

# 2024 Point in time count findings



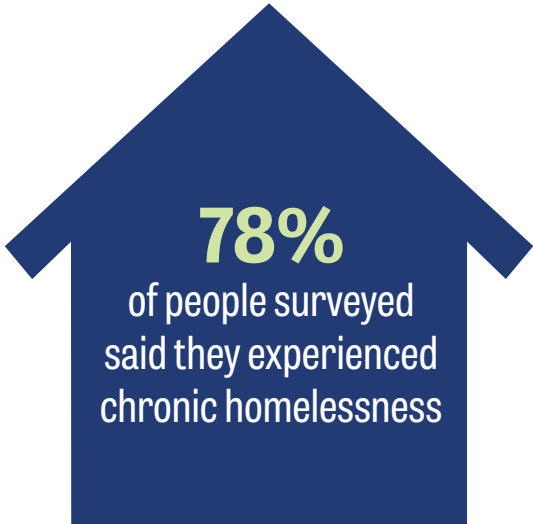
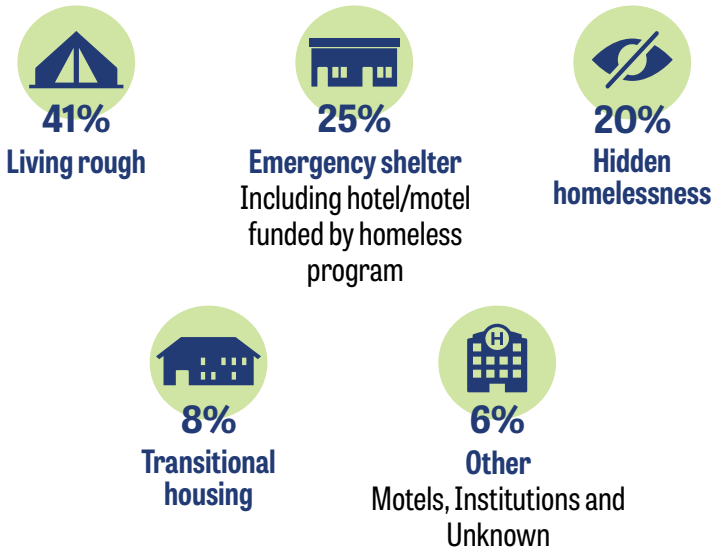
2371 people experiencing any type of homelessness were counted on October 22, 2024.

- 1009 people living rough (living in encampments, on the street, or staying in their vehicle)
- 446 people staying in an emergency shelter
- 353 people experiencing hidden homelessness (staying with friends or family, or temporary accommodations)
- 221 people staying in transitional housing
- 153 people staying in a motel funded by the Region
- 100 people in institutions (hospital, police custody)
- 89 people staying in unknown or undisclosed locations

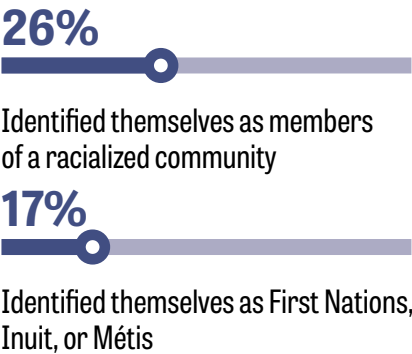
1790 people included in the point in time count filled out a survey. A summary of the responses they shared is outlined below.

## WHERE/HOW LONG

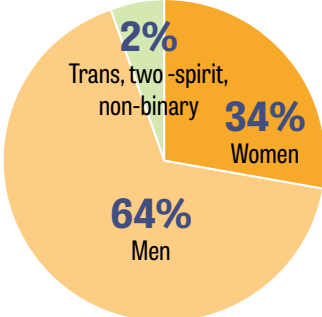
Where people are experiencing homelessness\*



### Racial identity

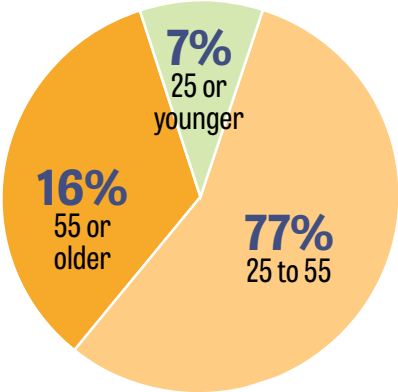


### Gender identity

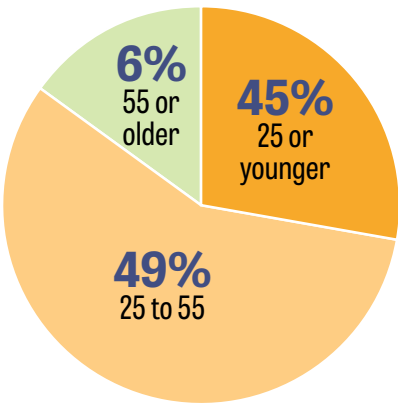


## WHO

Age of survey respondents



Age when people first experienced homelessness



\* The number of people experiencing homelessness in these locations differs from the numbers reported at the top of the page as this section reports on where survey respondents are experiencing homelessness - not everyone experiencing homelessness filled out a survey. Not everyone who participated in the survey answered every question. The percentages above are based on total responses for each question.

# EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS

## Top 5 reasons

people said caused their  
experience of homelessness

Not enough income for housing **(44%)**

Conflict with spouse / partner **(18%)**

Landlord / tenant conflict **(13%)**

Unfit / unsafe housing conditions **(12%)**

Substance use issues **(11%)**



## Health challenges reported by survey respondents

**72%**

Substance use

**70%**

Mental health

**44%**

Illness / medical condition

**29%**

Physical limitation

**28%**

Acquired brain injury

## Top 10 services that would be helpful



Finding affordable housing  
**(76%)**



Housing search support  
**(54%)**



Bus pass  
**(53%)**



Finding a job  
**(49%)**



Accessing income support (e.g. OW, EI)  
**(45%)**



Internet access  
**(42%)**



Getting ID  
**(41%)**



Outreach workers  
**(41%)**



Secure storage  
**(39%)**



Washrooms, showers  
**(39%)**



## Top 10 challenges to finding safe permanent housing

Low income **(80%)**

Rent too high **(78%)**

Addiction **(33%)**

No income assistance **(32%)**

Poor housing conditions **(31%)**

Mental health issues **(29%)**

Discrimination **(27%)**

Criminal history **(19%)**

Family breakdown / conflict **(18%)**

Physical health issues, accessibility **(16%)**

To learn more about Waterloo Region's Plan to End Chronic Homelessness, please visit:

[engagewr.ca/end-chronic-homelessness](https://engagewr.ca/end-chronic-homelessness)