

September 3, 2025

**HALIFAX**

**Item 10.2.2**

**Board of Police Commissioners**

**September 3, 2025**

# **2024 Point-In-Time Count Highlights**

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# What is the Point-In-Time Count (PiT)?

- A coordinated data collection strategy that counts the number of people experiencing homelessness in a region within a 24-hour period.
- A snapshot (estimate) of the extent and nature of homelessness in our community.
  - Under reports the number of people experiencing homelessness
  - Done in November 2024 vs Spring in 2022 & 2018
  - Federal, Provincial and Municipal effort, coordinated by AHANS, conducted by service providers

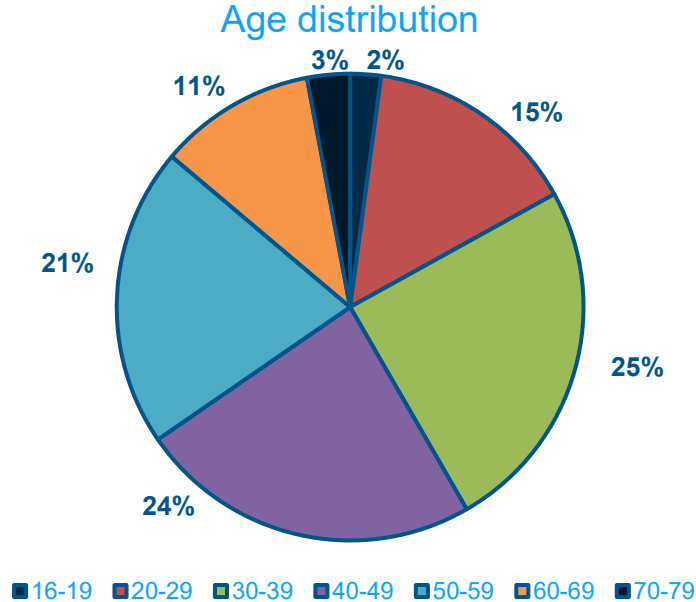
# Update on Homelessness

- Homelessness in HRM ↑ (increased by 93% in 2 years)
  - 2018: 220      2022: 586      2024: 1132    (414% in 6 years)
- People sleeping rough ↓ (reduced by over 50%)
  - Over 200, now 70 in designated locations and 30 in non-designated
- Chronically homeless ↑ (tripled in 2 years)
- 34% of homeless were evicted from their home
- 70 – 80 beds available in various options

# Who is experiencing homelessness?

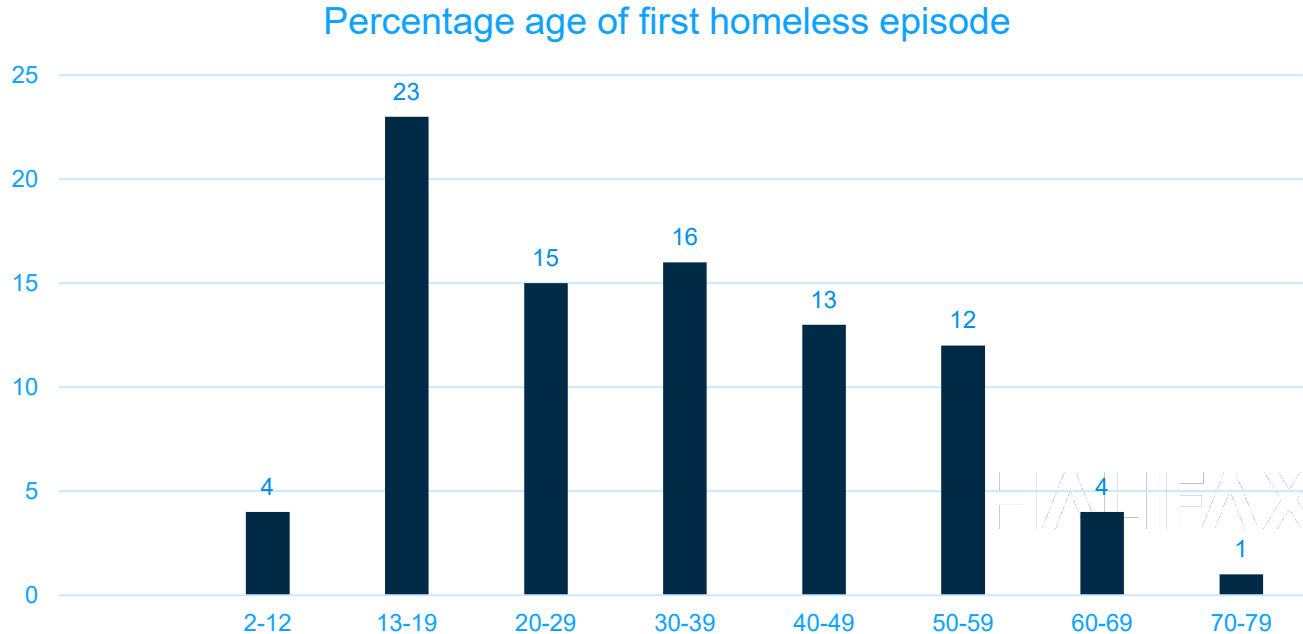
- 65% men & 32% women
- 23% involved in the child welfare system
- 17% black and 6% indigenous
- 8% are couples
- 6% have children or dependents with them
- 4% have pets
- 2% experience homelessness with friends or other family members

# PiT count age breakdown



Age Range	Age Distribution
16-19	2%
20-29	15%
30-39	25%
40-49	24%
50-59	21%
60-69	11%
70-79	3%

# First time experiencing homelessness



# Health Concerns

- 59%: Mental health concerns
- 48% Substance abuse concerns
- 45%: Illness or medical condition
- 39%: Physical mobility
- 38%: Cognitive functioning concerns
- 18%: Acquired brain injury

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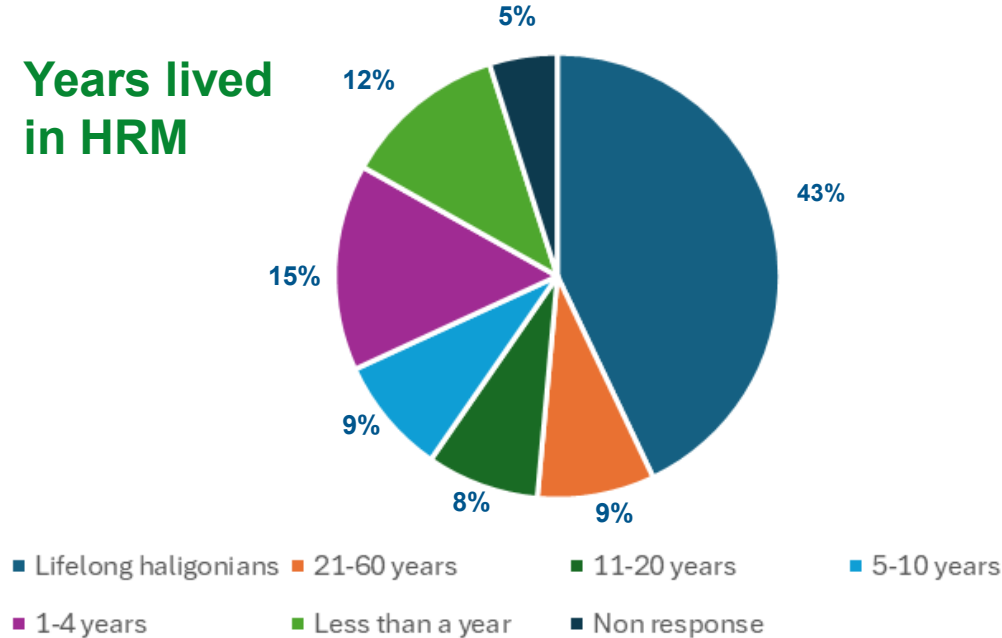
# Why are people homeless?

- 39% lack of income
- 32% Family or relationship breakdown
  - 14% conflict with partner or spouse
- 12% unsafe or unfit housing condition
- 10% conflict with landlord
- 10% substance abuse
- 9% renoviction

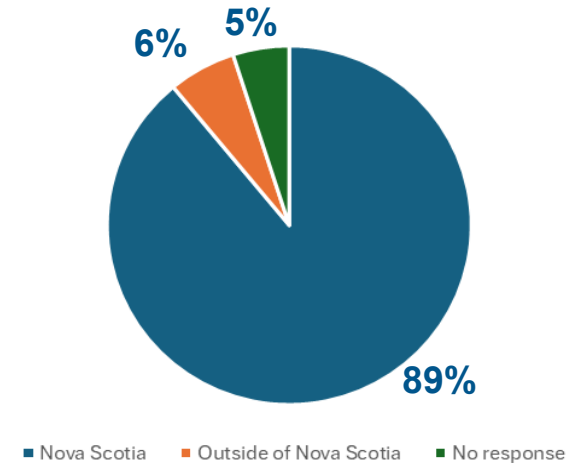
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# Where are people from?

Years lived  
in HRM



People from outside  
NS vs. from NS



# Next Steps

- Complete chronically homelessness research
- Support new provincial shelters and housing initiatives
- Review HRM's approach to homelessness
- Look to address the root causes of homelessness
- Reduce numbers in encampments as housing stock allows
- Develop an approach to vehicular homelessness
- Develop a multi-year plan and strategy with a report card to track progress