



FACT SHEET: LGBTQ2+ Homelessness and Economic Inequality

A summary of research from StatisticsCanada

LGBTQ2+ HOMELESSNESS

Anti-LGBTQ2+ stigma causes LGBTQ2+ people to experience much higher rates of homelessness than non-LGBTQ2+ people:

- In a 2018 study, LGBTQ2+ Canadians were more than twice as likely to have experienced some type of homelessness or housing insecurity in their lifetime (27% vs. 13%, respectively).
- Between 25% and 40% of the 40,000 homeless youth in Canada are LGBTQ2+. Family conflict relating to sexual orientation or gender identity is the main reason LGBTQ2+ youth become homeless.
- LGBTQ2+ Canadians were 2.3 times as likely to report having to temporarily live somewhere other than home because they were leaving an abusive or violent situation (7% versus 3%).
- LGBTQ2+ Canadians were three times more likely than non-LGBTQ2+ Canadians (6% versus 2%) to report having had to live in a shelter, on the street, or in an abandoned building. They were also more than twice as likely (21%), compared to non-LGBTQ2+ Canadians (10%), to report having lived with family or friends because they had no other place to stay



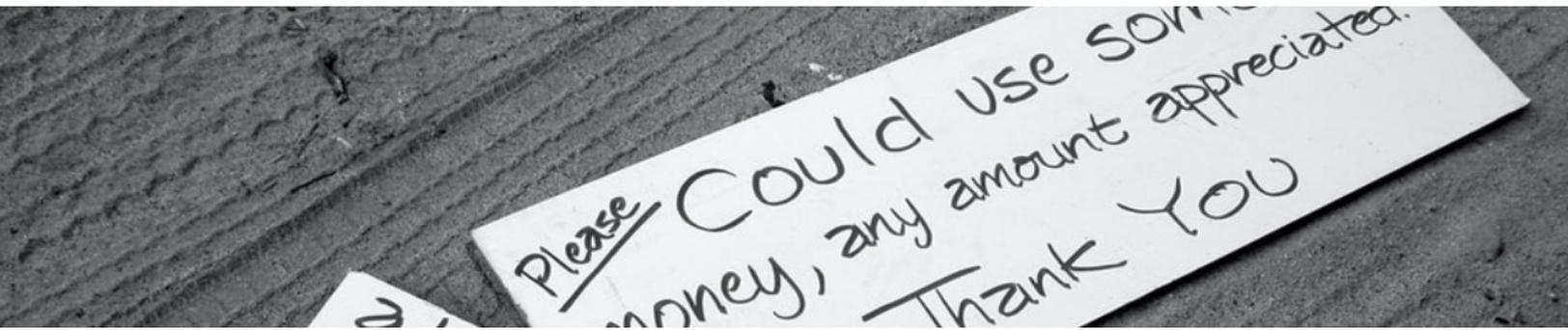
Higher rates of LGBTQ2+ homelessness are complicated by lack of inclusive shelter spaces. There are only two emergency shelters for LGBTQIA2 youth in all of Canada. All other existing shelters offer only binary spaces—for men or women—which do not provide an option for trans youth or those who identify as non-binary.

LOW INCOME

A significantly higher proportion of LGBTQ2+ Canadians (41%) had a total personal income of less than \$20,000 per year compared with their non-LGBTQ2+ counterparts (26%).

A higher proportion of LGBTQ2+ Canadians were also less likely to be able to handle sudden, unforeseen expenditures—11% of LGBTQ2+ Canadians reported not being able to manage an unexpected expense of \$500, compared to 7% of non-LGBTQ2+ Canadians.

A 2018 survey found that households where the person responsible for the housing decisions was LGBTQ2+ were more likely to be living in core housing need. The same survey found that 30% of LGBTQ2+ households reported spending at least 30% of their income on housing and shelter costs, compared to 21% among households of heterosexual respondents.



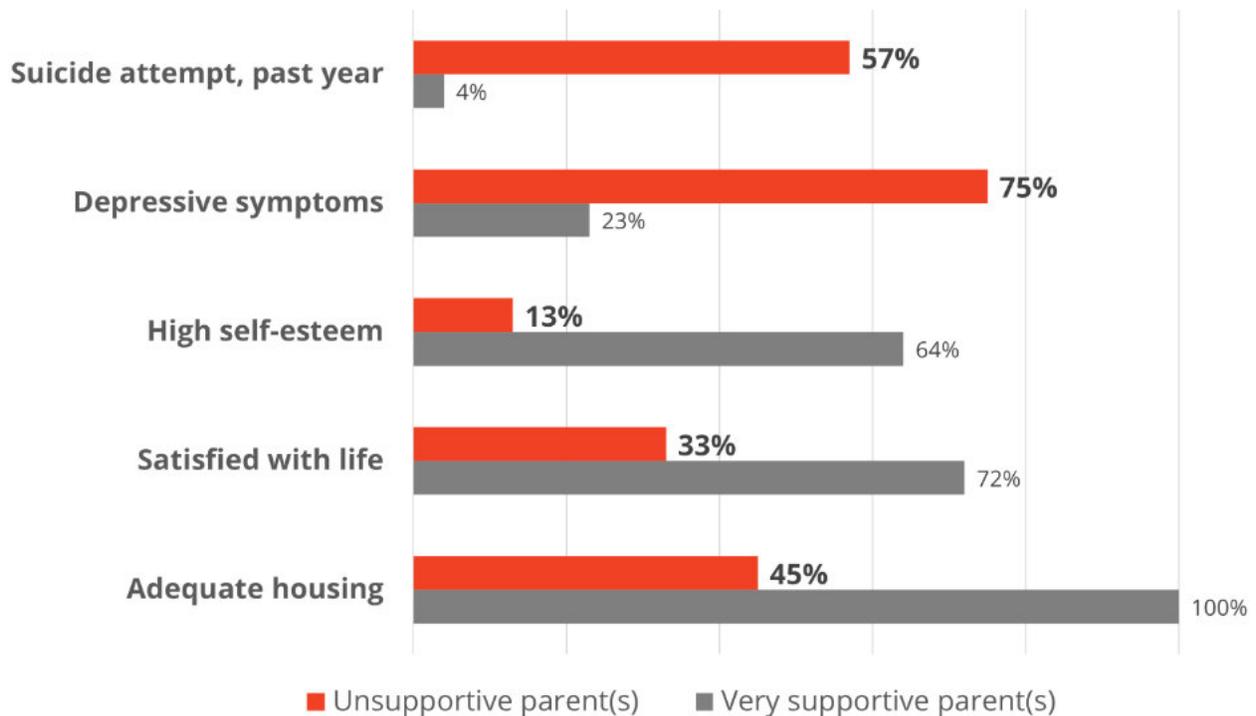
LACK OF PARENTAL SUPPORT

Less than half (43%) of trans people in Waterloo Region have come out to people outside of their immediate family. Nearly a third of those who have (31%) say that people they came out to are unsupportive (Charlie Davis, 2020)

In one survey, 75% of trans people in Waterloo Region felt that being trans hurt or embarrassed their family.

In one Waterloo Region study, 42% of trans respondents reported having to move away from family or friends because of their gender identity.

Self-reported conditions of trans youth age 16-24 in Ontario



C Davis, E McLaren, Brie Treviranus, B Warren, S Weare. (2020). Presentation for the City of Kitchener's Safe and Healthy Community Advisory Committee. Rainbow Community Council. Retrieved from https://yourwrrc.ca/rcc/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/OutLook_City_of_Kitchener_3AUG2017.pdf

Elena Prokopenko, C. K. (2020, 15 December). Vulnerabilities related to COVID-19 among LGBTQ2+ Canadians. Retrieved from Statistics Canada: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/45-28-0001/2020001/article/00075-eng.htm>

House of Commons. (2019). THE HEALTH OF LGBTQIA2 COMMUNITIES IN CANADA Report of the Standing Committee on Health. Retrieved from <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/421/HESA/Reports/RP10574595/hesarp28/hesarp28-e.pdf>