



## Summary of Results for the 2014 Metro Vancouver Homeless Count North Shore perspective - July 31, 2014

The North Shore Homelessness Task Force (NSHTF) is pleased to see yet another decrease in the total number of homeless individual counted in our community, at 119, down from our peak of 127 in 2005 and 122 in 2008. However, the number is still unacceptably high, and the growth in the number of unsheltered homeless people shows that demand for services is higher than current capacity.

Additionally, despite the small reduction in overall numbers, there is still growth within several sub-populations. The number of homeless youth counted, for example, has risen from 18 in 2011 to 24 in 2014, homeless seniors are on the rise, and Aboriginal people are still over-represented within the homeless population.

To see a copy of the full report, please visit [www.stophomelessness.ca](http://www.stophomelessness.ca).

### I. An increase in unsheltered homeless seniors:

A total of 371 homeless seniors (55 and older) were identified in the 2014 Homeless Count. Most of these seniors were found in Vancouver (55%) and Surrey (17%). In contrast to the findings for homeless youth, region-wide, a higher proportion of seniors were sheltered rather than unsheltered. **However, this was not the case in Burnaby, Langley, New Westminister, the North Shore, and Richmond, where most of the homeless seniors were unsheltered.**

- On the North Shore there were 31 seniors found to be homeless this represents 8% of the total homeless seniors' population across the region; 23 of the 31 homeless seniors were unsheltered on the North Shore.

**Table 42: Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Seniors by Municipal Sub-Region, 2014**

| Sub-Region       | Sheltered Homeless |             | Unsheltered Homeless |             | Total Homeless |             |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
|                  | #                  | %           | #                    | %           | #              | %           |
| Burnaby          | 2                  | 1%          | 8                    | 5%          | 10             | 3%          |
| Delta/White Rock | 4                  | 2%          | 1                    | 1%          | 5              | 1%          |
| Langley          | 6                  | 3%          | 8                    | 5%          | 14             | 4%          |
| Ridge Meadows    | 9                  | 4%          | 6                    | 4%          | 15             | 4%          |
| New Westminister | 5                  | 2%          | 6                    | 4%          | 11             | 3%          |
| North Shore      | 8                  | 4%          | 23                   | 15%         | 31             | 8%          |
| Richmond         | 4                  | 2%          | 7                    | 5%          | 11             | 3%          |
| Surrey           | 45                 | 20%         | 19                   | 13%         | 64             | 17%         |
| Tri-Cities       | 3                  | 1%          | 2                    | 1%          | 5              | 1%          |
| Vancouver        | 135                | 61%         | 70                   | 47%         | 205            | 55%         |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>221</b>         | <b>100%</b> | <b>150</b>           | <b>100%</b> | <b>371</b>     | <b>100%</b> |

## II. A rising trend of homeless youth:

- The number of homeless youth counted on the North Shore has risen from 18 in 2011, to 24 in 2014 and this has been on the rise since 2008.

Table 41: Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Youth and Children by Municipal Sub-Region, 2014

| Sub-Region       | Sheltered Homeless |             | Unsheltered Homeless |             | Total Homeless |             |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
|                  | #                  | %           | #                    | %           | #              | %           |
| Burnaby          | 4                  | 2%          | 5                    | 2%          | 9              | 2%          |
| Delta/White Rock | 0                  | 0%          | 0                    | 0%          | 0              | 0%          |
| Langley          | 2                  | 1%          | 18                   | 8%          | 20             | 5%          |
| Ridge Meadows    | 7                  | 4%          | 8                    | 4%          | 15             | 4%          |
| New Westminster  | 16                 | 8%          | 8                    | 4%          | 24             | 6%          |
| North Shore      | 14                 | 7%          | 10                   | 5%          | 24             | 6%          |
| Richmond         | 2                  | 1%          | 0                    | 0%          | 2              | 0%          |
| Surrey           | 25                 | 13%         | 27                   | 12%         | 52             | 13%         |
| Tri-Cities       | 6                  | 3%          | 3                    | 1%          | 9              | 2%          |
| Vancouver        | 116                | 60%         | 139                  | 64%         | 255            | 62%         |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>192</b>         | <b>100%</b> | <b>218</b>           | <b>100%</b> | <b>410</b>     | <b>100%</b> |

Note: This table includes children accompanied by a parent.

## III. A rise in the unsheltered homeless population on the North Shore

As shown in Table 38, the distribution of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless shows that Vancouver was home to 70% of the total sheltered homeless population, where most of the shelter facilities are located. Although the actual percentages have not been calculated, Table 38 also shows that a higher proportion of the homeless population in Vancouver was sheltered rather than unsheltered, as was the case in Surrey, New Westminster, Ridge Meadows, and the Tri-Cities. ***On the other hand, in Burnaby, Langley, the North Shore and Richmond, a higher proportion of the homeless people found in these communities were unsheltered rather than sheltered.***

Table 4.2: Unsheltered Homeless in Metro Vancouver by Municipal Sub-Region (2008 to 2014) - Trends

| Sub-Region       | 2008 Unsheltered Homeless |             | 2011 Unsheltered Homeless |             | 2014 Unsheltered Homeless |             |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|
|                  | #                         | %           | #                         | %           | #                         | %           |
| Burnaby          | 77                        | 5%          | 70                        | 9%          | 44                        | 5%          |
| Delta/White Rock | 11                        | 1%          | 13                        | 2%          | 5                         | 1%          |
| Langley          | 74                        | 5%          | 60                        | 8%          | 54                        | 6%          |
| Ridge Meadows    | 40                        | 3%          | 63                        | 8%          | 39                        | 4%          |
| New Westminster  | 72                        | 5%          | 41                        | 5%          | 34                        | 4%          |
| North Shore      | 67                        | 4%          | 55                        | 7%          | 60                        | 6%          |
| Richmond         | 37                        | 2%          | 34                        | 4%          | 22                        | 2%          |
| Surrey           | 307                       | 20%         | 230                       | 30%         | 140                       | 15%         |
| Tri-Cities       | 76                        | 5%          | 28                        | 4%          | 23                        | 2%          |
| Vancouver        | 811                       | 52%         | 154                       | 20%         | 536                       | 56%         |
| Unspecified      | 2                         | 0%          | 10                        | 1%          | 0                         | 0%          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1,574</b>              | <b>100%</b> | <b>758</b>                | <b>100%</b> | <b>957</b>                | <b>100%</b> |

## IV. Aboriginal Homelessness

For Metro Vancouver, the proportion of respondents who identified as an Aboriginal person has remained virtually unchanged at about one third since 2005. The proportion decreased to 27% in 2011 but increased again to 31% in 2014.

- This population remains over-represented in the homeless population on the North Shore as shown below:

**Table 43: Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Aboriginal Peoples by Municipal Sub-Region, 2014**

| Sub-Region       | Sheltered Homeless |             | Unsheltered Homeless |             | Total Homeless |             |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
|                  | #                  | %           | #                    | %           | #              | %           |
| Burnaby          | 2                  | 1%          | 11                   | 3%          | 13             | 2%          |
| Delta/White Rock | 0                  | 0%          | 0                    | 0%          | 0              | 0%          |
| Langley          | 2                  | 1%          | 13                   | 4%          | 15             | 3%          |
| Ridge Meadows    | 7                  | 3%          | 14                   | 4%          | 21             | 4%          |
| New Westminster  | 7                  | 3%          | 9                    | 3%          | 16             | 3%          |
| North Shore      | 10                 | 4%          | 13                   | 4%          | 23             | 4%          |
| Richmond         | 0                  | 0%          | 6                    | 2%          | 6              | 1%          |
| Surrey           | 27                 | 11%         | 40                   | 12%         | 67             | 12%         |
| Tri-Cities       | 2                  | 1%          | 4                    | 1%          | 6              | 1%          |
| Vancouver        | 178                | 76%         | 237                  | 68%         | 415            | 71%         |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>235</b>         | <b>100%</b> | <b>347</b>           | <b>100%</b> | <b>582</b>     | <b>100%</b> |

For more information, please visit [www.northshorehomelessness.org](http://www.northshorehomelessness.org) or contact Lynne Henshaw, Task Force Coordinator [lhenshaw@telus.net](mailto:lhenshaw@telus.net).