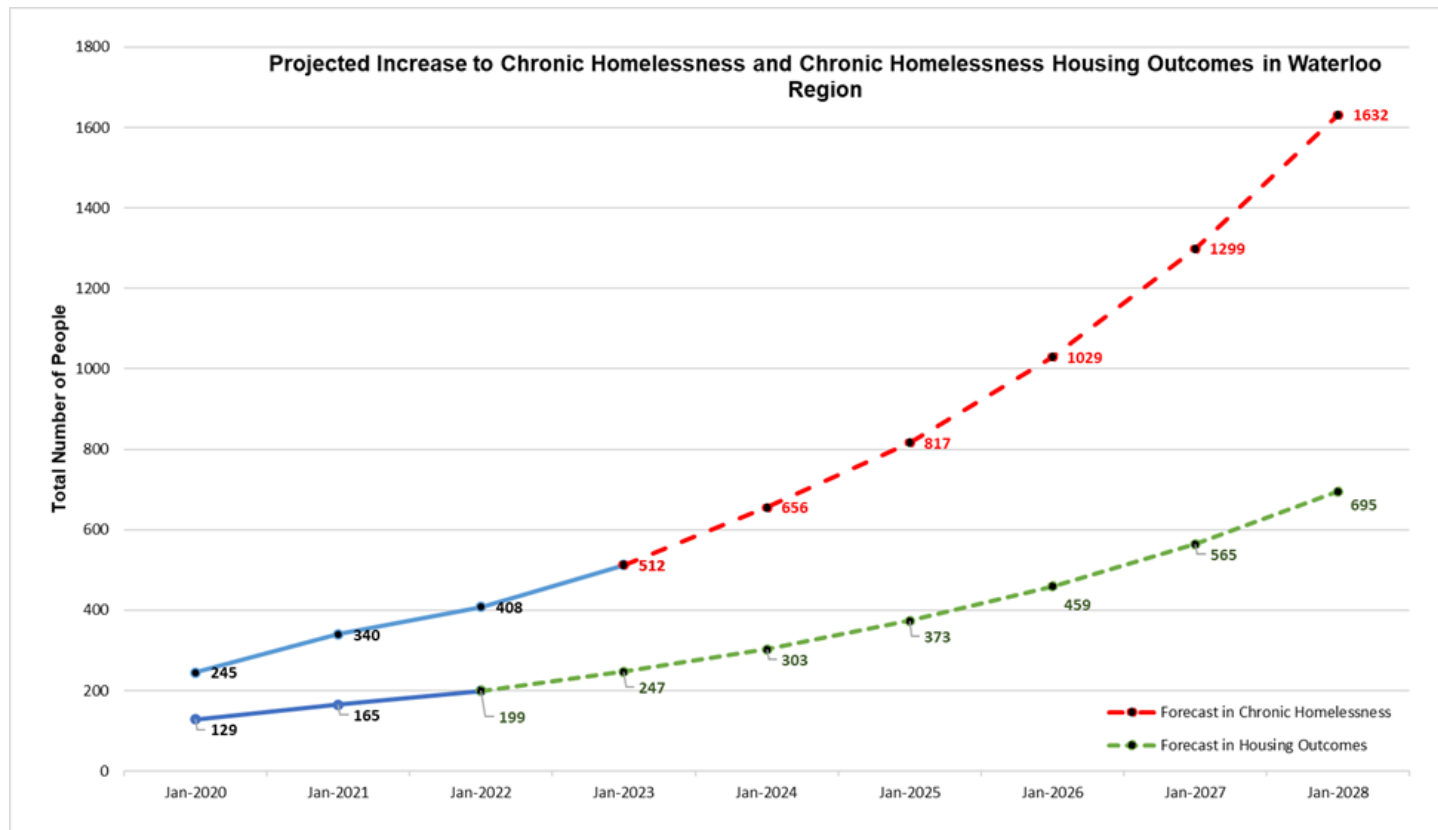


Appendix B - Current State and Need of Homelessness Services in Waterloo Region

This Appendix outlines the current state of the local homelessness system in Waterloo Region, and projects the future need to prevent and end chronic homelessness.

Projection of Chronic Homelessness in Waterloo Region

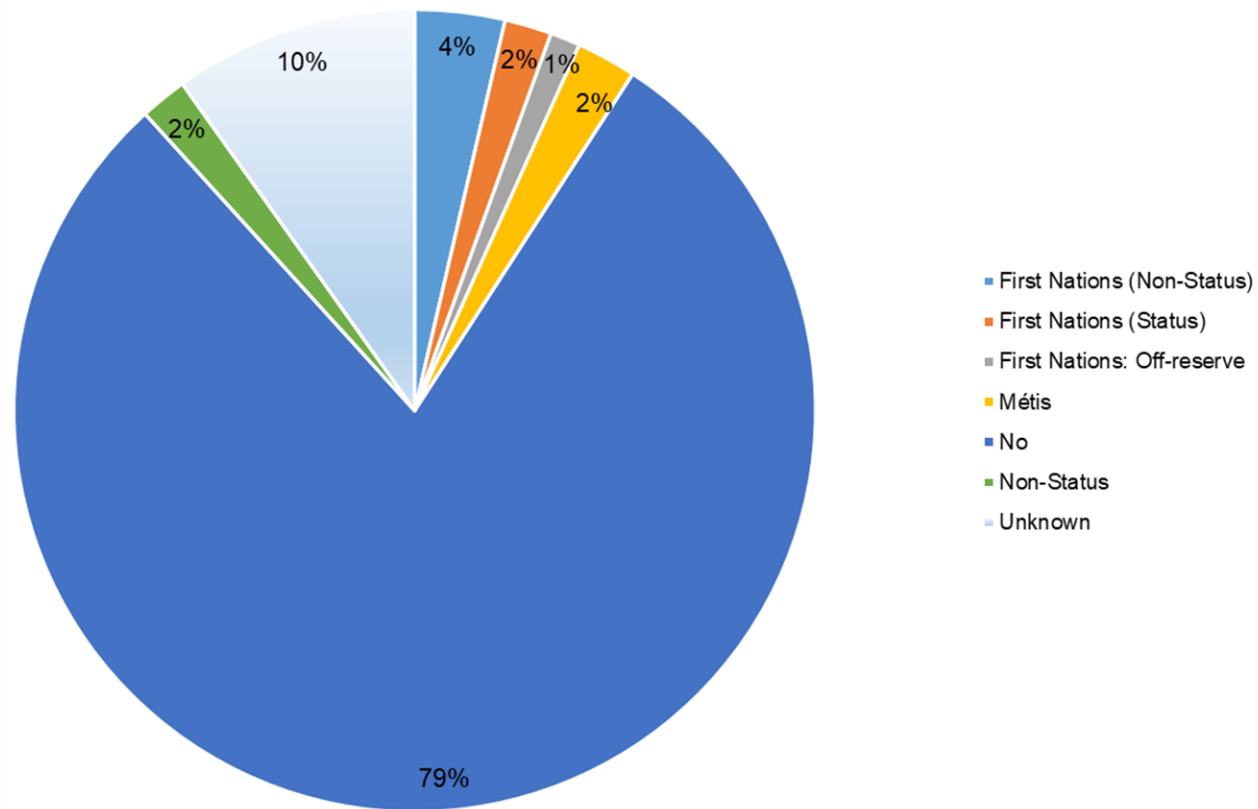


Projected increases to Chronic Homelessness and Housing Outcomes are based on historical increases to local chronic homelessness and permanent housing outcomes for households experiencing chronic homelessness.

Known Data for Indigenous Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness

Prioritized Access to Housing Supports (PATHS) is the local list of households experiencing chronic homelessness in Waterloo region. In addition to functioning as a wait list, the PATHS List serves a dynamic function with funded-FTEs attached (Service Navigators) to ensure all PATHS Participants are supported with their Individualized Housing Plans.

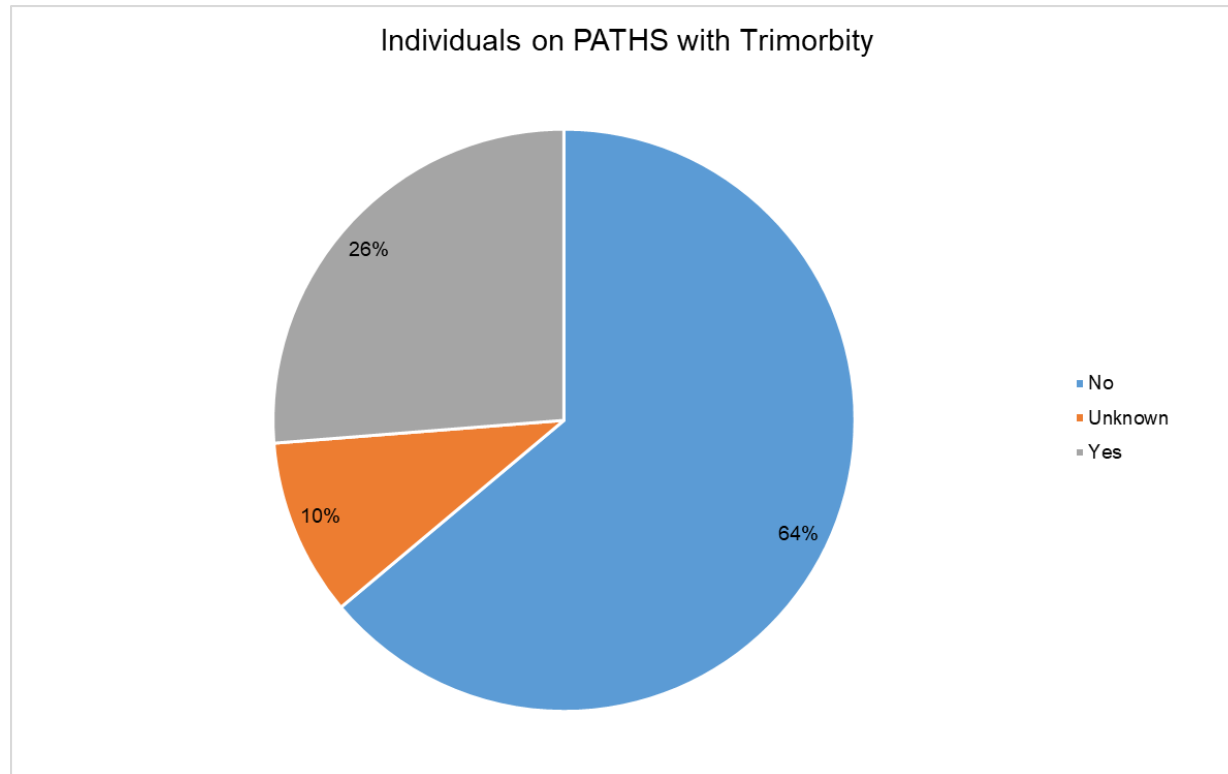
Self-Identified Indigenous Individuals on PATHS (All Status Types)



Currently, there is an overrepresentation of Indigenous people experiencing chronic homelessness in Waterloo region. In total, 11% of PATHS Participants self-identify as Indigenous (First Nations (Non-Status), First Nations (Status), First Nations (Off-Reserve), Metis, and Non-Status) while only 1.7% of the population of Waterloo region is Indigenous. Additionally, we understand that this is an underreported number as Indigenous people do not feel comfortable or safe disclosing their status or accessing supports altogether.

Known Data for Individuals Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Tri-Morbidity

Approximately 1 in 4 people experiencing chronic homelessness in Waterloo region (26%) on PATHS are characterized as having tri-morbidity. Individuals with tri-morbidity experience the presence of a physical health concern, mental health concern, and substance use concern, which greatly affects housing stability. This highlights the deep need for increased health-related supports and funding to ensure housing stability for all chronically homeless households.



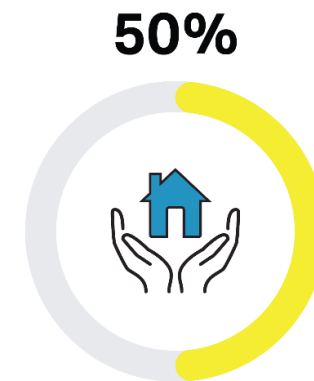
Supportive Housing

Supportive Housing is a form of housing in Waterloo region that focuses on rehabilitation and a recovery from chronic homelessness as well as community integration. In supportive housing, housing and support are linked, with staff providing support to residents through their own Individualized Plan. In Waterloo region, access to Supportive Housing is coordinated through the Prioritized Access to Housing Supports (PATHS) Process.

There are two forms of Supportive Housing funded by the Region; Fixed-Site Supportive Housing and Scattered Site Supportive Housing.

- Fixed Site Supportive Housing are buildings and congregate-living environments where units at these sites are wholly or largely dedicated to Supportive Housing. Staffing is provided on-site 24/7 and specialized programs and recovery models are offered. Individuals who live in these units often have the deepest level of housing stability needs.
- Scattered Site Supportive Housing is provided across Waterloo region in private-market rental units in community. Support is offered through portable rent assistance and dedicated staffing who work to support people to recover from their experience of homelessness, maintain their tenancies, and bridge connections to other systems and supports that will increase housing stability. Staffing is mobile and can meet with residents across Waterloo region.

Currently, there are 571 Households experiencing chronic homelessness in Waterloo region requiring some form of Supportive Housing. Across Waterloo region there are also 570 Supportive Housing units.



50% of the **Supportive Housing** need is being met in Waterloo region.

Housing-focused Case Management

While households are experiencing chronic homelessness and on the PATHS List, they are supported in their Individualized Housing Plans primarily by PATHS Service Navigators. These staff provide flexible, seamless service for households from early engagement through to a housing support offer and intake into a program. Service Navigators also facilitate connections to other systems of care (health, mental health, addictions, etc.) and support housing-specific goals.

In Waterloo Region, there are 4 funded Service Navigators that can support up to 80 people at varying stages of their housing journey. Currently, there are 220 on the PATHS List who are not Offer-Ready in immediate need of housing-focused Case Management support. **36% of the Housing-focused Case Management need is being met in Waterloo region.**

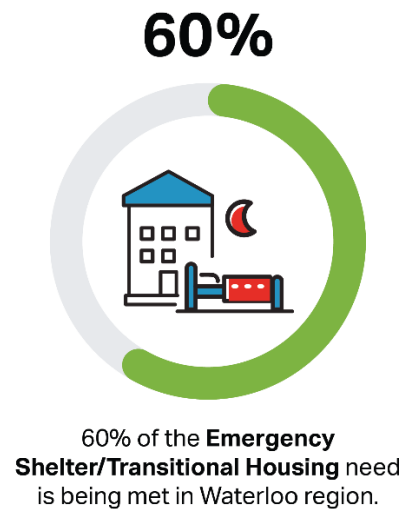
36%



36% of the **Housing-focused Case Management** need is being met in Waterloo region.

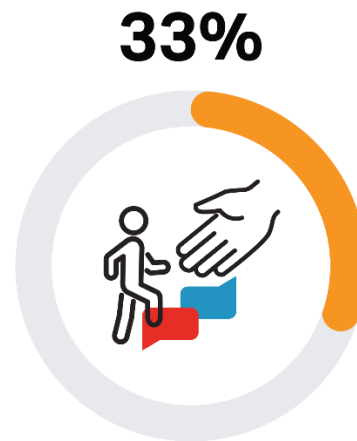
Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Spaces (Erbs Rd. and University Ave.)

The Emergency Shelter Program supports households experiencing homelessness to find and secure permanent housing. Currently, there are 629 Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing/Hybrid Spaces (499 Emergency Shelter + 130 Interim/Hybrid Spaces). In the most recent PiT Count, there were 412 Individuals noted as sleeping rough and/or experiencing unsheltered homelessness. **60% of Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing need is being met in Waterloo region.**



Street Outreach

Street Outreach Providers support individuals across Waterloo region who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness. There are 9 Street Outreach workers in Waterloo region who can support up to 135 people at one time (1:15 staffing to participant ratio). In the most recent PiT Count, there were 412 Individuals noted as experiencing unsheltered homelessness. **33% of Street Outreach need is being met in Waterloo region.**



33% of the **Street Outreach** need is being met in Waterloo region.