

## **COVID-19 & HOMELESSNESS**

May 11th - May 24th

#### About the Survey

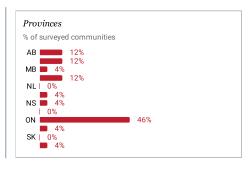
Each week, communities who work directly with CAEH, are invited to participate in a survey about COVID-19 and homelessness. The results inform our advocacy efforts, as well as resources offered by CAEH. We are grateful to communities for taking the time to share these insights and for all they are doing to support the health and wellbeing of our homeless neighbours.

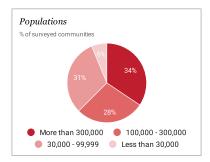
#### 33

Number of participating communities this week

#### 65%

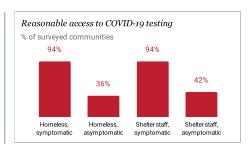
Response rate this week

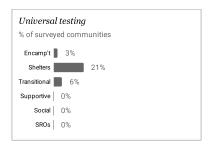




#### COVID-19 Testing

Diagnostic testing is a critical part of confronting, delaying and stopping the spread of COVID-19. This is particularly true for individuals experiencing homelessness, who are often living in congregate settings and aren't always able to practice good hygiene, such as hand-washing. In addition, a growing body of evidence demonstrates that the number of individuals with COVID-19 who are asymptomatic, is higher than initially believed. This makes it challenging to properly accommodate and cohort individuals experiencing homelessness based on symptoms. This suggests that universal testing among individuals experiencing homelessness is essential to preventing outbreaks within shelters and encampments.

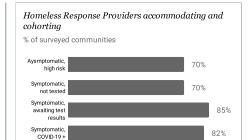


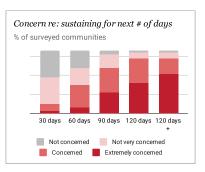


## Isolation & Quarantine Shelters

While accommodating and cohorting individuals based on symptoms and/or testing status is very important, it continues to be challenging for Homeless Response Providers to establish, operationalize, and sustain I&Q shelters.

Communities are increasingly concerned about their ability to sustain the isolation and quarantine shelters as time goes on. This is primarily due to lack of available funding (82%), lack of available staff (52%), and ongoing availability of current location (70%).





## Outbreaks

# 12%

of surveyed communities have a <u>confirmed</u> COVID-19 outbreak in their emergency shelter.

#### 0%

of surveyed communities have a <u>confirmed</u> COVID-19 outbreak in an encampment.

## Housing

Challenges in efforts to house people experiencing homelessness during the health pandemic

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	Extremely challenging	Challenging	Somewhat challenging	Not challenging
Landlord engagement	18%	48%	30%	0%
Availability	42%	36%	18%	0%
Affordability	48%	30%	15%	3%
Lack of staff/case management	15%	58%	21%	3%
Lack of rent subsidies/funding	33%	30%	21%	12%