



2020 GREATER VICTORIA POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

HOMELESS NEEDS SURVEY KEY HIGHLIGHTS

PIT COUNT

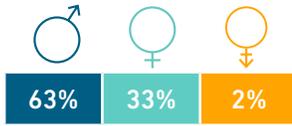
The night of March 11, 2020 at least **1,523** people were experiencing homelessness in Greater Victoria.



On the night of March 12, 2020, **854** individuals participated in the homeless needs survey, representing over half of those enumerated.

GENDER

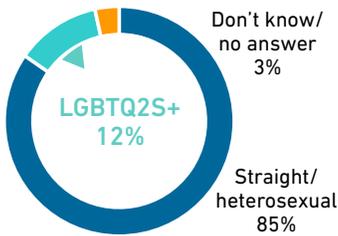
Two thirds identified as male.



SEXUAL ORIENTATION

12% identify as LGBTQ2S+

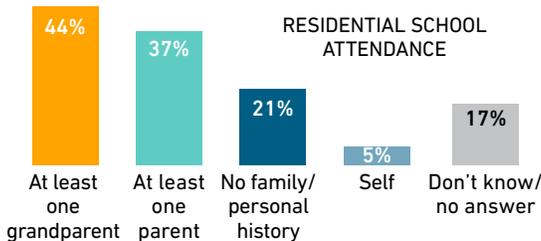
Among youth, the number rose to 30%.



INDIGENOUS

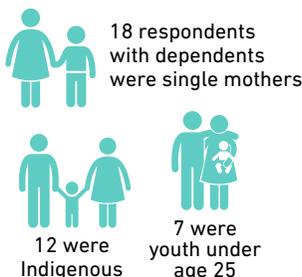
35% are Indigenous, compared to 5% of the Greater Victoria population. 44% are **women**, 59% first experienced homelessness as a **youth**, and 55% have experiences with **foster care**— which are all higher rates than the general survey population.

62% have personal or close family history of attending **residential school**.



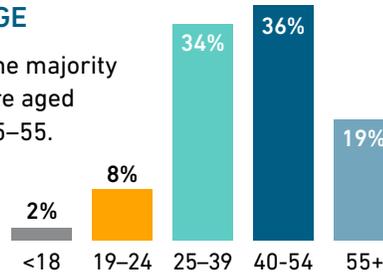
FAMILIES

30 individuals had children with them. Of the 42 children/dependents, 28% were unsheltered or slept in vehicles.



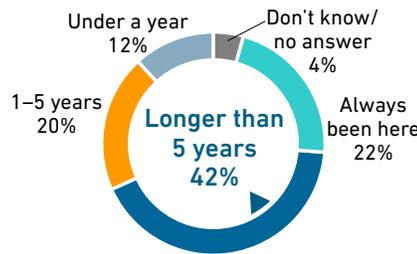
AGE

The majority are aged 25–55.



TIME IN GREATER VICTORIA

Only 12% have lived in the region for less than one year.



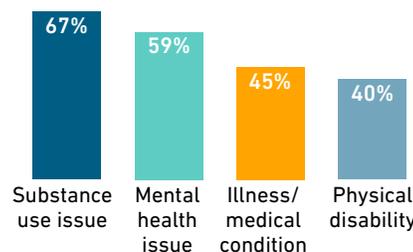
EXPERIENCES OF FOSTER CARE

1 in 3 were in government care as a child or youth. A third became homeless within a month of leaving care.



HEALTH CHALLENGES

90% have at least one health challenge, including 29% with an acquired brain injury. Research indicates that homelessness exacerbates some health challenges, such as substance use.



LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS

- **1 in 2** respondents first experienced homelessness as youth (under 25).
- **82%** have been homeless for a total of 6 months or longer over the past year— this is an increase from the previous PIT survey (72%).

INCOME SOURCES

- **94%** have at least one source of income, with the most common being welfare/social assistance (37%), disability benefits (36%), employment, including full-time, part-time and casual (17%), and informal sources of income (16%).

NEED FOR HOUSING AND SERVICES

- **92%** want permanent housing.
- The top three obstacles to finding housing: **high rent, low income, and lack of available options.**
- Top three needed services include primary care services, services for substance use, and mental health supports.