

An aerial photograph of a scenic landscape. In the foreground, a large, calm lake reflects the sky. A red metal truss bridge spans across the lake. The background features rolling mountains covered in dense forests, with some trees showing autumn colors. The sky is blue with wispy white clouds.

THIS PLACE WE CALL HOME

NELSON'S 2024 POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESSNESS COUNT
REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS

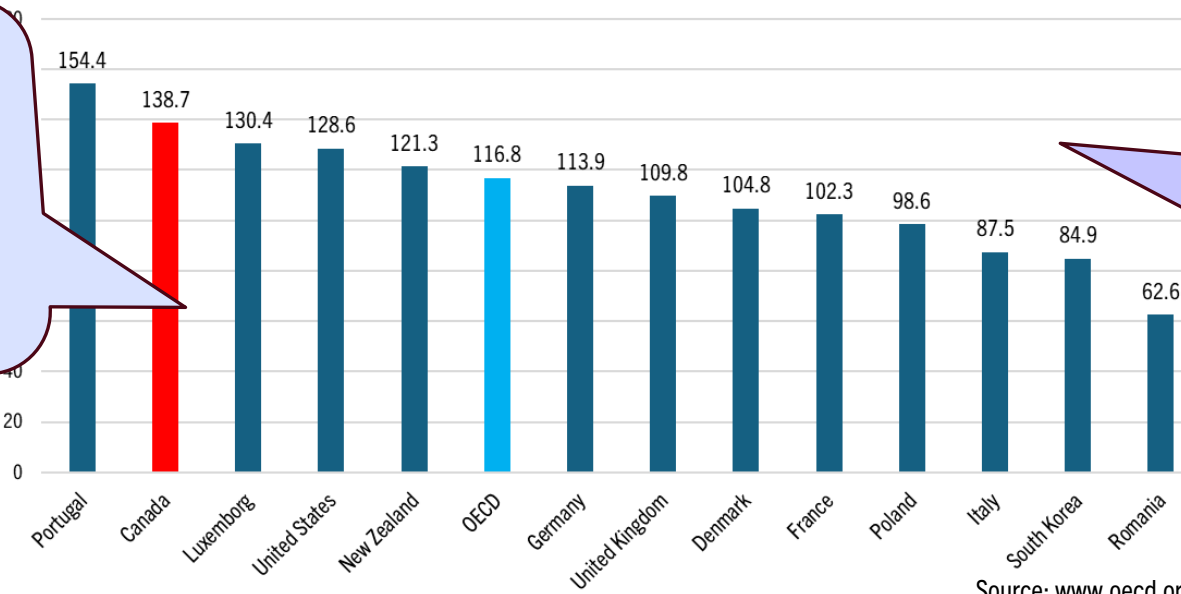
1954-1985

Canada had a strong welfare housing system wherein the federal government financed average of 20,000 units of social housing annually & housing policy supported affordable housing for various income groups.

#1 Cause of Most Recent Loss of Housing

"Not enough money to pay the rent"

2023 Housing Price-to-Income Ratio - Selected OECD Countries



1986-1993

The rise of neo-liberalism ushered in a shift toward promotion of home ownership and a market-oriented housing system.

Top 3 Barriers to Getting Housed

"Rent's too high"

"Don't have enough money"

"Not enough affordable housing"

1993-1999

The federal government ends funding for new social housing units, discontinues its cooperative housing program and devolves management of social housing portfolios to provinces and territories.

Production of social housing drops from between 20,000 units per year (around 35% of all new housing units) to below 5,000 units (less than 5% new housing units).

2023 Housing Price-to-Income Ratios for OECD Nations



2000 →

The new millennium brought with it an intensified focus on homeownership, facilitated by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation-secured mortgages and federal subsidies that drove up demand and opened the door to real estate speculation and housing-based capital accumulation.

2024 Point-in-Time Homelessness Count & Survey

Enumeration: November 6-7

Survey: November 7-30

What is a Point-in-Time (PiT) Count?

A PiT Count is an estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness within a determined geographical area during a set period of time, typically 24 hours. It also identifies the location where they spent the night: in shelters, transitional housing, or unsheltered locations. A PiT Count may or may not also include a survey that asks a set of standardized survey questions that are administered directly to individuals experiencing homelessness.

The Four Categories of Homelessness

Unsheltered or Absolute Homelessness

- Tents
- Makeshift shelter
- Abandoned buildings
- Bus shelters
- Parks
- Sidewalks
- Back alleys

Emergency Sheltered

- Stepping Stones
- Aimee Beaulieu Transition House

Provisionally Accommodated

- Cicada Place
- North Shore Inn
- Ward Street Place – Transitional Accommodation Program
- Kootenay Boundary Adult Supported Recovery Program

Hidden Homelessness (Youth)

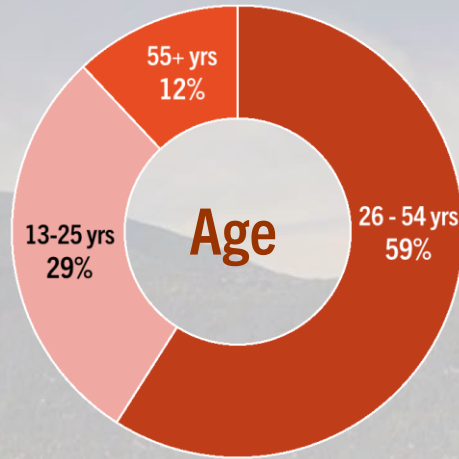
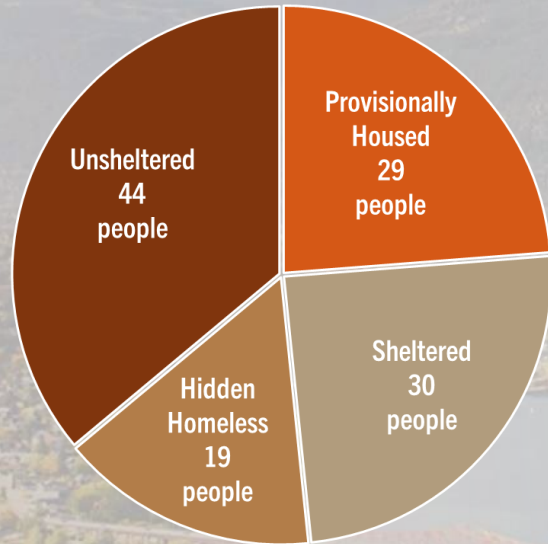
- L.V. Rogers Secondary/SD 8
- Freedom Quest
- Nelson Community Services/Cicada Place

11 x Community Partners

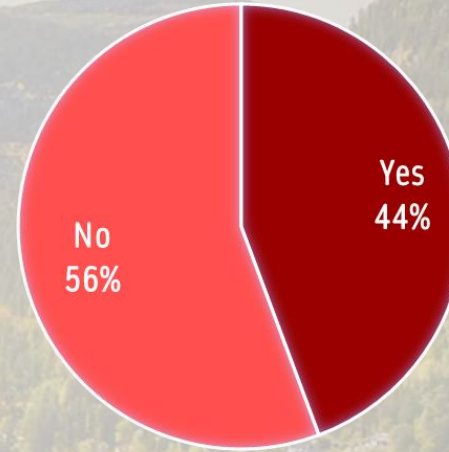
- ANKORS
- Nelson CARES
- Our Daily Bread
- School District 8
- Nelson Public Library
- Nelson Community Services
- Circle of Indigenous Nations
- Nelson Community Food Centre
- Temporary Thursday Drop-In Program
- Rural Empowered Drug User Network
- Kootenay Insurrection for Safe Supply

122

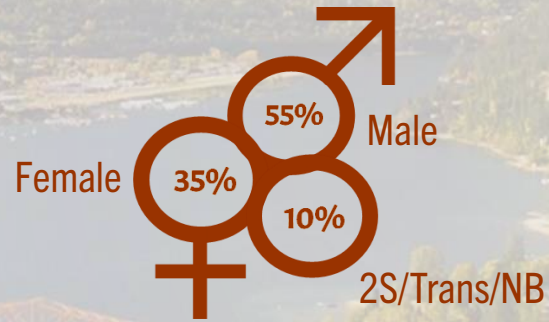
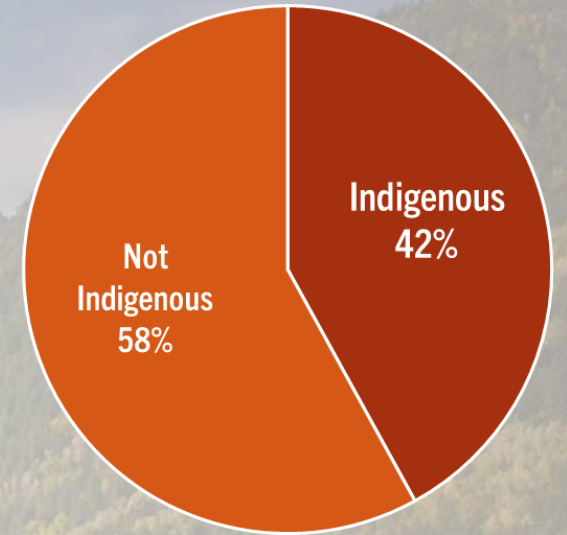
individuals in Nelson experiencing
some form of homelessness



Youth Care
Experience



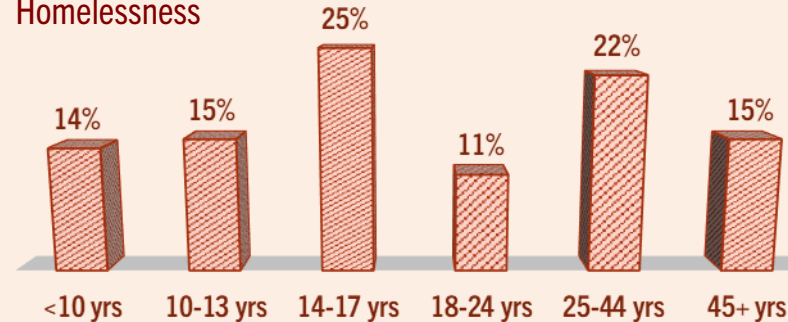
Indigenous Identity



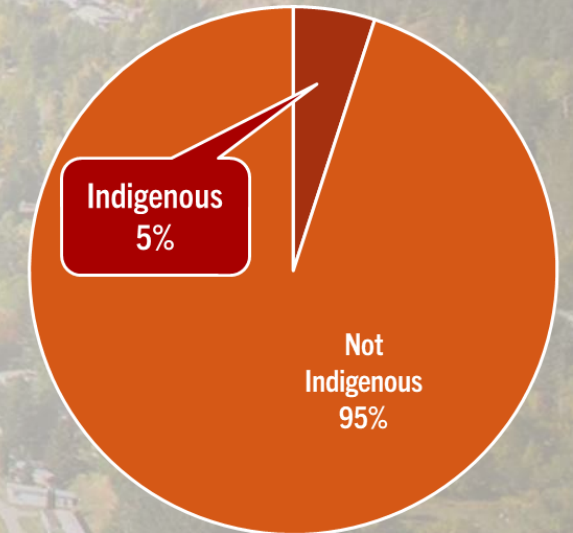
102

surveys completed with
unhoused & provisionally housed
Nelson residents

Age First Time Experiencing
Homelessness

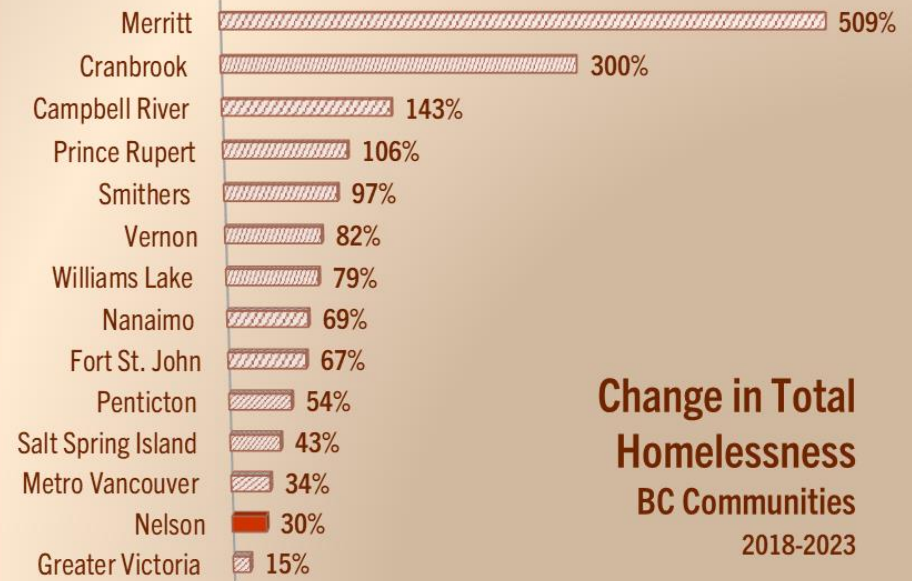
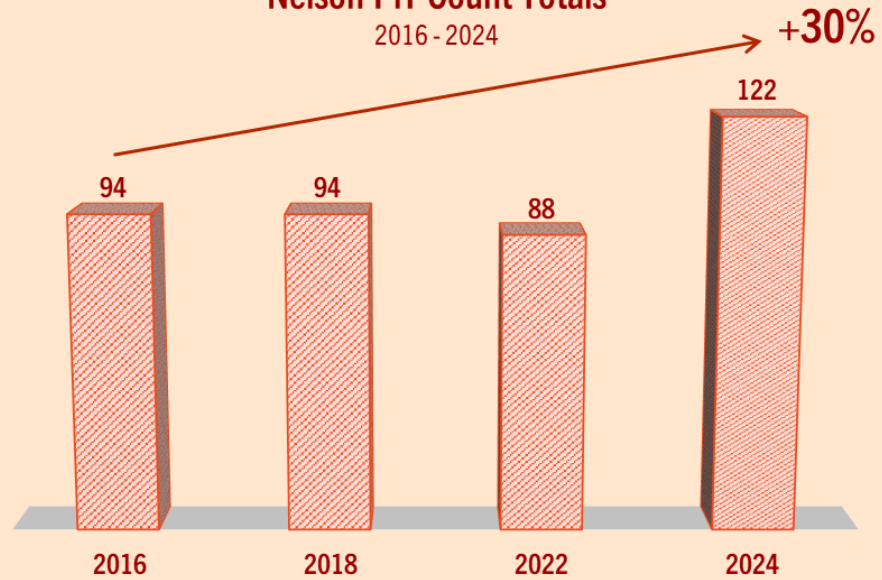


Indigenous
5%



Nelson PiT Count Totals

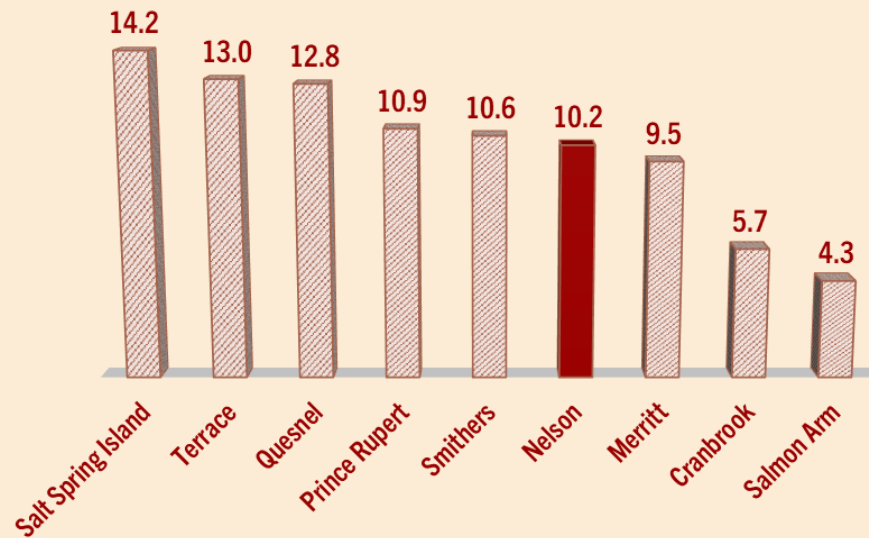
2016 - 2024



Change in Total Homelessness BC Communities 2018-2023

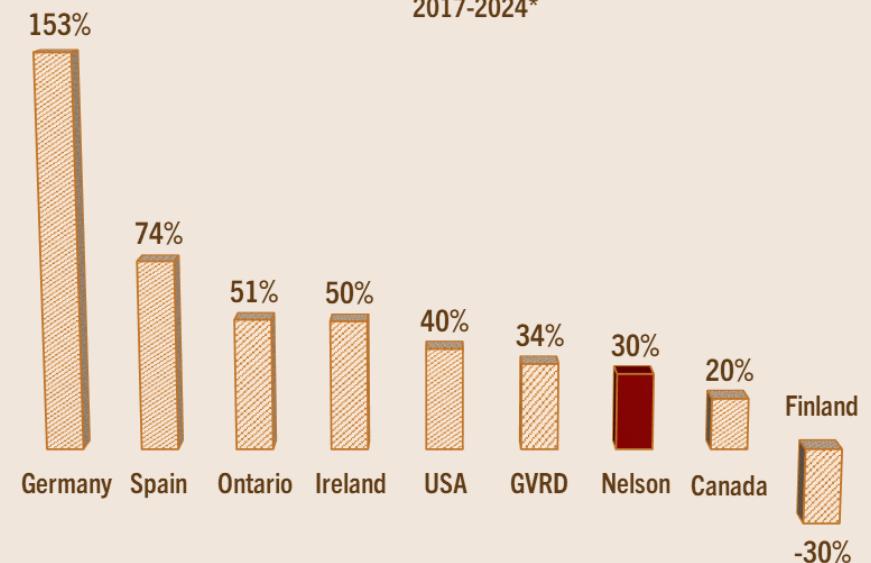
Homelessness in BC Towns pop. < 25,000

(rate per 1000 ppl)

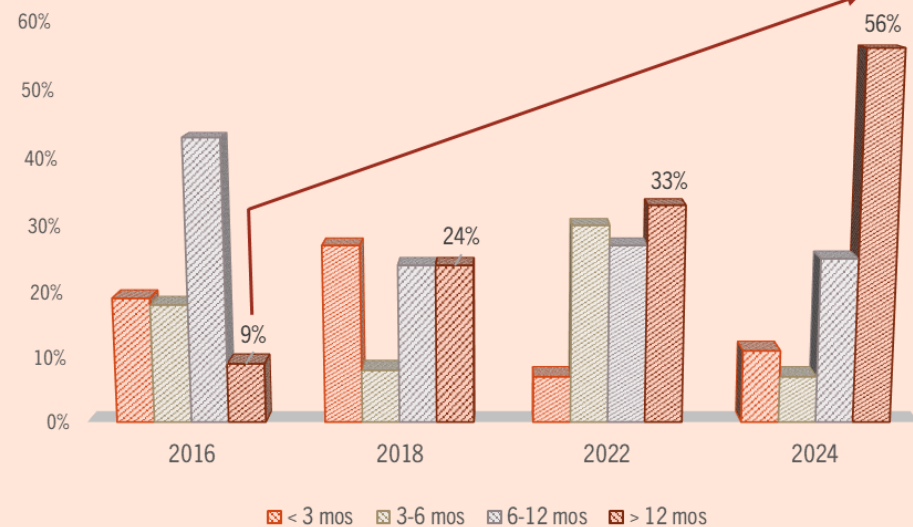


Change in Total Homelessness

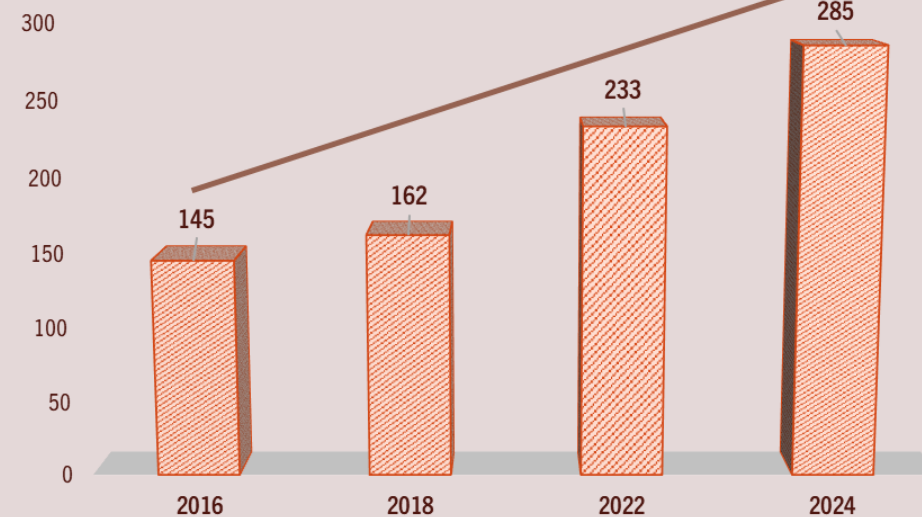
2017-2024*



Months of Homelessness in Past Year

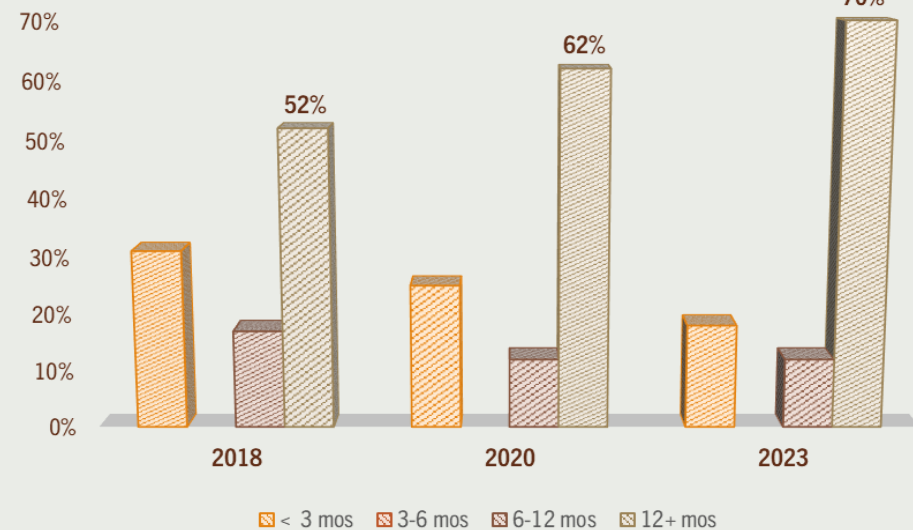


Avg # of Days Homeless in Past Year +97%

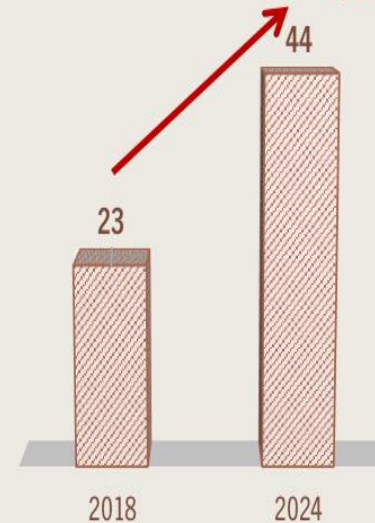


Months of Homelessness in Past Year

British Columbia



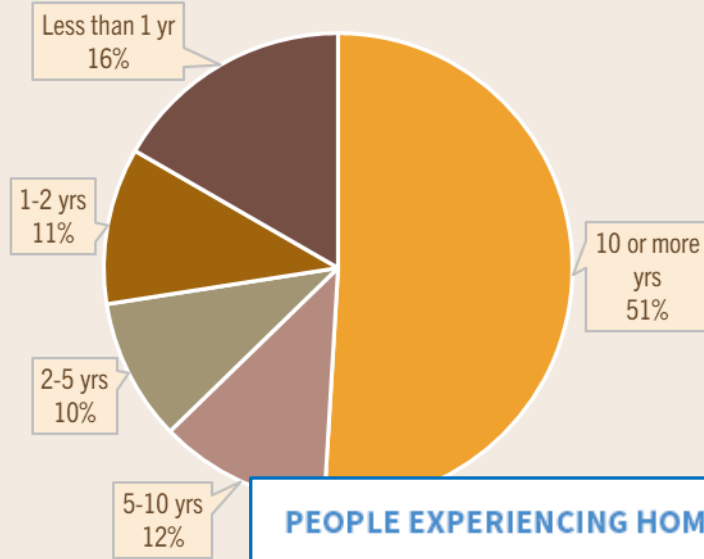
Unsheltered +91%



Unsheltered

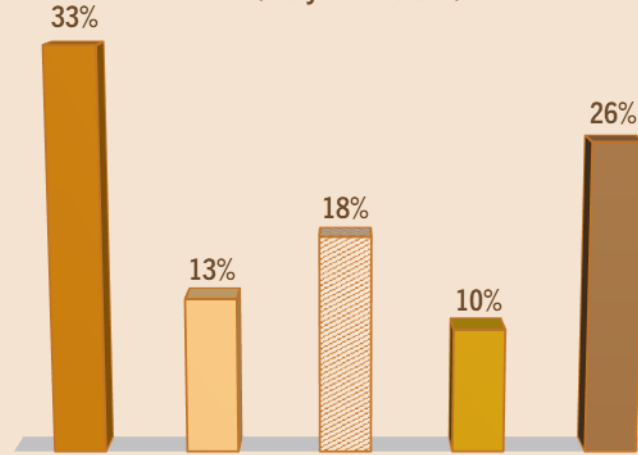


Years Living in Nelson



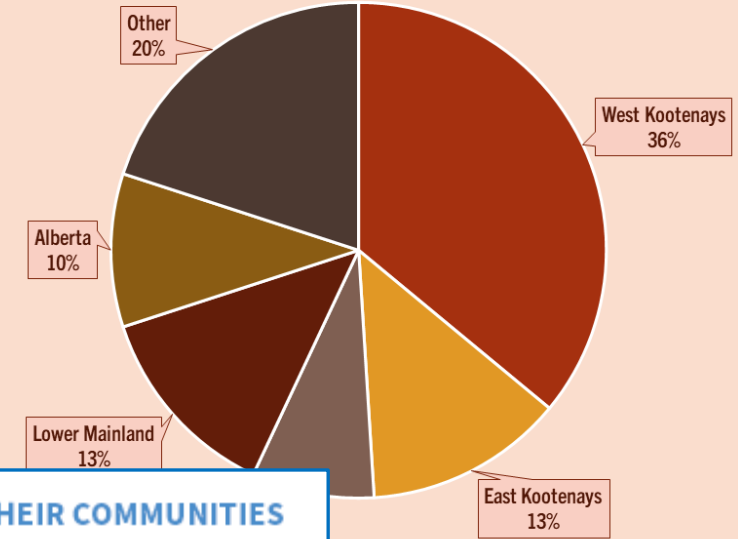
Years Living in Nelson

(< 5 yrs in Nelson)



Where did you move to Nelson from?

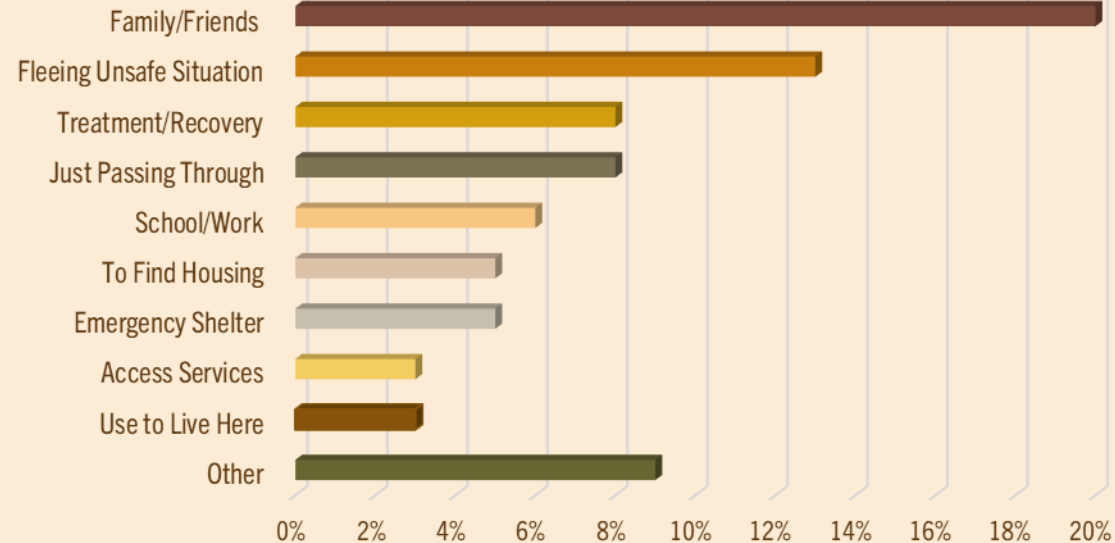
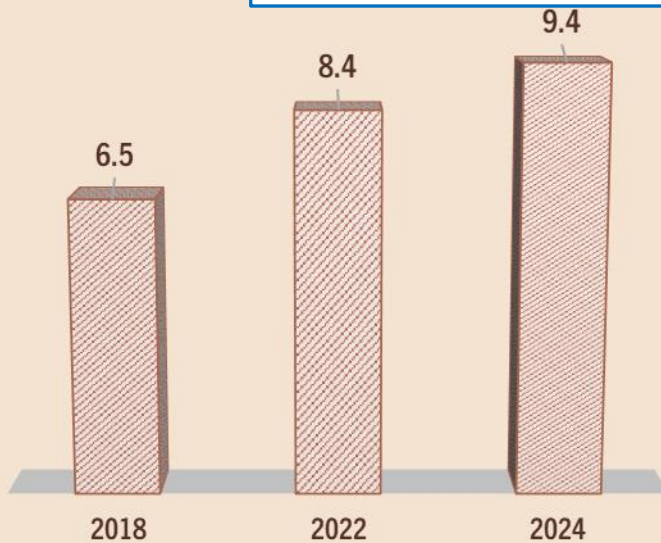
(< 5 yrs in Nelson)



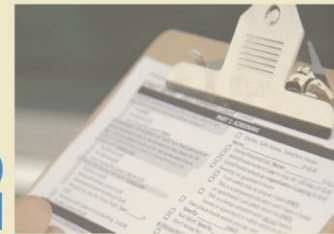
PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ACROSS B.C. ARE OFTEN LONG-TERM RESIDENTS OF THEIR COMMUNITIES

Sixty-seven percent (67%) of respondents had been in the community they were counted in for more than five years, and 23% of respondents reported that they have always lived in that community.

Average # of



REPORT ON HOMELESS COUNTS IN BC



2023

PREPARED BY
HOMELESSNESS SERVICES ASSOCIATION OF BC
MARCH 2024



#1 Cause of Most Recent Loss of Housing

"Not enough money to pay the rent"

Top 3 Causes for Loss of Housing (Youth)

1. Conflict with parent/guardian
2. Abuse by parent/guardian
3. Not enough money to pay rent

Top 3 Causes of Loss of Housing

1. Not enough money to pay the rent
2. Conflict with landlord
3. Unsafe/unsuitable housing

Top 3 Causes for Loss of Housing (Seniors)

1. Conflict with landlord
2. Unsafe/unsuitable housing
3. Physical/mental health

Top 3 Causes for Loss of Housing (Indigenous Respondents)

1. Conflict with landlord
2. Conflict with parent/guardian
3. Unsafe/unsuitable housing

Top 3 Causes for Loss of Housing (Women)

1. Conflict with landlord
2. Abuse by partner/spouse
3. Not enough money to pay rent

Alignment Project: Overview

What: Federal and provincial partners have endorsed a **Vision** and **Goals** that confirm a shared commitment to “**more integrated local governance and broader coordination of services, as well as improved data management and use of HIFIS data**”. To achieve this vision, a path forward has been set for federal, provincial and community partners, who will “**work together to align, build upon and improve the existing, local response to homelessness**”.

How: The Alignment Project is a **five-phase initiative** that seeks to integrate and align governance, strategic direction and day-to-day operations related to the homelessness response in BC. Through this Project, roles, responsibilities, use of technology and shared tools will be integrated and aligned across existing and new homelessness programs and processes.

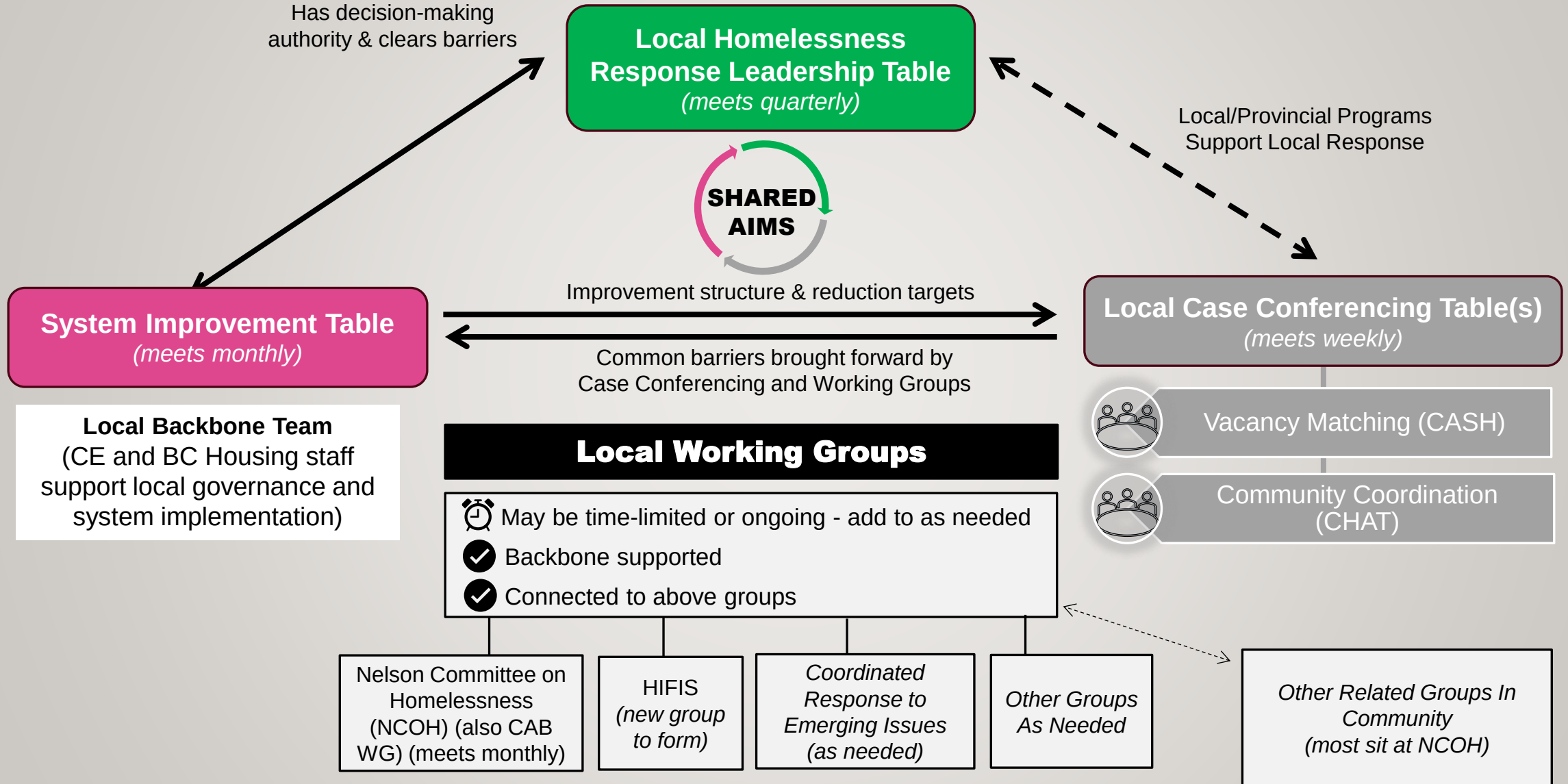
Who: Currently, work is underway to achieve early project deliverables with the following partners:

- **The Ministry of Housing:** Staff representing Belonging in BC
- **BC Housing:** Provincial and regional staff representing the Coordinated Access and Assessment program
- **Reaching Home Community Entities:** Staff representing Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Cowichan Valley, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Nelson, Prince George and Victoria
- **Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC):** Staff from the Reaching Home program
- **CAEH:** Staff contracted by the Ministry and HICC to provide coaching support to project partners

HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE ALIGNMENT?

- **Phase 1:** Preparation for Partnership
- **Phase 2:** Partnership Launch – June 2024
- **Phase 3:** Sharing Current State & Exploring Integration Opportunities – Summer/Fall 2024
- **Phase 4:** Confirming Alignment Roadmap - Jan-March 2025
- **Phase 5:** Implementation by BC Housing and CEs at Provincial and Community Levels - beginning April 2025 – multi-year

Draft Local Governance Structure



Note: The proposed structure would include Indigenous representation and lived experience voice throughout.