The 2021 Point-in-Time Count was conducted on the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinabe people. The City of Ottawa honors the peoples and the land of the Algonquin Anishinabe Nation and all First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples and their valuable past and present contributions to this land.

1340 people surveyed
265+ surveyors from shelters, health, corrections and social services sector
114 enumeration sites
53 community agencies
15 street outreach routes
6 mobile teams

To view results from the 2018 and 2021 Point-in-Time Count surveys, please visit the [Point-in-Time Count Dashboard](https://ottawa.ca) on ottawa.ca.

### Where people stayed on the night of the Count

- 55% Emergency shelters
- 13% Transitional housing
- 11% Someone else’s residence
- 9% Street
- 6% Treatment centres, jail or hospital - no fixed address
- 3% Unsure
- 2% Encampments

14% said their most recent housing loss was because of COVID-19

### Reasons for housing loss

- Not enough income for housing 26%
- Substance use 16%
- Conflict with landlord 13%
- Conflict with spouse or partner 12%
- Unfit or unsafe housing 10%
Among people who identified as Indigenous

In the 2021 Point-in-Time Count, **32% of people** experiencing homelessness **identified as Indigenous**. The true percentage of people experiencing homelessness who identify as Indigenous is likely higher.

Indigenous people represent **4%** of the population in Ottawa.

Of the **428** Indigenous respondents, **42%** had been in foster care.

### Age of people experiencing homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender breakdown by age</th>
<th>Youth 16–24</th>
<th>Adult 25-55</th>
<th>Older adult 55-64</th>
<th>Senior 65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

57% of respondents had been homeless for more than 180 days in the past year.

### Veterans

4% of respondents identified as a former member of the Canadian military or RCMP member. Of them, **42%** identified as Indigenous.

### Foster care or Group home history

27% of respondents identified as having been in foster care or a group home.

Among them, **34%** became homeless less than a year after leaving foster care or a group home.

### Racialized

55% of respondents identified as racialized.
Top six sources of income

- 40% Ontario Works
- 33% Disability benefit
- 10% Employment (full-time, part-time or casual)
- 5% Informal income
- 5% Child and family tax benefits
- 5% Seniors’ benefits

6% declared no income

8% of respondents indicated they live with these five health conditions:
- Illness or medical condition
- Physical disability
- Substance use
- Mental health issues
- Learning or cognitive limitations

Percentage of respondents with each health condition:

- Illness/medical condition: 37%
- Physical disability: 30%
- Substance use: 59%
- Mental health issues: 58%
- Learning/cognitive limitations: 31%

Overall, 23% of respondents had an acquired brain injury.

Travel restrictions and border closures to contain the spread of COVID-19 reduced the number of people entering Canada as immigrants, refugees and refugee claimants.

7% of respondents who identified as immigrants, refugees or refugee claimants had been in Canada for less than one year.

Families

- 72% of respondents accompanied by children were women.
- 26% of respondents accompanied by children had also experienced homelessness in their youth.

Sexual orientation

2SLGBTQQIA+: Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual

- 11% of respondents identified as 2SLGBTQQIA+.
- 27% of respondents identifying as 2SLGBTQQIA+ were under 25 years old.
- 50% of 2SLGBTQQIA+ respondents first experienced homelessness at 19 years old or younger.

Time in Ottawa

- 25% had been in Ottawa one year or less
- 24% had lived in Ottawa all of their lives