



HOMELESSNESS Partnering Strategy

2016 Community Progress Indicators Report: HALIFAX

Community Progress Indicator (CPI) Reports allow communities to assess the progress of their collective efforts to reduce and prevent homelessness over time using a set of standard indicators. These indicators are based on information gathered by communities through the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS), and supported by data drawn from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Statistics Canada (National Household Survey and Labour Force Survey).



Participating Halifax Shelters:

Adsum House Emergency
Shelter

Barry House

Bryony House

(closed Aug. 30 to Dec. 17,
2016)

Metro Turning Point Centre

Phoenix Youth Shelter

Phoenix Youth Out of the
Cold Shelter

(open winters only from
Fall 2010)

The Salvation Army–
Centre of Hope

Community Portrait

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change
Rental vacancy rates	3.0%	3.2%	3.8%	3.4%	2.6%	↓
Average rent: Bachelor	\$690	\$703	\$716	\$731	\$758	↑
Average rent: 1-bedroom	\$773	\$785	\$800	\$833	\$845	↑
Average rent: 2-bedroom	\$954	\$976	\$1,005	\$1,048	\$1,063	↑
Local unemployment rate	6.2%	6.5%	6.1%	6.3%	6.1%	↔

	2006	2011	Change
Population	372,858	390,328	↑
Median household income after tax	\$45,908	\$53,399	↑
Core housing need ¹ : Approximate number of households	20,200	20,415	↔
Core housing need: % of households	13.6%	13.0%	↔
Core housing need: Average shelter cost per month	\$682	\$798	↑
Severe housing need: % of households	5.8%	5.7%	↔

¹ A household is said to be in **CORE HOUSING NEED** if its housing does not meet one or more of the adequacy, suitability, or affordability standards, and it would have to spend 30% (**SEVERE HOUSING NEED**: 50%) or more of its before-tax income to access acceptable local housing. Acceptable housing is adequate in condition, suitable in size, and affordable.

Adequate housing does not require any major repairs, according to residents.

Suitable housing has enough bedrooms for the size and makeup of households, according to National Occupancy Standard (NOS) requirements.

Affordable housing costs less than 30% of before-tax household income.

Demonstrating Results

Since April 1, 2014, funding recipients in Halifax have reported allocating Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) funding toward 68 projects, for a total of \$7,412,748. Activities have included Housing First, Support Services, Data Collection and Use, Capital Investments and Coordination of Resources.

The indicators in this section show achievements by the community in preventing and reducing homelessness for the period from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016. Data is specific to projects funded by the HPS, based on outcomes reported by project sponsors stored in the Employment and Social Development Canada Homeless Electronic Reporting Information Network (HERIN) database.

Indicators	2015-16
Number of people placed in stable housing through HPS-funded interventions, including Housing First	54
Percentage of people who received a Housing First intervention that were placed into stable housing within 30 days	95%
Percentage of people who were in stable housing six months following a Housing First placement	100%
Number of people that received a Housing Loss Prevention intervention	654
Number of people diverted from homelessness through discharge planning from a correctional or other facility	4

Emergency Shelter Use in Halifax in 2016

Indicators	2016
Total number of shelter users in 2016	1,609
Individual shelter users who accessed a shelter as part of a family	192 (11.9%)
Number of 2016 shelter users who have used shelters for three years or more*	376 (23.4%)

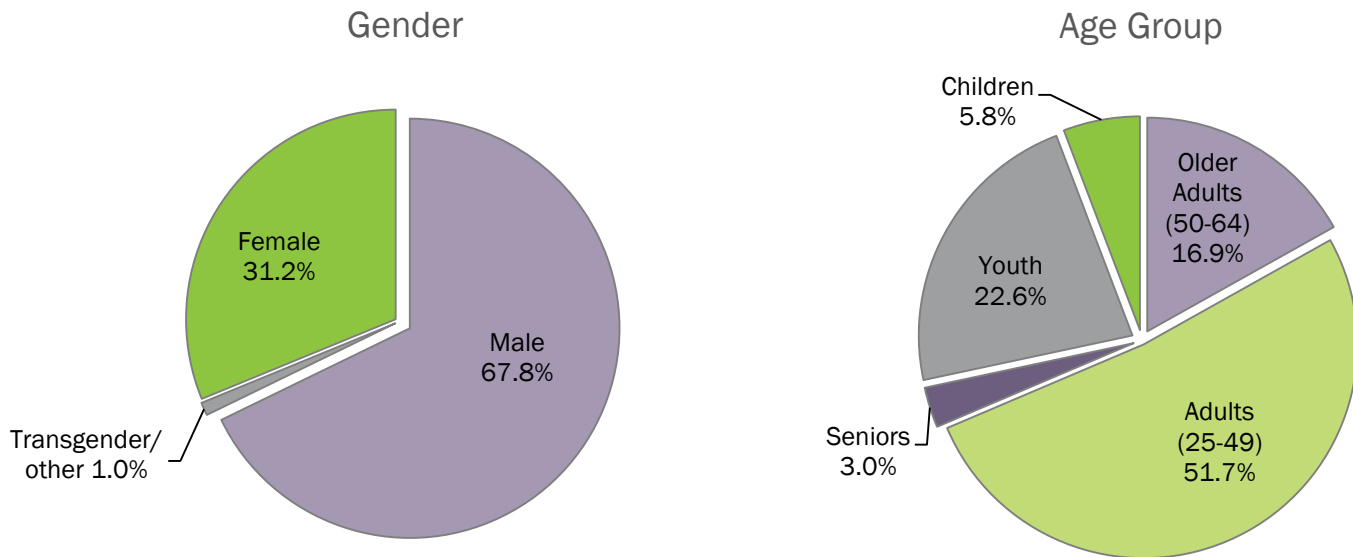
*Number of 2016 shelter users who had also stayed at a shelter at least three years before their last stay in 2016. The percent represents this number of individuals compared to the total number of shelter users in 2016.

2016 Point-in-Time Count

Indicators	2016
Point-in-Time Count -Sheltered	178
-Unsheltered	20

POINT-IN-TIME (PIT) COUNTS took place in 2016 in various communities across Canada, including Halifax. PIT counts provide a snapshot of homelessness within a community, providing an estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness, both sheltered and unsheltered, on the day of the count.

Gender and Age of Shelter Users in 2016



CHILDREN: 16 years of age or younger, and accompanied by an adult

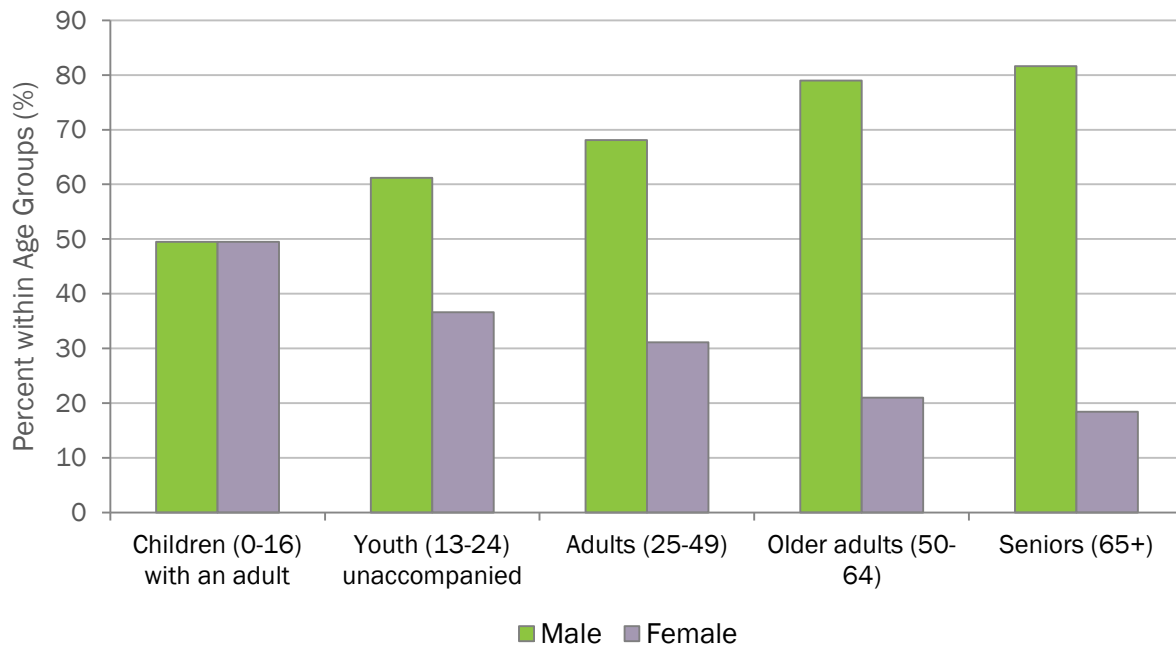
YOUTH: 17-24, and individuals between the ages of 13 and 16 that accessed a shelter unaccompanied by an adult

ADULTS: 25-49 years of age

OLDER ADULTS: 50-64 years of age

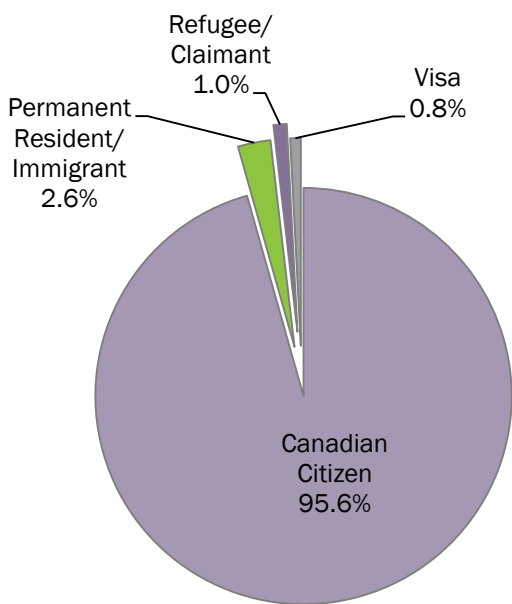
SENIORS: 65 years of age and older

Gender by Age Group



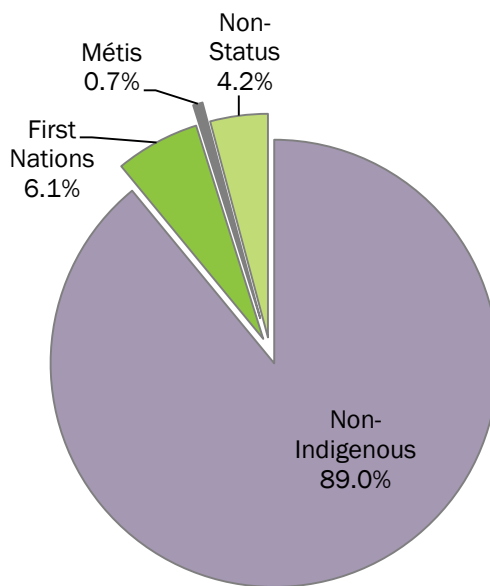
Characteristics of Shelter-Using Subpopulations in 2016

Citizenship



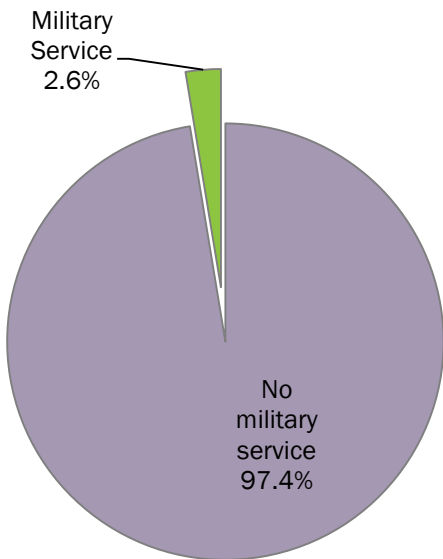
40.6% of shelter users who are not Canadian citizens were female compared 29.4% of those who are Canadian.

Indigenous Status



A higher proportion of Indigenous shelter users were female (40.1%) compared to non-Indigenous shelter users (23.1%).

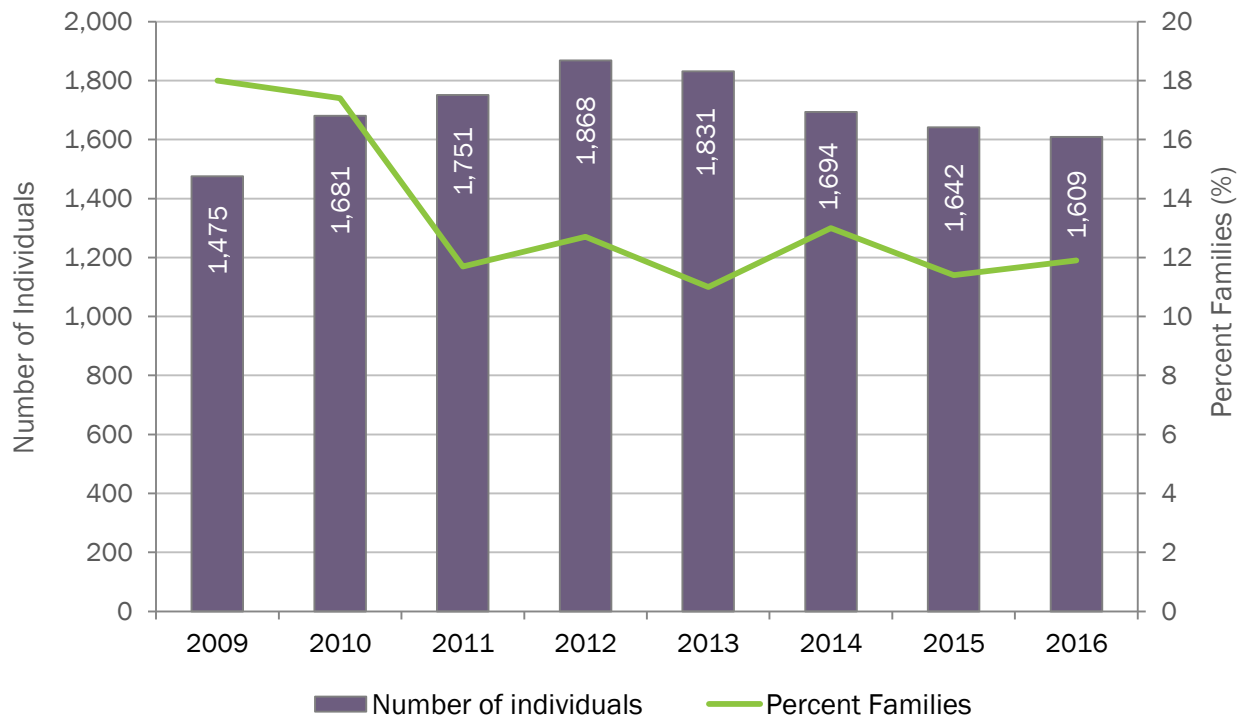
Veteran Status



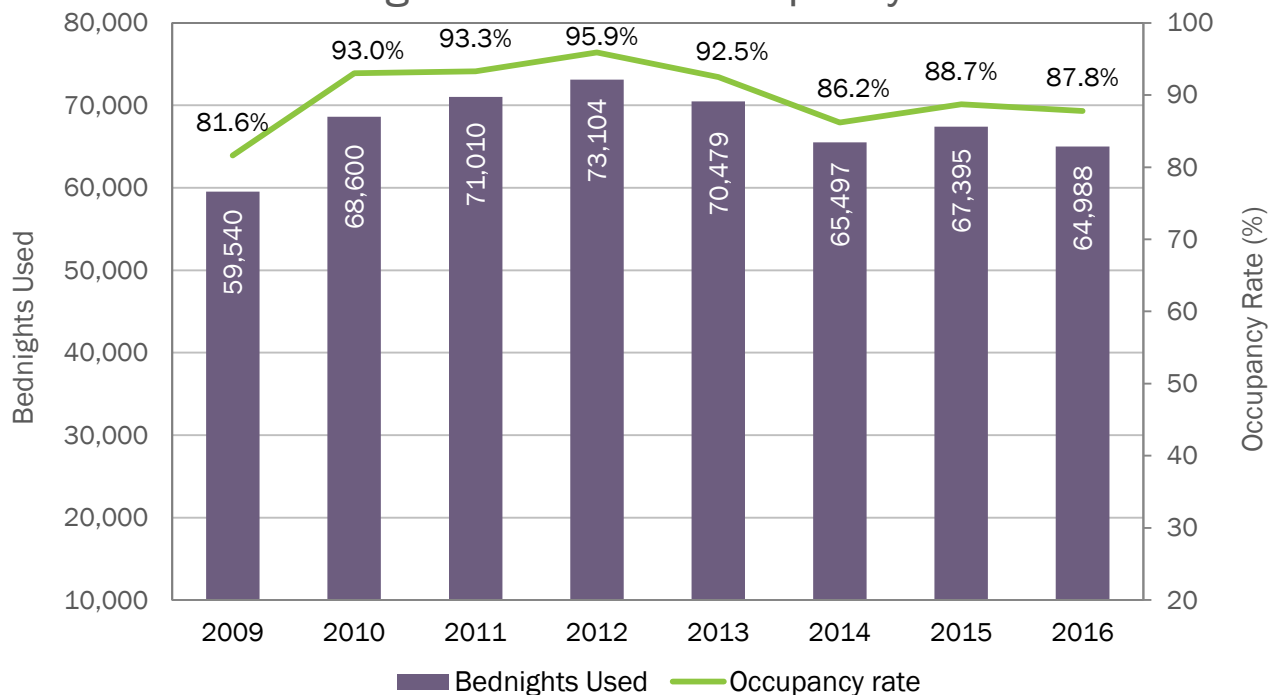
Those reporting having served in the military tended to be older than those reporting no military service.

Community Progress 2009-2016

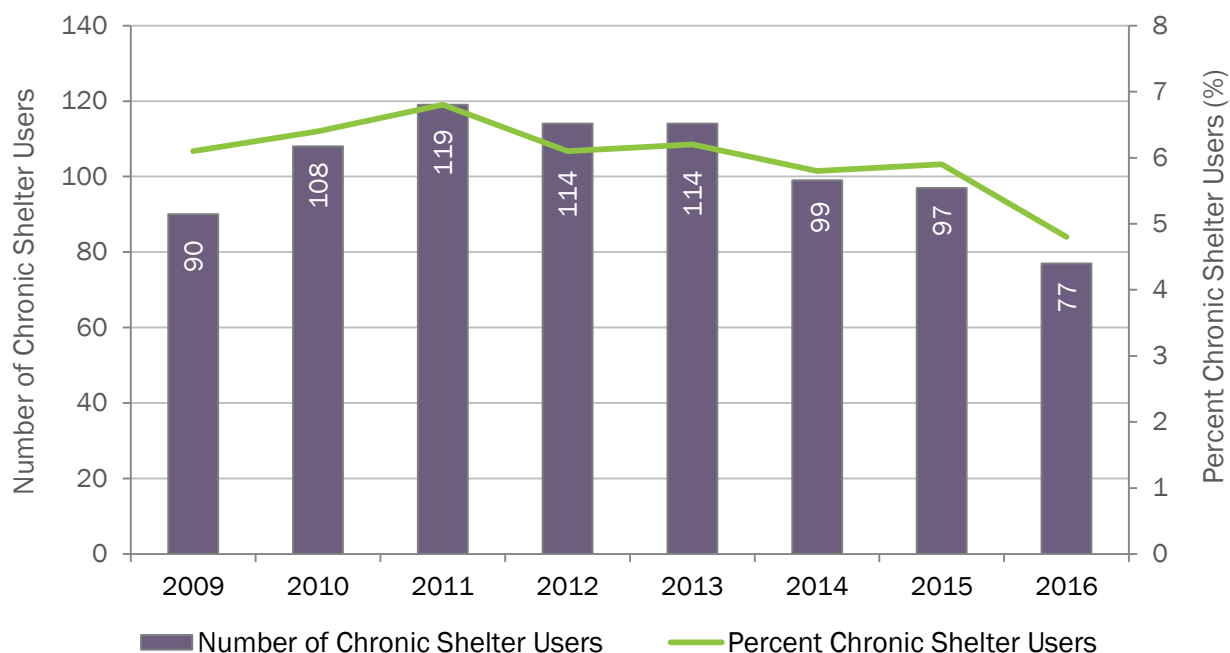
Shelter Users by Year



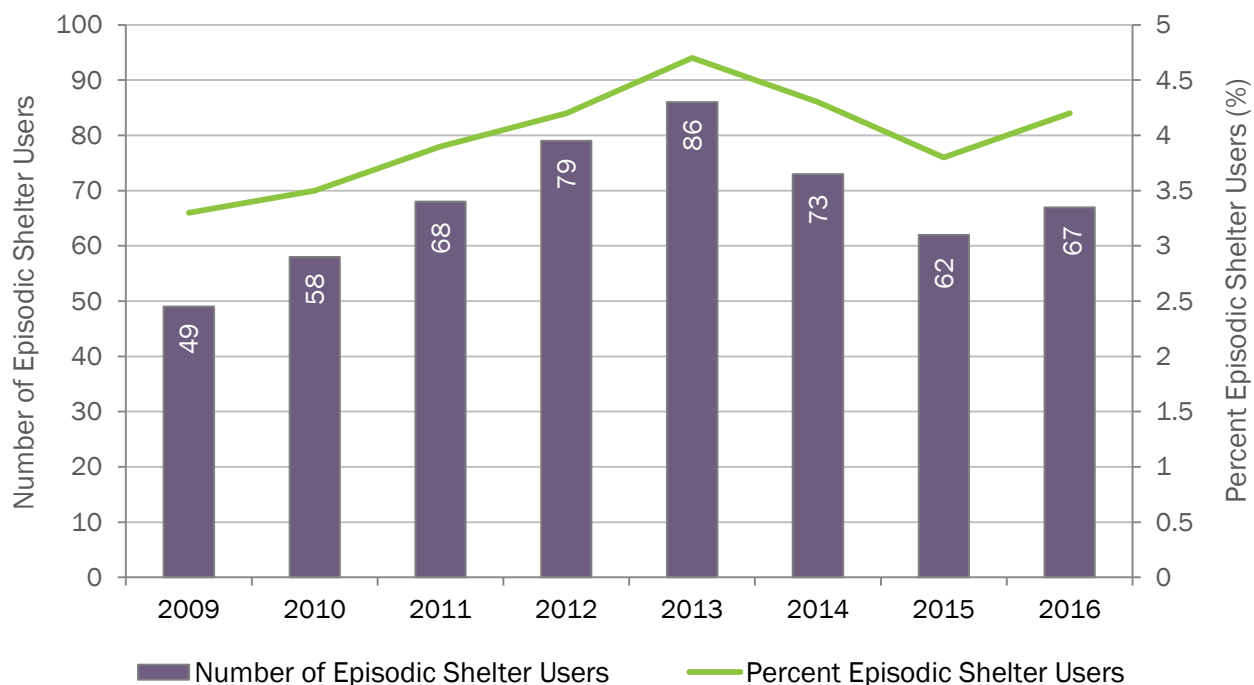
Bednights Used and Occupancy Rate



Chronic Shelter Users by Year



Episodic Shelter Users by Year



A **CHRONIC SHELTER USER** has stayed at shelters for a combined 180 or more nights in the past year

An **EPISODIC SHELTER USER** has had three or more episodes of homelessness in the past year.

*A homeless episode is considered to be a single stay or a cluster of shelter stays separated by less than 30 days.
A new homeless episode begins when a user returns to a shelter after 30 or more days.



Stay Length Statistics

	Total # of Stays	Mean (days)	Median (days)	% Stays longer than 30 days
2016	3,450	23.9	7	20.3%
2015	3,582	25.2	6	21.6%
2014	4,023	22.1	5	17.6%
2013	3,992	24.3	5	19.7%
2012	4,269	24.6	6	19.7%
2011	3,665	28.2	7	21.5%
2010	3,527	29.1	7	21.7%
2009	2,493	38.1	11	26.6%



Annual Inflow/Outflow

The following chart measures the number of shelter users entering and exiting the shelter system each year between 2009 and 2016. The first and last years of the study period are not included.

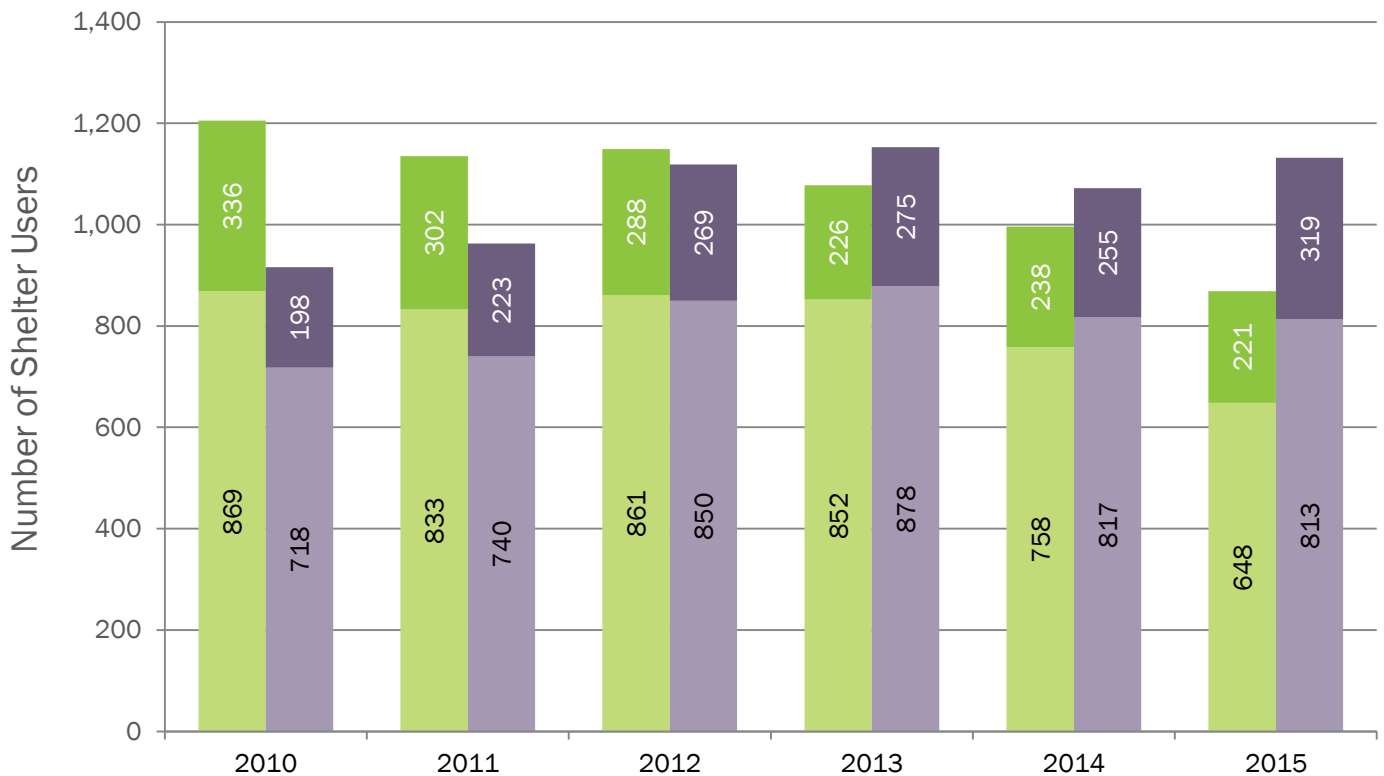
The green bars represent the **annual flow of new users into emergency shelters**:

-  ○ Dark green: first time shelter users who returned the following year.
-  ○ Light green: first time shelter users who did not return the following year.



The purple bars represent people **exiting the shelter system**:

-  ○ Dark purple: shelter users who had used a shelter in the previous year, and did not return to a shelter for the remainder of the study period.
-  ○ Light purple: shelter users entered and exited the shelter system in the same calendar year.



Annual Inflow/Outflow



Number of shelter users staying at a shelter for the **first time**

-  # Shelter users who **did not** return the following year
-  # Shelter users who returned the following year

Number of shelter users staying at a shelter for the **last time**

-  # Shelter users who **did not** have a shelter stay in the previous year
-  # Shelter users who had a shelter stay in the previous year