

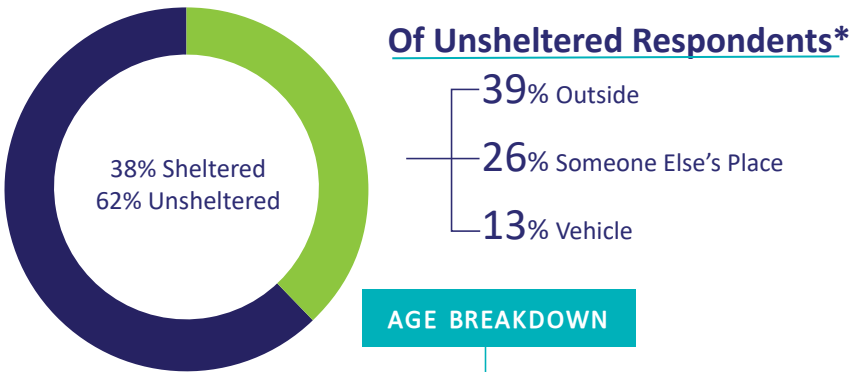
Port Alberni - 2023 Homeless Count

Point-in-Time (PiT) homeless counts provide a snapshot of people who are experiencing homelessness in a 24-hour period, their demographic characteristics, service use and other information.

163

People were identified as experiencing homelessness compared to 125 in 2021.

Where did individuals stay the night of the count?



AGE BREAKDOWN



Youth
Under 25



Adult
25-54



Senior
55+

GENDER



Man



Woman



Another
Gender
Identity

59%

Experienced homelessness
for the first time as a youth

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

18%

of respondents
identified as
2SLGBTQIA+

TRANS EXPERIENCE

3%

of respondents
identified as having
trans experience

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY

66%

of respondents
identified as
Indigenous

Compared with 15% of the Census
population

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

84%

of Indigenous-identifying respondents
reported having lived or generational
experience with residential school

RACIAL IDENTITY

1%
South East
Asian

1%
Black

1%
Latin
American

For the purpose of this count, an individual **was defined as experiencing homelessness if they did not have a place of their own where they paid rent and could expect to stay for at least 30 days.** This included people who:

- Stayed overnight on the night of the count in homeless shelters, including transition houses for women fleeing violence and youth safe houses, people with no fixed address (NFA) staying temporarily in hospitals, jails or detox facilities (defined as “sheltered”); and,
- Stayed outside in alleys, doorways, parkades, parks and vehicles or were staying temporarily at someone else’s place (couch surfing) and/or using homelessness services (defined as “unsheltered”).

The 2023 PiT Count took place in Port Alberni on the evening of May 1 and the daytime of May 2.

In the 2021 PiT Count, 9% of respondents were under the age of 25. It is important to consider that although this represents an increase from 2021, youth are often underreported in this methodology.

In the 2021 PiT Count, 65% of respondents identified as Indigenous.

This year, the PiT Survey asked respondents if they, a parent, or grandparent attended residential school. The Indigenous Homelessness Steering Committee and the Indian Residential School Survivors Society were instrumental in helping create this question and provide resources for respondents and interviewers to stay safe.



HSABC
Homelessness Services
Association of BC



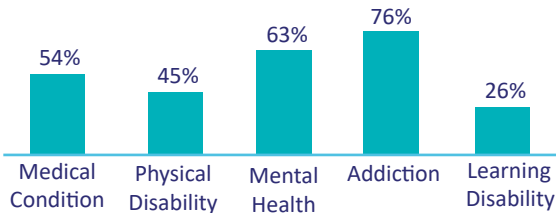
BC HOUSING
RESEARCH CENTRE

* Top responses highlighted

REASONS FOR HOUSING LOSS*



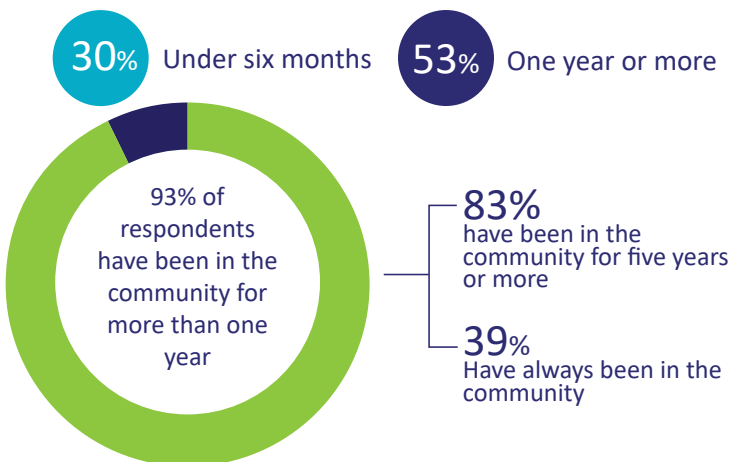
HEALTH CONCERNS



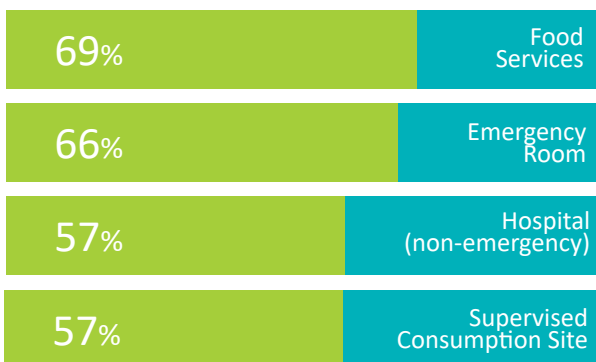
35% Reported an acquired brain injury

85% Reported two or more health concerns

LENGTH OF TIME EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



SERVICES ACCESSED*



OVERNIGHT LOCATIONS IN LAST YEAR*



* Top responses highlighted

PiT counts are an undercount and represent only those individuals identified during a 24-hour period.

- While PiT Counts are an accepted methodological tool, the numbers are understood to be the minimum number of people who are experiencing homelessness on a given day in that community.
- Percentages are based on the number of respondents to each question, not the total population experiencing homelessness.

Responses to health questions were generally consistent with 2021.

Compared to 73% in 2021, fewer respondents in this count had experienced homelessness for one year or more.

Compared to 2021, fewer respondents have been in the community for less than one year, suggesting many people experiencing homelessness in the community were in the community the last time they were housed.

96% of respondents reported having an income source. The most common income sources were income assistance and disability benefit. Around 10% reported a full or part-time job.

New for the 2023 PiT Count, the survey asked respondents to check all the locations they had stayed in the past year from a list, rather than only asking if they had stayed in a shelter.