Homelessness Partnering Strategy
Coordinated Point-in-Time Count
Key Findings & Next Steps

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2nd Canadian Homelessness Data Sharing Initiative
Calgary, AB | May 18, 2017
32 Participating Communities
2000+ Volunteers
250+ Shelters and Transitional facilities
350+ Community Partners

West
11 communities

Ontario
13 communities

East
8 communities

First count: January 16
Last count: April 25
Some Key Findings

- On any particular day, over 50% of the homeless population has been experiencing chronic homelessness.
- 25% did not use a shelter over the past year.
- Homelessness spikes in the mid-to-late teens, dropping off for women in their mid-20s and men in their 50s.
- Nearly 1 in 3 youth cite conflict with a parent or guardian as contributing to their most recent homelessness.
- Seniors and older adults are more likely to cite financial factors for their most recent housing loss.
- Overrepresented populations: Indigenous people (9x) and veterans (2x)
- Newcomers were more likely to be homeless as a family.

https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/canada/employment-social-development/programs/communities/homelessness/reports/highlights/PiT-Doc.pdf
Outline

1. Three Findings:
   A. Non-Shelter Users
   B. Chronic and Episodic Homelessness: Response Patterns
   C. Trajectories and Gender

2. What’s next? Everyone Counts
A: Non-Shelter Users

Shelter use in the past year

- Have you stayed in an emergency shelter in the past year?
25.5% of respondents had not used a shelter in the past year.
A: Non-Shelter Users

Shelter use over time

Percentage reporting having used a shelter by homelessness duration

- Unsheltered
- Hidden

0-2 Mos: 32%
3-5 Mos: 57%
6+ Mos: 53%

65%
64%

70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
A: Non-Shelter Users

Shelter use with age

Percentage of Shelter Users by Age (decade)

- 16-19: 65%
- 20s: 71%
- 30s: 73%
- 40s: 77%
- 50s: 79%
- 60s: 82%
- 70s: 79%

Figure showing the percentage of shelter users by age, increasing from 65% in the 16-19 age group to 82% in the 60s, then decreasing to 79% in the 70s.
Question

Roughly 1/3 people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on the night of the count reported not having used a shelter in the past year.

1. Does this correspond to an entrenched unsheltered population?
2. Is there an issue with self report?

Data gap: Longitudinal data on the unsheltered population
Duration and Episodes

• Over the past year, *how much of the time* have you been homeless?

• Over the past year, *how many different times* have you experienced homelessness?
B: Chronic and Episodic Homelessness

Duration and Episodes

- **Chronic**
  - 6+ months / past year
  - 57%

- **Episodic**
  - 3+ episodes / past year & < 6 months / past year
  - 34%

- **“Temporary”**
  - < 6 months & < 3 episodes
  - 9%
B: Chronic and Episodic Homelessness

Question: Why did so few respondents report Episodic Homelessness compared to shelter use data?

1. PiT counts vs. shelter data

2. Self report - Homelessness outside of the shelter system
B: Chronic and Episodic Homelessness

Duration and Episodes

Three common response patterns were evident:

- **Long duration Single episode**
- **Short duration Single episode**
- **Long duration Multiple episodes**
B: Chronic and Episodic Homelessness

Response Patterns & Gender

- Male:
  - Long Duration, Multi-Episode: 46%
  - Long Duration, Single Episode: 23%
  - Short Duration, Single Episode: 31%
- Female:
  - Long Duration, Multi-Episode: 31%
  - Long Duration, Single Episode: 38%
  - Short Duration, Single Episode: 31%
Response Patterns & Age

B: Chronic and Episodic Homelessness

- Long Duration, Multi-Episode
- Long Duration, Single Episode
- Short Duration, Single Episode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Youth (16-24)</th>
<th>Adults (25-49)</th>
<th>Older Adults (50-64)</th>
<th>Seniors (65+)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long Duration, Multi-Episode</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Duration, Single Episode</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Duration, Single Episode</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B: Chronic and Episodic Homelessness

Response Patterns & Indigenous Identity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Non-Indigenous</th>
<th>Indigenous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long Duration,</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Episode</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Duration,</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Episode</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Duration,</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Episode</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Response Patterns

- Non-Indigenous: 26% Long Duration, Multi-Episode, 42% Long Duration, Single Episode, 31% Short Duration, Single Episode
- Indigenous: 40% Long Duration, Multi-Episode, 42% Long Duration, Single Episode, 18% Short Duration, Single Episode
### Reasons for housing loss

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for most recent housing loss</th>
<th>Short Duration / Single Episode</th>
<th>Long Duration / Single Episode</th>
<th>Long Duration / Multi-Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Addictions or Substance Use</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Evicted for Rent or Financial Issues</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Evicted for Other Reasons</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Conflict with a Partner or Spouse</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Job Loss</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B: Chronic and Episodic Homelessness

Questions

1. Is there a distinction within chronic homelessness?
   • What happens between episodes?

2. What are the implications for the understanding of episodic homelessness (short duration)?

Data gap: Qualitative research with those identified as experiencing “episodic” homelessness
C: Trajectories and Gender

Gender and Age

Number of Individuals

Age

-- Male

-- Female
C: Trajectories and Gender

Question

1. Do men have more difficulty exiting homelessness?

2. Or are women less likely to become homeless with age?

3. Or both?
Homelessness Partnering Strategy

Everyone Counts - PiT Count 2018
### Additional Core Questions

- Overnight location
- Family members
- **Age of first homelessness**
- Length of homelessness in the past year
- Number of episodes in the past year
- Shelter use in the past year
- Length of time in the community
  - Migration from...

- Indigenous identity
- Newcomer status
  - **Length of time in Canada**
- Veteran status
- Age
- Gender identity
- **Sexual orientation (identity)**
- Reasons for housing loss
- Income sources
“Home page” for the Coordinated PiT Counts

- Ask-Me-Anything/Town Hall sessions
- Survey Forms
- Volunteer training materials
- National and community PiT count reports
Next Steps

Spring – Fall 2017

• Tools and training materials
• Webinars / Town Halls / Ask-Me-Anything Sessions
• Coordinator Training
Thank you! Questions? Comments?

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Resources

Guide

Toolkit
www.homelesshub.ca/pitcounttoolkit

Workspace
www.workspaceonhomelessness.ca