



Homelessness Services Update

Presentation to Council
October 4, 2017



AGENDA

Homeless Count 2017

Vancouver Results of the 2017 Homeless Count in Metro Vancouver

Shelter Strategy

Temporary Shelters

Warming Centres

Housing First – Temporary Modular Homes



Vancouver Results of 2017 Homeless Count in Metro Vancouver

Key Demographics

Indigenous Profile

*Comparison: Youth, Adults
and Seniors*

Implications

Oppenheimer Park, 2014

Photo credit: <http://www.genuinewitty.com/2014/08/01>

KEY DEMOGRAPHICS: METRO VANCOUVER AND VANCOUVER

- Indigenous individuals overrepresented
- Increase in seniors 55+
- Decrease in youth 24 and under
- Majority are men

2017 HOMELESS COUNT IN METRO VANCOUVER

Changes by Sub-Region

| Sub-Region | 2014 | 2017 | 2014-2017 Change | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------|
| | | | # | % |
| Delta/White Rock | 19 | 46 | 27 | 142% |
| Langley | 92 | 206 | 114 | 124% |
| Tri-Cities | 55 | 107 | 52 | 95% |
| Richmond | 38 | 70 | 32 | 84% |
| Ridge Meadows | 84 | 134 | 50 | 60% |
| Surrey | 403 | 602 | 199 | 49% |
| New Westminster | 106 | 133 | 27 | 25% |
| Burnaby | 58 | 69 | 11 | 19% |
| Vancouver | 1,803 | 2,138 | 335 | 19% |
| North Shore | 119 | 100 | -19 | -16% |
| Total | 2,777 | 3,605 | 828 | 30% |

FINDINGS IN VANCOUVER OF THE 2017 HOMELESS COUNT

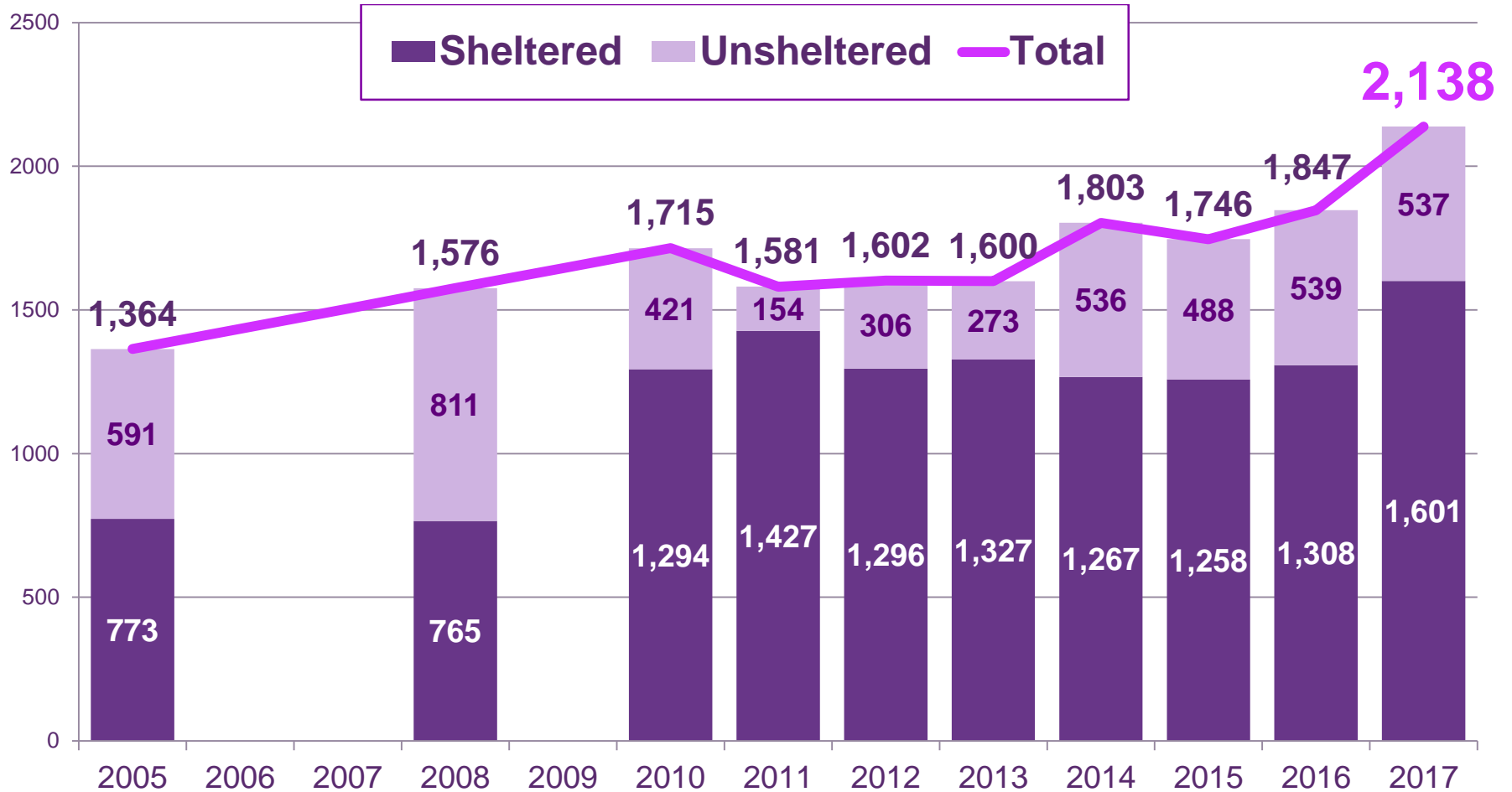
2,138

**PEOPLE IDENTIFIED AS HOMELESS IN
VANCOUVER ON MARCH 8, 2017**

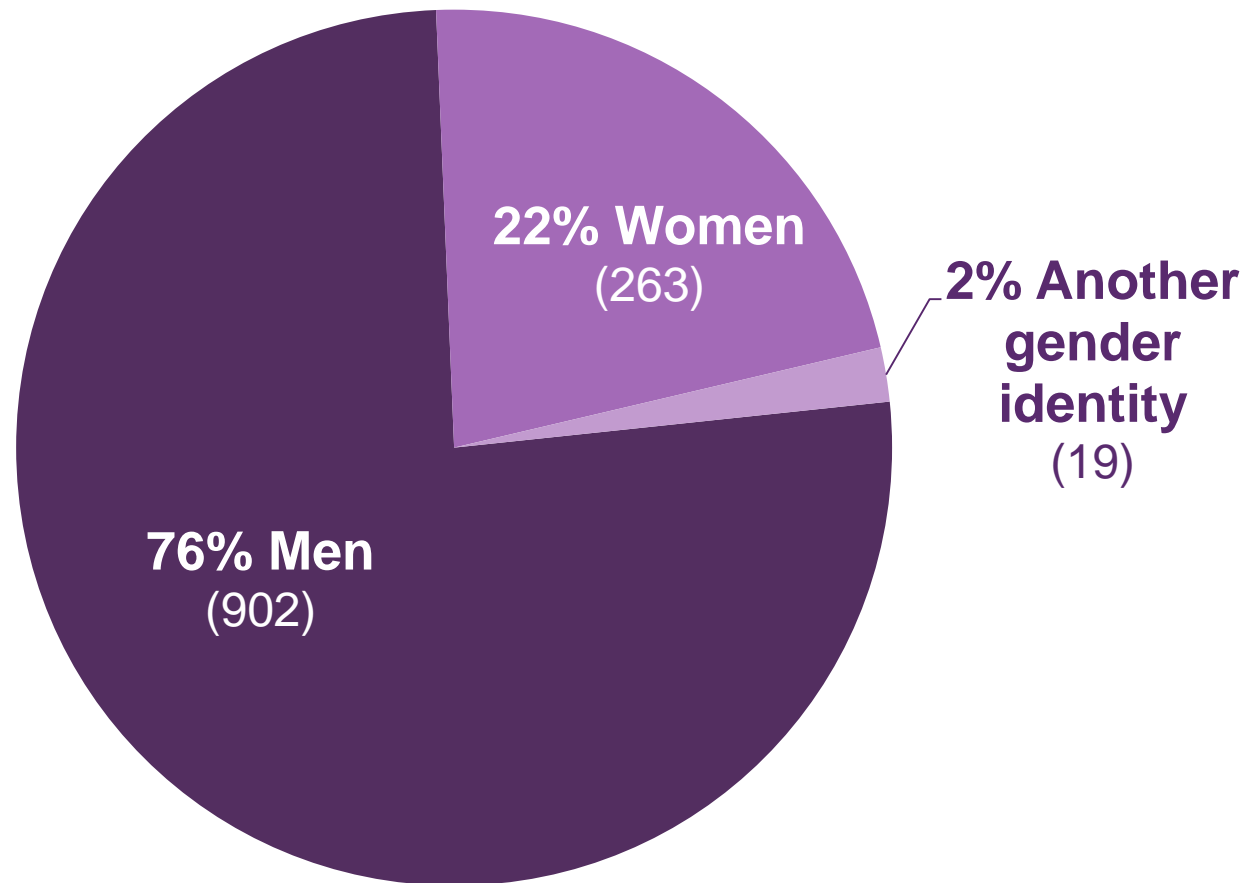
537 UNSHELTERED

1,601 SHELTERED

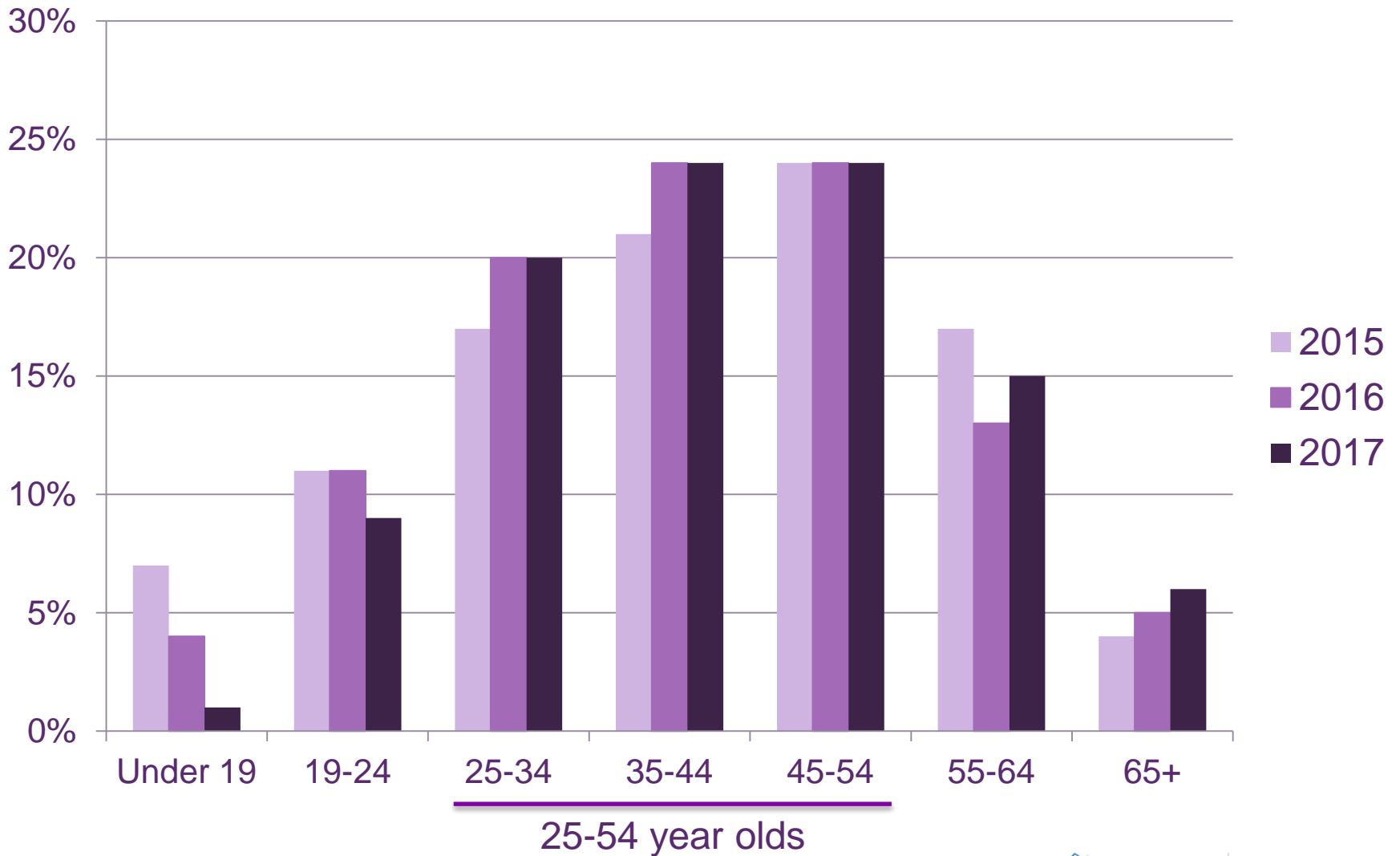
VANCOUVER: 2005 - 2017 TREND



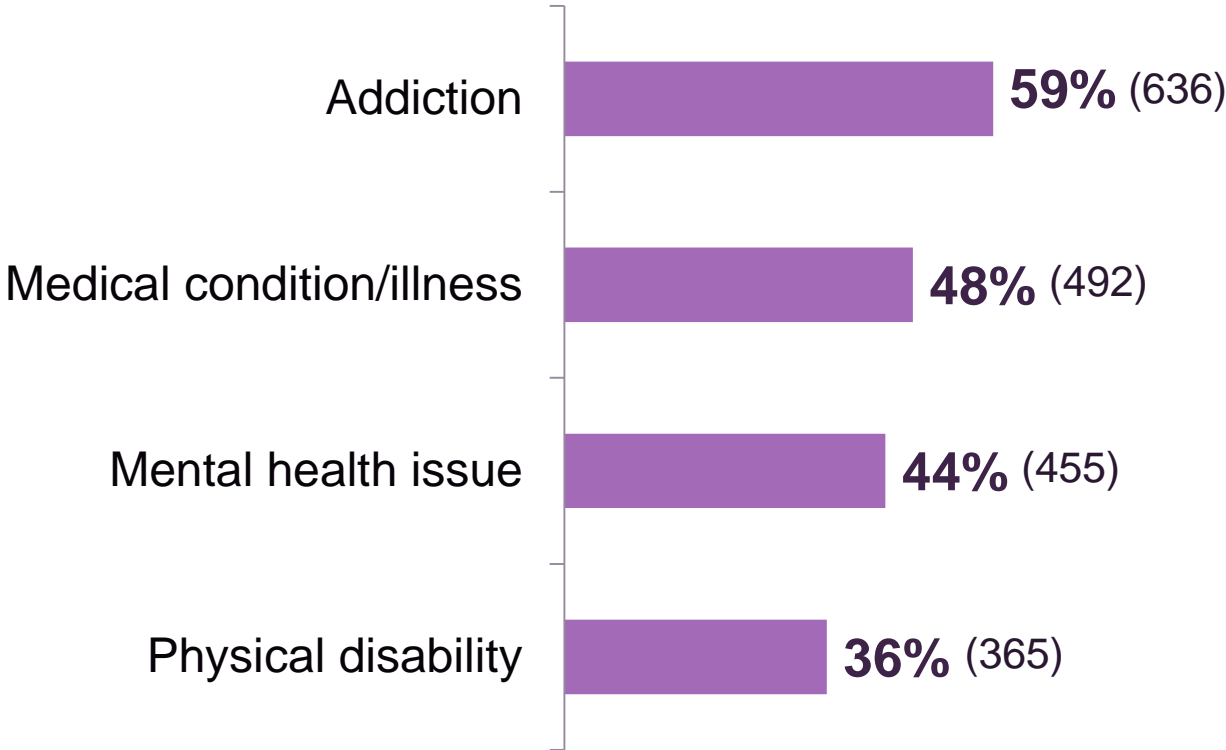
HOMELESS POPULATION BY GENDER



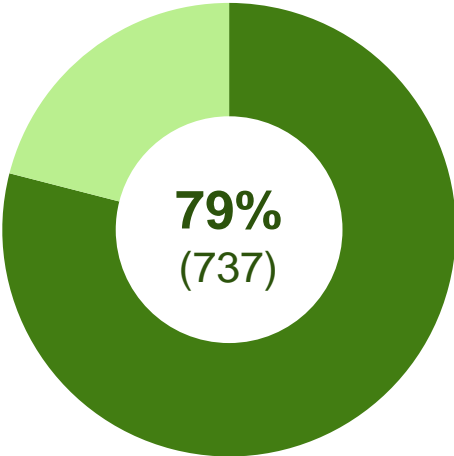
HOMELESS POPULATION BY AGE



HEALTH CONDITIONS



Have one or more health conditions

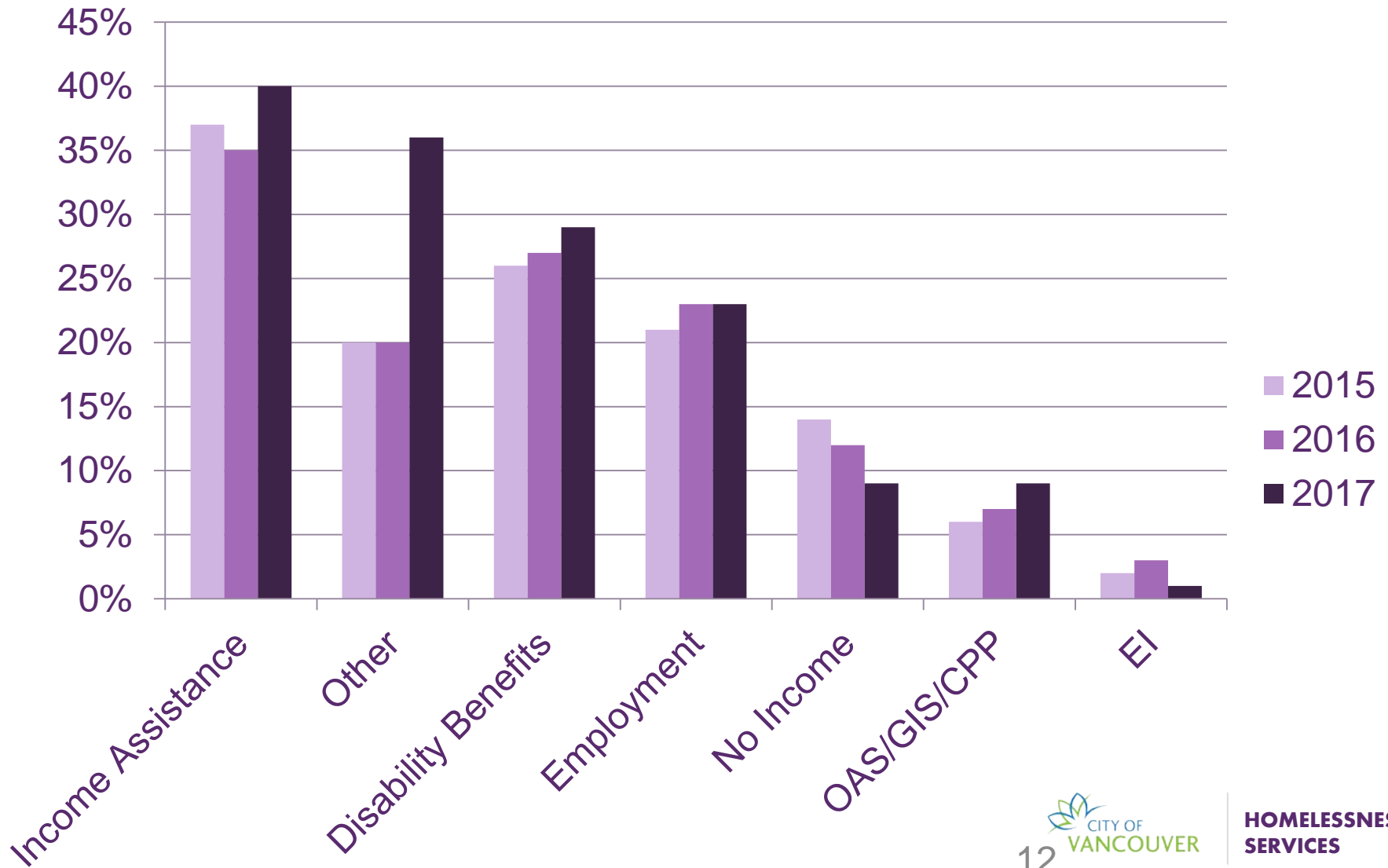


MOST FREQUENTLY USED SERVICES

1. Emergency room **51%**
2. Meal programs **49%**
3. Hospital (non-emerg) **43%**
4. Drop-in services **43%**
5. Health clinic **41%**
6. Ambulance **40%**



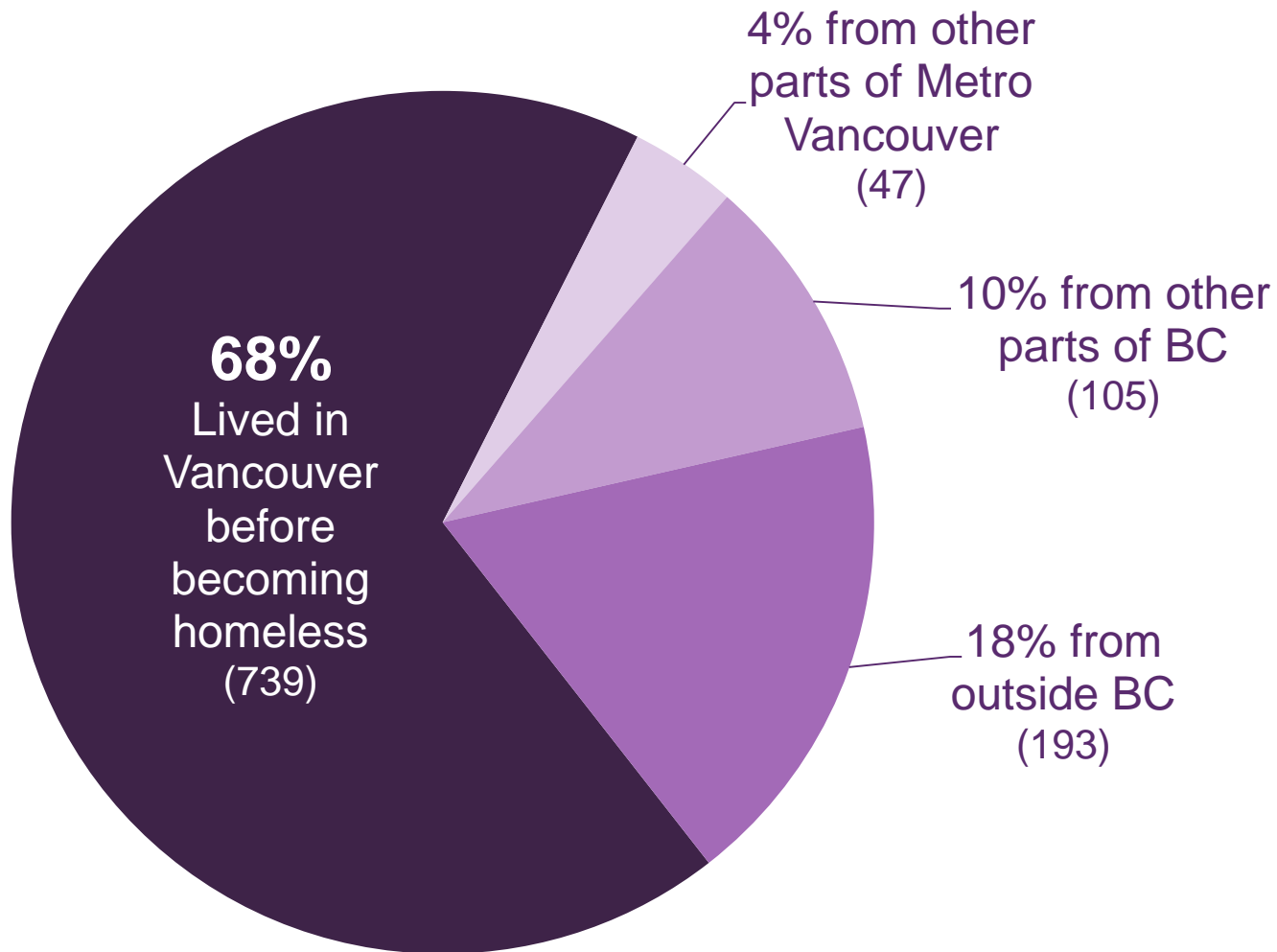
SOURCES OF INCOME – TRENDS



FIRST TIME HOMELESS

| LENGTH OF TIME HOMELESS | 1 ST PERIOD OF HOMELESSNESS |
|-------------------------|--|
| < 6 months | 40% |
| 6 months to 1 year | 44% |
| 1 year or more | 43% |

HOMELESS IN VANCOUVER

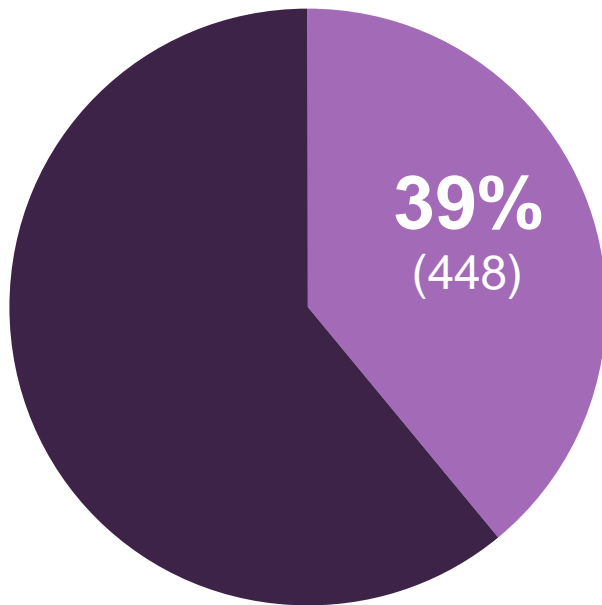




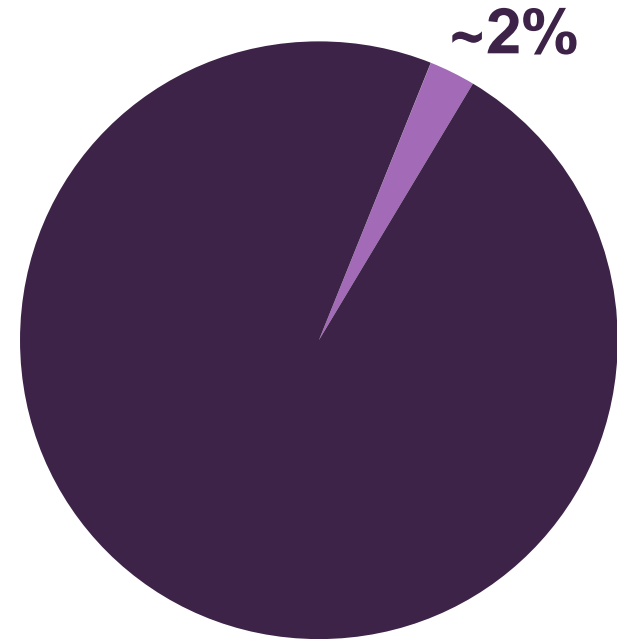
Indigenous Profile

INDIGENOUS HOMELESSNESS

% Indigenous in Homeless Population



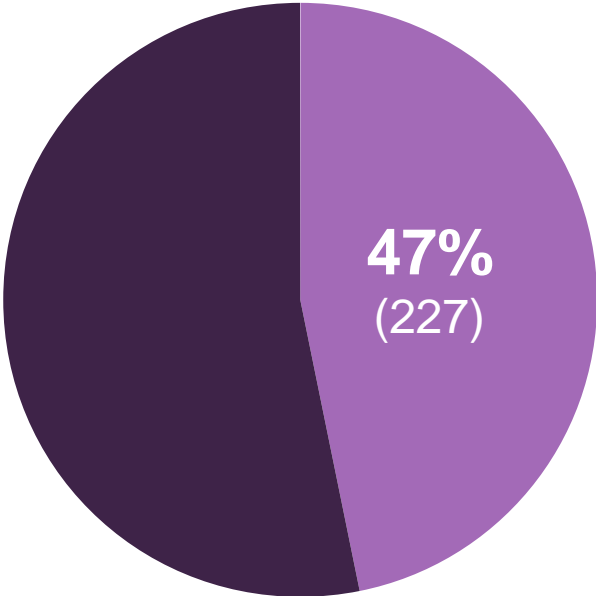
% Indigenous in General Population



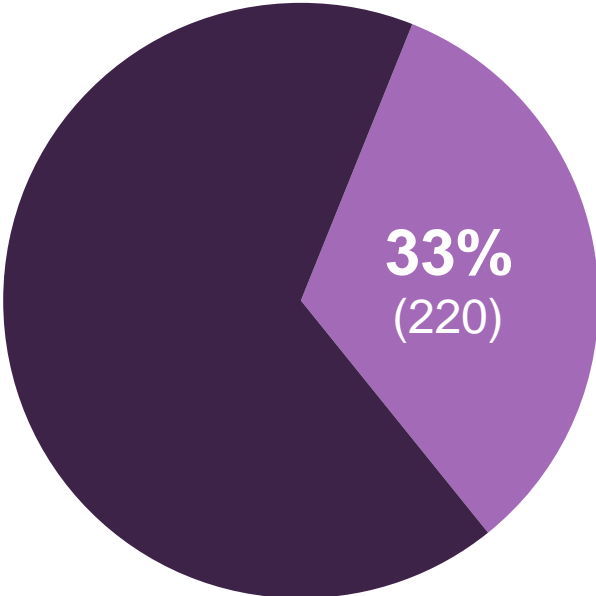
-  Indigenous
-  Non-Indigenous

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY AND LOCATION

Unsheltered (n=485)



Sheltered (n=665)



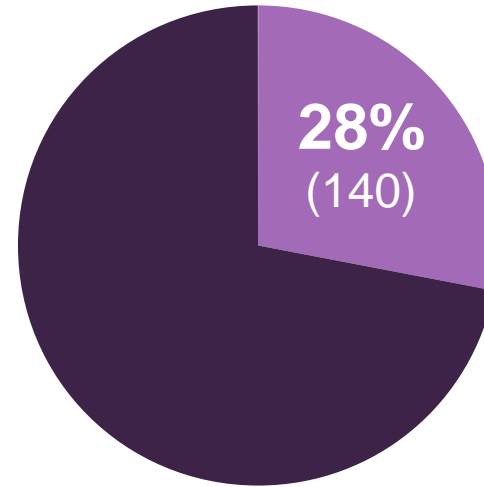
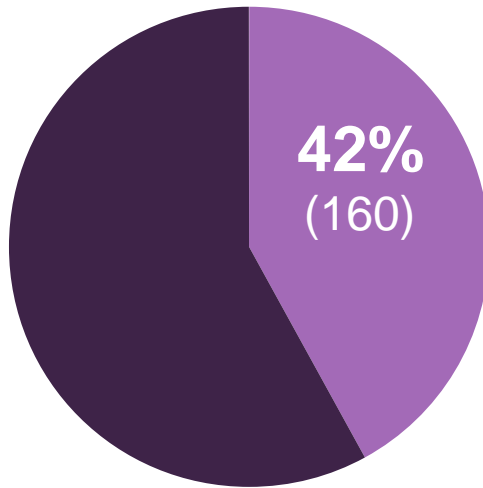
- Indigenous
- Non-Indigenous

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY, GENDER AND LOCATION

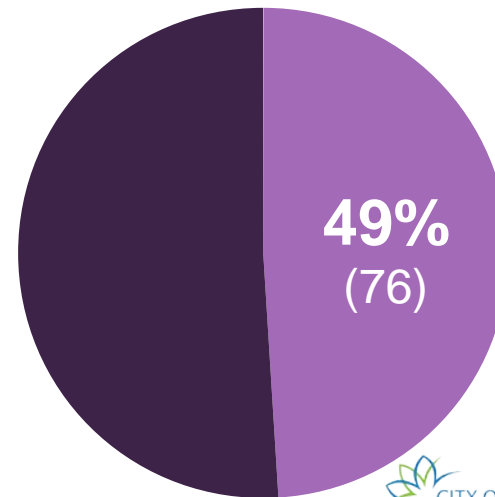
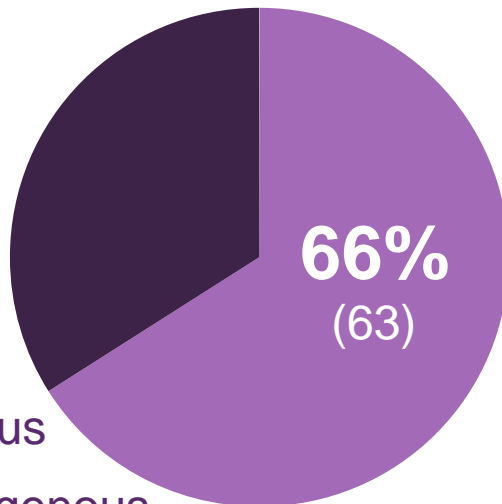
Unsheltered

Sheltered

Men



Women

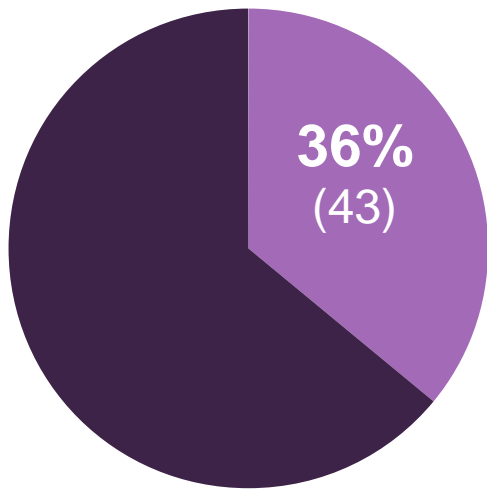


 Indigenous
 Non-Indigenous

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY: YOUTH, ADULTS AND SENIORS

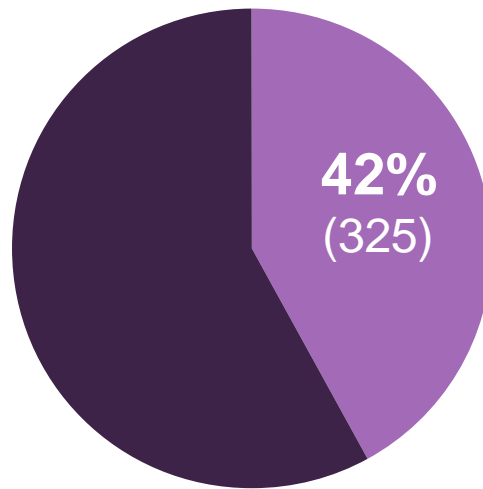
Youth (Under 25)

n=119



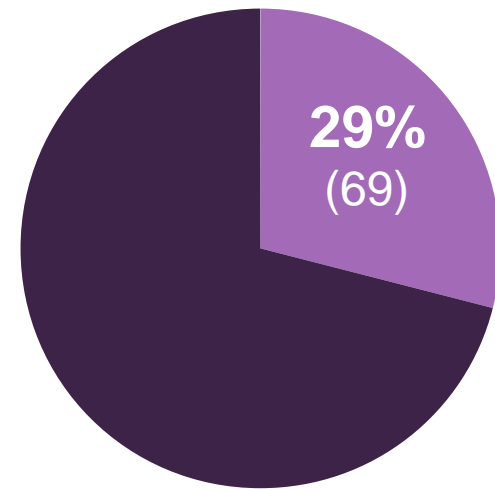
Adults (25-54)

n=769



Seniors (55+)

n=240



SUMMARY: INDIGENOUS PROFILE

- Indigenous people overrepresented and growing in homelessness
- Indigenous people more likely to be on the street than in shelters
- Indigenous women particularly overrepresented and growing on the street
- Fewer Indigenous respondents in the senior population



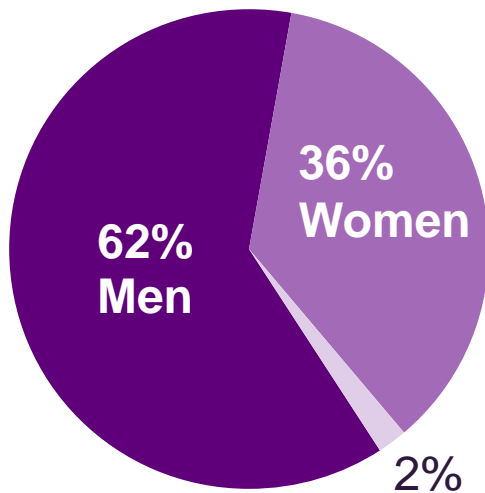
Comparison: Youth, Adults and Seniors



GENDER: YOUTH, ADULTS AND SENIORS

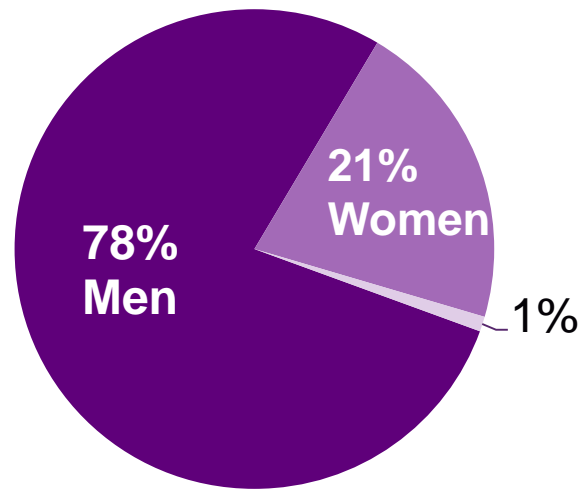
Youth (Under 25)

n=121



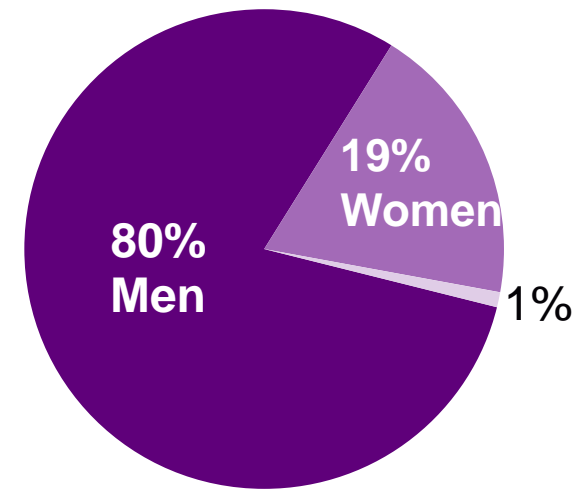
Adults (25-54)

n=790



Seniors (55+)

n=224



 Men

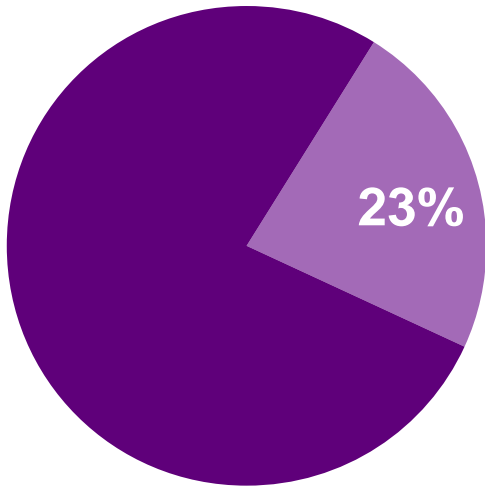
 Women

 Another gender identity

LGBTQ2+: YOUTH, ADULTS AND SENIORS

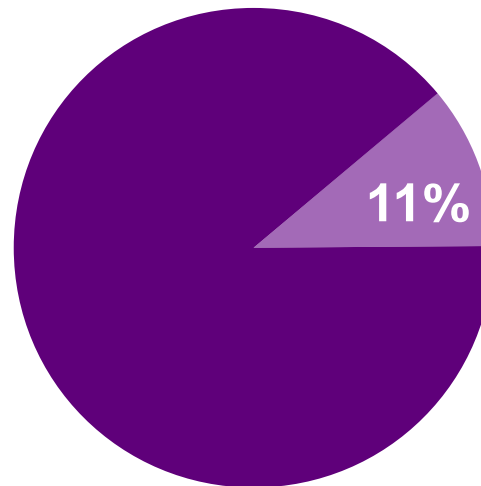
Youth (Under 25)

n=114



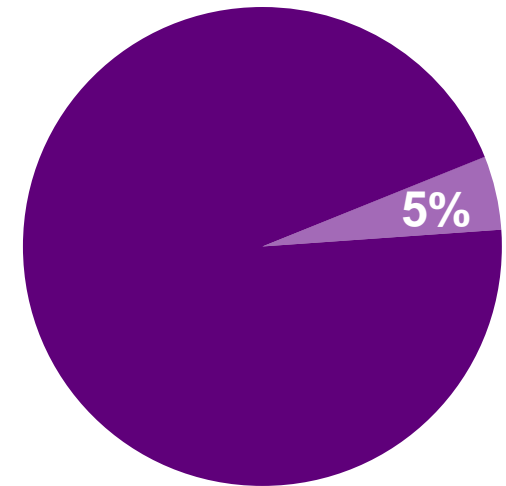
Adults (25-54)

n=751

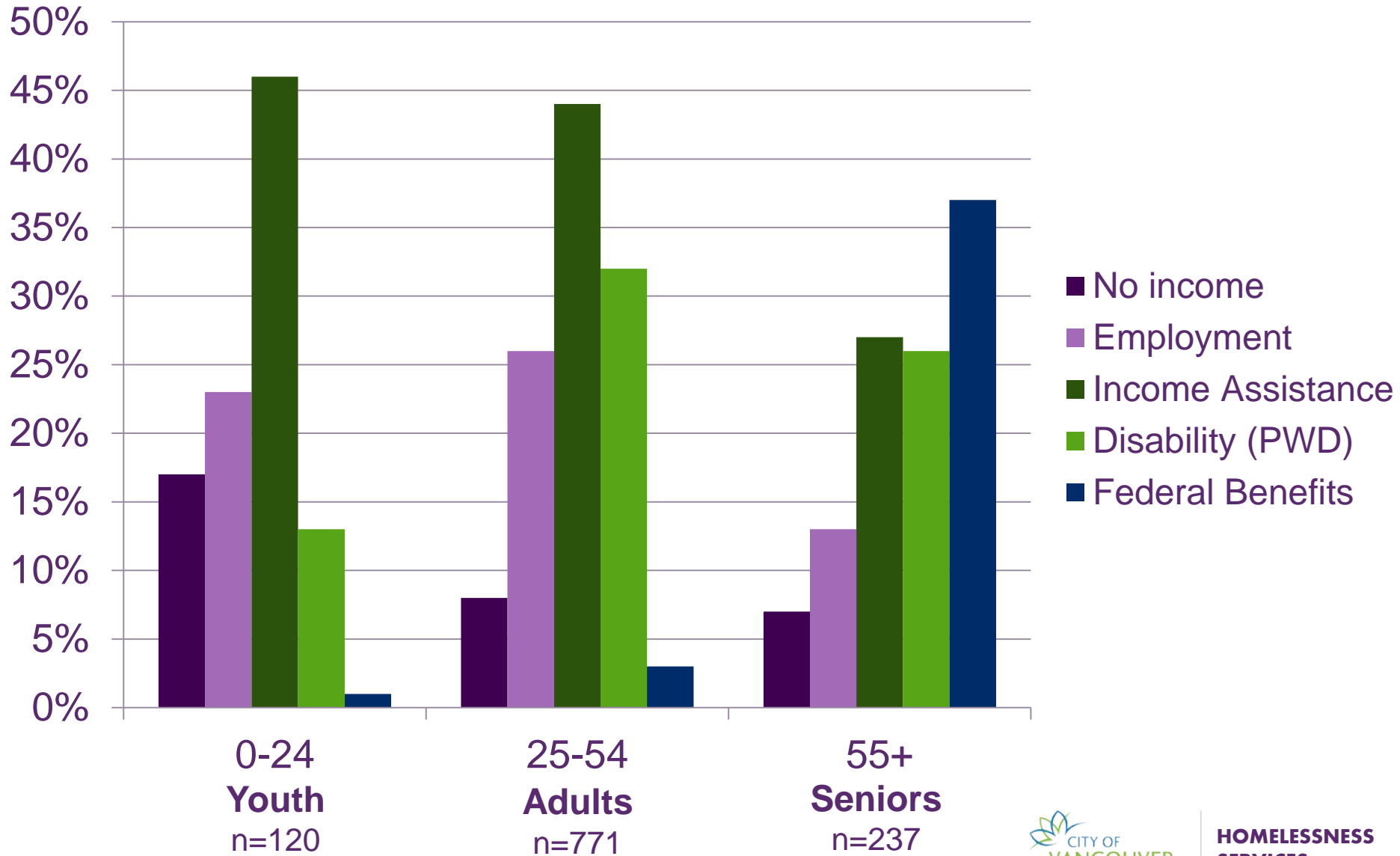


Seniors (55+)

n=228

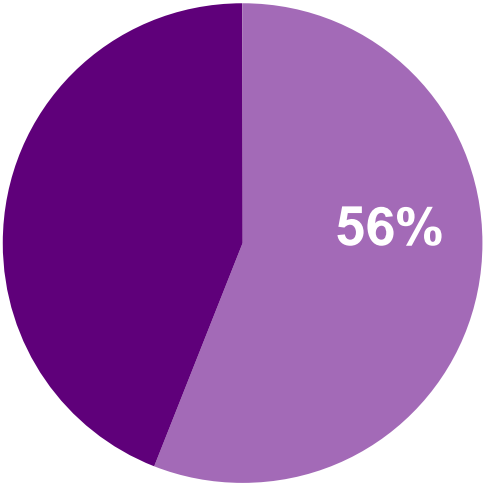


INCOME: YOUTH, ADULTS AND SENIORS

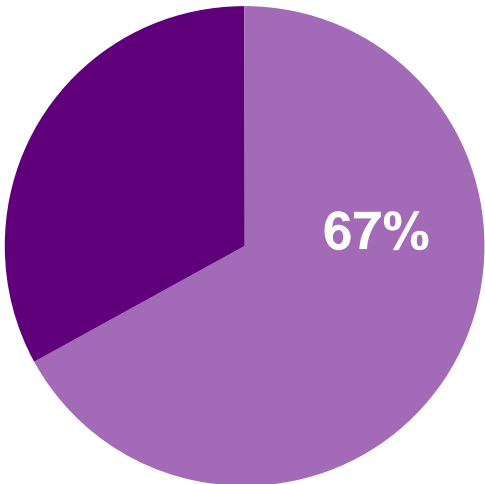


ADDICTION: YOUTH, ADULTS AND SENIORS

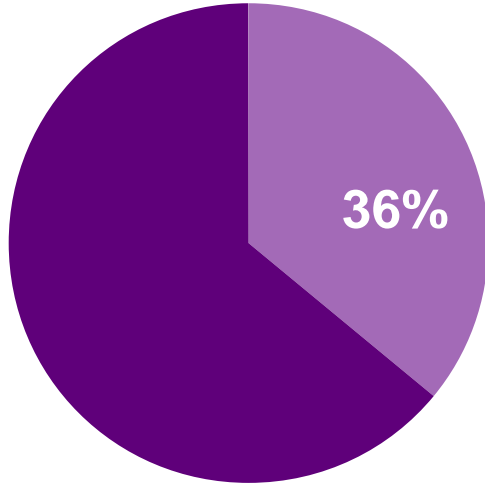
Youth (Under 25)
n=119



Adults (25-54)
n=720

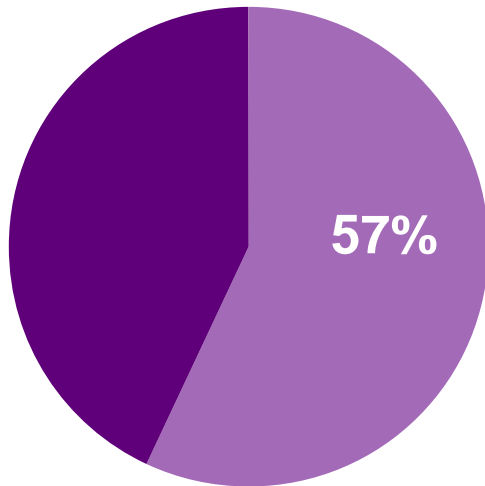


Seniors (55+)
n=221

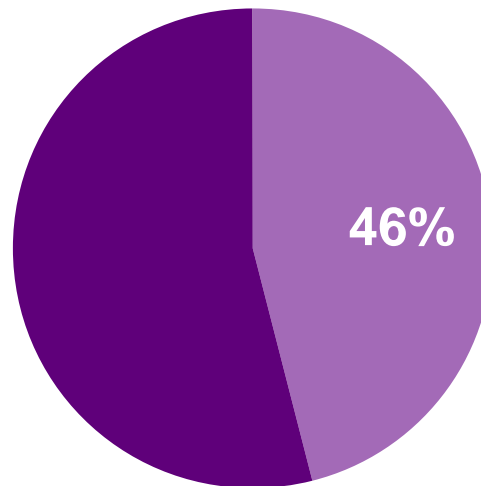


MENTAL HEALTH: YOUTH, ADULT AND SENIORS

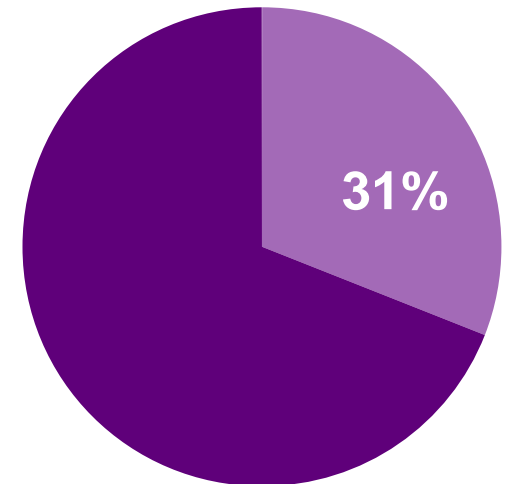
Youth (Under 25)
n=110



Adults (25-54)
n=687

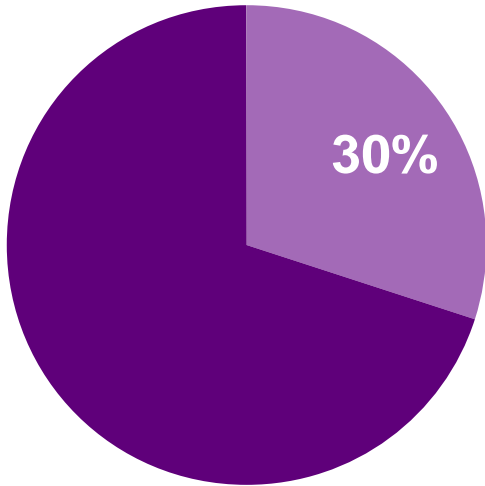


Seniors (55+)
n=218

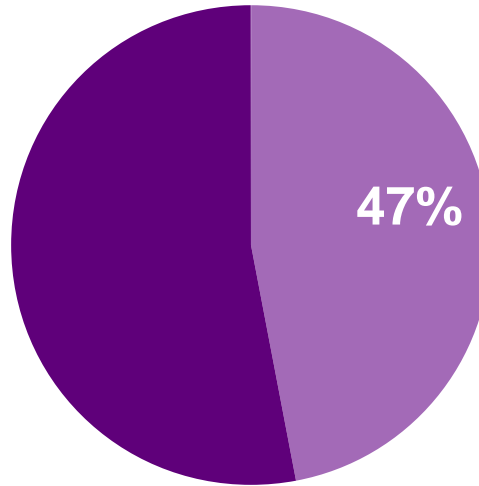


MEDICAL CONDITION: YOUTH, ADULT AND SENIORS

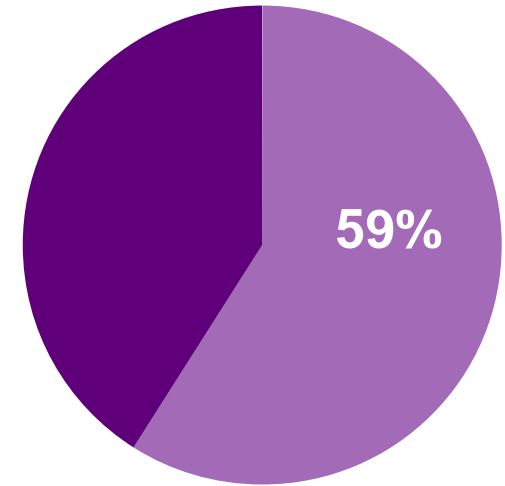
Youth (Under 25)
n=111



Adults (25-54)
n=677

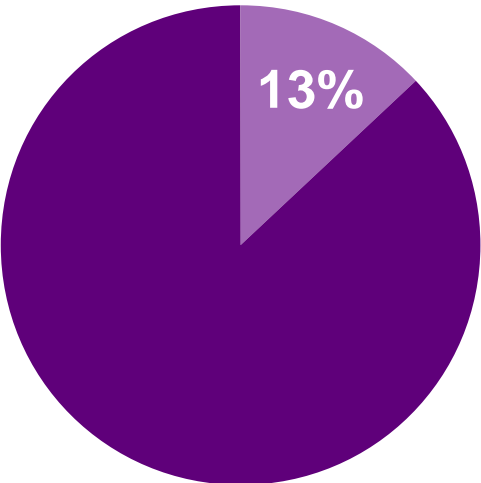


Seniors (55+)
n=219

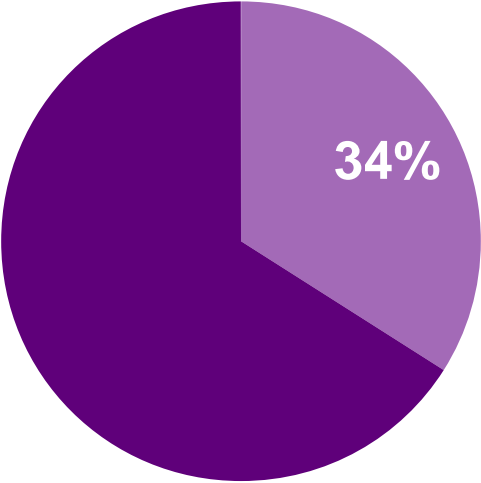


PHYSICAL DISABILITY: YOUTH, ADULT AND SENIORS

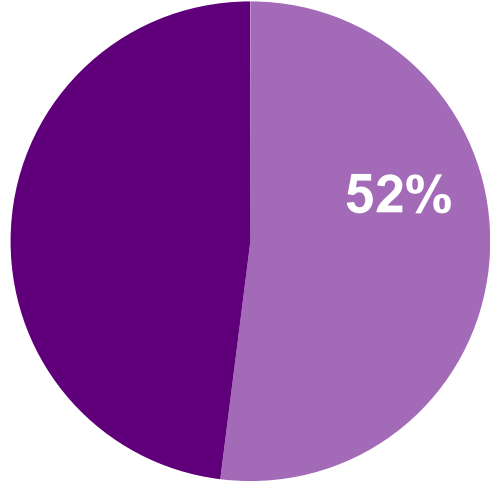
Youth (Under 25)
n=112



Adults (25-54)
n=657



Seniors (55+)
n=223



IN CARE OF MINISTRY (MCFD): YOUTH AND ADULTS

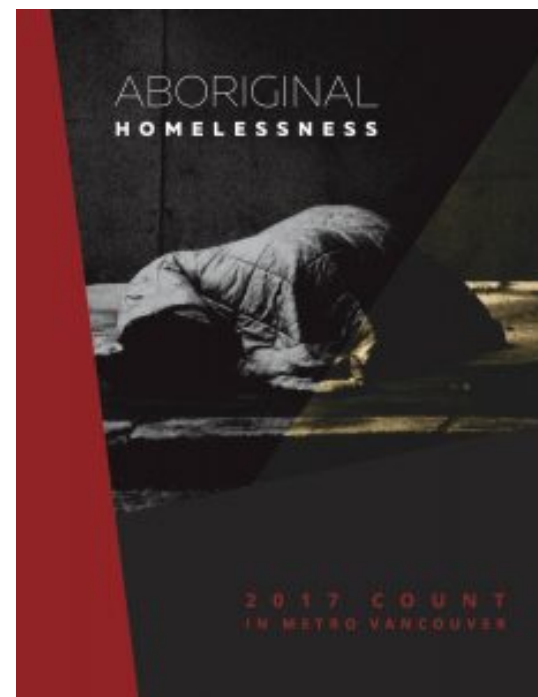
| AGE CATEGORY | IN CARE OF MCFD | % |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-----|
| Youth 0-18 (*Small sample) | Currently in care | 17% |
| | Previously in care | 42% |
| Youth 19-24 (n=101) | Previously in care | 39% |
| Adults 25+ (n=939) | Previously in care | 19% |

SUMMARY: YOUTH, ADULTS, SENIORS

- Youth more likely than adults and seniors to be women
- Youth more likely to identify as LGBTQ2+
- Youth more likely to have no income
- Youth more likely to report a mental illness
- Adults more likely to report an addiction
- Seniors more likely than adults and youth to report a medical condition or physical disability
- Youth under 25 are more likely than adults to have been in the care of the ministry

IMPLICATIONS

- Reinforces the importance of a deeper dive into data, particularly Indigenous data, to enhance our ability to provide meaningful, integrated services for people who are homeless
- Must acknowledge the colonial history and intergenerational trauma experienced by many Indigenous people and the ways these contribute to homelessness as outlined in the report on Aboriginal Homelessness for the 2017 Homeless Count in Metro Vancouver





Shelter Strategy

Temporary Shelters

Warming Centres

*Housing First – Temporary
Modular Homes*

PROJECTED NEED THIS WINTER

- 2200: projected # homeless in 2018
 - 963 projected to use existing year-round shelters
 - 337 (approx.) projected to be in other facilities
 - 900 projected to be unsheltered if no actions taken
- Point-in-time count does not reflect the fluidity of homelessness
- Emergency shelter requests remain high, even in summer months



Temporary Shelters

300 temporary shelter beds to address the immediate needs of street homeless

TEMPORARY SHELTERS 2017/2018

Rationale

- Address the needs of people who are homeless while Transitional and Permanent Social Housing is made available
- Mitigate cold weather health risks

TEMPORARY SHELTERS 2017/2018

Model

- Utilize pre-existing commercial and industrial spaces
- Serve people whose needs are not met by traditional year-round shelters = Low-barrier
- Extend existing shelter capacity
- Create flow through, producing further shelter vacancies
- Cost share with BC Housing

TEMPORARY SHELTERS 2017/2018

Next Steps

- Partnership with BC Housing will provide 300 temporary shelter beds in 11 shelters across the city
- Temporary shelters will open November 1st instead of in December to give relief from the November rains
- Community engagement will begin in late October in the neighbourhoods where shelters will be located
- COV provides facilities and BCH funds operations

WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US?

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Projected # homeless | 2200 | Based on 10 year average annual increase |
| Projected shelter supply | 1600 | 300 projected to be in temporary shelters |
| | | 963 projected to be in year-round shelters |
| | | 337 projected to be sheltered in hospital, detox, transition houses and other institutional settings |
| Projected # without shelter | 600 | Predict 600 people unsheltered |



Photo: Rafal Gerszak, Globe & Mail, January 12, 2017

Warming Centres

City of Vancouver
response to extreme
weather

LAST YEAR: THE 2016/2017 SEASON

Last Year's Need

- Coldest winter in 10 years
- Not enough shelter beds for all street homeless

Last Year's Response

- Opened Warming Centres mid-Dec 2016
- Partnership between COV and Park Board
- Activation temp. aligned with EWR (0°C)
- Open 45 nights between Dec and March

Last Year's Cost

- 2016/2017 cost to operate: over \$300,000



Photo: CBC News David Horemans Dec 13, 2016

LAST YEAR: THE 2016/2017 SEASON

Last Year's Challenges

- Open many more nights than expected because of continued cold weather at 0°C and below
- Open for many nights in a row; contributed to burnout
- Short notice and lack of staff - difficult to fill staffing quotas
- Lack of staff training on supporting vulnerable populations
- Programme scheduling conflicts

WARMING CENTRES 2017/2018

Addressing last year's challenges

- Activate at -5°C or below
 - Based on Environment and Climate Change Canada's parameters for all individuals, including young children and the elderly, who may be outside in cold temperatures
- Operate for no more than 5 days in a row at any one site
- Alternate operations with other sites where possible
- Improve communication and notification processes
 - 24-hour advance notice
 - Schedule displayed at all Warming and Community Centres
 - Notification and schedule provided to CoV Communications
- Provide relevant staff training on supporting vulnerable populations

WARMING CENTRES 2017/2018



Photo: Phil Carpenter, Montreal Gazette, January 2, 2013

Next Steps

- Open in priority neighbourhoods
 - West End
 - DTES
 - Commercial Drive
 - South Vancouver
- Low-barrier model – welcome to all
- Operations the responsibility of each partner
- Costs covered by CS Warming Centre Budget

WARMING CENTRES 2017/2018

PROPOSED BUDGET

Description

Cost

Cost per night per facility

\$2,300

Cost per night for 4 facilities

\$9,200

Estimated season cost (24 nights*)

\$220,000

* Based on 5-year average # of days that felt like -5°C or below



Housing First - Temporary Modular Housing

600 Temporary Modular
Homes to provide housing for
homeless citizens

WHY HOUSING FIRST?

Housing First is an opportunity to offer housing with wrap around support services to homeless citizens without prior interventions or criteria. The first thing that people need in order to find balance and heal is a home.

- 600 temporary modular homes to respond to the immediate need of homeless people

WHY TEMPORARY MODULAR HOUSING?

- Provides much-needed housing for up to 10 years while more permanent housing is built
- Expedient on-site construction and installation (~2 - 4 months)
- Designed to meet City's building codes
- Reduces waste during manufacturing and installation
- Can be reconfigured and relocated to fit different sites depending on local needs



TENANTS

- People who are unsheltered or living in shelters.
- Tenants apply through BC Housing with support from COV outreach

OPERATIONS

- Experienced non-profit supportive housing provider will operate each site
- BC Housing to fund 24/7 staffing and support services to meet the needs of tenants
- Health care provided by Vancouver Coastal Health in neighbourhood clinics

PROPOSED BUILDING CONCEPT

- Approx 50 units per building; approx 50-100 units per site
- Self-contained studios with private bathroom and kitchen
- 10% accessible units on ground floor
- Unit size: 250 - 350 sq. ft. to comply with BC Housing guidelines



PROPOSED BUILDING CONCEPT

- Amenity space in most buildings with communal kitchen and attached dining areas and client interaction space
- Comprehensive security measures including design features, security cameras and exterior lighting



WHERE WILL WE BUILD TEMPORARY MODULAR HOUSING?

- Buildings will be located temporarily on vacant or under-used sites owned by the City or other partners
- Considerations will include:
 - Access to transit and health services
 - Site access and servicing
 - Financial considerations
 - Lease and legal considerations
 - Environmental issues with land
 - Land ownership
 - Current land use/zoning
 - Development potential and timing

PROPOSED TIMELINE: OPENING WINTER 2017/18

- Current - Site selection according to criteria - staff currently actively exploring possibilities
- Current - BC Housing selects operators
- October/November 2017- Site-specific neighbourhood community engagement begins as sites are selected
- November 2017 - Tenant application process begins
- November/December 2017 - Modular on-site construction begins
- Early Winter 2018 - Tenantiing of first Temporary Modular Homes is complete

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The City of Vancouver will work closely with the community and key stakeholders to listen to interests and priorities
- Hold site-specific Community Information Sessions
- Community liaison will be available directly to answer community member's questions
- Provide up-to-date information on the City's website

UPCOMING SOCIAL HOUSING

Upcoming Social Housing Completions 2017-2018

October 3rd 2017 Update

Units completed 2017 = 264 (estimate)
Units completed 2018 = 629
Total = 893

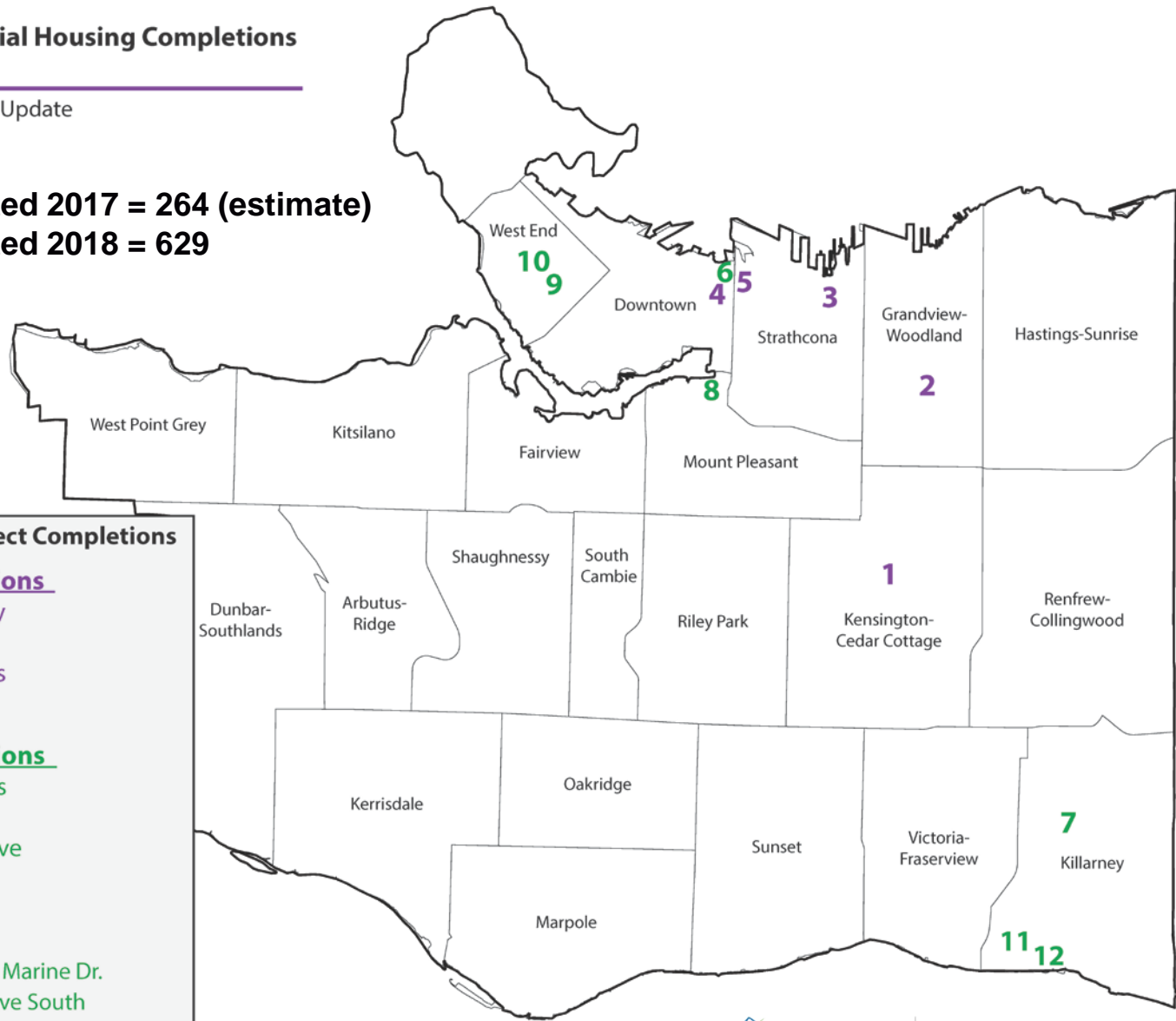
Upcoming Project Completions

2017 Completions

1. 1700 Kingsway
2. 1723 Victoria
3. 955 E. Hastings
4. 41 E. Hastings

2018 Completions

5. 288 E. Hastings
6. 179 Main St
7. 3090 E. 54th Ave
8. 95 E. 1st Ave
9. 1155 Thurlow
10. 1171 Jarvis
11. 2780-2800 SE. Marine Dr.
12. 2910 E. Kent Ave South



ONGOING EFFORTS

- Overall, due to our many actions over the last few years, homelessness has increased at a lower rate than in other jurisdictions in the region
- Our Warming Centres will become part of standard operating procedures
- We are making homeless individuals a priority with our Housing First Temporary Modular Housing
- We will be working over the fall and winter to bring more and more people inside

THANK YOU!

