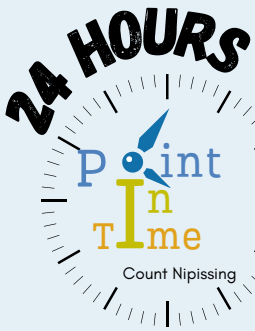# 2024 Nipissing Counts

Funded by the Government of Canada's Reaching Home Strategy

On **Wednesday, October 9 at 8:00 am** to **Thursday, October 16 at 8:00 am**, a Point in Time (PiT) Count and survey of homelessness was conducted <u>across Nipissing District.</u>

24 HOURS

Point In Time Count Nipissing

48 locations
67 surveyors

531 Individuals identified as homeless

130 (25%) In Emergency Shelters	**138** (26%) Unsheltered	**117** (22%) In Public Institutions	**80** (15%) Hidden Homeless	**66** (12%) Transitionally Housed

⚠️ Includes **31 children** under the age of 16 identified as homeless
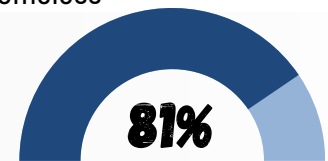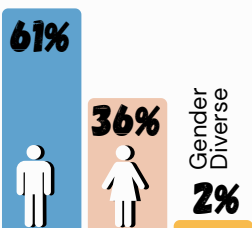
Key Findings

Based on **304** Completed Surveys

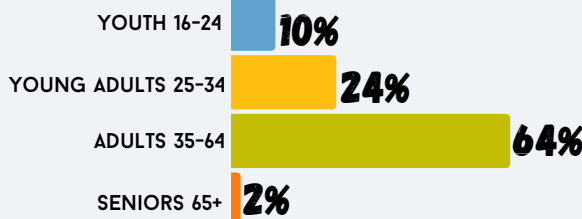**32%** of respondents identified as having been in foster care or a group home

81% of respondents were single

Gender Identity

61%
36%
Gender Diverse 2%

Age

YOUTH 16-24	10%
YOUNG ADULTS 25-34	24%
ADULTS 35-64	64%
SENIORS 65+	2%

Veterans

6% of respondents identified as being a former military or RCMP member

48% Identify as Indigenous

44% First experienced homelessness before the age of 25 ⚠️

Sources of income

44%
38%
5%

- Ontario Works
- ODSP
- Employment
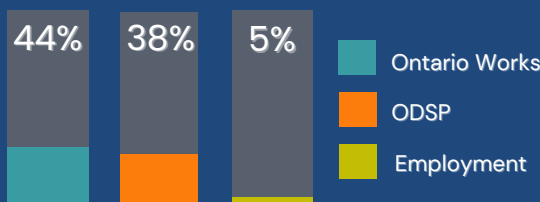
Rates of Chronic Homelessness

97% of respondents would like permanent housing
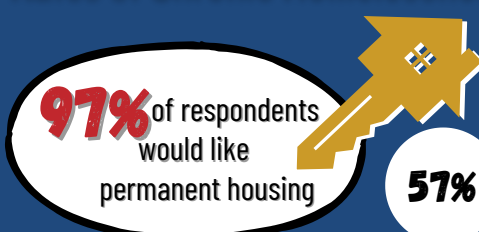
67% of respondents were homeless for six months or more in the last year

57% of respondents were homeless for eighteen months or more in the past three years

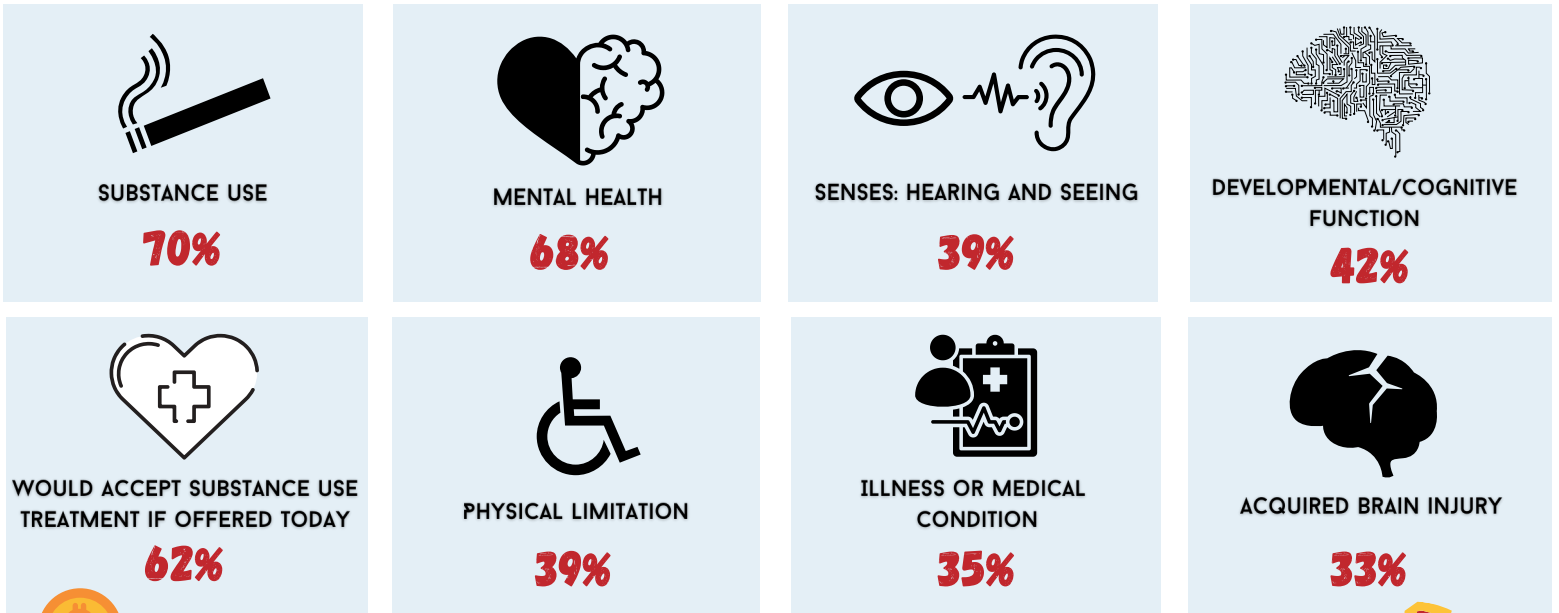## Top 5 reasons for most recent <u>housing loss</u>

- ✖ Conflict with Landlord **22%**
- ✖ Not Enough Income **21%**
- ✖ Conflict with Spouse/Partner **18%**
- ✖ Mental Health **7%**
- ✖ Substance Use **7%**

Top 5 barriers to <u>finding housing</u>

- ✖ Rent's Too High **84%**
- ✖ Low Income **75%**
- ✖ Discrimination **31%**
- ✖ Addiction/Substance Use **28%**
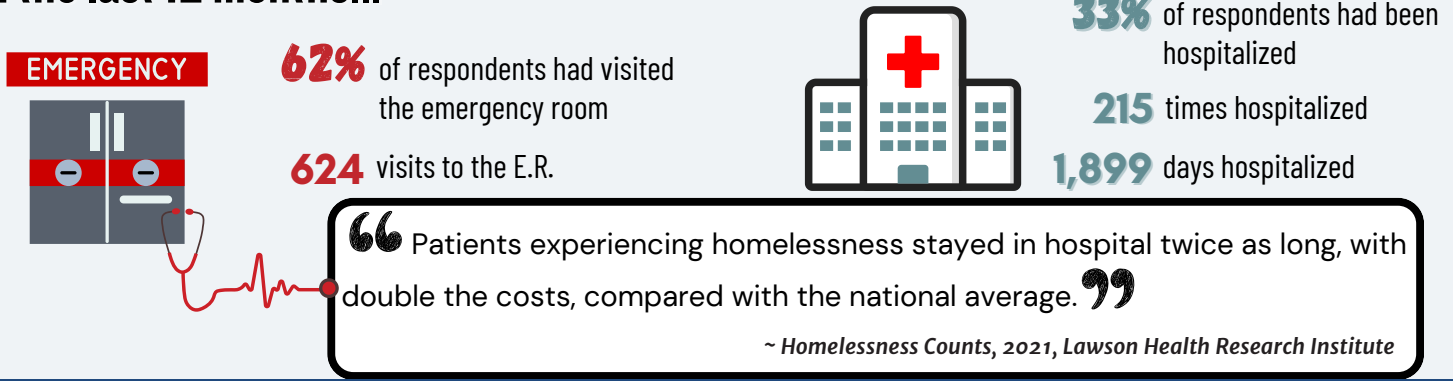- ✖ Poor Housing Condition **27%**
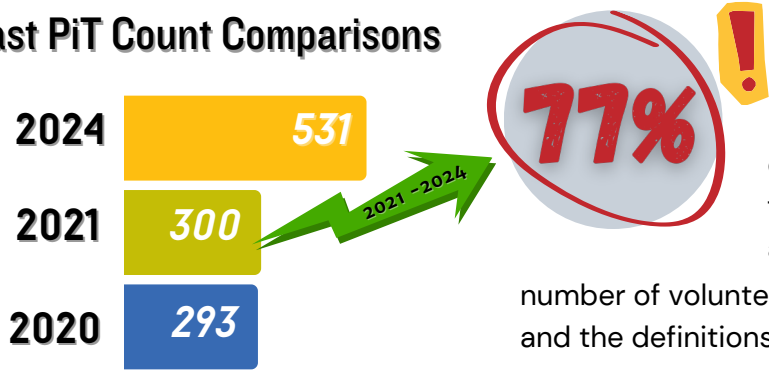
Health and Disability Topics of those Surveyed

SUBSTANCE USE
70%

MENTAL HEALTH
68%

SENSES: HEARING AND SEEING
39%

DEVELOPMENTAL/COGNITIVE FUNCTION
42%

WOULD ACCEPT SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT IF OFFERED TODAY
62%

PHYSICAL LIMITATION
39%

ILLNESS OR MEDICAL CONDITION
35%

ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY
33%

Homelessness results in significant excess health care costs and resources !

In the last 12 months...

EMERGENCY

62% of respondents had visited the emergency room

624 visits to the E.R.

33% of respondents had been hospitalized

215 times hospitalized

1,899 days hospitalized

> " Patients experiencing homelessness stayed in hospital twice as long, with double the costs, compared with the national average. "
>
> *~ Homelessness Counts, 2021, Lawson Health Research Institute*

59% of respondents had interactions with police

1,159 police interactions (or on average, about four interactions /respondent)

32% one-third of respondents spent at least one day in jail

5,773 days in jail spent by this group (or on average, 19 days in jail /respondent)

63% of respondents had attended a food bank

1,626 times respondents visited the food bank in the past year

69% of respondents had attended a community meal

18,196 times respondents attended community meals in the past year

Past PiT Count Comparisons

2024 — 531
2021 — 300
2020 — 293

2021 - 2024

77% !

The homeless population is always difficult to enumerate, with complete accuracy. By extension, making direct comparisons between PiT Counts must always consider factors such as changes and improvements in surveying and sampling techniques: (eg. search and count locations, number of volunteers, geographical locations); seasonal differences/effects; and the definitions of homelessness used in the study.