

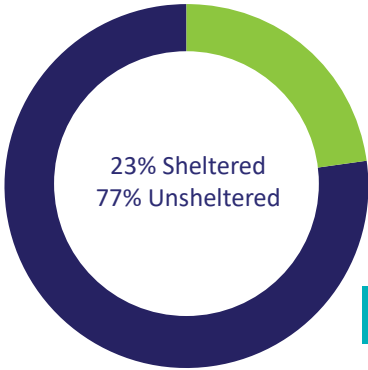
# Sechelt / Gibsons - 2023 Homeless Count

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.

**97** People were identified as experiencing homelessness compared to 84 in 2020.

Where did individuals stay the night of the count?

## Of Unsheltered Respondents\*



- 30% Someone Else's Place
- 27% Makeshift Shelter or Tent
- 21% Vehicle

## AGE BREAKDOWN



Youth  
Under 25



Adult  
25-54



Senior  
55+

## GENDER



Man



Woman



Another  
Gender  
Identity

52%

Experienced homelessness for the first time as a youth

## SEXUAL ORIENTATION

6% of respondents identified as 2SLGBTQIA+

## TRANS EXPERIENCE

0% of respondents identified as having trans experience

## INDIGENOUS IDENTITY

44% of respondents identified as Indigenous

Compared with 8% of the Census population

## RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

59% of Indigenous-identifying respondents reported having lived or generational experience with residential school

## RACIAL IDENTITY

2%  
Latin  
American

5%  
Not  
Listed

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").

On the night of February 7th, a fire at the Upper Deck shelter displaced more than 30 shelter clients. By the night of the count, March 2nd, a temporary shelter had opened at St. Hilda's Anglican Church. However, capacity at this program was lower than at the Upper Deck shelter, potentially contributing to a lower number of people enumerated as "sheltered" than in 2020.

It is important to consider that youth are one of several population groups often underreported in this methodology.

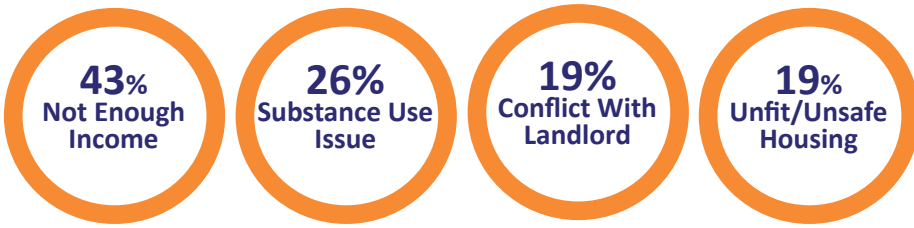
In the 2020 PiT Count, 24% of respondents identified as Indigenous.

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.

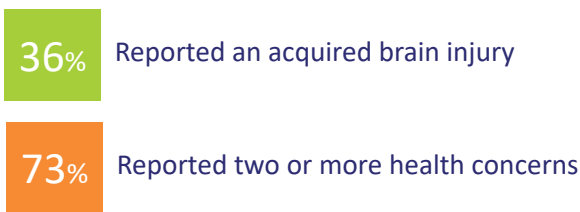
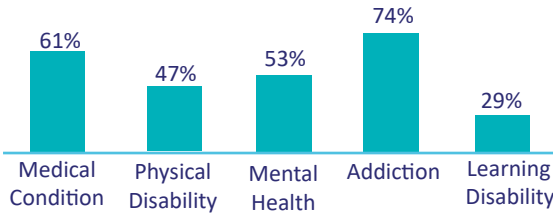


\* Top responses highlighted

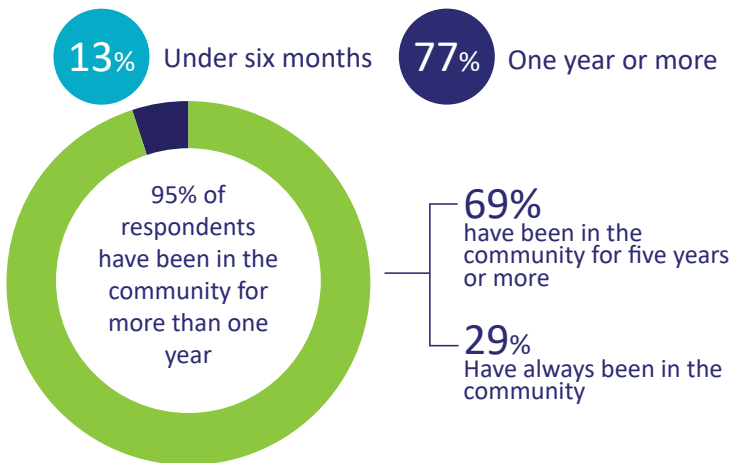
### REASONS FOR HOUSING LOSS\*



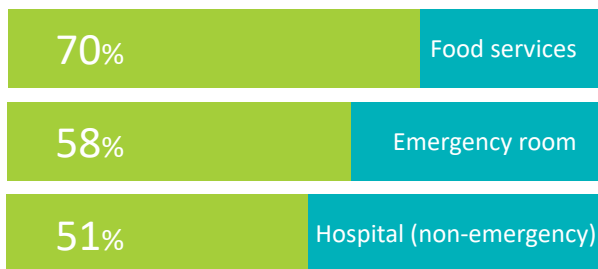
### HEALTH CONCERNS



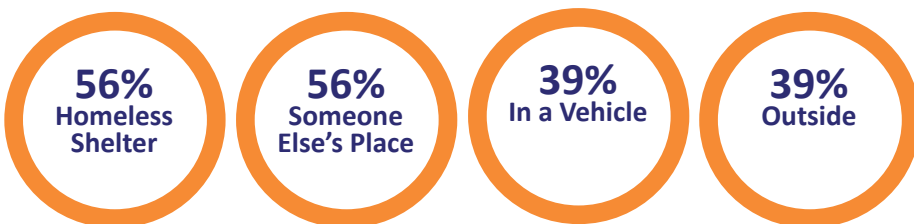
### LENGTH OF TIME EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



### 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.

All health concerns increased compared to the 2020 PiT Count, with the largest increase being the Medical Condition category, up from 37%

In 2020, 58% reported two or more health concerns.

Compared to 2020, more respondents had experienced homelessness for one year or more.

Compared to 2020, fewer respondents have been in the community for less than six months, and more have been in the community for more than a year, suggesting most people experiencing homelessness in Sechelt and Gibsons were in Sechelt and Gibsons the last time they were housed.

95% of respondents reported having an income source, and 41% reported having more than one. The most common income sources were income assistance and disability. Around 22% reported a full or part-time job.

The top three services accessed are the same as they were in 2020.

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.