

NEW BRUNSWICK POINT-IN-TIME (PiT) COUNT

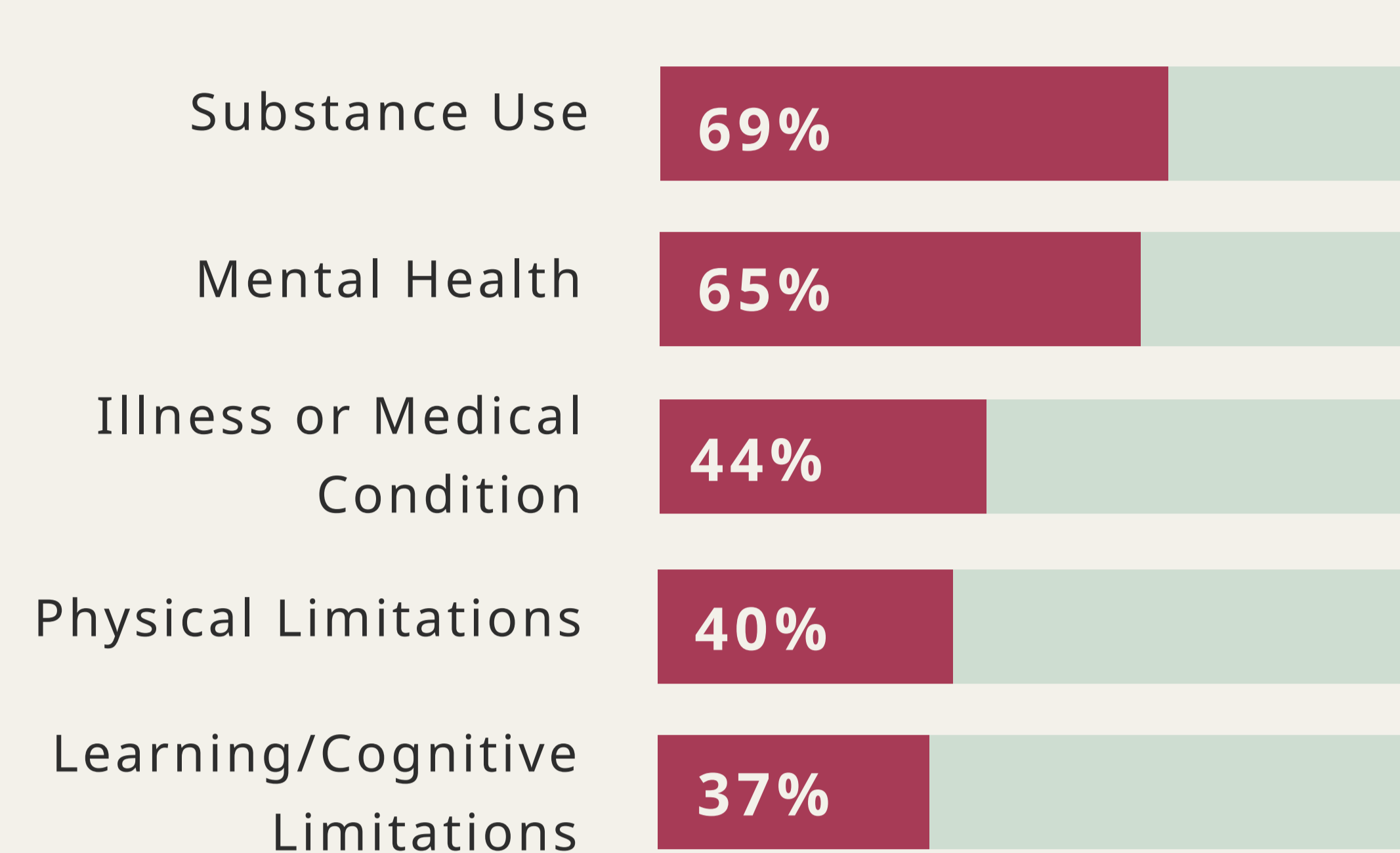
Report on Health - 2023 Homelessness PiT Counts in New Brunswick

HEALTH AND THE PIT COUNT



In April 2023, the Human Development Council, in partnership with the Government of New Brunswick and community organizations, conducted the largest PiT Count on homelessness of its kind in New Brunswick. Within a 48-hour time period, 687 people were found to be experiencing absolute homelessness (staying in emergency shelters, outdoors, etc.) and of those, 576 agreed to be surveyed. The following report highlights the survey responses on a number of health-related questions in the survey.

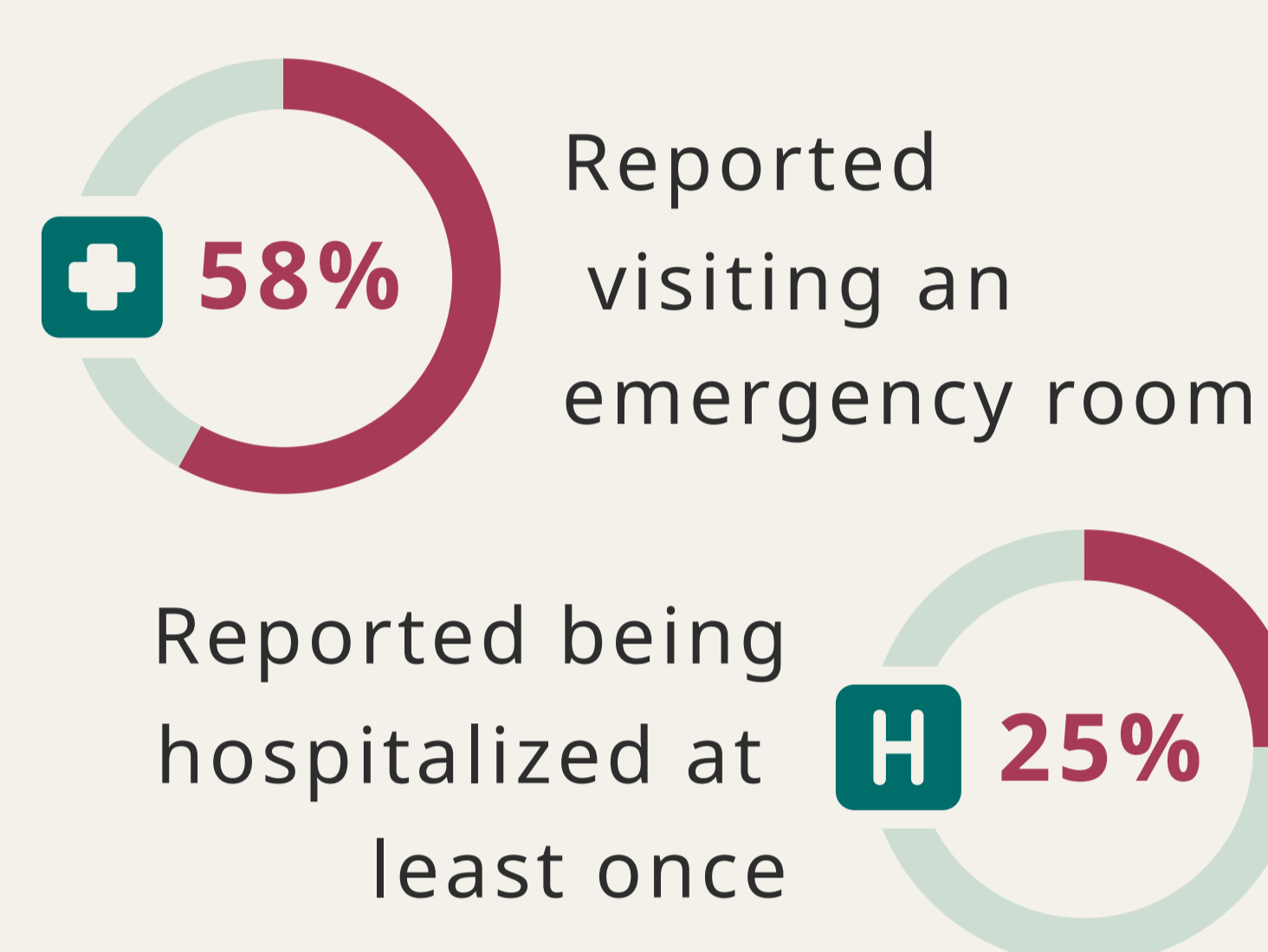
When asked if participants identified having any of the following health challenges, respondents reported:



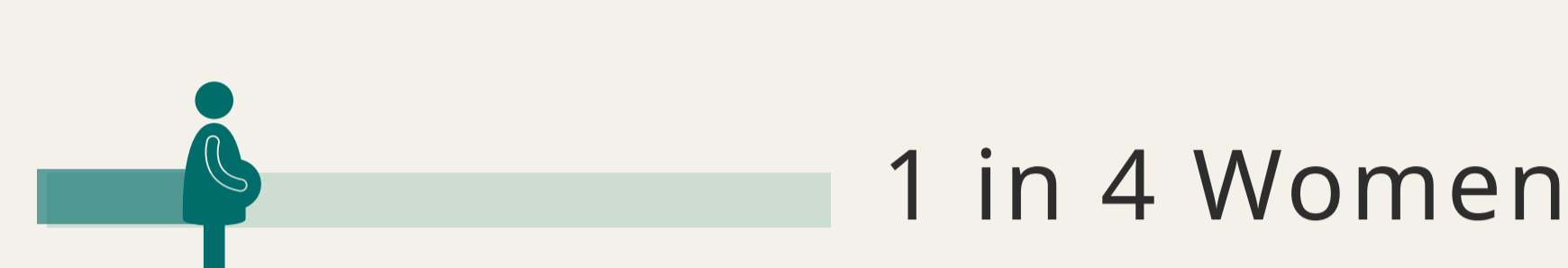
Homelessness and Health Related Outcomes

Experiencing homelessness has a detrimental effect on people's health. The 2023 PiT Count results identify the health-related challenges of respondents as well as the reliance on emergency services.

Encounters With Emergency Services in the Last Year

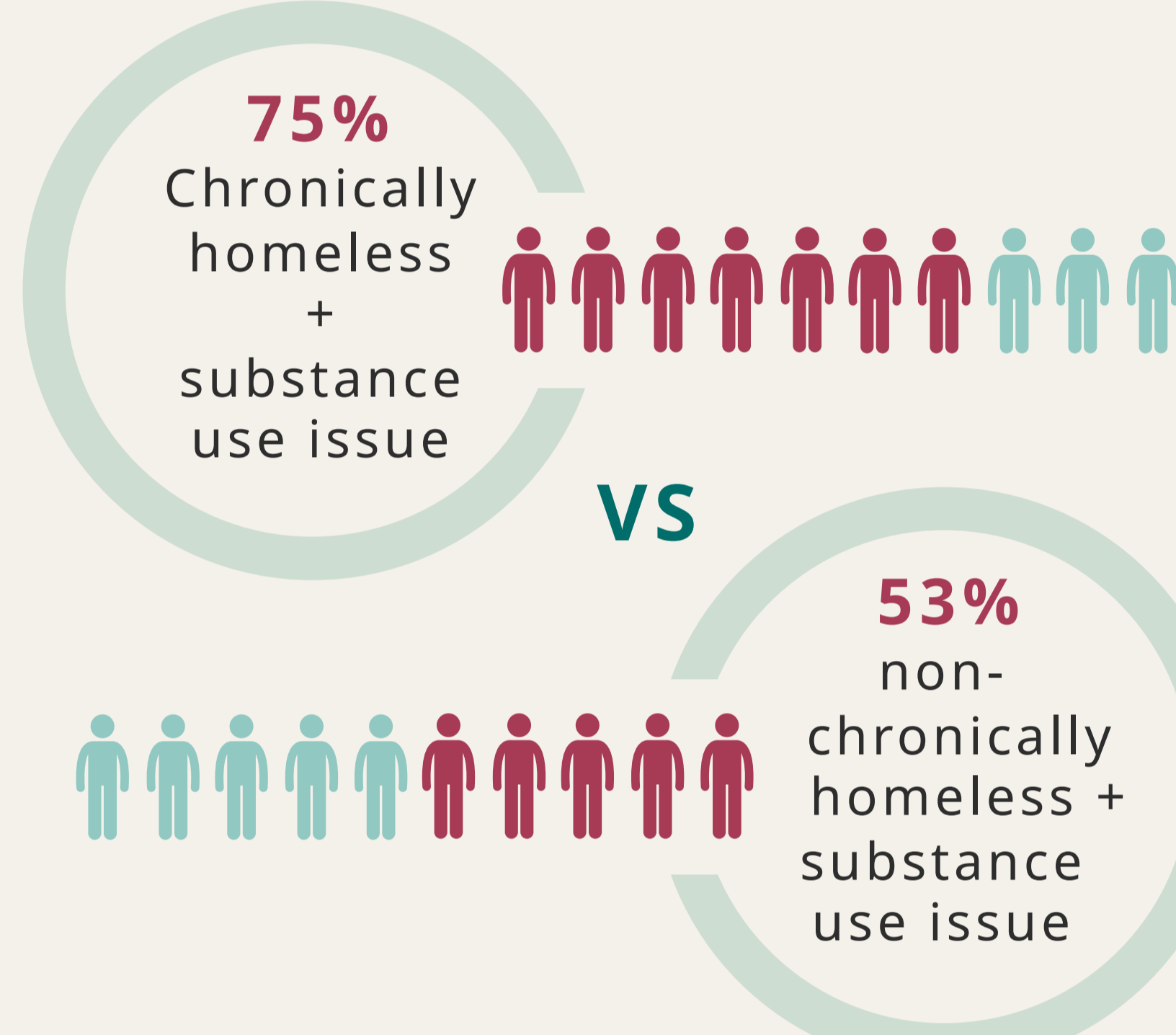


Pregnancy



Pregnancy is also a significant factor that affects the health of homeless people. 24% of those who identified as a woman identified as being pregnant at some point while they were experiencing homelessness.

SUBSTANCE USE

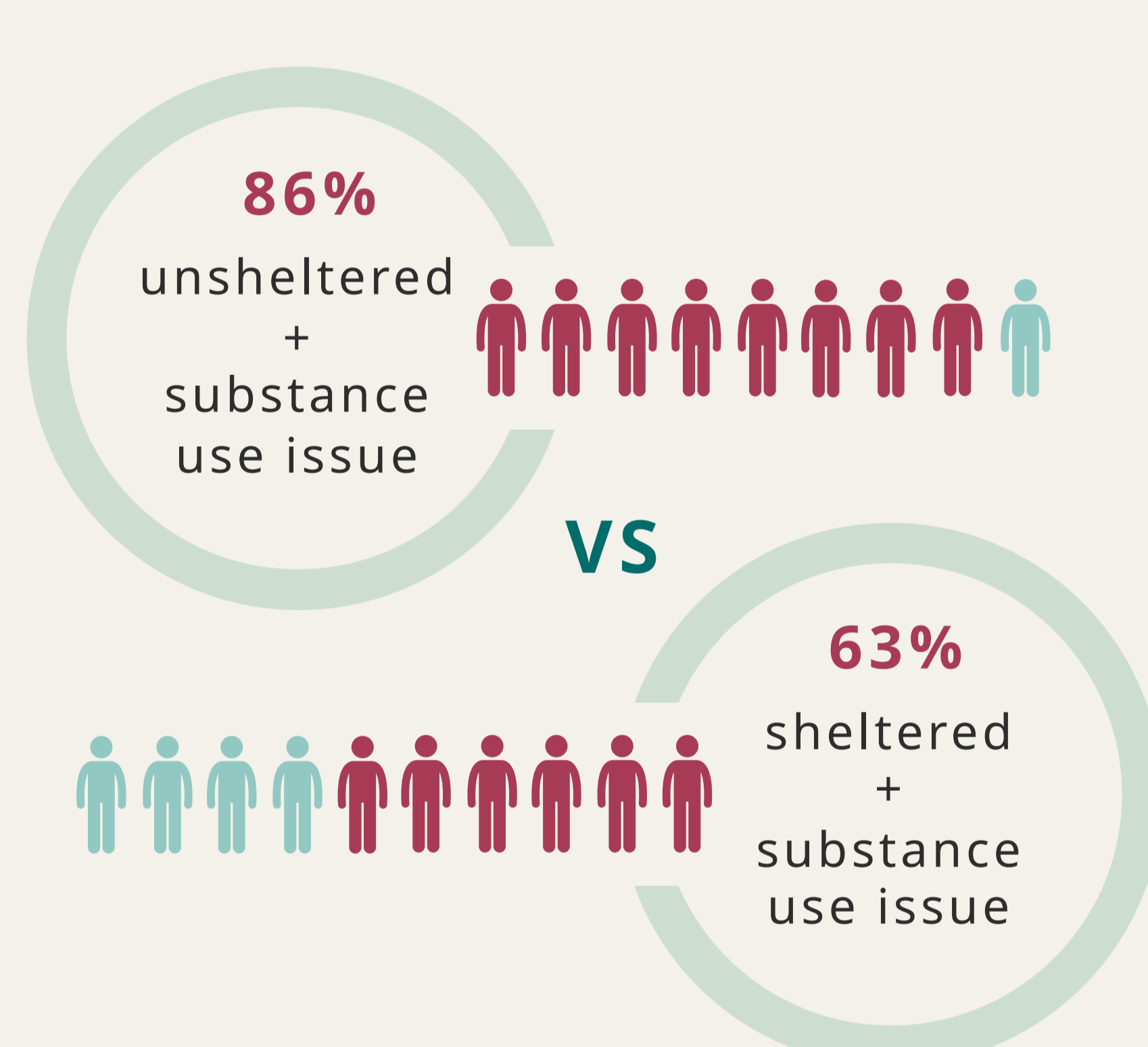


Chronic Homelessness

Survey participants who were homeless for 180 days or more in the last year had higher rates of self-reported substance use issues than those homeless for less than 180 days.

Shelter

Survey participants who were unsheltered on the night of the PiT count had higher rates of self-reported substance use issues than those who were in a shelter.



Substance use was identified as a reason for recent housing loss. It was also a challenge experienced by people who were trying to find housing.

9% of people identified substance use as the reason for their housing loss.

20% of respondents identified 'addiction' as a challenge to finding housing.

ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES



50% of people who reported living with substance use or mental health challenges said they did not access addiction or mental health services in the past year.

Barriers or Reasons to Not Access Addiction and Mental Health Care

When asked what are the main reasons why you have not accessed these services, these responses were recorded...

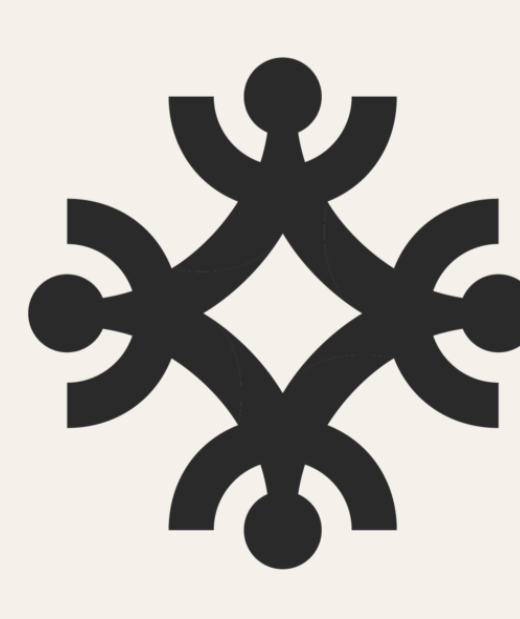
- 15% negative past experiences
- 11% feeling judged
- 11% long wait times for services
- 6% not accessible
- 6% lack of transportation
- 43% other

RESOURCES

Homelessness is a complex social issue that too many New Brunswickers are experiencing. For more information on the scale and circumstances of homelessness in New Brunswick, please visit our website at sjhdc.ca.

For more information on homelessness in New Brunswick's urban centres check out our homelessness dashboards by clicking [here](#).

To read past reports on homelessness click [here](#).



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL