

2022 Saskatoon Point-in-Time Homelessness Count

HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY FINDINGS

Canada



COUNT RESULTS:

550

people counted without permanent shelter.



550 people including 26 children and 84 youth were counted as without permanent shelter:

Adults (47%)
Youth (15.3%)
Children (4.7%)
Seniors (0.9%)

Unspecified ages in observational and administrative data accounted for 32%. In depth insights were obtained from 121 surveyed people.

WHO IS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?



50%
males



42.7%
women



7.3%
gender diverse people



90.1%
Indigenous



1.7%
immigrant, refugee, or
refugee claimants

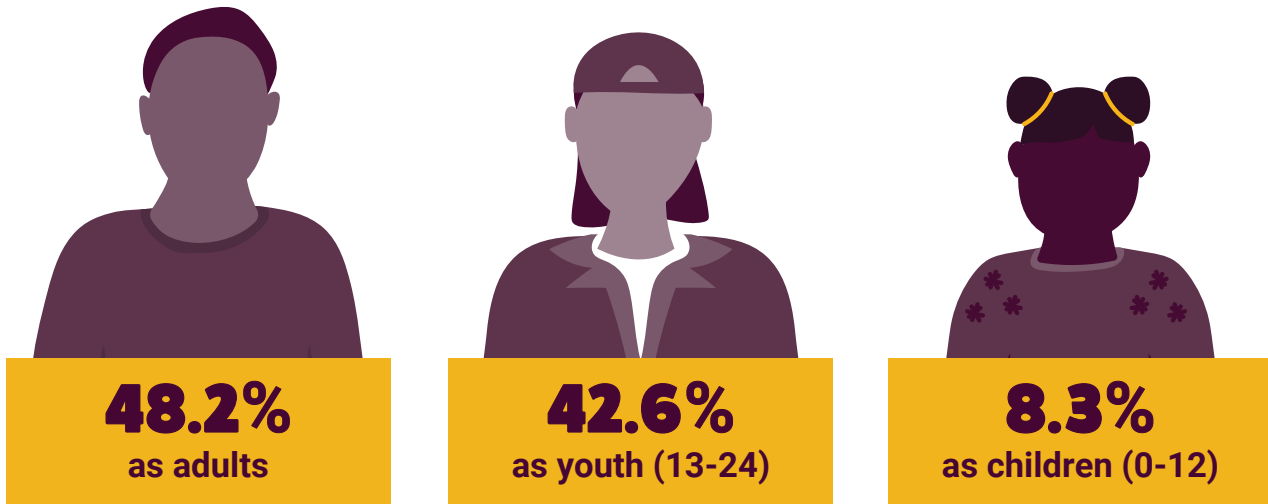


1.7%
military or RCMP

82.1% reported being straight or heterosexual; of 106 adults;
17.9% reported being bisexual, two-spirit, pansexual, asexual,
gay, or questioning.

54.8% had been in foster care

FIRST EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS



CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Reported chronic homelessness (without a permanent address for more than six months)

59%

Reported non-chronic homelessness

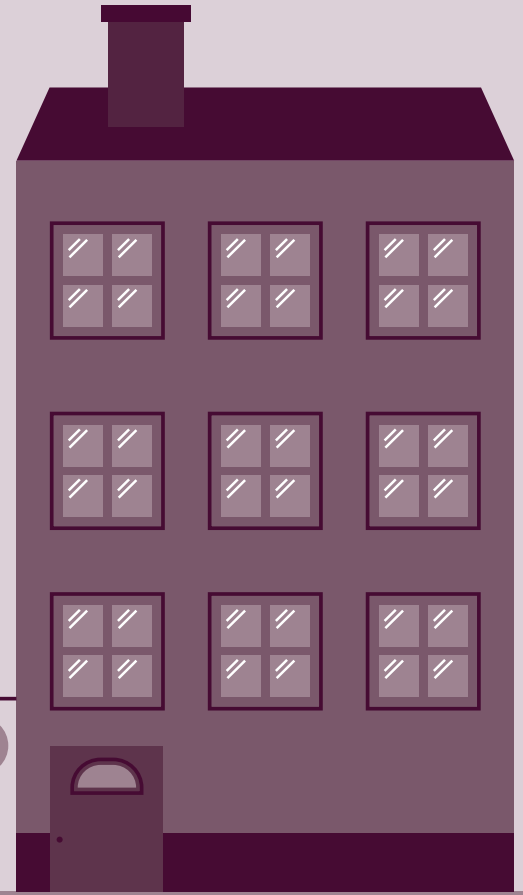
41%



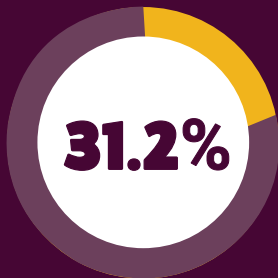
EMERGENCY SHELTER USE

Of those surveyed:

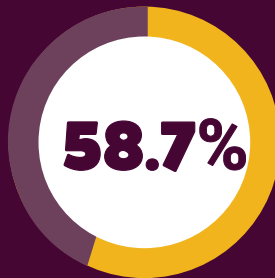
77% reported shelter use in the past year (up slightly from 72% in 2018) while 23% had not. This pattern is similar for adults and seniors (78% and 75% respectively), while **37.5% of youth did not use shelters.**



LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN SASKATOON



had "always" lived in Saskatoon



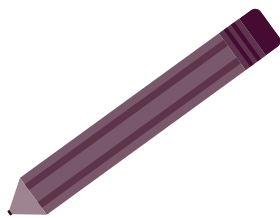
had been a resident for over 5 years

77.1%
migrated to Saskatoon from another location in Saskatchewan

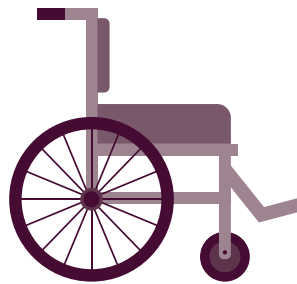
8.6%
came from Alberta

1.4%
came from outside Canada

HEALTH CHALLENGES



36%
reported learning or
cognitive limitations



48%
had a physical
limitation



53%
managed an illness
or medical condition



53%
experienced
residential school/
intergenerational
trauma



67%
had a
mental health
issue



86%
reported dealing
with a substance
abuse issue

CAUSES OF HOUSING LOSS

Housing and financial issues:

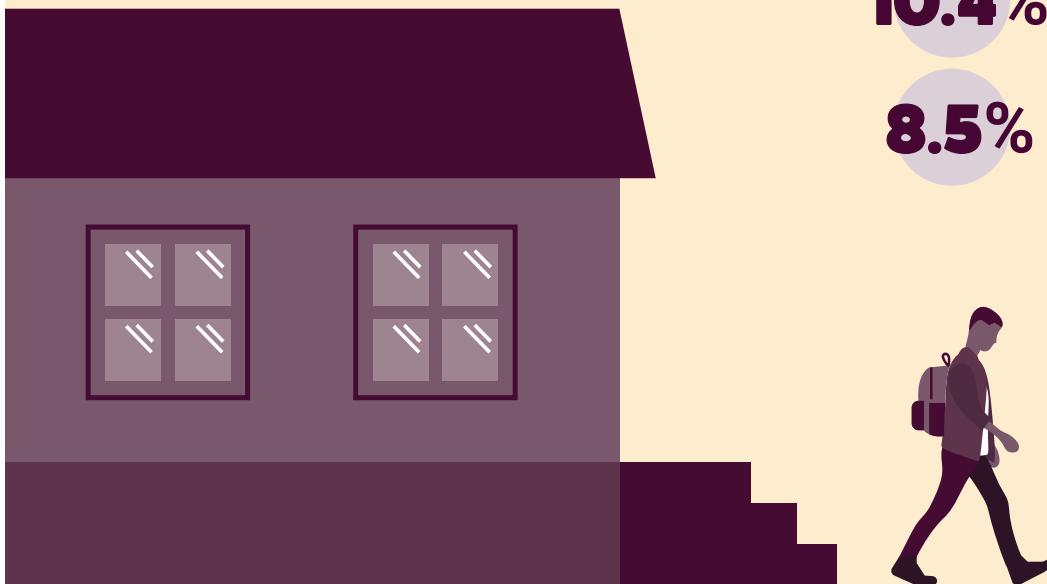
- 31.4%** insufficient income
- 14.2%** conflicts with landlords
- 10%** unfit/unsafe housing
- 4.7%** discrimination
- 4.7%** complaints
- 5.7%** left the community

Interpersonal and family issues (leading reasons):

- 13.2%** conflict with spouse/partner
- 12.3%** conflict with friend/roommate
- 5.7%** conflict with parent/guardian

Health or corrections category:

- 19.8%** substance use
- 12.3%** mental health
- 10.4%** incarceration
- 8.5%** physical health





14.3%

highlighted that
COVID contributed
to housing loss



47.9%

lost their housing in
the last 6 months



27.4%

lost their housing
6-12 months earlier



19.2%

lost their housing
1-5 years earlier



COVID-19 AND HOUSING LOSS



SOURCES OF INCOME



61.1% Welfare or social assistance
21.1% Informal income such as panhandling, and bottle returns
16.8% Disability benefits
15.8% GST/HST refunds

7.4% Family and friends
6.3% Child and family tax benefits
4.2% Seniors' benefits
1.1% Veteran benefits



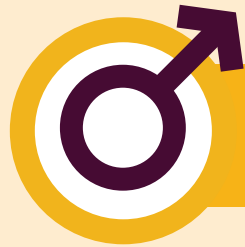
EDUCATION PROFILE



36.5% had completed some high school
26.9% had completed high school
10.6% had some post-secondary
15.4% had graduated post-secondary
1% had graduate degrees



VICTIM OF VIOLENCE WHILE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



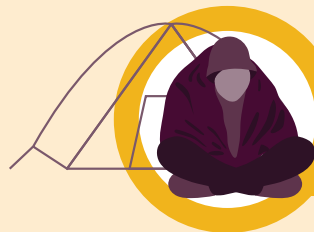
70% men

63.6% women



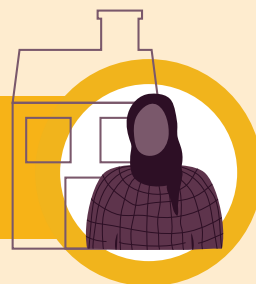
100% transgender people

67.7% two-spirit people



70.8% unsheltered

70.7% sheltered



HOUSING SERVICES AND BARRIERS TO HOUSING



68.1%
More money



60.3%
getting help to find
affordable places



52.6%
assistance with housing
applications



50.9%
help with transportation
to see housing



48.3%
help getting I.D.



37.1%
Mental health
support



31%
help in addressing
health needs



31.9%
harm reduction
support



22.4%
managing
alcohol issues



20.7%
disability
accessibility

SERVICES USED

73% Libraries

72.9% Shelters

62% Emergency rooms

59.3% Hospital

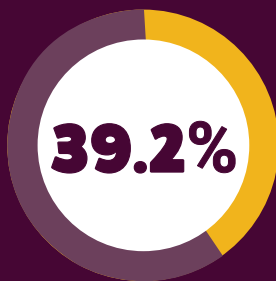
58.5% Food bank

52.3% Health clinics

44.9% Drop-ins



WAITING LIST FOR HOUSING



reported being on a waiting list for housing



had spent between 60 and 100 days on the waiting list

Top three housing providers:

23.8%
Quint

14.3%
Saskatoon Housing Coalition

9.5%
SaskNative Rentals

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Some identified a **lack of affordable housing, need for more shelter funding and transitional housing, Housing First, housing with mental health supports, and more options throughout the city.** Practically, they pointed to better damage deposit and inspection policies, more health supports, including mental health supports. **Overall, they wanted less judgment, less talk, and more action.**



**LESS JUDGMENT.
LESS TALK.
MORE ACTION.**



PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF HOMELESSNESS

Housed (87.9%) and unhoused (88.5%) were equally clear on the seriousness of homelessness in Saskatoon.

The top five reasons given for homelessness were:



The public perception of those most at risk for experiencing homelessness are anyone and everyone, those with mental health issues, people with disabilities, youth, single parents, First Nations, Indigenous people, people with addictions, and unemployed individuals — a list at odds with the findings on the deeply troubling overrepresentation of Indigenous peoples.

More affordable housing was the top response to the question “what can Saskatoon do to help reduce homelessness”. More shelters, services, programs, funding, and supports, mental health and addiction services, and building better housing were other important responses. The community also understands the importance of **increasing public awareness**.

What can Saskatoon do to help reduce homelessness?

More affordable housing!

Increase public awareness!



COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

432 - 221 Cumberland Avenue

Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3

Phone: 306.966.2121

Fax: 306.966.2122

<https://cuivr.usask.ca/>

