

# Homelessness in Toronto **STREET NEEDS ASSESSMENT** 2021

The City talked to thousands of people experiencing homelessness in Toronto in April 2021.

Estimated number of people experiencing homelessness in Toronto on April 21, 2021:

Total: 7,347

Indoor: 6,605

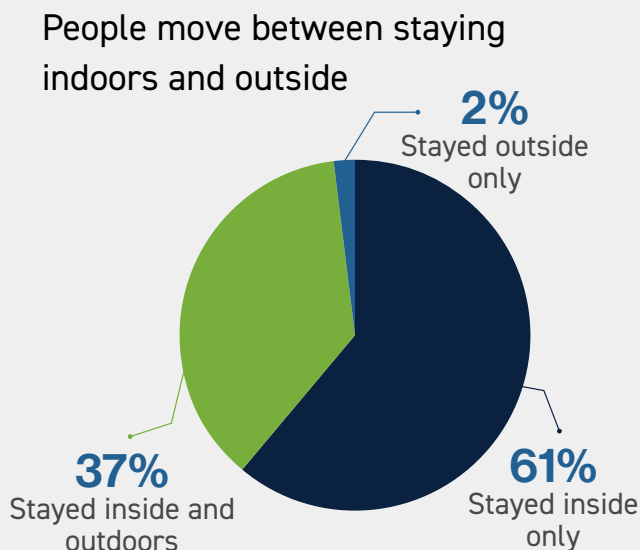
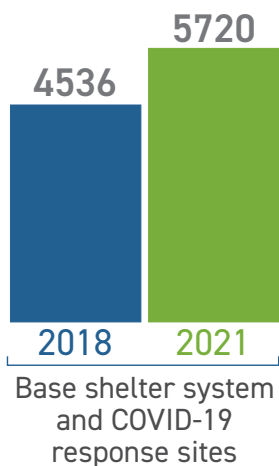
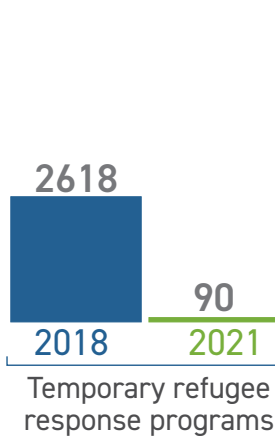
Outdoor: 742



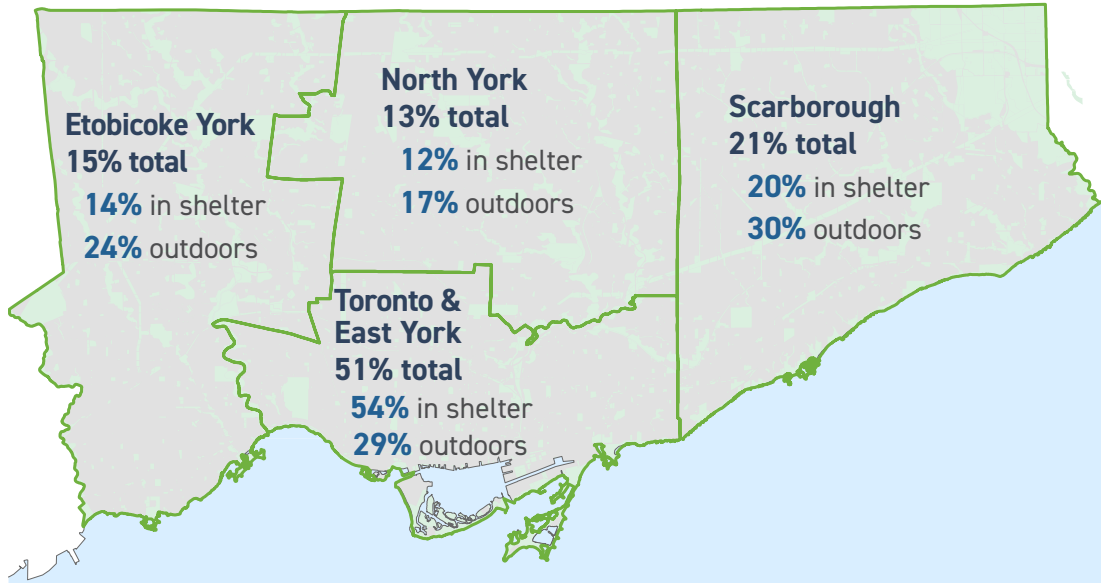
## Here is what we learned:

The profile of those experiencing homelessness changed during the COVID-19 pandemic

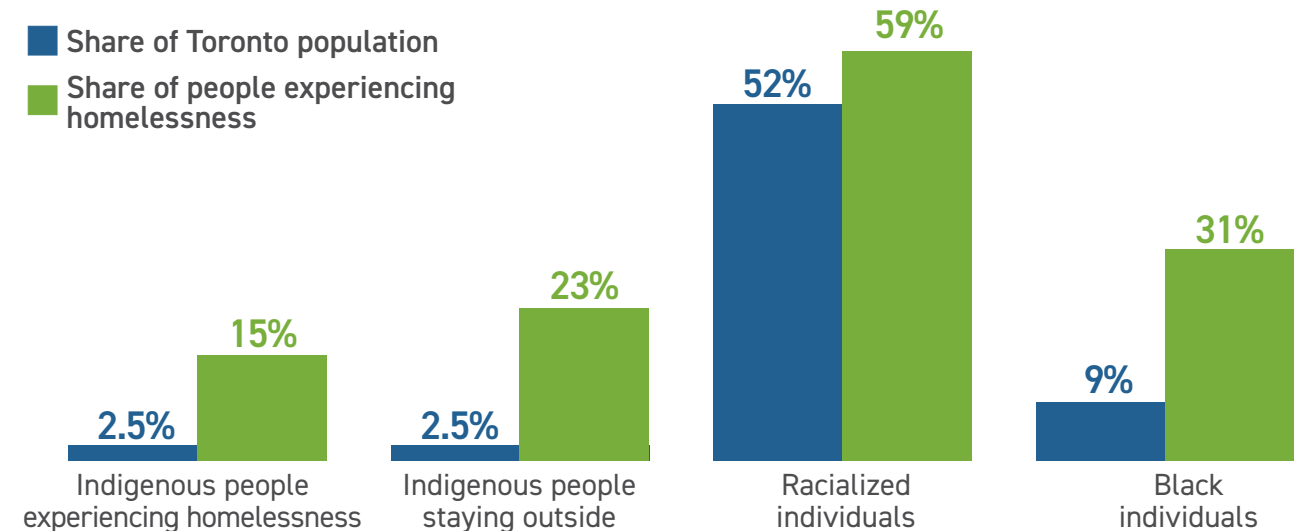
Overall decrease in homelessness is due to fewer refugee claimants in the shelter system



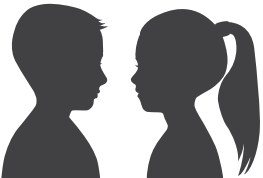
People experience homelessness in all areas of Toronto



Specific groups are overrepresented in Toronto



32% of people who are homeless first experienced homelessness as a child or youth



18% of people who are homeless have foster care experience



26% of youth who are homeless identify as 2SLGBTQ



## Gaps in other service systems are key contributors to homelessness

**76%** of respondents identified having one or more type of health challenges:

- **50%** mental health issue
- **42%** substance use issue



**33%** of people who are not currently in treatment for a substance use issue are interested in accessing treatment

**77%** of respondents reported experiencing chronic homelessness

People who are chronically homeless are **6x** more likely to have multiple health challenges

Most people experiencing homelessness are Toronto residents

**86%** have lived in Toronto for more than one year

**4.5%** moved to Toronto from another community in Ontario in the past year



The key solutions to homelessness are increasing income and access to affordable and supportive housing

### People want permanent housing

#### Top cause of homelessness:

Not enough income for housing



#### Top requests to help find housing:

- More affordable housing
- Subsidized housing or housing allowance
- Increase income supports