



# 2021 Administrative Count Findings

## Lethbridge

Data Report

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## 2021 ADMINISTRATIVE COUNT

Every two years, communities across Canada participate in Point-in-Time (PiT) Counts that measure the number of people experiencing homelessness on a single night. The PiT Count provides a community-wide measure of homelessness to support systems and service planning, and inform efforts to prevent and reduce homelessness. In previous years, the 7 Cities of Alberta have coordinated their efforts to create a province-wide picture of homelessness, through the alignment of methodology, analysis and reporting.

While the 7 Cities had planned to move forward with participation in the nationally coordinated 2021 Everyone Counts effort, local health authorities in several jurisdictions across the province recommended postponing aspects of the count that caused undue risk, such as in-person surveying. As a result, the 7 Cities opted to forgo a full count, in favour of an Administrative Count that was smaller in scope.

The 7 Cities, with guidance from Employment and Social Development Canada, are planning to conduct a Point-in-Time Count in 2022. Nonetheless, the data from this 2021 Administrative Count provides some insights into the rate of sheltered homelessness across the province, though it does not offer a complete picture of the known and anticipated impacts of COVID.

### **What is an Administrative Count?**

An Administrative Count is a coordinated effort to enumerate individuals and families staying in shelters and transitional housing facilities, or in public systems such as hospitals, treatment and corrections.

Unlike a Point-in-Time Count, an Administrative Count relies only on reported data from service facilities and systems. As a result, the rich survey data obtained from self-reported experiences of homelessness are not captured, nor does an Administrative Count offer the enumeration provided through street counts. While an Administrative Count does not capture important measures, such as the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness in a community, it does provide baseline information about the age, gender, observed racial identity, and family status of those experiencing sheltered homelessness.

For Lethbridge, the Administrative Count comprised data collected from service providers in the community, and information provided from the Justice and Solicitor General's offices, Alberta Community and Social Services, and Alberta Health Services.

## **COVID-19 impacts to sheltered homelessness**

The 2021 Administrative Count is not comparable to previous PIT Counts, due to the vastly different circumstances created by the pandemic, and because it relies exclusively on administrative data. Relative increases or decreases in sheltered homelessness compared to 2018 may have been driven by methodological differences, decreased capacity in the emergency shelter system (due to public health regulations), or unseen changes in the number of people experiencing unsheltered or hidden homelessness. It is only through a future Point-in-Time Count, and using other available data, that we will understand the true impact of COVID-19 on homelessness across the province.

It is not yet known what the long-term impact of COVID-19 will be on the homeless-serving systems of care in Alberta's 7 Cities. Decreased shelter capacity in existing emergency shelter facilities has created a need for more facilities to provide adequate overnight shelter to people experiencing homelessness. More facilities in operation has led to higher capital and infrastructure costs. Capital and facility changes during the pandemic have changed how the homeless-serving sector is accessed, and this has undoubtedly influenced the 2021 Administrative Count.

## GLOSSARY

**Administrative Count:** An enumeration of people experiencing sheltered homelessness on a single night completed by collecting administrative data from facilities and systems.

**Administrative Data:** Data collected from emergency shelters, violence against women shelters, transitional housing facilities, treatment facilities, and COVID-19 isolation sites. It includes data on gender, age, and reported ethnicity for people staying in the facility during the night of the Count.

**Emergency Sheltered:** Facilities that provide short-term accommodation and provide for basic needs for people experiencing homelessness.

**Housing Continuum:** The range of housing options available to households of all income levels, extending from emergency shelter and housing for the homeless through to affordable rental housing and home ownership.

**No Fixed Address (NFA):** Refers to people who have no permanent address.

**Sheltered Homelessness:** Residing inside, typically for short periods of time. In this report, that includes emergency shelters, transitional housing facilities, treatment facilities, COVID-19 isolation sites, hotels/motels, and correctional facilities.

**Systems Data:** Data provided by the Justice and Solicitor General's offices, Alberta Community and Social Services, and Alberta Health Services (AHS). The systems data in this report includes only information on individuals with NFA.

**Transitional Housing:** Refers to a supportive accommodation, usually up to two years, that supports a person's exit from homelessness to stable housing by offering structure, supervision, support (for addictions and mental health concerns, for instance), life skills and, in some cases, education and training.

**Unsheltered Homelessness:** Staying outside, in a place not intended for human habitation and/or in a public or private space without consent or contract. This includes inside a vehicle, tent, makeshift shelter, bus shelter, or abandoned building. Unsheltered homelessness is not measured through an Administrative Count.

# METHODOLOGY

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic led to the implementation of mandatory public health measures across the province, including no indoor social gatherings, mask requirements, business closures, and capacity reductions. As the implementation of these measures coincided with the date of the intended PiT Count (April 20), no survey or unsheltered enumeration was conducted in Fort McMurray. As a result, an Administrative Count was conducted instead. Accordingly, this report summarizes main trends identified through administrative data provided by each of the participating facilities in the community.

Facilities in the following categories were included in the Administrative Count: Transitional Housing, Emergency Shelter, Hotel/Motel, Holding Cell, Violence Against Women Shelter, Treatment, Cold Weather Shelter, and COVID-19 Isolation Site. Facilities completed an Enumeration Form developed to collect administrative data, and report on the number of individuals with No Fixed Address (NFA)<sup>1</sup> staying at those locations during the night of April 20.

The following is the list of agencies from which administrative data was collected in Lethbridge, with each facility classified by Facility Type (as classified by the community entity providing the data).

Participating Facilities and Type, Lethbridge, 2021.

Agency Name	Agency Type
Alpha House - Isolation (Knights Inn)	COVID-19 Isolation Site
Wood's Homes	Emergency Shelter
Alpha House - Shelter	Emergency Shelter
Southern Alberta Self Help Association	Transitional Housing
Streets Alive Mission	Transitional Housing
CMHA Lethbridge - Community Crisis Beds	Transitional Housing
Fresh Start South Country	Treatment
Alpha House - Stabilization Centre	Treatment
YWCA of Lethbridge and District	Violence Against Women Shelter

Provincial government organizations provided local health and correctional data for people experiencing homelessness on the night of April 20th.

- The Justice and Solicitor General's Offices provided data from correctional facilities for records of people with NFA in Lethbridge.

<sup>1</sup> Individuals with No Fixed Address refers to the number of individuals that reported not having a permanent address or a place to go after the night of the Administrative Count.

- Alberta Community and Social Services provided data on the number of people staying in hotels/motels sponsored by Alberta Works or Assured Income for Severely Handicapped (AISH) or other Income Support in Lethbridge on the night of April 20, 2021.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) data was provided for all 7 Cities on people in Alberta's emergency departments, inpatient wards and detox/treatment facilities who had no NFA on the night of April 20. To differentiate this data from the local facility administrative data, the term *systems data* will be used in this report for this government data.

More detail on the methodological strategies used to summarize the administrative and systems data collected in this year's Administrative Count can be found in Appendix A.

## Limitations

By undertaking an Administrative Count this year, rather than a traditional PiT Count, the results rely only on administrative data, creating limitations on the analysis and use of the information presented. In particular, this report does not:

- Provide a picture of the experiences of homelessness enumerated on the night of the count.
- Provide a complete picture of self-reported identity, as it pertains to gender, sexuality, age, racial ethnicity, and Indigeneity.
- Indicate the length of time people that were enumerated experienced homelessness, and thus does not provide information on chronicity.
- Articulate how the COVID-19 pandemic may have impacted the extent or nature of homelessness locally.



# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNT KEY FINDINGS

## Sheltered enumeration

In the 2021 Administrative Count for Lethbridge, 191 people were enumerated through the collection of administrative and systems data. The majority were reported to be staying in emergency shelters (51%, n=97), transitional housing facilities (21%, n=40) and correctional facilities (19%, n=36). Other places where individuals were staying included treatment facilities (n=12), COVID-19 isolation sites, health care facilities, and hotels/motels (fewer than 5). This represents only a fraction of people experiencing homelessness in Lethbridge on April 20, as unsheltered homelessness was not measured through the Administrative Count.

## Sheltered homelessness is not bound to a specific age range nor gender.

The data included individuals as young as 13 years old to as old as 65 or older. The largest age groups included adults aged 25-44, making up 49% (n=93) of those enumerated, and adults aged 45-64, making up 21% (n=40). Those identifying as male (59%) and female (23%), were represented in the data. No one identifying as gender diverse or transgender were enumerated.

## Indigenous people experiencing sheltered homelessness account for over half of those enumerated through the Administrative Count.

The data shows that Indigenous-identifying individuals account for 52% (n=99) of all individuals enumerated through the Administrative Count in Lethbridge. Among those reported as Indigenous, the majority were noted to be staying in emergency shelters (n=57), and correctional facilities (n=23).

## CONTEXTUAL DATA

While the Administrative Count provides a micro perspective on the nature of homelessness in a community, additional datasets are presented to offer further context on the system-level drivers of homelessness in Lethbridge. These datasets include information on housing-related indicators, population-level trends, and socio-economic indicators for the city of Lethbridge.

### Housing

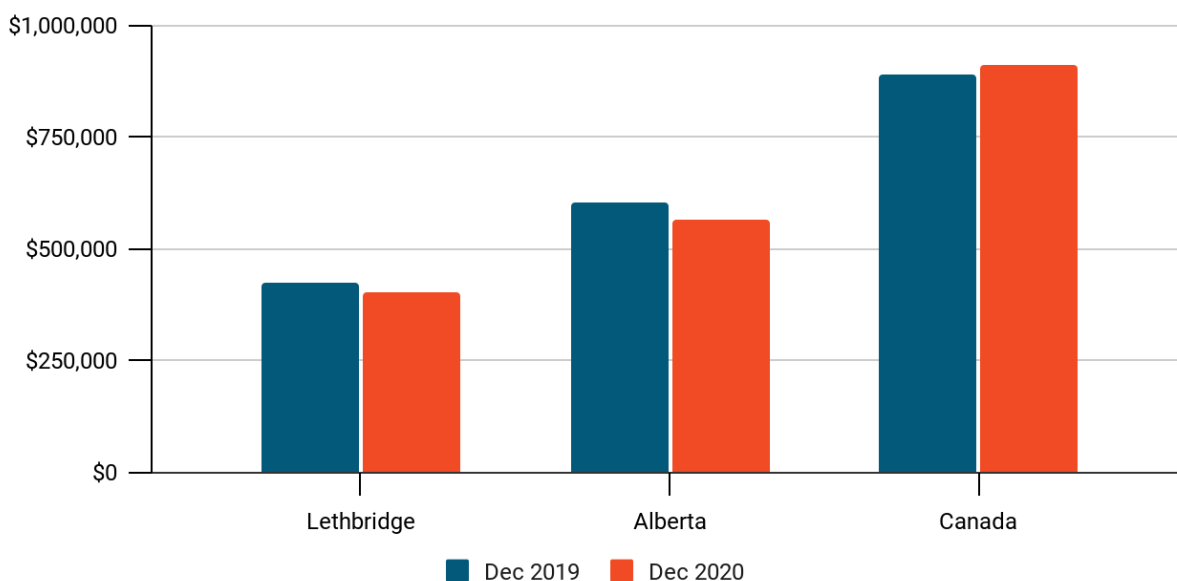
#### Housing Sale Prices

From 2019 to 2020, the average sale prices for absorbed single detached units in Lethbridge and Alberta trended downward, while average house prices in Canada have risen (Figure 1).

Table 1. Average Sale Prices for absorbed single detached units (2020, 2021)

	Dec 2019	Dec 2020
Lethbridge	\$424,794	\$402,357
Alberta	\$603,135	\$564,616
Canada	\$889,583	\$912,632

Figure 1. Average Sale Prices (2020, 2021)



## Average Residential Rent

From 2018 to 2019, the average rent in Lethbridge for all unit types increased, with the largest increase seen in one-bedroom units. Subsequently in 2019 to 2020, similar increases in average rent were observed for all unit types.

Table 2. Average residential rent by unit type, Lethbridge 2018-2020.

Year	Rental Unit Type	Average Rent (\$)	Annual Change
2018	One- bedroom	842.25	
2019	One- bedroom	886.25	5%
2020	One- bedroom	909.25	3%
2018	Two-bedroom	960.25	
2019	Two-bedroom	991.25	3%
2020	Two-bedroom	1,028.75	4%
2018	Three-bedroom	1,109.75	
2019	Three-bedroom	1145	3%
2020	Three-bedroom	1,189.5	4%
2018	Bachelor	693	
2019	Bachelor	723.67	4%
2020	Bachelor	789	9%

## Vacancy Rates and Rental Costs

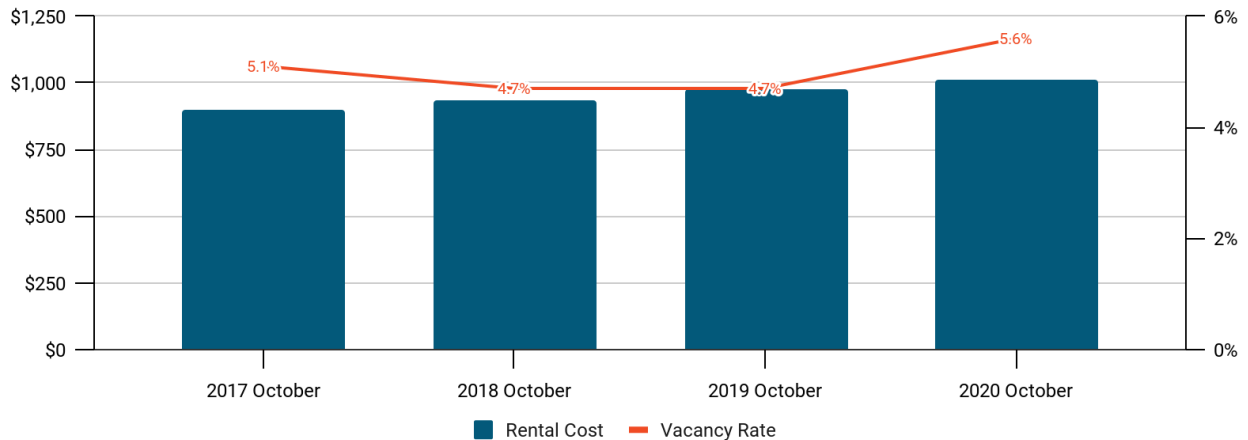
The vacancy rate in Lethbridge trended downward from 2017 to 2018, and remained the same for 2018 to 2019, reaching a vacancy rate of 4.7%. Although most recently, from 2019-2020, the vacancy rate increased to 5.6%. The average rental costs steadily increased during those years, reaching an average of \$1,009 for a private apartment in 2020. The most recent rise in vacancy rates may be attributed to those price increases and the reduction of income for some individuals as a result of COVID-19.

Table 3. Vacancy rates and average rental cost (private apartment), 2017-2020).

Year	Vacancy Rate	Rental Cost
2017 October	5.10	\$898
2018 October	4.70	\$937
2019 October	4.70	\$974

2020 October	5.60	\$1,009
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Figure 2. Vacancy rates and average rental cost (private apartment), 2017-2020.



### Housing Starts

Housing starts refers to the number of privately owned new properties on which construction has been started in a given period.

From 2018 to 2019, Lethbridge had a major increase in apartment builds (260%), and a more modest increase in row-type housing units (28%). This was in contrast to the decrease in single detached homes (-20%), and no change for semi-detached homes. For the subsequent 2019-2020 period, there were decreases for housing starts for all housing types, with row houses (-68%) and semi-detached houses (-40%) reporting the greatest decline. Overall, for all housing types, housing starts decreased from 595 in 2019 to 463 in 2020.

Table 4. Housing starts by housing type, Lethbridge 2018-2020.

Year	Housing Type	Count	Annual Change
2018	Apartment	45	
2019	Apartment	162	260%
2020	Apartment	152	-6%
<b>Row</b>			
2018	Row	61	
2019	Row	78	28%
2020	Row	25	-68%
<b>Semi-detached</b>			
2018	Semi-detached	20	

2019	Semi-detached	20	0%
2020	Semi-detached	12	-40%
2018	Single-detached	319	
2019	Single-detached	255	-20%
2020	Single-detached	228	-11%
2018	Total	560	
2019	Total	595	6%
2020	Total	463	-22%

## Non Market Housing

Non-market housing is accommodation that requires investments from levels of government, private businesses or nonprofits for capital and/or operational costs, to allow for the cost of housing to be offered at a price less than the current market value.

This section outlines the number of households living in subsidized housing<sup>2</sup> in the community compared to the provincial and national figures. As seen in the table below, (Table 5), in 2016, 1,480 households were living in subsidized housing in Lethbridge, totalling to 3.5% of all households living in subsidized housing within Alberta.

Table 5. Number of households in subsidized housing, 2016.<sup>3</sup>

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Subsidized Housing	1,480	42,860	576,710

When standardized per 100,000 households, Lethbridge has a greater rate of households in subsidized housing (1,596 per 100,000) compared to that for Alberta as a whole (1,054 per 100,000) (Figure 3).

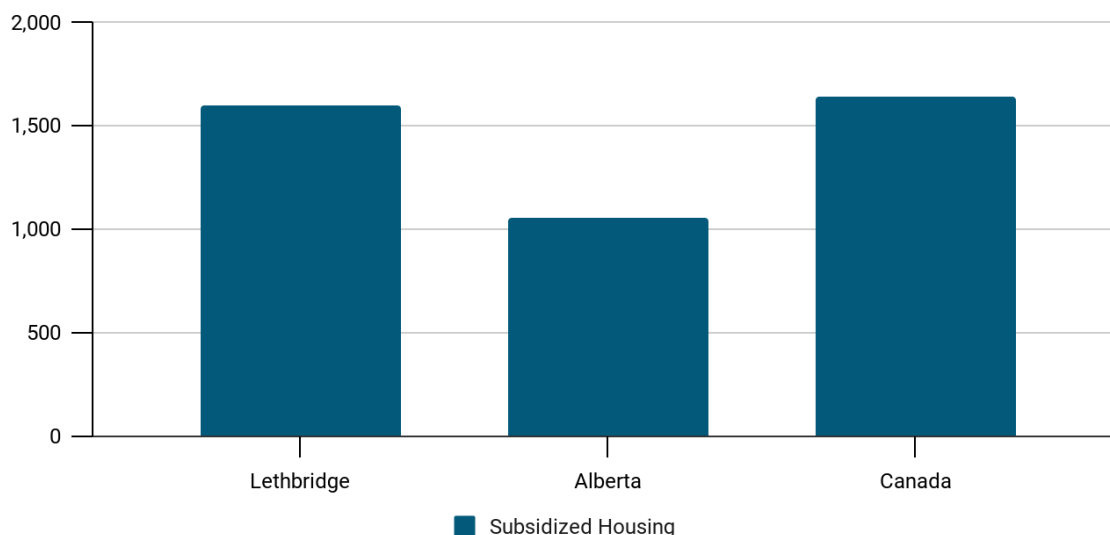
Table 6. Number of households in subsidized housing per 100,000, 2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Subsidized Housing	1,596	1,054	1,641

<sup>2</sup> 'Subsidized housing' refers to whether a renter household lives in a dwelling that is subsidized. Subsidized housing includes rent geared to income, social housing, public housing, government-assisted housing, non-profit housing, rent supplements and housing allowances.

<sup>3</sup> Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

Figure 3. Number of households in subsidized housing per 100,000, 2016.<sup>4</sup>



### Core Housing Need (CHN)<sup>5</sup>

Statistics Canada, in collaboration with the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), produced the CMHC's core housing need indicator for the 2016 Census. A household in core housing need is one whose dwelling is considered unsuitable, inadequate or unaffordable, and whose income levels are such that they cannot afford alternative, suitable, and adequate housing in their community.<sup>6</sup>

As shown in the chart below, from 2011 to 2016, the total number of households in CHN in Lethbridge went from 3,375 to 3,810.

Table 7. Core housing need for total population, 2016.

	Lethbridge		Alberta		Canada	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Core Housing Need Total	3,375	3,810	137,485	164,275	1,552,145	1,693,775
	Lethbridge		Alberta		Canada	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Core Housing Need Total	10.3%	10.4%	10.7%	11.4%	12.5%	12.7%

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

<sup>5</sup> Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Housing Market Information Portal

<sup>6</sup> Housing suitability assesses whether the dwelling has enough bedrooms according to its size and composition. Housing adequacy evaluates if the dwelling is in need of major repairs. Households spending less than 30% of their total income are considered affordable.

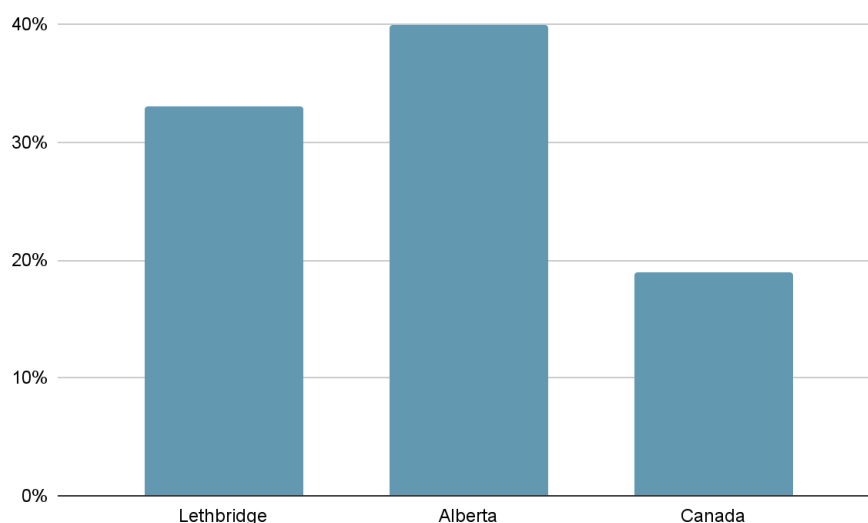
## Immigrant Core Housing Need

Increases for Immigrant households in CHN were reported for Lethbridge, for Alberta, and for Canada. Relative to provincial and national averages, Lethbridge had a 33% increase for Immigrant households in CHN. This finding is below that for Alberta (40%), but is notably above the 19% increase in the national average.

Table 8. Immigrants in core housing need, 2016.

	Lethbridge		Alberta		Canada	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Core Housing Need Immigrants	560	745	34,770	48,600	486,915	578,565

Figure 4. Percentage increase of immigrant core housing need, 2011-2016.



Immigrant households are less prevalent in Lethbridge (15%) compared to Alberta (23%) and Canada (24%). There is also a lower percentage of immigrant households in CHN in Lethbridge (11%) as compared to Alberta (14%) or Canada (18%).

Table 9. Core Housing Need in immigrant households, 2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Immigrant Households	15%	23%	24%
Immigrant Households in CHN	11%	14%	18%

## Indigenous Core Housing Need

Increases for Indigenous households in CHN were reported for Lethbridge (25%), for Alberta (19%), and for Canada (24%).

Table 10. Indigenous Households in Core Housing Need, 2016.<sup>7</sup>

	Lethbridge		Alberta		Canada	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Core Housing Need Indigenous	465	580	13,505	16,130	95,780	118,500

Figure 5. Percentage increase of Indigenous core housing need, 2011-2016.

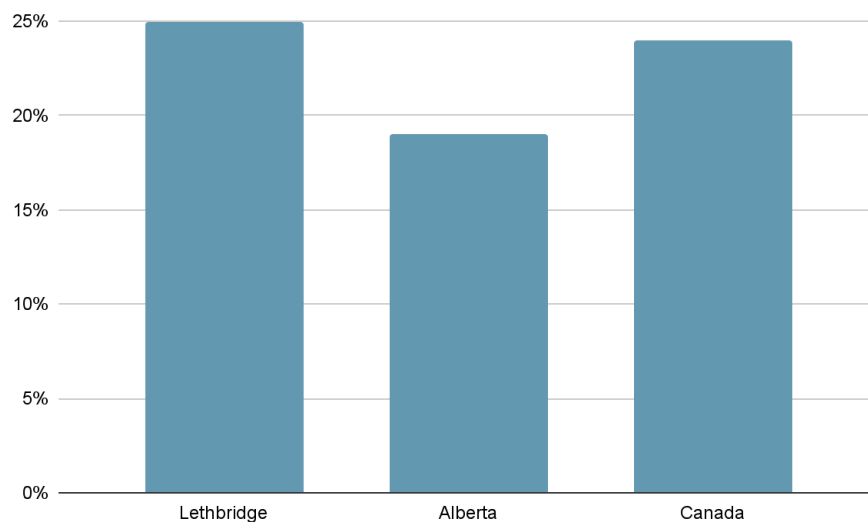


Table 11 indicates that the proportion of Indigenous households in Lethbridge (6%) is similar to that for Alberta (7%) and Canada (5%). However, Lethbridge reports a higher percentage of Indigenous households in CHN (22%) than Alberta (17%) or Canada (18%). These findings suggest an overrepresentation of Indigenous households in CHN not only in Lethbridge, but across the province and nationally.

Table 11. Indigenous Households in Core Housing Need, 2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Indigenous Households	6%	7%	5%
Indigenous Households in CHN	22%	17%	18%

<sup>7</sup> Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Housing Market Information Portal



## Female Lone-Parent Household CHN

The percentage of female lone-parent households was similar for Lethbridge (7%), Alberta (7%), and Canada (8%). Among those households, 23% in Lethbridge, 29% in Alberta, and 27% in Canada were reported to be in CHN. The data illustrates an overrepresentation of female lone-parent households, and the financial difficulties of maintaining housing on a single-parent household income.

Table 12. Female Lone-Parent Households in Core Housing Need, 2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Female Lone-Parent Households	7%	7%	8%
Female Lone-Parent Households in CHN	23%	29%	27%

## Extreme Core Housing Need

Those who use 50% or more of their income for housing are deemed to be in extreme core housing need. Lethbridge has a similar percentage of total households in extreme core housing need (7%) compared to that for Alberta (8%). The data for Lethbridge also indicates, among those in extreme core housing need, 59% of households are renters, and 41% owners. This is similar elsewhere in Alberta and Canada, with more renters than owners in extreme core housing need.

Table 13. Household spending 50% or more on Shelter Expenses by Tenure, 2016

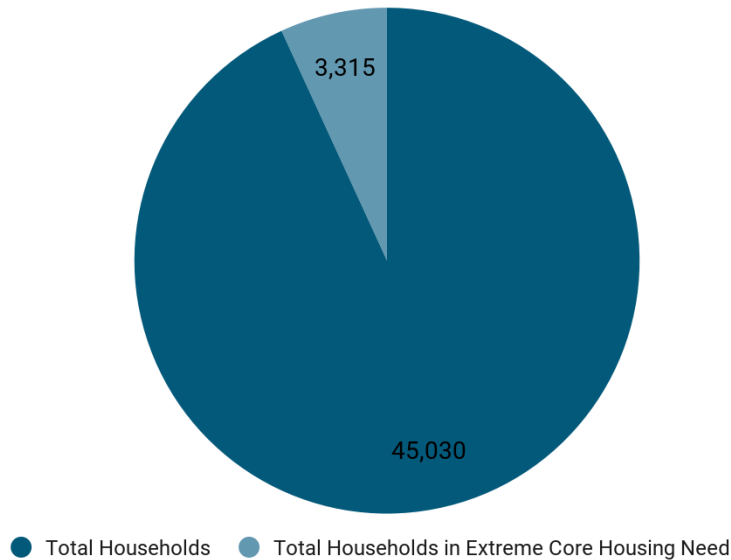
	Total Households	Total Households in Extreme Core Housing Need	Owner	Renter
Lethbridge	45,030	3,315	1,355	1,960
Alberta	1,485,695	120,575	56,910	63,665
Canada	13,821,180	1,386,245	590,315	795,935

Table 14. Percent of households spending 50% or more on Shelter Expenses by Tenure, 2016.

	Total Households	Total Households in Extreme Core Housing Need	Owner	Renter
Lethbridge	45,030	7%	41%	59%

Alberta	1,485,695	8%	47%	53%
Canada	13,821,180	10%	43%	57%

Figure 6. Households spending 50% or more in Shelter Expenses, Lethbridge 2016.



### Shelter Costs

Shelter Costs are defined as the average monthly total for all shelter expenses, including property taxes and fees, and costs of electricity, heat, water, and other municipal services.<sup>8</sup>

Average shelter costs in Lethbridge (\$1,163) were similar or lower than those in Alberta as a whole (\$1,462), and in Canada (\$1,213). These costs are not reflective of the additional costs the homeless-serving system of care incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. Decreases in emergency shelter capacity, and increased capital costs due to additional facilities needed to operate COVID-19 expanded shelters and COVID-19 isolation sites, have increased shelter costs across Canada.

Table 15. Average Shelter Cost, Lethbridge 2016.<sup>9</sup>

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Average Shelter Cost	\$1,163	\$1,462	\$1,213

<sup>8</sup> Statistics Canada. (2017). Shelter Cost Definition. Retrieved from: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/ref/dict/households-menage033-eng.cfm>

<sup>9</sup> Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

## Shelter Capacity

Table 16 shows the total number of shelter beds available, and the total number of beds occupied during April from 2018 to 2021.<sup>10</sup>

Before COVID (2018-2019), adult emergency shelters had an average capacity of 111 available beds per night for the months of April. During COVID (2020-2021), this number significantly decreased, in accordance with Alberta Health Services Shelter Guidance policies. However, expanded shelters and isolation sites were added because of COVID, increasing the amount of beds for 2020 and 2021.

Capacities for intoxic shelters were reported for 2020, with up to 60 beds available per night for April. However, there were decreases for 2021, as per AHS shelter guidelines. It is not known what impact the decrease in capacity in emergency shelter facilities alongside the addition of new facilities has had on patterns of accessing emergency shelters, and to what degree these changes impacted the 2021 Administrative Count.

Overnight occupancy in adult emergency shelters slightly decreased from 2018 to 2019, but dropped significantly in 2020 due to a reduction in available beds. Many other facilities also had a steep reduction in beds, unable to operate under COVID-19 shelter guidelines, while others were required to reduce capacity. However, intoxic shelters were the one exception to this trend, where average overnight occupancy in 2021 (n=62) was greater than in 2020 (n=48).

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<sup>10</sup> For the average number of beds available, numbers were calculated by taking the sum of beds available for a specific category (e.g., Adult Emergency) for each day in the month of April. Following that, an average was calculated for the entire month based on those reported daily numbers of beds available. This process was repeated for the average number of beds occupied as well.

Table 16. Average capacity and average overnight occupancy for each shelter type, Lethbridge (April 2018-2021).

Shelter Type	Name	2018		2019		2020		2021	
		Capacity	Occupancy	Capacity	Occupancy	Capacity	Occupancy	Capacity	Occupancy
<b>Adult Emergency</b>	Lethbridge Shelter and Resource Centre	111	81	111	77	0	0	0	0
<b>Intox</b>	Alpha House Lethbridge Emergency Intox	0	0	0	0	60	48	42	62
<b>COVID-19 Expanded Shelter</b>	Alpha House Lethbridge - Seniors Citizen Organization	0	0	0	0	65	31	0	0
	Superlodge Hotel	0	0	0	0	15	4	0	0
	Lethbridge Stabilization Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	9
<b>COVID-19 Isolation Site</b>	Alpha House Lethbridge Isolation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Alpha House Lethbridge Soup Kitchen	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11
	Knights Inn	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	6

## Population Trends

From 2011 to 2016, Lethbridge's population increased by 11%, similar to that of Alberta (12%), but greater than Canada (5%).

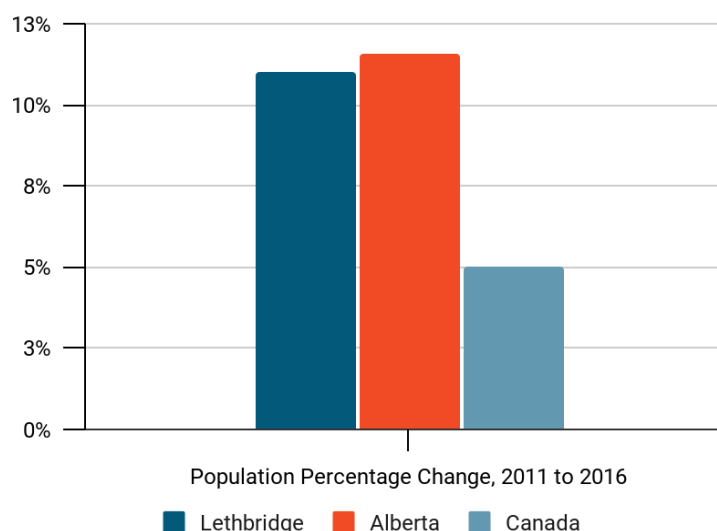
Table 17. Population Growth, 2011-2016.

	Lethbridge		Alberta		Canada	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Population	83,517	92,729	3,645,257	4,067,175	33,476,688	35,151,728

Table 18. Population Percent Change, 2011-2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Population Percentage Change, 2011 to 2016	11%	12%	5%

Figure 7. Population percent change, 2011-2016.



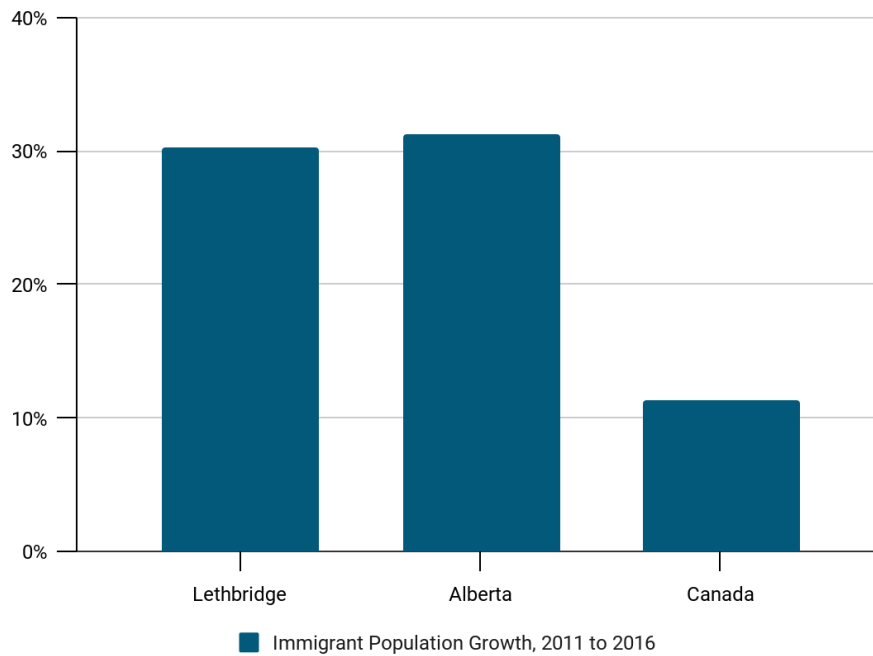
## Immigrant Population

The immigration population in Lethbridge showed a notable increase from 2011 to 2016, with a 30% growth in immigrant population. This is comparable to the 31% growth noted for Alberta, and much larger than that for Canada (11%).

Table 19. Immigrant population growth, 2011-2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Immigrant Population Growth, 2011 to 2016	30%	31%	11%

Figure 8. Immigrant population growth, 2011-2016.



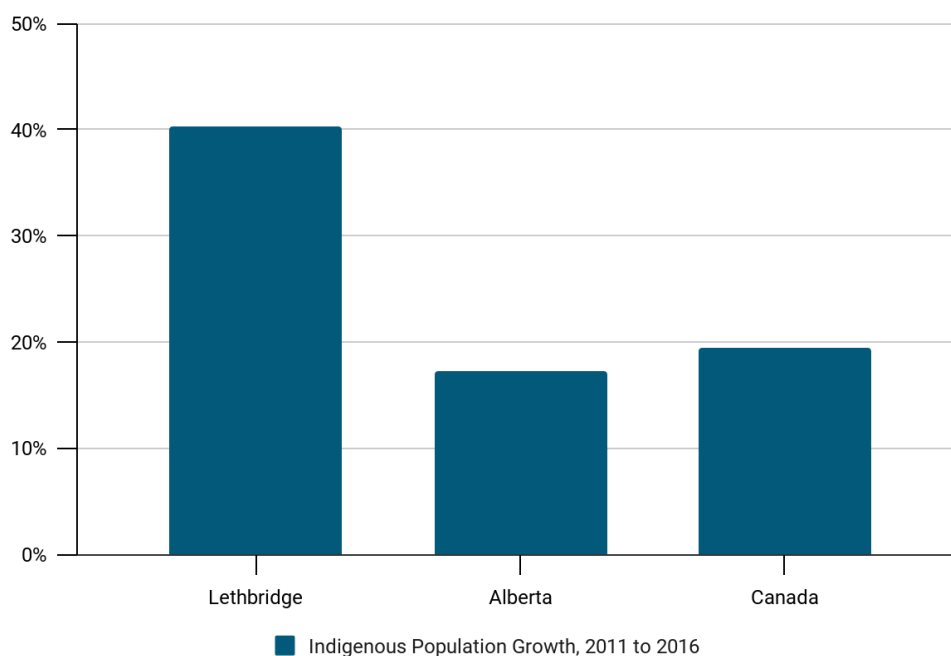
### Indigenous Population

The Indigenous population in Lethbridge increased by 40% from 2011 to 2016. This increase is far greater than that seen in Alberta as a whole (17%) or in Canada (19%). The data suggests the Indigenous population in Lethbridge is increasing at a rate that is faster and larger than provincial and national levels.

Table 20. Indigenous population growth, 2011-2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Indigenous Population Growth, 2011 to 2016	40%	17%	19%

Figure 9. Indigenous population growth, 2011-2016.



### Culture and Diversity

Data from Table 20 and 21, and Figure 10 are based on a sample of 25% households who completed the Census 2011 and 2016 long-form questionnaire.

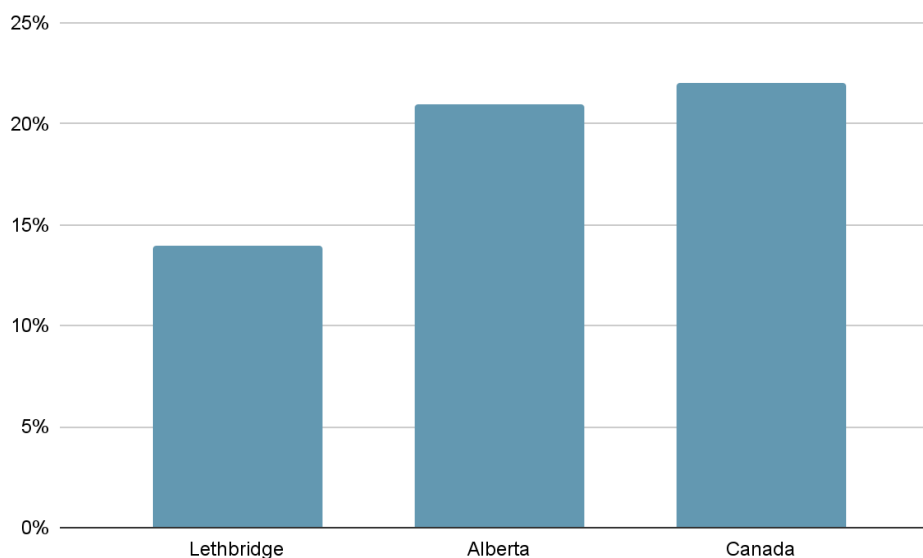
### Immigrant Identity

From 2011 to 2016, there was an increase in the percentage of immigrants in Lethbridge, in Alberta, and in Canada. As of 2016, 14% of Lethbridge’s residents identify as immigrants, which is below the percentages in Alberta (21%) and Canada (22%).

Table 21. Immigrant Identity, 2011-2016.

	Lethbridge		Alberta		Canada	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Total - Immigrant Status and Period of Immigration for the Population in Private Households - 25% Sample Data	81,390	90,485	3,567,975	3,978,145	32,852,320	34,460,065
Immigrants	9,465	12,330	644,115	845,220	6,775,765	7,540,830
Percentage of Immigrants	12%	14%	18%	21%	21%	22%

Figure 10. Immigrants for the population in private households, 2016.



### Indigenous Identity

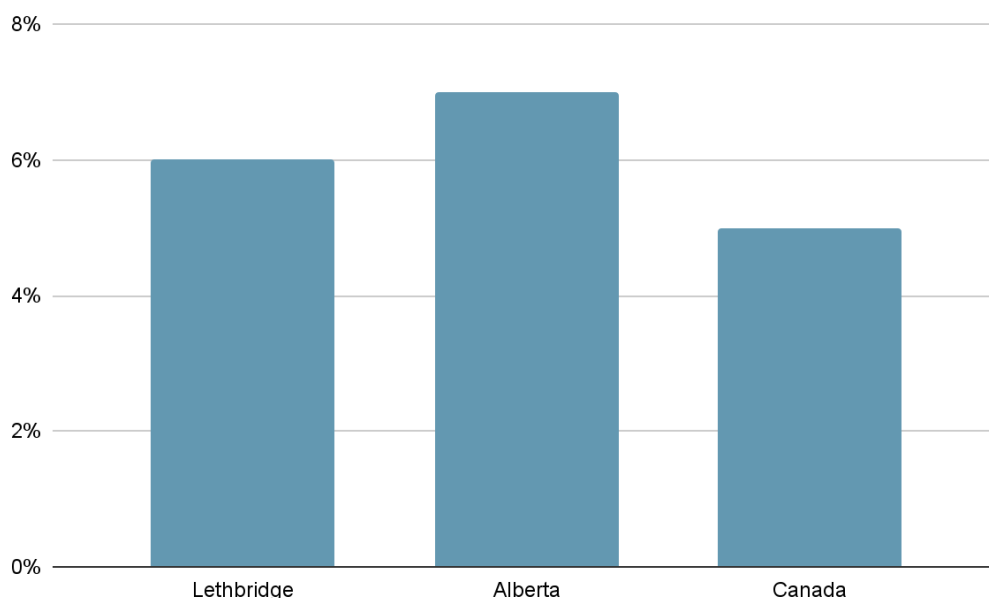
There were minimal increases of 1% in the numbers of Indigenous people in Lethbridge, in Alberta, and in Canada. As of 2016, there were slightly larger percentages of Indigenous-identifying people in Lethbridge (6%) and in Alberta (7%) compared to Canada (5%).

Table 22. Immigrant and Indigenous Identity, 2011-2016.

	Lethbridge		Alberta		Canada	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Indigenous Identity for the Population in Private Households - 25% Sample Data	81,385	90,485	3,567,975	3,978,145	32,852,325	34,460,065
Indigenous Identity	3,770	5,290	220,695	258,640	1,400,685	1,673,785
Percentage of Indigenous Identity	5%	6%	6%	7%	4%	5%



Figure 11. Indigenous Identity for the population in private households, 2016.



### Community Well-being Index

The Community Well-Being (CWB) index is a measure used to assess socioeconomic well-being for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities over time. The index helps to show where improvements in well-being have been achieved, and where significant gaps still exist.<sup>11</sup> The four components of the index are: education, housing, labour, and income.

In 2016, the CWB scores for Lethbridge were highest for housing (96), labour (88), and income (80), and lowest for education (65). Lethbridge's overall 2016 CWB index score is 82. This finding matches that seen for Alberta's scores for each category, and overall (80).

However, when comparing Lethbridge's scores to those for Alberta's First Nations communities, the data indicates a large difference across all components of the CWB (Table 23). The traumas engendered by Canada's colonial history has greatly impacted Indigenous communities across the country. As a step towards Reconciliation, more attention from governments at all levels is required to support the needs of First Nations communities.

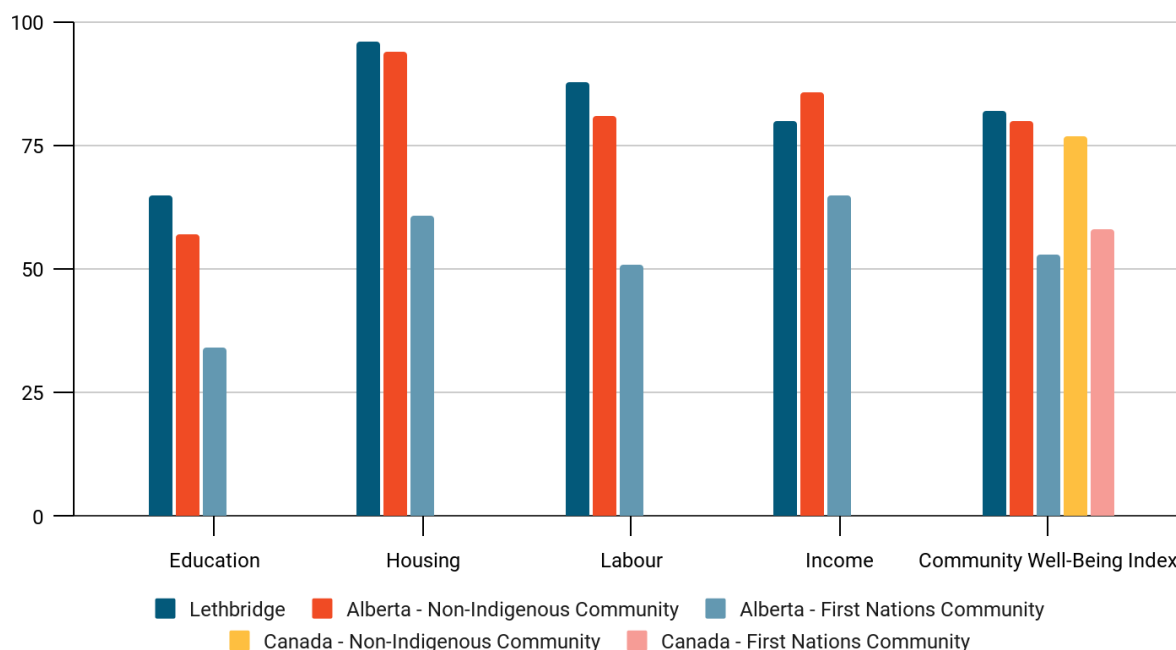
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<sup>11</sup> Government of Canada. (n.d.). National Overview of the Community Well-Being index, 1981 to 2016. Retrieved from: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1419864229405/1557324163264>

Table 23. Community Well-being index, 2016.

	Education	Housing	Labour	Income	Community Well-Being Index
Lethbridge	65	96	88	80	82
Alberta - Non-Indigenous Community	57	94	81	86	80
Alberta - First Nations Community	34	61	51	65	53
Canada - Non-Indigenous Community	0	0	0	0	77
Canada - First Nations Community	0	0	0	0	58

Figure 12. Community Well-being Index, 2016.



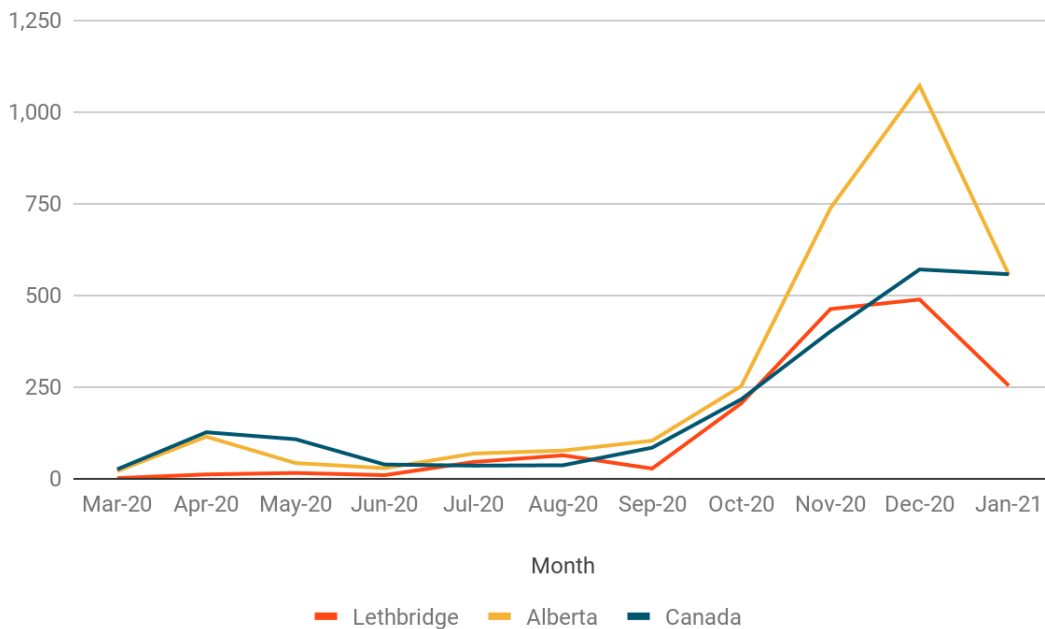
### COVID-19 Reported and Active Cases

Table 24 presents information on COVID-19, reported and active cases, from March 2020 to January 2021 in Lethbridge, in Alberta, and in Canada. Alberta noted 4,601 cases during the peak of the first wave in April 2020, and 43,477 cases during the peak of the second wave in December 2020. Additionally, Alberta and Canada experienced similar trends throughout the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic (Figure 13). It appears that Lethbridge experienced a steady rise in cases, peaking in August 2020 (n=63). The peak of Lethbridge's second wave (n=492), however, appears to coincide, in December 2020, with those of Alberta and Canada.

Table 24. COVID-19 Reported and Active Cases, Mar 2020 - Jan 2021.

Month	Lethbridge	Per 100,000	Alberta	Per 100,000	Canada	Per 100,000
Mar-20	0	0	754	19	8,521	24
Apr-20	10	10	4,601	113	44,689	125
May-20	14	14	1,655	41	37,711	106
June-20	8	8	1,098	27	13,257	37
Jul-20	44	44	2,735	67	12,105	34
Aug-20	63	62	3,059	75	12,650	35
Sep-20	26	26	4,160	102	29,810	83
Oct-20	206	204	10,183	251	76,686	215
Nov-20	466	461	29,932	736	142,695	400
Dec-20	492	487	43,477	1070	203,288	569
Jan-21	255	252	22,554	555	198,426	556

Figure 13. COVID-19 Reported and Active Cases (per 100,000), Mar 2020 - Jan 2021.



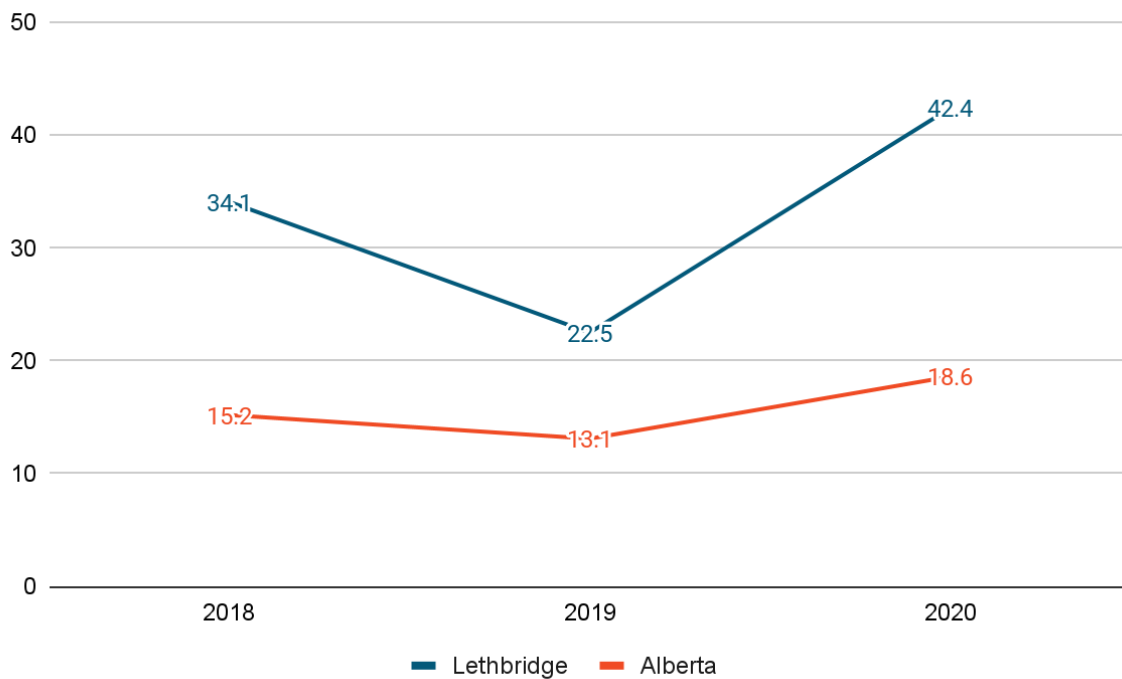
### Opioid/Stimulant

From January to June in 2018, 2019, 2020, the rate of apparently unintentional drug poisoning deaths related to fentanyl decreased from 2018 to 2019, but increased in 2020. The death rate from fentanyl poisoning has been consistently higher in Lethbridge than in Alberta as a whole.

Table 25. Rate (per 100,000) and number of apparent unintentional drug poisoning deaths related to fentanyl. January 1 to June 30, 2018-2020.

	2018	2019	2020
Lethbridge	34.1	22.5	42.4
Alberta	15.2	13.1	18.6

Figure 14. Rate (per 100,000) and number of apparent unintentional drug poisoning deaths related to fentanyl. January 1 to June 30, 2018-2020.

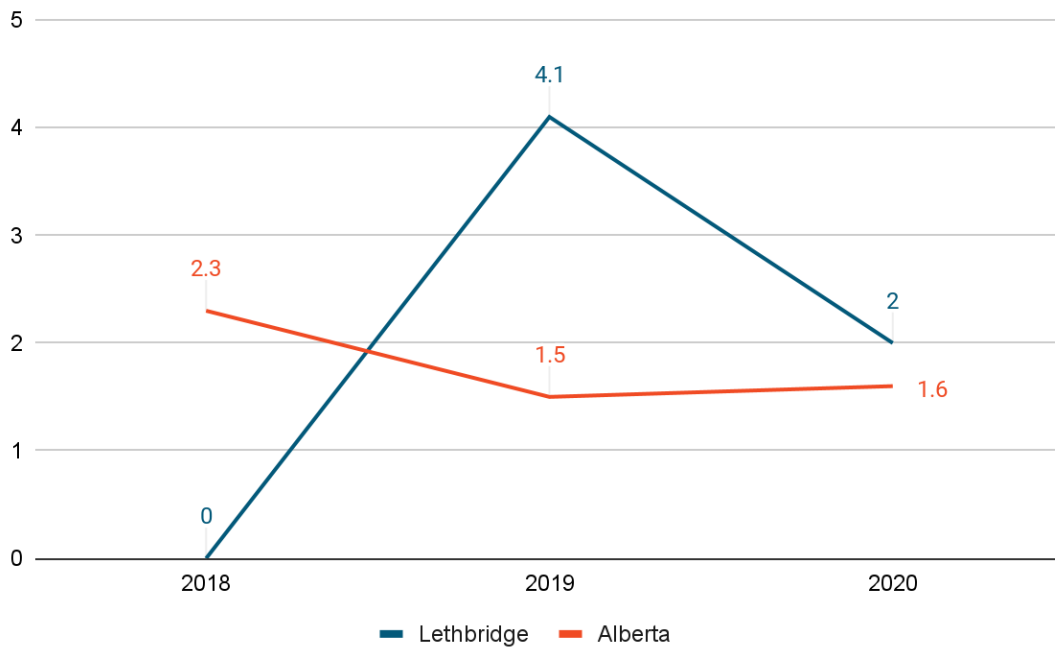


For both Lethbridge and Alberta as a whole, the rate of unintentional drug poisoning deaths related to an opioid other than fentanyl is low compared to deaths related to fentanyl. A small rise in cases was observed in 2019, followed by a decrease in 2020. Rates are slightly higher in Lethbridge than in Alberta.

Table 26. Rate (per 100,000 years) and number of apparent unintentional drug poisoning deaths related to an opioid other than fentanyl. January 1 to June 30, 2018-2020.

	2018	2019	2020
Lethbridge	0	4.1	2.0
Alberta	2.3	1.5	1.6

Figure 15. Rate (per 100,000) and number of apparent unintentional drug poisoning deaths related to an opioid other than fentanyl. January 1 to June 30, 2018-2020.



### Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Visits

The following data for EMS visits in Lethbridge is based on data collected from January to June 2019, and January to June 2020. Lethbridge had 107 EMS visits (311 per 100,000) in the 2019 period, which increased to 117 (333 per 100,000) in 2020.

Figure 16. Number of EMS Visits per 100,000, Lethbridge (Jan-Jun) 2019 & 2020.

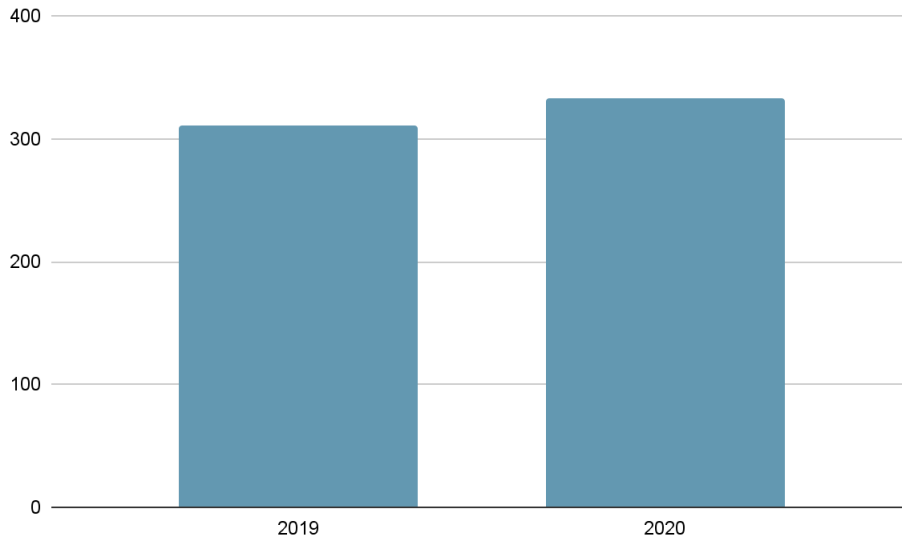


Table 27. Number of EMS Visits, Lethbridge (Jan-Jun) 2019 & 2020.

Year	Count	Rate (x 100,000)
2019	107	311
2020	117	333

### Supervised Consumption Sites

The following data for supervised consumption visits in Lethbridge is based on data collected from January to March 2019, and January to March 2020. From 2019 to 2020, Lethbridge had a small (2.6%) decrease in visits to supervised consumption sites (Table 28).

Figure 17. Supervised consumption site visits, Lethbridge Jan-Mar 2019 & 2020.

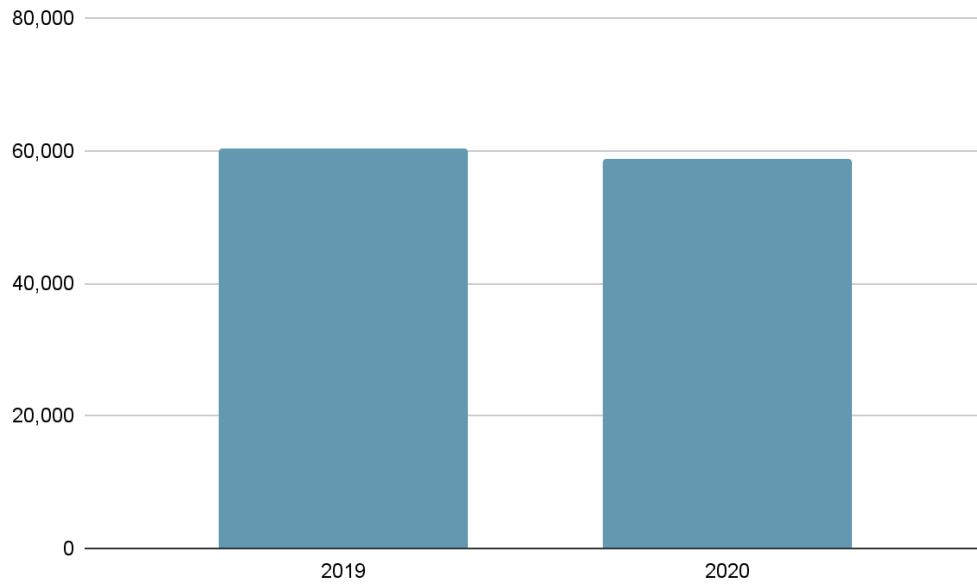


Table 28. Supervised consumption site visits, Lethbridge Jan-Mar 2019 & 2020.

Year	Count	Annual Change
2019	60,260	-
2020	58,719	-2.6%

## Socio-economic Trends

### Life Expectancy

Life expectancy for females was consistently greater than life expectancy for males from 2016 to 2018. Changes in life expectancy during this period were not reported. Females continued to average a life expectancy of about 82 years, while males averaged around 78 years.

Table 29. Life expectancy, Lethbridge 2016-2018.

Year	Gender	Age	Annual Change
2016	Female	82.57	
2017	Female	82.56	-0.01%
2018	Female	82.86	0.36%
2016	Male	78.96	
2017	Male	78.89	-0.09%
2018	Male	78.84	-0.06%
2016	Both	80.82	
2017	Both	80.77	-0.06%
2018	Both	80.88	0.14%

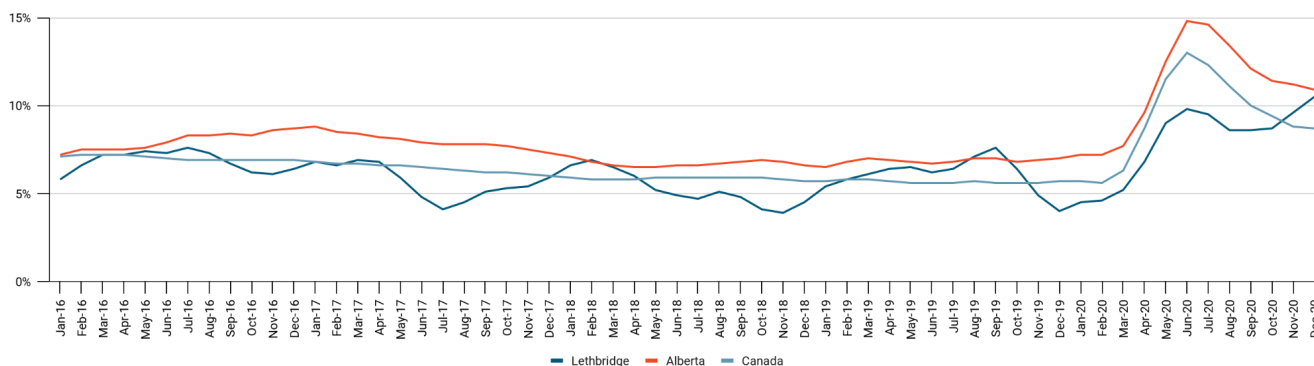
### Unemployment Rate

From 2016 to 2020, Lethbridge's unemployment rate largely remained below that of Alberta's, fluctuating around the national unemployment rate. The trend for Lethbridge's unemployment rate, however, was variable compared to Alberta's and Canada's.

The most notable finding from Figure 18 is the dramatic decrease in Lethbridge's unemployment rate during late 2019, when it went from 7.6% to 4% in the span of 4 months. Due to COVID-19, unemployment rates for Lethbridge, for Alberta and for Canada started rising around March 2020, peaking in June 2020 (9.8% in Lethbridge, 14.8% in Alberta, and 13% in Canada). Shortly thereafter, unemployment rates began trending downward, until late 2020, when Lethbridge's unemployment rate was trending upwards= toward provincial levels.



Figure 18. Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted), 2017-2020.



### Employment Insurance

Table 30 shows the number of beneficiaries who qualified for employment insurance benefits in Lethbridge from 2017 to 2019. As seen, while the number of recipients decreased from 2017 to 2018, there was an increase to 113% in 2019.

While more males (68%) were recipients in 2017 and 2018, women represented 57% of people receiving employment insurance benefits in 2019.

Overall, more people between the ages of 25 and 54 than those younger or older collected employment insurance benefits in Lethbridge from 2017 to 2019.

Table 30. Recipients of Employment Insurance, Lethbridge 2017-2019.

Age	2017		2018		2019		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
15-24	30	99	25	86	120	101	461
25-54	236	470	182	355	785	493	2,521
55+	72	142	58	109	86	148	615
Total	338	711	265	550	991	742	3,597

### Education

Table 31 shows that enrollment from kindergarten to grade nine decreased marginally from 2016 to 2019. High school enrollment (grades 10-12), on the other hand, increased, with the most recent increase from 2018 to 2019 at 2.7%. Data for Lethbridge shows a minor decrease for post-secondary enrollment in 2019 of 0.29%.

Table 31. K-9 Enrollment, Lethbridge 2016-2019.

Year	Count	Annual Change
2016	216,772	
2017	216,123	-0.30%
2018	215,445	-0.31%
2019	214,830	-0.29%

Table 32. Grade 10-12 Enrollment, Lethbridge 2016-2019.

Year	Count	Annual Change
2016	3,230	
2017	3,372	4.4%
2018	3,432	1.8%
2019	3,525	2.7%

Table 33. Post-secondary Enrollment, Lethbridge 2016-2019.

Year	Count	Annual Change
2016	183,631	
2017	183,596	-0.02%
2018	183,571	-0.01%
2019	183,334	-0.13%

## Government Assistance

Government transfers cover a range of programs. For example, Employment Insurance provides temporary income assistance to those who lose their job or are absent for reasons of illness or the birth or adoption of a child. The Canada Pension Plan and the Quebec Pension Plan are the two public pension plans in Canada. Old Age Security, including the Guaranteed Income Supplement, provides financial support to seniors. Child tax benefits and other child credits or allowances are aimed at families with children. Other government transfers include social assistance from provincial and municipal programs, Workers' Compensation benefits, the GST/HST Credit and provincial refundable tax credits, such as the Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador sales tax credits.

The main source of income for those aged 15 and over in private households is employment income in Lethbridge (93%), in Alberta (93%), and in Canada (89%). However, 65% in that age group in Lethbridge are also receiving government transfers. This is comparable to that reported for Alberta (58%), but less than for Canada (72%).

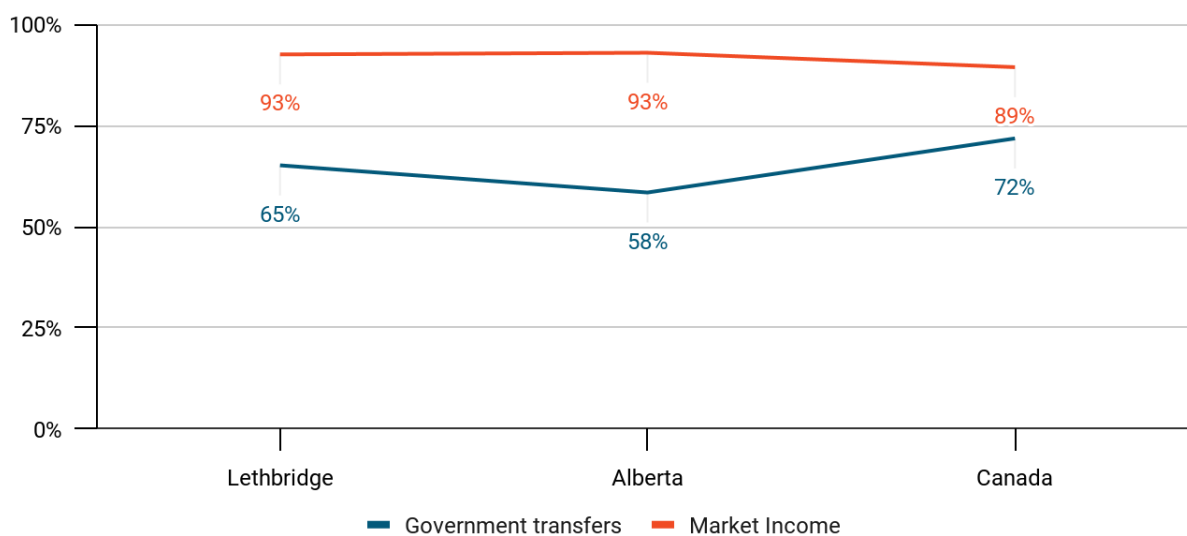
Table 34. Income recipients aged 15 and over in private households by income source (%), 2016

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Government transfers	65%	58%	72%
Market Income	93%	93%	89%
Total Income	100%	100%	100%

Table 35. Income recipients aged 15 and over in private households by income source, 2016

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Government transfers	46,665	1,785,065	19,743,240
Market Income	66,285	2,839,590	24,583,315
Total Income	71,595	3,053,470	27,488,530

Figure 19. Income recipients aged 15 and over in private households by income source, 2016



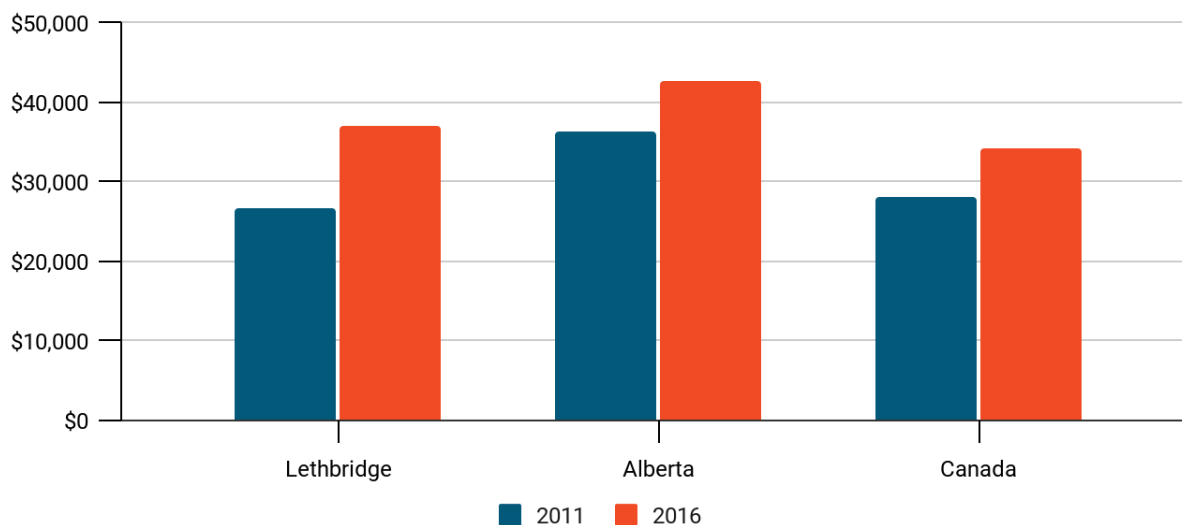
### Median Income

From 2011 to 2016, the median income for individuals in Lethbridge, in Alberta, and in Canada, increased. However, the median income for individuals in Lethbridge continues to be less than that for Alberta overall (Figure 20).

Table 36. Median income - individuals, 2011 & 2016.

Year	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
2011	\$26,615	\$36,269	\$28,018
2016	\$36,938	\$42,717	\$34,204

Figure 20. Median Income - Individuals, 2011 & 2016.

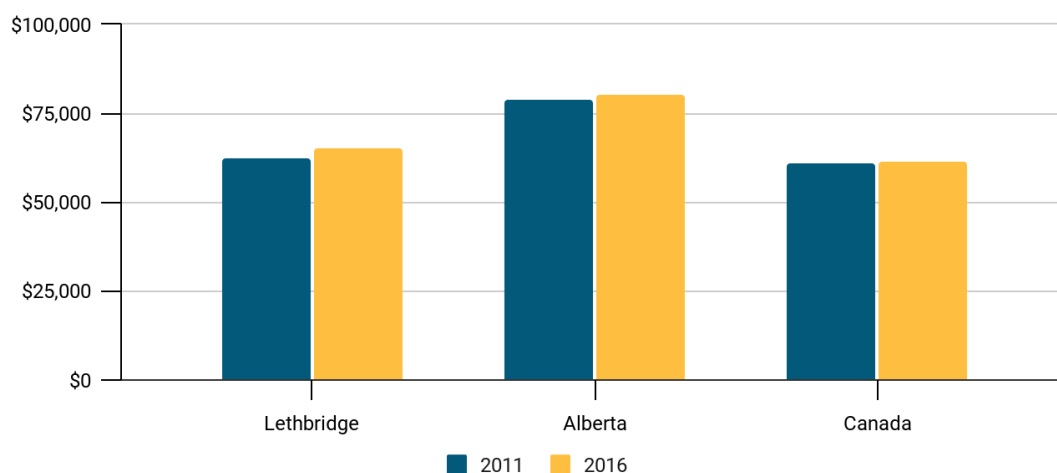


Household median income also increased from 2011 to 2016 for Lethbridge, for Alberta, and for Canada. These increases mirror those seen for individual incomes, being lower in Lethbridge compared to Alberta overall (Figure 21).

Table 37. Median Income - Households, 2011 & 2016

Year	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
2011	\$62,298	\$78,632	\$61,072
2016	\$65,351	\$80,300	\$61,348

Figure 21. Median Income - Households, 2011 & 2016



### Immigrant Household Median Income

The median income for immigrant households in Lethbridge (\$34,795) is similar to that for Alberta, and more than that for Canada (\$29,768). Compared to the median total household incomes for the overall population, immigrants are receiving significantly less.

Table 38. Immigrant Households (%) and Median Household Income, 2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Immigrant Households	15%	23%	24%
Immigrant Median Income	\$34,795	\$37,446	\$29,768

### Indigenous Household Median Income

The median income for Indigenous households in Lethbridge (\$24,384) was less than the median income for Alberta (\$29,522) or Canada (\$25,526). Similar to the findings for immigrant populations, the Indigenous household median income is far below that of the overall population. The income inequality between Indigenous and non-Indigenous households arises from systemic historic and current discrimination faced by Indigenous communities, discrimination that continues to erect barriers for these communities.

Table 39. Indigenous Households (%) and Median Household Income, 2016.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
Indigenous Households	6%	7%	5%
Indigenous Median Income	\$24,384	\$29,522	\$25,526

## Contributions to RRSPs, RPPs, or TFSAs

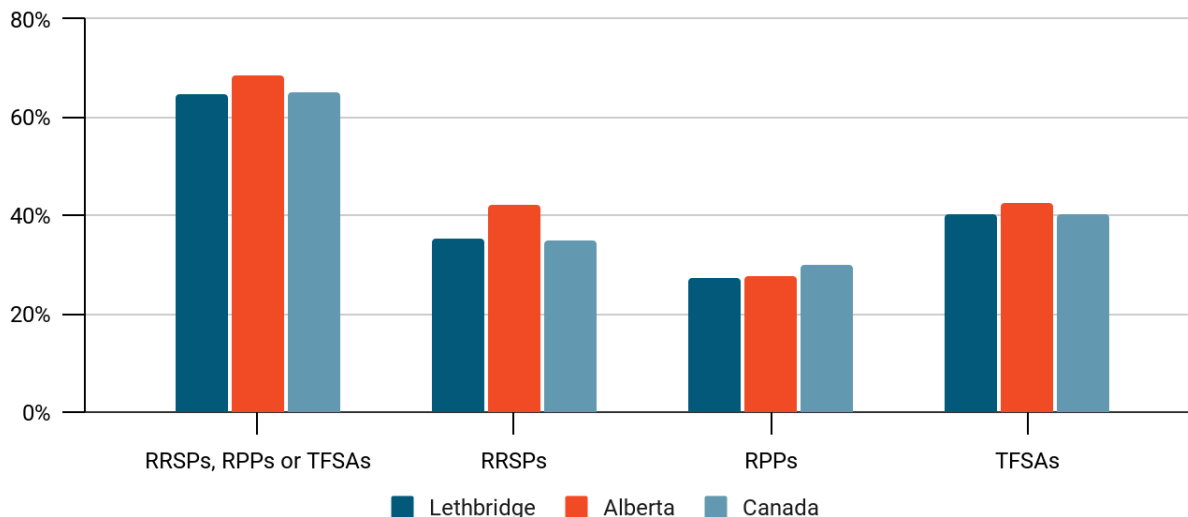
The tables and figures in this section report on the percentage of households investing into registered retirement savings plans (RRSP), registered pension plans (RPP), or tax-free savings accounts (TFSA).

Similar percentages of households in Lethbridge (65%), in Alberta (68%) and in Canada (65%) are contributing to an RRSP, RPP, and/or TFSA. Fewer of these households were investing in RPPs (Figure 22).

Table 40. Percentage of households contributing to tax-sheltered plans.

	Lethbridge	Alberta	Canada
RRSPs, RPPs or TFSAs	64.6	68.4	65.2
RRSPs	35.4	42.2	35
RPPs	27.2	27.5	30.1
TFSAs	40.3	42.7	40.4

Figure 22. Percentage of households contributing to tax-sheltered plans.



## Income Distribution by Age Group

The figures and tables below illustrate the after-tax income distribution by age groups (2016), in the Lethbridge Census Metropolitan Area. The data indicates that income is mostly concentrated among the 25-64 age groups, coinciding with typical working ages. However, there is a gap in income between men and women across all age groups. Women

at the peak of their seniority in working age (45-54) have a lower average income than men ages 25-34, who are at an early stage of their career. These discrepancies point to gender-based income inequality, a larger structural problem in the workforce.

Figure 23. Income distribution by age group, Lethbridge 2016

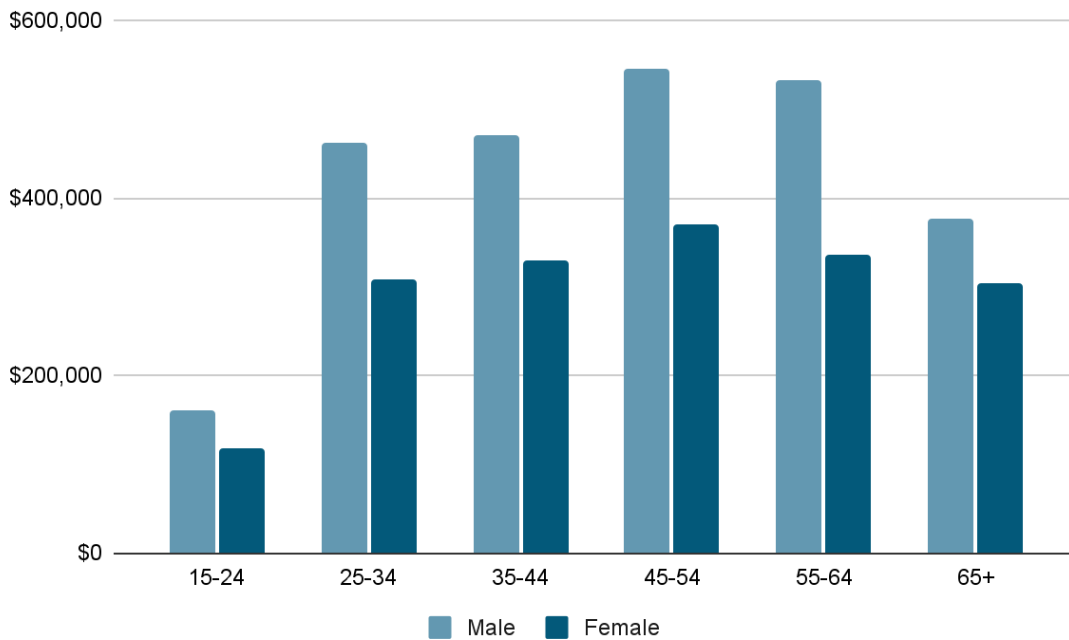


Table 41. Income distribution by age group, Lethbridge 2016

Age	Male	Female	Total
15-24	\$161,105	\$117,179	\$278,284
25-34	\$462,189	\$307,661	\$769,850
35-44	\$470,550	\$330,551	\$801,101
45-54	\$544,546	\$369,198	\$913,744
55-64	\$532,255	\$336,812	\$869,067
65+	\$375,846	\$304,303	\$680,149
Total	\$2,546,491	\$1,765,704	\$4,312,195

# Results of the 2021 Administrative Count

## Individuals at Sheltered Locations

Through the 2021 Administrative Count, a total of 191 people were reported to be experiencing sheltered homelessness in Lethbridge, most in emergency shelters (51%, n=97), transitional housing facilities (21%, n=40), treatment facilities (18%, n=25), or correctional facilities (19%, n=36). Other places where individuals were staying during the Administrative Count included treatment facilities, COVID-19 isolation sites, health care facilities, and hotels/motels sponsored by Alberta Works.

When interpreting the data, it is important to remember that although the category of transitional housing facilities has been identified as sheltered homelessness for this Administrative Count, transitional housing does represent stable living for many people, and the associated living conditions in transitional housing do not necessarily match those of other less stable temporary housing options, such as emergency shelters.

Figure 24. Facility Type, Lethbridge 2021.

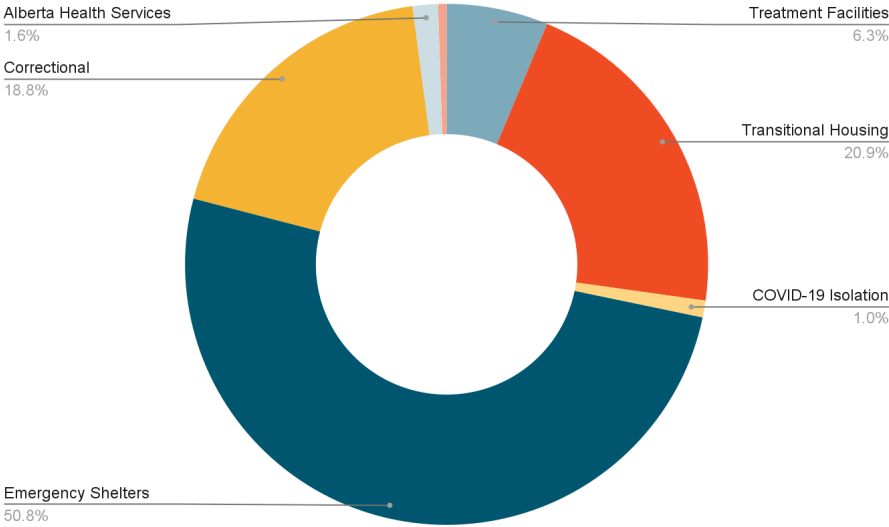


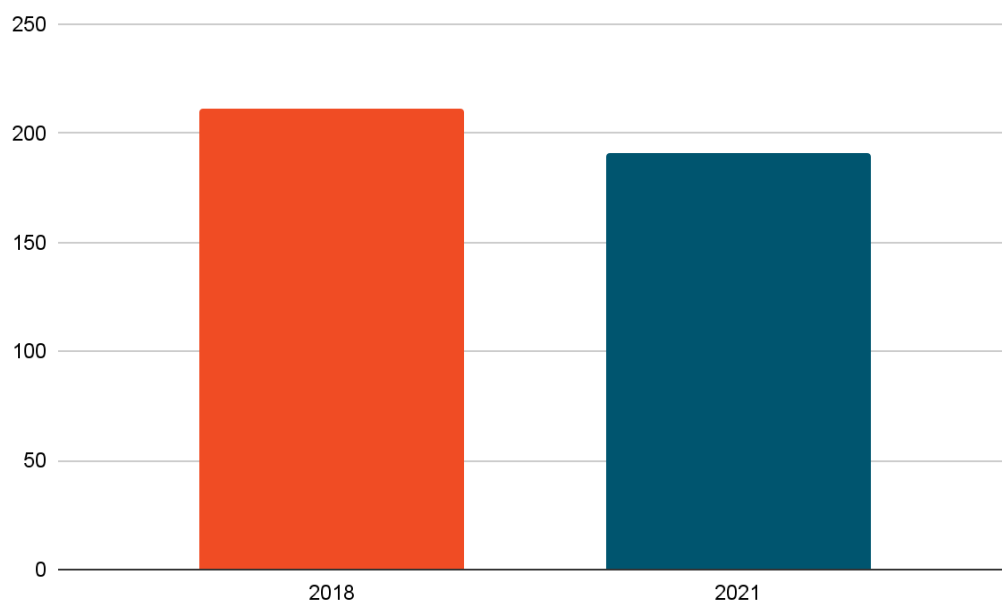
Figure 25 compares the number of people in 2018 and 2021 enumerated through administrative data, according to the different types of facilities in Lethbridge. There was an overall decrease, from 211 in 2018 to 188 in 2021. However, due to limitations in the methodology (see Appendix A) and the vastly different circumstances presented by the pandemic, data should be interpreted with caution, as this observed decrease for 2021 does



not represent a true overall decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness in Lethbridge on April 20, 2021.

The full picture and scope of individuals and families experiencing homelessness cannot be derived from the 2021 Administrative Count, and it is only through a future Point-in-Time Count, and by examining other available data, that we will understand the true impact of COVID-19 on homelessness in Lethbridge.

Figure 25. Total enumerated through administrative data, Lethbridge 2018 & 2021.



The most notable changes can be seen in emergency shelters (n=136, 2018 to n=97, 2021) and transitional housing facilities (n=23, 2018 to n=40, 2021) (Table 42). Again, it is important to recognize that COVID-related reduced shelter availability, per AHS guidelines, affected how many people shelters could accommodate.

Figure 26. Facility Type comparison, Lethbridge 2018 & 2021.

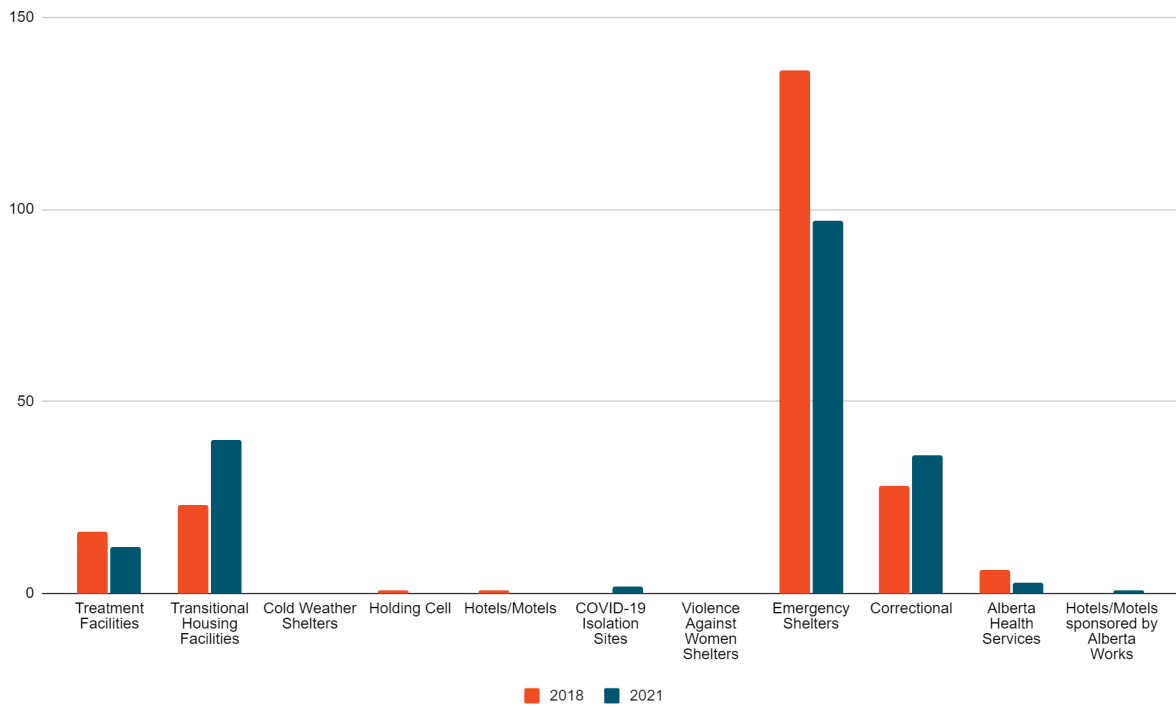


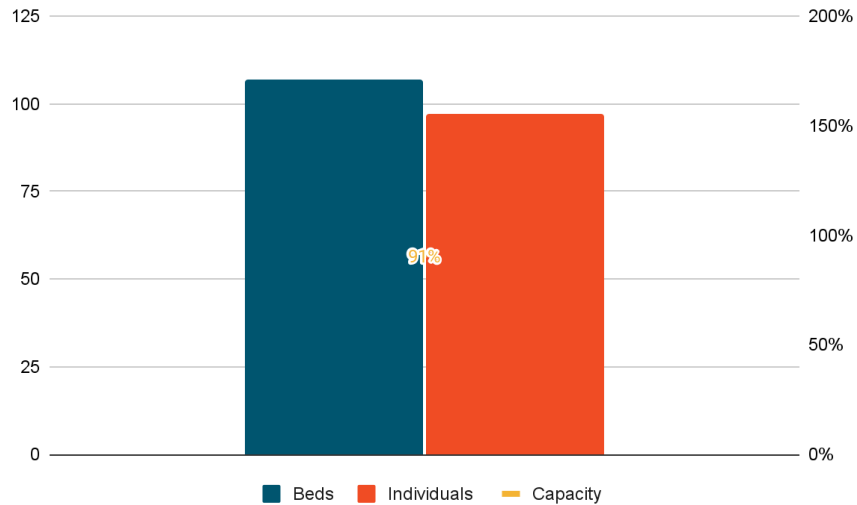
Table 42. Facility Type comparison, Lethbridge 2018 & 2021.

Facility Type	2018		2021	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Treatment Facilities	16	8%	12	6%
Transitional Housing Facilities	23	11%	40	21%
Cold Weather Shelters	0	0%	0	0%
Holding Cell	1	0%	0	0%
Hotels/Motels	1	0%	0	0%
COVID-19 Isolation Sites	0	0%	2	1%
Violence Against Women Shelters	0	0%	0	0%
Emergency Shelters	136	64%	97	51%
Correctional	28	13%	36	19%
Alberta Health Services	6	3%	3	2%
Hotels/Motels sponsored by Alberta Works	0	0%	1	1%
Total	211	100%	191	100%

## Sheltered Capacity 2021

On April 20, a total of 241 beds were available in Lethbridge for individuals experiencing homelessness in the community, most (44%) in emergency shelter facilities.

Figure 27. Emergency shelter capacity during COVID-19, Lethbridge 2021.



Data showed that emergency shelters were operating close to full capacity, at 91%.

## Reported Numbers of Units and Beds

Figure 28. Number of units and beds.

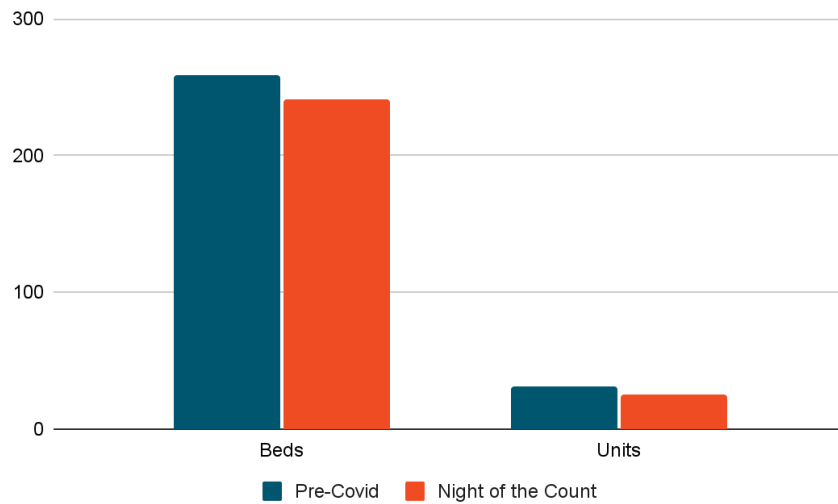


Figure 28 displays the number of beds and units pre-COVID, and during COVID on the night of the Count in 2021. Note that while units refer to rooms and spaces that may hold multiple beds, a bed typically indicates a single occupant. The number of units decreased by five (from 31 to 26 on the night of the Count), as did the number of beds, from 259 beds pre-COVID to 251 beds during COVID.

Table 43. Number of units and beds.

	Pre-Covid	Night of the Count
Beds	259	241
Units	31	26

## Demographics

### Age

The age of those reported through the Administrative Count ranged from youth as young as 13 years old to adults older than 65. The ages of 19% of those enumerated were unknown due to the absence of reported age in systems data.

The largest stand-alone age group represented adults aged 25 to 44 at 49% (n=42) of the total enumerated population. Adults aged 45 to 64 were the second-largest age group (21%, n=40) reported at sheltered locations in Lethbridge for the 2021 Count.

Figure 29. Age Groups, Lethbridge 2021.

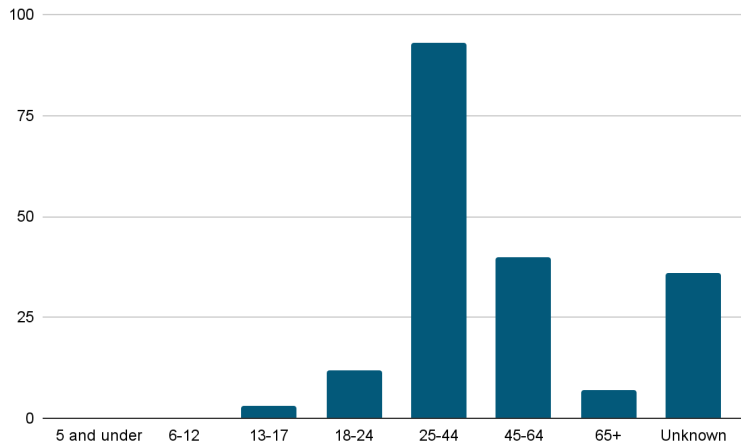


Table 44. Age Groups, Lethbridge 2021.

Age	Count	Percentage
5 and under	0	0%
6-12	0	0%
13-17	<5	2%
18-24	12	6%
25-44	93	49%
45-64	40	21%
65+	7	4%
Unknown	36	19%
Total	191	100%

### Facility Type and Age

As shown in Figure 30, most people, across all age groups, were reported as staying in emergency shelters. Those aged 25-44 and 45-64 accounted for the majority of people enumerated at emergency shelters (n=60 and n=24, respectively). There were similar percentages for transitional housing facilities. In the 45-64 age group, there was a greater variety of facilities used.

Figure 30. Facility Type and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

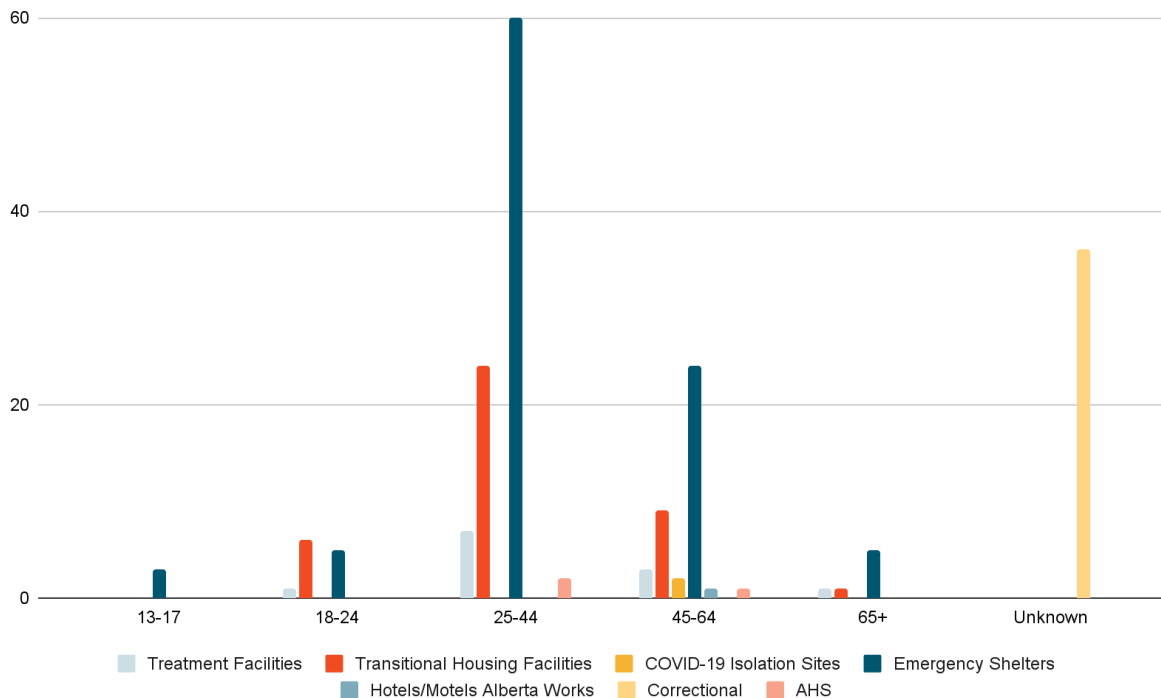


Table 45. Facility Type and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

Age	Treatment Facilities	Transitional Housing Facilities	COVID-19 Isolation Sites	Emergency Shelters	Hotels/Motels Alberta Works	Corrections	AHS	Total
13-17	0	0	0	<5	0	0	0	<5
18-24	<5	6	0	5	0	0	0	12
25-44	7	24	0	60	0	0	<5	93
45-64	<5	9	<5	24	<5	0	<5	40
65+	<5	<5	0	5	0	0	0	7
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	36
Total	12	40	<5	97	<5	36	<5	191

## Gender Identity

In the 2021 Administrative Count, 59% (n=112) were identified as male gender, and 23% (n=43) as female gender, with less than 5%. There were no transgender or gender diverse people represented through this data. This is not necessarily reflective of the community of people experiencing homelessness. Individuals may have been missed or incorrectly identified due to the nature of administrative data. Some people may also choose to keep their gender identity hidden because of fear of discrimination, stigma, and concern for their overall safety. Data on the age of 36 individuals was unknown, due to the nature of administrative datasets.

Figure 31. Gender Identity, Lethbridge 2021.

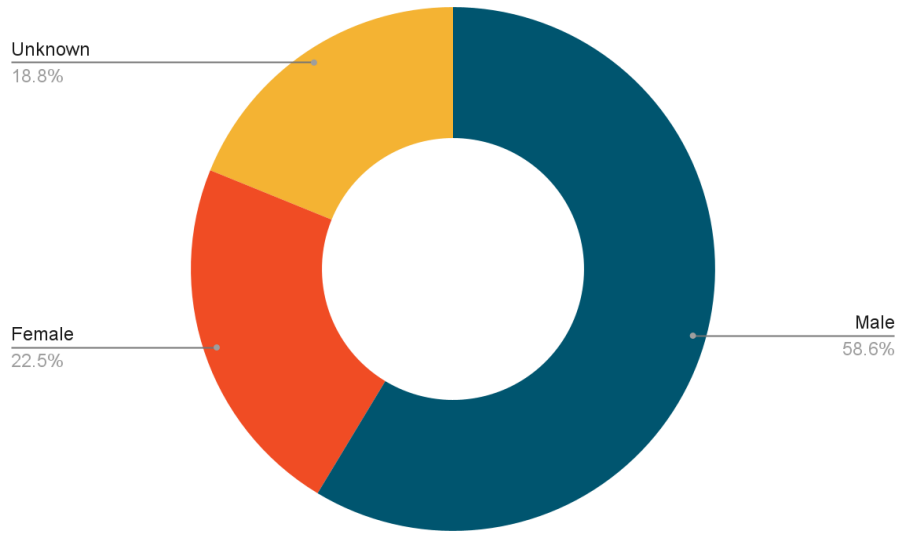


Table 46. Gender Identity, Lethbridge 2021.

Gender	Count	Percentage
Male	112	59%
Female	43	23%
Transgender	0	0%
Gender Diverse	0	0%
Unknown	36	19%
Total	191	100%

### Gender and Age

The data indicates that males were slightly more represented, making up over 50% in all age groups. Almost all people enumerated aged 45-64 (88%) and 65+ (86%) identified as male.

Figure 32. Gender Identity and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

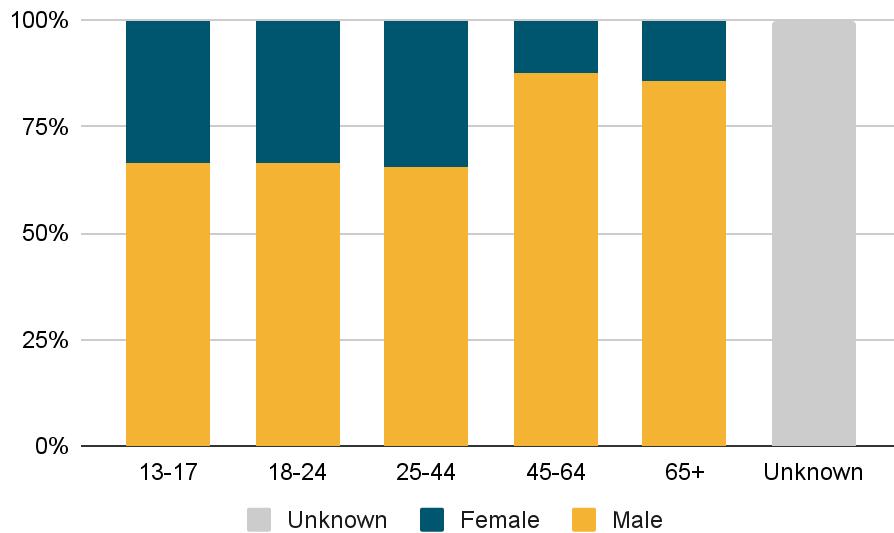


Table 47. Gender Identity and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

Gender Identity	13-17	18-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Unknown	Total
Male	<5	8	61	35	6	0	112
Female	<5	<5	32	5	<5	0	43
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	36	36
Total	<5	12	93	40	7	36	191

### Gender and Facility Type

Figure 33 shows the variety in gender distribution at the various facility types. Males were more represented across all facility types. In transitional housing facilities, males accounted for 85% (n=34) and females for 15% (n=6). In emergency shelters, males accounted for 66% (n=64) and females for 34% (n=33). More males were enumerated in treatment facilities (75%, n=9). The gender identities of those enumerated in correctional facilities were unknown, due to limitations in systems data.

Figure 33. Gender and Facility Type, Lethbridge 2021.



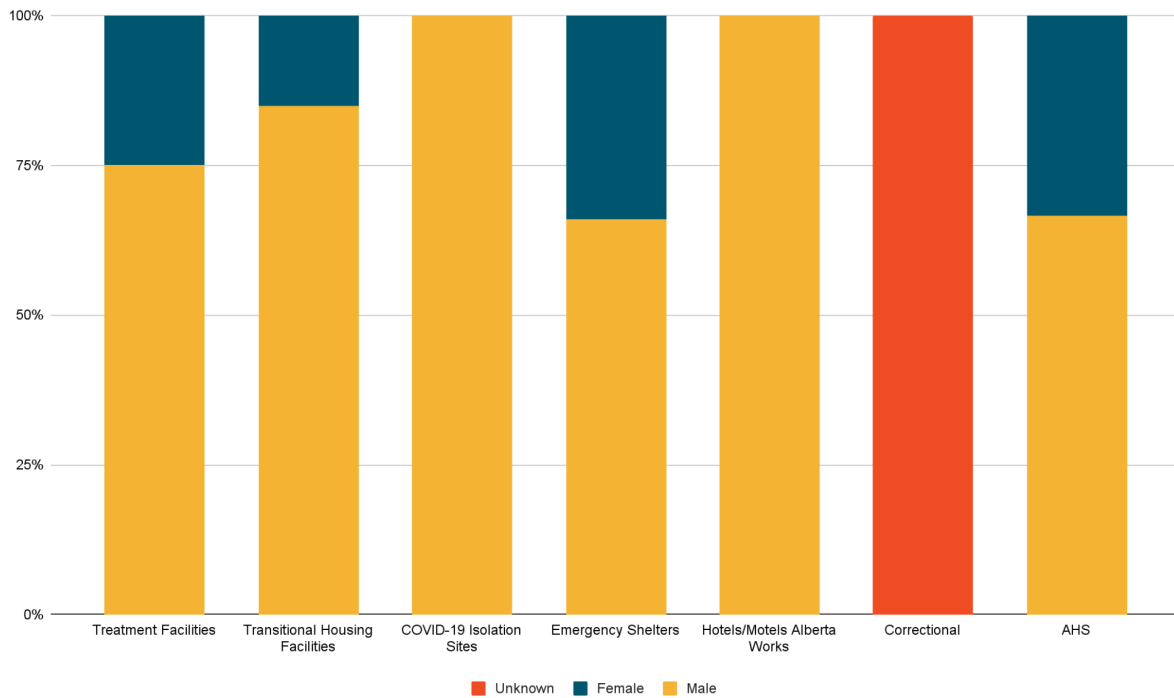


Table 48. Gender and Facility Type, Lethbridge 2021.

Gender Identity	Treatment Facilities	Transitional Housing Facilities	COVID-19 Isolation Sites	Emergency Shelters	Correctional	Hotels/Motels Alberta Works	AHS	Total
Male	9	34	<5	64	0	<5	<5	112
Female	<5	6	0	33	0	0	<5	43
Unknown	0	0	0	0	36	0	0	36
Total	12	40	<5	97	36	<5	<5	191

### Racial Identity

With respect to the racial identity of those enumerated, 52% were identified as Indigenous (n=99), and 38% as Caucasian (n=72). Those with other racial identity or unknown racial identity each accounted for less than 10% of all those enumerated. The data shows that in Lethbridge, Indigenous-identifying individuals make up over half those enumerated through the Administrative Count.

Figure 34. Racial Identity, Lethbridge 2021.

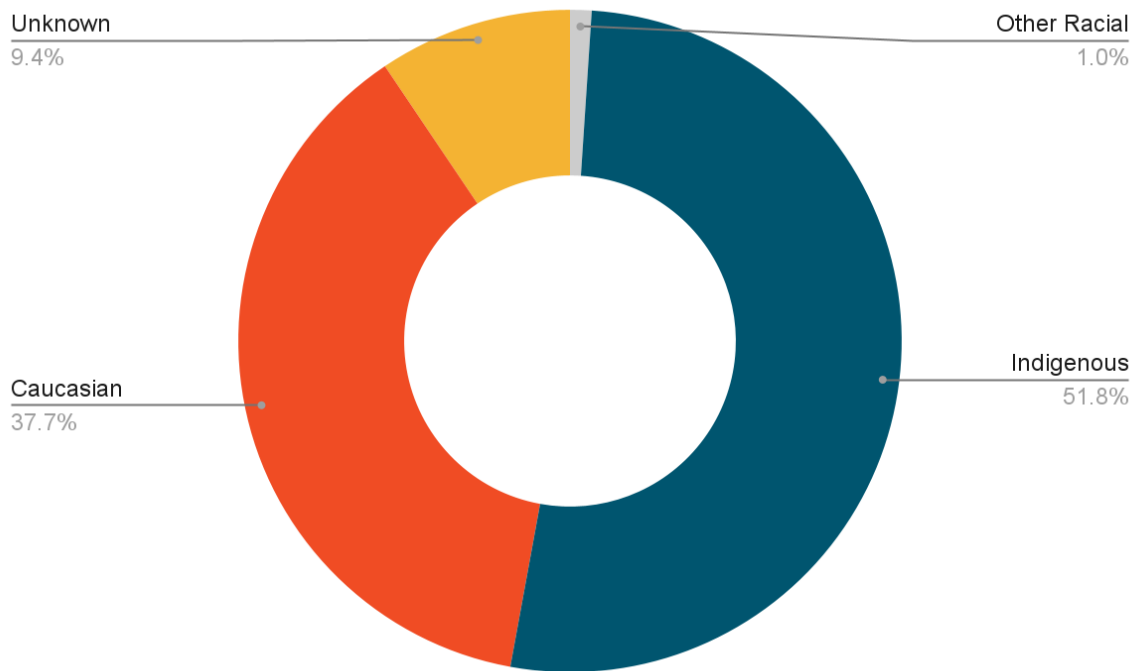


Table 49. Racial Identity, Lethbridge 2021.

Racial Identity	Count	Percentage
Other Racial Identity	<5	1%
Indigenous	99	52%
Caucasian	72	38%
Unknown	18	9%
Total	191	100%

### Age Distribution

Indigenous-identifying individuals were noted across all reported age groups. Most Indigenous individuals were aged 25-44 (n=55), with a smaller number aged 45-64 (n=16). There were similar findings for Caucasian individuals, with 34 people in the 25-44 age group, and 22 in the 45-64 age group. The ages of 36 individuals were unknown, although the data reported 23 of these people as Indigenous.

Figure 35. Racial Identity and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

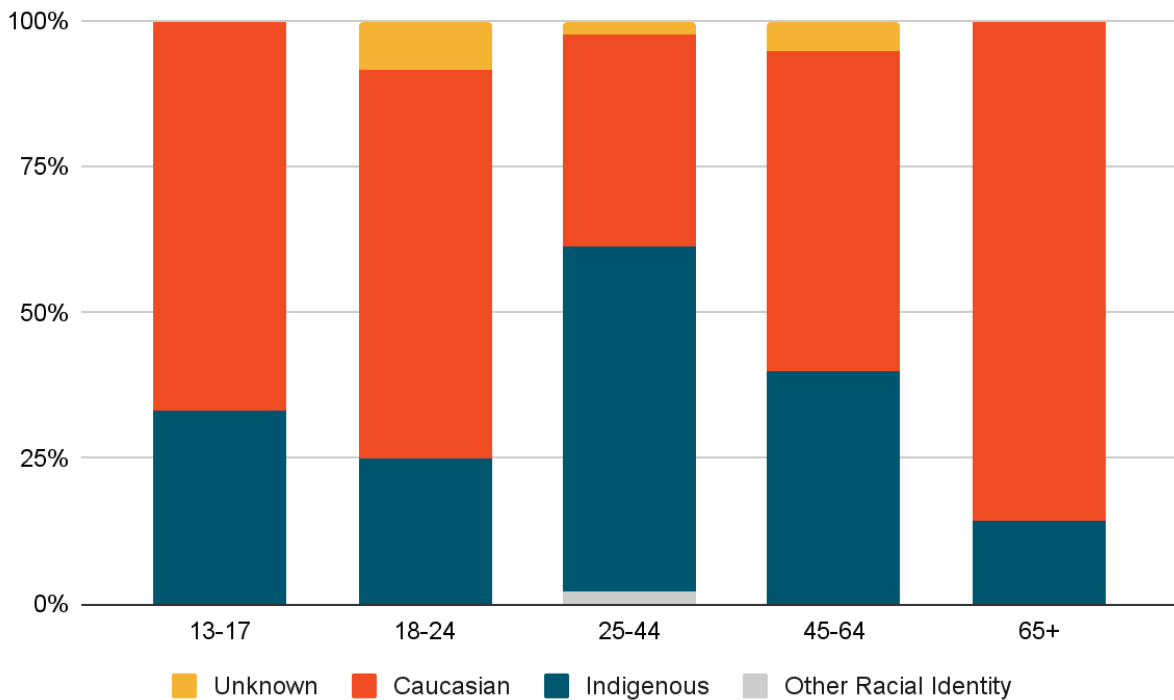


Table 50. Racial Identity and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

Racial Identity	13-17	18-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Unknown	Total
Other Racial Identity	0	0	<5	0	0	0	<5
Indigenous	<5	<5	55	16	<5	23	99
Caucasian	<5	8	34	22	6	0	72
Unknown	0	<5	<5	<5	0	13	18
Total	<5	12	93	40	7	36	191

### Facility Distribution

Figure 36 shows that most of those reported as Caucasian were staying at emergency shelters on the night of the Count (n=38), followed by transitional housing facilities (n=30).

Examining the data, there was a significant overrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in emergency shelters (59%, n=57), treatment facilities (75%, n=9) and correctional facilities (64%, n=23). Those in the Indigenous community have been unjustly treated in the Canadian justice system, which is steeped in colonialism. Historical trauma, residential school abuse, and racial discrimination have devastated Indigenous well-being across many generations, and have resulted in overrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in both the homelessness and corrections systems.

It is unknown how Indigenous identity was reported in these systems in the administrative data. It is not clear whether the reports are self-identified Indigenous identity. Through the delivery of a survey, the next PiT Count will allow for a more robust collection of self-reported data on racial identity, as per Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC) nationally standardized questions.

Figure 36. Racial Identity and Facility Type, Lethbridge 2021.

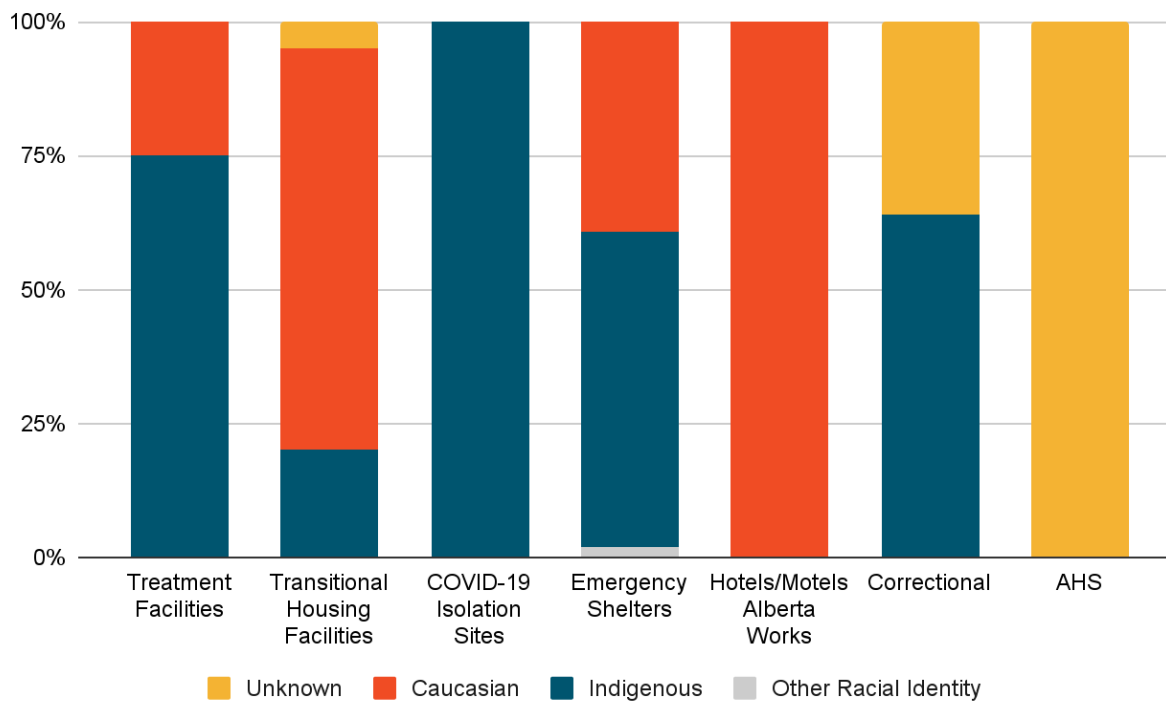


Table 51. Racial Identity and Facility Type, Lethbridge 2021.

Racial Identity	Treatment Facilities	Transitional Housing Facilities	COVID-19 Isolation Sites	Emergency Shelters	Correctional	Hotels/Motels Alberta Works	AHS	Total
Other Racial Identity	0	0	0	<5	0	0	0	<5
Indigenous	9	8	2	57	23	0	0	99
Caucasian	<5	30	0	38	0	<5	0	72
Unknown	0	<5	0	0	13	0	<5	18
Total	12	40	<5	97	36	<5	<5	191

## Gender Distribution

More males were enumerated across all racial identities. For males, the numbers were similar for Indigenous and Caucasian people enumerated. However, 64 of females were reported as Indigenous.

Figure 37. Racial Identity and Gender Distribution, Lethbridge 2021.

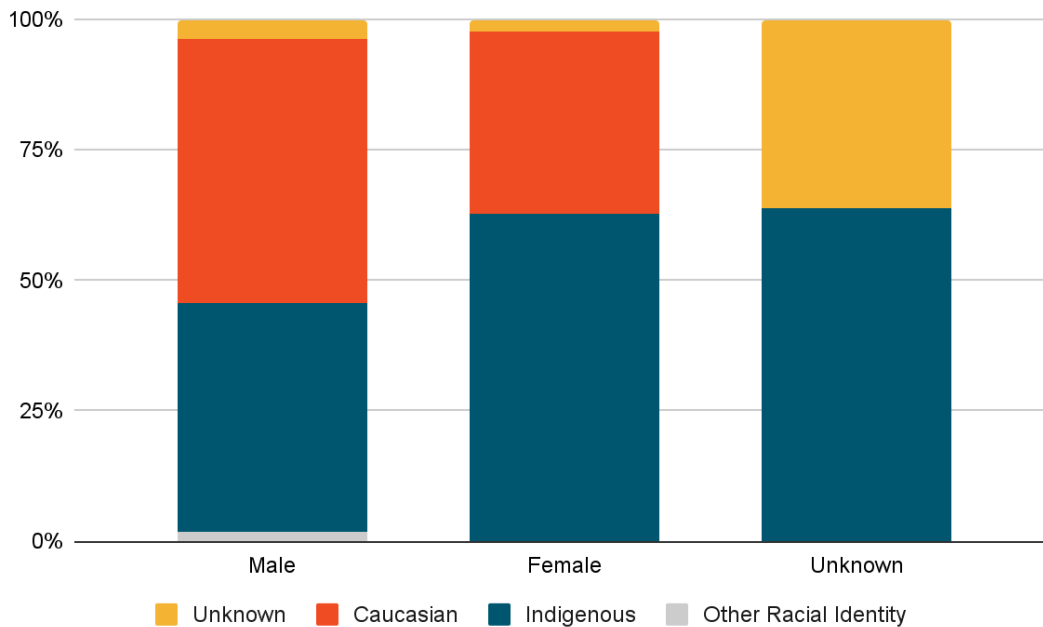


Table 52. Racial Identity and Gender Distribution, Lethbridge 2021.

Racial Identity	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Other Racial Identity	<5	0	0	<5
Indigenous	49	27	23	99
Caucasian	57	15	0	72
Unknown	<5	<5	13	18
Total	112	43	36	191

## Family Homelessness

Table 53 shows the number of families with No Fixed Address, as well as the number of individuals in families with NFA. The data indicated that 0 families (1 total individual) in Lethbridge had NFA.

Table 53. Family Homelessness, Lethbridge 2021.

Family Homelessness	Count
Families with no fixed address (NFA)	0
Individuals in families with no fixed address (NFA)	1

## Systems Data

In the context of this Administrative Count, systems data refers to data provided by the following provincial government organizations:

- The Justice and Solicitor General's offices
- Alberta Community and Social Services
- Alberta Health Services (AHS).

The types of systems data used in this report include information on individuals with No Fixed Address staying at correctional facilities, emergency departments, inpatient wards and detox/treatment facilities, as well as in emergency hotels/motels sponsored by Alberta Works or Assured Income for Severely Handicapped (AISH) or other Income Support.

## Correctional Services

In Lethbridge, 36 individuals with No Fixed Address were observed in correctional facilities the night of the Count. In keeping with national best practices, individuals with No Fixed Address are, for the purposes of the PiT Count, assumed to be experiencing homelessness.

Figure 38. Correctional Services and Racial Identity, Lethbridge 2021.

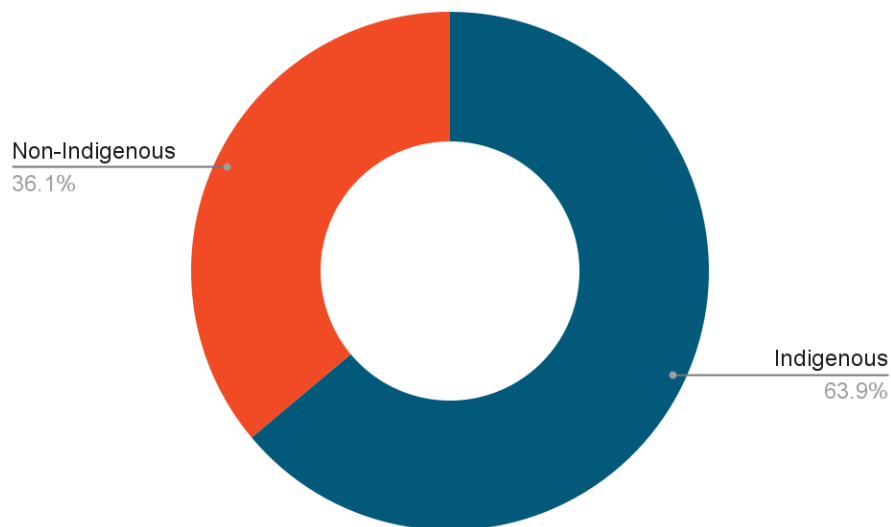


Table 54. Correctional Services and Racial Identity, Lethbridge 2021.

	Indigenous	Total	Percentage
Indigenous		23	64%
Non-Indigenous		13	36%
Total Observed Individuals		36	100%

Of these 36 people, 64% (n=23) were reported as Indigenous while the data did not allow for the others' racial identity to be determined. Therefore, the true proportion of Indigenous individuals enumerated is unclear. As noted previously, the methodology for determining how Indigenous identity was reported for these facilities is not known.

**Alberta Health Services**

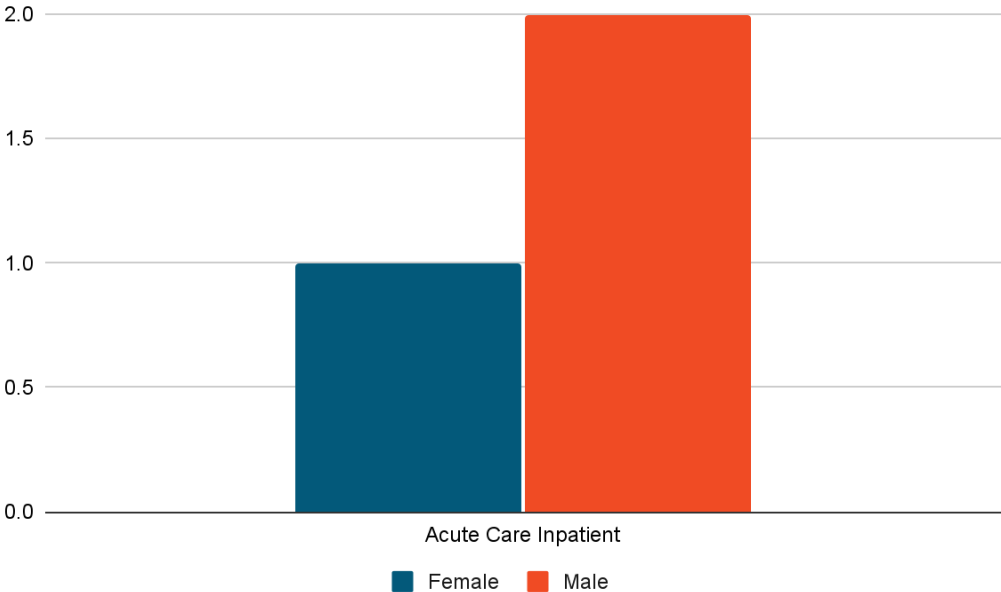
The data in this section includes information on people reported to have No Fixed Address, who were treated at an Alberta health care facility during the time period of April 19, 2021, at 10 pm to April 20, 2021, at 9 am. People admitted before April 19, or during the specified time frame that had not yet been discharged as of May 31, 2021 were not included in the data.

Table 55 and Figure 39 show the category of healthcare facilities where people with No Fixed Address were located, along with reported gender identity.

Table 55. Admission Type and Gender Identity, Lethbridge 2021.

Admission Type	Female	Male	Total
Acute Care Inpatient	1	2	3
Total	1	2	3

Figure 39. Admission Type and Gender Identity, Lethbridge 2021.



Of the 3 reported as having No Fixed Address who were treated in an Alberta health care facility, all were counted in acute inpatient care. The data indicates that two of these people were male and one female.



Regarding the age of these individuals, two were aged 25-44, and one was aged 45-64 (Table 56).

Table 56. Admission Type and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

Admission Type	6-12	13-17	18-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
Acute Care Inpatient	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Total	0	0	0	2	1	0	3

Figure 40. Admission Type and Age, Lethbridge 2021.

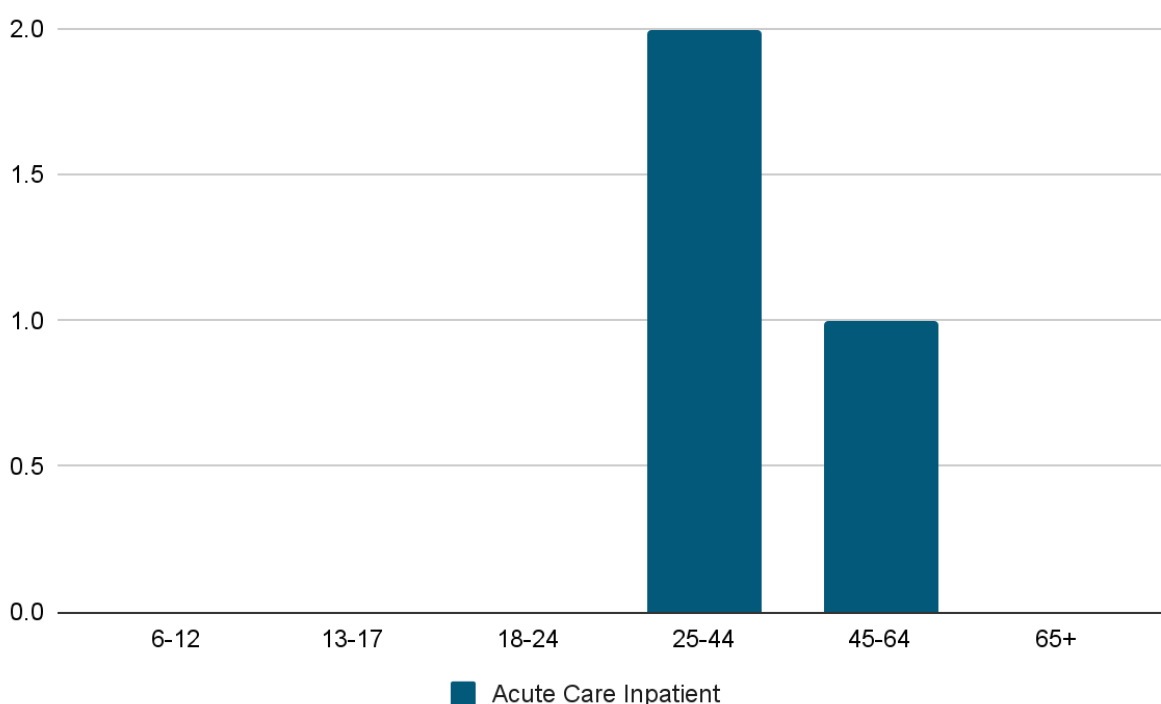
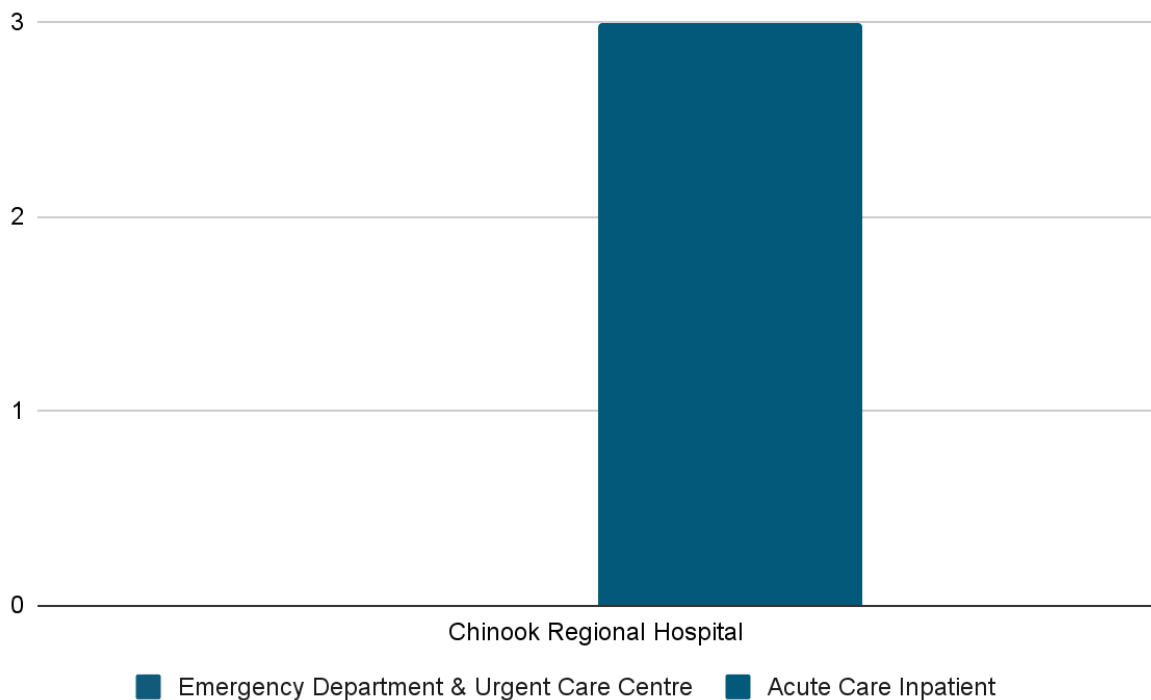


Figure 41 and Table 57 show the facilities where people with No Fixed Address were reported. All the people accounted for in health care facilities during the 2021 Administrative Count had been admitted to the Chinook Regional Hospital (n=3).

Table 57. Health care facility and Admission Type, Lethbridge 2021.

Site	Emergency Department & Urgent Care Centre	Acute Care Inpatient	Total
Chinook Regional Hospital	0	3	3
Total	0	3	3

Figure 41. Health care facility and Admission Type, Lethbridge 2021.



### Emergency Hotels

On the night of the Count, one person was staying at an emergency hotel in Lethbridge, and reported income from the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH). This person was reported to be Caucasian, and in the age group 45-64.

Table 58. Emergency Hotels, Lethbridge 2021.

Program	Number of Individuals	Number of Accompanying Family Members	Age of all Individuals	Gender of all Individuals	Race/Ethnicity of Adults Only
AISH	1	0	54	Male	Caucasian

Note that due to the small number of people reported in these facilities, breakdowns by age, gender, and Indigenous/non-Indigenous identification have been removed from this section and are not included in this report.

## CONCLUSION

This 2021 Administrative Count was a collaborative effort undertaken by the 7 Cities on Housing and Homelessness that required considerable investments of time, research, discussion, and debate from all involved.

A total of 191 individuals were enumerated as experiencing sheltered homelessness in Lethbridge. Due to the nature of administrative data and methodological limitations, data from this iteration of the Count cannot be compared to data from previous years. However, useful information can be extracted from this report. Its findings indicate that sheltered homelessness is not specific to any age or gender. Most people reported in the data were residing in transitional housing, a treatment facility, or a cold weather emergency shelter, indicating that individuals, children, and families are without long-term, stable housing.

The data reconfirms that Indigenous peoples are overrepresented among those experiencing sheltered homelessness in the community, an overrepresentation entwined with the ongoing impacts of colonialism, reinforcing the need for the social services sector to prioritize implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action.

The 7 Cities would like to recognize all those who are experiencing housing instability throughout the community. Although the data presented in this report addresses only sheltered homelessness, recognizing the effects of all homelessness, both seen and unseen, is integral to understanding the bigger picture.

The 7 Cities would also like to extend sincere appreciation to all service delivery organizations in the community during these unprecedented times. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the entire health and social services sector, and all those working toward improving social outcomes in the community should be applauded.

## APPENDIX A: METHODOLOGY

Both administrative and systems data were submitted in Excel forms, allowing for uniform cleaning and use. The majority of administrative and systems data included counts categorized by gender, age, and Indigenous identity.

In order to reduce duplication, the analysis approach for including administrative data was the same as the overall Count. For example, administrative data from treatment facilities was cross-referenced with the information obtained from Alberta Health Services from the same facilities. Only one source of information was used to report on the number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in these facilities, to avoid duplication of records.

Descriptive statistics through the use of simple tables, and graphs were primarily used to communicate the findings in this report:

- Frequency distributions were used to summarize and compress data by grouping it into classes and recording how many data points fall into each class. Converting these raw numbers into percentages provides an even more useful description of the data. Percentages were calculated after removing all duplicates.
- Cross tabulations were used to examine the relationship between two categorical variables. For example, using Age category as a row variable and Gender as a column variable, a two-dimensional cross tabulation is generated that shows the number of males and females in each age category. Again, converting these raw numbers into percentages provides an even more useful description of the data.