

Huron Housing and Homelessness Monthly Share-Out

January 2026

Previous Month's Share-Outs

Huron's Housing and Homelessness Serving System is a group of agencies and programs that coordinate to provide housing and support to people experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness.

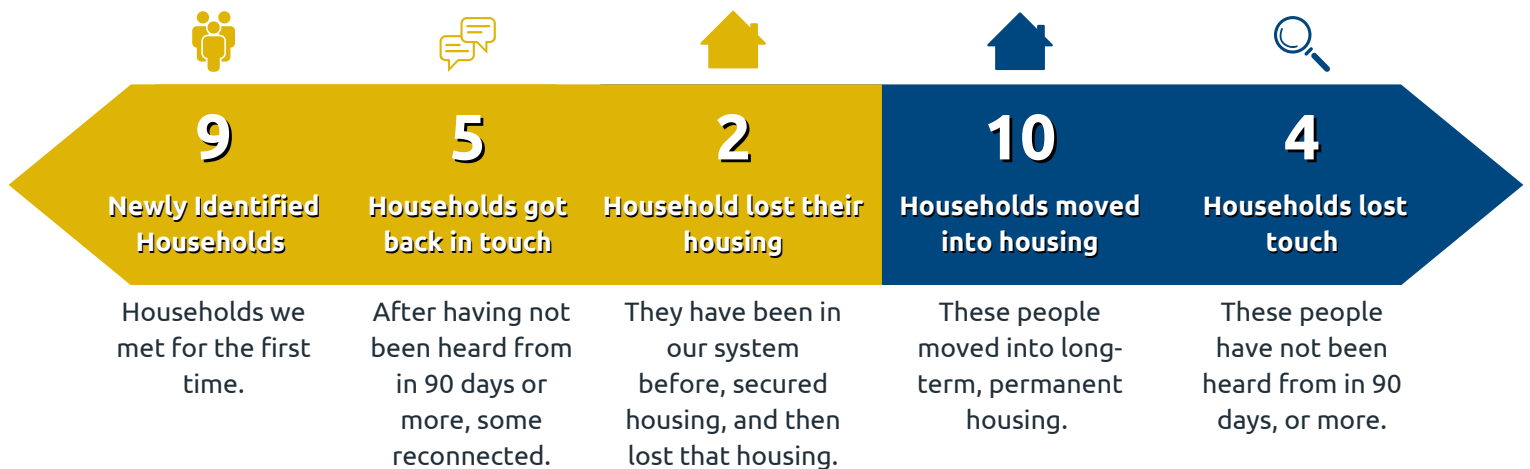
At least **152** households were experiencing homelessness in Huron County this month.

Of those, **126** households had been chronically homeless for six months or more in the last year.

196 people, including children, are represented by the households experiencing homelessness.

Inflow: People entering homelessness.

Outflow: People exiting homelessness.



Population Specific Data



Numbers In This Report Only Represent Households That Are Active and Consenting To Being On The Huron County By-Name List

'HARD TRUTHS' ABOUT HOMELESSNESS IN ONTARIO

Homelessness is **rising faster than housing and homelessness serving systems can respond to**, even as municipalities increase funding and expand services.

Homelessness is one of the **clearest and most costly** signals of system misalignment.

Homelessness is **not a temporary crisis**. Homelessness is now a predictable system outcome.

LET'S REVIEW THE RESEARCH...



MUNICIPALITIES UNDER PRESSURE ONE YEAR LATER:

AN UPDATE ON THE HUMAN AND FINANCIAL COST OF ONTARIO'S HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

FULL REPORT

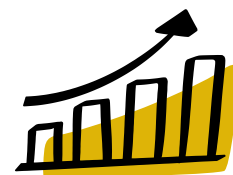
WHAT IS 'KNOWN HOMELESSNESS'?

"Refers to **people known to the homelessness-serving system**, through service provision or data collection and prioritization activities, such as a By-Name List (BNL), Point-in-Time (PiT) count, or other tools. This **primarily includes people experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness**- those staying in emergency shelters, hotels, or unsheltered locations like tents or outdoor spaces." -Source

The research conducted within the *Municipalities Under Pressure* report establishes **Ontario's first province-wide baseline of known homelessness.**

HOMELESSNESS INCREASED IN 2025.

- In 2025, an estimated 84,973 people experienced known homelessness in Ontario.
- This is a **7.4% increase** from 2024.



HOMELESSNESS GROWTH ACCELERATED SHARPLY AFTER 2021 AND HAS NOT BEEN REVERSED.

- From 2021-2025, known homelessness **has increased by 49.1%**. This indicates that the availability of housing and supports has not kept pace with the scale of persistence of homelessness following the pandemic.

HOMELESSNESS IS GROWING FASTER IN NORTHERN COMMUNITIES.

- Northern communities, which account for approximately 5% of Ontario's total population, now **account for nearly 10% of all known homelessness.**

HOMELESSNESS IS ALSO INCREASING RAPIDLY IN MOSTLY RURAL COMMUNITIES.

- In 2025, known homelessness in mostly rural communities **increased by 31%** from 2024.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE ARE SIGNIFICANTLY OVERREPRESENTED AMONG PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.

- Indigenous people **represent approximately 2.9% of the population**, but **account for an estimated 13.2% of people experiencing homelessness** province-wide, and 40.7% in northern communities.

ENCAMPMENTS EXIST IN MOST AREAS OF ONTARIO.

- There are nearly **2000 site-based encampments** estimated across the province.
- Most encampments are small, typically fewer than **10 people per site.**

LACK OF HOUSING IS INCREASING THE DURATION AND CHRONICITY OF HOMELESSNESS.

- In 2025, an estimated **45,111 people were experiencing chronic homelessness**, representing **53% of all known homelessness** in Ontario.

"Homelessness in Ontario is increasingly characterized by conditions consistent with high inflow into homelessness and limited exit capacity, particularly limited access to affordable housing options that support timely exits." -Source

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FUNDING HAS INCREASED, BUT HOMELESSNESS GROWS FASTER.

- Public funding for housing and homelessness in Ontario has increased substantially, while homelessness continues to rise.
- **Municipalities are increasingly absorbing the cost** of managing higher and more persistent levels of homelessness through local service delivery.



HOMELESSNESS IS PROJECTED TO MORE THAN DOUBLE BY 2035.

- **Under steady conditions**, known homelessness is projected to reach approximately **177,000 people** province-wide by 2035. **Under an economic downturn**, projected homelessness exceeds **297,000 people**.

POST-PANDEMIC HOMELESSNESS APPEARS INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO REVERSE.

- Observed trends since 2021 indicate that after homelessness rose above pre-pandemic levels, it did not return to those earlier levels, **even after emergency responses expanded and short-term crisis conditions eased**.

“These trends indicate that homelessness in Ontario is not a temporary crisis.”

[-Source](#)

LOOKING AHEAD...

KEY IMPLICATIONS AND DIRECTION



- Much of the public spending on homelessness has focused on managing crisis. This is necessary to address immediate harm, but it does not prevent or support timely access to affordable and appropriate housing.
- Homelessness does not occur with a single program, ministry, or level of government. It is shaped by how housing, healthcare, income supports, justice, child welfare, education, and other systems operate and interact over time.
- Because pressures move between systems, progress depends on a whole-of-government approach, rather than isolated action.
- Increasing the supply of housing, particularly deeply affordable housing, is essential to reducing homelessness and requires an expanded federal role, alongside provincial and municipal action. [-Source](#)

“Reversing homelessness growth requires both housing investment and changes in how systems work together.” [-Source](#)

**When everyone has a safe and affordable place to call home,
our whole community benefits.**



Be Part of the Solution.

Say YES to supportive and affordable housing in your neighbourhood!

