

Service-Based Homelessness Count 2021

Counting those experiencing homelessness in Eastern Nova Scotia



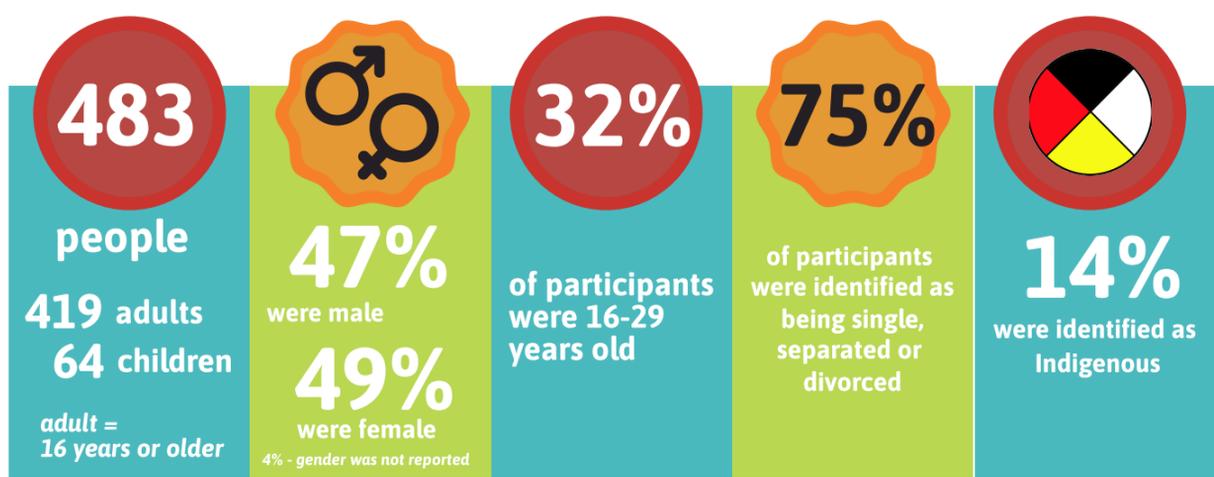
Nova Scotia Health - Eastern Zone



The purpose of conducting this service-based homelessness count is to better understand the scope and magnitude of homelessness across six counties in eastern Nova Scotia.

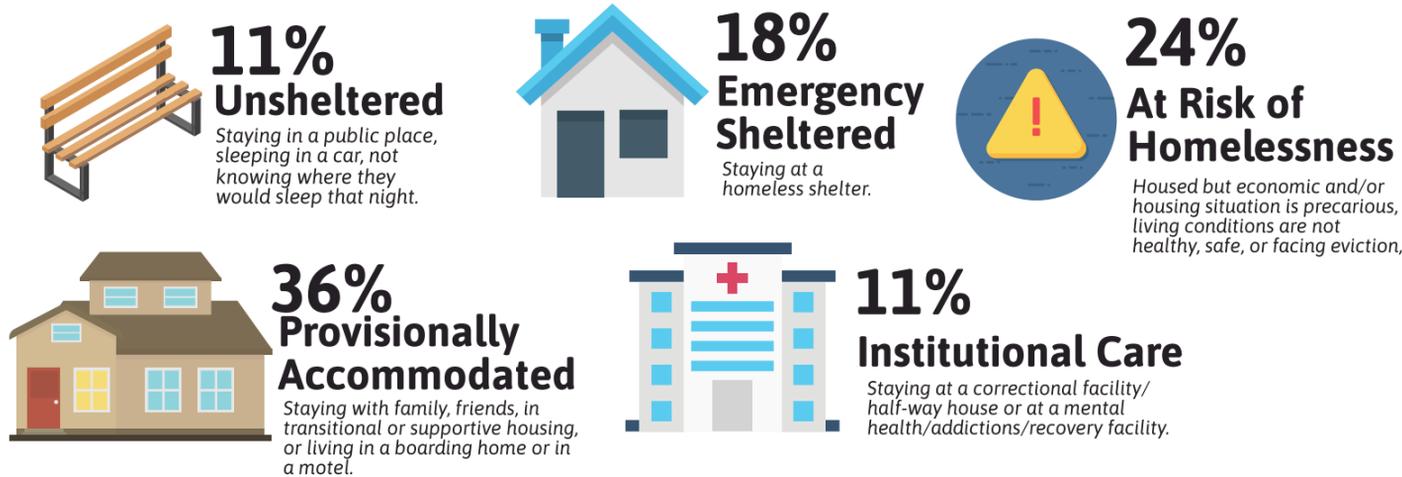


During the month of November 2021, service providers throughout the study region identified clients who were 16 years of age or older thought to be experiencing homelessness. For each client, a survey was completed with the service provider's perspective on the client's demographic background and housing situation.



* Above percentages are based on 419 adults

Housing Situations Identified



Breakdown by County

Cape Breton County	Antigonish County	Guysborough, Inverness, Richmond & Victoria Counties
33 Unsheltered	6 Unsheltered	6 Unsheltered
65 Emergency Sheltered	5 Emergency Sheltered	6 Emergency Sheltered
107 Provisionally Accommodated	24 Provisionally Accommodated	19 Provisionally Accommodated
46 Institutional Care	0 Institutional Care	0 Institutional Care
74 At Risk of Homelessness	16 At Risk of Homelessness	12 At Risk of Homelessness

Barriers to Affordable, Appropriate Housing

Several key barriers to accessing and keeping appropriate, stable, and permanent housing were identified. People often experience multiple barriers.

Top five barriers reported:



Results call for immediate action including more affordable social and community housing development, and the preservation of all existing social housing stock. It also requires supportive housing programs for tenants living with a mental illness or substance use disorder, and additional funding for housing support workers.

Greater financial assistance for individuals and families is also needed. Housing and supports also must be tailored to the characteristics of those experiencing homelessness to ensure they are appropriate and safe.