

# 2017 Report on Homelessness in the Lower Mainland

## DATA REPORT

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A collaboration between the Fraser Valley Regional District and the Homelessness Partnering Strategy's Community Entity Metro Vancouver

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June 30, 2017

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Prepared by BC Non-Profit Housing Association, M. Thomson Consulting and MCC Community Enterprises Inc.

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Canada 



Report prepared by



This report can be found on the Metro Vancouver Community Entity website and the Fraser Regional District website, along with other reports generated from the 2017 Homeless Count and previous regional Homeless Counts. For further information and data, please contact:

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**Fraser Valley Regional District:**

<http://www.fvrd.ca/EN/main/government/departments/regional-programs/strategic-planning-initiatives/regional-planning/affordable-housing-homelessness.html>

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# A Comparison of Homelessness Across the Lower Mainland on March 8th 2017

## Across the Lower Mainland

**4,211**  
people were  
found to be  
experiencing  
homelessness

Homelessness  
increased  
**40%**  
since 2011

Metro Vancouver Regional District

**3,605** individuals were found experiencing  
homelessness

## "Where did you stay last night?"

**60%**  
Sheltered

**33%**  
Unsheltered

**7%**  
Extreme Weather  
Response Shelter

Fraser Valley Regional District

**606** individuals were found experiencing  
homelessness

## Gender Identity

**72%** Male **27%** Female **1%** Another Gender

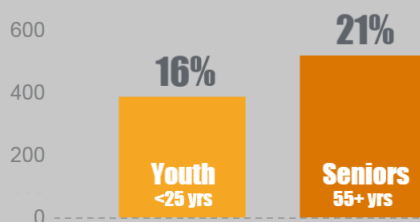
## Gender Identity

**64%** Male **35%** Female **1%** Another Gender

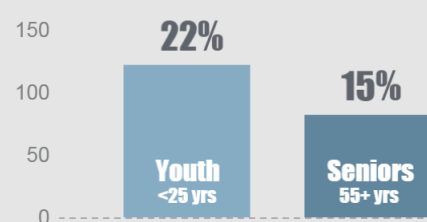
**34%**  
of respondents  
self-identified as  
**Indigenous/  
Aboriginal**

**33%**  
of respondents  
self-identified as  
**Indigenous/  
Aboriginal**

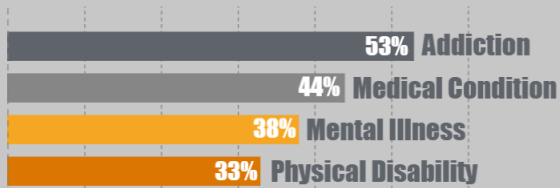
## Age Breakdown



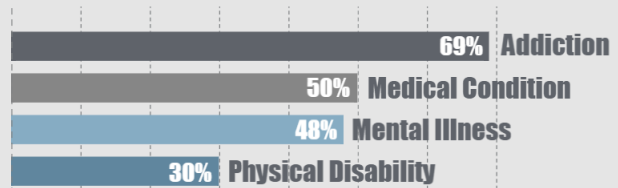
## Age Breakdown



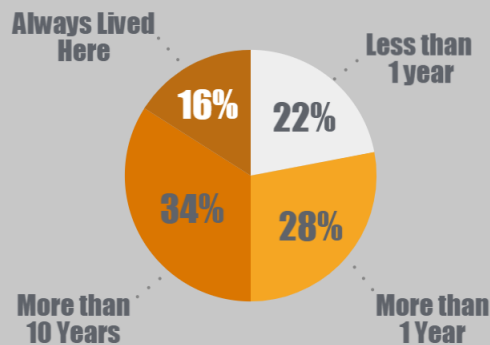
### Health Conditions



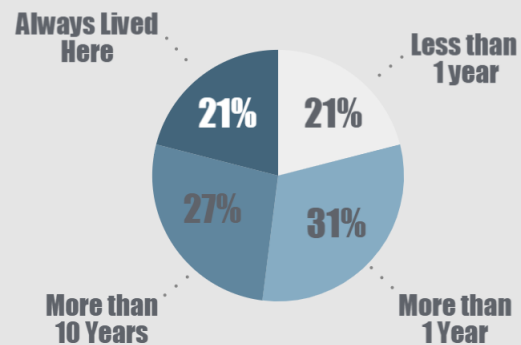
### Health Conditions



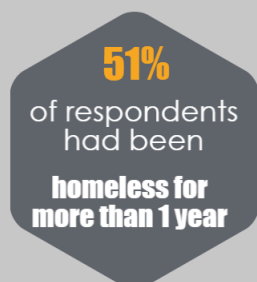
### Duration in Community Where Interviewed



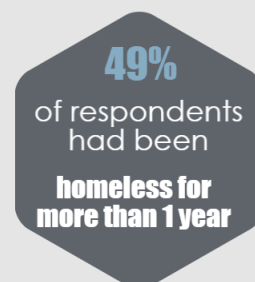
### Duration in Community Where Interviewed



### Duration of Homelessness



### Duration of Homelessness

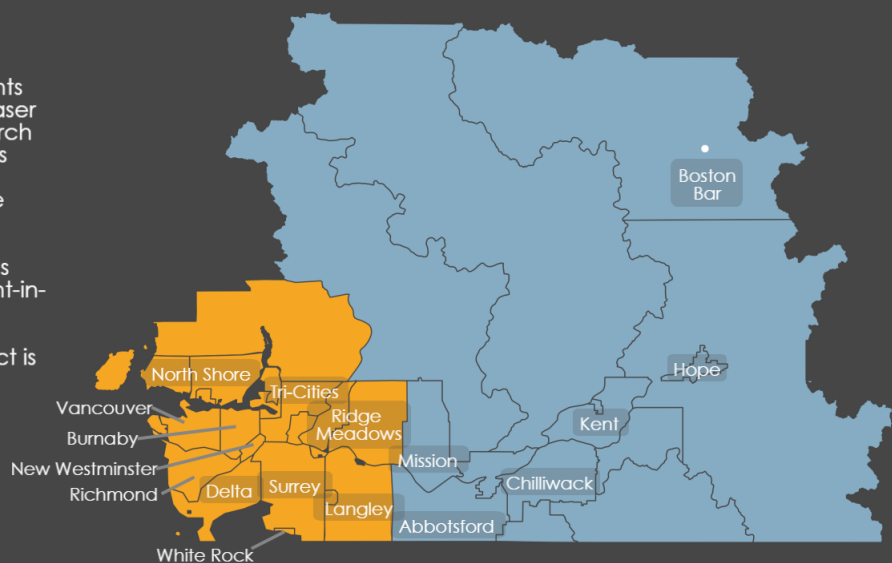


### About

This info sheet combines information from homeless counts in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley which took place on March 8th 2017. It highlights differences and similarities between both regions in regards to the people experiencing homelessness.

This map shows the communities which took part in the 2017 point-in-time counts.

The Fraser Valley Regional District is represented in blue and Metro Vancouver Regional District is shown in orange.



## Executive Summary

This report combines, compares and contrasts information from 2017 homeless counts in the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) and the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD). Its goal is to highlight differences and similarities between both Lower Mainland regions and its communities with regards to the people experiencing homelessness.

Overall, homelessness in the Lower Mainland:

- Increased by 40% since 2011, with a total of 4,211 individuals who were counted on March 8, 2017.
- One-third of these individuals were unsheltered, 7% stayed in an Extreme Weather Response (EWR) Shelter, and 60% were in some form of shelter.

A few indicators were selected to highlight the demographic differences and similarities between the Fraser Valley and Metro Vancouver counts, as shown in the infographic (previous page):

- A greater percentage of people who identify as **male** were counted in Metro Vancouver than in the Fraser Valley (72% vs. 64%). A stronger presence of men (78%) than in other communities was observed in the city of Vancouver where the vast majority of homeless people were counted. When excluding Vancouver the regional share of people who are homeless and identify as male is 67%.
- People who identify as **Indigenous** are over-represented within the homeless population in both regions (34% in Metro Vancouver and 33% in the FVRD). Based on 2011 Census data, Aboriginal people make up only 2% (MVRD) and 7% (FVRD) of the overall population.
- The Fraser Valley had a higher proportion of **youth** (22% vs. 16%), while Metro Vancouver had a higher proportion of **seniors** (21% vs. 15%). The same percentage of people were adults (63% respectively).
- Regarding **health conditions**, respondents in the Fraser Valley were more likely to report an addiction (69% vs. 53%), a medical condition (50% vs. 44%), and a mental illness (48% vs. 38%).
- A majority of people experiencing homelessness had been living in their **current community** for more than 10 years; 16% (Metro Vancouver) and 21% (Fraser Valley) had been in their community all their life.
- Around half of all respondents had been **homeless for at least one year** in both regions.

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## 1. Introduction

On March 8, 2017 the 2017 Homeless Count took place in the Metro Vancouver Regional District and the Fraser Valley Regional District. Together, for the purpose of this report, these two regions constitute the **Lower Mainland of British Columbia**.

### Purpose

The purpose of both counts was to estimate the number of people who are homeless in the region, obtain a demographic profile of the population, and identify trends compared to previous counts. Decision-makers, funders and community agencies rely on homeless counts to understand trends in the visible homeless population. The data supports communities with a systematic approach to secure appropriate levels of community infrastructure and funding to provide adequate levels of housing, health, service and support connections for vulnerable populations, through prevention and diversion, emergency response and accommodation and support services.

### Methodology

Both counts followed the same methodology. For more information on the methodology please review the full reports (see page 2). For the first time in 2017 the Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee (AHSC) also prepared a separate report for the Metro Vancouver region to shed light on the issue of homelessness experienced by people who identify as Aboriginal/Indigenous. This report can also be found on the Metro Vancouver Community Entity website.

Volunteers counted and obtained demographic information from people who did not have a place of their own where they could expect to stay for more than 30 days and did not pay rent. This includes people who:

- stayed overnight on the night of March 7 in homeless shelters, including transition houses for women fleeing violence and youth safe houses, as well as people with no fixed address (NFA) staying temporarily in hospitals, jails or detox facilities; or
- stayed outside or temporarily indoors with others (couchsurfing), and were found on the street or accessing homeless services.

The counts are a 24-hour snapshot in time of people experiencing homelessness. As such, the numbers are understood to be estimates and that the actual number of homeless is higher.

## 2. Findings

### 2.1. People Experiencing Homelessness in the Lower Mainland

A total of 4,211 people were counted as homeless on March 8, 2017 in the Lower Mainland. Most respondents were located in Vancouver (2,138) and Surrey (602), followed by Abbotsford (274), Chilliwack (221) and the City and Township of Langley (“Langleys”) (206). Of all people who were counted, 3,605 (86%) were located in Metro Vancouver and 606 (14%) in the Fraser Valley. The City of Vancouver alone accounted for 51% of all people experiencing homelessness in the Lower Mainland.

**Table 1: Total Unsheltered and Sheltered Homeless Population in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley by Community (2017)<sup>1</sup>**

	Unsheltered	Sheltered				
	Total	Total	EWR Shelters	Shelters	No Fixed Address	
Abbotsford	159	115	21	81	13	274 <sup>(3)</sup>
Agassiz-Harrison	6	0	0	0	0	6
Boston Bar	6	0	0	0	0	6
Burnaby	49	20	7	12	1	69
Chilliwack	130	91	0	89	2	221
Delta	19	0	0	0	0	19
Hope	24	12	0	12	0	36
Langleys	79	127	31	92	4	206
Mission	37	26	0	22	4	63
Ridge Meadows	30	94	10	78	6	124
New Westminister	30	103	27	66	10	133
North Shore	11	89	11	66	12	100
Richmond	29	41	16	20	5	70
Surrey	203	399	44	286	69	602
Tri-Cities	41	76	33	40	3	117
Vancouver	537	1,601	64	1,381	156	2,138
White Rock	4	23	13	9	1	27
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>2,817</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>2,254</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>4,211</b>
Metro Vancouver	1,032	2,573	256	2,050	267	3,605
Fraser Valley	362	244	21	204	19	606
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>2,817</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>2,254</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>4,211</b>

<sup>1</sup> All *demographic* tables in this report are based on individuals who responded to the survey. While Tables 1 to 3 represent the total of all individuals enumerated in the homeless counts, all other tables show a total that reflects the total number of people who responded to specific survey questions..

<sup>2</sup> North Shore includes the City and District of North Vancouver and the City of West Vancouver; Tri-Cities includes Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody; Ridge Meadows includes Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge; the Langleys include the City and the Township of Langley.

<sup>3</sup> Information referenced in the analysis is highlighted in colour within table cells for readability.



## 2.2. Changes in the Population of People Experiencing Homelessness

Table 2 and Table 3 compare changes in the population of people experiencing homelessness since 2014 and changes in the total population of the Lower Mainland (includes both the Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley regional districts).

An increase in people experiencing homelessness since 2011 was measured in 11 out of 17 areas in the Lower Mainland. The largest absolute increases between 2011 and 2017 took place in Vancouver (+557), Surrey (+202), Chilliwack (+110), Abbotsford (+157) and the Langleys (+103) as highlighted below.

**Table 2. Changes in Respondent Population by Community in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2005 to 2017)**

						2011 – 2017 Change	
						#	%
Abbotsford	226	235	117	151	274	157	134%
Agassiz-Harrison	1	12	20	20	6	-14	-70%
Boston Bar	3	-	-	5	6	-	-
Burnaby	42	86	78	58	69	-9	-12%
Chilliwack	87	98	111	73	221	110	99%
Delta/White Rock <sup>4</sup>	12	17	14	19	46	32	229%
Hope	19	20	43	22	36	-7	-16%
Langleys	57	86	103	92	206	103	100%
Mission	75	100	54	75	63	9	17%
Ridge Meadows	44	90	110	84	124	14	13%
New West	97	124	132	106	133	1	1%
North Shore	90	127	122	119	100	-22	-18%
Richmond	35	56	49	38	70	21	43%
Surrey	392	402	400	403	602	202	51%
Tri-Cities	40	94	48	55	117	69	144%
Unspecified	1	2	13	0	0	-13	-
Vancouver	1,364	1,576	1,581	1,803	2,138	557	35%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>2,585</b>	<b>3,125</b>	<b>2,995</b>	<b>3,123</b>	<b>4,211</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>40%</b>
Metro Vancouver	2,174	2,660	2,650	2,777	3,605	955	36%
Fraser Valley	411	465	345	346	606	255	74%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>2,585</b>	<b>3,125</b>	<b>2,995</b>	<b>3,123</b>	<b>4,211</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>40%</b>

By comparing the measured increases in homelessness to changes in the total population we can determine whether homelessness increases proportionally with population growth. Table 3 shows the population of Lower Mainland municipalities has grown at rates between 3% and 11% in the period from 2011 to 2016, the year of the last Census, while the

<sup>4</sup> Delta and White Rock are grouped together in order to compare with previous years.

homeless population has increased an average of 41% since 2011 (compared to 2017). In all communities where homelessness is on the rise, the numbers of people experiencing homelessness are therefore increasing more rapidly than population growth is occurring. Much of the increase in homelessness, especially in the Fraser Valley RD, occurred between 2014 and 2017.

Population growth alone is only one component to explain homelessness increases. Other influences may include high housing costs, historically low vacancy rates, increasing rents, stagnant welfare rates, economic conditions outside the lower mainland, the nature of drugs on the streets, gaps in community supports and other factors.

**Table 3: Change in Homeless Population Relative to Change in Total Population by Community in Metro Vanc. and Fraser Valley (2011-2017)**

Sub-Region	Change in Total Population (2011-2016)		Change in Respondents (2011-2017)	
	#	%	#	%
Abbotsford	7,895	6%	157	134%
Agassiz-Harrison	403	6%	-14	-70%
Boston Bar	16	8%	-	-
Burnaby	9,535	4%	-9	-12%
Chilliwack	5,850	8%	110	99%
Delta/White Rock <sup>5</sup>	2,985	3%	32	229%
Hope	211	4%	-7	-16%
Langley	13,913	11%	103	100%
Mission	2,400	7%	9	17%
Ridge Meadows	7,044	8%	14	13%
New Westminster	5,021	8%	1	1%
North Shore	6,006	3%	-22	-18%
Richmond	7,834	4%	21	43%
Surrey	49,637	11%	202	51%
Tri-Cities	15,677	7%	69	144%
Vancouver	27,986	5%	557	35%
Unspecified	n/a	n/a	-13	-100%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>162,413</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>1,216</b>	<b>41%</b>
Metro Vancouver	145,638	6%	955	36%
Fraser Valley	16,775	6%	255	74%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>162,413</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>1,216</b>	<b>41%</b>

<sup>5</sup> Delta and White Rock are grouped together in order to compare with previous years.

### 2.3. People who identify as Aboriginal/Indigenous

People who identify as Indigenous are strongly overrepresented within the homeless population in both the Fraser Valley and Metro Vancouver, with 33% and 34% of all respondents respectively.

**Table 4: Aboriginal Identity of People who are Homeless in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2017)**

	Fraser Valley		Metro Vancouver		Lower Mainland	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Aboriginal	142	33%	746	34%	888	34%
Non-Aboriginal	294	67%	1451	66%	1745	66%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2197</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2633</b>	<b>100%</b>

Based on 2011 Census data, as shown in Table 5, the overall population of individuals who identify as Aboriginal was 2% in the Metro Vancouver Regional District and 7% in the Fraser Valley Regional District.

**Table 5: General Population Aboriginal Identity in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2011 Census)**

	Fraser Valley		Metro Vancouver		Lower Mainland	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Aboriginal	18,540	7%	52,375	2%	70,915	3%
Non-Aboriginal	253,115	93%	2,228,320	98%	2,481,435	97%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>271,655</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,280,695</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,552,350</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 2.4. Gender

Table 6 shows the gender identity for homeless individuals by community across the Lower Mainland, in which men represent 70% of the homeless population, women represent 29% and 1% identify as another gender.

Compared to other communities, Vancouver has relatively more men than women experiencing homelessness; only 22% of that city's homeless identify as female. The remaining communities across the Lower Mainland have an average of 33% women among those who are homeless.

The following *larger* communities have higher-than-average rates of people who identify as female experiencing homelessness: Langley (40%); Chilliwack (37%); and Abbotsford (36%).<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Previous homeless count reports and community agencies have stated that women tend to be part of the hidden homeless population, often staying with families and friends or in unsafe situations rather than stay on the streets or access services for the homeless. As such, they are likely to be undercounted using a Point-in-Time count methodology.

**Table 6: Gender Identity by Community in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2017)**

	Male		Female		Another Gender		Total Resp.
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Abbotsford	166	63%	95	36%	2	1%	263
Agassiz-Harrison	3	50%	3	50%	0	0%	6
Boston Bar	5	83%	1	17%	0	0%	6
Burnaby	42	70%	17	28%	1	2%	60
Chilliwack	112	62%	67	37%	1	1%	180
Delta	10	53%	9	47%	0	0%	19
Hope	25	69%	10	28%	1	3%	36
Langleys	73	60%	49	40%	0	0%	122
Mission	41	71%	17	29%	0	0%	58
Ridge Meadows	61	67%	30	33%	0	0%	91
New Westminster	62	71%	25	29%	0	0%	87
North Shore	38	68%	17	30%	1	2%	56
Richmond	36	69%	16	31%	0	0%	52
Surrey	326	69%	144	30%	4	1%	474
Tri-Cities	64	68%	30	32%	0	0%	94
Vancouver	902	76%	263	22%	19	2%	1184
White Rock	6	46%	7	54%	0	0%	13
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>1,972</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2,801</b>
Metro Vancouver	1,620	72%	607	27%	25	1%	2,252
Fraser Valley	352	64%	193	35%	4	1%	549
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>1,972</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2,801</b>

## 2.5. Age Groups

Table 7 shows age groups of homeless individuals by community. Seniors aged 55 and older across the Lower Mainland represented 21% of all individuals experiencing homelessness. In some larger communities, this proportion went close to or above 30%, such as the North Shore (36%), Burnaby (32%) and Richmond (29%).

Youth under 25 years of age represented 13% of all individuals experiencing homelessness during the Point-in-Time count. In some communities, youth are more prevalent: Agassiz-Harrison (60%); Delta (53%); Chilliwack (29%); Langleys (26%); and Tri-Cities (24%).

**Table 7: Age Groups by Community in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2017)<sup>7</sup>**

	<19 years		19-24 years		25-54 years		55+ years		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Abbotsford	34	13%	17	6%	170	64%	43	16%	264
Agassiz-Harrison	1	20%	2	40%	2	40%	0	0%	5
Boston Bar	0	0%	0	0%	3	60%	2	40%	5
Burnaby	5	9%	7	12%	27	47%	18	32%	57
Chilliwack	28	16%	22	13%	100	58%	22	13%	172
Delta	10	53%	0	0%	4	21%	5	26%	19
Hope	3	9%	3	9%	27	77%	2	6%	35
Langleys	16	13%	15	13%	65	54%	24	20%	120
Mission	3	5%	8	14%	35	61%	12	20%	58
Ridge Meadows	0	0%	3	3%	71	77%	18	20%	92
New Westminster	0	0%	4	4%	62	70%	23	26%	89
North Shore	4	6%	2	3%	35	55%	23	36%	64
Richmond	3	5%	3	5%	33	60%	16	29%	55
Surrey	18	4%	29	6%	310	66%	114	24%	471
Tri-Cities	12	13%	10	11%	54	59%	16	17%	92
Vancouver	16	1%	112	9%	841	69%	255	21%	1,224
White Rock	0	0%	0	0%	7	54%	6	46%	13
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1846</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>2,845</b>
Metro Vancouver	84	4%	185	8%	1,509	66%	518	23%	2,296
Fraser Valley	69	13%	52	10%	337	63%	81	15%	539
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1,846</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>2,835</b>

Table 8 highlights the age distribution of the general, non-homeless population in both regional districts. The comparison of the general population age distribution with homeless count data shows that homelessness is not proportional to the age distribution among the general population. People who are homeless are less likely to be seniors over 55 years or youth under the age of 25 years than would be expected relative to the general population. People who are homeless are more likely to be in their adult years.

<sup>7</sup> This table does not include 117 children accompanied by their parents who were captured from the Metro Vancouver data set through the question “Who are you with today?” in order to conform with the Fraser Valley data set, which did not include accompanied children. There is therefore a slight discrepancy between this report and the main 2017 Homeless Count in Metro Vancouver report in some age categories. This also impacts the proportion of the homeless population considered youth. The infographic at the start of this report utilizes the overall proportions from the main report.

Incidences of youth homelessness are more prevalent in the Fraser Valley than in Metro Vancouver. As seen in Table 7, in the Fraser Valley 23% of people who are homeless are under the age of 25 (compared to 12% in Metro Vancouver). While the Fraser Valley has a larger general youth population with 30%, Metro also has a large youth population of 27%.

**Table 8: General Population Age Distribution in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley <sup>8</sup> (2016 Census)**

	<19 years		19-24 years		25-54 years		55+ years		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Metro Vanc.	473,025	19%	198,635	8%	1,074,555	44%	717,210	29%	2,463,425
Fraser Valley	67,850	23%	21,415	7%	112,990	38%	93,675	32%	295,930
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>540,875</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>220,050</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1,187,545</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>810,885</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>2,759,355</b>

## 2.6. Home Community of People Experiencing Homelessness

The majority of people who experienced homelessness on March 8, 2017 in the Lower Mainland were long-time residents of their community.

Half (50%) of respondents reported they had lived in the city where they were interviewed for at least 10 years (including the 17% of respondents who said "they had always lived here").

**Table 9: Duration in community where respondents were interviewed in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2017)**

	Community in Fraser Valley		Community in Metro Vancouver		Respondents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 1 year	95	21%	496	22%	591	22%
1 year to <10 years	142	31%	628	28%	770	28%
More than 10 years	124	27%	773	34%	897	33%
Always lived here	94	21%	365	16%	459	17%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,717</b>	<b>100%</b>

Of the 22% (591 people) who had moved in the last year, 558 specified a previous location: 27% had moved from a community in the Metro Vancouver region; 24% had moved from elsewhere in B.C.; and 38% had come from other parts of or from outside of Canada.

Comparing the Fraser Valley and Metro Vancouver, respondents in the Fraser Valley are most likely to come from a community within the Fraser Valley (47%). The location

<sup>8</sup> See footnote 7

where people have moved from last is more varied for respondents in Metro Vancouver. Respondents in Metro Vancouver were more likely to come from out of province (33%) and outside Canada (10%) than respondents in the Fraser Valley.

**Table 10: Where respondents who moved in the last year lived before moving to their current community in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2017)**

	Current community of respondents who moved in the last year					
	Fraser Valley RD		Metro Vancouver RD		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Fraser Valley	41	47%	21	4%	62	11%
Metro Vancouver	10	11%	142	30%	150	27%
Rest of BC	26	30%	107	23%	135	24%
Out of province	11	13%	155	33%	166	30%
Outside Canada	0	0%	45	10%	45	8%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 2.7. Length of Time Individuals are Experiencing Homelessness

Of the total sample, 1,339 people (49%) responded that they have been homeless for less than one year, while 51% have been homeless for more than one year. The split is very similar in communities in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley.

There were 55 people counted as newly homeless – that is, they became homeless within the last month — in communities in the Fraser Valley and 190 are newly homeless in Metro Vancouver.

**Table 11: Duration of homelessness of respondents in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2017)**

	Community in Fraser Valley RD		Community in Metro Vancouver RD		Respondents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less than 1 year	230	50%	1,109	49%	1,339	49%
<i>Less than 1 month</i>	55		190		245	
<i>1 month to less than 1 year</i>	175		919		1,094	
More than 1 year	231	50%	1,151	51%	1,382	51%
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,260</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,721</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 2.8. Health Conditions

Table 12 contains data on the self-reported health issues of individuals experiencing homelessness. Across the Lower Mainland 16% of respondents reported no health conditions, 28% reported one health condition and 56% reported two or more health conditions. As a result, 84% of respondents have at least one health condition.

The communities of the Eastern Fraser Valley (87%), Mission (81%) and Chilliwack (76%) had more than three-quarters of respondents self-reporting two or more health conditions. Both of these communities are in the Fraser Valley Regional District.

**Table 12: Incidence of Health Conditions by Community in Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley (2017)**

	No health incidence		One health incidences		Two or more health incidences		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Abbotsford	42	17%	51	21%	150	62%	243
Burnaby	11	18%	16	27%	33	55%	60
Chilliwack	9	7%	24	18%	103	76%	136
Delta	4	21%	7	37%	8	42%	19
Eastern Fraser Valley <sup>9</sup>	3	7%	3	7%	40	87%	46
Langley	18	17%	34	31%	57	52%	109
Mission	3	5%	8	14%	46	81%	57
Ridge Meadows	4	4%	31	34%	55	61%	90
New Westminster	30	34%	22	25%	35	40%	87
North Shore	13	22%	19	33%	26	45%	58
Richmond	14	29%	13	27%	22	45%	49
Surrey	69	15%	135	29%	266	57%	470
Tri-Cities	13	14%	29	32%	50	54%	92
Vancouver	205	17%	365	31%	604	51%	1,174
White Rock	3	23%	2	15%	8	62%	13
<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>2,703</b>

Table 13 shows the self-reported health conditions for the two regional districts that were encompassed by both homeless counts — Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley — and the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) and Fraser Health (FH) regions.<sup>10</sup>

Addiction is the health condition most often reported in the Lower Mainland (56%), followed by medical condition/illness (45%), mental illness (40%) and physical disability (33%). For comparison, the 2012 Canadian Survey on Disability showed that 13.7% of

<sup>9</sup> Data from Hope, Agassiz-Harrison and Boston Bar was summarized as Eastern Fraser Valley in Table 12 for privacy considerations due to a small sample.

<sup>10</sup> Municipalities in the Metro Vancouver region may fall under the purview of the Fraser Health Authority or Vancouver Coastal Health. All municipalities in the Fraser Valley Regional District's count were part of the Fraser Health Authority. For more information see <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/partners/health-authorities/regional-health-authorities>



Canadians 15 years or older experienced some form of disability, including 3.9% who report some form of mental health-related issue.<sup>11</sup>

Respondents within the Fraser Health Authority service area reported a higher incidence of health conditions relative to the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority for each and all health conditions: addiction (59% vs. 52%); medical condition/illness (47% vs. 42%); mental illness (41% vs. 38%); and physical disability (34% vs. 31%).

The same trend is even stronger when comparing both regional district geographies with the exception of physical disabilities, which is relatively more often reported in Metro Vancouver than in the FVRD (33% vs. 30%).

**Table 13: Prevalence of Health Conditions by Regional District and Health Authority (2017)**

Regional District (RD) & Health Authority	Addiction		Medical Condition/ Illness		Mental Illness		Physical Disability		Total Respondents
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Metro Vancouver	1,172	53%	967	44%	848	38%	742	33%	2,221
Fraser Valley	333	69%	239	50%	232	48%	147	30%	482
<b>Total (RD)</b>	<b>1,505</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>1,206</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>2,703</b>
Vancouver Coastal	671	52%	540	42%	493	38%	399	31%	1,281
Fraser Health	834	59%	666	47%	587	41%	490	34%	1,422
<b>Total (Health Auth.)</b>	<b>1,505</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>1,206</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>2,703</b>

<sup>11</sup> Statistics Canada. "Disability in Canada: Initial findings from the Canadian Survey on Disability." <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-654-x/89-654-x2013002-eng.htm>. Last updated November 30, 2015 (accessed June 22, 2017).