



# Staff Report to Council - for Information

**Title:** Q4 2023 Housing Services Report

**From:** Tina Metcalfe, Director Human Services

**Date:** February 15, 2024

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## Report Purpose:

This report is for information.

## Report Summary:

As the Service System Manager, Bruce County is responsible for the delivery and administration of provincially mandated social and affordable housing programs, as well as initiatives to prevent and address homelessness.

Within the continuum of housing, the Housing Services division focuses on programs and services related to deeply affordable housing and housing stability supports to emergency shelter and homelessness solutions.

This report pertains to activities and information about programs and services up to the end of 2023.

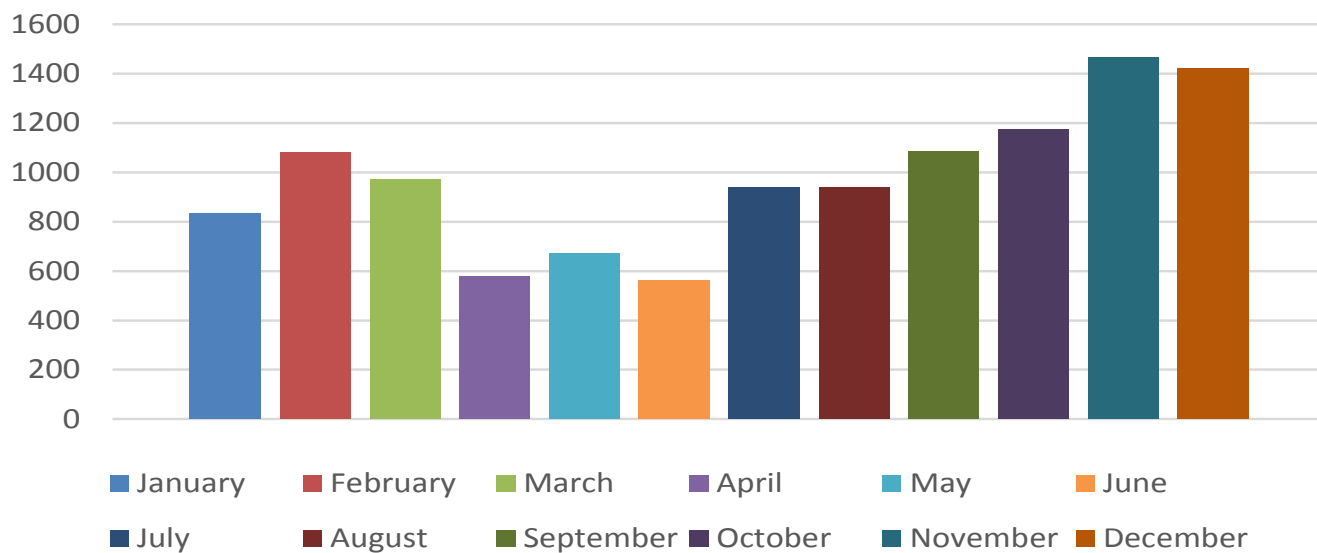
## Background:

### Emergency Shelter Solutions

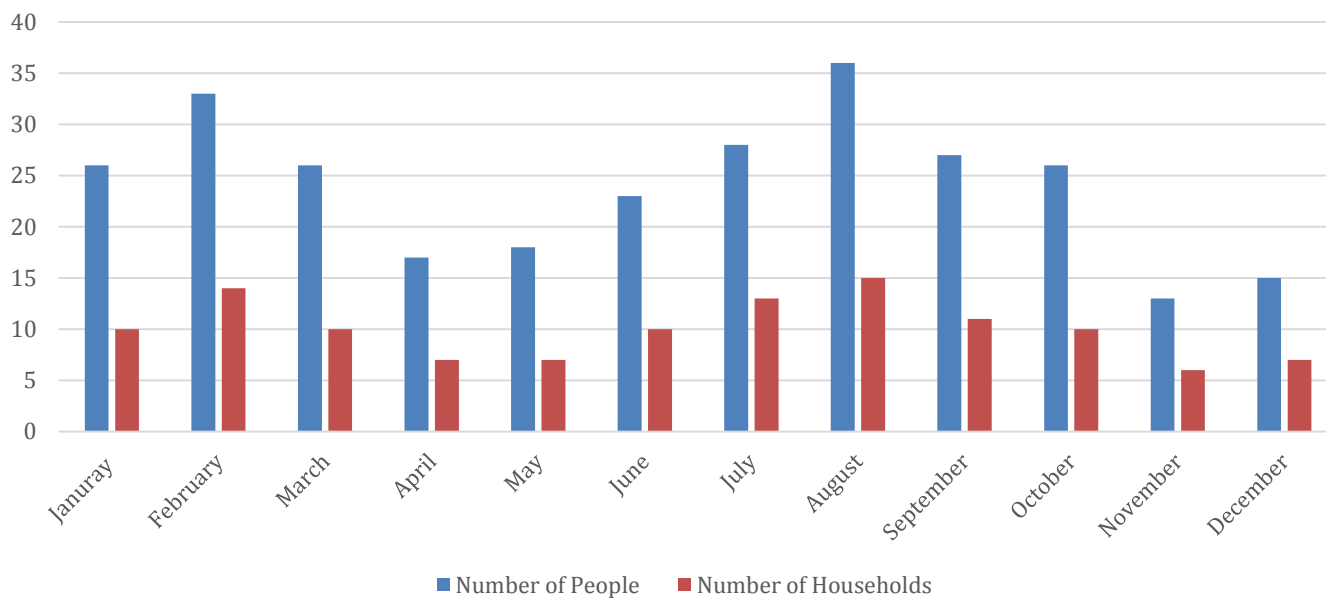
In Bruce County, the YMCA of Grey Bruce, delivers the emergency shelter solutions, through partnerships with local motels throughout the region. The YMCA provides crisis response and housing supports to adults, youth, and families experiencing homelessness. Emergency shelter services include outreach support and shelter diversion. The YMCA uses a Housing First approach to assist clients in finding more permanent solutions quickly.

The graph on the following page provides information on the number of nights of shelter provided to individuals and families in 2023. Between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023, the YMCA has provided 11,714 nights of shelter averaging 42.8 nights per household served. Low vacancy rates and high rental costs have made it difficult for individuals and families experiencing homelessness to secure more permanent housing in Bruce County or surrounding areas.

### Nights of Shelter Provided 2023



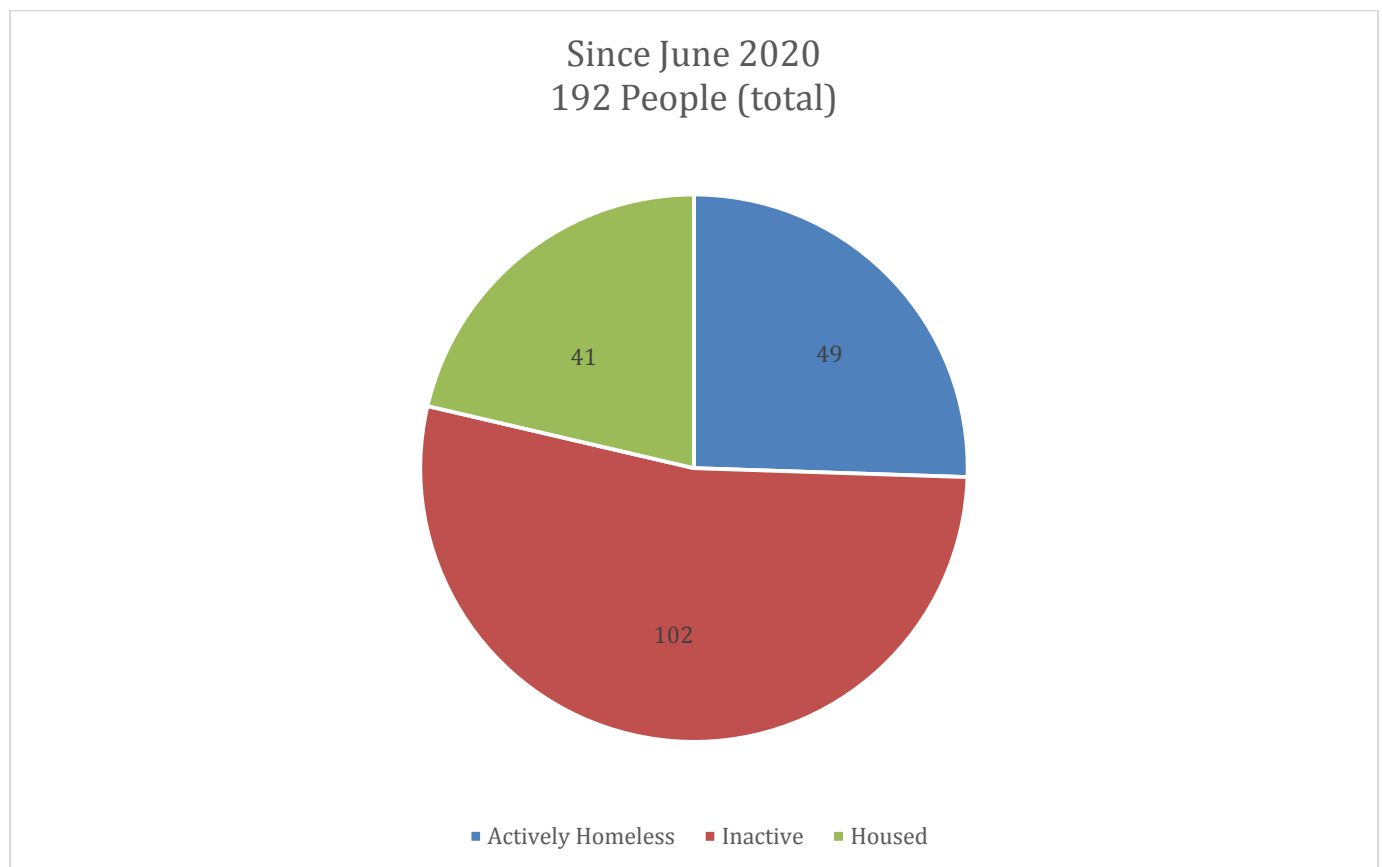
### Emergency Shelter Use



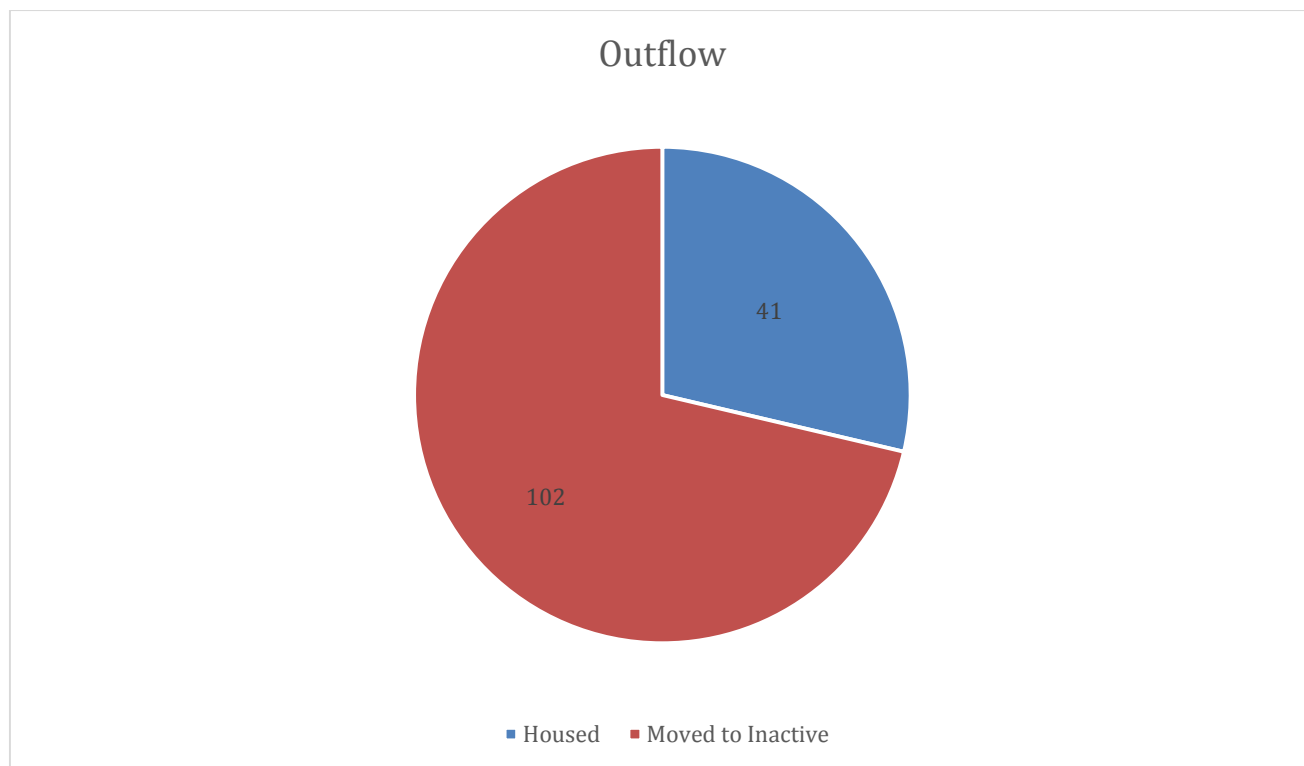
## **By-Name List**

The By-Name List is a real-time list of all people experiencing homelessness and using homelessness response services in Bruce County. The By-Name List helps service providers prioritize needs, tracks changes in housing status, and provide information regarding demographics and chronicity.

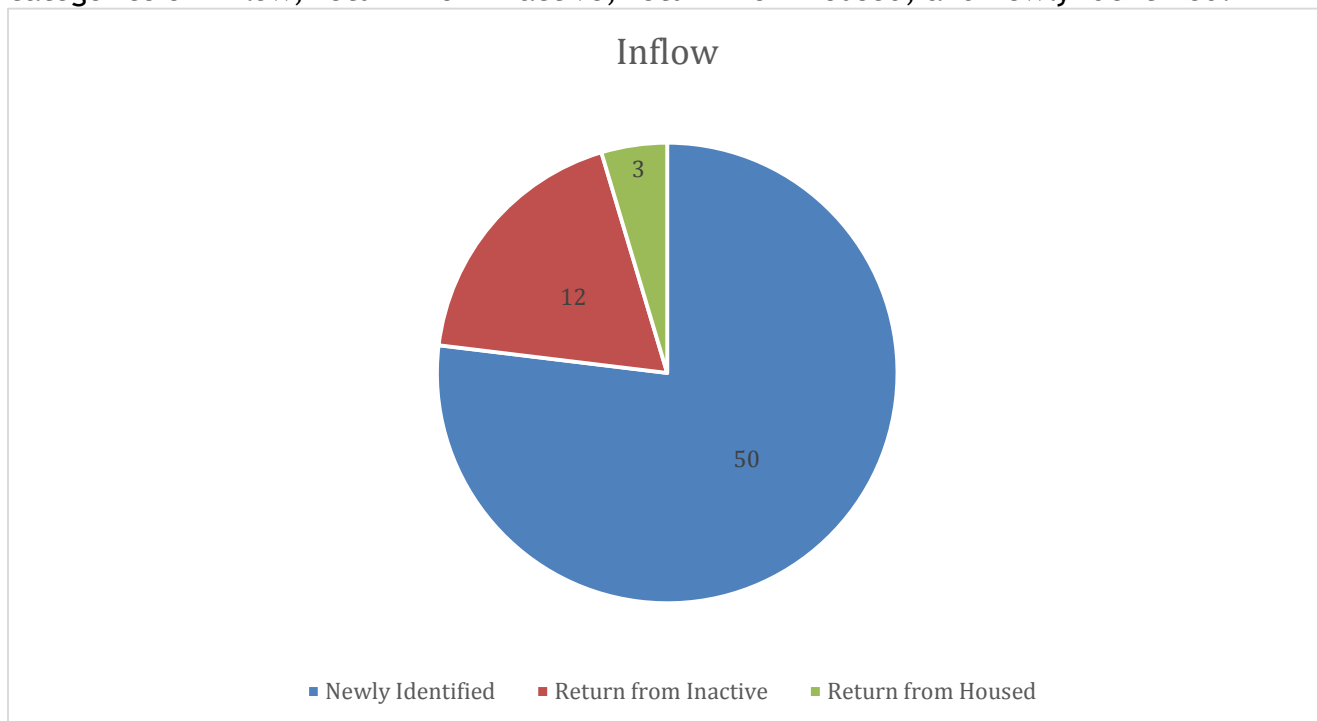
The graph below indicates that since June 2020, 192 people have been added to the By-Name List, and as of December 31, 2023, 41 households have obtained housing, 102 have moved to inactive, meaning there has been no contact for 90 days, and 49 households remain on the By-Name List.



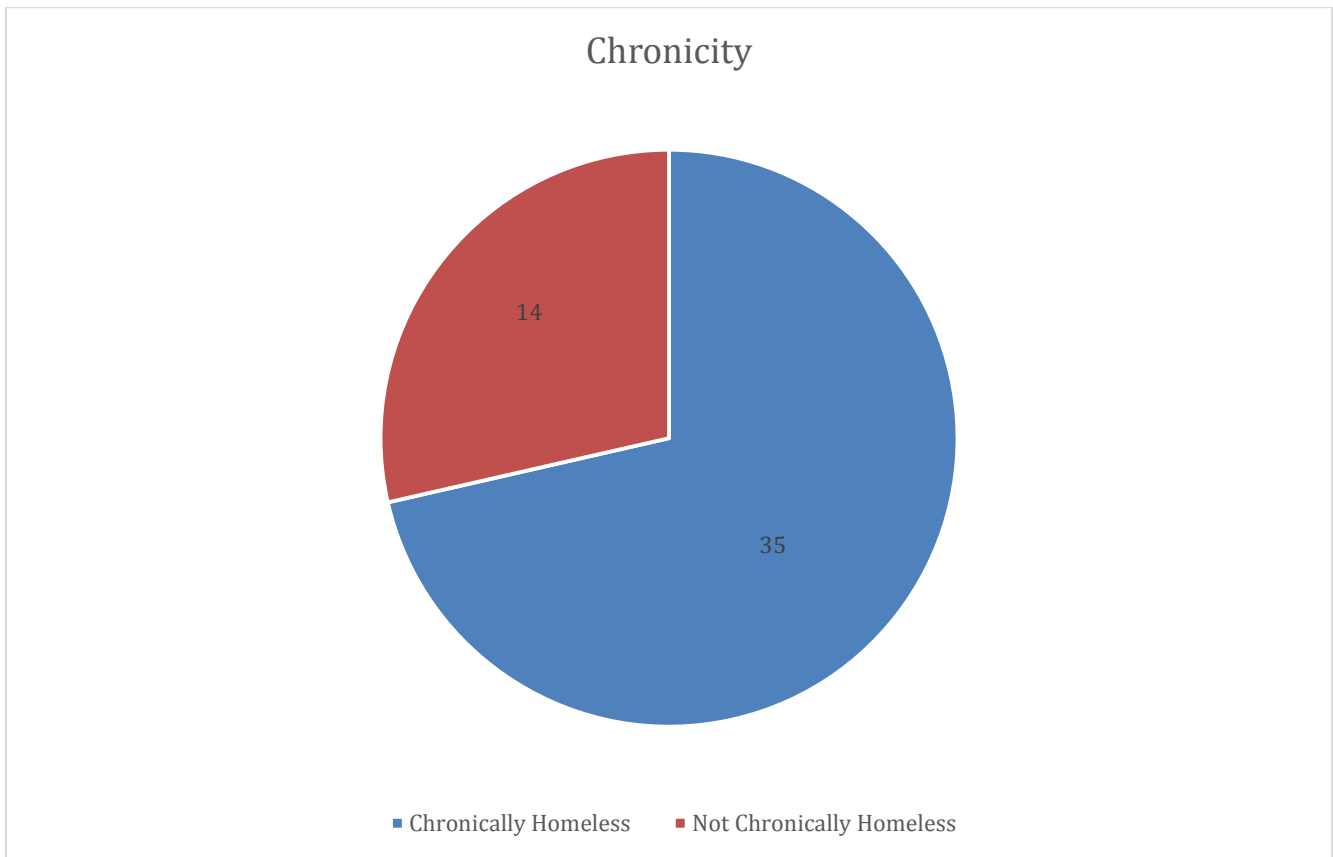
The By-Name List also tracks inflow and outflow of households. The outflow refers to households who are housed and those moved to inactive as indicated below.



Inflow means someone is added to or reactivated on the By-Name List. There are three categories of inflow, return from inactive, return from housed, and newly identified.

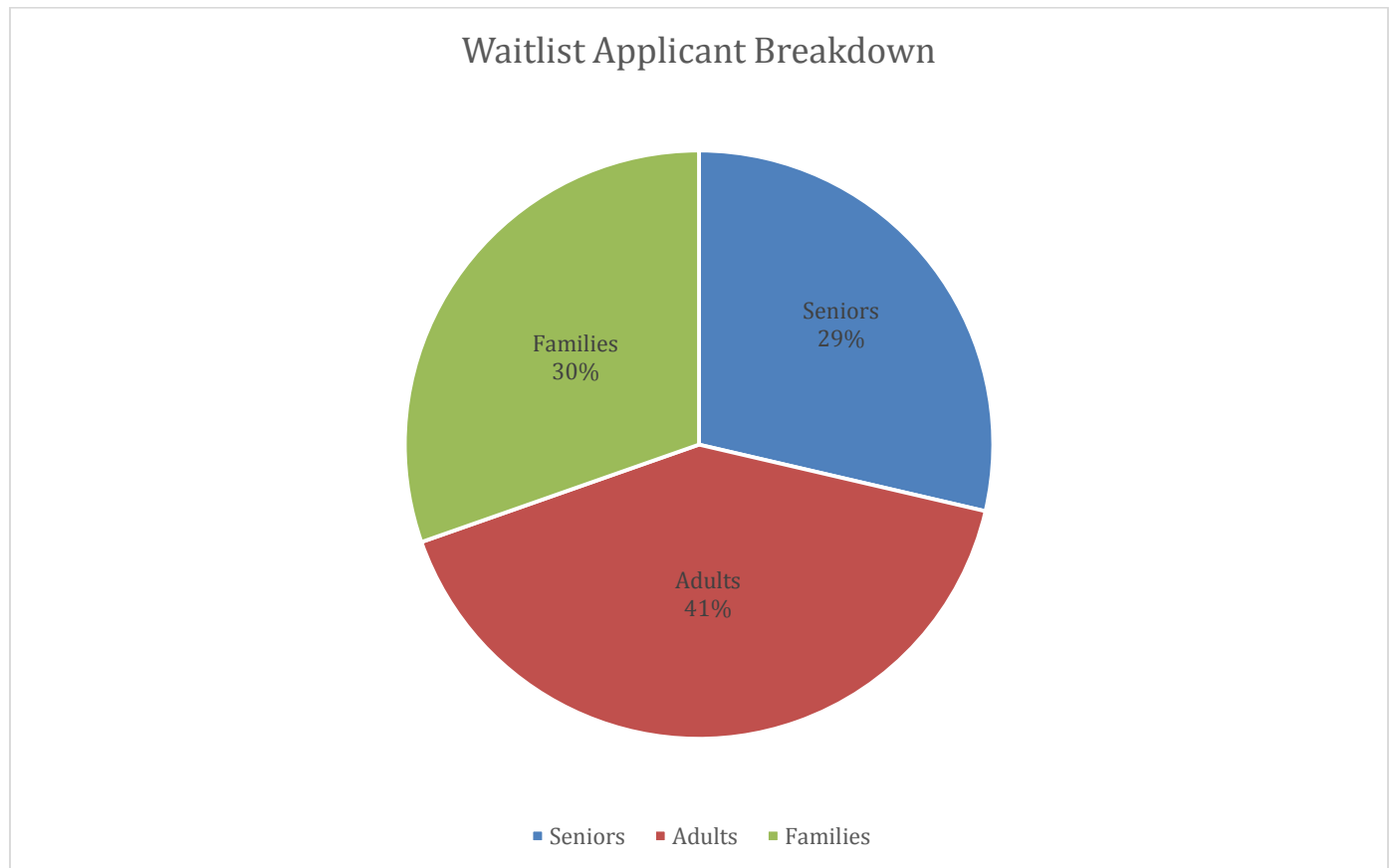


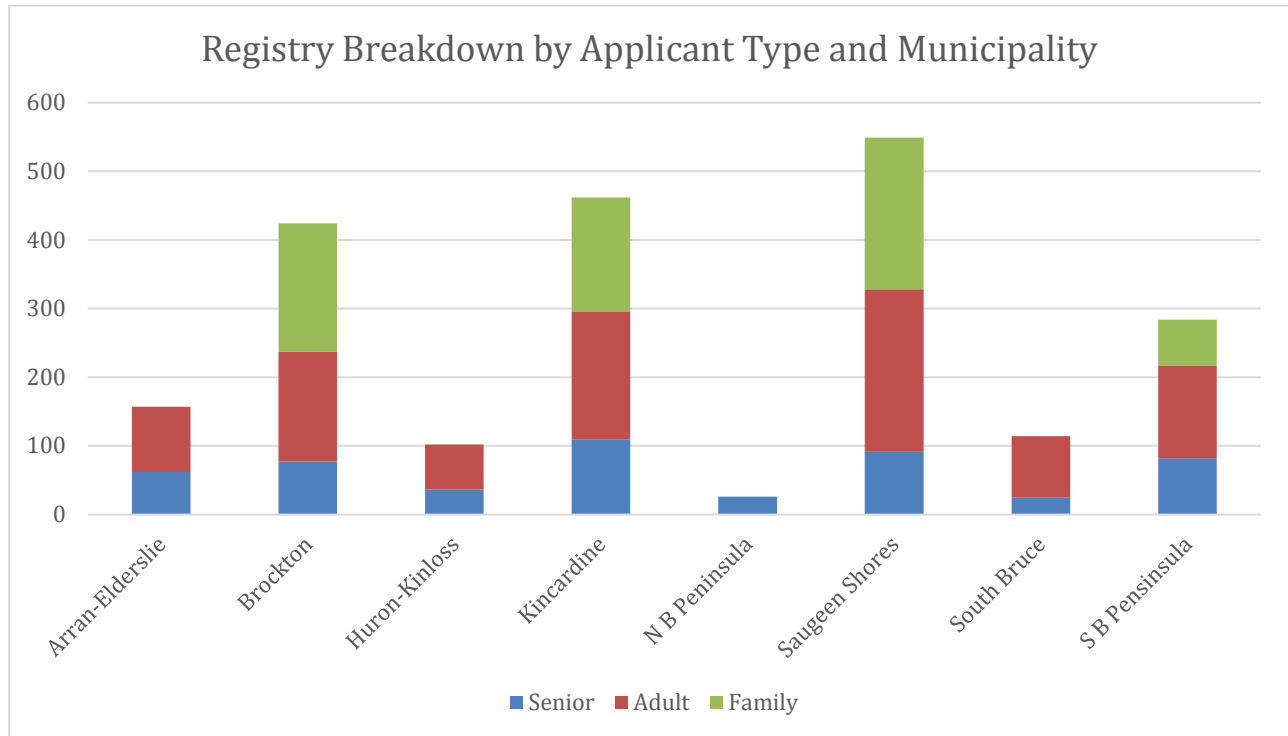
A person is considered chronically homeless when they have been living without a home for six months (not consecutive) in one year. In Bruce County, 63% of the residents experiencing homelessness meet the chronicity definition.



## **Bruce County's Centralized Waitlist**

As Service Manager, Bruce County is responsible for managing the Centralized Waitlist. As of December 31, 2023, there was 1093 applicants on the waitlist: 1046 rent-geared-to-income (RGI), and 47 market rent applications. There are 332 families, 448 adults, and 313 senior applications on the waitlist. There have been 39 applicants housed between January 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023.





The number of applicants per municipality varies across the County and is based on availability of units in the area. For example, Northern Bruce Peninsula has one building focused on senior rentals, as well there are family units in Kincardine, Brockton, Saugeen Shores, and South Bruce Peninsula only.

#### **Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:**

There are no financial, staffing, legal, or IT considerations associated with this report.

#### **Interdepartmental Consultation:**

There is no interdepartmental consultation associated with this report.

#### **Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:**

Community and Partnerships - Build a strong and inclusive community

#### **Report Author:**

Tania Dickson, Housing Services Manager

#### **Departmental Approval:**

Tina Metcalfe, Director, Human Services

#### **Approved for Submission:**

Sean Morphy, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer