

# 2025 Homeless Count: Vancouver

Presentation to Council:  
Data from the Metro Vancouver  
Homeless Count

April 14, 2026

Celine Mauboules, Managing Director  
Housing and Homelessness Services

Dustin Lupick, Social Planner  
Housing and Homelessness Services



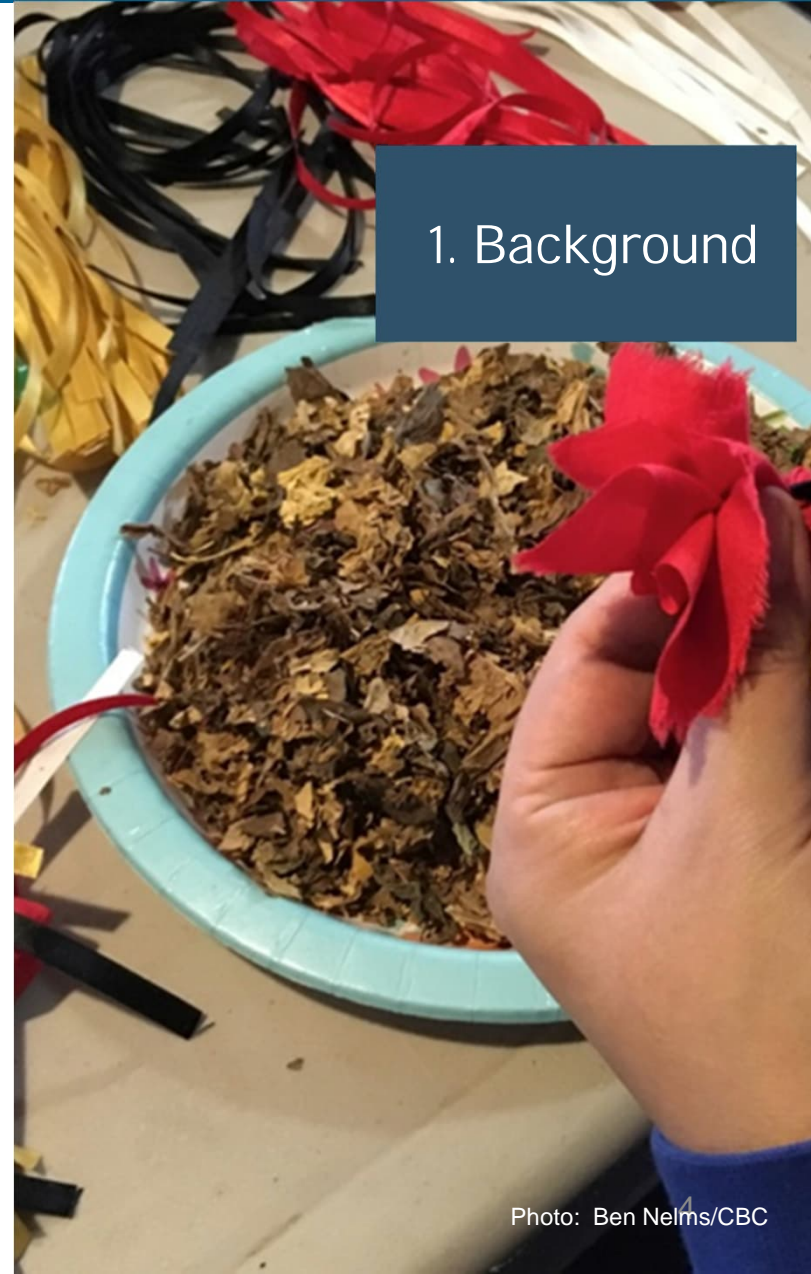


We acknowledge that we are on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy'əm (Musqueam Indian Band), S<sub>k</sub>wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), and səlilwətał (Tseil-Waututh Nation).

1. Background
2. Findings
3. Drivers of Homelessness
4. City Responses to Homelessness



- March 10-11, 2025
- Initiative of the Reaching Home Designated and Indigenous Community Entity, Lu'ma Native Housing Society – Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, (2025)
- Conducted by HSABC
- 24-hour Point-in-Time snapshot
- 2025 – only third time federal, provincial and regional counts aligned
- Basic demographic profile
- PiT – tracks trends, considered an undercount



## 1. Background

## 2. Findings



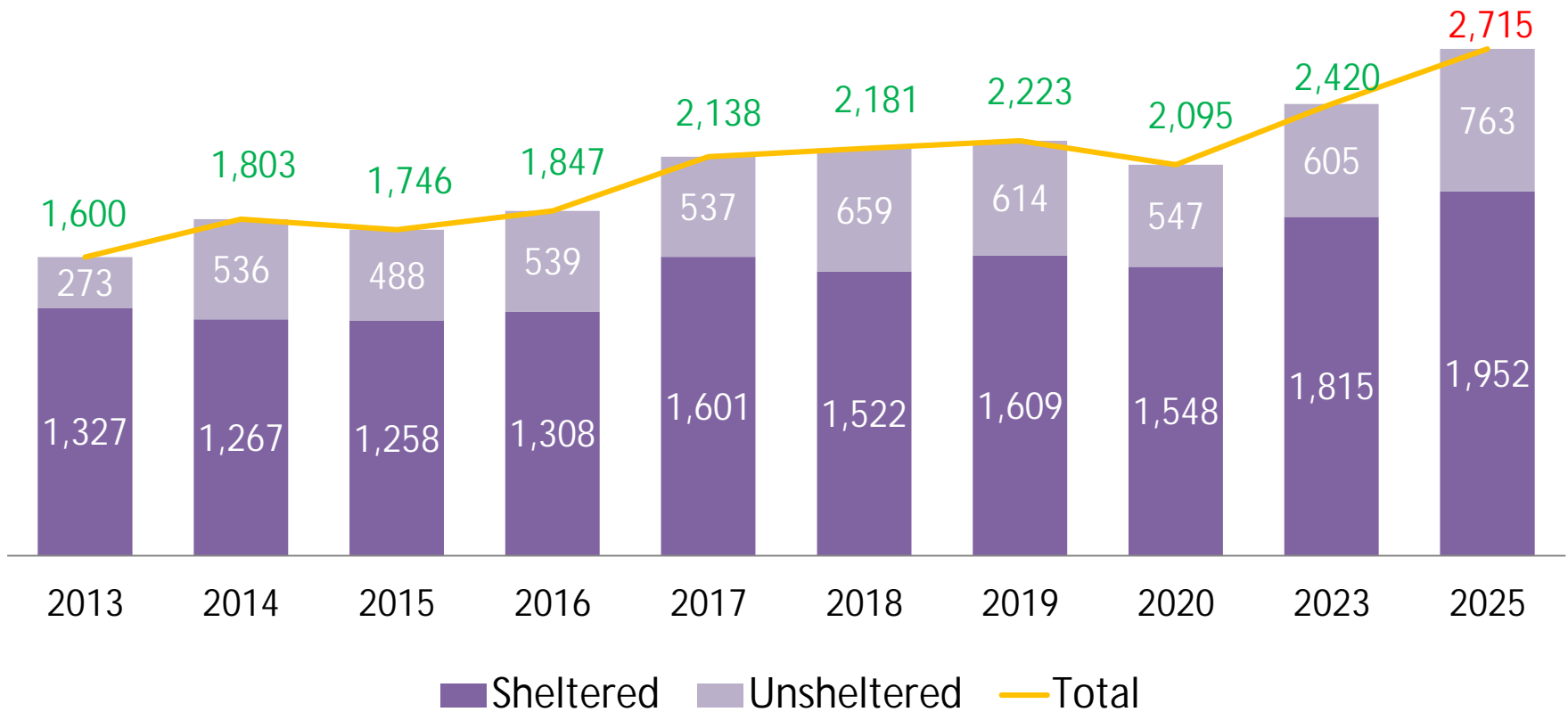
**2,715**

**PEOPLE IDENTIFIED AS HOMELESS IN VANCOUVER  
ON MARCH 11, 2025**

**1,952 SHELTERED**

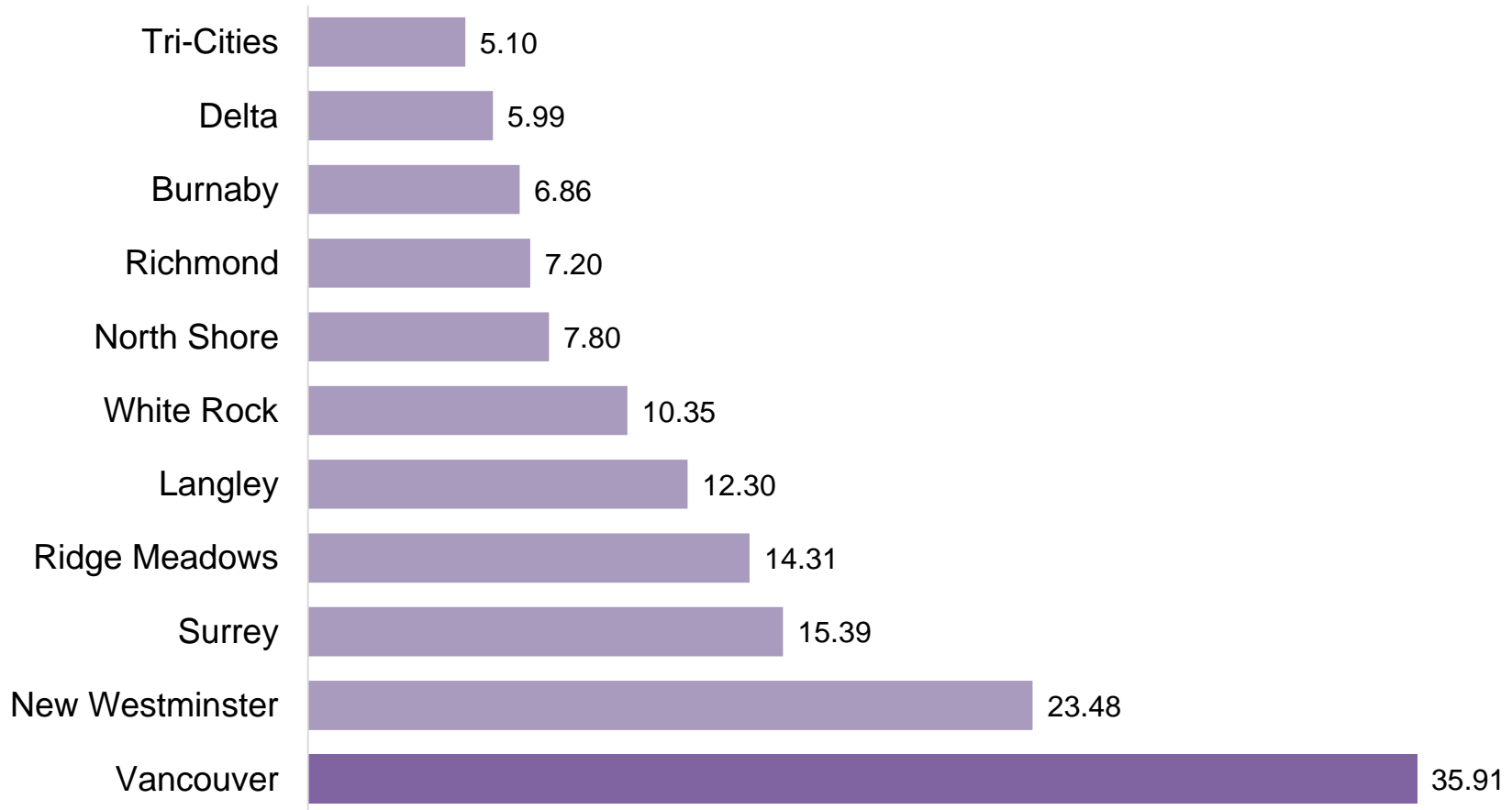
**763 UNSHELTERED**

# Vancouver: Growing and Persistent Homelessness

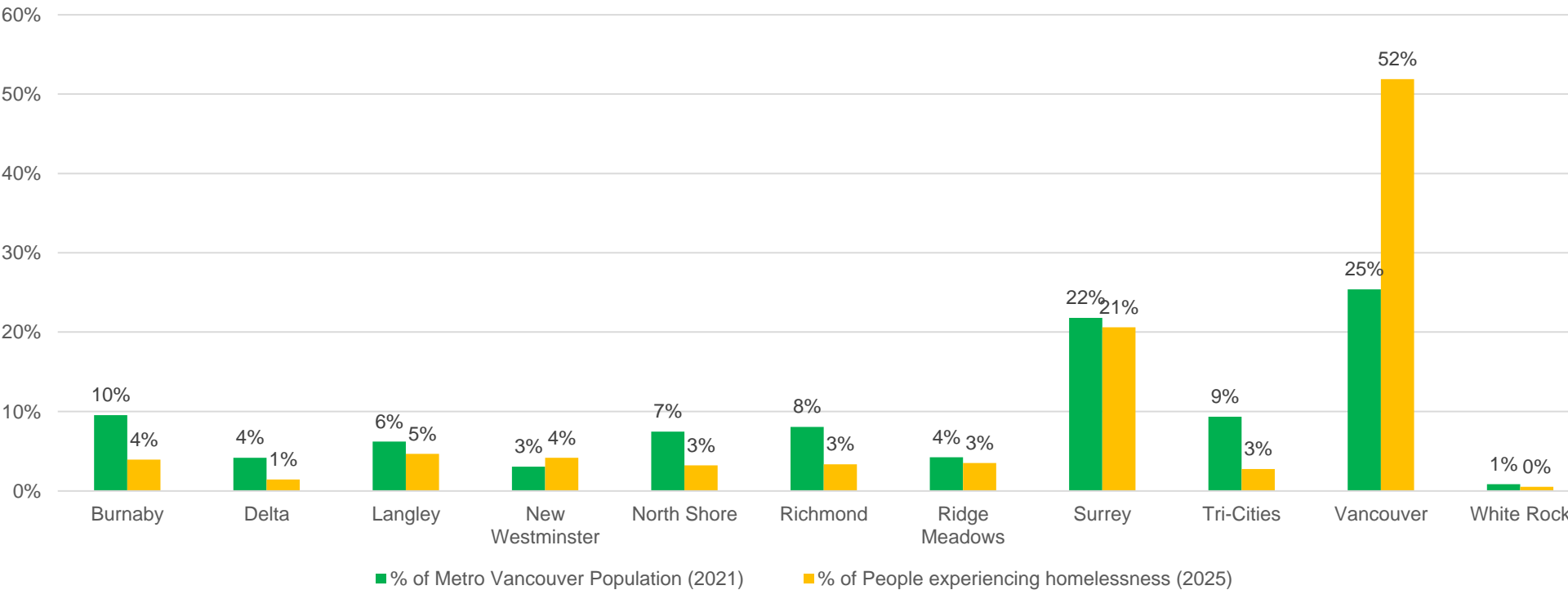


12% increase compared to 2023

## Homeless Population per 10,000 Population - Metro Vancouver 2025

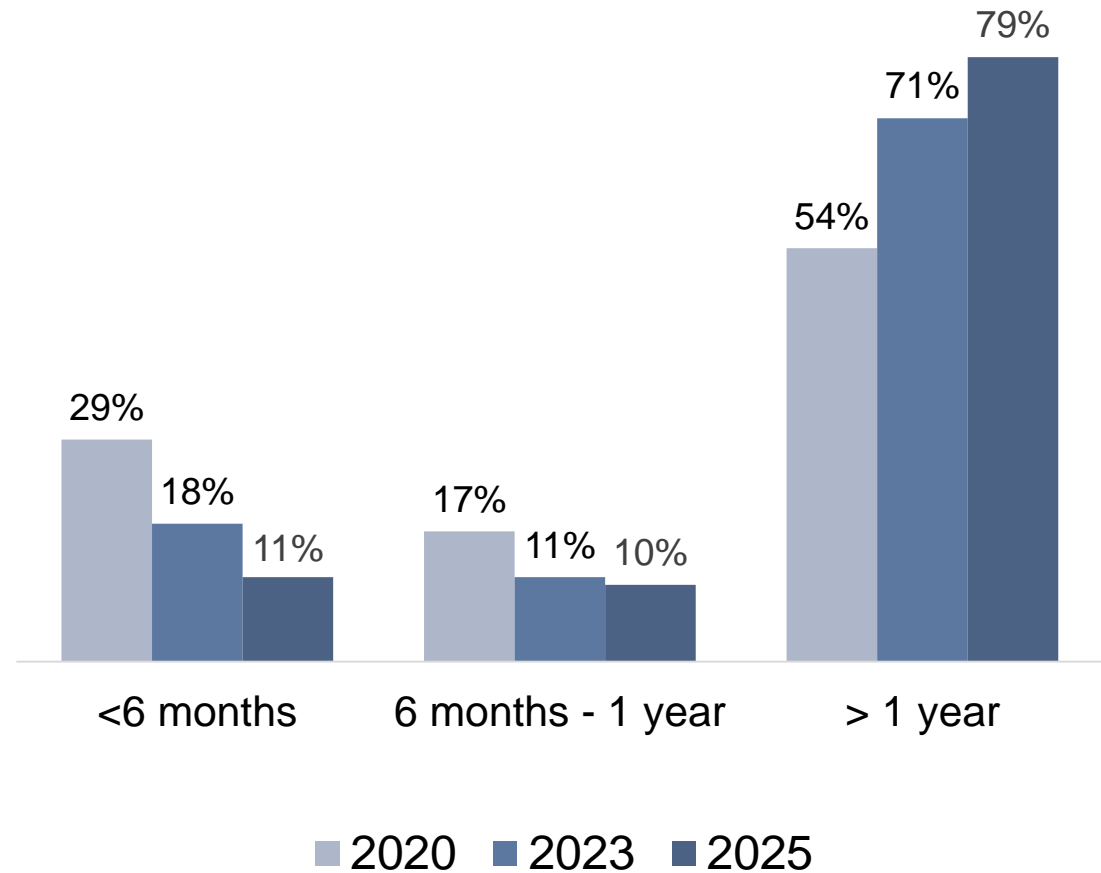


# Metro Vancouver: Homelessness and Population



Metro Vancouver Total: 5,232

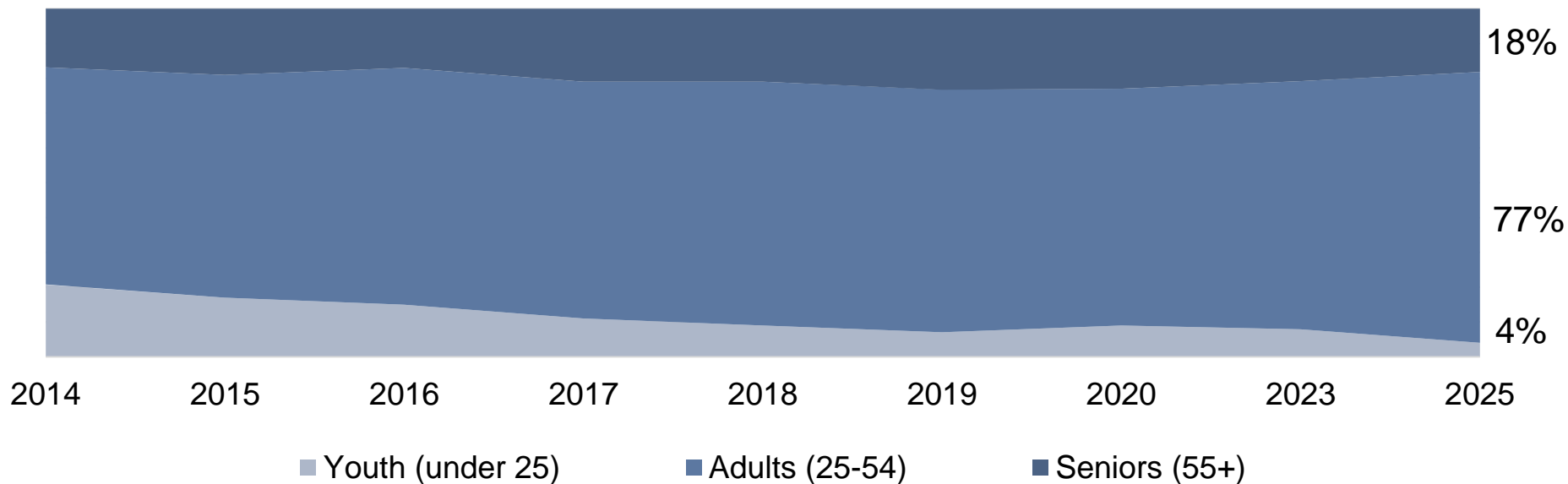
79% (n=1,105) of respondents reported being homeless for at least a year (vs 71% in 2023)



- 22% (n=250) of individuals were not living in Vancouver when they became homeless
- Majority (69%; n=946) have lived in Vancouver for five years or longer
- Over two thirds (68%; n=462) of unsheltered respondents had accessed an emergency shelter in the previous year
- Over half of unsheltered respondents (56%; n=377) had stayed at someone else's place in the previous year



# 2025 Homeless Count: Age



Percentage total does not equal 100% due to rounding (N= 1,525)

Forty percent (40%; n=95) of seniors experienced homelessness for the **first** time when they were already a senior.

38% (n=525) of respondents indicated they were currently, or previously had been in the care of the ministry as a child or youth

Almost half (46%, n=620) of respondents reported that their first experience of homelessness occurred when they were a youth.

# 2025 Homeless Count: Gender + Sexual Identity

- 28% (n=458) respondents identified as a women, compared to 23% in 2023
- Women are undercounted and more likely to exhaust all other resources before becoming homeless, including living in unsafe situations with partner violence
- 4% (n=63) respondents identified with a gender identity other than man or woman
- 5% (n=68) respondents identified as having transgender experience; 16% (n=10) of youth identified as having transgender experience
- 12% (n=182) respondents identified as 2SLGBTQIA+



# 2025 Homeless Count: Indigenous Profile

Indigenous peoples are **18 times** more likely to be homeless than non-Indigenous peoples

42% (n=660) of survey respondents identify as Indigenous compared to 2.3% of population

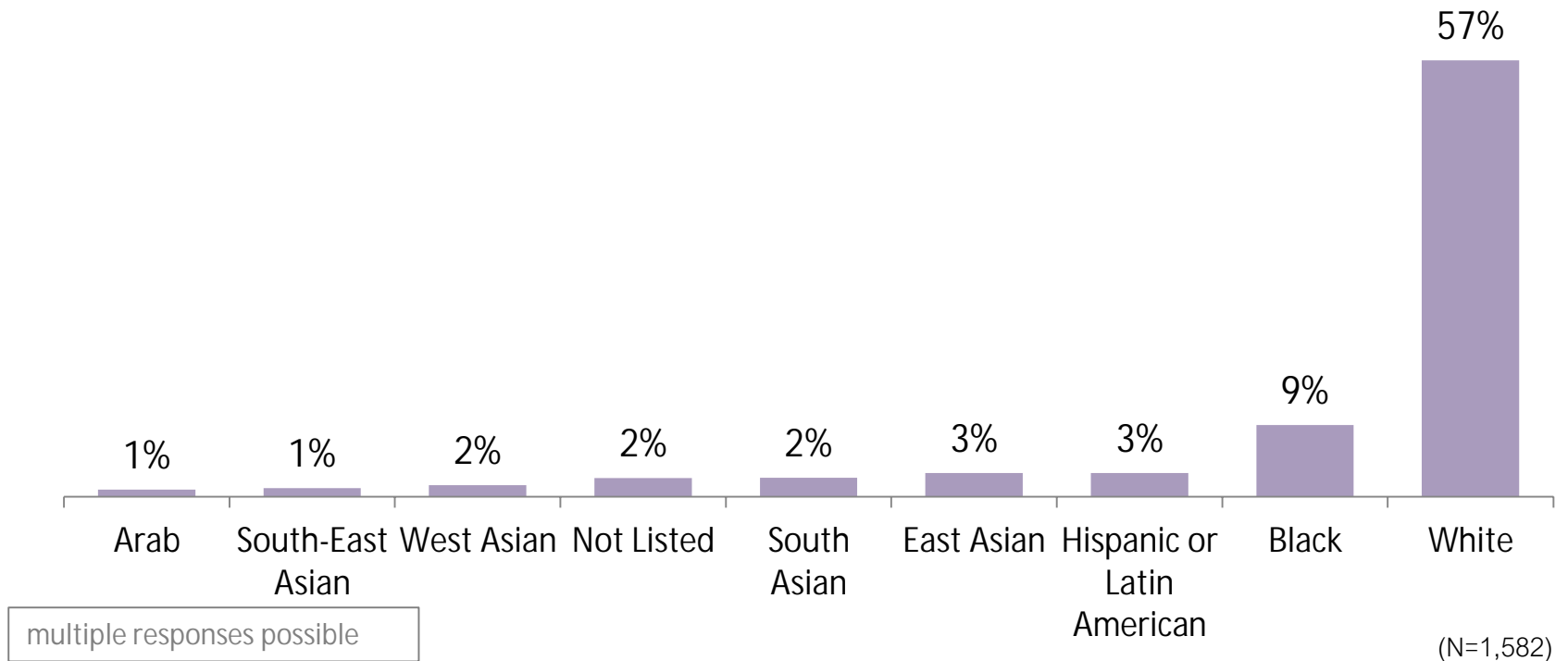
51% (n=344) of unsheltered respondents identified as Indigenous

58% (n=339) of Indigenous respondents experienced homelessness for the first time as a youth

70% (n=359) of Indigenous respondents reported experiences with Residential School, either themselves, a parent, or grandparent



# 2025 Homeless Count: Racial Identify Profile



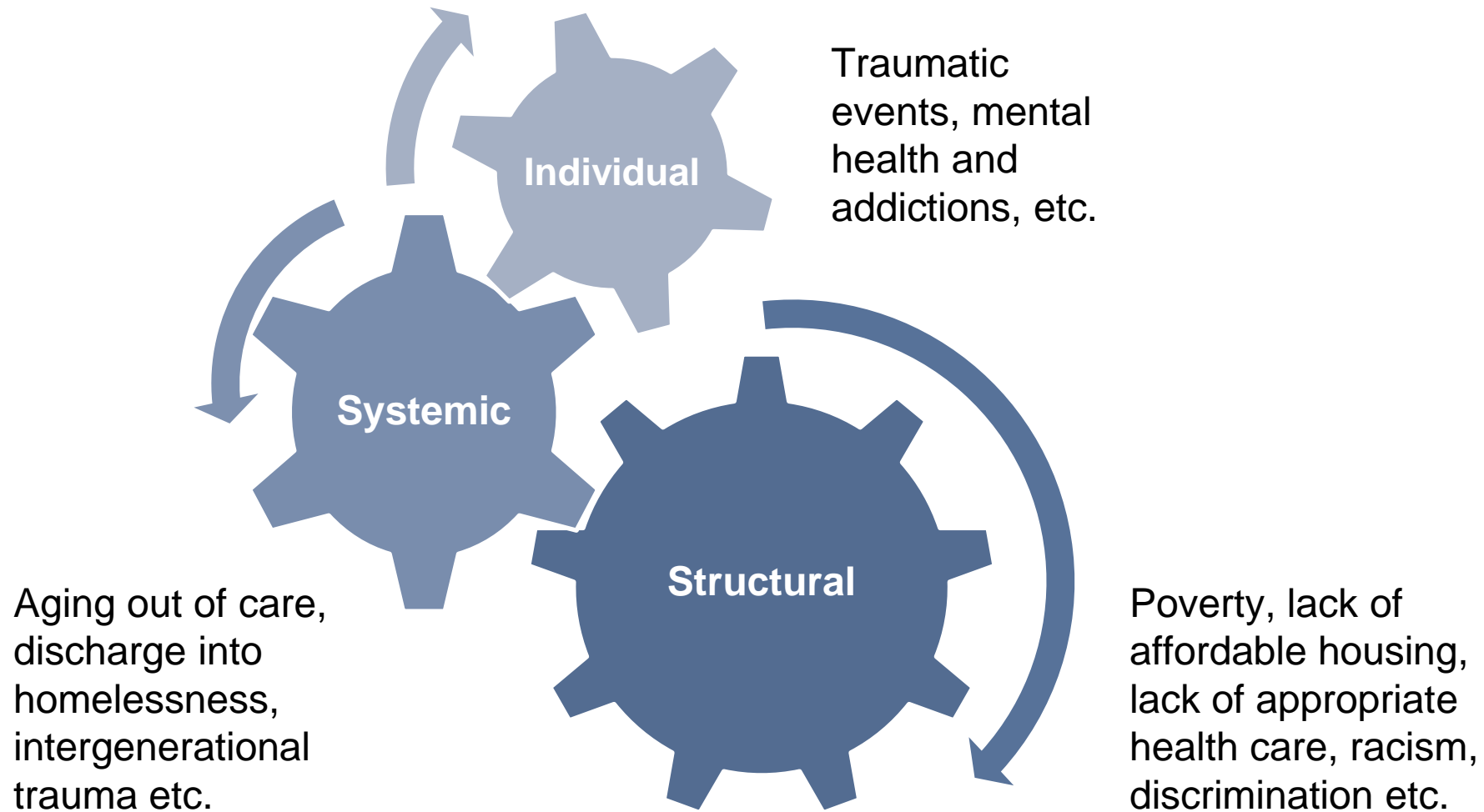
Black and African diaspora peoples disproportionately experience homelessness.

This group makes up 9% of the respondents in the Count yet only 1% of Vancouver's overall population.

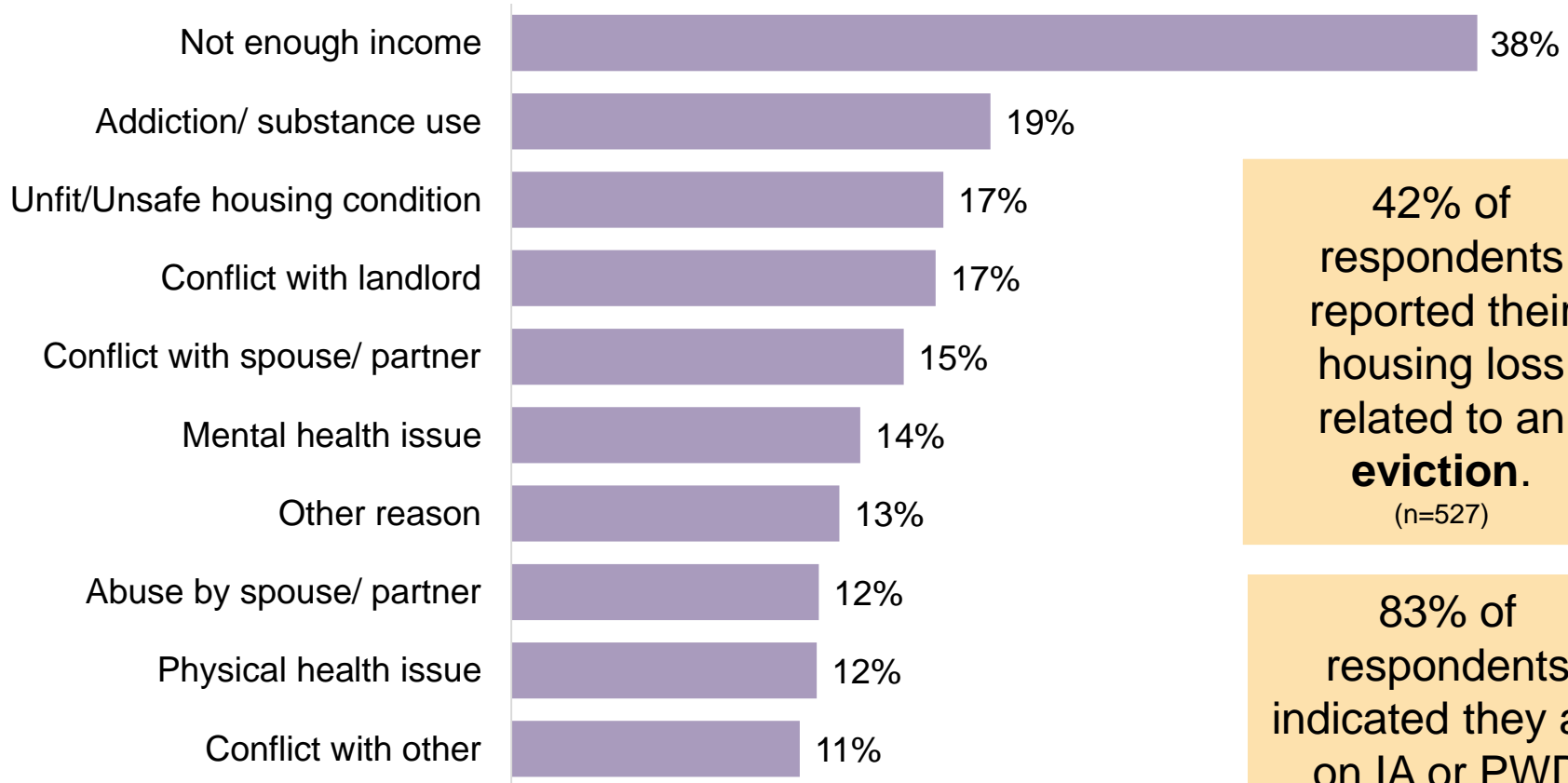


### 3. Drivers of Homelessness

Photo: Lani Brunn



## Top Reasons for Housing Loss



42% of respondents reported their housing loss related to an **eviction.**  
(n=527)

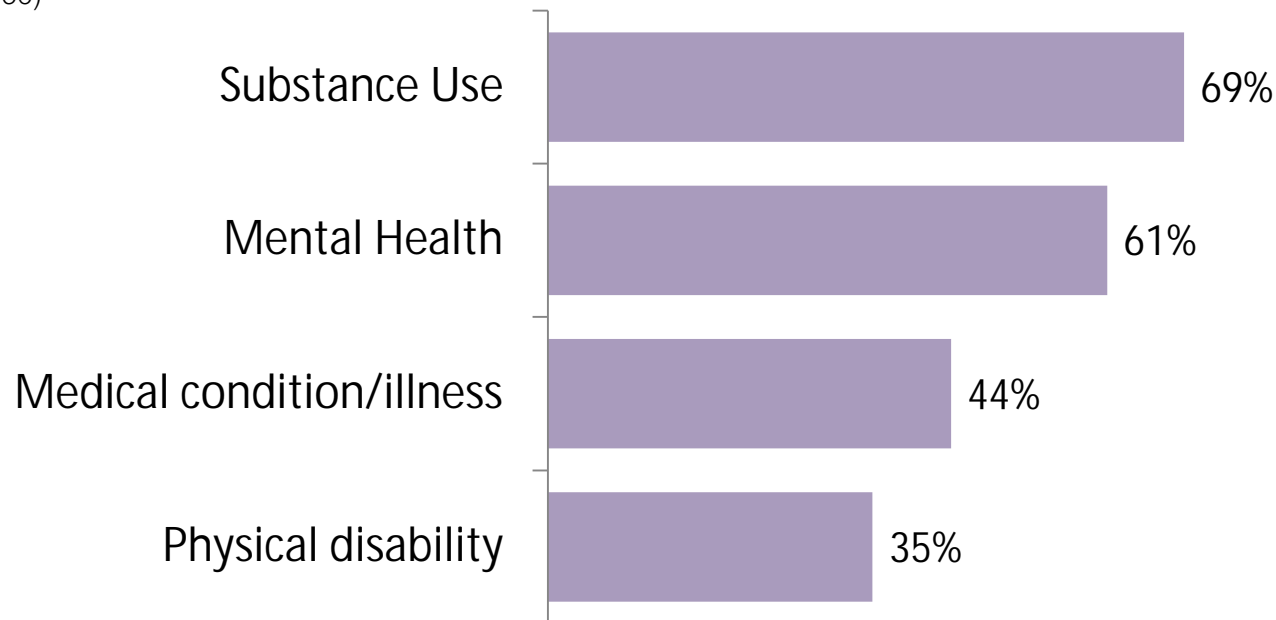
83% of respondents indicated they are on IA or PWD  
(n=1,163)

N=1,363

multiple responses possible

## Reported Health Challenges

(N=1,456)



multiple responses possible

## Health Services Accessed in Previous Year

- Emergency Room: 60% (n:841)
- Hospital (non-emerg): 54% (n:753)
- Ambulance: 50% (n:708)
- Health Clinic: 49% (n:695)

multiple responses possible

## 4. City Responses to Homelessness



- Street outreach across the city
- 392 Powell Street
- Co-funded by BC Housing and City
- Housing and Homelessness Prevention
- Access to Income, Health, and Support Services
- Work with BC Housing's Coordinated Access and Assessment process (CAA)
- Supporting Tenants, Enabling Pathways (STEP)



# Homelessness Services Outreach 2025 Metrics

- 90-100 unique people/day
- 6,539 unique individuals served
- 1,624 new clients that had never accessed our services previously
- 503 housing units secured for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness





## **Won Alexander Cumyow Civic Office (112 Keefer Street)**

- Uplifting Chinatown Action Plan
- City staff available to engage with the community and collaborate with City departments, leveraging on-the-ground knowledge

## **Homelessness Services Supports**

- In person culturally-specific services to Chinatown residents
  - Housing, Support Services, Service Canada Matters

## **2025 Metrics**

- Visitors: 1,388, with 99% supported by Homelessness Services Outreach staff

In 2025, almost 2,300 (35%) clients served were 55+ (up from 31% in 2024)

- Seniors unable to pay rent when transitioning their income from Income Assistance/PWD to pension
- Limited availability of money management programs accepting new clients
- Difficulty connecting to appropriate health resources, including Adult Guardianship Programs, Long Term Care, and Assisted Living Facilities.



## Year-round Shelters

- Over 1,500 Shelters beds open 365 days a year

## Winter Response (2025-26)

- Temporary Winter Shelters  
169 beds
- Extreme Weather Response  
120 beds
- Warming Centres  
156 spaces

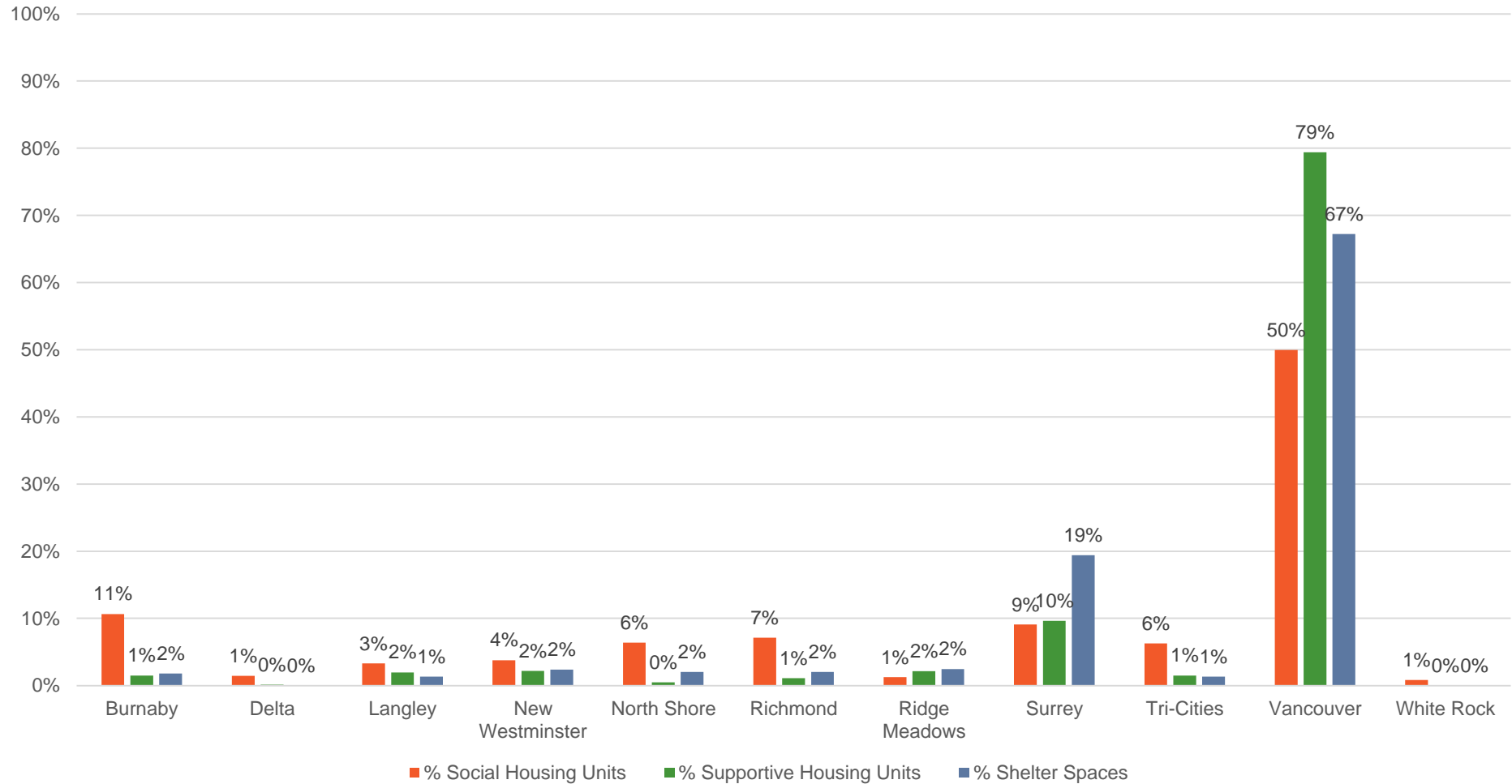
## Selection of Shelters:

WISH: Canada's first 24/7 shelter specifically for street-based, cisgender, and trans women and gender-diverse sex workers

Lu'ma Native Housing Society: Tiny shelter program for people experiencing homelessness who may not access traditional congregate shelters

Atira: Temporary Shelter specifically for those who identify as transgender, gender diverse, or Two-Spirit

# Metro Vancouver: Non-Market Housing + Shelters



## Provincial partnerships

- HEART/HEARTH

## Ongoing Initiatives

- Grants to Support Delivery of Services and Supports
- Partnerships to deliver Supportive Housing
- Amended definition of Temporary Modular Housing to extend duration pending redevelopment
- SRO revitalization framework
- Direct Service Provision



Thank You to *Lu'ma Native Housing Society – Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy*

