



# GUELPH-WELLINGTON 2021 EVERYONE COUNTS

## Results for Participants who Identify as Indigenous

In partnership with Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre (SOAHAC), a magnet event was held where Indigenous staff were available to complete the survey with Indigenous peoples experiencing homelessness as part of a coordinated Canada-wide count of individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night.

### ABOUT INDIGENOUS HOMELESSNESS

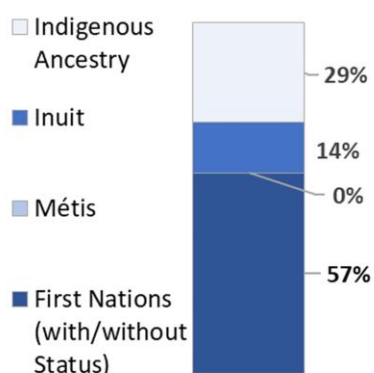
Indigenous homelessness can be understood as a consequence of colonial practices that contributed to the fracturing of communities, kinship, and traditional governance systems, and that enabled laws that dispossessed First Nations people of their lands, rights, ways of life, and spiritual and cultural practices. Colonization and ongoing marginalization of First Nations people are widely recognized as the primary causes of First Nations homelessness. (Citation: Assembly of First Nations: First Nations Homelessness Action Plan).

The following is based on responses of 37 Indigenous participants of G-W 2021 Everyone Counts survey

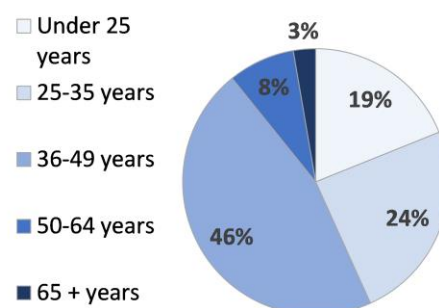
**23%** of survey participants identify as Indigenous

**Indigenous Peoples are over-represented in G-W Everyone Counts survey results**

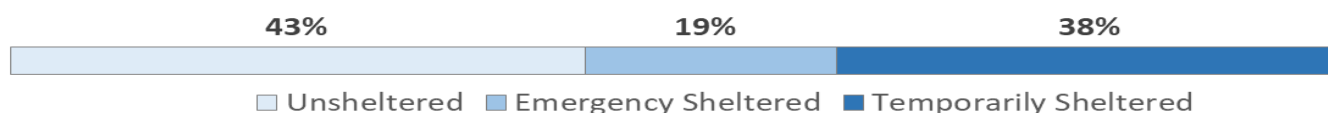
#### Composition of Indigenous Participants



#### Age of Indigenous Participants



### How Indigenous Participants experienced homelessness on the night of October 20, 2021



### Preliminary Analysis of Results for Participants who Identify as Indigenous

**Foster Care Experience as child/youth:** A much higher proportion of Indigenous respondents (69%) experienced foster care or youth Group Home compared to all survey respondents (29%)

**Emergency Shelter Use:** A lower proportion of Indigenous respondents (41%) stayed in emergency shelter over the past year compared to all survey respondents (61%). G-W does not have an Indigenous-led emergency shelter.

**The 2021 results stress the need for culturally safe and appropriate services and highlight the importance of renewed commitment to grow our relationship with Indigenous partners and community members.**