

# Bethel Point-In-Time Count & Project Homeless Connect: January 30-31, 2023

The Point-In-Time Count is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) national annual count of unsheltered and sheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. Data were collected through surveys and observations by the Bethel Housing and Homelessness Coalition. Data include all 28 people who stayed at Bethel Winter House (BWH) and all 17 adults who stayed at the Tundra Women's Coalition's (TWC) emergency domestic violence/sexual assault shelter and transitional housing the night of January 30, 2023, as well as street outreach contacts and Project Homeless Connect (PHC) attendees. Data were collected during outreach with Bethel Police Department on January 30, 2023, and at PHC, BWH, and TWC on January 31, 2023 (temp. 28°F).

**76** Total people who were experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness.

**4** People were observed (did not complete surveys) during Project Homeless Connect (1) and BWH (3).

**7** People attended the event who were not homeless and are not included in the analysis.

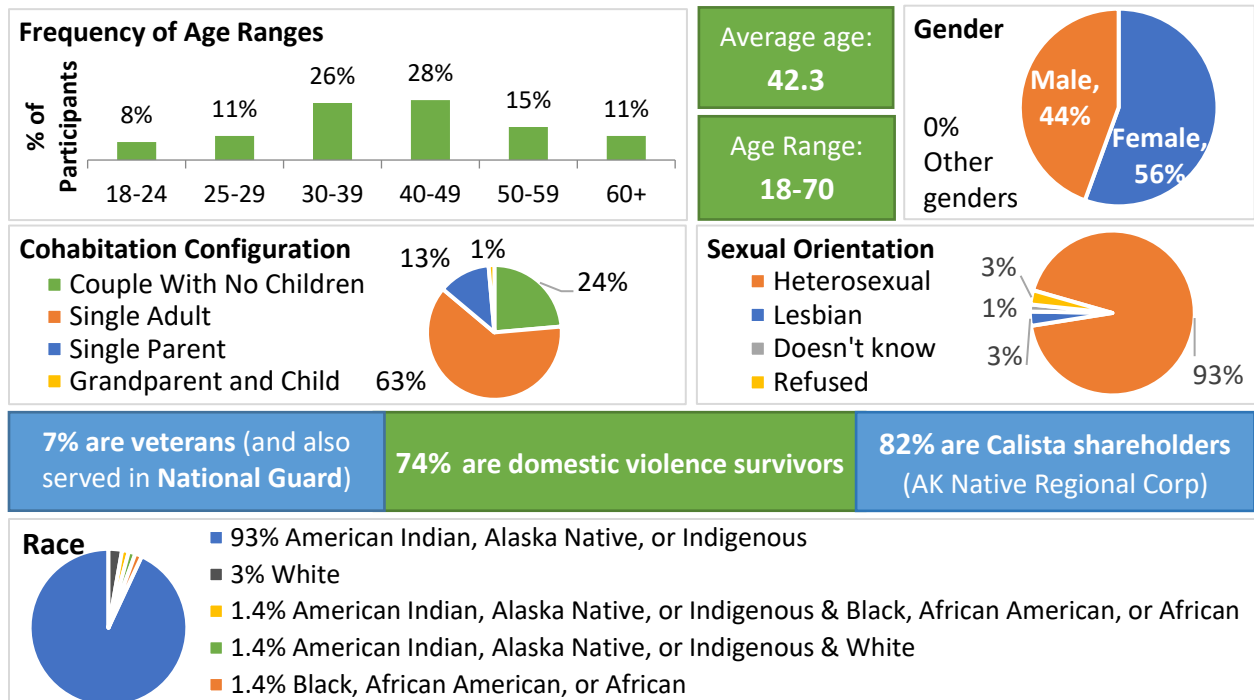
**72** People completed surveys who were homeless or at-risk of homelessness, including temporarily staying with friends/family and transitional housing. Surveyed during outreach (2), at PHC (28), BWH (25), TWC (17).

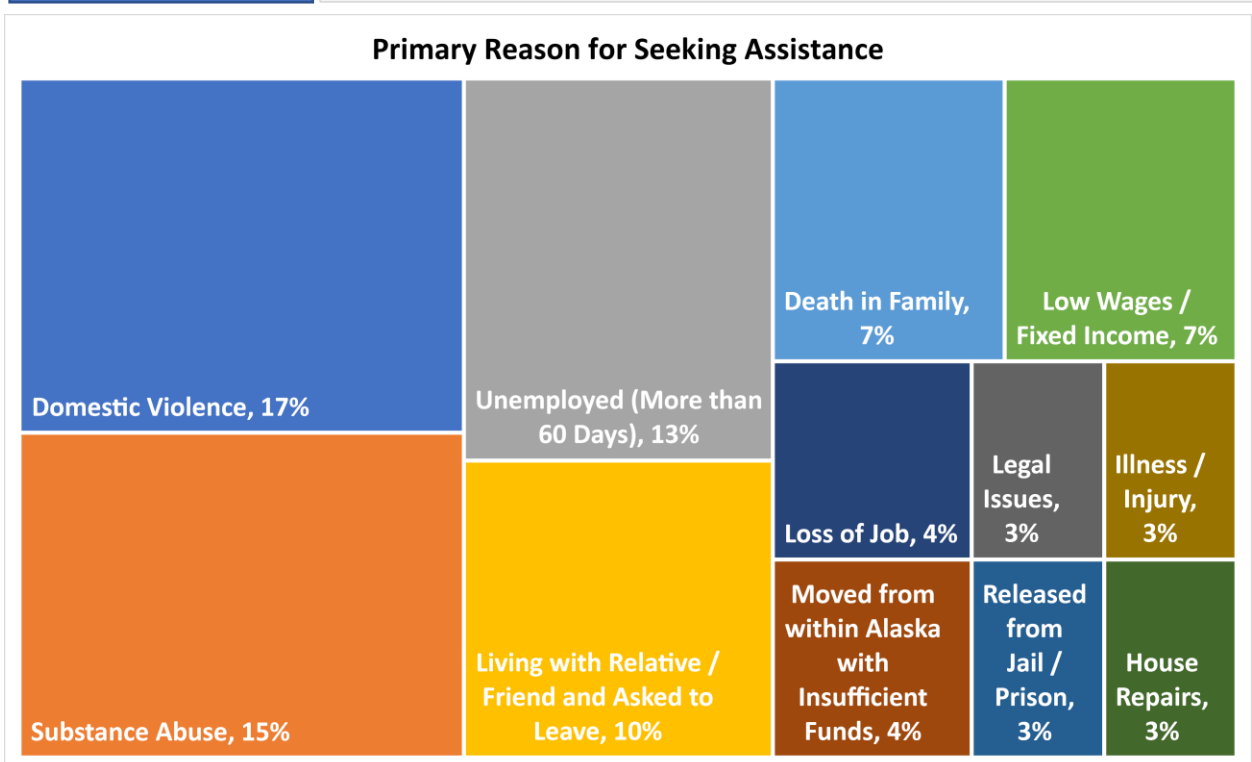
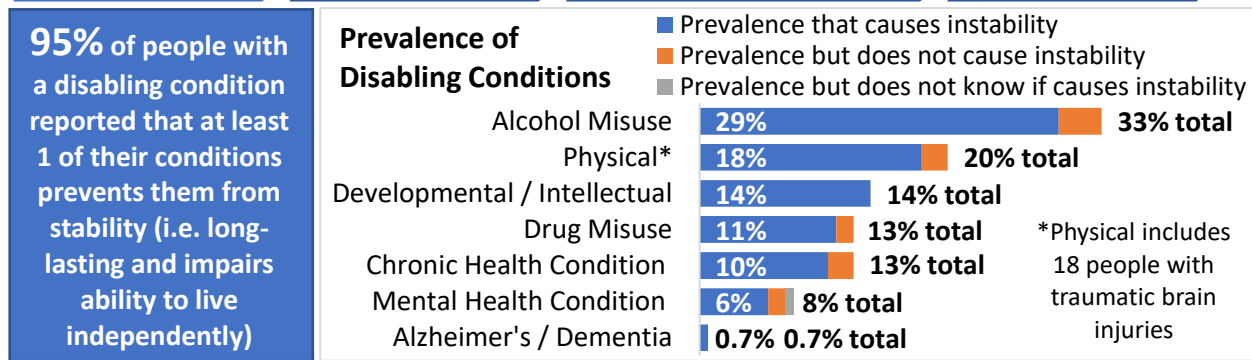
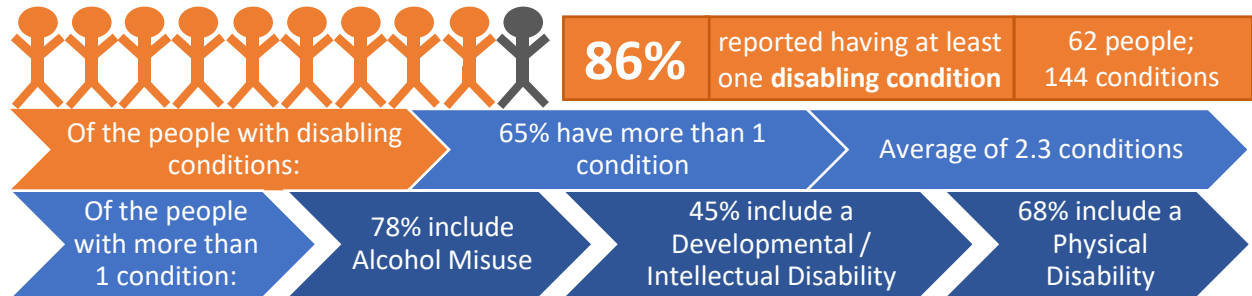
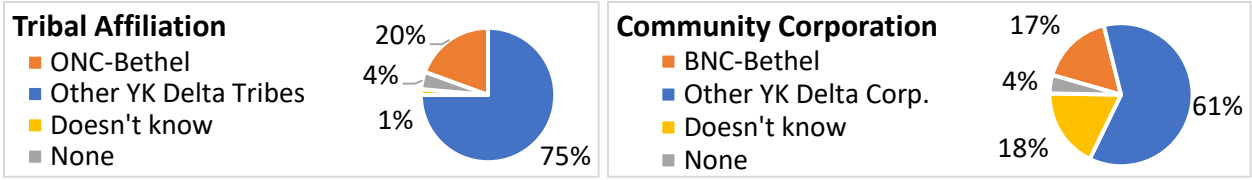
**57** Total attended Project Homeless Connect (28 surveys, 21 attendees surveyed at BWH or TWC, 1 observation, 7 not eligible)

**11** People (15%) surveyed had not been surveyed prior. 9 of the 11 were staying at TWC.

**15 volunteers** conducted the surveys representing the Bethel Housing and Homelessness Coalition, from: ▪ Bethel Community Services Foundation ▪ Bethel Police Department ▪ Bethel Winter House ▪ Choosing Our Roots ▪ Public Health ▪ Tundra Women's Coalition ▪ UAF Kuskokwim Campus ▪ VFW Auxiliary ▪ Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation

## SURVEY ANALYSIS (72 PARTICIPANTS)

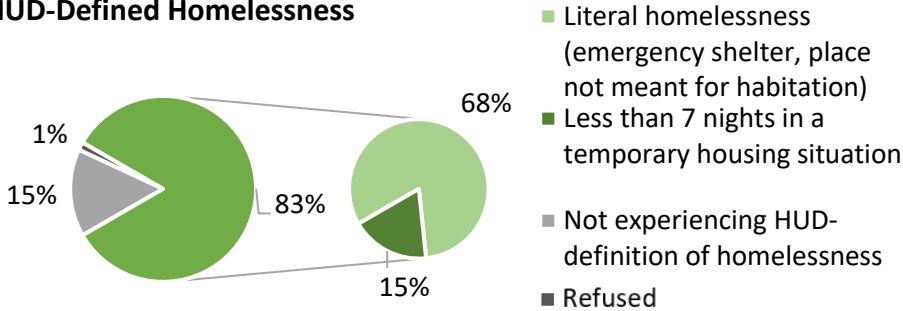




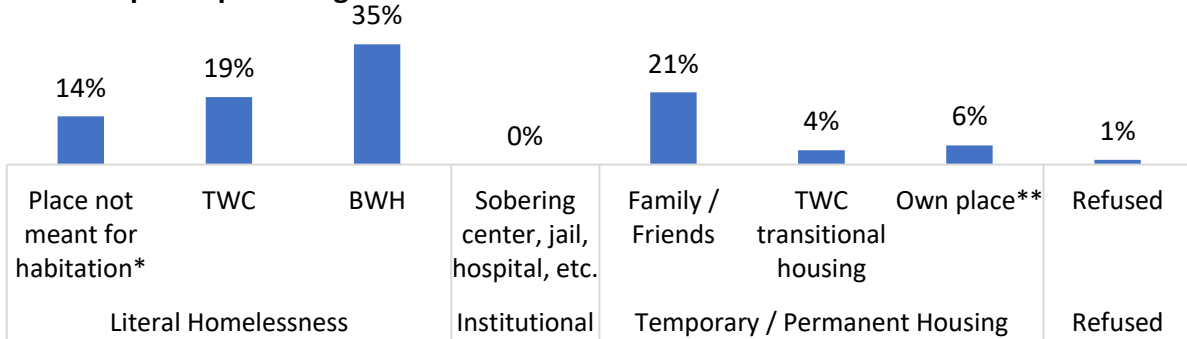
Additionally, 1 person (1%) each: loss of partner / roommate, new landlord evicted, overcrowding, not enough money to get to home community, theft victim, unemployed (less than 60 days).  
 An additional 4% declined to answer.

**83%** of all survey participants (n=60) were experiencing the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) definition of homelessness

**HUD-Defined Homelessness**



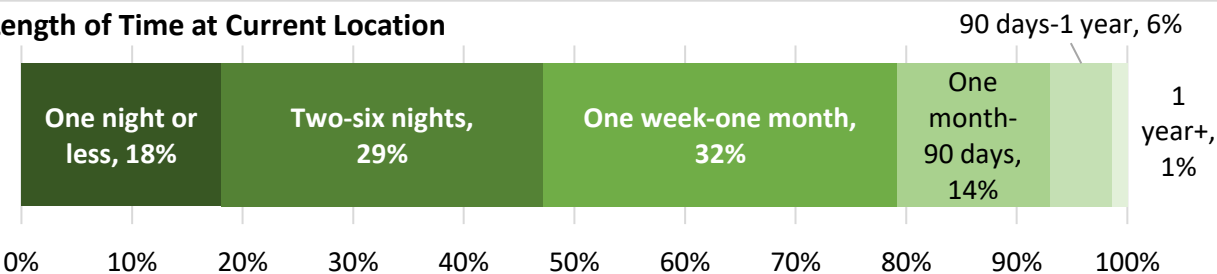
**Where People Slept the Night Prior**



\*Outside, abandoned building, tent, vehicle, etc.

\*\*50% of participants' own places lacked sufficient heat; the other 50% were temporary

**Length of Time at Current Location**

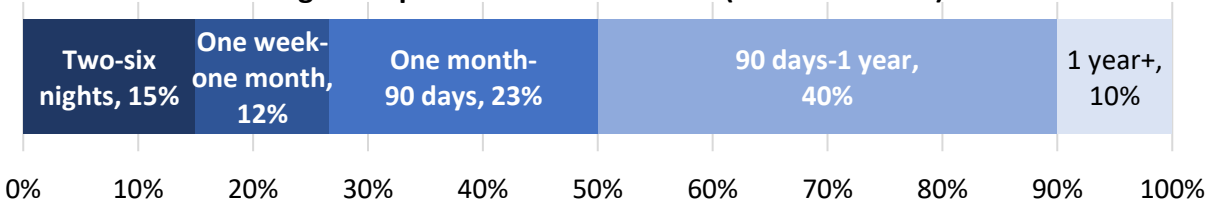


Notes: Bethel Winter House was closed 05.08.2022-10.01.2022 so people could not have stayed there for more than 1 year continuously at the time of the survey.

Additionally, this section's data reflects continuous nights at the specific location, not cumulative.

**73%** of the people who were experiencing the HUD definition of homelessness (61% of all survey participants) have been experiencing an episode of continual homelessness longer than just their current location, i.e., they've moved between places, but always in a homeless situation.

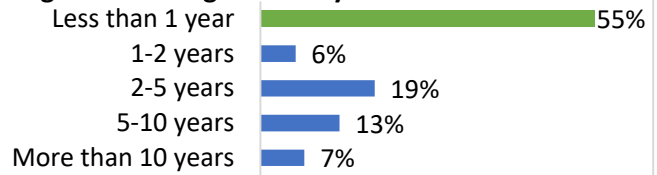
**Length of Episode of Homelessness (HUD Definition)**



**96%** Have stayed in an **emergency shelter or in a place not meant for habitation** (including abandoned buildings, outside, and vehicles) **at least once at some point in their lifetime.**

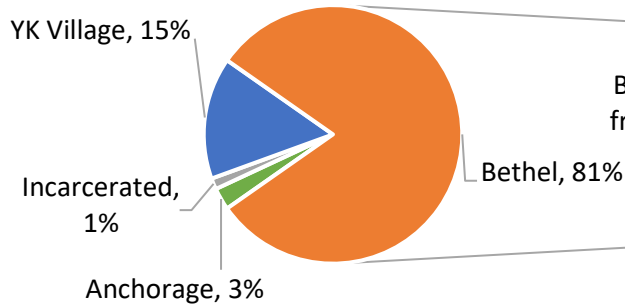
In Bethel, we are also interested in how long individuals have been staying temporarily with friends or family to understand overcrowding and “couch surfing” in our community. We are therefore using a broader concept, **housing instability**, which would include these situations.

### Length of Housing Instability

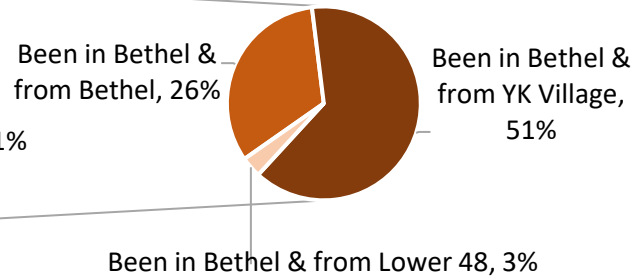


Average: 2.7 years • Range: 5 nights to 20 years

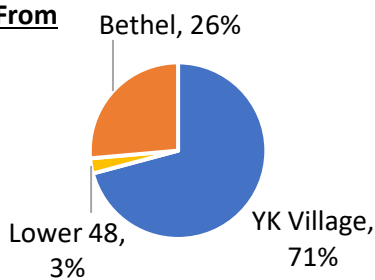
### Where Participants have Been for the Past Year



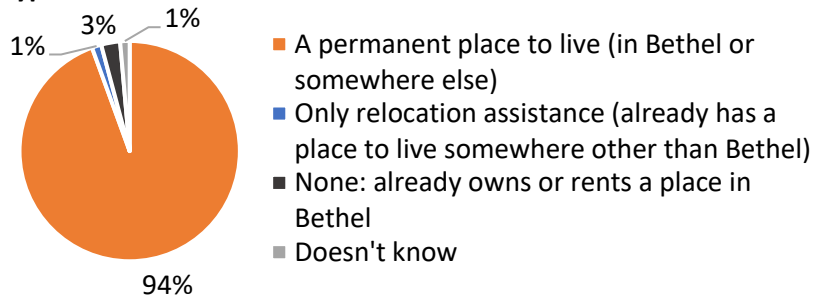
*Where the 81% of Participants are from who have been in **Bethel** for the Past Year*



### Where Participants are From

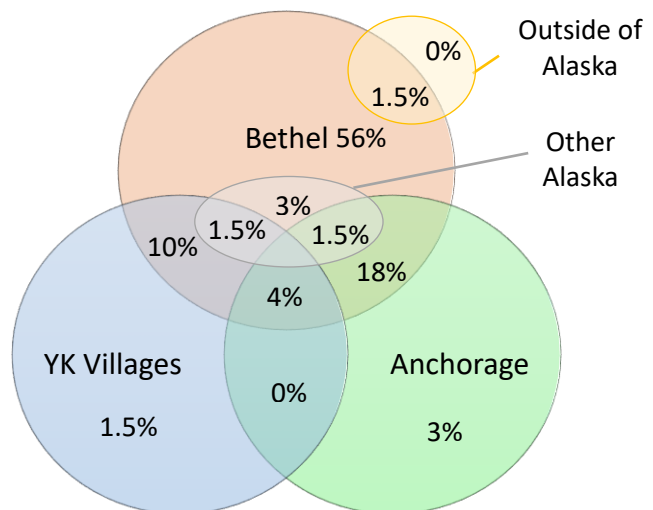


### Type of Assistance Wanted



Of those **94%** looking for a permanent place to live, communities they would be willing to live in:

People mostly want to live in Bethel and the YK Region:  
**56%** want to **only live in Bethel**  
**95.5%** willing to live in **Bethel and somewhere else**  
**67.5%** want to **only live in the YK region (Bethel and/or YK villages)**



**99%** are connected to organizational supports.

Per person:

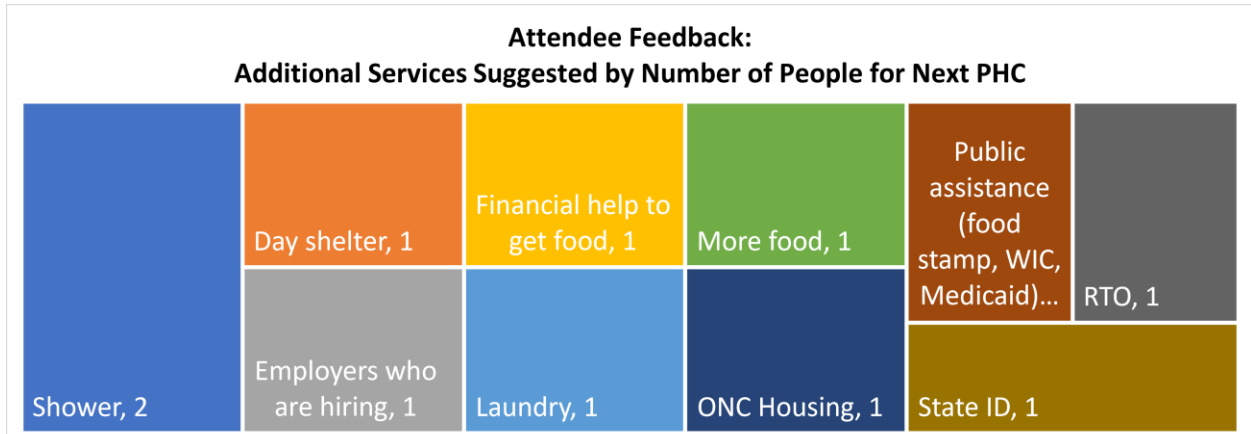
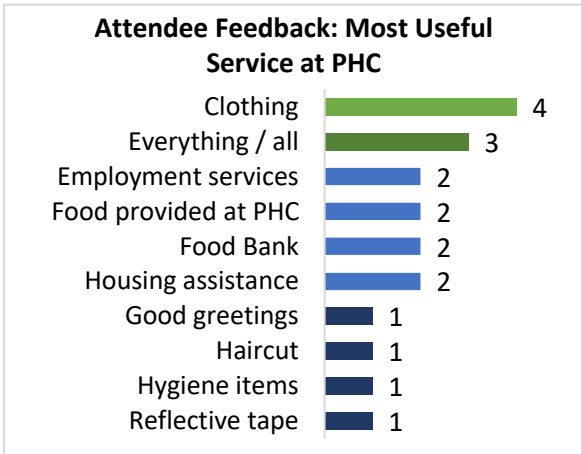
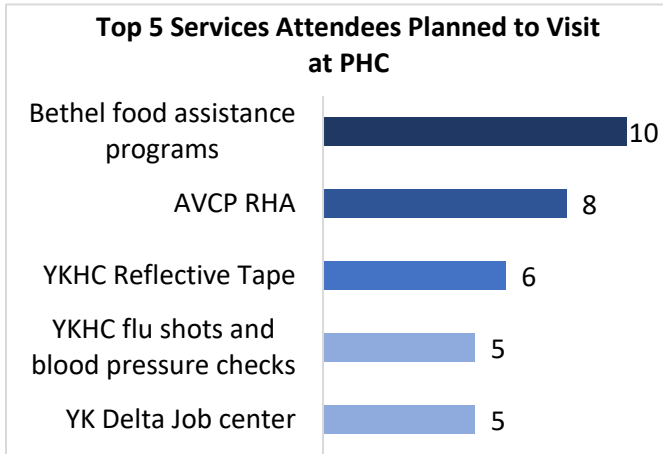
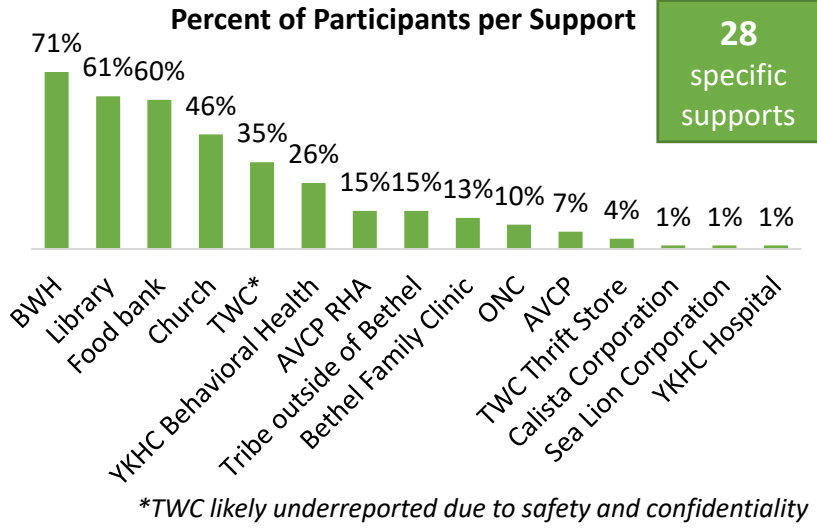
Average: 3 • Range: 0-8

**8 specific tribes:**

Chevak, Holy Cross, Newtok, Pilot Station, Pitka's Point, Quinhagak, St. Mary's (not specified), Tuluksak

**7 specific churches:**

7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist, Baptist, Catholic, Covenant, Korean, Moravian, United Pentecostal



Thank you to the people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness who shared their information for this report. Thank you also to the volunteers who conducted the surveys and the organizations that planned, conducted, and funded the surveys & Project Homeless Connect events. The Coalition uses reports from Bethel Project Homeless Connect events and Bethel Winter House to identify and secure more resources and supports and design data-driven services for people experiencing homelessness in our community. This report was prepared by Ariel Herman, Project Analyst supported by the Bethel Community Services Foundation.