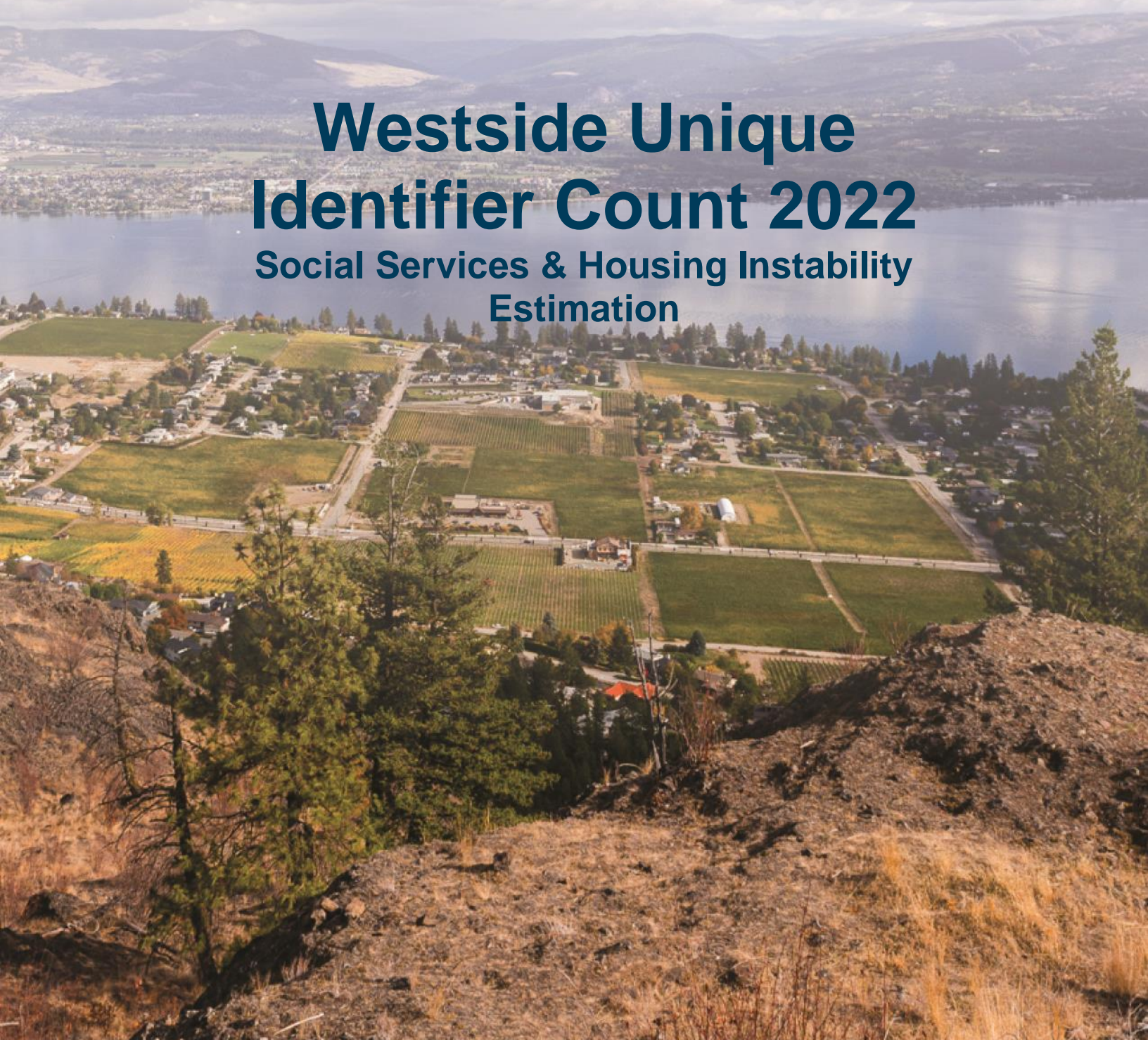




Westside Unique Identifier Count 2022

Social Services & Housing Instability Estimation



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About This Report

The City of West Kelowna engaged Henluk Consulting Ltd. to undertake a project to gain insight into the current state of Homelessness and Housing instability in the Westside. This project aims not solely to identify the scope of homelessness and housing instability on the Westside but also to better understand the support services potentially required to address these issues. This process has similar goals and outcomes to a Point in Time Count but uses a different approach that takes place over 30 days. This project also tracked the progress that has taken place in reducing and preventing homelessness since the 2018 Westside Point in Time Count, as well as set indicators for future tracking in the reduction and prevention of homelessness and housing instability within the community.

Information collection took place over 30 days at various organizations within the community after their staff received training on this project's intention, goals, and collection methods. The data was collected utilizing a survey that gathers information on housing instability, employment, income, family demographics and services accessed. The data was analyzed and compiled in a digestible format for community use. This project aims to provide demographic information to understand better who is experiencing homelessness and housing instability and to identify where community resources are most needed.

Furthermore, The City of West Kelowna and Westbank First Nations may use this project to support upcoming housing strategy projects and improve local organizational planning and program development that addresses housing and homelessness.

The survey was entirely anonymous, and any information shared will not be linked to anyone. Each person surveyed during the estimation period was assigned a 'Unique Identifier,' a combination of their name, gender identity, and parts of their date of birth.

Acknowledgements

This project would not have been possible without the enthusiastic support and participation of several community agencies throughout the Westside. We extend our gratitude to the frontline staff at participating services agencies for their efforts and the leadership teams at participating agencies for their support and understanding of the importance of collecting unique community-level data. Most of all, we wish to thank the individuals who took the time to complete the survey.

List of Participating Organizations

Turning Points Westside (Super 8 Emergency Housing, Bartley Emergency Shelter, Westside Outreach)
CMHA Kelowna (Central Okanagan Rent Bank, Rent Supplement Program)
Foundry Wellness on Wheels
PIERS
Salvation Army
Central Okanagan Community Food Bank - Westside Location
Westbank Library, ORL Branch
Johnson Bentley Memorial Aquatic Centre
City of West Kelowna Bylaw - Community Support
Westside Health Network
Okanagan Boys and Girls Club - Westside Youth Centre

Context

During the period of October 19th to November 18th, 2022, service agencies within the Westside (Westbank First Nations and the City of West Kelowna) participated in an initiative to collect data aimed at providing an estimate of those who are experiencing homelessness, housing instability and support needs.

Funded by the City of West Kelowna, this project follows the methodology outlined in the “Step-by-Step Guide to Estimating Rural Homelessness¹” released by Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN) in 2020.

For data implications based on the results of this project, please refer to the accompanying Slide Deck report. This paper is the project’s technical report, containing the full methodology and the data collected from each question within the survey.

¹ Alberta Rural Development Network (<https://www.ruraldevelopment.ca/publications/step-by-step-guide-to-estimating-homelessness>)

Definitions

The term homelessness is often tied to a perception of someone sleeping outside or staying at an emergency shelter. However, this is only a small portion of those who may be considered as experiencing homelessness, as defined by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness². This methodology uses the following definitions to capture data not only on those who are visible in their experience of homelessness but also those who experience a living situation outside of the typical perception.

Provisionally Accommodated: People who are homeless whose accommodation is temporary or lacks security of tenure, including interim (or transitional) housing, people living temporarily with others (couch surfing), or living in institutional contexts (hospital, prison) without permanent housing arrangements.

At Risk of Homelessness: People who are not homeless but whose current economic and/or housing situation is precarious or does not meet public health and safety standards.

Emergency Sheltered: Staying in overnight emergency shelters designed for people who are homeless.

Unsheltered: Living on the streets or in places not intended for human habitation.

Indigenous Homelessness³: Human condition that describes First Nations, Métis and Inuit individuals, families or communities lacking stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means or ability to acquire such housing. Unlike the common colonialist definition of homelessness, Indigenous homelessness is not defined as lacking a structure of habitation; rather, it is more fully described and understood through a composite lens of Indigenous worldviews. These include: individuals, families and communities isolated from their relationships to land, water, place, family, kin, each other, animals, cultures, languages and identities. Importantly, Indigenous people experiencing these kinds of homelessness cannot culturally, spiritually, emotionally or physically reconnect with their Indigeneity or lost relationships.

² Canadian Observatory on Homelessness
(<https://www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/COHhomelessdefinition.pdf>)

³ Jesse Thistle (<https://www.homelesshub.ca/IndigenousHomelessness>)

Background

Historically, the type of data this project intended to collect has been lumped together with that of the City of Kelowna or the Central Okanagan Regional District. As the Westside has grown, there has been advocacy to flush this critical information out through more localized initiatives, as the landscape of the Westside varies in many ways from the neighbouring communities.

The City of West Kelowna selected this type of project for the community to attempt to create data on homelessness and housing instability known anecdotally throughout the community. A traditional Point does not usually capture that in Time Count, such as those who are sleeping in their cars, couch surfing or who may even own their own home but cannot afford the necessities to live, such as food and utilities. The Westside community partners recognize that the type of housing instability on this side of the bridge differs from the experience of Kelowna, where there are more resources available and a high occurrence of those accessing sheltering sites, emergency shelters or have access to supportive housing.

Using the toolkit from ARDN has allowed small non-profit organizations and local frontline agencies to gather data on gaps in local housing and service needs. This methodology has been instrumental in gathering credible evidence on housing instability to plan and improve the services offered within the community subsequently.

Methodology & Data Collection

The methodology used in this project was a modified version outlined in the Step-by-Step Guide to Estimating Rural Homelessness, published by Alberta's Rural Development Network in 2020. Though Westside may not be considered "rural," this methodology is appropriate for the community. There are undetected individuals living in cars, individuals living in uninhabitable conditions, individuals choosing between food and rent/mortgage payments, and couch surfing. The Unique Identifier approach allows a deeper understanding of support services and housing insecurity.

By using this model to collect the data, a diverse set of service agencies were able to offer surveys to individuals providing their services, such as the library, Johnson Bentley Memorial Aquatic Centre, the Central Okanagan Foodbank, etc., in addition to the agencies known to support those experiencing homelessness, such as shelter and outreach programs. By involving agencies that go beyond shelter and outreach, it is possible that more individuals who may not identify with experiencing housing instability were reached and had the opportunity to participate in the data collection process.

In addition, frontline workers could leverage their relationships to ensure that respondents felt comfortable and safe during the data collection process, therefore, more likely to participate and respond honestly.

The survey was developed using definitions derived from the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and Jesse Thistle's Indigenous Definition of Homelessness in Canada. However, the survey was advertised to those experiencing housing insecurity to encourage a broader range of responses instead of primarily targeting specific individuals.

Based on ARDN's model, previous research suggests that stigma around homelessness may impact an individual's recognition of their housing insecurity. Although they may meet the criteria set out as "provisionally housed" per the definition stated, they do not apply this label to themselves. This model asks respondents whether they consider their living conditions secure and to fill out checkboxes that determine their objective housing situation. The accompanying data analysis allows for determining whether individuals are experiencing housing insecurity, even if they do not apply this label to themselves.

Before the survey launched on October 18th, 2022, agencies were contacted and informed of the survey to gain their commitment to participating. Agencies were provided with paperwork on the purpose of the data collection and how it would be interpreted and shared within the community. An opportunity was given for all agencies to ask questions and understand the process for collecting data through the surveys. The introduction period of this project also outlined the various ways to administer the survey in an open, non-intrusive manner, placing extra consideration on meeting individuals' reasons for visiting the service agency before offering the survey. Agencies were provided support throughout the 30 days and given a timely response if they had questions or concerns with the data collection process.

This report and the accompanying slide deck are based on the data collected through the participating agencies on the Westside between October 18th and November 17th, 2022. Six hundred copies of the paper survey were delivered to the participating agencies to be filled out by individuals visiting their agencies or accessing services via phone. Everyone who participated was assigned a unique ID. This ID is made up of characters from the respondent's first and last name and parts of their date of birth to maintain confidentiality. This type of identifier also ensured that the data analysis would be able to pick out if the same person took the survey on more than one occasion so as not to inflate the number of responses.

This project provided no incentive to respondents to participate to ensure that there was no reason to fill out the survey more than once or use false information to create a unique ID to gain a reward or honoraria.

This project used IBM's SPSS data analysis program to analyze the results from each survey. All responses were inputted into the program by hand, and frequencies and correlations of responses were drawn from the data analysis program.

Limitations

Despite the best attempts to ensure that the survey was administered in an accessible way that reduces stigma, not all individuals seeking support in participating agencies agreed to complete the survey. The survey was voluntary, and accessing services was not contingent on participation. This project did not capture all voices of people seeking assistance within the results.

The Social Sector is currently experiencing a “staffing crisis,” making it difficult to resource extra time from the frontline workers or volunteers. This situation means that although an agency committed to participate, those administering the services may not have always been available to encourage, help or advertise the project to all those with whom they came in contact that would be eligible as respondents.

The reader should note that not all agencies contacted to participate in the project chose to or were able to.

In addition, not every individual needing support services would have accessed the agencies within 30 days. Some individuals may not have been able to fully participate, given the urgency of their need when accessing support and the length of time it takes to complete a survey. As a result of these circumstances, this report presents a conservative picture of the community’s service needs and housing insecurity as a whole.

Several vital organizations provided this project with their service data to corroborate and frame the findings captured during the 30 days to mitigate the limitations of not capturing every voice in the community.

It is also important to note that some respondents skipped questions or selected “Prefer Not to Answer”; therefore, the subtotals and percentages may not precisely reflect the total number of respondents for each data set. The reader can find a copy of the survey administered in Appendix 1.

Survey Results

279 individuals completed the survey. Some respondents may not have answered each question or had the option to select “Prefer Not to Answer.” All surveys were collected by individuals accessing services at participating organizations within the community through a paper survey or via staff at participating agencies who administered the survey over the phone. The survey results have been separated into Support Services and Housing Instability for data analysis. The Support Services section represents all 279 respondents. The Housing Instability section is based on the results of the respondents whose answers indicated they were experiencing housing instability (n=198). Within the Housing Instability section, another portion of individuals was identified to be experiencing homelessness (n=62), and this number is used for some portions of the analysis.

Support Services

The results represent all respondents who completed a survey, whether they indicated that their housing was unstable (n=279). Respondents were able to choose all options that applied to their visit. Most respondents (77%) were accessing services to meet a basic need, such as food, shelter or clothing, and 17% said they were visiting the site for all listed reasons. In comparison, 14% chose the answers Support Services (help with government forms, help with accessing governments/other programs or services, access to technology, etc.) and Financial (employment, housing, training/education, etc.).

Q. 25 What is the Main Reason(s) for visiting this site today? (Choose as many as apply)	
Basic Needs include food, shelter, clothing, etc.	77%
Crisis Financial Support eviction notice, utility bill problems, damage deposits, etc.	9%
Family/Parenting childcare, parenting/family issues, relationship issues, child developmental assessment tools/referrals etc.	6%
Financial - employment, housing, training/education, etc.	14%
Health & Wellness - harm reduction, addictions, mental health, physical health care, spiritual/cultural, etc.	11%
Legal - separation/divorce/custody, wills/estate, employment/labour standards, landlord/tenant issues, immigration issues, criminal/misdemeanour, etc.	7%
Support Services help with government forms, help with accessing governments/other programs or services, access to technology, etc.	14%
Transportation access to basic services/education/employment, medical transportation	5%
All	17%
Prefer Not to Answer	4%

The following answers were collected when asked if our community provides enough socio-economic opportunities. While most responded that there is not enough affordable housing or social services, most people believed there are enough employment opportunities. Many respondents were unsure if the Westside offered enough recreation and social opportunities.

Q.27 Does our Community Provide Enough:	Yes	No	Not Sure
Employment opportunities?	39%	31%	30%
Free/Accessible recreation or social opportunities?	19%	26%	55%
Accessible, affordable housing?	4%	81%	15%
Sufficient social services?	29%	43%	28%

Housing Stability

When survey respondents were asked whether they considered their “housing situation to be unstable or felt like they could easily lose their housing,” 56% said yes, and an additional 12% indicated they were unsure (n=279).

Q. 8 Do you consider your housing situation to be unstable or feel you could easily lose your housing?	
Yes	56%
No	28%
I Don't Know	12%
Prefer Not to Answer	4%

In the following question, respondents were asked to identify the current living situation that has applied to them in the past month. There were 18 options to choose from, and respondents could check all statements that applied to their case.

Q. 9 Thinking about your living situation this past month, which of these statements apply to you? (Check all that apply)	
I own the house I'm currently in	19%
I rent the apartment I'm currently in	28%
I live in housing that is owned/rented of by the Band	1%
I share a house or apartment with roommate(s)	16%
I live in a house/apartment that I share with family/dependants	13%
I find it difficult to pay rent and I feel like I spend more than a third of my monthly income on my housing	20%
I live in housing that needs major repairs (heating or plumbing problems, mold, leaky roof, etc)	12%
There are not enough rooms for the number of people in the house I'm in	11%
I lived in supportive housing in the past month	3%
I have received a rent supplement in the past month	8%
I stayed in a medical/detox/rehabilitation facility in the past month	1%
I stayed in a jail/prison/remand centre in the past month	0%
I stayed a women's/domestic violence shelter in the past month	1%
I slept in a shelter in the last month	25%
I stayed in with someone I didn't know because I had no other place to stay in the past month	5%
I slept in a makeshift shelter, vehicle, tent or shack in the past month	11%
I slept in a public space (sidewalks, park benches, bus shelter etc.) in the past month	5%

Of the 18 options, the following 12 options constitute housing insecurity, as per the Canadian Observatory of Homelessness definitions previously described.

- I find it difficult to pay rent and I feel like I spend more than a third of my monthly income on my housing
- I live in housing that needs major repairs (heating or plumbing problems, mold, leaky roof, etc.)
- There are not enough rooms for the number of people in the house I'm in
- I lived in supportive housing in the past month
- I have received a rent supplement in the past month
- I stayed in a medical/detox/rehabilitation facility in the past month
- I stayed in a jail/prison/remand centre in the past month
- I stayed a women's/domestic violence shelter in the past month
- I slept in a shelter in the last month
- I stayed in with someone I didn't know because I had no other place to stay in the past month
- I slept in a makeshift shelter, vehicle, tent, or shack in the past month
- I slept in a public space (sidewalks, park benches, bus shelter etc.) in the past month

An additional 41 people indicated that one of the 12 options applied to them yet did not self-identify as housing insecure. This means that 198 respondents (71%) are unstable in their housing, and 198 will be the number used to calculate the rest of the survey results.

Q. 10 Why do you feel that your housing situation is unstable or why do you feel you could lose it? (please choose up to 5 answers)	
Abuse	4%
Addiction/Substance Use	6%
Conflict with: landlord, parent/guardian, roommates or partner	9%
Disability (physical/mental)	17%
Domestic/Family Violence	2%
Family rejection (due to gender identify, sexual orientation, or gender expression)	1%
I can't afford my rent or mortgage payments	30%
I don't make enough money	43%
Illness/Medical Condition	12%
Loss of job/spouse lost their job	9%
Mental Health Issues	10%
My housing needs major repairs	4%
My rent increased	11%
Racism/Discrimination	1%
Lack of Transportation	4%
Was in jail/prison	0%
Prefer Not to Answer	9%

How long have you been staying in your current living arrangements?	
Less than a month	7%
1-6 months	23%
6 months to 1 year	12%
1 to 2 years	20%
More than 2 years	34%
Prefer not to answer	4%

Who was experiencing homelessness during the timeframe?	Male	Female	Other	Indigenous
I slept in a shelter in the last month	55%	38%	3%	38%
I stayed in with someone I didn't know because I had no other place to stay in the past month	49%	51%	0%	25%
I slept in a makeshift shelter, vehicle, tent or shack in the past month	51%	49%	0%	27%
I slept in a public space (sidewalks, park benches, bus shelter etc.) in the past month	64%	26%	0%	23%

Have you stayed in a shelter in the past year?	
Yes	27%
No	70%
Prefer Not to Answer	3%

If you needed a shelter in the past year, and didn't access one, what were the reasons? (select all that apply)	
The shelter was full	21%
No shelter in my area	2%
Don't feel safe	19%
Health concerns (i.e. bed bugs, dirty, etc.)	9%
Hours of Operation	3%
Lack of disability accommodation	5%
Loss of service from the shelter	8%
Lack of transportation	4%
No pets allowed	8%
Separation from family member(s) or partner	6%
Prefer Not to Answer	50%

Respondent Demographics

The demographics in the tables below are based on the respondents that identified as experiencing housing instability (n=198).

Age of Respondent	
25 & Under	16%
26 - 45	30%
46-64	40%
65 and Up	14%

How do you describe your gender identity?	
Male	38%
Female	58%
Two-Spirit	1%
Trans	1%
Non-Binary	1%
Don't Know	0%
Identity Not Listed	0%
Prefer Not to Answer	1%

How do you describe your sexual orientation?	
Straight	85%
Lesbian	2%
Gay	1%
Asexual	1%
Bisexual	3%
Two-Spirit	1%
Queer	1%
Questioning	1%
Identity Not List	1%
Prefer Not to Answer	4%

Which ethnic group do you identify with?	
Caucasian	65%
Indigenous	25%
Latino	less than 1%
African	less than 1%
Asian	2%
Not Listed	2%
Prefer Not to Answer	6%

Within the Indigenous respondents...	
First Nations	76%
Inuit	2%
Metis	20%

Migrant Status Upon Arrival	
Economic Migrant	7%
Landed Immigrant	16%
PR	36%
Refugee	7%
Student Visa	13%
Temp Worker	3%
Prefer Not to Answer	18%

Current Migrant Status	
Landed Immigrant	13%
PR	16%
Student Visa	5%
Temp Worker	8%
Economic Migrant	3%
Canadian Citizen	50%
Prefer Not to Answer	5%

Education, Employment and Sources of Income

The data in the tables below are based on the respondents that identified as experiencing housing instability (n=198).

Highest Level of Education	
No Formal Education	2%
Some Grade School	3%
Some High School	13%
Highschool or GED	26%
Trades	11%
College	20%
Some Post Secondary	10%
Degree	5%
Grad	3%
Prefer Not to Answer	7%

Are you employed?	
Yes	34%
No	63%
Prefer Not to Answer	3%

When indicating what type of employment respondents had, multiple selections were allowed.

Type of Employment	
Casual	28%
Part Time	32%
Full Time	32%
Prefer Not to Say	18%

Area of Occupation			
Agriculture	2%	Human Services	11%
Education	5%	Oil/Gas	1%
Finance	2%	Retail	11%
Forestry	1%	Technology	2%
Health	6%	Other	7%
Restaurant	13%	Prefer Not to Answer	39%

What are your sources of income? (Check all that apply)	
Employment	27%
Alimony/Child Support	8%
Child and Tax Benefits	20%
Employment Insurance (EI)	2%
GST Refunds	18%
Income Assistance	22%
Disability Benefits (PWD)	41%
Informal Income (bottle returns, panhandling, ect)	7%
Sex Work	3%
Money from Friends & Family	10%
Student Loans	1%
Seniors Benefits (OAS, GIS, CPP, ect)	9%
My Partner or Spouse's Income	8%
Veterans' Benefits	0%
Prefer Not to Answer	8%

Family Makeup

The data in the tables below are based on the respondents that identified as experiencing housing instability (n=198).

Have you ever been in foster care, in a youth group home, or under a youth/young adult agreement?	
Yes	18%
No	72%
Prefer Not to Answer	10%

Are you currently a single-parent household?	
No	70%
Yes	25%
Prefer Not to Answer	5%

Community Residency

The data in the tables below are based on the respondents that identified as experiencing housing instability (n=198).

Do you stay on Westbank First Nation land or within the City of West Kelowna?	
I'm always on Westbank First Nation	16%
I'm usually on Westbank First Nation	8%
I'm always in the City of West Kelowna	24%
I'm usually in the City of West Kelowna	27%
I split my time between both	16%
I don't know	5%
Prefer Not to Answer	4%

How long have you lived in this community?	
Always Lived Here	30%
Under a Year	11%
Over a Year	54%
Prefer Not to Answer	5%

Where did you live before you came to this community?	
Another community in BC	44%
A First Nations community	4%
A Metis Settlement	1%
An Inuit community	1%
Another province	19%
Another country	3%
Prefer not to answer	3%
Does not apply to me	25%

How many times have you moved within the last 12 months?	
I have not moved in the past 12 months	38%
1-2 times	28%
3-6 times	12%
More than 6 times	2%
I'm not sure	2%
Prefer Not to Answer	1%
Does not apply to me	17%

<i>What was the main reason you came to this community?</i>	
Environmental displacement (flooding, fire, lack of clean water, etc)	1%
Weather	6%
Fear for safety	4%
Family moved here	29%
I was looking for work	7%
I got a job here	11%
To access emergency shelter(s)	1%
To access supports/services	3%
To find housing	16%
To visit friends and family	2%
To attend school	1%
Other	1%
Prefer not to answer	18%

Would you have stayed in your community if you had better access to supports?	
Yes	16%
No	41%
Not Sure	27%
Prefer Not to Answer	16%

Conclusion

This technical report summarizes the data collected by participating services agencies between October 18th and November 19th, 2022. The results shown in this technical report are meant to support the findings and implications found in the Westside Unique Identifier Report Slide Deck.

This project confirms housing insecurity on the Westside and presents the factual data of the 279 participating respondents. It does not include all residents residing in the City of West Kelowna and Westbank First Nation. It should be used as a small window of information on the community's housing situation, not as a complete representation of every resident. The data collected supports previous and ongoing national, provincial, and regional data findings that demonstrate a rising need for access to safe and stable housing within Canada, BC, and the Okanagan.

The numbers identified within this report can be used as a benchmark in future projects to track the progress or regressions made within the social services and housing sector.

This project intends to provide local data for use in housing strategy, organizational advocacy, and other potential avenues to support essential responses to our community's needs.

2022 Westside Unique Identifier Count

PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY - This survey was created to help our community gain a better understanding of the needs of our residents and the services required to improve and enhance community well-being. - Your answers will help us identify the type of services that are currently being accessed and which ones are currently seeing the most use, and what needs in the community aren't being met. We will use the information gathered from this survey to take steps to increase and/or improve the services offered within our community.

PROCEDURE - Time required: 6 – 10 minutes. - This survey contains questions regarding your current/past living situations, employment, and citizenship/immigration status. - If you feel uncomfortable at any point, you are free to skip any of the questions or stop the survey without affecting your access to services. - Staff members are available to answer any questions regarding the survey.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION - By continuing with this survey, you consent to the collection, use, and disclosure of your personal information for the purposes described above. - A unique identifier will be assigned to the information you provide in this survey and your full name will not be used in the survey. - Physical and electronic copies of the data (where available) will be stored and protected using adequate safeguards like password-protected computers.

RIGHT TO WITHDRAW - Your participation is completely voluntary. - You can skip questions if you wish. If you skip questions, your responses to other questions will still be recorded. - You can stop at any time without affecting your access to services. If you stop the survey at any point, none of your information will be used.

Knowing the information above, are you willing to take this survey right now?

- Yes
 - No -----**If no**, for which reasons?

 - I don't have time today
 - I have taken the survey before
 - The survey is too long
 - The survey is too personal
 - The survey doesn't relate to me
 - Other
-

2022 Westside Unique Identifier Count - Survey

BEGIN SURVEY

Question 1. Anonymous Unique Identifier

(ex. John Smith, born on 15th of November 1964)

What are the first two letters of your FIRST name?	What are the first two letters of your LAST name?	What is the DAY you were born?	What are the last two numbers of the YEAR you were born?
J	S	1	6
O	M	5	4

Question 2. How do you describe your gender identity?

- Male/Man
- Female/Woman
- Two-Spirit
- Trans Male/Trans Female
- Non-Binary (including genderqueer & gender fluid)
- Don't Know
- Identity Not Listed
- Prefer not to answer

Question 3. How do you describe your sexual orientation?

- Straight
- Lesbian
- Gay
- Asexual
- Bisexual
- Two-spirit
- Queer
- Questioning
- Identity not listed
- Prefer not to answer

DEMOGRAPHICS

Question 4: Do you stay on Westbank First Nation land or within the City of West Kelowna?

- I'm always on Westbank First Nation
- I'm usually on Westbank First Nation
- I'm always in the City of West Kelowna
 - I'm usually in the City of West Kelowna
- I spilt my time between both
- I don't know
- Prefer not to answer

Question 5: Were you born in Canada?

- Yes (please skip to Question 6)
- No (please answer Q5a to Q5c)

Question 5a: If no, how long have you lived in Canada?

- #_____days/weeks/months/years • Don't Know
- _____ Date of arrival • Prefer not to answer

2022 Westside Unique Identifier Count - Survey

Question 5b: Did you come to Canada as an immigrant, refugee, or refugee claimant?

- Economic Migrant Worker
- Landed Immigrant
- Permanent Resident
- Refugee/Claimant
- Student Visa
- Temporary Foreign Worker
- Prefer not to answer

Question 5c: What is your current migrant status?

- Canadian Citizen
- Economic Migrant Worker
- Landed Immigrant
 - Permanent resident
- Student Visa
- Temporary Foreign Worker
- Prefer not to answer

Question 6: Which ethnic group do you identify with? (Check one)

- Caucasian
- Indigenous
 - First nations
 - Inuit
 - Metis
 - Latino/Hispanic
- Middle Eastern
- African
- Asian
- Not Listed:
- Prefer not to answer

Question 7: Have you ever served in the Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or any Emergency Services? (check all that apply)

- Canadian Armed Forces
- RCMP
- Emergency Services (EMS, Police, Fire Dept.)
- No
- Prefer not to answer

HOUSING STABILITY

Question 8: Do you consider your housing situation to be unstable or you feel you could easily lose your housing?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- Prefer not to answer

Question 9: Thinking about your living situation this past month, which of these statements apply to you? (check all that apply)

- I own the house I'm currently in
- I rent the apartment I'm currently in
- I live in accommodations provided by my employer
- I live in a housing that is owned/rented out by the Band
- I share a house/apartment with roommates
- I live in a house/apartment that I share with family/dependants
- I find it difficult to pay rent and I feel like I spend more than a third of my monthly income on my housing
- I live in housing that needs major repairs (heating or plumbing problems, mold, leaky roof, etc)
- There are not enough rooms for the number of people in the house I'm in
- I lived in supportive housing in the past month
- I have received a rent supplement in the past month
- I stayed in a medical/detox/rehabilitation facility in the past month
- I stayed in a jail/prison/remand centre in the past month
- I stayed in a women's/domestic violence shelter in the past month
- I slept in a shelter in the last month

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- I stayed in with someone i didn't know because I had no other place to stay in the past month
- I slept in a makeshift shelter, vehicle, tent or shack in the past month
- I slept in a public space (sidewalks, park benches, bus shelter etc.) in the past month

Question 10: Why do you feel that your housing situation is unstable or why do you feel you could lose it? (please choose up to 5 answers)

- Does not apply to me
- Abuse
- Addiction/Substance Use
- Conflict with: landlord, parent/guardian, roommate, spouse/partner (underline)
- Disability: mental, physical (underline)
- Domestic/Family Violence
- Family Rejection: due to gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression (underline)
- I can't afford my rent or mortgage payments
- I don't make enough money
- Illness/Medical Condition
- Lost my job/Spouse lost their job (underline)
- Mental Health Issues
- My housing needs major repairs
- My rent increased
- Racism/Discrimination
- Lack of Transportation
- Was in jail/prison
- Prefer not to answer

Question 11: If you had to choose only one main reason why you feel that your housing situation is unstable, which one would it be? Please write your answer on the lines below:

RECENT ACCOMMODATIONS

Question 12: Have you stayed in a shelter in the past year?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know
- Prefer not to answer

Question 13: If you needed a shelter in the past year, and didn't access one, what were the reasons? (select all that apply)

- I didn't need shelter services
- The shelter was full
- No shelter in my area
- Don't feel safe
- Health concerns (i.e. bed bugs, dirty, etc)
- Hours of operation
- Lack of disability accommodations
- Loss of service from shelter
- Lack of transportation
- No pets allowed
- Separation from family member(s) or partner
- Reason not listed
- Prefer not to answer

Question 14: How long have you been staying in your current living arrangements?

- Less than a month
- 1-6 months
- 6 months to a 1 year
- 1 to 2 years
- More than 2 years
- Prefer not to answer

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

Question 15: Have you ever been in foster care, in a youth group home, or under a youth/young adult agreement?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

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Question 16: Are you or anyone in your household currently pregnant?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

Question 17: Are you currently a single-parent household?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

Question 18: How many dependents under 18 years of age are staying with you tonight?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- Other: ____
- Prefer not to answer

Question 19: Please list out the ages/genders of the dependants staying with you:

- _____
- Does not apply to me
- Prefer not to answer

Question 20: How many adults are staying with you?

- None
- #____ of total adults
- Parent(s)
- Partner
- Adult Children (18+)
- Extended Family
- Co-Workers
- Not Listed: _____

COMMUNITY LIVING

Question 21: How long have you lived in this community?

- Always lived here
- Under a year (please answer Questions 21a to 21d)
- Over a year (please answer Questions 21a to 21d)
- Prefer not to answer

Question 21a: Where did you live before you came to this community?

- Another community in BC: _____
- A First Nations community
- A Metis Settlement
- An Inuit community
- Another province: _____
- Another country: _____
- Prefer not to answer
- Does not apply to me

Question 21b: How many times have you moved in the past 12 months?

- I have not moved in the past 12 months
- 1-2 times
- 3-6 times
- More than 6 times
- I'm not sure
- Prefer not to answer
- Does not apply to me

Question 21c: What was the main reason you came to this community?

- Environmental displacement (flooding, fire, lack of clean water, etc)
- Weather
- Fear for safety
- Family moved here
- I was looking for work
- I got a job here
- To access emergency shelter(s)
- To access supports/services
- To find housing

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- To visit friends and family
- To attend school
- Other: _____

- Prefer not to answer

Question 21d: Would you have stayed in your previous community if you had better access to services/programs?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure
- Prefer not to answer

EMPLOYMENT

Question 22: Are you currently employed?

- Yes (please answer Question 22a to 22b)
- No
- Prefer not to answer

Question 22a: If yes, is your position (check all that apply)

- Casual
- Part-time
- Fulltime
- Not Listed: _____
- Prefer not to answer

Question 22b: If yes, which area is your job in?

- Agriculture
- Education
- Finance
- Forestry
- Health
- Restaurant/Food and Beverage
- Human Services
- Hunting/Trapping
- Marketing
- Oil and Gas
- Retail/Personal Services
- Technology
- Tourism
- Not Listed: _____
- Prefer not to answer

Question 23: What are your sources of income? (Check all that apply)

- Employment
- Alimony/Child Support
- Child and Family Tax Benefits
- Employment Insurance (EI)
- GST refunds
- Income Assistance
- Disability Benefits
- Informal Income (bottle returns, panhandling, etc)
- Sex Work
- Money from family/friends
- Student Loans
- Seniors Benefits (OAS, GIS, CPP, etc)
- My Partner or Spouse's Income
- Veterans' Benefits
- Not Listed: _____
- Prefer not to answer

Question 24: What is the highest level of education you've completed?

- No formal education
- Some grade school
- Some high school
- Highschool diploma or GED
- Apprenticeship, trades certificates, or diploma
- College certificates or diploma
- Some post-secondary
- Post-secondary degree (bachelor's)
- Graduate/Professional Degree (Master's, PhD, MD, JD, etc)
- Don't know
- Prefer not to answer

SUPPORT SERVICES

Question 25: What is the main reason(s) for visiting this site today? (choose as many options as it applies to you)

- **Basic Needs** - food, shelter, clothing, etc
- **Crisis Financial Support** - eviction notice, utility bill problems, damage deposits, etc.
- **Family/Parenting** - childcare, parenting/family issues, relationship issues, child developmental assessment tools/referrals etc.

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- **Financial** - employment, housing, training/education, etc.
- **Health and Wellness** - harm reduction, addictions, mental health, physical health care, spiritual/cultural, etc.
- **Legal** - separation/divorce/custody, wills/estate, employment/labour standards, landlord/tenant issues, immigrations issues, criminal/misdemeanor, etc.
- **Support Services** - help with government forms, help with accessing governments/other programs or services, access to technology, etc.
- **Transportation Needs** - access to basic services/education/employment, medical transportation
- **All of the above**
- **Not Listed:** _____
- **Prefer not to answer**

Question 26: Of the areas listed above, which ones do you feel you need the most support or assistance with? (underline the ones that you feel most strongly apply to you)

Question 27: Does our community provide enough....

	Yes	No	Not Sure
Employment Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free/Accessible recreational/social opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accessible affordable housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sufficient social services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>