

Preliminary Report

Point-in-Time Count 2016

Key Messages

1. The Count shows that homelessness across the province is down.

- Homelessness is down across the province by 31% since 2008
- Calgary's Count is down by 11% since 2008
- Data from Counts prior to 2008 showed that, had we done nothing, homelessness today could have reached over 10,000 people.
- Our overall per capita count has dropped by 26% over 2008.

2. Calgary remains epicentre of homelessness in Province.

- In 2014, Calgary accounted for 54% of the total provincial Count. That number has increased to 60% -- we need to continue to focus on housing first and integration of the system of care with larger public systems such as Health and Justice
- Affordability remains a key issues -- Calgary's economic challenges have resulted in increased vacancy rates but little downward movement in cost of housing, especially for vulnerable people
- We continue to need more affordable housing appropriate for vulnerable people

3. Affordability of housing remains a key issue.

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- We continue to need more affordable housing appropriate for vulnerable people

4. The data gathered is essential for planning programs and services.

- Based on a Housing First philosophy, we have housed over 8,000 people and are on track to house 10,000 by 2018.
- The information gathered can be used to inform policy and programs within our System of Care and also provides baseline measurements that can be used to assess year over year changes in homelessness.
- A count cannot measure the full picture of homelessness, but can be a helpful indicator of the magnitude of homelessness on a particular day.

A Snapshot of Calgary's Count

A total of **3,222** people were enumerated on the night of the count. Preliminary results show:

- Unsheltered 5%
- Emergency Sheltered 45%
- Justice System 6%
- Interim Housing & Other (ie. hotels/motels used as emergency shelter/short-term housing) 44%
- 75% male; 25% female
- Indigenous 20%; Non-indigenous 80%
- 45 years of age and over 44%
- 25-44 years of age 36%
- 24 years of age and under 20%