

2018 Homeless Enumeration

City of Stratford, Town of St. Marys, & Perth County

Final Report

October 2018



The Stratford, Perth County, and St. Marys
Alliance to Prevent Homelessness & Enhance Housing Solutions

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Background	1
Methodology	2
Implementation Framework	2
Enumeration Components	3
Data Collection	4
Survey Tools.....	4
Surveyors & Training.....	5
Challenges & Limitations	6
Homeless Enumeration Results	4
Local Context	7
Household Makeup.....	7
Current Housing Situations.....	8
Demographic Characteristics	9
Age	9
Gender & Sexual Orientation	9
Ethnic & Indigenous Identity.....	10
Income Sources	11
Health Conditions.....	12
History of Homelessness	12
Age at First Experience of Homelessness	12
Length of Homelessness.....	12
Frequency of Homelessness	13
Reasons for Homelessness.....	14
Vulnerability & Level of Need	15
Level of Acuity.....	15
Services & System Interactions	16
Local Priority Populations	17
Moving Forward	19
List of Figures	20
Acknowledgements	21
End Notes	22

Introduction

The City of Stratford, Town of St. Marys and Perth County Homeless Enumeration took place over 4 days in May 2018. It was a community-wide data collection initiative designed to count and gather information on individuals and families currently experiencing homelessness. The objectives of the enumeration were to:

- 1) Account for as many individuals experiencing homelessness as possible¹; and
- 2) Understand the broader nature and scope of homelessness locally.

These objectives offer the community the opportunity to drive change on both an individual and a systems level. On an individual level, the information provided by the enumeration will help local community organizations connect with individuals and families and provide them with appropriate services and supports. On a systems level, the information will enable the community to plan coordinated responses to homelessness, better allocate resources, and enhance or develop more effective programming. This data collection initiative, therefore, was a key strategy in the community's goal to prevent, reduce, and ultimately end homelessness.

Background

In November of 2016, the Ontario Ministry of Housing passed legislation, through an amendment to the *Housing Services Act, 2011*, requiring that all Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSM)², or Service Managers, conduct homeless enumerations bi-annually beginning in 2018. This requirement was implemented to further the Ministry's goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2025 by providing a more comprehensive understanding of homelessness provincially and creating a mechanism for tracking trends and progress.

In early 2017, in preparation for the enumeration that would take place in 2018, the City of Stratford Social Services Department became a participating community in the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness 20,000 Homes Campaign, a "national change movement focused on ending chronic homelessness in 20 communities and housing 20,000 of Canada's most vulnerable homeless people by July 1, 2020."³ As part of this campaign, the City of Stratford, in partnership with a community committee known as the *Stratford, Perth County and St. Marys Alliance to Prevent Homelessness and Enhance Housing Solutions*,⁴ conducted an enumeration in April 2017, which acted as a pilot for the data collection initiative the following year.⁵ Although differing slightly, the planning and implementation of the 2018 Homeless Enumeration built upon the lessons learned from this earlier undertaking.

Methodology

The methodology used for the 2018 Homeless Enumeration was informed by provincial guidelines outlined in the Ministerial Directive on bi-annual enumerations as well as by the community's experiences during the 2017 20,000 Homes Campaign enumeration. In order to meet the initiative's objectives of gathering both individual and systems level information, the 2018 Homeless Enumeration combined Point-in-Time (PiT) Count and Registry Week methods.

PiT Count: this method gathers population-level information on individuals experiencing homelessness such as demographics (e.g., age, sex, gender, ethnic identity, source of income) and history of homelessness (e.g., length and frequency of homelessness). This data can then be compiled and analyzed to highlight local trends and priorities for service provision. PiT Counts generally take place over a 24-hour timeframe in order to provide a snapshot of homelessness. However, for local purposes, this information was collected over the 4-day enumeration period with the first day (May 15) being the reference date for the Count.

Registry Week: this method collects person-specific data, including name and contact information, which informs the local By-Name-List (BNL), a dynamic list of all people (individuals and families) experiencing homelessness prioritized based on level of acuity and vulnerability. This provides a mechanism to better match people experiencing homelessness with appropriate services and programs based on their depth of need.

Enumeration Working Group

Recognizing that a successful data collection initiative requires community involvement and input, an Enumeration Working Group, organized under the *Stratford, Perth County, and St. Marys Alliance to Prevent Homelessness and Enhance Housing Solutions*, met regularly beginning in early January. This group was pivotal in both the planning and implementation of the enumeration.

Implementation Framework

In order to develop the implementation framework for the 2018 Homeless Enumeration, a number of factors were taken into consideration.

Geographic Areas

The Service Manager area for which the City of Stratford Social Services Department is responsible encompasses a population of 76,769, spread out over 2,178 square kilometres and divided into 6 municipalities. The area consists of an urban/rural mix including the urban centre of Stratford, towns such as St. Marys and Listowel, small villages, and large tracts of rural land with low population density. Understanding the

depth and scope of homelessness within these different geographic contexts was identified as a priority for this enumeration.

Concentration of Services

Services accessed by those experiencing homelessness can include emergency accommodations, domestic violence shelters, food banks, community meal programs, housing support programs, transitional housing programs, law enforcement and first responders, health services, and mental health service providers. While the majority of services are concentrated in Stratford, it was important during the planning phase to identify and engage a wide variety of community agencies, particularly in the rural parts of the Service Manager area.

Categories of Homelessness

The Canadian Observatory on Homelessness categorizes homelessness into four typologies⁶ (three of which are relevant to this initiative) including individuals and families who are:

- **Unsheltered**, or absolutely homeless and living on the streets or in places not intended for human habitation;
- **Emergency sheltered**, including those staying in overnight shelters for people who are experiencing homelessness, as well as shelters for those impacted by family violence; and
- **Provisionally accommodated**, referring to those whose accommodation is temporary or lacks security of tenure. This includes individuals who are staying temporarily with family and/or friends (i.e. “couch surfing”), living in temporary rental accommodations (i.e. motels), or those who are currently in an institution (e.g. jail, hospital, rehabilitation centre) and have no place to live upon their release.⁷

Recognizing that individuals experience homelessness in different ways, developing an implementation framework that took into account these three categories was vital in garnering a comprehensive understanding of homelessness locally.

Enumeration Components

Based on the considerations outlined above, the implementation framework relied heavily on building relationships with service providers and community agencies that work with and support individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The framework was also designed to promote data collection in rural as well as urban areas, and to gather information from individuals and families who were unsheltered, emergency sheltered and provisionally accommodated. The implementation framework, therefore, incorporated four related but distinct components.

Enumeration Sites

Service provider locations were established as enumeration sites where individuals could provide information on their experiences of homelessness. Strong partnerships with community agencies resulted in the establishment of 20 sites. Thirteen sites were set up in Stratford, 4 in Listowel (North Perth), 2 in Mitchell (Perth East), and 1 in St. Marys. The majority of the data collection (94%) occurred at these locations.

Outreach Locations

Results from the 2017 20,000 Homes Campaign enumeration indicated that the majority of individuals experiencing homelessness were provisionally accommodated. While a similar result was anticipated for 2018, 4 outdoor locations in Stratford were identified as places where individuals were known to sleep. Outreach teams canvassed these areas during the enumeration to connect with individuals.

Magnet Events

Magnet Events are designed to encourage participation of individuals who may be missed by other methods of data collection. That is, individuals who do not access or seek out services and would not be accounted for at enumeration sites and individuals who do not sleep in outdoor locations. During the enumeration, 2 magnet events were organized; one in Stratford and one in Listowel. Both events provided a meal and information about services and supports.

Toll-Free Phone Line

Due to the transportation challenges that can often arise in large rural areas, a toll-free phone line was set up for individuals to call in order to provide information on their experience of homelessness. This phone line could be accessed round the clock over the 4-day enumeration period.

Data Collection

Gathering information during the 2018 Homeless Enumeration was a coordinated community effort. Service providers and community agencies got involved in a number of ways:

- Offering their location as an enumeration site or the site of a magnet event;
- Providing staff and/or volunteers as surveyors; and/or
- Promoting the enumeration by displaying posters and distributing them through their networks.

Survey Tools

Information was gathered through surveys conducted one-on-one with people experiencing homelessness. There were two parts to this survey:

- 1) **Ontario Enumeration Survey:** a 15-question survey provided by the Government of Ontario. This survey collected anonymous information from respondents including demographic data and history of homelessness.
- 2) **Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT):** a scored, pre-screening tool that measured the health and social needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. This triage tool allows the community to effectively determine the appropriate level of intervention for individuals and prioritize those who are in the greatest need of those services.

Individuals were invited to complete one or both parts of the survey. A screening tool was administered to determine eligibility based on the categories of homelessness outlined above (e.g., unsheltered, emergency sheltered, and provisionally accommodated). Survey respondents were provided with an information sheet outlining how (and to whom) their information would be shared (stressing confidentiality and the voluntary nature of their participation). They were then asked to sign a consent form confirming their involvement in the enumeration. Respondents were provided with a \$25 gift card as an acknowledgement of their time and consideration.

Surveyors & Training

Over 40 surveyors gathered information over the 4-day period. Surveyors were comprised mainly of staff from participating organizations, as well as a small percentage of community volunteers not directly connected with an agency.

All surveyors were asked to participate in training the week prior to the enumeration. This training outlined the steps of engaging, informing, and surveying individuals and families experiencing homelessness as well as the process of submitting completed surveys to the City of Stratford Social Services Department. The training also highlighted the “do’s and don’ts” of conducting surveys along with health and safety precautions.

Indigenous Cultural Competency Training

Evidence indicates that Indigenous communities are significantly over-represented in homeless populations nationally.⁸ Although the closest First Nations community lies outside the Service Manager area and no Indigenous-specific agencies are based in Stratford, Perth County, and St. Marys, the results of the 2017 pilot enumeration showed a disproportionate percentage of Indigenous peoples experiencing homelessness locally.

In early May, surveyors were given the opportunity to participate in a training session facilitated by the Southwest Indigenous Justice Program. This training was held in response to the Province’s requirement to engage Indigenous communities in the planning and implementation of the homeless enumeration. The purpose of the training session was to initiate conversations about how to engage Indigenous peoples living in our communities and begin to build relationships with Indigenous communities and

service providers, to ensure individuals have access to appropriate supports and programming. Approximately 40 people attended the session, over 50% were surveyors during the enumeration.

Challenges & Limitations

Undercount of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

The majority of data collection occurred at the enumeration sites, meaning that the data predominantly represents individuals already connected with or seeking out services. Those who were not accessing services (whether deliberately or not) are not reflected in the results. Furthermore, although outreach teams came upon ample evidence of individuals sleeping rough in outdoor locations (e.g., makeshift shelters and tents in wooded areas), they were not able to connect directly with those individuals. This suggests that the final results may not reflect the experiences of those who were absolutely homeless or unsheltered during the time of the enumeration.

Enumerating Rural Areas

A concerted effort was made during the planning and implementation to include strategies to connect with individuals in rural areas. Seven of the 20 enumeration sites were located in smaller communities, a toll free phone line was set up to address potential transportation and mobility issues, and one magnet event took place outside of Stratford. Despite these efforts, the majority of surveys (89%) were completed in the city. It is likely, therefore, that the results do not reflect the true state of homelessness in the rural areas of Perth County.

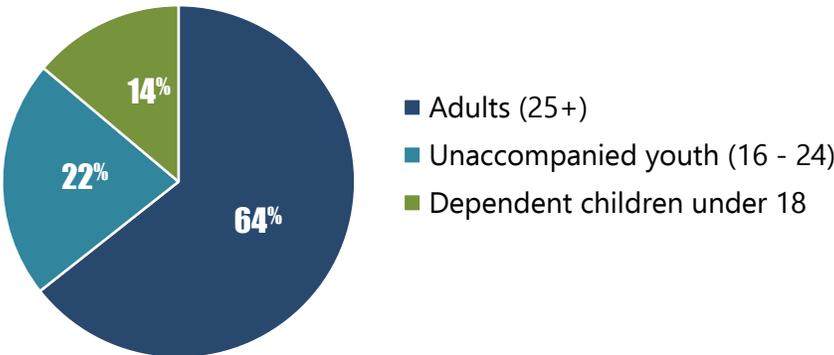
Survey Duplication

As part of the process of gathering information, surveyors were required to create a unique identifier for each survey respondent based on their date of birth. This allowed for the de-duplication of completed surveys. However, staff and volunteers stationed at enumeration sites and magnet events as well as those canvassing outdoor locations were also asked to document individuals who were observed to be homeless or who were known to be experiencing homelessness but who declined or were unavailable to complete a survey. There is no way of knowing whether these individuals completed surveys elsewhere. The general information that was gathered about them (approximate age, gender, and current housing situation) was not included in the final results.

2018 Homeless Enumeration Results

Over the enumeration period, from May 15 – 18, 2018, 101 individuals (adults, youth, and children) were identified as experiencing homelessness in Stratford, Perth County, and St. Marys. This number is based on the 79 Ontario Enumeration Surveys that were completed. In the case of families, one individual completed the survey on behalf of the family unit. In the case of couples, in some instances one individual completed a survey on behalf of their partner or spouse.

Figure 1: Total Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

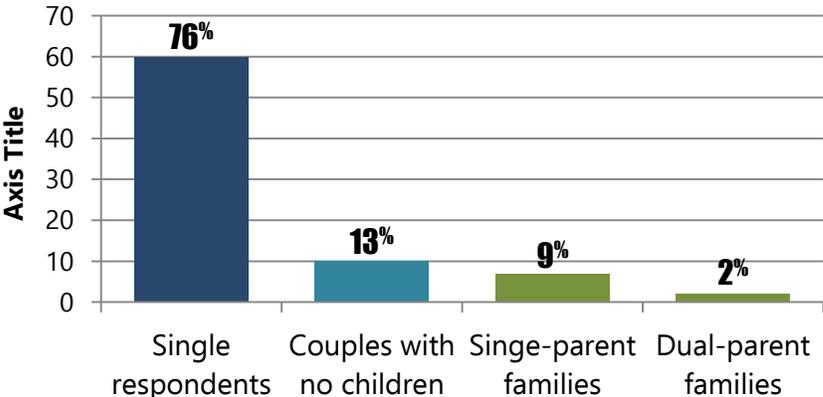


Unless otherwise indicated, the following results are based on the 79 respondents who completed surveys during the enumeration.

Household Makeup

The majority of survey respondents were single, although 9 family households were also experiencing homelessness during the enumeration period. These households included at least one parent or guardian and one or more dependent child under the age of 18. The remainder of the households were couples with no dependent children.

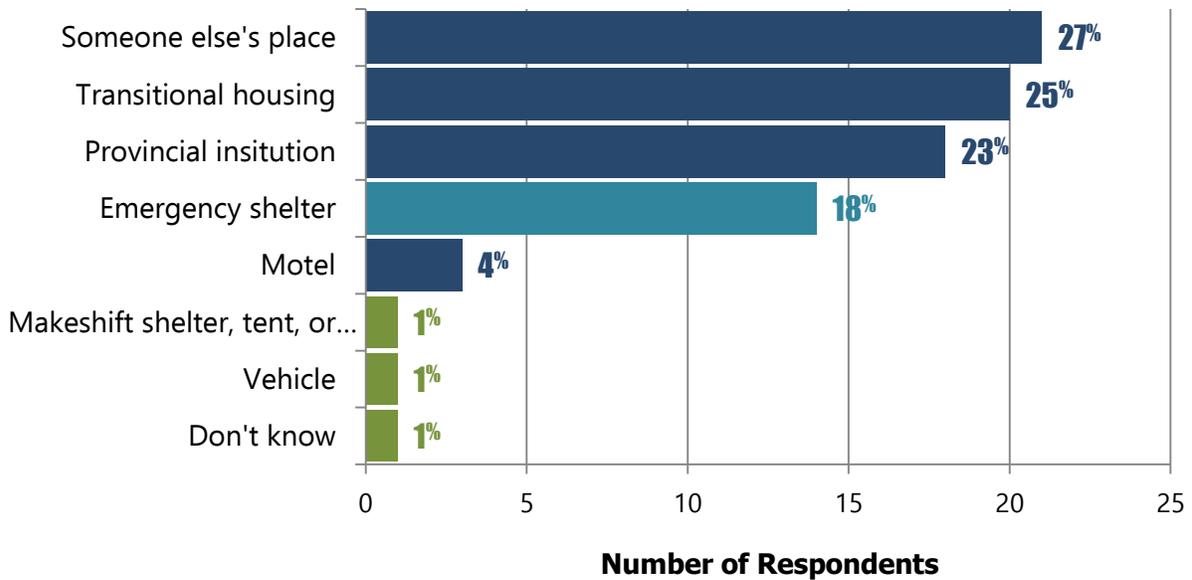
Figure 2: Household Makeup of Survey Respondents



Current Housing Situation

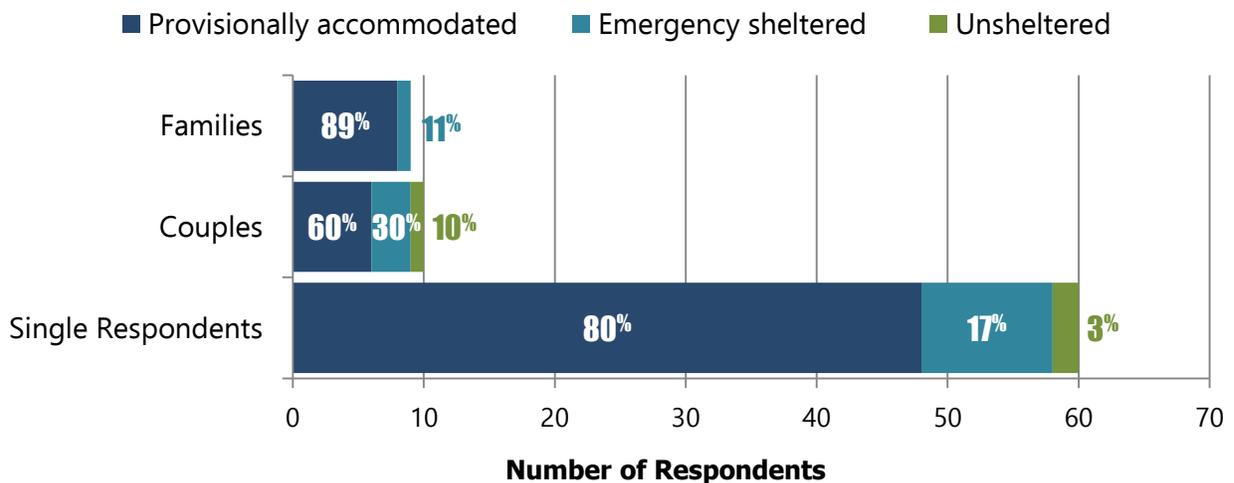
The majority of survey respondents (78%) were **provisionally accommodated**. Respondents were either staying at someone else's place, living in transitional housing, in a provincial institution (predominately in Stratford Jail), or staying in a motel.⁹ 18% of respondents were **emergency sheltered** and 3% were **unsheltered**.

Figure 3: Current Housing Situation



When tabulated by household makeup, all groups were primarily provisionally accommodated. No families were unsheltered and a larger proportion of couples were staying in an emergency or domestic violence shelter when compared to families or single respondents.

Figure 4: Current Housing Situation by Household Makeup

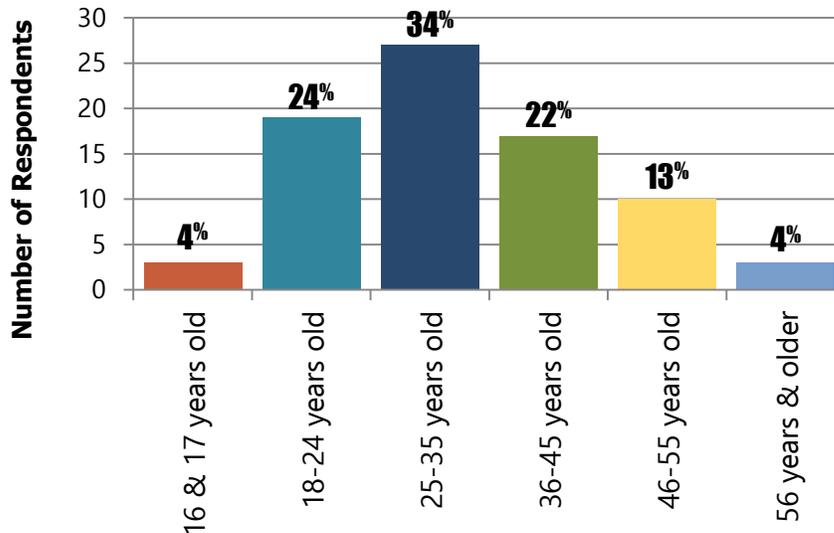


Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents

Age

The majority of survey respondents were between the ages of 25 and 35 years old. Unaccompanied youth between the ages of 16 and 24 accounted for 28% of survey respondents. Only 4% of respondents were over the age of 55.

Figure 5: Age of Survey Respondents



Gender & Sexual Orientation

Over half of the survey respondents (58%) identified as male and over three-quarters (85%) identified as straight.

Figure 6: Gender

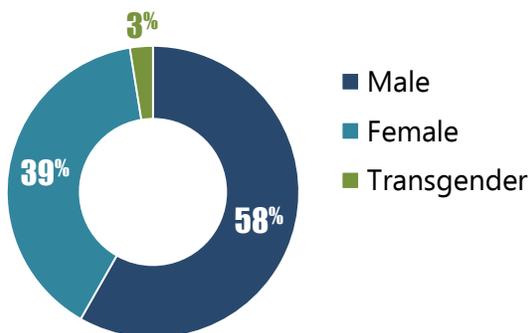
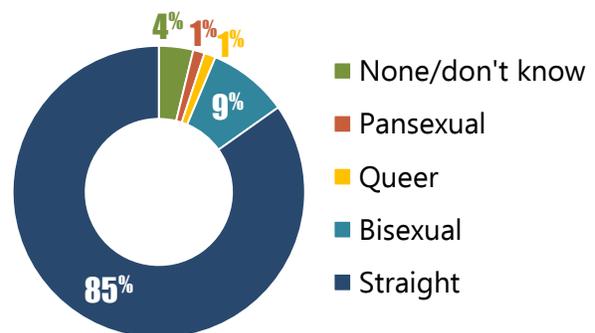


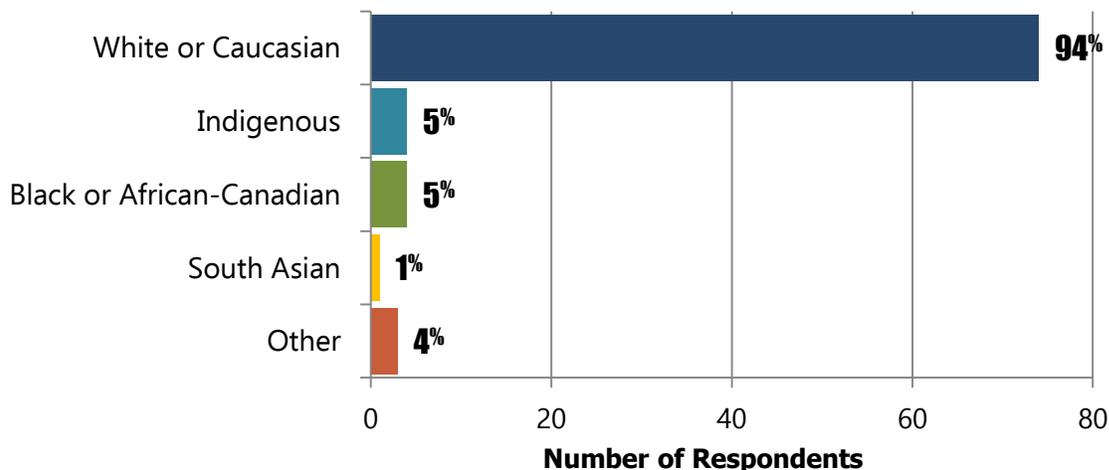
Figure 7: Sexual Orientation



Ethnic & Indigenous Identity

Survey respondents were asked if they identified with any racialized groups. The majority identified as white or Caucasian.

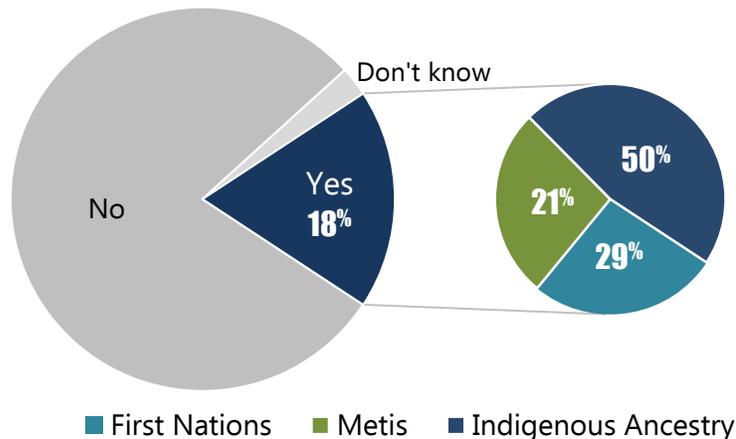
Figure 8: Ethnic Identity



**Multiple response question. Percentages do not add up to 100%.*

Although only 5% of respondents identified as Indigenous to the ethnic identity question, the survey also included a separate question that asked about Indigenous identity (First Nations, Métis, Inuit, or as having Indigenous ancestry). For that question, 18% of respondents answered yes. The discrepancy in the data could indicate that some respondents with Indigenous ethnicity or ancestry identify primarily as white or Caucasian.

Figure 9: Indigenous Identity



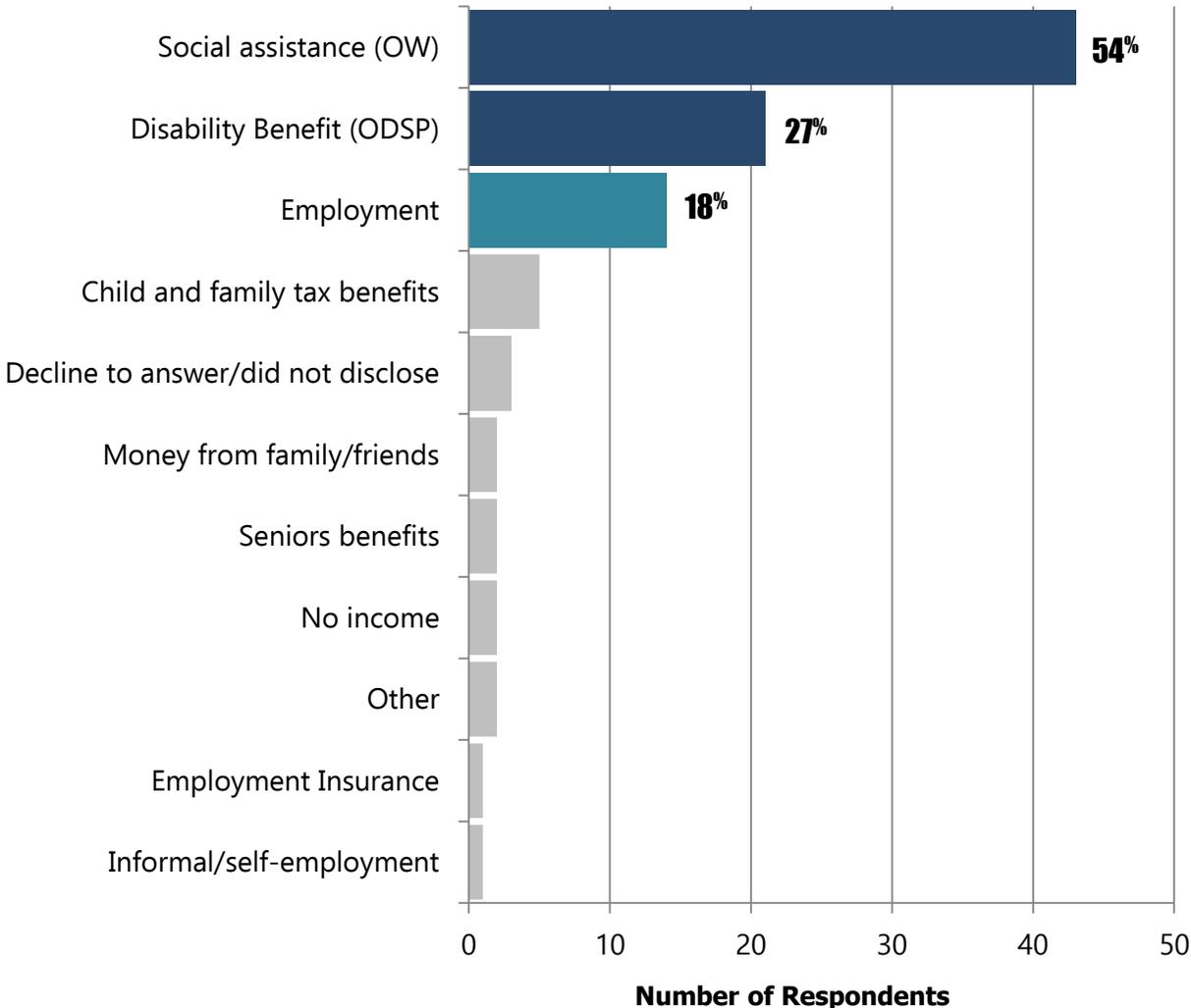
By comparison, people with Indigenous identities account for 1.4% of the population in Perth County.¹⁰ This census data only includes those who are First Nation, Inuit and Métis. However, even when those with Indigenous ancestry are not taken into

consideration, the enumeration results still indicate that a significantly higher proportion of Indigenous people were experiencing homelessness than is represented in the overall population (9% compared to 1.4%). As was already mentioned, this over-representation is consistent with communities across Canada.

Income Sources

Over 80% of survey respondents were in receipt of government assistance in the form of Ontario Works (OW) or the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), and 18% were employed.

Figure 10: Sources of Income

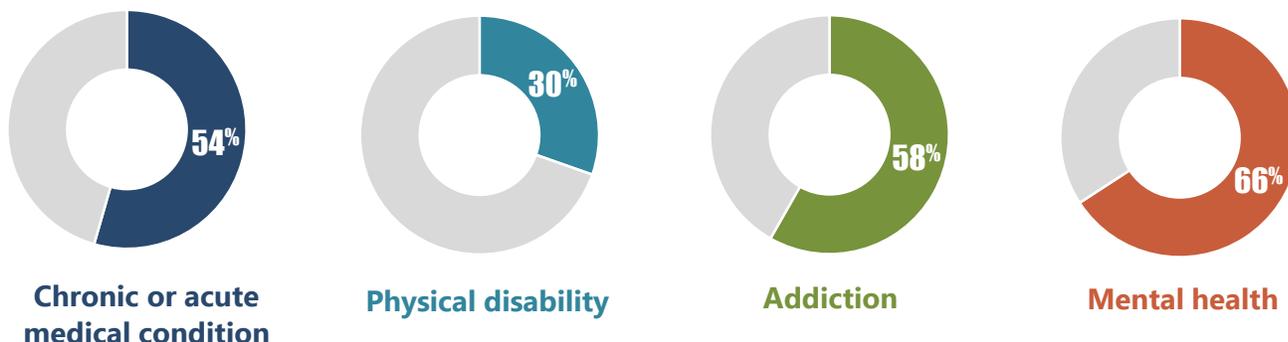


**Multiple response question. Percentages do not add up to 100%.*

Health Conditions

The majority of respondents (86%) reported having one or more health issues.

Figure 11: Health Issues



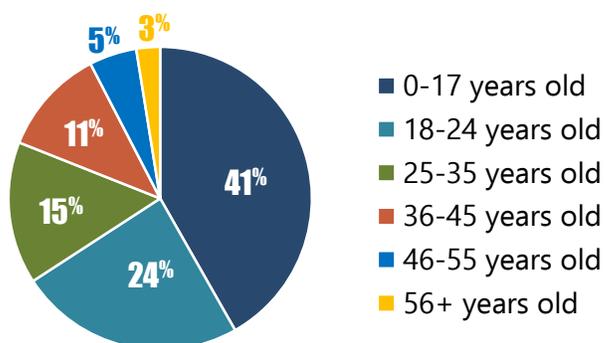
Ten percent of respondents reported having all four health issues and 10% reported having none.

History of Homelessness

Age at First Experience of Homelessness

Although the average age of respondents was 33, the **average age respondents first experienced homelessness was 24**. The majority of respondents (41%) first experienced homelessness as a child under the age of 18. In addition, 37% of respondents had been involved in the foster care or group home system at some point during their lives.

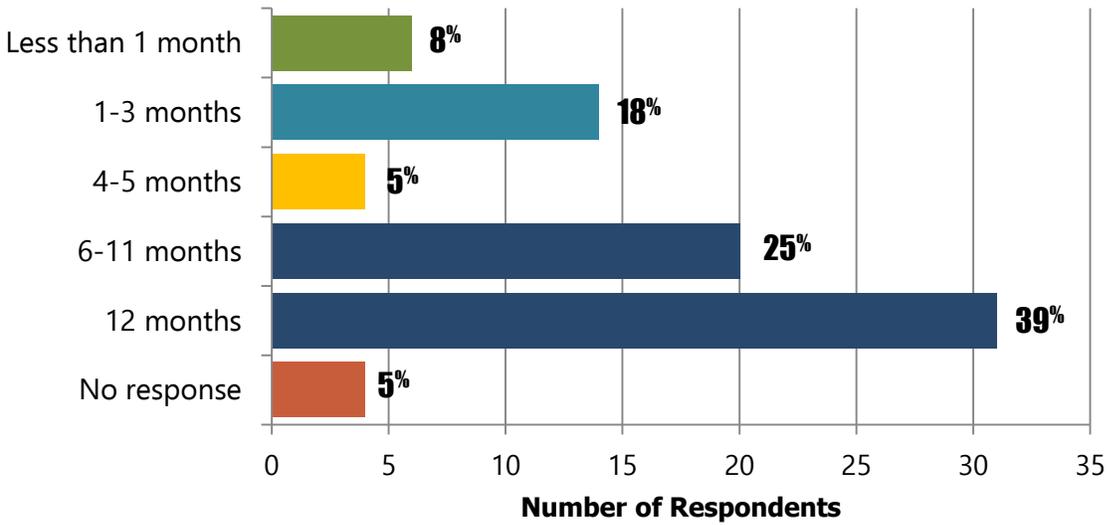
Figure 12: Age at First Experience of Homelessness



Chronic Homelessness

Chronic homelessness refers to individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness and have been homeless for six months or more in the past year.¹¹ **Nearly two-thirds (64%) of respondents were experiencing chronic homelessness** during the enumeration period. The average length of time experiencing homelessness was 8 months.

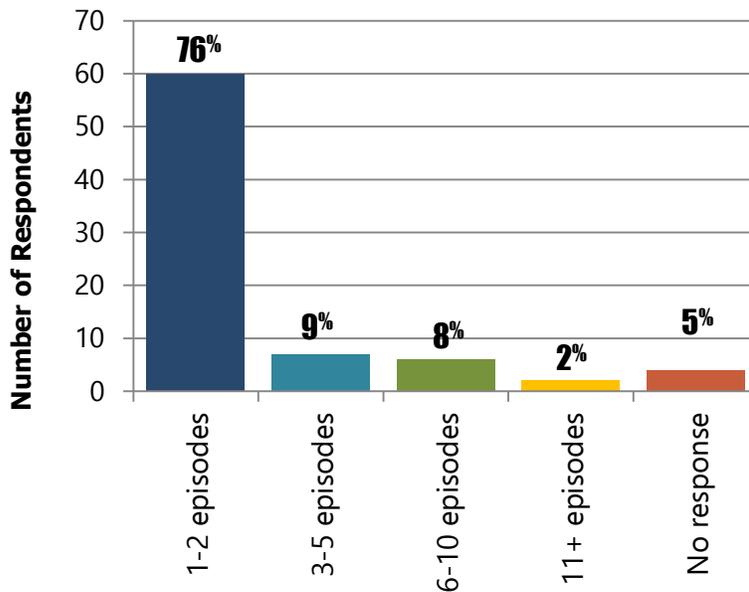
Figure 13: Length of Homelessness in Past Year



Episodic Homelessness

Episodic homelessness refers to individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness and who have experienced three or more episodes of homelessness in the past year.¹² **One in five respondents (9%) were experiencing episodic homelessness** during the enumeration.

Figure 14: Frequency of Homelessness in Past Year

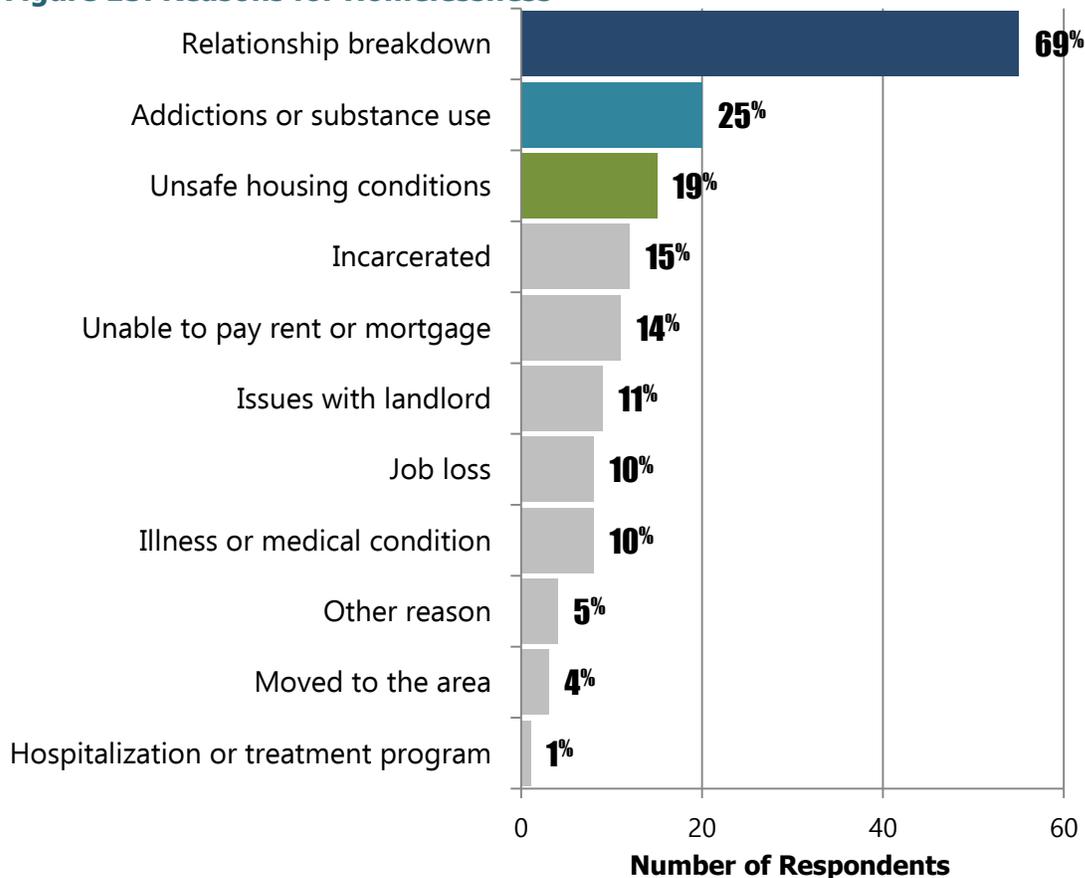


Reasons for Homelessness

Respondents identified a number of reasons for their homelessness. **Sixty-nine percent of respondents identified conflict and abuse as a significant reason for their loss of housing.** This was predominantly conflict with or abuse by a partner or spouse (35%), followed by conflict with or abuse by a parent or guardian (25%). Nine percent of respondents also indicated that conflict with or abuse by others such as family members, friends and neighbours had caused them to lose their housing most recently.

The next reason most often cited by respondents was related to addiction. **One-quarter (25%) of respondents reported that addiction or substance use** was a factor in their current situation. The third most often reported reason for respondents' homelessness was **unsafe housing conditions at 19%**.

Figure 15: Reasons for Homelessness



**Multiple response question. Percentages do not add up to 100%.*

Vulnerability & Level of Need

The vulnerability and level of need of survey respondents was determined through the Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool, or VI-SPDAT. The results in this section of the report are based on the 70 respondents who completed this second component of the enumeration survey.

Level of Acuity

The VI-SPDAT is used to screen for common risk factors or barriers that can contribute to homelessness and jeopardize housing stability. It relies on a scoring system to determine respondents' depth of need or acuity, which helps to determine the most appropriate level of supports or housing interventions required to assist individuals and families in finding and maintaining housing.

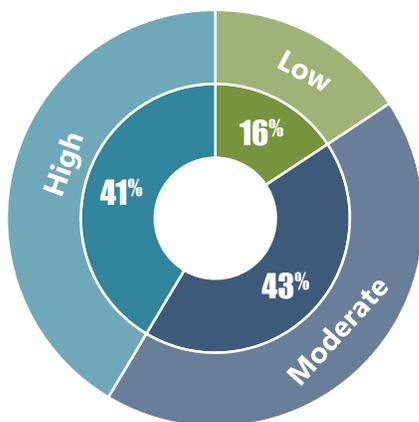
Low acuity score (1-3): indicates that the individuals or family will likely be able to resolve their homelessness independently, or with only minimal support.

Moderate acuity score (4-7 for singles & youth; 4-8 for families): indicates the need for short- to medium-term case management support to find and secure stable housing.

High acuity score (8+ for singles & youth; 9+ for families): indicates the need for longer-term intensive case management support to find and maintain stable housing.

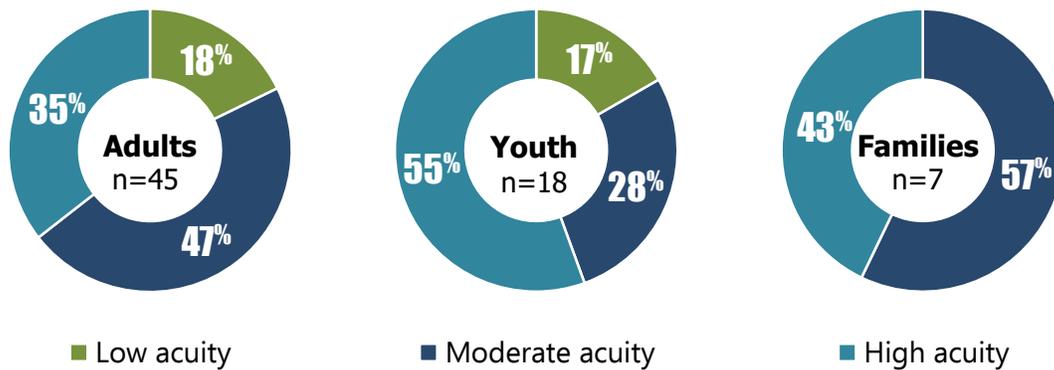
Overall, respondents were almost evenly split between moderate (43%) and high (41%) acuity scores, with only 16% having a low acuity score.

Figure 16: Overall Level of Acuity



When separated into type of respondent (i.e. single adult, youth or family), youth had the highest percentage of high acuity scores at 55%, while families had the highest percentage of moderate acuity scores at 57%.

Figure 17: Level of Acuity by Type of Respondent

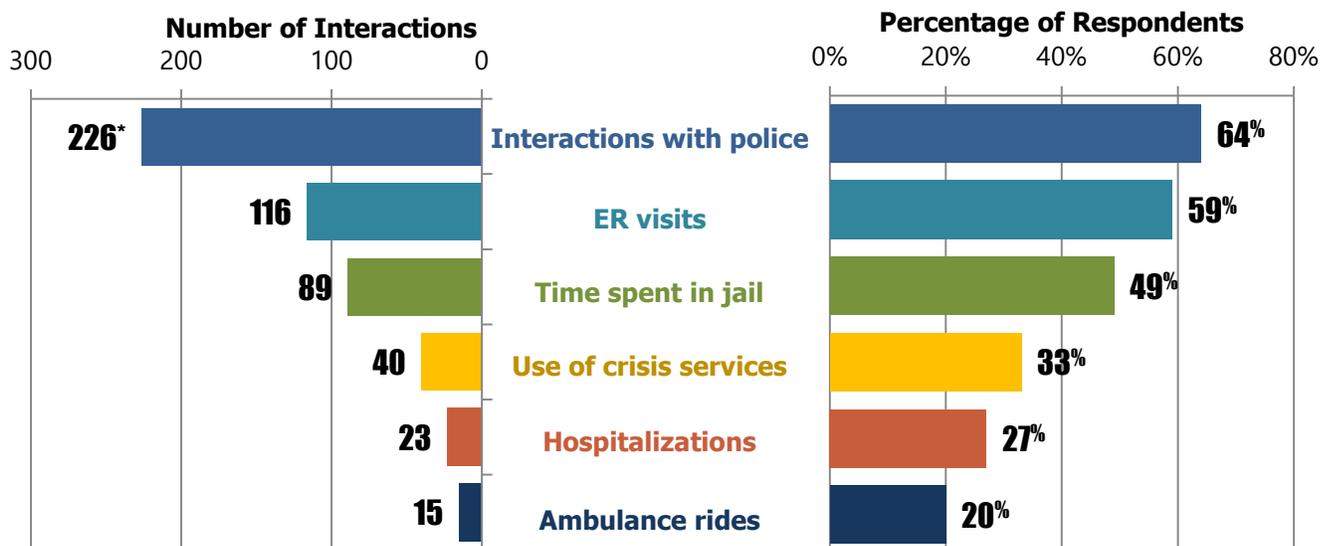


Services & System Interactions

Survey respondents were asked to estimate the number of times they used or interacted with a variety of services and systems in the previous six months in order to help identify risk factors that contribute to or exacerbate experiences of homelessness and housing instability.

The majority of respondents reported at least one of the following systems interactions: emergency room visits; interactions with police including contact as a witness, complainant, or accused; and time spent in holding cells, jails or prisons. Smaller percentages also reported accessing EMS/ambulance services, hospitalizations, and use of crisis services including for sexual assault, mental health, family/intimate violence, as well as distress centres and suicide prevention hotlines.

Figure 18: Number of Systems Interactions by Type & Percentage of Respondents



*2 respondents reported 50 interactions each with police, accounting for almost half (44%) of total interactions.

Local Priority Populations

There are a number of populations that have been prioritized locally as groups that are particularly vulnerable to experiencing homelessness. These groups were identified based on *Ontario’s Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy*¹³ as well as on the 2017 enumeration results in Stratford, Perth County, and St. Marys and include:

- Youth
- Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness
- Families
- Individuals exiting provincial institutions
- Indigenous peoples

The following chart provides information on the characteristics of these priority populations in comparison to total respondents.

Figure 19: Comparison of Local Priority Populations

	Youth <i>N=22</i>	Chronic <i>N=51</i>	Families <i>N=9</i>	Exiting Institutions <i>N=18</i>	Indigenous <i>N=14</i>	Total Respondents <i>N=79</i>
Current Housing Situation						
◦ Unsheltered	0%	4%	0%		0%	3%
◦ Emergency sheltered	0%	10%	11%		29%	18%
◦ Provisionally accommodated	100%	86%	89%	100%	71%	78%
History of Homelessness						
◦ Experiencing chronic homelessness	63%		56%	78%	50%	64%
◦ Experiencing episodic homelessness	23%	22%	22%	11%	14%	19%
◦ Involvement in child welfare system	36%	33%	44%	88%	36%	37%
Reasons for Homelessness						
◦ Relationship breakdown	59%	51%	67%	44%	36%	69%
◦ Struggles with addiction	32%	25%	11%	50%	29%	25%
◦ Unsafe housing conditions	23%	16%	44%	0%	7%	19%

Health Issues						
◦ Chronic or acute medical condition	45%	51%	55%	56%	79%	54%
◦ Physical disability	18%	31%	22%	22%	36%	30%
◦ Addiction	50%	63%	11%	100%	50%	58%
◦ Mental health	64%	63%	44%	83%	86%	66%

**N – the number of respondents for each priority area is not mutually exclusive. Percentages do not add up to 100%.*

Moving Forward

The 2018 Homeless Enumeration provided the community with data that can be used to effect change locally on both a systems and an individual level. The findings offer a more comprehensive understanding of the nature and scope of homelessness locally and will be used to inform the 5-year update of the *10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan for Stratford, Perth County, and St. Marys*.

The community will continue to build on existing programs, such as the Supported Housing of Perth Program (SHOPP), which embraces a Housing First approach to provide supported housing to the local priority populations (youth, families, individuals exiting institutions and individuals experiencing chronic homelessness). Engaging and strengthening relationships with health, mental health and addictions services will also be prioritized, considering the high proportion of individuals experiencing homelessness living with these challenges.

Furthermore, given the number of respondents who identified as Indigenous locally, strategies to engage and build relationships with local and regional Indigenous communities and service providers will be developed. This is to ensure that services and supports are offered in appropriate and respectful ways and in keeping with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.¹⁴

Finally, the results of the enumeration will help to inform the development of a community-wide Coordinated Access System which will create a more effective and efficient process by which individuals experiencing homelessness access housing and services. Individuals who completed a VI-SPDAT during the enumeration were added to the local By-Name-List (BNL), a dynamic and real-time list of all people (individuals and families) experiencing homelessness. These individuals (70% of whom were new to the BNL) will be prioritized for service based on their level of need.

List of Figures

Figure 1:	Total Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	Page 7
Figure 2:	Household Makeup of Survey Respondents	Page 7
Figure 3:	Current Housing Situation	Page 8
Figure 4:	Current Housing Situation by Household Makeup	Page 8
Figure 5:	Age of Survey Respondents	Page 9
Figure 6:	Gender	Page 9
Figure 7:	Sexual Orientation	Page 9
Figure 8:	Ethnic Identity	Page 10
Figure 9:	Indigenous Identity	Page 10
Figure 10:	Sources of Income	Page 11
Figure 11:	Health Issues	Page 12
Figure 12:	Age at First Experience of Homelessness	Page 12
Figure 13:	Length of Homelessness in Past Year	Page 13
Figure 14:	Frequency of Homelessness in Past Year	Page 13
Figure 15:	Reasons for Homelessness	Page 14
Figure 16:	Overall Level of Acuity	Page 15
Figure 17:	Level of Acuity by Type Respondent	Page 16
Figure 18:	Number of Systems Interactions by Type & Percentage of Respondents	Page 16
Figure 19:	Comparison of Local Priority Populations	Page 17

Acknowledgements

The City of Stratford Social Services Department would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their time, energy and dedication during the planning and implementation of the 2018 Homeless Enumeration.

Homeless Enumeration Working Group Members:

Alicia Houston	Optimism Place
Ann Vaters	Stratford Perth Shelterlink
Betsy-Anne Barton	Community Member
Joanna Parker	Emily Murphy Centre
Kerrylou Dickson	The Local Community Food Centre
Lauren Gienow	Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth
Molly MacDonald	Stratford House of Blessing
Monica Crowley	John Howard Society of London & Area

Additionally, we would like to thank the following organizations for participating as enumeration sites:

Canadian Mental Health Association Huron Perth
Choices for Change
Emily Murphy Centre
It Takes a Village Thrift Store, Listowel
The Local Community Food Centre, Stratford
Optimism Place
Partners in Employment, Listowel
Salvation Army Housing Help Centre, Stratford
Salvation Army Listowel
Salvation Army Mitchell
Salvation Army St. Marys
Stratford Housing of Blessing
Stratford Jail
Stratford Perth Shelterlink
West End Pharmacy, Stratford
West Perth Youth Centre, Mitchell

Finally, we would like to acknowledge City of Stratford staff who invested their time and energy to make the 2018 Homeless Enumeration a success:

Jeneane Fast	Colton Dodsley	John Ritz	Carole Desmeules
Grant Martin	Alex Burgess	Betty Pickett	Eden Grodzinski
Kelly Stone	Maggie Clayton	Calvin Mackenzie	Kim McElroy

End Notes

¹ A homeless enumeration is not a census and is generally understood to be an undercount of individuals/families experiencing homelessness. Although connecting with every individual/family experiencing homelessness in the community was the ideal, we acknowledge that this was likely not the case.

² CMSMs or Service Managers are provincially mandated to administer social services in their designated catchment areas. The City of Stratford Social Services Department is the CMSM for all of Perth County, including the Town of St. Marys, the City of Stratford, and the municipalities of North Perth, West Perth, Perth East and Perth South.

³ www.20khomes.ca, retrieved August 22, 2018.

⁴ The *Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County Alliance to Prevent Homelessness and Enhance Housing Solutions* (known as the "Alliance") is a multi-stakeholder group that exists to provide strategic advice to the City of Stratford Social Services Department with respect to the implementation of the *10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan for Stratford, Perth County & St. Marys*. The group currently includes representation from 15+ community agencies that have a stake in addressing homelessness and improving housing stability for local residents.

⁵ Results of the 2017 20,000 Homes Campaign enumeration can be found in both the 2016 and 2017 Annual Reports for the *10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan for Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County*. The Plan and the Annual Reports can be found at the following link: <https://www.stratfordcanada.ca/en/insidecityhall/housing.asp>.

⁶ Gaetz, S.; Barr, C.; Friesen, A.; Harris, B.; Hill, C.; Kovacs-Burns, K.; Pauly, B.; Pearce, B.; Turner, A.; Marsolais, A. (2012) *Canadian Definition of Homelessness*. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press.

⁷ The fourth typology outlined in the *Canadian Definition of Homelessness* is 'at risk of homelessness'. This refers to people who are not currently experiencing homelessness, but whose current economic and/or housing situation is precarious. However, because the 2018 Homeless Enumeration was intended to gather information on individuals and families experiencing homelessness at a specific moment in time, this category was not considered in the development of the implementation framework.

⁸ Nationally, 37% of participants in the 2016 coordinated Point-in-Time Count identified as Indigenous. Government of Canada. (2017). *2016 Coordinated Point-in-Time Count of Homelessness in Canadian Communities*.

⁹ This number includes only those individuals who were paying for their own motel accommodations. Individuals who were accessing motels through the City of Stratford's CHPI (Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative) Emergency Housing program were counted as 'emergency sheltered'.

¹⁰ Statistics Canada, 2016 Census.

¹¹ Government of Canada (2014). *Homelessness Partnering Strategy Directives 2014-2019*. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/homeless/homeless-directives.html>. Retrieved September 6, 2018.

¹² Government of Canada (2014).

¹³ Government of Ontario. (2016). Ontario's Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy Update. <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=13683>. Retrieved September 25, 2018.

¹⁴ Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. (2015). *Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Volume One: Summary*. Toronto: James Lorimer & Company, Inc., pp. 319-337.