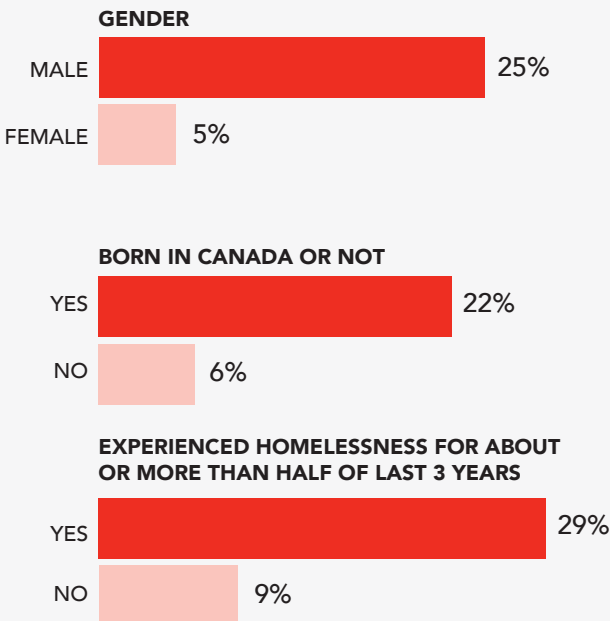


FIGURE 18 | Overrepresentation of respondents staying in unsheltered locations

Males: n = 249, Females: n=151,
Canadian-born: n=316, Not Canadian-born: n= 96
Experiencing Chronic Homelessness: n=171
Not Experiencing Chronic Homelessness: n=205

Where Respondents Have Lived

66% of respondents who moved to their current community did so within the last three years.

161 respondents were not born in Canada. Only 46 of those 161 (29%) had moved to their current community directly from outside of Canada, so the other 115 (71%) had lived elsewhere in Canada (including other York Region communities) before moving to their current community within York Region.

While 42% of respondents reported having always lived in York Region, 57% reported having relocated from elsewhere. Of those who moved to York Region, some came from nearby areas—23% moved from other parts of York Region, and 15% came from the City of Toronto. Others arrived from farther away: 21% moved from elsewhere in Ontario, 5% from other provinces or territories in Canada, and 16% came from outside the country.

Reasons for Moving to New Communities in York Region

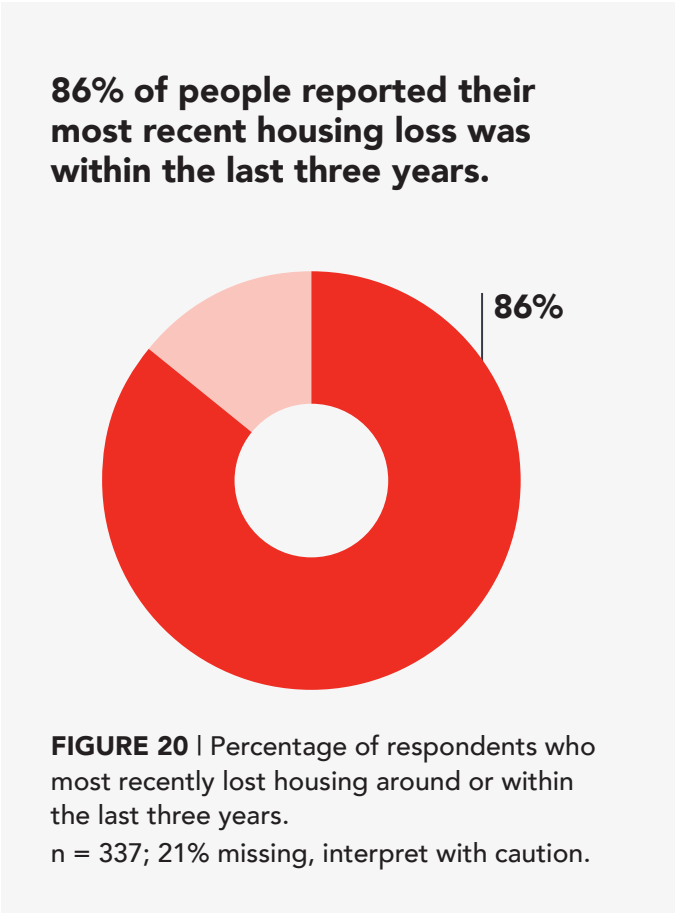
Almost half of respondents who moved within York Region and from other regions cited access to emergency shelters as the primary reason.



FIGURE 19 | Respondents' reasons for moving to their current community
n = 334
Percentages will not add to 100 due to rounding

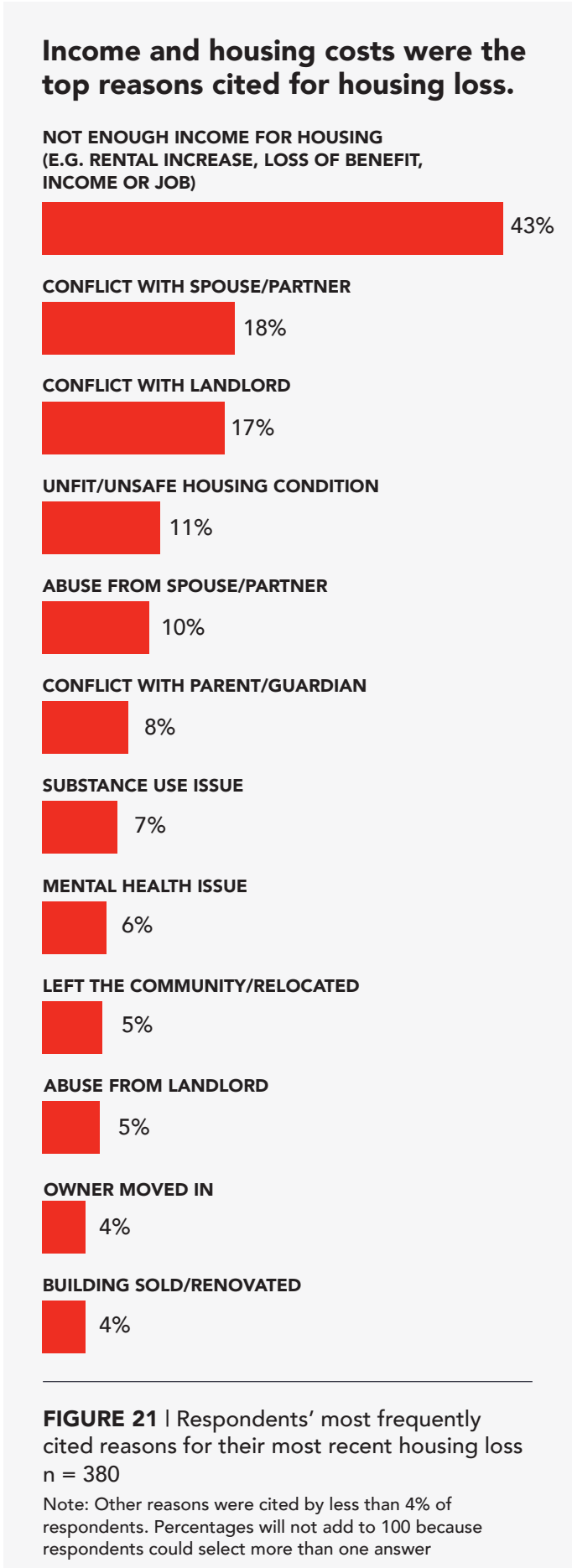
Timing of Housing Loss

The vast majority of respondents' most recent housing loss occurred in the last three years.

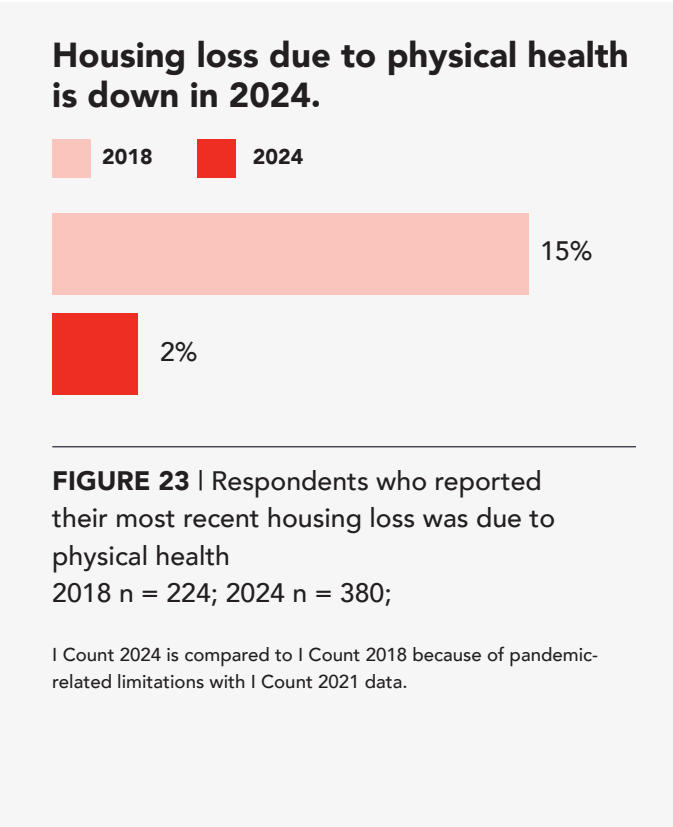
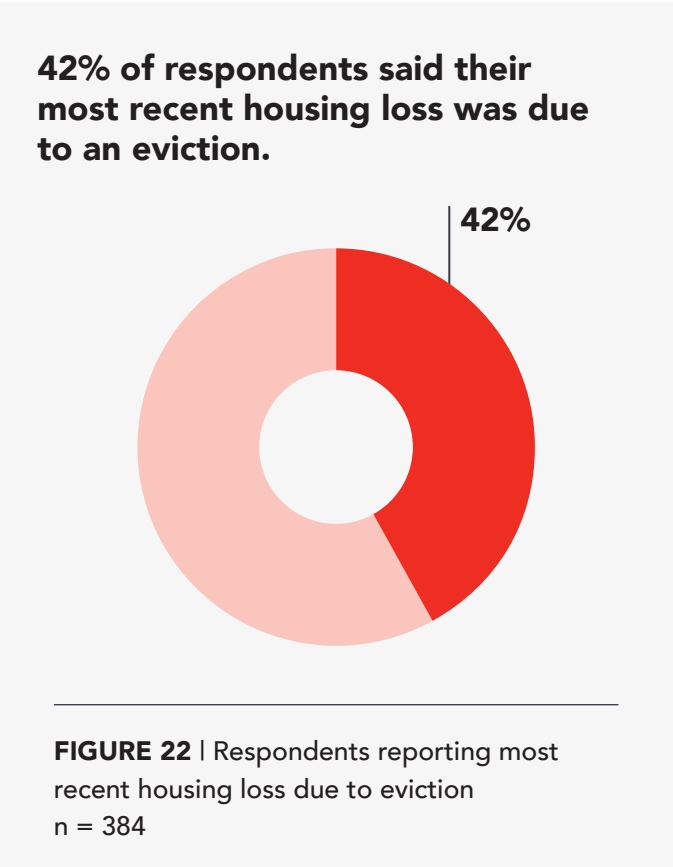


Reasons for Housing Loss

The percentage of respondents who answered 'Not enough income for housing' as a reason for their most recent housing loss (43%) is greater than it was in 2018 (when 16% said their recent housing loss related to job loss and 14% said they were unable to pay rent/mortgage).⁶

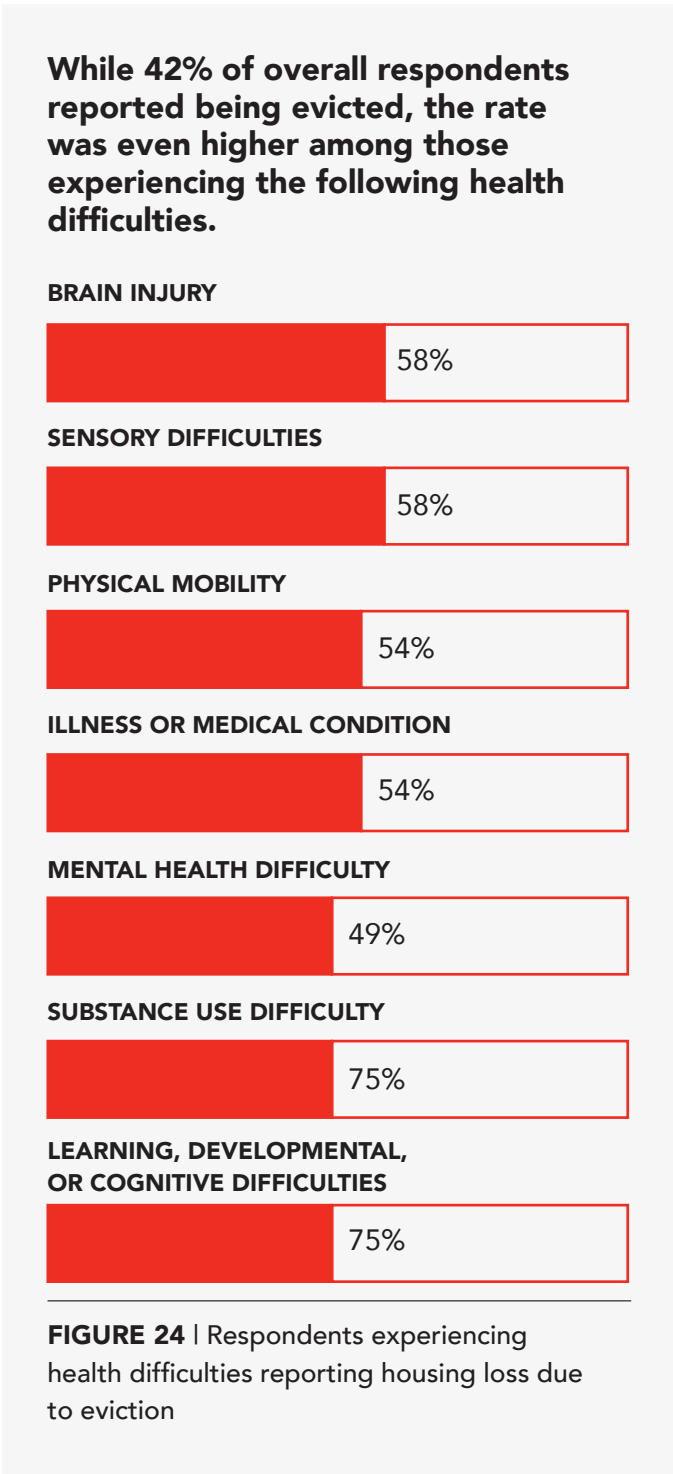


Respondents were also separately asked if their most recent housing loss related to an eviction.



Characteristics of Respondents Who Reported Housing Loss Due to an Eviction

Those experiencing health difficulties were overrepresented among respondents that said their recent housing loss related to an eviction than survey respondents overall.



Sources of Income

The mix of respondents' income sources remains similar to previous counts, but with a lower percentage receiving disability benefits.

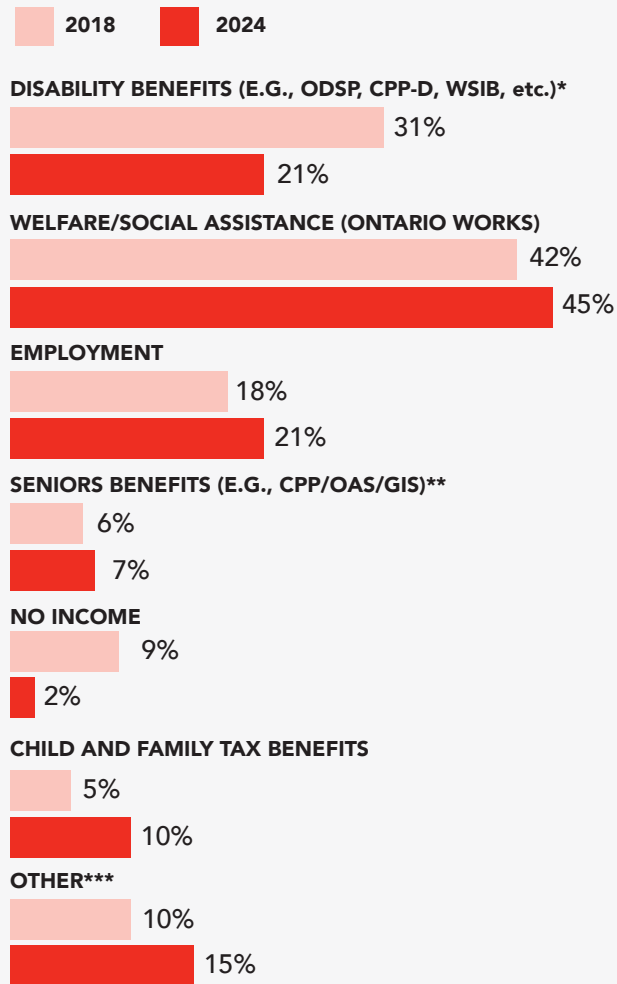


FIGURE 25 | Respondents' income sources
2018: n = 269; 2024: n = 400;

Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

I Count 2024 is compared to I Count 2018 because of pandemic-related limitations with I Count 2021 data.

* ODSP: Ontario Disability Support Program
CPP-D: Canada Pension Plan Disability
WSIB: Workplace Safety and Insurance Board

** CPP: Canada Pension Plan
OAS: Old Age Security
GIS: Guaranteed Income Supplement

*** Including employment insurance, GST/HST refund, money from family and friends, informal employment, and other money from a service agency

Desire for Permanent Housing

Almost all respondents want permanent housing.

98% of respondents said they want permanent housing.

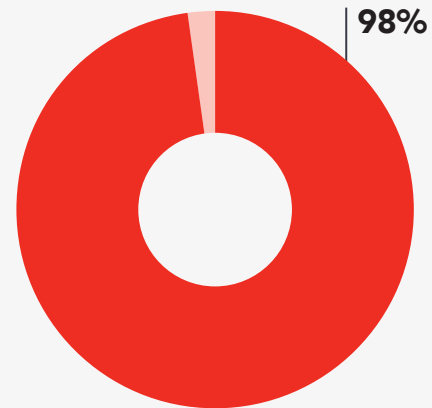


FIGURE 26 | Respondents' desire for permanent housing
n = 396

Barriers to Finding Housing

The question regarding respondents' barriers to finding housing was only added to the I Count survey starting in 2021.

The percentage of respondents reporting that rents are too high has increased.

2024



2021

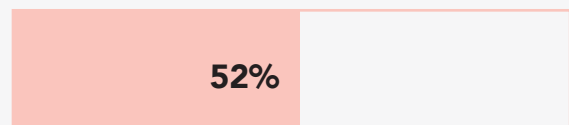


FIGURE 27 | Percentage of respondents reporting rents are too high
2024 n = 390; 2021 n = 192

Rental costs have increased substantially since 2018 (before the COVID-19 pandemic).⁷

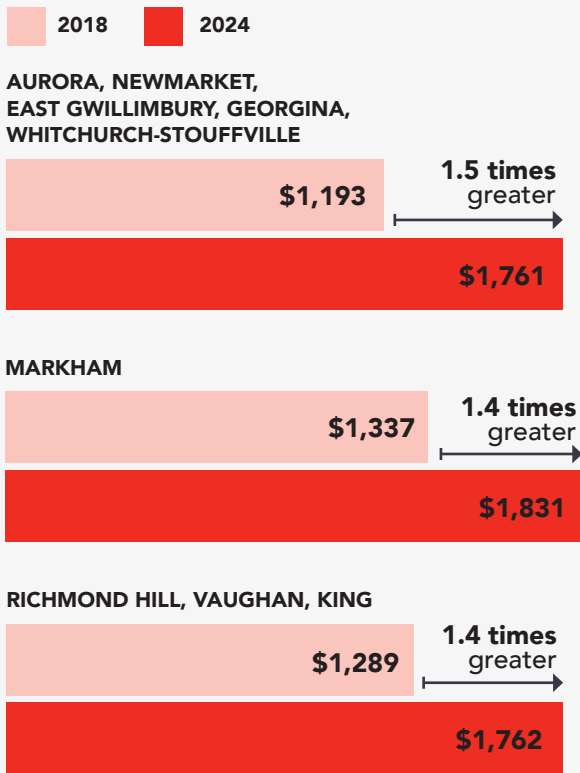


FIGURE 28 | Increases in rent in York Region

Similar to other communities, the increase in homelessness in York Region appears to be related to incomes not keeping up with the rising cost of living (particularly the cost of housing). Data from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Housing Market Information Portal shows that rents have increased much more than the target inflation rate of 2% per year. If rent costs only increased 2% per year between 2018 and 2024, then the increase would have been about 13%.⁸ From 2018 to 2024, the average rent across unit types increased by an average of 37% in Markham, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, and King, and by an average of 48% in Aurora, Georgina, Newmarket, and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The vast majority (85%) of respondents said finding housing was difficult because either rents were too high or their income was too low.⁹

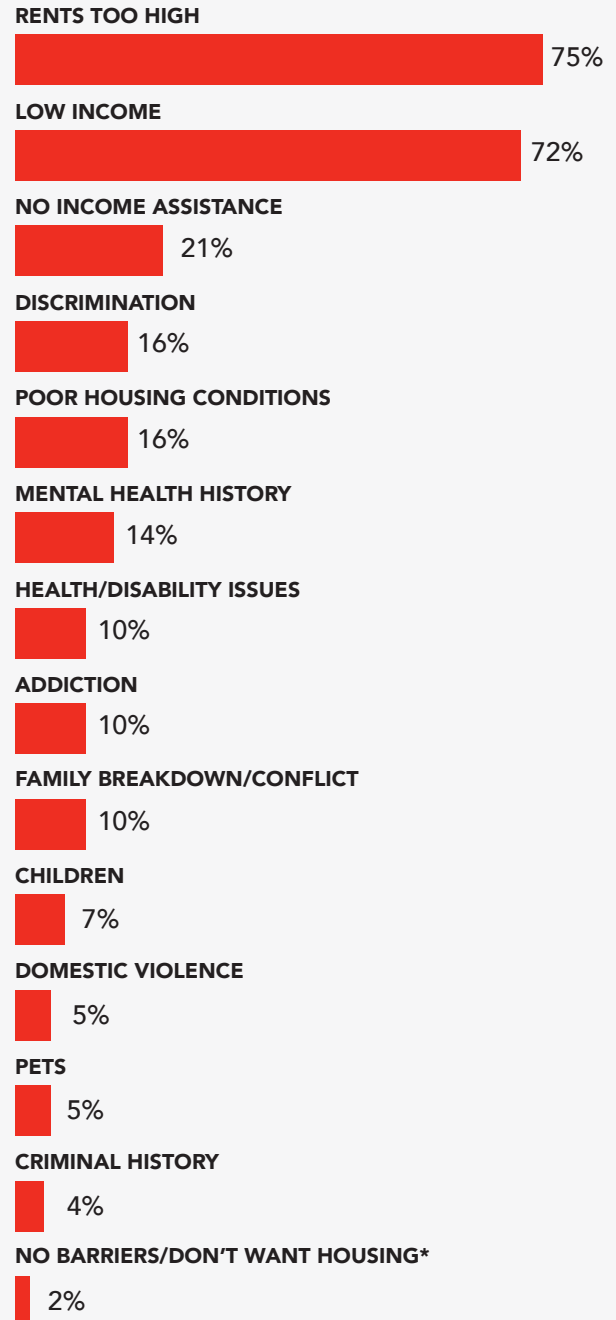


FIGURE 29 | Respondents' cited barriers to finding housing

n = 390

* Combined categories with five or fewer respondents to protect confidentiality

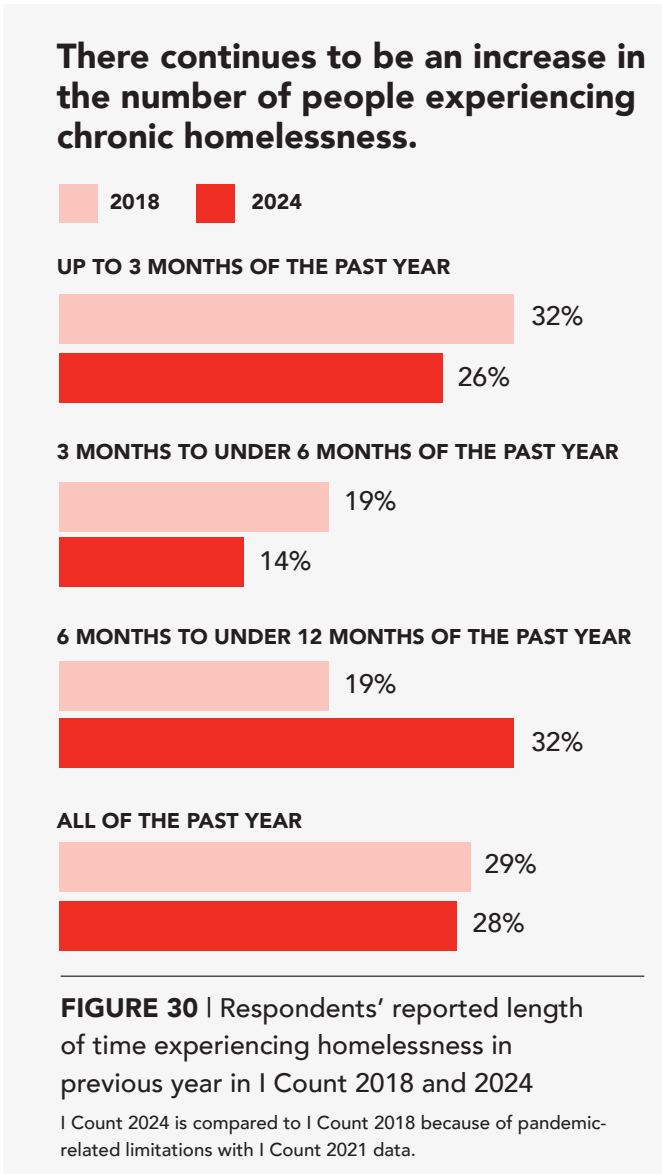
Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Chronic Homelessness

According to Reaching Home: Canada’s Homelessness Strategy, chronic homelessness is the state of people who are experiencing homelessness and who meet at least one of the following criteria:

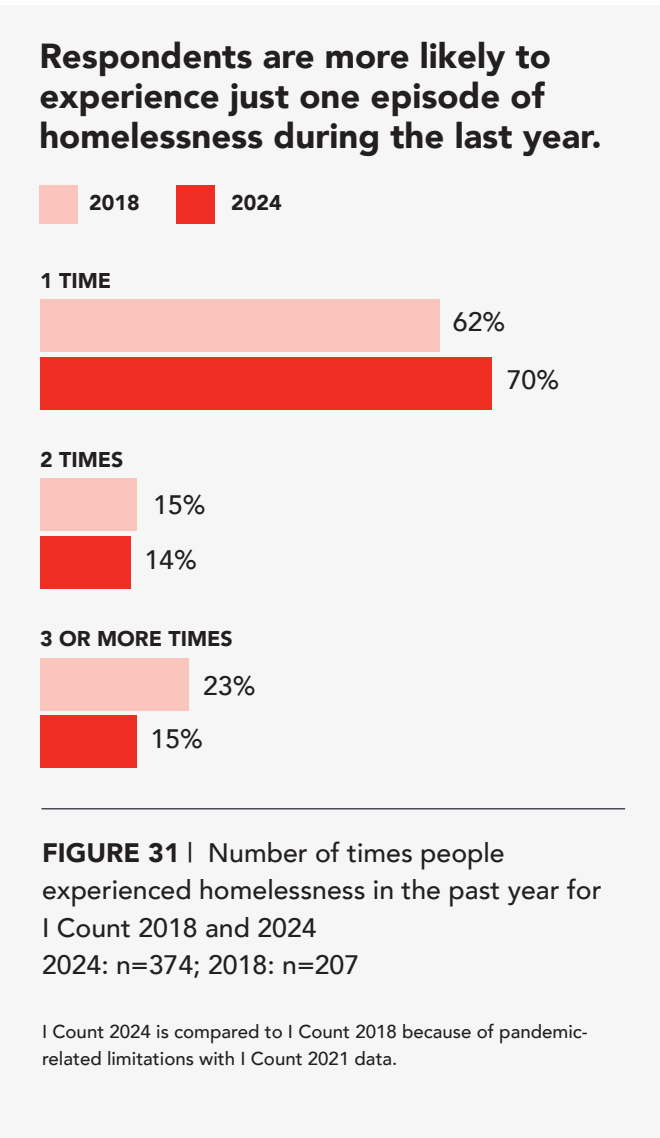
- A total of at least six months (180 days) of homelessness over the past year.
- Recurrent experiences of homelessness over the past three years, with a cumulative duration of at least 18 months.

The percent of respondents experiencing chronic homelessness has increased from 48% in 2018 to 60% in 2024.



Frequency of Homelessness

The percent of people experiencing only one episode of homelessness has increased from 62% in 2018 to 70% in 2024.



Given these findings, it is taking longer for people to transition from homelessness into housing.

Respondents report having a high prevalence of health difficulties

78% of respondents noted having at least one of the health difficulties listed below and 56% reported having more than one difficulty.

MENTAL HEALTH



SUBSTANCE USE



PHYSICAL MOBILITY



ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION



LEARNING, INTELLECTUAL/DEVELOPMENTAL OR COGNITIVE FUNCTION



SENSES, SUCH AS SEEING OR HEARING



ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY



FIGURE 32 | Respondents’ reported health difficulties

Mental health issue: n = 220

Substance use issue: n = 136

Physical mobility: n = 135

Illness or medical condition: n = 124

Learning, intellectual/developmental, or cognitive function: n = 95

Senses (vision, hearing, etc.): n = 77

Acquired brain injury: n = 54

Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Health Care System Use

People experiencing homelessness often face greater negative health impacts, which may result in increased use of health care services. Of the I Count 2024 survey respondents (N = 428):

- 46% have visited an emergency room at least once in the last year, with an average of three visits.
- 24% have had at least one hospitalization in the last year, with an average of three hospitalizations and spending an average of 18 days in hospital.

Youth in Care

- 15% of respondents reported that they had been in foster care or a youth group home at some point in their lives (n = 58).
- Of the respondents who had been in foster care or a youth group home, 34% experienced homelessness within five years and 66% experienced homelessness more than five years after leaving foster care/group home (n = 35).

Conclusions and Discussion

01.

Homelessness in York Region has increased

I Count 2024 observed 489 more people experiencing homelessness than the 2018 Count (before COVID-19), representing a 126% increase.

While the methodology section notes that part of the increase is likely due to increased coverage of unsheltered, drop-in, and transitional housing locations in 2024, that increased coverage does not account for all of the increase observed in the number of people experiencing homelessness. For instance, the number of unsheltered locations visited from 2018 ($n = 91$) to 2024 ($n = 148$) increased by 1.6 times, but the number of people living in unsheltered locations increased by four times.

The increase in homelessness within York Region appears to be greater than the provincial average. Based on data from Service Managers across Ontario, the estimated annual number of people experiencing homelessness across Ontario increased by 1.4 times; from 58,880 in 2018 to 81,515 in 2024.¹⁰ Based on York Region's Point-in-Time Count data, the minimum number of people experiencing homelessness increased by 2.3 times; from 389 in 2018 to 878 in 2024. While Point-in-Time Count estimates are less precise than annual estimates, the large difference is still suggestive that the increases are likely greater in York Region.

The Point-in-Time Count data adds a unique perspective on the increase in people staying in unsheltered locations. The number of people counted as staying in unsheltered locations increased about four times; from 44 in 2018 to 178 in 2024. That increase is greater than the percentage increases of people experiencing homelessness that were staying in other locations.

Homelessness in York Region, like in many other communities, appears to be rising due to incomes not keeping pace with the cost of living—especially housing. Reports from respondents show that housing loss due to the gap between income and costs has increased from 30% in 2018 to 43% in 2024.

Between 2018 and 2024, average rents in York Region rose significantly—by 37% in Markham, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, and King, and by 48% in Aurora, Georgina, Newmarket, and Whitchurch-Stouffville—far outpacing the 13% increase that would have occurred under the target inflation rate of 2% per year.

While housing costs have gone up considerably, most respondents' incomes appear to have either decreased or not increased as much as the cost of housing. In 2024, respondents most frequently (45%) selected "welfare/social assistance" as an income source. Meanwhile, the Ontario Works benefit amounts have not increased since 2018.¹¹ Given that growing gap between income and housing costs, people receiving Ontario Works are increasingly unable to meet costs of living, including housing.

A main factor leading to the increase in homelessness in York Region is an increased gap between incomes and housing costs. Both social assistance rates and rent control policies are set by the Government of Ontario.

02.

Demand for emergency shelter and housing has increased more than its supply

Unmet Need for Emergency Shelter:

As noted, I Count 2024 found about four times as many people who were staying unsheltered, as compared to the 2018 Count. Some respondents' most common reasons cited for not staying in shelters or emergency housing relate to emergency housing capacity:

- 28% said shelters were full.
- 22% said shelters were crowded.

Unmet Need for Housing:

The amount of time people experienced homelessness increased from 2018 to 2024:

- People experiencing chronic homelessness, that is, experiencing homelessness for six months or longer or for a cumulative duration of at least 18 months over the past 3 years, increased from 48% of respondents in 2018 to 60% in 2024. Compared to 2018, there were 125 more people experiencing chronic homelessness in 2024.
- The percentage of respondents experiencing just one episode of homelessness during the last year increased from 62% in 2018 to 70% in 2024.

03.

It is taking longer for people experiencing homelessness to secure permanent housing

Over the past years, the Region has considerably increased bed capacity in the emergency and transitional housing beds it funds for people experiencing homelessness. From 2014 to 2024, emergency housing beds supported by the Region increased from 118 to 217, and transitional housing beds that are operated by community agencies supported by the Region increased from 10 to 76. The Region currently supports a total of 293 emergency and transitional housing beds. Despite those increases, the increase in the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness from I Count 2018 to I Count 2024 suggests there is still unmet demand, and York Region needs more emergency and transitional housing.

Affordable housing is needed to both prevent homelessness and transition people from emergency and transitional housing back into permanent housing. Unfortunately, York Region is experiencing a housing affordability crisis, as declared by the Region in 2021. Elements of the crisis include:

- The percentage of new affordable housing built within York Region decreased from around 37% between 2013 and 2018 to less than 1% between 2021 and 2023.¹²
- Demand for subsidized housing is outpacing growth in supply. As of December 2022, there were 14,867 households on the Region's subsidized housing waiting list. 2,400 were new applications that year, but the Region's capacity for placing new households in subsidized housing was around 370 per year.¹³

- Rental vacancies in 2022 were just 1%.¹⁴

Funding to increase the supply of municipally operated subsidized housing comes from a mix of federal, provincial, and municipal tax dollars. Funding for non-profit housing also comes from the government and from donation and private investments. More funding is required to decrease the number of people experiencing homelessness in York Region.

04. People experiencing homelessness in York Region have a high prevalence of health difficulties

78% of respondents noted having at least one health difficulty, and 56% reported having more than one health difficulty.

Respondents' high prevalence of health difficulties and their experiences of homelessness may relate to higher use of hospital and emergency room services. Data from the Canadian Institute for Health Information confirmed that 93% of people experiencing homelessness who were admitted to a hospital were admitted via the emergency department, suggesting that they have inadequate access to primary care or other healthcare services.¹⁵ That same data showed that people experiencing homelessness tend to stay in hospital about twice as long as people with housing, and those stays cost about twice as much. 46% of I Count 2024 respondents visited the emergency room in the past year, compared to about 40% of Canadians.¹⁶

A greater percentage of I Count 2024 respondents (24%) were also hospitalized within the last year compared to 7% of Canadians.¹⁷ Respondents reported having hospital stays of five days on average.

As noted in the I Count 2018 report:

"The Mental Health Commission of Canada's At Home/Chez Soi study found that every \$10 invested in Housing First¹⁸ services resulted in an average savings of \$21.72 for participants with the highest needs.¹⁹ The main cost offsets were psychiatric hospital stays, general hospital stays (medical units), home and office visits with community-based providers, jail/prison incarcerations, police contacts, emergency room visits, and stays in crisis housing settings and in single room accommodations with support services."²⁰

05. I Count 2024 indicates that certain groups continue to be overrepresented among people experiencing homelessness

A higher percentage of people with the following characteristics were found among I Count 2024 respondents, compared to York Region's overall population:

- **Black people** – 26% of I Count 2024 respondents, compared to 3% of York Region.
- **Non-permanent residents** – 13% of I Count 2024 respondents, compared to 2% of York Region.
- **West Asian people** – 10% of I Count 2024 respondents, compared to 5% of York Region.
- **Indigenous Peoples** – 9% of I Count 2024 respondents, compared to 0.5% of York Region.
- **Refugees** – 9% of I Count 2024 respondents, compared to 5% of York Region.

Research²¹ indicates that the following groups are at a greater risk of experiencing homelessness:

- Having been in foster care or a youth group home – 15% of the I Count 2024 respondents.
- Members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community – 11% of the I Count 2024 respondents (compared to 4% of Ontario’s general population).

In 2024, West Asian people were overrepresented among those counted as experiencing homelessness, which was not the case for the 2018 Count.

06. The characteristics of people experiencing homelessness in York Region have changed

Compared to previous Counts, people experiencing homelessness in York Region in 2024 are more often:

- Post-secondary graduates
- Immigrants
- Refugees or asylum claimants
- Part of racialized populations

It seems that post-secondary education’s role in reducing the risk of experiencing homelessness has decreased in the current economic climate.

The increase in immigrants and refugees experiencing homelessness is not surprising given the increase in immigration levels in the last few years across Canada. The number of immigrants who migrated to Ontario in

each of 2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24 has approximately doubled compared to 2019/20 and 2020/21 (See Figure 33). The number of asylum claimants in Ontario increased by 4.3 times from 2018 (21,165) to 2024 (90,095).²²

Immigration has significantly increased since 2019.²³

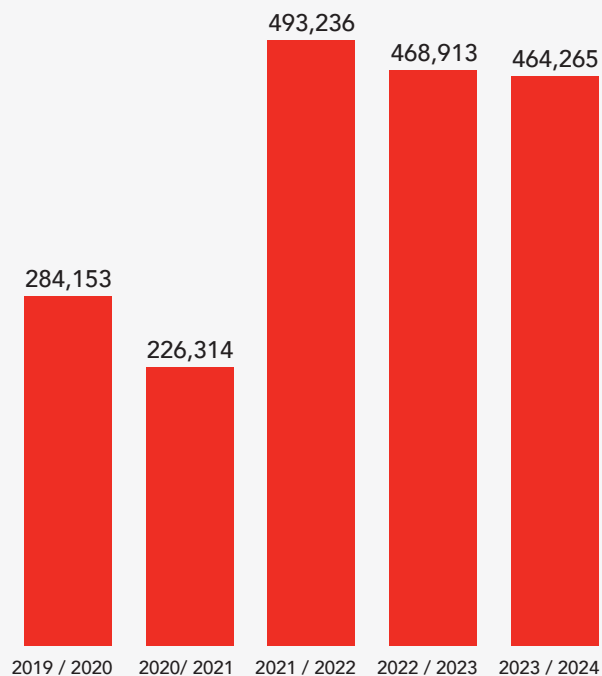


FIGURE 33 | Immigrants into Canada from 2019/20 to 2023/24

07.

Men, Canadian-born, and people experiencing chronic homelessness are overrepresented among respondents living in unsheltered locations

Why women and people not born in Canada were underrepresented among respondents staying in unsheltered locations may be partially related to safety concerns. Women staying in unsheltered locations are at increased risk of experiencing violence and exploitation.²⁴ Within York Region, there are four Violence Against Women shelters and one hotel/motel site that provides emergency housing overflow beds with focused supports for recently arrived immigrants, asylum claimants and refugees.

Endnotes

- 1 Cascante, I., Majid, U., Brouard, F., & Litalien, M. (2024, March). The Be Yourself, See Yourself pilot project: Challenges, lessons and implications from collecting social identity data. In Collaboration, cooperation, co-creation: Case studies of social service innovations. United Way Greater Toronto. <https://www.unitedwaygt.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024-challenges-lessons-and-implications-from-collecting-sid.pdf>
- 2 Government of Ontario, A Place to Call Home: Report of the Expert Advisory Panel on Homelessness, 2015.
- 3 Segaert, A. (2016). Period prevalence vs. point-in-time count. Retrieved from <https://www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/Aaron%20Segaert-HPS-Period%20Prevalence%20vs%20PIT%20Count.pdf> July 14, 2025.
- 4 Bonakdar, A. (2023). The Relationship Between Youth Homelessness and Child Protection Services.
- 5 I Count 2016 is the only other York Region Point-in-Time Count that included data on highest level of education.
- 6 The authors are unable to determine the N/% that selected both reasons. Percentages calculated exclude 'Don't know' and 'Decline to Answer' responses.
- 7 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Housing Market Information Portal. <https://www03.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/hmip-pimh/en#Profile/1/1/Canada>. Retrieved Apr. 22, 2025.
- 8 Bank of Canada. "Inflation-Control Target." Bank of Canada, <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/indicators/key-variables/inflation-control-target/>. Accessed 15 July 2025.
- 9 Includes people's open-ended answers and the following response options: low income, no income assistance, and rents too high.
- 10 Donaldson, J., Wang, D., Escamilla, C., & Turner, A. (2025). Municipalities under pressure: The human and financial cost of Ontario's homelessness crisis. HelpSeeker.
- 11 Financial Accountability Office of Ontario. (2024, June 5). Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services: Spending plan review (Report No. FA2305-MCCSS). Financial Accountability Office of Ontario. <https://fao-on.org/en/report/fa2305-mccss/>
- 12 Affordable Housing in York Region: 2023 Measuring and Monitoring.
- 13 Report of the Commissioner of Community and Health Services and Chief Planner Approach to Developing York Region's 2025 to 2035 Housing and Homelessness Plan
- 14 Ibid
- 15 Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2024). Hospital data sheds light on patients experiencing homelessness. Retrieved from <https://www.cihi.ca/en/hospital-data-sheds-light-on-patients-experiencing-homelessness#data> May 12, 2025.
- 16 Ontario Government. (2025). Ontario Demographic Quarterly: Highlights of Second Quarter. Retrieved from <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-demographic-quarterly-highlights-second-quarter>
- 17 Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2025). Hospitalizations in Canada remained stable in 2023–2024. Retrieved from <https://www.cihi.ca/en/news/hospitalizations-in-canada-remained-stable-in-2023-2024>
- 18 Housing First is a recovery-oriented approach to ending homelessness that centers on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent and permanent housing and then providing additional supports and services as needed.
- 19 Goering, P., Veldhuizen, S., Watson, A., Adair, C., Kopp, B., Latimer, E., Nelson, G., MacNaughton, E., Streiner, D., & Aubry, T. National At Home/Chez Soi Final Report, 2014. Calgary, AB: Mental Health Commission of Canada.
- 20 Goering et al., National At Home/Chez Soi Final Report, 2014.
- 21 Bonakdar, A. (2023). The Relationship Between Youth Homelessness and Child Protection Services.
- 22 Canada - Asylum Claimants by Claim Office Type, Province / Territory of Claim and Claim Month" Obtained from <https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/b6cbcf4d-f763-4924-a2fb-8cc4a06e3de4> July 15, 2025.
- 23 Statistics Canada. (2024). Table 17-10-0008-01 Population estimates, quarterly. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1710000801>
- 24 Paul Schwan, K., Versteegh, A., Perri, M., Caplan, R., Baig, K., Dej, E., Jenkinson, J., Brais, H., Eiboff, F., & Pahlevan Chaleshtari, T. (2020). The State of Women's Housing Need & Homelessness in Canada: Key Findings. Hache, A., Nelson, A., Kratochvil, E., & Malenfant, J. (Eds). Toronto, ON: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press.

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We would also like to thank community partners, volunteers, and UWGT and York Region staff whose dedication, expertise, and collaboration resulted in a successful Point-in-Time Count.

Project Team:

Erika Chang, Christine Hill, Erin Kelly, Umair Majid, Adaoma Patterson, Monica Sangoi, Cristina Taglione, and Henry Wong

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Appendices

APPENDIX A

Definitions

By-Name List: A real-time list of people experiencing homelessness in York Region that can connect people to services and supports.

Coordinated Access System: Includes a Housing First approach; real-time data about the supply of and demand for housing resources; and a streamlined service delivery approach with access points to service, a standardized workflow for triage and assessment; prioritization; and vacancy matching and referral.

Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS): A comprehensive data collection and case management system that allows participating community agencies to access, collect, and share real-time data. It is the system used to maintain the Region's By-Name List. When people access homelessness system services, information about them, their service use, and their needs are entered into HIFIS. This information helps agencies better coordinate service delivery, understand service use patterns, and track entries into and exits from homelessness. Not all people experiencing homelessness are represented in HIFIS, as not all homelessness service providers are using HIFIS, and some people may not be currently accessing services.

Locations Definitions from Federal Point-in-Time Count Guide¹

Unsheltered Homelessness Locations:

Outdoor locations or in places not designed for human habitation. These include "streets, alleys, parks, transit stations, abandoned buildings, vehicles, ravines, and other outdoor locations where people experiencing homelessness are known to sleep."

Sheltered Homelessness Locations:

- Emergency shelter/housing: Temporary, short-term accommodation for people experiencing homelessness. Within York Region, the term 'emergency housing' is used, while the Count's survey often uses terms such as 'shelters' or 'emergency shelters' as those terms may be more familiar to people experiencing homelessness.
- Hotel/motel stays paid for by a housing program.
- Violence Against Women shelters: Temporary accommodation or housing with support for women and/or families experiencing domestic abuse or the threat of violence.

Provisionally Accommodated:

- Transitional housing is intended to bridge the gap from homelessness to permanent housing by offering a supportive, yet temporary, living environment. It includes a combination of Service Manager and/or

¹ Government of Canada; Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada. (2024). Everyone Counts – A Guide to Point-in-Time Counts in Canada (4th Edition). Ottawa, ON. Retrieved from <https://homelessnesslearninghub.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Guide-to-Point-in-Time-Counts-in-Canada-4th-Edition-2-1.pdf>

community agency owned facilities and time-limited subsidies in private market.

- Transitional housing, couch surfing (living temporarily with others), hotel/motel or institutions or treatment programs that lack permanent housing arrangements.
- Hidden homelessness is included in the Point-in-Time Survey on Homelessness, but not in the enumeration. It includes “people living temporarily with others or accessing temporary accommodations, without the guarantee of continued residency or access to a safe and permanent residence,” such as self-funded hotel/motel stays.
- Systems: Health or correctional facility. Only people who have no fixed address, are imminently going to be released, and have no discharge plan that includes housing are included in the enumeration.

APPENDIX B

Additional Methodology Details

Counts were obtained from emergency housing, transitional housing, addiction recovery centres, and drop-in using both administrative data and tally sheets. For I Count 2024, the Region and UWGT chose to use staff from the Region and community agencies to collect data along 148 walking routes. In previous years, volunteers were trained and conducted the Count.

These walking routes were based on locations that staff knew to be frequented by people experiencing homelessness. For all locations, enumerators stayed outdoors. For instance, if a known location was a mall, the enumerators conducted the Count in the parking lot or outside mall entrances.

Respondents who participated in the survey had the option to opt out of questions, but choosing not to answer the consent form or screening question resulted in them not completing the survey.

An extended survey period of two weeks allowed participants at sheltered locations to complete surveys until December 11, 2024, but it is unknown how many surveys were completed during the initial 24 hours compared to during the extended period.

The Region staff manually entered data from the paper surveys into HIFIS. This team ensured data quality and prepared data analysis for this report. Additionally, the report author conducted additional data cleansing and analyses.

YEAR	2016	2018	2021	2024
Time of Year	January	April	June	November
Duration	24 hours	24 hours	24 hours	24 hours
# of community locations counted (known locations, meal programs, libraries, food banks, drop-in programs, encampments, etc.)	33	91	13	148
# of emergency shelter locations counted (including seasonal shelters)	7	6	10	9
# of emergency overflow hotel/motel locations counted	N/A	N/A	1	3
# of Violence Against Women (VAW) locations counted	4	4	5	4
# of transitional housing locations counted	4	8	3	54
# of drop-ins and community survey locations counted	6	2	3	10
Dedicated phone line for surveys	No	Yes	No	No
Addiction beds	No	No	Yes	Yes
Mental health crisis beds	No	No	Yes*	3
Hospitals	No	No	2	No
Police custody	No	No	Yes	No
Outreach Van	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

TABLE 2 | Count Methods by Year

Note: Yes = Counted

No = Not Counted

N/A = Not Available

*Counted but not surveyed

APPENDIX C: I COUNT 2024 SURVEY

POINT-IN-TIME SURVEY 2024

Survey Number: _____

Location: _____

Time: _____ AM/PM

Municipality:

☐ AURORA

☐ EAST GWILLIMBURY

☐ GEORGINA

☐ KING

☐ MARKHAM

☐ NEWMARKET

☐ RICHMOND HILL

☐ VAUGHAN

☐ WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

Interviewer: _____

Contact #: _____

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

a. DECLINE TO ANSWER

b. OWN APARTMENT/HOUSE

}

[THANK & END SURVEY]

c. SOMEONE ELSE’S PLACE

d. HOTEL/MOTEL SELF-FUNDED

e. HOSPITAL

f. TREATMENT CENTRE

g. JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE

}

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

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 (e.g. emergency, family or domestic violence shelter, warming centre, drop-in)

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 (e.g. car, van, recreational vehicle (RV), truck, boat)

n. UNSURE: INDICATE PROBABLE LOCATION _____

}

[BEGIN SURVEY]

BEGIN SURVEY

1. Have you spent at least one night in any of the following locations in the past year? (Check all that apply)

☐ HOMELESS SHELTER (e.g., emergency, family or domestic violence shelter, warming centre, drop-in)

☐ HOTEL/MOTEL FUNDED BY CITY OR HOMELESS PROGRAM

☐ TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING

☐ UNSHELTERED IN A PUBLIC SPACE (e.g., street, park, bus shelter, forest, or abandoned building)

☐ ENCAMPMENT (e.g., group of tents, makeshift shelters, or other long-term outdoor settlement)

☐ VEHICLE (e.g., car, van, recreational vehicle (RV), truck, boat)

☐ SOMEONE ELSE’S PLACE BECAUSE YOU HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO GO

☐ HOSPITAL OR OTHER HEALTH FACILITY

☐ JAIL, PRISON, OR OTHER CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

☐ NO

☐ DON’T KNOW

☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

1.b. If you were experiencing homelessness but did not stay in a homeless shelter or emergency housing in the past year, what are the main reasons? (Do not read categories; check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ TURNED AWAY - SHELTERS ARE FULL | ☐ BED BUGS & OTHER PESTS |
| ☐ TURNED AWAY - BANNED/RESTRICTED | ☐ CROWDED |
| ☐ LACK OF TRANSPORTATION | ☐ PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED LACK OF STORAGE SPACE FOR PERSONAL BELONGINGS |
| ☐ DISAGREEMENT WITH RULES | ☐ LACK OF PRIVACY, AUTONOMY, AND/OR DIGNITY/RESPECT IN SHELTERS |
| ☐ CONCERNS ABOUT HEALTH IN SHELTERS | ☐ OTHER: _____ |
| ☐ DRUG USE AT SHELTER | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| ☐ FEAR FOR SAFETY | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |
| ☐ FEAR OF RELAPSE | |
| ☐ FEAR OF DISCRIMINATION/MISTREATMENT | |

➔ *Applicable only to currently unsheltered in York Region*

1.c. If you are currently unsheltered, in an encampment or staying in a vehicle in York Region, what are the reasons you were not/are not staying in shelter/emergency housing? (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ TURNED AWAY - SHELTERS ARE FULL | ☐ BED BUGS & OTHER PESTS |
| ☐ TURNED AWAY - BANNED/RESTRICTED | ☐ CROWDED |
| ☐ LACK OF TRANSPORTATION | ☐ PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED LACK OF STORAGE SPACE FOR PERSONAL BELONGINGS |
| ☐ DISAGREEMENT WITH RULES | ☐ LACK OF PRIVACY, AUTONOMY, AND/OR DIGNITY/RESPECT IN SHELTERS |
| ☐ CONCERNS ABOUT HEALTH IN SHELTERS | ☐ OTHER: _____ |
| ☐ DRUG USE AT SHELTER | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| ☐ FEAR FOR SAFETY | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |
| ☐ FEAR OF RELAPSE | |
| ☐ FEAR OF DISCRIMINATION/MISTREATMENT | |

2. Do you have family members or anyone else who is staying with you tonight? / Did any family members or anyone else stay with you last night? (Indicate survey number for partners. Check all that apply)

☐ NONE	☐ PET(S)
☐ PARTNER - Survey #: _____	☐ OTHER ADULT (Can include other family or friends)
☐ CHILD(REN)/DEPENDENT(S)	
[indicate age for each child/dependent]	
AGE	
☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER	

3. How old are you? [OR] What year were you born? (If unsure, ask for best estimate)

☐ AGE _____ OR YEAR BORN _____	☐ DON'T KNOW	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	----------------------------------	---

➔ **For this survey, “homelessness” means any time when you have been without a permanent and secure place to live, and includes sleeping in shelters, on the streets, or living temporarily with others without having your own permanent housing (e.g., couch surfing).**

4. In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR (the last 12 months)? (Does not need to be exact. Best estimate)

☐ LENGTH _____ DAYS WEEKS MONTHS	☐ DON'T KNOW	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER
--	----------------------------------	---

4.b. In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the PAST 3 YEARS? (Does not need to be exact. Best estimate.)

- ☐ LESS THAN HALF
 ☐ ABOUT HALF OR MORE
 ☐ DON'T KNOW
 ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

4.c. In total, how many different times have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR (the past 12 months)? (Best estimate.)

- ☐ NUMBER OF TIMES _____ (Includes this time)
 ☐ DON'T KNOW
 ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

- ☐ AGE _____
 ☐ DON'T KNOW
 ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

5.b. Does your family history (i.e., parents, siblings, grandparents, etc.) include people who have experienced or are currently experiencing homelessness?

- ☐ YES
 ☐ NO
 ☐ DON'T KNOW
 ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

6. Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee, asylum claimant (i.e. applied for refugee status after coming to Canada), or through another process?

- ☐ YES, IMMIGRANT ----->
☐ YES, REFUGEE ----->
☐ YES, ASYLUM CLAIMANT IN CANADA ----->
☐ YES, TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKER ----->
☐ YES, OTHER WORK PERMIT ----->
☐ YES, STUDY PERMIT ----->
☐ YES, TEMPORARY RESIDENT ----->
☐ YES, OTHER (including undocumented) ----->
☐ NO
☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

If YES: How long have you been in Canada?

- ☐ LENGTH: _____ DAYS | WEEKS | MONTHS | YEARS
 OR DATE: ____/____/____ DAY / MONTH / YEAR
☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

6.b. Are you a Canadian Citizen?

- ☐ YES
☐ NO, PERMANENT RESIDENT
☐ NO, OTHER
 ☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

7. How long have you been in (*community name*)?

- ☐ LENGTH _____ DAYS / WEEKS / MONTHS / YEARS
 ☐ ALWAYS BEEN HERE
 ☐ DON'T KNOW
 ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

 **Where did you live before you came here?**
☐ CITY: _____ | PROVINCE/TERRITORY/COUNTRY: _____
☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

7.b. What is the main reason you came to (*community name*)? (Do not read categories; select one)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| ☐ TO ACCESS EMERGENCY SHELTER(S) | ☐ EMPLOYMENT (SEEKING) | ☐ RECREATION/SHOPPING |
| ☐ TO ACCESS SERVICES AND SUPPORTS | ☐ EMPLOYMENT (SECURED) | ☐ OTHER: _____ |
| ☐ FAMILY MOVED HERE | ☐ TO ATTEND SCHOOL | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| ☐ TO VISIT FRIENDS/FAMILY | ☐ FEAR FOR SAFETY | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |
| ☐ TO FIND HOUSING | | |

8. Do you identify as First Nations (with or without status), Métis, or Inuit? (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)

- | | | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|---|
| ☐ YES, FIRST NATIONS | ☐ YES, MÉTIS | ☐ NO | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |
| ☐ YES, INUIT | ☐ INDIGENOUS ANCESTRY | ☐ DON'T KNOW | |

8.a. Which Indigenous community are you from?

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| ☐ COMMUNITY/RESERVE NAME _____ | ☐ DON'T KNOW | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |
|--|----------------------------------|---|

8.b. In addition to your response in the question above, do you identify with any of the racial identities listed below? (Show or read list. Select all that apply)

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

9. Have you ever served in the Canadian Military or RCMP? (Military includes Canadian Navy, Army, and Air Force, Regular and Reserve, Army Rangers including completing basic training)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| ☐ YES, MILITARY | ☐ BOTH MILITARY AND RCMP | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| ☐ YES, RCMP | ☐ NO | ☐ 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)

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| ☐ YES | ☐ NO | ☐ DON'T KNOW | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|---|

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

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

10.c. 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

10.d. If yes, which services or forms of support from the Child Protection Services were the most beneficial to you? (Read categories. Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ HOUSING ASSISTANCE (e.g., application support for subsidized housing, market rental unit, airbnb, Foster Care/Outside Paid Resource placement, youth shelter/housing programs) | ☐ FINANCIAL SUPPORT (e.g. Ontario Works, Ontario Disability Support Program, York Region Children's Funds) |
| ☐ FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCING/FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING (e.g., conferencing with child's extended family, family friends, and sometimes foster parents, and supports) | ☐ MEDICAL HEALTH SUPPORTS (e.g., access to health centres) |
| ☐ CHILD PROTECTION MEDIATION (e.g., discussion around concerns regarding child) | ☐ SEXUAL HEALTH SUPPORTS (e.g., condoms) |
| ☐ INDIGENOUS ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (e.g. traditional circles) | ☐ MENTAL HEALTH (e.g., counselling, treatment, etc.) |
| ☐ VOLUNTEER YOUTH SERVICE AGREEMENT | ☐ ADDICTION SUPPORTS (e.g., e.g., youth rehab treatment centres placements, referrals to community resources that support substance misuse treatment, alcohol or opiates) |
| ☐ EDUCATION SUPPORT (e.g., connecting to educational resources) | ☐ CONNECTION TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES (e.g., drop-in programs) |
| ☐ INDEPENDENT LIVING/TRANSITIONS PROGRAMMING (e.g., workshop on budgeting and money management, financial literacy, cooking classes, etc.) | ☐ CONNECTION TO COMMUNITY AND CULTURE (e.g., Indigenous cultural programs, 2SLGBTQ+ programs) |
| ☐ EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (e.g., job search assistance) | ☐ OTHER: _____ |
| | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |

11. Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following?:

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	DECLINE TO ANSWER
ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION (e.g. diabetes, tuberculosis (TB) or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV))	☐	☐	☐	☐
PHYSICAL MOBILITY (e.g. spinal cord injury, arthritis, or limited movement or dexterity)	☐	☐	☐	☐
LEARNING, INTELLECTUAL/DEVELOPMENTAL, OR COGNITIVE FUNCTION (e.g. fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD), autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), dyslexia, or dementia)	☐	☐	☐	☐
ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY (e.g. due to an accident, violence, overdose, stroke, or brain tumour)	☐	☐	☐	☐
MENTAL HEALTH [diagnosed/undiagnosed] (e.g. depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar, or schizophrenia)	☐	☐	☐	☐
SUBSTANCE USE (e.g. alcohol or opiates)	☐	☐	☐	☐
SENSES, SUCH AS SEEING OR HEARING (e.g. blindness or deafness)	☐	☐	☐	☐

12. What gender do you identify with? (Show list or read list)

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

13. How do you describe your sexual orientation, for example straight, gay, lesbian? (Show list or read list)

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

14. 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")

HOUSING AND FINANCIAL ISSUES ☐ NOT ENOUGH INCOME FOR HOUSING (e.g. rental increase, loss of benefit, income or job) ☐ UNFIT/UNSAFE HOUSING CONDITION ☐ BUILDING SOLD OR RENOVATED ☐ OWNER MOVED IN	CONFLICT WITH: ☐ SPOUSE/PARTNER ☐ PARENT/GUARDIAN ☐ LANDLORD ☐ OTHER (_____)	EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION BY: ☐ SPOUSE/PARTNER ☐ PARENT/GUARDIAN ☐ LANDLORD ☐ OTHER (_____)
OTHER ☐ COMPLAINT (e.g. noise/damage) ☐ LEFT THE COMMUNITY/RELOCATED ☐ DEATH OR DEPARTURE OF FAMILY MEMBER ☐ PET(S) ☐ OTHER REASON _____ _____ _____	EXPERIENCED ABUSE BY: ☐ SPOUSE/PARTNER ☐ PARENT/GUARDIAN ☐ LANDLORD ☐ OTHER (_____) ☐ DON'T KNOW	HEALTH OR CORRECTIONS ☐ PHYSICAL HEALTH ISSUE/DISABILITY ☐ MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE ☐ SUBSTANCE USE ISSUE ☐ HOSPITALIZATION OR TREATMENT PROGRAM ☐ INCARCERATION (jail or prison) ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

14.b. Was your most recent housing loss related to an eviction?

☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ DON'T KNOW	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER
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14.c. 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
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15. What are your sources of income? (Reminder that this survey is anonymous. Read list and check all that apply)

Formal or Informal Work	Benefits	Other
☐ FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT	☐ EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	☐ MONEY FROM FAMILY/FRIENDS
☐ PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	☐ DISABILITY BENEFIT (name of Prov. DISABILITY BENEFIT)	☐ OTHER MONEY FROM A SERVICE AGENCY
☐ CASUAL EMPLOYMENT (e.g. contract work)	☐ SENIORS BENEFITS (e.g. CPP/OAS/GIS)	☐ OTHER: _____
☐ INFORMAL INCOME SOURCES (e.g. bottle returns, panhandling, sex work)	☐ WELFARE/SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (Prov. benefit)	☐ NO INCOME
	☐ VETERAN/VAC BENEFITS	☐ DON'T KNOW
	☐ CHILD AND FAMILY BENEFITS	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER
	☐ GST/HST REFUND	

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

☐ PRIMARY SCHOOL	☐ SOME POST SECONDARY	☐ NO FORMAL EDUCATION
☐ SOME HIGH SCHOOL	☐ POST SECONDARY GRADUATE	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE/GED	☐ GRADUATE DEGREE (e.g., masters, Ph.D.)	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

17. 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 (<i>Tickets, arrests, searches</i>)	Y ____ N ____	# ____ Times
BEEN TO PRISON/JAIL	Y ____ N ____	# ____ Times
→ DAYS YOU HAVE SPENT IN PRISON/JAIL		____ Days Total

18. Do you want to get into permanent housing?

☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ DON'T KNOW	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER
---------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------------	---

19. What challenges or problems have you experienced when trying to find housing? (Select all that apply)

☐ LOW INCOME	☐ MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES	☐ DISCRIMINATION
☐ NO INCOME ASSISTANCE	☐ ADDICTION	☐ DON'T WANT HOUSING
☐ RENTS TOO HIGH	☐ FAMILY BREAKDOWN/CONFLICT	☐ OTHER: _____
☐ POOR HOUSING CONDITIONS	☐ CRIMINAL HISTORY	☐ NO BARRIERS TO HOUSING
☐ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	☐ PET(S)	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ HEALTH/DISABILITY ISSUES	☐ CHILDREN	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

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

☐ ENGLISH	☐ NO PREFERENCE	☐ DON'T KNOW
☐ FRENCH	☐ NEITHER (please specify): _____	☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER

21. 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)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ☐ SERIOUS/ONGOING MEDICAL CONDITION | ☐ LEARNING DISABILITY | ☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE |
| ☐ ADDICTION OR SUBSTANCE USE | ☐ BRAIN INJURY | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| ☐ MENTAL HEALTH (<i>Counselling, treatment, etc.</i>) | ☐ PREGNANCY | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |
| ☐ PHYSICAL DISABILITY | | |

22. What services or forms of support have you found most helpful in trying to obtain permanent housing so far?: (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ OUTREACH SERVICES | ☐ HOUSING SUPPORTS (e.g., developing a housing plan) |
| ☐ COMMUNITY PARAMEDICS AND FIRST RESPONDERS | ☐ PEER SUPPORT |
| ☐ FINANCIAL SUPPORTS (e.g., Ontario Works) DROP-IN PROGRAMS | ☐ OTHER: _____ |
| ☐ HARM REDUCTION SUPPLIES (e.g., clean needles) | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| ☐ MENTAL HEALTH/ ADDICTION SUPPORTS (e.g., counselling, treatment, etc.) | ☐ HAVE NOT RECEIVED SERVICES THAT MADE A DIFFERENCE |
| | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |

➔ *Applicable only to currently unsheltered*

23. While experiencing homelessness and being unsheltered, what services or supports have helped you to maintain and improve your health and safety? (Select all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ ACCESS TO EMERGENCY SHELTERS | ☐ SEXUAL HEALTH INFORMATION AND RESOURCES (e.g., condoms) |
| ☐ OUTREACH SERVICES (e.g., mobile services van) | ☐ MENTAL HEALTH/ADDICTION SUPPORTS (e.g., counselling) |
| ☐ WATER AND FOOD | ☐ HARM REDUCTION SUPPLIES (e.g., clean needles) |
| ☐ CLOTHING AND SHOES | ☐ OTHER: _____ |
| ☐ SLEEPING BAGS, TARPS, AND BLANKETS | ☐ DON'T KNOW |
| ☐ CPORT (COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE OUTREACH RESPONSE TEAM) SUPPORTS (e.g., care from community paramedics and first responders) | ☐ HAVE NOT RECEIVED SERVICES THAT MADE A DIFFERENCE |
| ☐ MEDICAL HEALTH REFERRALS (e.g., referrals to health providers) | ☐ DECLINE TO ANSWER |

Appendix D: Survey Data Tables

Location of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024 and 2021

Location	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Homeless Shelter (e.g., emergency, family or domestic violence shelter, warming centre, drop-in)	224	52%	128	67%
Transitional Shelter / Housing	91	21%	42	22%
Unsheltered in a Public Space (e.g., street, park, bus shelter, forest or abandoned building)	56	13%	8	4%
Encampment (e.g., group of tents, makeshift shelters or other long-term settlement)	17	4%	7	4%
Hotel / Motel Self-Funded	4	1%	2	1%
Hotel / Motel Funded by City or Homeless Program	13	3%		
Someone Else's Place	11	3%	2	1%
Treatment Centre	6	1%	2	1%
Vehicle (e.g. car, van, RV, truck, boat)	5	1%	1	1%
Hospital	1	<1%		
Total	428	100%	192	101%¹

2024 Survey question: Where are you staying tonight? / Where did you stay last night?

¹ Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding.

Location of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2018

Response	I Count Total 2018	
	#	%
Emergency Shelter	73	33%
Someone Else's Place	53	24%
Transitional Housing	33	15%
Outdoor/Public space	31	14%
Violence Against Women (VAW) Shelter	22	10%
Hotel/Motel	4	2%

Own place*	2	1%
Total	218	102% ¹
Declined to answer	6	

2018: Survey question: Where are you staying tonight?

*Own place refers to 2 respondents who had their own place on Tuesday but became homeless later during Registry Week

¹ Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding.

Places respondents stayed in past year, 2024

Location	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Homeless Shelter (e.g., emergency, family or domestic violence shelter, warming centre, drop-in)	292	72%
Transitional Shelter / Housing	103	25%
Unsheltered in a Public Space (e.g., street, park, bus shelter, forest or abandoned building)	138	34%
Encampment (e.g., group of tents, makeshift shelters or other long-term settlement)	68	17%
Hotel / Motel Funded by City or Homeless Program	72	18%
Someone Else's Place Because You Had Nowhere Else to Go	117	29%
Vehicle (e.g. car, van, RV truck, boat)	78	19%
Hospital Or Other Health Facility	75	18%
Jail, Prison, Or Other Correctional Facility	32	8%
Total	421	
Don't know/did not answer/missing	7	

2024 Survey question: Have you spent at least one night in any of the following locations in the past year?

Note: Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Currently unsheltered respondents' reasons for not staying in shelters/emergency housing, 2024

Barrier/Reason	#	%
Shelters full	22	28%
Fear for safety	20	26%
Crowded	17	22%
Drug use at shelter	15	19%
Lack of space	12	15%
Declined to answer	12	15%
Fear of discrimination/mistreatment	13	17%
Other	11	14%
Concerns about health in shelter	8	10%
Lack of transportation	7	9%
Pets not allowed, banned/restricted, disagreement with rules, fear of relapse, bedbugs/pests ¹	18	23%
Total	78	

2024 Survey question: If you are currently unsheltered, in an encampment or staying in a vehicle in York Region, what are the reasons you were not/are not staying in shelter/emergency housing?

Note: Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

¹ Combined categories to protect confidentiality, as a cell size was five or less.

Whether respondents were staying alone or with someone else, 2024

Who staying with	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Staying alone	310	75%
Staying with someone else	101	25%
Total	428	100.0
Don't know/did not answer/missing	17	

2024 Survey question: Do you have family members or anyone else who is staying with you tonight? / Did any family members or anyone else stay with you last night?

Age of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Age Group	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
13-24	57	14%				
16-24			26	14%	58	25%
25-49	225	57%	143	77%	154	70%
50-64	94	24%				
65+	19	5%	15	8%	9	4%
Total	395	100%	184	99%	221	99%
Did not answer	33		8		3	

2024 Survey question: How old are you / What year were you born?

Age at first homeless experience of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Age Group	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
0-14	27	7%	14	8%	21	10%
15-24	108	29%	51	28%	77	36%
25-34	66	18%	27	15%	32	15%
35-44	70	19%	22	12%	27	13%
45-54	40	11%	30	16%	34	16%
55+	61	16%	39	21%	25	12%
Total	372	100%	183	100%	216	102% ²
Don't know/did not answer/missing	56 ¹		9		8	

2024 Survey question: How old were you the first time you experienced homelessness?

¹ 34 responses of 0 were considered errors and marked as missing.

² Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding

Length of time homeless in the past year of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Length of time	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Up to 3 months	102	27%	43	25%	67	32%
3 months to under 6 months	47	13%	29	17%	40	19%
6 months to under 12 months	121	32%	54	31%	40	19%
1 year	104	28%	48	28%	60	29%
Total	374	100%	174	100%	207	100%
Don't know/did not answer/missing	54 ¹		18		17	

2024 Survey question: In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR (the last 12 months)?

¹10 responses of 0 days were considered errors and marked as missing.

Length of time homeless in the past three years of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024

Length of time	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
About Half or More	171	45%
Less than Half	205	55%
Total	376	100%
Don't know/did not answer/missing	52	

2024 Survey question: In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the PAST 3 YEARS?

Number of times homeless in the past year of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Number of times	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
1 time	242	70%	122	73%	129	62%
2 times	49	14%	28	17%	32	15%
3 or more times	53	15%	17	10%	47	23%
Total	344	99%	167	100%	208	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	19		25		16	

2024 Survey question: In total, how many different times have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR? (the past 12 months)?

Immigration status of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024

Immigration Status	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
No	238	60%
Yes, Asylum Claimant in Canada	21	5%
Yes, Immigrant	74	19%
Yes, Other (including undocumented)	6	2%
Yes, Other Work Permit	7	2%
Yes, Refugee	37	9%
Yes, Study Permit	9	2%
Yes, Temporary Resident	7	2%
Total	399	101% ¹
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	29	

2024 Survey question: Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee, asylum claimant (i.e. applied for refugee status after coming to Canada), or through another process?

¹Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding

Immigration status of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2021 and 2018

Immigration Status	I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%
Yes, Immigrant	34	18%	26	12%
Yes, Refugee or Asylum Claimant	7	4%	10	5%
No	148	78%	180	83%
Total	189	100%	216	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	3		8	

2021 and 2018 Survey question: Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee or asylum claimant?

Citizenship status of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024

Immigration Status	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Canadian Citizen	316	77%
Not Canadian Citizen, Permanent Resident	51	12%
Not Canadian Citizen	45	11%
Total	412	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	16	

2024 Survey question: Are you a Canadian Citizen?

Length of time in York Region among respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Length of time in York Region	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
1 year or less	194	50%	59	34%	57	27%
More than 1 year to 5 years	67	17%	29	17%	41	19%
More than 5 years	75	19%	45	26%	58	27%
Always been here	53	14%	41	24%	56	26%
Total	389	100%	174	100%	212	100%
Missing/Don't know/Did not answer	39		18		12	

2024 Survey question: How long have you been in (community name)?

Main reasons respondents moved to their current communities, 2024

Reason for moving to community	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Employment (secured)	10	3%
Employment (seeking)	13	4%
Family Moved Here	39	12%
Fear for Safety	15	4%
Other reasons	23	7%
To access Emergency Shelter(s)	154	46%
To access Services and Supports	41	12%
To Find Housing	29	9%
To Visit Friends / Family	10	3%
Total	334	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	41	

2024 Survey question: What is the main reason you came to (community name)?

Indigenous status of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Indigenous Status	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	37	9%	23	12%	37	17%
No	363	91%	164	88%	177	83%
Total	400	100%	187	100%	214	100%
Don't know/Did not answer	28		5		10	

2024 Survey question: Do you identify as First Nations (with or without status), Métis, or Inuit?

Ethnocultural groups of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count,¹ 2024 & 2021

Ethnocultural group	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
White	142	48%	92	64%
Black-African	47	16%	19	13%
Black-Afro-Caribbean or Afro-Latinx	22	7%		
Black-Canadian/American	10	3%		
Asian-West (e.g., Iranian, Afghan) or Arab (e.g., Syrian, Egyptian, Yemeni)	35	12%	6	4%
Aboriginal or Indigenous*	9	3%	16	11%
Asian-South or Indo-Caribbean (e.g., Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Indo-Guyanese, Indo-Trinidadian)	17	6%	2	1%
Latin American (e.g., Brazilian, Mexican, Chilean, Cuban)	12	4%	2	1%
Asian-South-East (e.g., Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian)	7	2%	3	2%
Asian-East (e.g., Chinese, Korean, Japanese)	6	2%	3	2%
Total	307		143	
Missing/Don't know/Did not respond	130		49	

2024 Survey question: In addition to your response in the question above, do you identify with any of the racial identities listed below?

¹Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

*The percentage of respondents who identified as being Aboriginal or Indigenous in this table was lower than the percentage that reported Indigenous identity or ancestry.

Ethnocultural groups of respondents at the time of the 2018 Point-in-Time Count¹

Response	I Count Total 2018	
	#	%
White	148	68%
Black or African Canadian	30	14%
Aboriginal or Indigenous	23	11%
Other (Hispanic or Latin American, Arab, or South Asian, e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)	13	6%
Asian (e.g., Chinese, Korean, Japanese, etc.)	6	3%
West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan, etc.)	6	3%
South-East Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian, etc.)	0	0%
Filipino	0	0%
Total	217	
Don't know	2	
Declined to answer	5	

Survey question: What racial group do you identify with?

¹Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Canadian military status of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 & 2018

Served in Canadian Military	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	18	4%	8	4%	6	3%
No	395	96%	180	94%	212	97%
Total	413	100%	192	100%	218	
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	15		4		6	

2024 Survey question: Have you ever served in the Canadian Military or RCMP?

Foster care history of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

History of Foster Care	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	58	15%	36	19%	42	19%
No	340	85%	154	81%	177	81%
Total	398	100%	190	100%	219	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	30		2		5	

2024 Survey question: As a child or youth, were you ever in foster care or in a youth group home?

Time since leaving foster care, 2024 and 2021

Length of time	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
One year ago or less	6	17%	14	54%
1 to 5 years ago	6	17%	3	12%
Over 5 years ago	23	66%	9	35%
Total	35	100%	26	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	23		10	

2024 Survey question: Approximately how long after leaving foster care/group home did you become homeless?

Illness or medical conditions of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Illness or Medical Condition	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	124	31%	74	40%	83	42%
No	276	69%	110	60%	116	58%
Total	400	100%	184	100%	199	100%
Did not answer/Don't know	28		8		25	

2024 Survey question: Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following? ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION [e.g., diabetes, arthritis, TB, HIV]

Physical limitations of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Physical Mobility	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	135	34%	68	37%	69	35%
No	266	66%	115	63%	126	65%
Total	401	100%	183	100%	195	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	27		9		29	

2024 Survey question: Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following?: PHYSICAL MOBILITY (e.g. spinal cord injury, arthritis, or limited movement or dexterity)

Learning, intellectual/developmental or cognitive limitations of respondents at the time of the 2024, 2021 Point-in-Time Count

Learning, Intellectual/Developmental or Cognitive Limitations	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	95	24%	45	25%
No	300	76%	134	75%
Total	395	100%	179	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	33		13	

2024 Survey question: Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following? LEARNING, INTELLECTUAL/DEVELOPMENTAL OR COGNITIVE FUNCTION [e.g., dyslexia, autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, dementia]

Mental health issues of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Mental Health	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	220	56%	122	67%	107	52%
No	174	44%	61	33%	97	48%
Total	394	100%	183	100%	204	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	34		9		20	

2024 Survey question: Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following? MENTAL HEALTH [diagnosed/un-diagnosed] (e.g. depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar, or schizophrenia)

Substance use issues of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024, 2021 and 2018

Substance Use Issue	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	136	34%	92	50%	77	38%
No	266	66%	93	50%	128	62%
Total	402	100%	185	100%	205	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	26		7		19	

2024 Survey question: Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following?:
SUBSTANCE USE (e.g., alcohol, opiates)

Sensory difficulties of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024

Senses, Such as Seeing or Hearing	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Yes	77	19%
No	320	81%
Total	397	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	31	

2024 Survey question: Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following?: SENSES, SUCH AS SEEING OR HEARING (e.g. blindness or deafness)

Acquired brain injury issues of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024

Acquired Brain Injury	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Yes	54	14%
No	339	86%
Total	393	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	35	

2024 Survey question: Have you been experiencing difficulties related to any of the following?: ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY (e.g. due to an accident, violence, overdose, stroke, or brain tumour)

Gender of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024

Gender	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Man	249	60%
Woman	151	37%
Non-binary (Genderqueer)	6	1.5%
Trans Woman & Two-Spirit ¹	6	1.4%
Total	412	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	16	

2024 Survey question: What gender do you identify with?

¹ Combined categories to protect confidentiality, as a cell size was five or less.

Gender of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2021 and 2018

Gender	I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%
Man	101	53%	125	56%
Woman	88	46%	95	42%
Gender non-conforming	2	1%	4	2%
Total	191	100%	224	100%
Declined to answer	1			

Survey question: What gender do you identify with?

Sexual orientation of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024

Sexual Orientation	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Straight / Heterosexual	349	89%
Bisexual	23	6%
Asexual, Gay, Lesbian, Pansexual, Two-Spirit, Queer or Not Listed ¹	21	5%
Total	393	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	35	

2024 Survey question: How do you describe your sexual orientation, for example straight, gay, lesbian?

¹ Combined categories to protect confidentiality, as a cell size was five or less.

Sexual orientation of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2021 and 2018

Sexual Orientation	I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%
Straight / Heterosexual	167	90%	197	92%
LGBTQ2S+	19	10%	17	8%
Total	186	100%	214	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	6		10	

Survey question: How do you describe your sexual orientation, for example straight, gay, lesbian?

Reason for current loss of housing of respondents at the time of the 2024 Point-in-Time Count

Reason for Homelessness	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Not Enough Income for Housing	164	43%
Unfit/Unsafe Housing Conditions	42	11%
Building Sold or Renovated	14	4%
Owner Moved In	15	4%
Conflict with Spouse/Partner	68	18%
Conflict with Parent/Guardian	31	8%
Conflict with Landlord	63	17%
Experienced Abuse by Spouse/Partner	37	10%
Experienced Abuse by Parent/Guardian	9	2%
Experienced Abuse by Landlord	18	5%
Physical Health Issue/Disability	7	2%
Mental Health Issue	24	6%
Substance Use Issue	25	7%
Hospitalization or Treatment Program	5	1%
Incarceration	7	2%
Discrimination by Spouse/Partner	5	1%
Discrimination by Parent/Guardian	5	1%
Discrimination by Landlord	13	3%
Complaint	5	1%
Left Community/ Relocated	21	6%
Death/Departure of Family Member	13	3%
Total	380	
Missing/Don't know/Did not respond	48	

2024 Survey question: What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently?

Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Reason for current loss of housing of respondents at the time of the 2021 Point-in-Time Count

Reason for Homelessness	I Count Total 2021	
	#	%
Unable to pay rent/mortgage	43	22%
Family conflict (conflict with parent/guardian/spouse/partner)	32	17%
Unsafe housing conditions	22	11%
Domestic abuse (abuse by parent/guardian/spouse/partner)	19	10%
Conflict with landlord/tenant/housemate	17	9%
Home sold, foreclosed, or no longer available	14	7%
Addiction or substance use or mental health	13	7%
Left the community/relocated	6	3%
Incarcerated (jail or prison)	5	3%
Abuse by other (e.g., roommate)	4	2%
Illness/medical condition, hospitalization, or treatment program	4	2%
Other (e.g., conflict with other, death/departure of family member, discrimination)	34	18%
Declined to answer	10	5%

Survey question: What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently?

Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Whether respondents report that their recent housing loss was due to an eviction, 2024

Housing loss due to eviction	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Yes	160	42%
No	224	58%
Total	384	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	44	

2024 Survey question: Was your most recent housing loss related to an eviction?

Reason for current loss of housing of respondents at the time of the 2018 Point-in-Time Count

Response	I Count Total 2018	
	#	%
Family conflict (conflict with parent/guardian/spouse/partner)	55	25%
Job loss	35	16%
Illness/medical condition, hospitalization, or treatment program	33	15%
Unable to pay rent/mortgage	31	14%
Addiction or substance use or mental health	30	13%
Domestic abuse (abuse by parent/guardian/spouse/partner)	30	13%
Unsafe housing conditions	24	11%
Home sold, foreclosed, or no longer available	12	5%
Conflict with landlord	11	5%
Incarcerated (jail or prison)	11	5%
Eviction	8	4%
Abuse by other	6	3%
Other (e.g., conflict with others, conflict with law / legal issues, death of family member, others)	22	10%
Don't know	2	1%
Declined to answer	6	3%

Survey question: What happened that caused you to lose your housing most recently? [Housing does not include temporary arrangements, (e.g., couch surfing) or shelter stays.]

Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Time since recent housing loss of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024 and 2021

Time since loss of housing	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
1 year or less	216	64%	119	72%
More than 1 year to 3 years	72	21%	27	16%
More than 3 years to 5 years	28	8%	9	5%
More than 5 years	21	6%	10	6%
Total	337	99%	165	100%
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	91		27	

2024 Survey question: How long ago did that happen (that you lost your housing most recently)?

Income source(s) of respondents at the time of the 2024, 2021, and 2018 Point-in-Time Counts

Income Source(s)	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021		I Count Total 2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Disability Benefits (e.g., ODSP, CPP-D, WSIB, etc.)	84	21%	64	35%	67	31%
Welfare/Social Assistance (Ontario Works)	180	45%	58	31%	89	42%
Full time employment	35	9%	25	14%	39	18%
Part time employment	34	9%				
Casual employment	11	3%				
Seniors Benefits (e.g., CPP/OAS/GIS)	26	7%	18	10%	12	6%
No income	9	2%	7	4%	19	9%
Child and Family Tax benefits	41	10%	6	3%	11	5%
Other (including employment insurance, GST/HST refund, money from family and friends, informal employment, and other money from a service agency) ¹	59	15%	13	7%	20	10%
Total	400		185		214	
Missing/Did not answer/Don't know	28		7		7	

2024 Survey question: What are your sources of income?

Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

¹Combined categories to protect confidentiality, as a cell size was five or less. Added numbers and percentages of each category, but it is possible a small number of people selected more than one of the categories grouped.

Highest earned education of respondents at the time of the Point-in-Time Count, 2024 & 2016

	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2016	
	#	%	#	%
No Formal Education	3	0.8		
Primary School	12	3.0	3	2%
Some High School	91	23.0	47	33%
High School Graduate / GED	113	28.6	43	30%
Some Post-Secondary	40	10.1	31	22%
Post-Secondary Graduate	101	25.6	18	13%
Graduate Degree (e.g. Masters, Ph.D.)	35	8.9		
Total	395	100.0	142	
Unclear / Blank	33		1	
Total	428		143	

2024 Survey question: What is the highest level of education you completed?

Emergency room visits (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	195	46%	108	56%
No	233	54%	84	44%
Total	428	100%	192	100%

2024 Survey question: In the past year (12 months) have you: been to an emergency room

Number of emergency room visits (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Number of emergency room visits	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
1 visit	72	37%	47	44%
2 to 5 visits	100	51%	42	39%
More than 5 visits	23	12%	19	18%
Total	195	100%	108	100%

2024 Survey question: # _____ Times

Hospitalizations (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Hospitalization	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	101	24%	53	28%
No	327	76%	139	72%
Total	428	100%	192	100%

2024 Survey question: In the past year (12 months) have you: been hospitalized

Number of hospital visits (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Number of hospital visits	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
1 visit	53	53%	30	57%
2 to 5 visits	42	42%	19	36%
More than 5 visits	6	6%	4	8%
Total	101	101%	53	100%

2024 Survey question: # _____ Times

Total days hospitalized (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Total days hospitalized	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
One day	12	14%	6	11%
2 to 7 days	38	44%	20	38%
More than 7 days	37	43%	23	43%
Not specified			4	8%
Total	87	101%	53	100%

2024 Survey question: Days you have spent hospitalized?

Interactions with Police (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Interactions with Police	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	134	31%	80	42%
No	294	69%	112	58%
Total	428	100%	192	100%

2024 Survey question: In the past year (12 months) have you: interacted with police (Tickets, arrests, searches)

Number of interactions with Police (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Number of Interactions with Police	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
1 interaction	51	38%	35	44%
2 to 5 interactions	56	42%	33	41%
More than 5 interactions	27	20%	12	15%
Total	134	100%	80	100%

2024 Survey question: # _____ Times

History of being to prison/jail (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

History of being to prison/jail	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	36	8%	18	9%
No	392	92%	174	91%
Total	428	100%	192	100%

2024 Survey question: In the past year (12 months) have you: been to prison/jail?

Total days in prison/jail (past 12 months) of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Total days in prison/jail	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
One day	5	14%	3	17%
2 to 30 days	14	39%	6	33%
More than 30 days	17	47%	5	28%
Not specified			4	22%
Total	36	100%	18	100%

2024 Survey question: Days you have spent in prison/jail?

Desire to get into permanent housing among respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Wants to get into permanent housing	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	389	98%	181	98%
No	7	2%	4	2%
Total	396	100%	185	100%
Don't Know/Did not answer	32		7	

2024 Survey question: Do you want to get into permanent housing?

Challenges or problems experienced by respondents when trying to find to housing, 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts¹

Barrier	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
Low income	279	72%	120	64%
Rent too high	294	75%		
Inability to pay rent			99	53%
Budget			29	16%
Discrimination	64	16%	29	16%
No income assistance	82	21%	20	11%
Mental health issues	56	14%	20	11%
Credit score			19	11%
Family breakdown/conflict	37	10%	17	9%
Health/disability issues	40	10%	17	9%
Poor housing conditions	62	16%	16	9%
Children	27	7%	11	6%
COVID-19 pandemic			9	5%
Unemployment			9	5%
Domestic violence	20	5%	6	3%
Criminal history	14	4%	5	3%
Other (e.g., pets, not specified)	20	5%	5	3%
Addiction	39	10%		
No barriers to housing	5	1%	5	3%
Don't want housing	3	1%	2	1%
Total	390		187	
Don't know/Did not answer	38		5	

2024 Survey question: What challenges or problems have you experienced when trying to find housing?

¹Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Preferred language of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts

Preferred language	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021	
	#	%	#	%
English	353	89%	182	95%
French	5	1%	3	2%
Other languages (e.g., Farsi, Spanish, Cantonese and Urdu)	40	10%	7	4%
Total	398	100%	192	100%
Missing	30			

2024 Survey question: In what language do you feel best able to express yourself?

Preferred language of respondents at the time of the 2018 Point-in-Time Count

Response	I Count Total 2018	
	#	%
English	204	92%
Another language other than English or French	9	4%
English and another language other than French	8	4%
No preference between English or French	1	<1%
French	0	0%
Total	222	100%
Declined to answer	2	

Service needs of respondents at the time of the 2024 & 2021 Point-in-Time Counts¹

Service	I Count Total 2024		I Count Total 2021 ²
	#	%	%
Mental Health (e.g., counselling, treatment)	138	32%	43%
Physical disability/limitations	61	14%	18%
Serious/Ongoing Medical condition	72	17%	18%
Addiction or Substance Use	57	13%	17%
Cognitive disability/Learning disability	32	8%	9%
Brain injury	19	4%	3%
Pregnancy	1	<1%	3%
None of the above	119	28%	28%
Don't know	19	4%	1%
Declined to answer	19	4%	7%
Employment/Income			11%
Housing			6%
Food			4%
Not specified			2%
Total	202		

2024 Survey question: 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:

¹Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer.

²Only the %'s were reported in the I Count 2021 report.

Respondents' reports of services most helpful in trying to obtain permanent housing at the time of the 2024 Point-in-Time Count

Most Helpful Services for Obtaining Permanent Housing	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Outreach Services	98	23%
Community Paramedics And First Responders	42	10%
Financial Supports (e.g., Ontario Works), Drop-In Programs	130	30%
Harm Reduction Supplies (e.g., clean needles)	12	3%
Mental Health/ Addiction Supports (e.g., counselling, treatment, etc.)	67	16%
Housing Supports (e.g., developing a housing plan)	175	41%
Peer Support	62	15%
Other	34	8%
Have Not Received Services That Made A Difference	50	12%
Don't Know	23	6%
Total	411	
Declined to answer	17	

Survey question: What services or forms of support have you found most helpful in trying to obtain permanent housing so far?
Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

Currently unsheltered respondents' reports of services most helpful in maintaining and improving health and safety at the time of the 2024 Point-in-Time Count

Most Helpful Services for Health and Safety	I Count Total 2024	
	#	%
Access to Emergency Shelters	10	13%
Outreach Services (e.g. Mobile Services Van)	30	39%
Water and Food	40	51%
Clothing and Shoes	32	41%
Sleeping Bags, Tarps, and Blankets	24	31%
CPORT (Community Paramedicine Outreach Response Team) Supports (e.g. care from community paramedics and first responders)	13	17%
Medical Health Referrals (e.g. Referrals to health providers)	7	9%
Mental Health/Addiction Supports (e.g. Counselling, etc)	7	9%
Sexual Health Information and Resources (e.g. Condoms)	2	3%
Harm Reduction Supplies (e.g. Clean Needles)	4	5%
Have Not Received Services That Made A Difference ¹	8	10%
Total	69	
Declined to answer	9	

Survey question: While experiencing homelessness and being unsheltered, what services or supports have helped you to maintain and improve your health and safety?

Percentages will not add to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer

¹ Combined categories to protect confidentiality, as a cell size was five or less.

