



# Indigenous People's Experiences of Homelessness

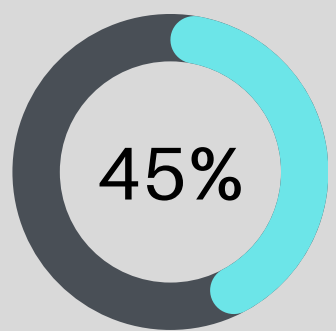


(2021 Homelessness Point in Time Count – 24 hours in October)

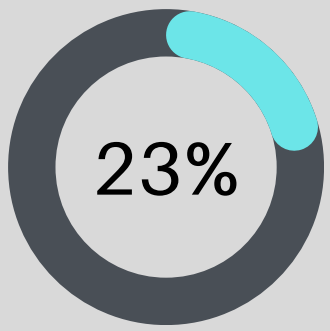
The City of Ottawa acknowledges that the Indigenous community represent 4% of the population in Ottawa-Gatineau. In the 2021 Point-in-Time count, **32% of people experiencing homelessness identified as Indigenous.**

## 2018

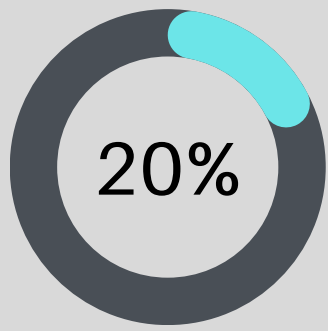
335 surveys



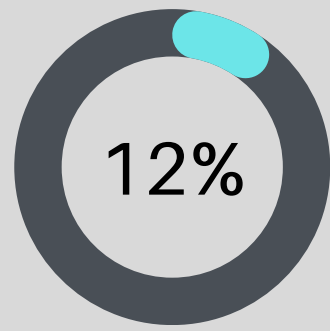
First Nation



Inuit



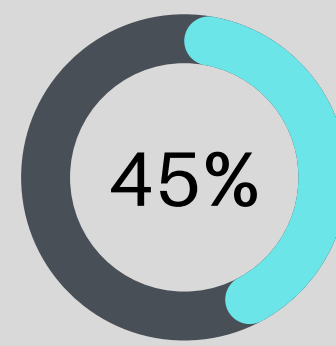
Metis



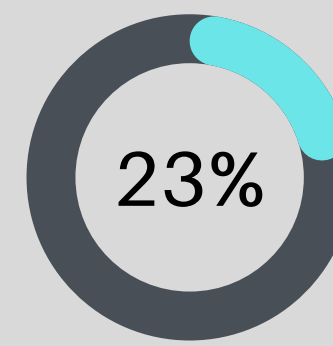
Indigenous Ancestry

## 2021

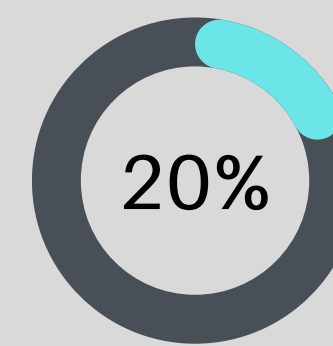
428 surveys



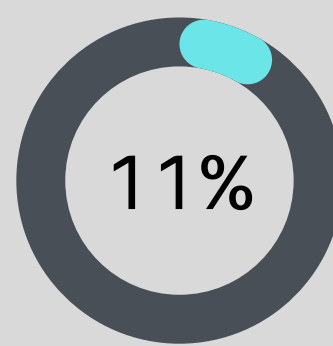
First Nation



Inuit



Metis



Indigenous Ancestry

## HOMELESSNESS EXPERIENCES

### Age First Experienced Homelessness



**0-18**  
years old

- 44% in 2018 and 2021

**13-18**  
years old

- 36% in 2018 and 2021

Youngest ages were 0-1 years old over both years.

Oldest ages were 70 (2018) and 74 (2021)

### Duration of Homelessness in the Last Year

**365 DAYS** of homelessness

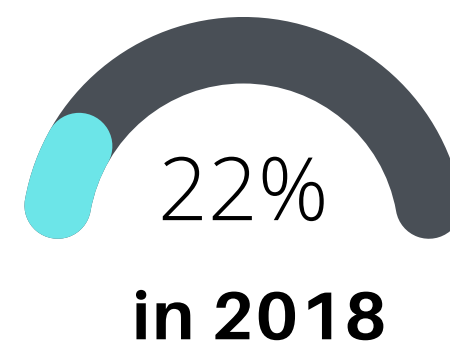


40% in 2018



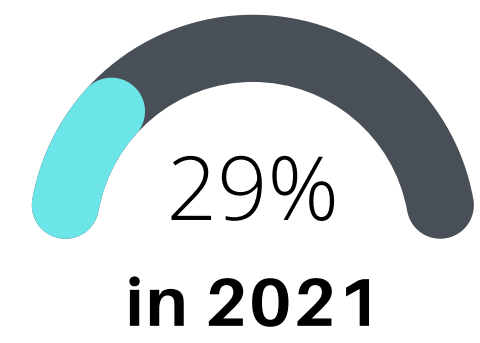
34% in 2021

### Access to Shelter in the Last Year



22%

in 2018



29%

in 2021

did not access shelters





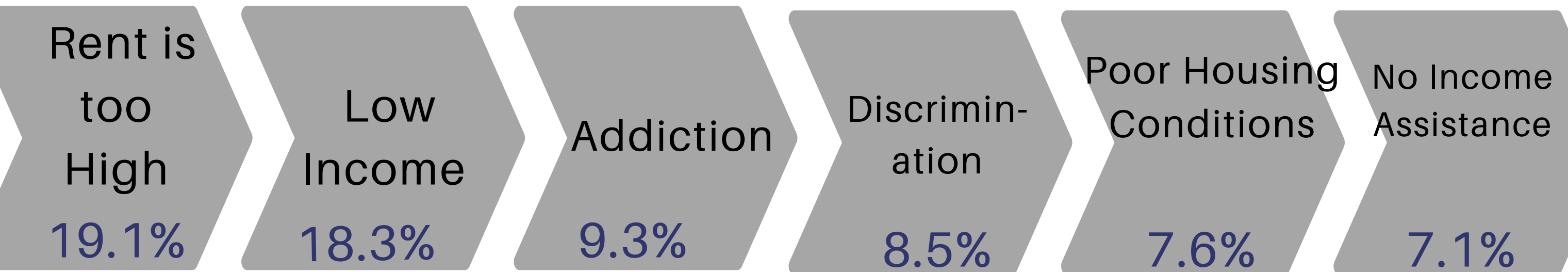


# FINDING HOUSING

People need the following supports to help with their housing journey...

	2021
• Mental Health Resources	39%
• Addictions/Substance use support	36%
• Serious/ongoing medical condition	21%
• Physical Disability	9%
• Learning disability	9%
• Brain Injury	6%

## Barriers to Finding Housing



## CURRENT EXPERIENCE OF HOMELESSNESS (2021)

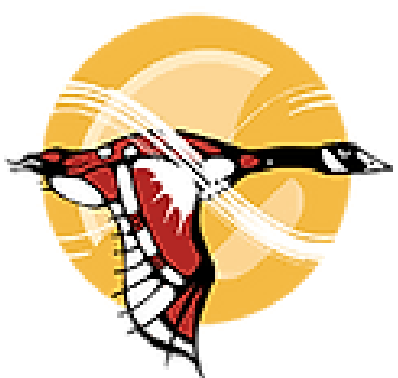
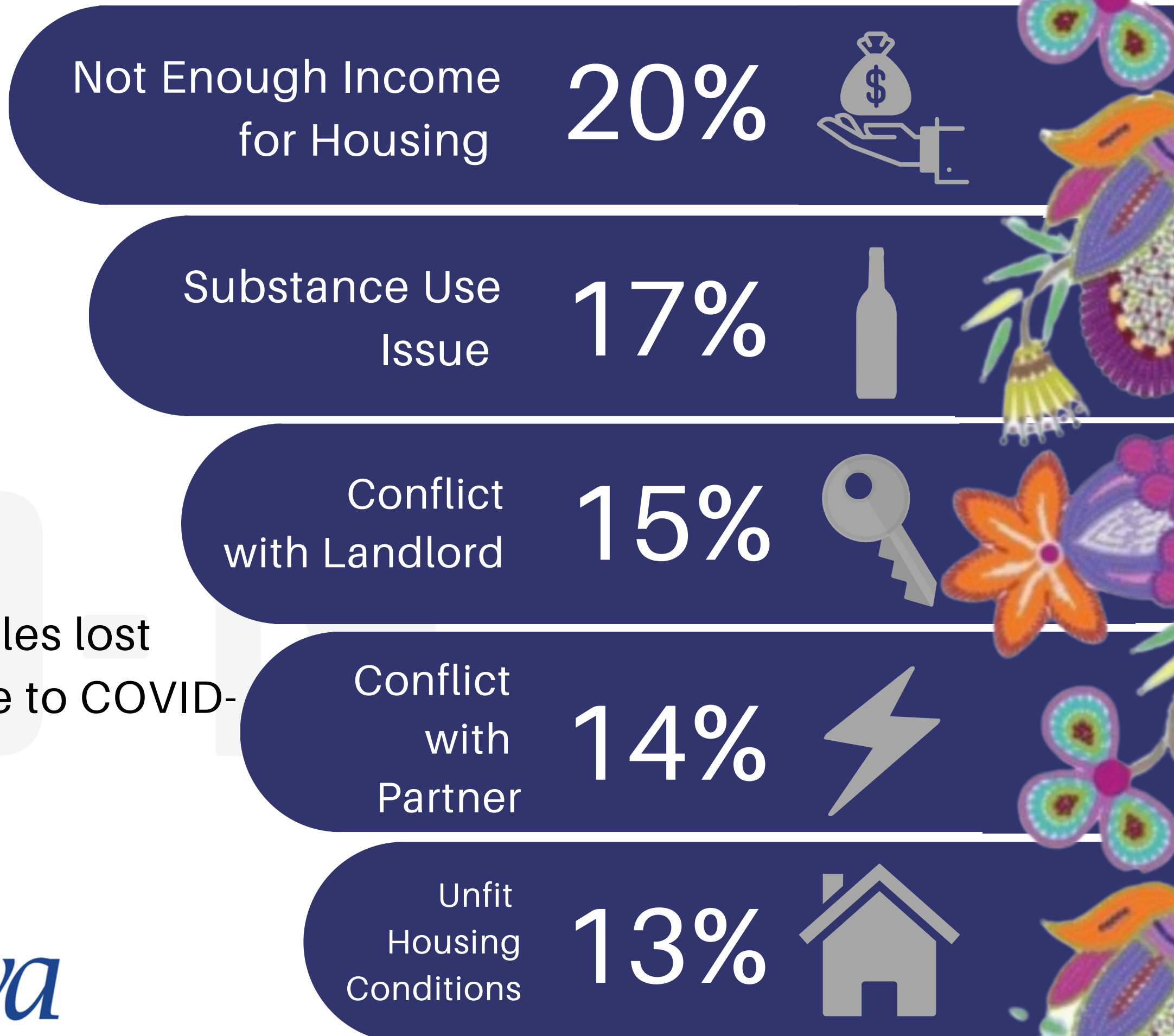
In 2021 Indigenous peoples have been homeless for...

2 YEARS	10.2%
1 YEAR	9.3%
1-30 DAYS	8.2%

**11%**

Indigenous peoples lost their housing due to COVID-19

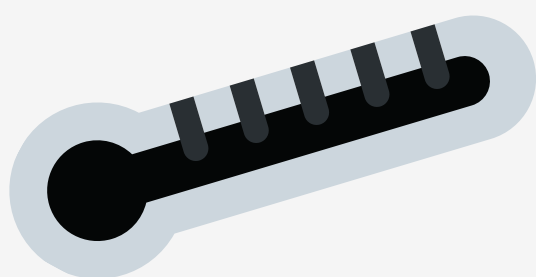
## Recent Causes of Homelessness



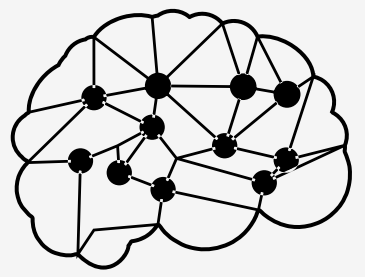




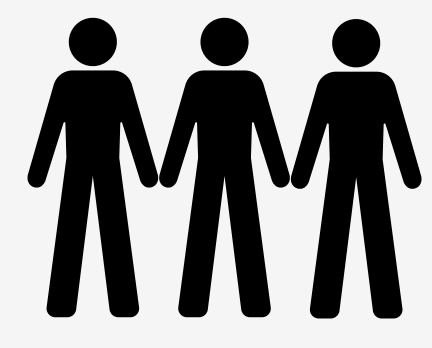
# HEALTH CHALLENGES



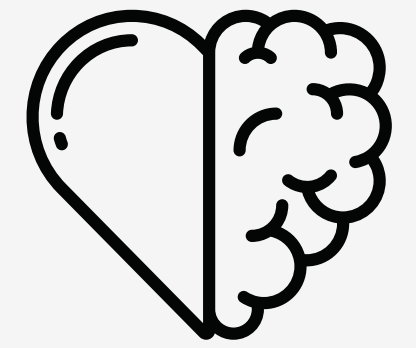
ILLNESS/ MEDICAL  
CONDITION  
**46%** IN 2018   **41%** IN 2021



LEARNING/COGNITIVE  
LIMITATION  
**35%**



PHYSICAL LIMITATION/  
DISABILITY  
**33%** IN 2018   **31%** IN 2021



MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE  
**53%** IN 2018   **56%** IN 2021



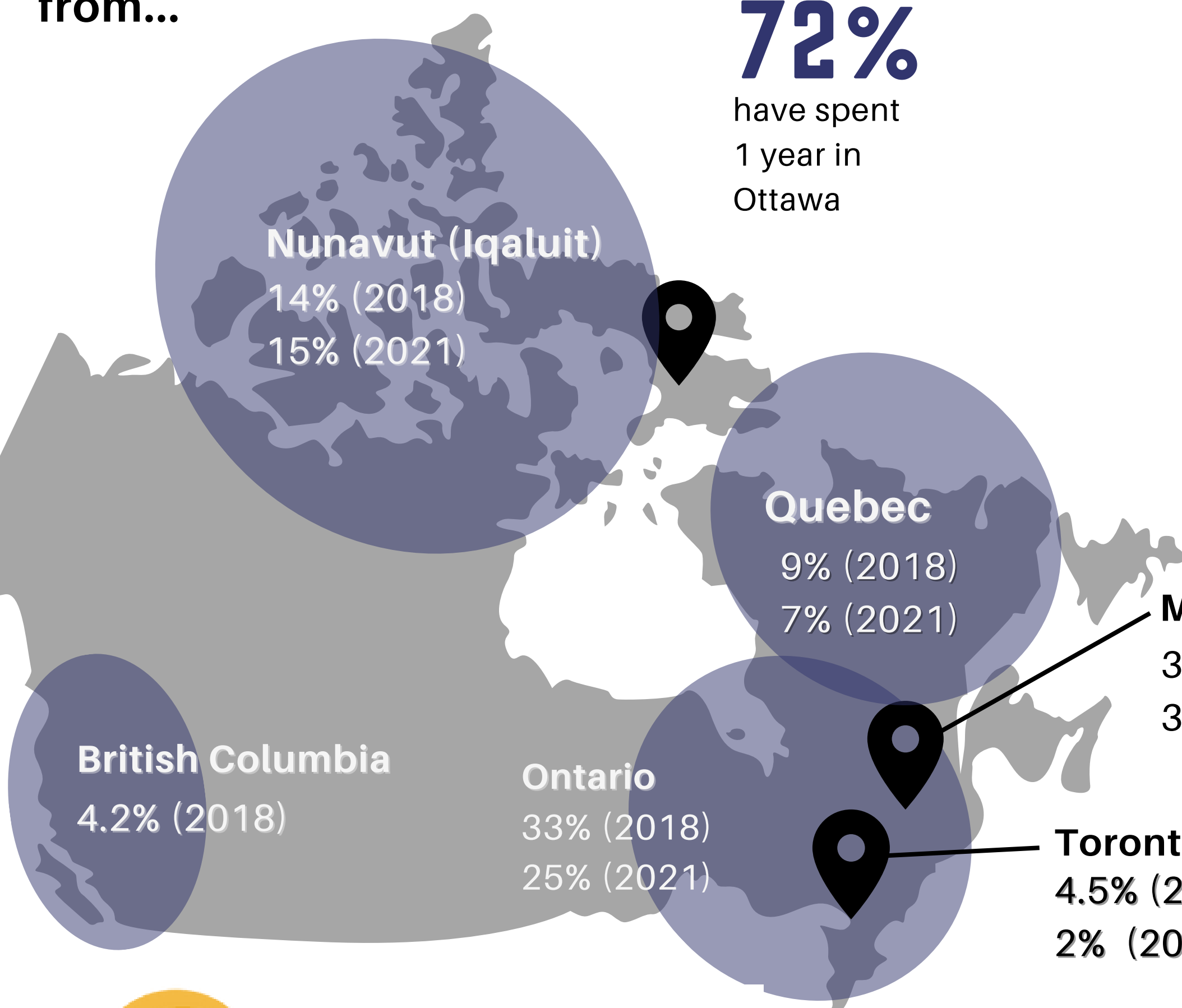
BRAIN INJURY AFTER  
BIRTH  
**31%**



SUBSTANCE USE/  
ADDICTION  
**70%** IN 2018   **72%** IN 2021

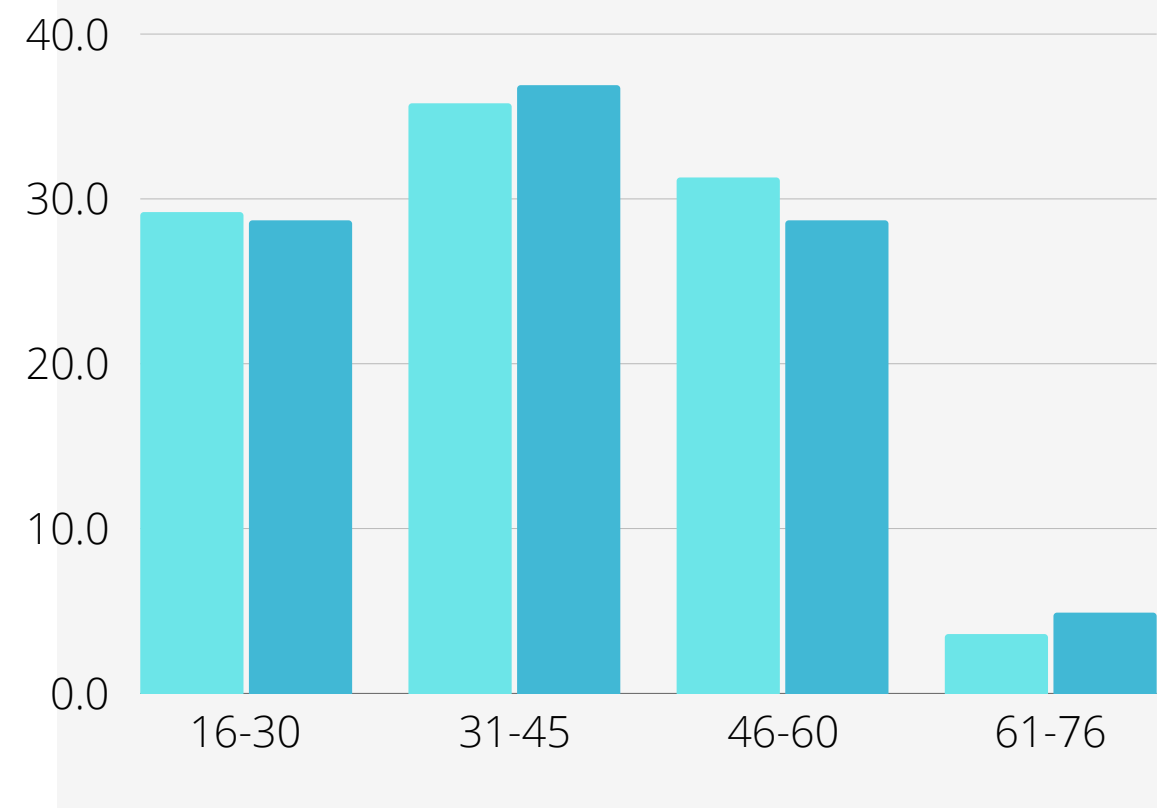
# DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

People came to Ottawa  
from...



**72%**  
have spent  
1 year in  
Ottawa

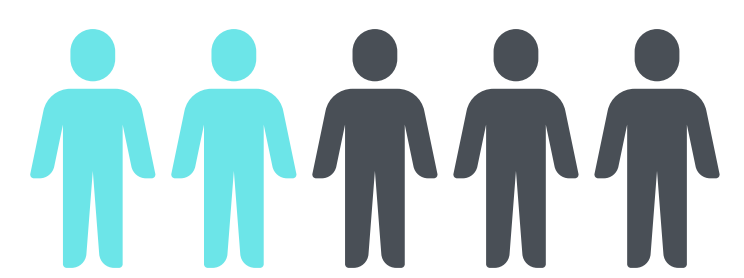
Age Group Percentages (2018, 2021)



## Highest Level of Education (2021)



25% Have a High School/GED



40% Have some High School





# CHILDREN IN CARE AND HOMELESSNESS EXPERIENCES

In 2018  
**47%** of Indigenous people who were homeless and had been in child welfare (foster care and group homes).

In 2021  
**43%**



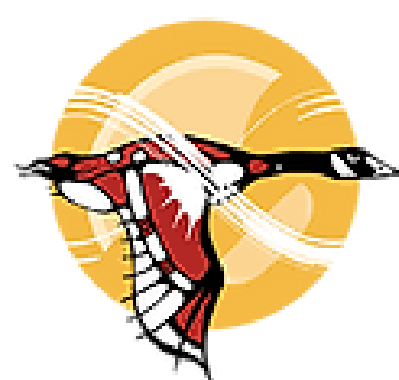
After leaving foster care, Indigenous youth experienced the following in one to ten days...

IN 2018  
**6%**  
WERE HOMELESS 1 DAY AFTER LEAVING FOSTER CARE

IN 2021  
**14%**  
WERE HOMELESS 1 DAY AFTER LEAVING FOSTER CARE

IN 2021, THIS NUMBER INCREASED TO  
**21%**  
WITHIN 10 DAYS OF LEAVING FOSTER CARE

THERE WAS AN **8%** INCREASE OVER THREE YEARS OF INDIGENOUS YOUTH BEING HOMELESS **ONE DAY AFTER LEAVING FOSTER CARE**



OTTAWA ABORIGINAL COALITION

