



2021 City of Terrace Homeless Count

Point-in-Time Homeless Count
Report Prepared by Ksan Society
4/19/2021

Acknowledgements

The 2021 City of Terrace Homeless Point-in-Time (PiT) Count was made possible through the collaboration of Ksan House Society, the City of Terrace, and Homelessness Services Association of BC. We would like to thank the Society's staff, community service providers, and volunteers who participated in this project, and the Terrace citizens who face the challenges of Homelessness: thank you for taking the time to share your stories.

The members of the 2021 Terrace Homeless Count were: Jade Busch, Haley Butti, Courtney Costain, Michelle Demoe, Kisan Dockery, Cheryl Gray, Brooklyn Hoekstra, Desiree Hornburg, Cole Lamke, Shannon McFee, Lori Milligan, Vickie Montgomery, Amanda Owens, Lisa Schmidt, Tiana Walker, and Gordon Woodcock.

We would like to acknowledge that we continued with the format from the Coast Mountain College's Community Development classes of 2018 and 2019 Point-in-Time Homeless Count Reports.

City of Terrace Homeless Count 2021

Minimum Homeless Count Figures

The 2021 Homeless Count was conducted by volunteers and staff of Ksan Society over the evening of April 19 and during the day of April 20. Folks accessing Ksan Transition House, Ksan Residence & Shelter, and the Capacity Expansion Shelter were included in the total count plus folks who agreed to answer the street count. The results of our surveys are as follows:

16 Women
36 Men
1 Non-Binary

74

Total Homeless



56 Sheltered



18 Unsheltered

Top Causes For Loss of Housing



Addiction



Not Enough
Income

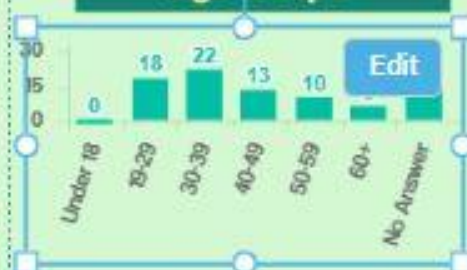


Conflict With
Spouse



Unfit Housing

Age Groups



Most Used Services



ER/Hospital



Ambulance



Housing

Prepared By

Ksan
Society

Executive Summary: Profile of Homelessness in Terrace, BC in 2021

The 2021 Homeless count was undertaken as a “Point-in-Time” (PiT) count. The count was conducted over a 24-hour period. Only individuals who spent the night in a local shelter, hospital, or cells on April 19th, or self-identified to the team as living in homelessness on the day of April 20th, were included in this data set.

Number of Folks Experiencing Homelessness in Terrace

A total of **74 people** in the City of Terrace were identified to be living in homelessness on April 19th/20th, 2021. Of those, **18** were considered unsheltered and **56** were considered sheltered. 73 surveys were filled out either partially or in full.

All the sheltered population living in homelessness included folks staying in shelters: **19** at Ksan Residence & Shelter, **27** staying at the Capacity Expansion Shelter, and **10** staying overnight at the Ksan Transition House. No data was available from Mills Memorial Hospital or RCMP cells.

The unsheltered homeless population included **29** folks living outside and/or staying temporarily with others. These individuals self-identified as homeless on the day of the Count.

- Total number of folks living in homelessness, at minimum, on this day = **74**
- Number of MEN respondents = **36** or 68% Number of WOMEN respondents = **16** or 30%.
- Number of non-binary = **1** or 2%
- Number of Sheltered Homeless = **56** or 76%
- Number of Unsheltered/Street Homeless = **18** or 24%
- Number of years lived in Terrace: Less than 1 year = 24%; one year or more 76%

Persons of Indigenous Ancestry Over-Represented

The total number of individuals claiming Indigenous ancestry is a count of those who participated in the survey and self-identified as Indigenous.

52 folks answered this question on the survey and of those respondents, **45** identified as Indigenous, representing **87%** of all respondents to this question. Indigenous folks represent most of the persons living in homelessness as identified by the 2021 Terrace Homeless Count.

Persons living in homelessness are primarily citizens of Terrace

50 individuals responded to the question related to length of time in the community. Only 12 (24%) reported being in Terrace for less than a year. Table 9 shows that 76% of individuals living in homeless, who responded to the survey, have been in Terrace for 1 year or more.

Hidden Homeless

Due to the nature of homelessness, the hidden homeless would be considered those not counted, hence the term hidden. Considering the PiT count represents the minimum number of individuals, acting as a baseline for those who may be experiencing homelessness, future strategies to capture the hidden homeless population could be beneficial.

Men Continue to Be the Majority of People Counted

Among those who responded to the question, women accounted for 30% of the total homeless population (16 individuals) while **men represented 68%** (36 individuals). One individual (2% of the respondents) identified as two-spirit.

Reason for Housing Loss

The category **“addiction/substance abuse” was the highest cited reason for housing loss at 26 times (35% of respondents)** with respondents also citing lack of income, conflict with spouse or parents and unfit/unsafe housing. Not enough income was the second highest cited reason for housing loss at 18 times (24% of respondents). Respondents were able to cite multiple reasons for a total of 143 responses.

Patterns of Service Use

Ambulance and Hospital services was among the most cited accessed services at 106 times combined. In addition, 25 of the respondents had used housing services and 21 respondents used food services. Respondents were able to cite multiple resources for total of 260 responses.

Health of People Experiencing Homelessness

Most of the respondents indicated they live with some form of a health condition (90%). Addiction, medical conditions/illness, and physical disability constitute the main concerns. 73% reported living with addictions, 27% reported a general medical condition, 20% of the respondents reported living with a physical disability. Most respondents reported having

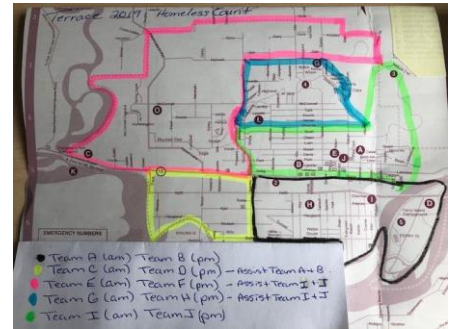
multiple, concurrent health issues.

Sources of Income

There was a wide range of income sources among the respondents. 43% received income from Income Assistance, followed by 19% earning an income from disability benefit.

Planning Map of Terrace, BC utilized for 2021 Homeless Count

We relied on expertise and experience from past homeless counts and adjusted the 2019 PiT map for our use this year.



For next year: we plan to use a fresh map and change up the route. Some recommendations from the team are to reduce the time spent on the bench and double/triple up the downtown core. The team in that area found that they could use help and the outlying areas including the bench, found no persons [willing] to do the survey.

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Glossary of Terms and Definitions

Affordable Rental Housing: For people who have low-to-moderate income but may not be eligible for subsidized housing. Rents are equal to, or lower than, average rates in the private market. Housing is considered affordable when 30 per cent or less of your household's gross income goes towards paying for your housing costs.

BC Housing (BCH): Develops, manages, and administers a range of subsidized housing options and programs across BC.

Capacity Expansion Shelter (CES): Shelters that have been extended temporarily due to the COVID19 pandemic.

Encampment: Any area where an individual or group of people live in homelessness together, often in tents or other temporary structures. Also referred to as homeless camps, tent cities, homeless settlements, or informal settlements. An encampment contains one or more tents/temporary structures.

Extreme Weather Response (EWR): Shelters are activated when conditions are deemed severe enough to present a substantial threat to the life and/or health of people who are homeless.

Homelessness: Homelessness describes the situation of an individual, family or community without stable, safe, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it. It is the result of systemic or societal barriers, a lack of affordable and appropriate housing, the individual/household's financial, mental, cognitive, behavioural or physical challenges, and/or racism and discrimination. Most people do not choose to be homeless, and the experience is generally negative, unpleasant, unhealthy, unsafe, stressful and distressing.

Homeless Prevention Program (HPP): Is an initiative aimed at providing individuals in identified at-risk groups facing homelessness with portable rent supplements and support services to help them access rental housing in the private (non-subsidized) housing market.

Indigenous identity: Refers to whether the respondent identifies with a First Nations peoples of Canada. This includes those who reported being a First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or those who reported Registered or Treaty Indian status that is registered under the Indian Act of Canada and/or those who reported membership in a First Nation or Indian band. Aboriginal peoples of Canada are defined in the constitution Act, 1982,

Section 35 (2) as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.¹

LGBTQ2+: Individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit or questioning.

Magnet Event: An event that might draw individuals who fit the demographic criteria for the Count.

No answer/not known: In many tables there is a line for ‘no answer/not known’. This includes both individuals who declined to answer a question but who may have completed the rest of the survey, and those individuals who did not answer the survey at all but were counted through shelter statistics forms.

No fixed address (NFA) locations: Includes jails, detox centres and hospitals/short-term medical facilities; individuals are included in “Sheltered” unless broken out differently in specific tables.

Seniors: Individuals aged 55 and older.

Sheltered: Sheltered refers to all individuals in the Count who were identified as homeless and who stayed overnight on the night of April 19th in an emergency shelter, or a transition house for women and children fleeing violence. It also includes individuals with no fixed address who were staying temporarily in a hospital, jail, or detox facility the night of April 19th, unless this information is detailed differently in specific tables.

Shelters: Includes shelters (emergency shelters, capacity expansion, temporary nightly shelters, extreme weather response shelters and other shelter programs), safe houses and transition houses.

Supportive Housing: Subsidized housing with on-site supports for single adults, seniors, and people living with disabilities at risk of or experiencing homelessness. These supports help folks find and maintain stable housing.

Unsheltered: The unsheltered respondents include all individuals in the count who completed a street survey on April 20th and who had no formal physical shelter overnight on April 19th (i.e. were staying outside, in alleys, doorways, camps, parks, and vehicles). It also includes folks who were staying temporarily at someone else’s place (couch surfing) overnight on April 19th, and who were interviewed on the street or at an event or service on April 20th.

Introduction

The 2021 City of Terrace Homeless Count was structured after the “Point-in-Time” (PiT) survey method, providing only a “snap-shot” of a population of folks experiencing homelessness within the municipal boundaries of the City of Terrace. This glimpse into homelessness in the community of Terrace began on the evening of the 19th and ended the evening of the 20th of April, encompassing a 24-hour period.

The purpose of the count was to provide an understanding into the nature and the scope of homelessness in Terrace. The Point-in-Time method represents a minimum number of individuals who may be experiencing homelessness as a baseline.

During the 2021 Terrace Homeless Count, information was collected from folks who did not have a place of their own where they could expect to stay for more than 30 days and/or where they were not paying rent. This included folks who:

1. Stayed outside the night of April 19th, camping, in a car, sleeping rough, etc. or stayed temporarily indoors with others, either “couch surfing” or “crashing”.
2. Stayed the night of April 19th in the Capacity Expansion Shelter, Ksan Residence & Shelter, and the Ksan Transition House.

Homeless Counts have been conducted in the City of Terrace since 2014. Each count has provided variant numbers in terms of the population of individuals who experience homelessness.

The 2021 City of Terrace Homeless Count was led by Ksan House Society. Ksan operates multiple local shelters including Ksan Residence & Shelter (emergency shelter), Ksan Transition House (transition house for women and children fleeing violence) and the Capacity Expansion Shelter (temporary shelter). Ksan is one of the leading social service organizations in Terrace, with 3 primary foci of service delivery: housing and homelessness, anti violence programming, and food security and sustainability.

This is the first year that a shelter operator has led the homeless count in Terrace. Ksan is in a unique position to conduct the city’s homeless count because of the nature of our programming and the ability of shelter staff to provide surveys through the 24-hour period. In the past, surveys would be delivered to our shelters and picked up before the 24-hr period was completed. This year, Ksan staff counted folks in the Shelter environment over the entire 24-hour period instead of just the evening prior to the Street count, surveying folks who ‘drop-in’

or are referred to as NRS's (Non-Resident Supports). For instance, in a 24-hour period the Capacity Expansion Shelter supports up to 50 individuals but of those 50, only approximately 23 will have spent the night.

The 2021 City of Terrace Homeless Count was strengthened by the training provided by the Homelessness Services Association of BC to Ksan's leadership. We learned that training sessions are essential for all staff, and plan to incorporate a more thorough training for shelter staff and volunteers for the street count. This count was able to utilize standardized survey forms created for the 2021 Provincial Homeless Count, which enables the data obtained to be consistent, as much as possible, year to year, across the province.

This report and presentation will provide the findings of this "snap-shot" in time. Comparisons between data from previous years is included for the sake of context and understanding trends.

The Challenging Task of Estimating Homelessness

The Point-In-Time (PiT) methodology estimates a minimum number of folks who identify as living in homelessness over a 24-hour period.

1. Visible Homeless: the PiT survey counts only a select portion of Terrace's homeless population. This population is referred to as the "visible" homeless. The analogy of an iceberg has been used in previous reports, and we believe it is still a good reflection of the realities of the homeless count in Terrace. Where it is likely that many or most folks living in homelessness live below the waterline and the "visible" homeless exists above the waterline, the focus of this report is limited to counting folks who are considered "visibly" homeless.

A volunteer counter: *A limitation (or even potential consequence of the survey?) of focusing on visible homeless (i.e., living outside), is it adds to the stigma that homeless are "poor, drug addicts, mental health patients, can't manage responsibilities, etc..." – it limits the scope and fails to capture all the reasons, especially external reasons, why people can be homeless/unhoused.*

2. Hidden Homeless: Not included in this report, or the data collected, are the "hidden homeless". The "hidden homeless" are individuals and/or families who do not



have a regular address in which they have security of tenure. This group may be staying temporarily in another household (couch surfing). Respondents who indicated that they were couch surfing were included in the Street Survey. Other “hidden homeless” may choose to remain secluded within bush camps or abandoned homes or buildings, or actively avoid contact with the public, service providers and the police. Numerous people who were approached by the Homeless count team declined to be surveyed for various reasons. The 2021 count only included folks found during the 24-hour survey window who agreed to complete the survey.

3. **At Risk:** Also, not included in this report, or the data collected, are those individuals “at risk” of becoming homeless. A myriad of factors can put an individual, or family, at risk of becoming homeless. Job loss, unmanaged addiction, violence, or the threat of violence, difficult health issues and mental health concerns can all put strains on an individual’s ability to maintain housing. Financial issues are most commonly cited as putting an individual or family “at risk” of homelessness.

**reports from Ksan’s Homeless Prevention Worker are also of help to determine folks at risk of becoming homeless. This data is captured in other BCH reports.

Other challenges emerged during the homeless count that may have impacted the collection of data for this report:

From a volunteer counter: *We did the downtown area and that day there seemed to be a high police presence. Between the police and security near CES, we watched several people scatter and were not able to even approach them to ask if they wanted to participate.*

April 20th saw the delivery of Government child tax benefits, which may have taken folks off the street.

COVID19 Pandemic

Declaration of the COVID19 pandemic took place on Mar 12, 2020. The City of Terrace and Ksan House Society was in the planning stages of the Point-in-Time count to be conducted in April 2020 but could not continue due to the COVID19 pandemic.

The seasonal Extreme Weather Response shelter was closed on March 31, 2020; however, the provincial government provided shelter operators with funding for Capacity Expansion Shelters across the province, in response to the pandemic. In Terrace, funding was granted for 24-hour operation in December 2020.

On December 4th, 2020, Ksan House Society opened the Extreme Weather Shelter at an alternate location, operating 16 hours per day, 4:30pm-7:30am. It closed on March 31, 2021.

On April 20th volunteers conducting the Street Survey did not come across any encampments as would typically have seen in previous years. One could assume this was due to the Capacity Expansion Shelter being in operation.

The Capacity Expansion Shelter continues to operate with an extension until March 31, 2022.

New Housing in Terrace

Since the last homeless count in Terrace in April 2019, there was the completion of 3 new housing developments with a total of 119 new units.

- On May 1, 2019, Stone Ridge Estates, 45 units of affordable housing opened their doors to new tenants.
- On June 25, 2019, Sonder House, 52 unit of supportive housing saw new tenants.
- On November 15, 2019, Cedars Housing, 22 bachelor units for low-income individuals opened its doors.

With these new housing options in Terrace, one would deduce that the number of folks living in homelessness in Terrace would decrease since the last homeless count. Instead, the number increased from 71 to 74.

Findings

1. The Minimum Number of Folks Experiencing Homelessness in Terrace

This section provides an overview of the total number of people counted in the 2021 Homeless Count in the City of Terrace. It also includes data from previous Terrace Homeless Counts, where available, to identify trends.

1.1. Total Population Experiencing Homelessness Included in the Point in Time Count

We recorded a minimum of 74 individuals living in homelessness in Terrace for the 24-hour period starting 7pm on April 19th – 7pm April 20th. Of those, 56 were sheltered in one of the local shelters and 18 individuals were enumerated through the Street Survey.

Of the 56 individuals counted, 27 spent the night at the Capacity Expansion Shelter, 19 at Ksan Residence and Shelter and 10 at the Transition House. Each of these shelters regularly operates at or near capacity. No data was obtained from the RCMP as no persons met the screening criteria. No data was obtained from folks who spent the night in the hospital.

Table 1: Sheltered or Unsheltered

| Sheltered or Unsheltered Homeless | Number of Individuals | Percentage |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Unsheltered | 18 | 24% |
| Capacity Expansion Shelter | 27 | 36% |
| Ksan Residence & Shelter | 19 | 26% |
| Ksan Transition House | 10 | 14% |
| RCMP Cells & Hospital | 0 | 0% |
| Total | 74 | 100% |

1.1.2. Trend: Past to Present

Table 2 puts together data from each of the available Terrace Homeless Counts. The differing methodologies associated with the data collection year to year must be considered as a factor when making comparisons based on data from Table 2.

Table 2: Sheltered or Unsheltered: Year over Year Trends

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Avg. | 2021 | 2021 Compared to Average |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Sheltered | 21 | 33 | 36 | 21 | 68 | 22 | 33.5 | 56 | +22.5 |
| Unsheltered | 41 | 30 | 44 | 31 | 28 | 49 | 37 | 18 | -19 |
| Unknown | 5 | 10 | 18 | 11 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 67 | 73 | 98 | 63 | 96 | 71 | 71 | 74 | +3 |

Note: the unknown category of past counts was eliminated in 2018. Recording observed or perceived homelessness (i.e. someone asleep in the park who may appear homeless) relies on subjective judgment of the survey taker and inserts the potential for double counting thus is not a technique utilized in the 2021 Count.

2. Profile of Folks Experiencing Homelessness in Terrace in 2021

2.1. Gender

During the homeless count participants were asked to self-identify their gender. Among the respondents, the majority identified as MAN, at 68% while WOMAN respondents represented 30% of the respondent population, and 2% identified as NON-BINARY.

A separate question asked about trans experience. (Gender identity is different than how they were born). One respondent out of 53 identified as someone with trans experience.

Table 3: Gender

| GENDER | Number of Individuals | Percentage |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Man | 36 | 68% |
| Woman | 16 | 30% |
| Non-Binary | 1 | 2% |
| Total Respondents | 53 | |

2.2. Trend re: Gender

The year over year trend of female respondents appears stable, with five less WOMAN respondents in 2021 than the 6-year average. The number of MAN respondents in 2021 is less than the 6-year average in a manner similar to the trends in the overall numbers, with 17 less MAN respondents in 2021 than the 6-year average.

Table 4: Gender: Year over Year Trends

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Average | 2021 | 2021 compared to average |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Man | 45 | 45 | 76 | 40 | 68 | 43 | 53 | 36 | -17 |
| Woman | 21 | 28 | 37 | 21 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 16 | -11 |
| Non-Binary | | | | | | | | 1 | |

2.3. Age Groups

This category presents demographic information related to age. The 30-39 years of age category held the highest number of respondents with 32%. Adults ranging 19-29 years of age was the second highest with 26%.

Table 5: Age Groups

| AGE GROUPS | Number of Individuals | Percentage |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Youth (<18) | 0 | 0% |
| Adults (19-29) | 18 | 26% |
| Adults (30-39) | 22 | 32% |
| Adults (40-49) | 13 | 19% |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Adults (50-59) | 10 | 14% |
| Seniors (60+) | 6 | 9% |
| Total Respondents | 69 | 100% |
| Don't Know/No Answer | 5 | |

2.4. Indigenous Identity

In this category, respondents were asked to self-identify as indigenous or nonindigenous. The majority of respondents, at 87%, affirmed their indigeneity.

From an Indigenous staff observer: *I wanted to mention that overcrowding is a serious problem, especially among Indigenous people – often people leave their home communities due to overcrowding only to find themselves in similar situations in the urban areas. In the urban areas the landlords have limitations to the amount of time that people can have overnight guests, so they are constantly on the move looking for a place to stay so that their friends and families don't get evicted.*

Table 6: Indigenous Identity

| INDIGENOUS IDENTITY | Number of Respondents | Percentage |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Indigenous | 45 | 87% |
| Not Indigenous | 7 | 13% |
| Total Respondents | 52 | 100% |

2.5. Length of Time Homeless

Table 7 shows the length of time for which respondents have gone without a place of their own. 66% of folks have experienced homelessness for one or more years.

Table 7: Length of Time Respondents Have gone Without a Place of Their Own

| LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS | Number of Individuals | Percentage |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Days | 1 | 2% |
| Weeks | 7 | 14% |
| Months | 12 | 25% |
| 1 or more Years | 29 | 59% |
| Total Respondents | 49 | 100% |

2.6. Length of Time in Terrace

50 individuals responded to the question related to length of time in the community. Only 12 (24%) reported being in Terrace for less than a year. Table 8 shows that 76% of individuals living in homeless, who responded to the survey, have been in Terrace for 1 year or more.

From a volunteer counter: *Many reports from folks indicate that they moved to Terrace looking for work and had nowhere to live.*

Table 8: Length of Time in Terrace

| LENGTH OF TIME IN COMMUNITY | Number of Individuals | Percentage |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Under 1 Year | 12 | 24% |
| Years | 24 | 48% |
| Always lived here | 14 | 28% |
| Total Respondents | 50 | 100% |

2.7. Where Folks Lived Before Coming to Terrace

Table 9: Community before coming to Terrace

| COMMUNITY BEFORE COMING TO TERRACE | Number of Individuals |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Kitimat | 5 |
| New Aiyansh | 4 |
| Hazelton | 4 |
| Greenville | 3 |
| Prince Rupert | 3 |
| Prince George | 3 |
| Vancouver | 2 |
| Calgary, Alberta | 2 |
| Montreal | 2 |
| Kincolith | 1 |
| Kispiox | 1 |
| Smithers | 1 |
| Stewart | 1 |
| Iskut | 1 |
| Canyon City | 1 |
| Chilliwack | 1 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Clinton | 1 |
| Gibson | 1 |
| Surrey | 1 |
| White Rock | 1 |
| Williams Lake | 1 |
| Brockville, Ontario | 1 |
| MY LAND | 1 |
| Total Respondents | 42 |

From a volunteer counter: *I spoke with someone whose car broke down when they came to Terrace, and they couldn't afford to fix it or get home. Another person told me they chose to leave their home reserve because it was very unhealthy, and they wanted to have a better life.*

2.8. Health Conditions

Respondents were asked to identify health conditions that impact their lives. The opportunity was available to provide an answer in more than one category. Addiction was most cited by individuals surveyed.

Table 10: Health Conditions

| HEALTH CONDITIONS <i>(more than 1 possible)</i> | Number of Responses | Percentage <i>(Based upon number of respondents, not responses)</i> |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Addiction | 36 | 75% |
| Mental illness | 15 | 31% |
| Medical condition | 16 | 33% |
| Physical disability | 13 | 27% |
| Total Respondents | 48 | |

2.9. Main Sources of Income

Surveyed individuals were asked to report their main sources of income. More than one answer was allowed in this category. Income Assistance was the highest cited category at 32 times as noted in Table 11.

There was a wide range of income sources. Details regarding the category “other” were not gathered in this report.

Table 11: Main Sources of Income

| MAIN SOURCES OF INCOME <i>(More than 1 possible)</i> | Number of Responses | Percentage <i>(Based upon number of respondents, not responses)</i> |
|--|----------------------------|---|
| Income assistance | 32 | 48% |
| Disability benefit | 14 | 21% |
| Binning | 7 | 10% |
| GST/HST | 4 | 6% |
| Employment insurance | 4 | 6% |
| Friends/family | 4 | 6% |
| Other | 4 | 6% |
| No income | 3 | 4% |
| Part-time employment | 3 | 4% |
| Casual Job | 3 | 4% |
| Panhandling | 3 | 4% |
| Full-time employment | 2 | 3% |
| Canada Pension Plan/Pension | 2 | 3% |
| Old Age Security /Guaranteed Income Supplement | 1 | 1% |
| Vending | 1 | 1% |
| Total Respondents | 67 | |

2.10. Reasons for Housing Loss

A wide range of reasons for housing loss are evident from Table 12. The most cited reason (26 times) is related to addiction. Not Enough Income was the second highest reason at 18 times.

Table 12: Reasons for Housing Loss

| REASONS FOR HOUSING LOSS <i>(More than 1 possible)</i> | Number of Responses | Percentage <i>(Based upon number of respondents, not responses)</i> |
|--|----------------------------|---|
| Addiction | 26 | 39% |
| Not enough income | 18 | 27% |
| Conflict with Spouse/Partner | 13 | 19% |
| Unfit Housing Conditions | 12 | 18% |
| Mental Health | 7 | 10% |
| Experienced abuse by spouse/partner | 7 | 10% |
| Physical Health | 6 | 9% |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----|
| Death or Departure of Family Member | 6 | 9% |
| Landlord Conflict | 5 | 7% |
| Left Community | 5 | 7% |
| Hospitalization | 5 | 7% |
| Other | 5 | 7% |
| Conflict with Parent/Guardian | 5 | 7% |
| Conflict with Other | 4 | 6% |
| Discrimination | 4 | 6% |
| Complaint | 4 | 6% |
| Experienced abuse by parent/guardian | 3 | 4% |
| House Sold or Renovated | 2 | 3% |
| Total Respondents | 67 | |

2.11. Patterns of Service Use

Homeless Count Survey participants were asked about their use of services in the City of Terrace. Respondents were invited to provide more than 1 answer to the question. Of those who answered this question, 58% claimed to utilize emergency room services, 55% reported using non-emergency hospital services, and 48% said they used ambulance services.

Participants were invited to name multiple services used.

Table 13: Patterns of Service Use

| SERVICES USED IN LAST 12 MONTHS <i>(More than 1 possible)</i> | Number of Individuals | Percentage <i>(Based upon number of respondents, not responses)</i> |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Emergency Room | 38 | 58% |
| Hospital/medical <i>(nonemergency)</i> | 36 | 55% |
| Ambulance | 32 | 48% |
| Housing Services | 25 | 38% |
| Food Services | 21 | 32% |
| Mental Health | 20 | 30% |
| Health Clinic | 20 | 30% |
| Other Addiction Services | 17 | 26% |
| Employment Services | 16 | 24% |
| Legal Services | 14 | 21% |
| Dentist | 9 | 14% |
| Supervised Injection | 5 | 8% |
| Total Respondents | 66 | |

2.12. In Care

50% of those individuals who responded to this question claimed to have been in the care of child services or foster care. 50% cited never having spent time in care.

Table 14: Foster Care

| FOSTER CARE | Number of Individuals | Percentage |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Yes | 24 | 50% |
| No | 24 | 50% |
| Total Respondents | 48 | 100% |

2.13 Age First Time Homeless

Table 16 reports the age at which a respondent claimed they initially experienced homelessness. 45% of the respondents reported experiencing being homeless for the first time before they reached the age of 25.

From a volunteer observer: *I was surprised to learn recently that it is quite a frequent occurrence for youth to be “kicked out” of their homes. This was shared with me by a 14 yr. old junior high student who has friends that are regularly kicked out of their homes by their parents. I am wondering where these kids go when they get kicked out as there are no shelters for youth.*

Table 15: First Time Homeless

| AGE FIRST TIME HOMELESS | Number of Respondents | Percentage |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Youth (<25) | 22 | 45% |
| Adults (25 - 54 years) | 23 | 47% |
| Seniors (>55 years) | 4 | 8% |
| Total Respondents | 49 | 100% |

Count Methodology

3. Methodology

This section describes elements of the methodology of the 2021 Terrace Homeless Count.

3.1. Surveys

On the evening of April 19th, 2021, staff from Ksan shelters gathered data using a paper-based survey designed by BC Housing and the Homelessness Services Association of BC. The RCMP was asked to report out on the number of individuals in cells with no fixed address.

The survey was specifically designed for those individuals utilizing shelter services and is referred to as the “Shelter” survey.

The following day, a similar survey designed to screen out those counted in the shelters the night before was utilized by staff and volunteers for Ksan Society. This survey is referred to as the “Street” survey. Both the sheltered and street surveys were designed and tested to be statistically valid and reliable regarding the data being collected.

3.2. Planning: This Year and Next

Prior to the day of the count, Ksan Society and the City of Terrace determined the 19th and 20th of April would be an appropriate Homeless Count date.

Given that this was the first year Ksan Society conducted the PiT count for the City of Terrace, we had no experience of our own to structure the count. We gathered staff and volunteers in a short time frame and relied heavily on reports from previous years to guide our processes.

We held a follow up meeting to debrief the process and made some changes for next year’s count. We adjusted previous safety plans, volunteer agreements, routes, start times, travel kits for volunteers, sample introductory comments, and considered better timing for the count (not on government payment dates).

We scheduled a date early next year to start the planning again and created a timeline to ensure we have planned appropriate coverage with the media and made requests of all applicable organizations such as Torca (to request flagging of the trails). This year, the media was insistent upon interviewing staff, volunteers, and folks being interviewed, while we requested that they did not.

A magnet event was used in previous counts to appeal to folks who might be living in homelessness. Due to the COVID19 pandemic, a magnet event was not planned, but we intend on using such an event for the 2022 count.

Prior to the day of the count, Ksan Society determined zones of coverage using the 2019 homeless count city map to ensure all areas within the Municipal boundaries would be covered. We plan to change up the coverage of the routes in response to staff and volunteer feedback of needing more help in the downtown area and less coverage in the outlying areas such as the bench. In addition, we will invite City Council and By Law to participate in the count and elicit support from By Law when creating the new map routes.

Staff and volunteers underwent very little formal training to familiarize themselves with the survey tool and to practice the survey questions. The training session for leadership was facilitated by the Homeless Services Association of BC and was very informative and helpful. Next year, leadership plans to better train shelter staff and volunteers.

On the day of the count, the staff and volunteers reviewed the guidelines related to confidentiality and emphasized the importance of safety for everyone. We paired staff and volunteers with anyone who was more experienced if possible.

We plan to incorporate yearly trends for other areas into this report (where information is available) and inform RCMP and Security about the impact of their presence downtown on the day of the count. The city also mentioned it would be helpful to know what kind of employment folks were looking to gain if they came to Terrace looking for work. We will consider adding this question if we have additional questions next year.

3.3. Point in Time Counts

A PiT Count allows a community to better understand the nature and extent of homelessness and the characteristics of the homeless population. Such counts support better planning and may allow communities to assess their progress in reducing homelessness.

A PiT Count is a snapshot: the success and accuracy of the numbers and information gathered depend on the thoroughness of the methods and participation by stakeholders.

A PiT Count is just one data collection strategy among many. Homelessness management information systems, such as Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS), shelter bed counts, registry weeks, Homeless Prevention Program (HPP), and other research methodologies provide complementary information.

While a comprehensive PiT Count offers important information about a community, the count cannot provide an exact number of people experiencing homelessness in any given community.

3.4. Benefits of Point-in-Time Counts

PiT Counts provide critical information to help guide local, provincial, and national responses to homelessness. PiT Counts enable communities to measure their progress in reducing homelessness and test the efficacy of community interventions. PiT Counts provide vital benchmarks, especially in communities where systematic data on homelessness is sparse.

Counts can increase a community's ability to take action toward ending homelessness by:

- Identifying the characteristics of the local population.
- Increasing capacity to undertake a local needs assessment.
- Enhancing system planning and program development.
- Measuring progress toward ending homelessness.
- Increasing public awareness about homelessness.

3.5. Limitations

According to B.C. Non-Profit Housing Association & M. Thomson Consulting (2017), “Homeless Counts are inherently undercounts,” and the 2021 Terrace Homeless Count was no exception.

Despite best efforts to include everyone who was homeless during the Count, it is understood that some people who are homeless will be missed, and others may not want to participate.

A volunteer counter: *“The survey inherently undercounts persons living in precarious housing (at their own expense), such as the individuals who have paid for the accommodation but are in no way guaranteed permanency. Reasons for this insecurity can be related to external or internal factors, including but not limited to, the safety, quality, or affordability of the dwelling, resulting in person’s frequently changing their address/location. **For example**, in our community, an individual has moved 72 times within the span of 5 years due to various circumstances outside of their control. Some instances included property that was not maintained by the owners placing the safety of the renters at risk and requests for unconventional means of rent by which the individual was responsible for tasks they were not comfortable fulfilling and were subject to eviction should they not comply. Homelessness is multi-dimensional; in order to depict a clear picture of how homeless is represented within a community, all aspects must be considered.”*

3.5.1. Hidden Homelessness

Service providers have expressed concern that the Homeless Count numbers significantly underestimate the number of individuals who are living in homelessness. Stigma regarding homelessness frequently impacts a person’s willingness to participate in the Homeless Count or to be identified as homeless.

The hidden homeless for the purpose of the Homeless Count includes people who are deep in forests or parks, in abandoned buildings, and couch surfing where volunteers don’t find them. Similarly, service providers have expressed concern that women who are homeless are undercounted. They may use coping strategies such as couch surfing or living in unsafe situations to avoid street homelessness.

3.5.2. Geography of Terrace

Terrace Mountain and many of the wooded areas throughout the city offer refuge to those who seek safety in seclusion. Wooded areas can also act as a guard for those who wish to avoid others. Count volunteers saw only 2 small camps, both were unattended at the time.

3.6 The Weather

Leading up to the 2021 Terrace Homeless Count, the weather was trending warm. The day of the street count on April 20th, temperatures were 19.3 degrees Celsius (high) and 0.3 degrees Celsius (low) with winds of 41 km/h (max.). Compared to the last homeless count on April 8th, 2019 which temperatures were 13 degrees Celsius (high) and 2.6 degrees Celsius (low) with winds of 39 km/h (max.)

3.7 Addendum: Additional Questions

We asked additional questions on the day of the count:

The first question, “*Have you been downtown and not had access to a washroom?*”, **83% responded yes.**

| Q #1: Have You Been Downtown and Not Had Access to a Washroom? | Number of Respondents | Percentage |
|--|-----------------------|------------|
| Yes | 60 | 83% |
| No | 12 | 17% |
| Total Respondents | 72 | 100% |

The second question, “*What brought you to Terrace?*”, had 57 respondents of which 17 (30%) came for family, and 15 (26%) responded that they were either born here, have always been here, or grew up here.

| Q #2: What Brought You to Terrace? |
|--|
| Family (17) 30% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family (x 6) • Family for the most part • Family and wanted a new beginning • To come visit family • Family; living in homelessness • Just to see family more • My parents • Help mother • Kids, ex-wife, court case • Grandfather’s birthday • Take care of family member but she passed away • Kids were here |
| From Terrace (15) 26% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born here (x 6) • Always been here; born here (x 2) • Been here all my life (x 2) • Coming Home • Grew up here • From Terrace • Lived here my entire life • Hometown – family-because of COVID, can’t live without them. Places are too small to live with anyone else. |
| Work (5) 9% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work (x 2) • Work, never panned out • Not much work in PR. Thought better chance in employment. • LNG 10 years ago |
| Medical (4) 7% |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addictions (x 2) • Medical (x 2) |

| | |
|--|----|
| End of Relationship (4) 7% | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave spouse – fleeing abuse (x 2) • End of relationship • My mom left our abusive father to start a better life for herself and children in the year 2000 | |
| Shelter (3) 5% | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No shelter in Kitimat • Living homeless • Came from Hazelton and living at Sonder House | |
| New Life (3) 5% | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New life (x 2) • Life | |
| Other (6) 10.5% | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends • I'm Canadian, I can be anywhere • I spent some ...[unreadable] • Walked • Everybody • More access to help | |
| Total # of Responses | 57 |

This year's report was compiled by Amanda Owens, Executive Director; Kylie Nelson, Executive Assistant; and Lisa Schmidt, Director of Counselling & Support Programs.

Sincerely,

Amanda Owens
Executive Director
Ksan Society

Survey #:

SHELTER Survey | 2021 Homeless Count



Interviewer Name: _____ Location: _____

PART 1: SCREENING

1. Are you willing to participate in the survey?

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

2. Have you already answered this survey today (with someone wearing a yellow button)?

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

3. Will you be sleeping here tonight?

- Yes (Go to Q.4)
- No (END)
- Don't know/No answer (END)

4. Do you currently have a place to stay where you pay monthly rent?

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

PART 2: SURVEY

Please read: For the next questions, homeless means: "you don't have a place of your own where you pay rent and can stay for 30 days".

5. How long have you been without a place of your own?
_____ Days _____ Weeks _____ Months _____ Years

- Don't know/No answer

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

Age _____ Year born _____

- Don't know/No answer

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

Age _____ Year _____

- Don't know/No answer

8. What gender do you identify with? [\[Show or read list & check one\]](#)

- Woman
- Non-binary
- Two-spirit
- Man
- Not listed. Specify: _____
- Don't know/No answer

9. Do you identify as someone with trans experience (your gender identity is different than how you were born)?

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

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

Yes. Check one:

- Immigrant (Go to Q.10a)
- Refugee (Go to Q.10a)
- Refugee Claimant (Go to Q.10a)
- No (Go to Q.11)
- Don't know/No answer (Go to Q.11)

10a. How long have you been in Canada?

_____ Days _____ Weeks _____ Months _____ Years

Or date of arrival: _____
Day Month Year

- Don't know/No answer

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

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

11.b) In addition to your response, what racial groups do you identify with (e.g. Black, South Asian, White, etc.)? [\[Check all that apply\]](#)

- Arab (e.g. Syrian, Egyptian, Yemeni)
- Asian – East (e.g. Chinese, Korean, Japanese)
- Asian – South-East (e.g. Vietnamese, Filipino)
- Asian – South and Indo Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Indo-Fijian)
- Asian – West (e.g. Iranian, Afghan, Turkish)
- Black – African (e.g. Ghanaian, Ethiopian, Nigerian)
- Black – Afro-Caribbean and Afro-Latinx (e.g. Jamaican, Trinidadian, Afro-Brazilian)
- Black – Canadian/American
- Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Mexican, Chilean, Cuban)
- White (e.g. European – English, Italian, Ukrainian, French, or Euro-Latinx)
- Not listed. Specify: _____
- Identify as Indigenous only
- Don't know
- No answer

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

- Yes. Check all that apply:
 - Partner/Spouse
 - Child(ren)/Dependents: How many? _____
 - Pets
 - Not listed. Specify: _____
- No
- Don't know/No Answer

PART 2: SURVEY (CONTINUED)

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

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

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

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

15. How long have you been in (city name)?

- ____ Days ____ Weeks ____ Months ____ Yrs (Go to Q.15a)
- Always been here (Go to Q.16)
 - Don't know/No answer (Go to Q.16)

15a. Where did you live before you came here (i.e. city)?

Community: _____ AND province: _____
OR country: _____

- Don't know/No answer

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

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

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

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

18. Have you stayed in a homeless shelter in the last 12 months?

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

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

- Ambulance
- Emergency room
- Hospital (non-emergency)
- Dental clinic or dentist
- Mental health services
- Supervised Injection Site
- (Other) addiction services
- Health clinic
- Food Services
- Legal Services
- Employment and Financial services
- Housing Services
- Other Services. Specify: _____
- Don't know/No answer

20. Have you ever had any service in the Canadian Forces? (Includes army, navy, airforce, RCMP). [Check all that apply]

- Yes, Canadian military (army, navy, airforce)
- Yes, RCMP
- No
- Don't know/No answer

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

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

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

A. Housing and Financial Issue:

- Not enough income for housing (e.g. Lost benefit, Income, or job)
- Unfit/unsafe housing condition
- Building sold or renovated
- Owner moved in
- Landlord/tenant conflict
- Complaint (e.g. Pets/noise/damage)
- Left the community

B. Interpersonal and Family Issues

- Conflict with: spouse / partner
- Conflict with: parent / guardian
- Conflict with: other: _____
- Experienced abuse by: spouse /partner
- Experienced abuse by: parent /guardian
- Experienced abuse by: other: _____
- Death or departure of family member
- Experienced discrimination

C. Health or Corrections

- Physical health issue
- Mental health issue
- Addiction/substance use issue
- Hospitalization or treatment program
- Incarceration (jail or prison)

D. Other

- Other reason: _____
- Don't know/No answer

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

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

24. In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR (the last 12 months)? (Best Estimate.)

- ____ Days ____ Weeks ____ Months
- Don't know/No answer

Survey #:

STREET Survey | 2021 Homeless Count



Interviewer Name: _____

Location: _____

PART 1: SCREENING

1. Are you willing to participate in the survey?

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

2. Have you already answered this survey today or last night (with someone wearing a yellow button)?

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

3. Do you currently have a place to stay where you pay monthly rent?

- Yes (Go to Q,4)
- No (Go to Q,4)
- Don't know/No answer (Go to Q,4)

4. Where did you stay last night?

- Outside (Go to Q,5)
- Makeshift shelter or tent (Go to Q,5)

Question continues in the next column ----->

- Abandoned/vacant building (Go to Q,5)
- Vehicle (car, van, RV, truck, boat). Specify vehicle: _____ (Go to Q,5)
- Shelter, Safe House, Transition House. Specify name: _____ (Go to Q,5)
- Detox/Hospital/Jail. Specify name: _____ (Go to Q,5)
- Someone else's place or couch-surfing (Go to Q,5)
- Parent(s) or guardian's house
 - I can safely stay as long as I want (END)
 - This is a temporary situation and I have a house or apartment I can safely return to (END)
 - This is a temporary situation and I do not have a house or apartment I can safely return to (Go to Q,5)
- Own place inside where you pay rent. Specify: _____ (END)
- Not listed. Specify: _____ (Go to Q,5)
- Don't know/No answer (END)

PART 2: SURVEY

Please read: For the next questions, homeless means: "you don't have a place of your own where you pay rent and can stay for 30 days".

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

- _____ Days _____ Weeks _____ Months _____ Years
- Don't know/No answer

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

- Age _____ Year born _____
- Don't know/No answer

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

- Age _____ Year _____
- Don't know/No answer

8. What gender do you identify with? [Show or read list & check one]

- Woman
- Non-binary
- Two-spirit
- Man
- Not listed. Specify: _____
- Don't know/No answer

9. Do you identify as someone with trans experience (your gender identity is different than how you were born)?

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

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

Yes. Check one:

- Immigrant (Go to Q,10a)
- Refugee (Go to Q,10a)
- Refugee Claimant (Go to Q,10a)
- No (Go to Q,11)
- Don't know/No answer (Go to Q,11)

10a. How long have you been in Canada?

_____ Days _____ Weeks _____ Months _____ Years

Or date of arrival: _____
Day Month Year

- Don't know/No answer

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

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

11.b) In addition to your response, what racial groups do you identify with (e.g. Black, South Asian, White, etc.)? [Check all that apply]

- Arab (e.g. Syrian, Egyptian, Yemeni)
- Asian – East (e.g. Chinese, Korean, Japanese)
- Asian – South-East (e.g. Vietnamese, Filipino)
- Asian – South and Indo Caribbean (e.g. Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Indo-Fijian)
- Asian – West (e.g. Iranian, Afghan, Turkish)
- Black – African (e.g. Ghanaian, Ethiopian, Nigerian)
- Black – Afro-Caribbean and Afro-Latinx (e.g. Jamaican, Trinidadian, Afro-Brazilian)
- Black – Canadian/American
- Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Mexican, Chilean, Cuban)
- White (e.g. European – English, Italian, Ukrainian, French; or Euro-Latinx)
- Not listed. Specify: _____
- Identify as Indigenous only
- Don't know
- No answer

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

- Yes. Check all that apply:
 - Partner/Spouse
 - Child(ren)/Dependents: How many? _____
 - Pets
 - Not listed. Specify: _____
- No
- Don't know/No Answer

PART 2: SURVEY (CONTINUED)

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

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

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

- Yes
 No
 Don't know/No answer

15. How long have you been in (city name)?

- Days _____ Weeks _____ Months _____ Yrs (Go to Q.15a)
 Always been here (Go to Q.16)
 Don't know/No answer (Go to Q.16)

15a. Where did you live before you came here (i.e. city)?

Community: _____ AND province: _____

OR country: _____

- Don't know/No answer

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

- Yes
 No
 Don't know/No answer

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

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

18. Have you stayed in a homeless shelter in the last 12 months?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know/No answer

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

- Ambulance
 Emergency room
 Hospital (non-emergency)
 Dental clinic or dentist
 Mental health services
 Supervised Injection Site
 (Other) addiction services
 Health clinic
 Food Services
 Legal Services
 Employment and Financial services
 Housing Services
 Other Services. Specify: _____
 Don't know/No answer

20. Have you ever had any service in the Canadian Forces? (Includes army, navy, airforce, RCMP). **[Check all that apply]**

- Yes, Canadian military (army, navy, airforce)
 Yes, RCMP
 No
 Don't know/No answer

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

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

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

A. Housing and Financial Issue:

- Not enough income for housing (e.g. Lost benefit, income, or job)
 Unfit/unsafe housing condition
 Building sold or renovated
 Owner moved in
 Landlord/tenant conflict
 Complaint (e.g. Pets/noise/damage)
 Left the community

B. Interpersonal and Family Issues

- Conflict with: spouse / partner
 Conflict with: parent / guardian
 Conflict with: other: _____
 Experienced abuse by: spouse /partner
 Experienced abuse by: parent /guardian
 Experienced abuse by: other: _____
 Death or departure of family member
 Experienced discrimination

C. Health or Corrections

- Physical health issue
 Mental health issue
 Addiction/substance use issue
 Hospitalization or treatment program
 Incarceration (jail or prison)

D. Other

- Other reason: _____
 Don't know/No answer

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

- Yes
 No
 Don't know/No answer

24. In total, for how much time have you experienced homelessness over the PAST YEAR (the last 12 months)? (Best Estimate.)

- Days _____ Weeks _____ Months _____
 Don't know/No answer