

# Second Round of Point-in-Time Homelessness Counts in Belgium

FEANTSA Conference 13th September 2024

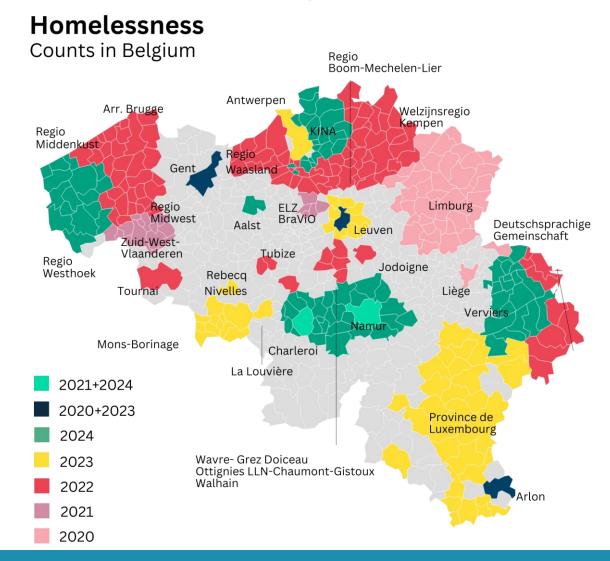
Nana Mertens, Evelien Demaerschalk prof. dr. Koen Hermans

#### Extended service-based homelessness counts in Belgium

#### Point-in-time count

October 2020-2024

→ extent + profile characteristics





# **ETHOS LIGHT**

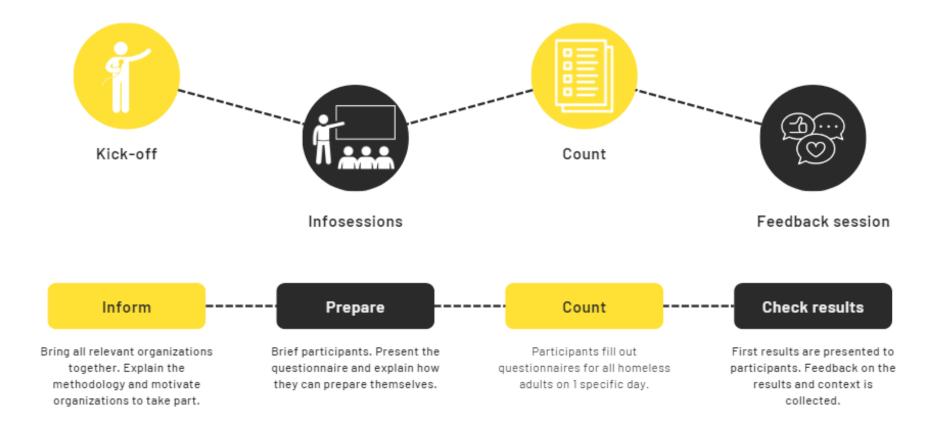
	OPERATIONAL CATEGORY	DEFINITION/LIVING SITUATION
1	LIVING ROUGH	Public spaces/public accessible places
2	EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION	Overnight shelters
3	ACCOMMODATION FOR PEH	Temporary accommodation for PEH
4	IN INSTITUTION	Health care institutions, penal institutions
5	NON-CONVENTIONAL DWELLING	Unsuitable shelter, accommodation not fit for habitation and insecure housing
6	WITH FAMILY/FRIENDS	Accommodation used due to lack of housing, not the person's usual place of residence
+	THREATENED BY EVICTION	Leaving within 1 month



	LOCAL ORGANISATION	EXAMPLES
Services for PEH		Night shelters     Emergency shelters     Women shelter     Temporary housing solutions     Outreach services     Mobile health teams,
Public social services		Public welfare centers     General welfare centers     Social work from health insurance     Community health centers,
Institution	S	General hospital, mental health hospital Youth care organisation Prison and justice related facilities Facility for people with disabilities Reception centers for asylum seekers Addiction/rehabilitation centers
Railway an	od police	Local/regional police     Railway     Public transport
Low thresh	nold services	Drop-in centers     Social restaurants     Community initiatives     Volunteer programs providing food/basic amenities
Housing agencies		Social housing companies



#### **TIMELINE**



### City of Ghent

• 269.191 inhabitants

Point-in-time homelessness counts

- 30th of October 2020
- 20th of October 2023





#### City of Leuven

• 104.009 inhabitants

Point-in-time homelessness counts

21th of February 2020City of Leuven

20th of October 2023
 City of Leuven + 9 surrounding municipalities

Leuven

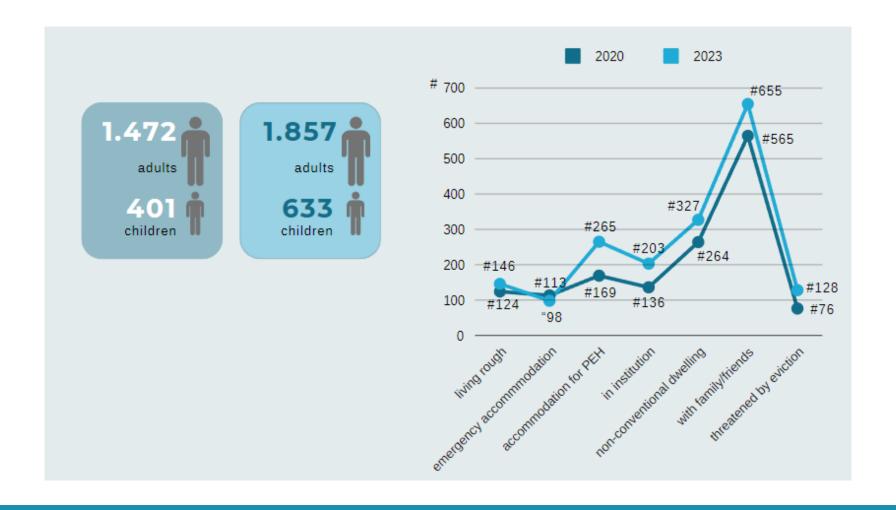


#### General remarks

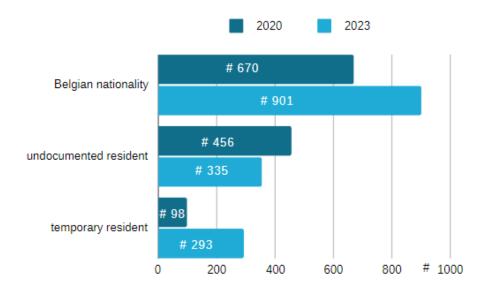
- Point-in-time versus the dynamism of homelessness
- Services more familiar with method of the count + more participating services
- Local contexts
  - City of Ghent
     e.g. COVID-19 pandemic October 2020
  - City of Leuven
     e.g. social housing squats eviction;
     winter shelter open in February 2020, closed in
     October 2023

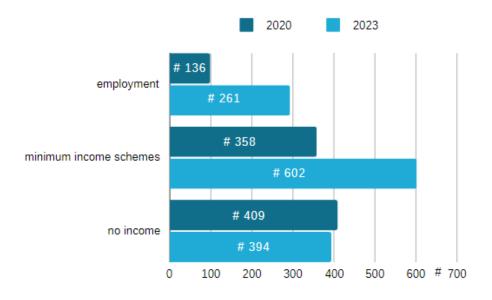




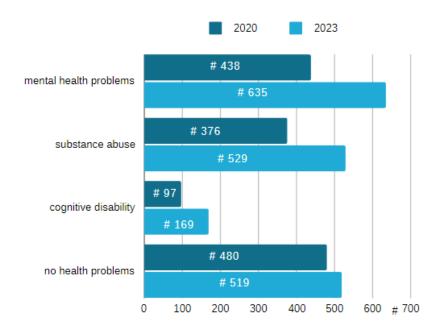


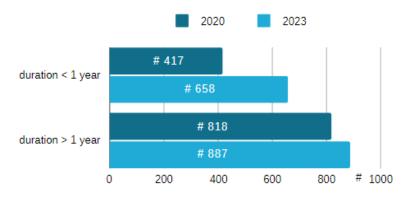


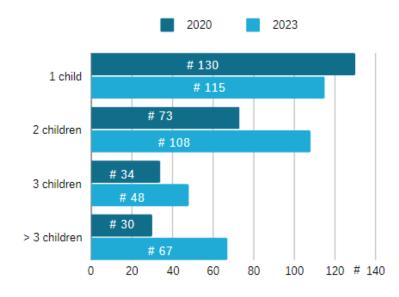


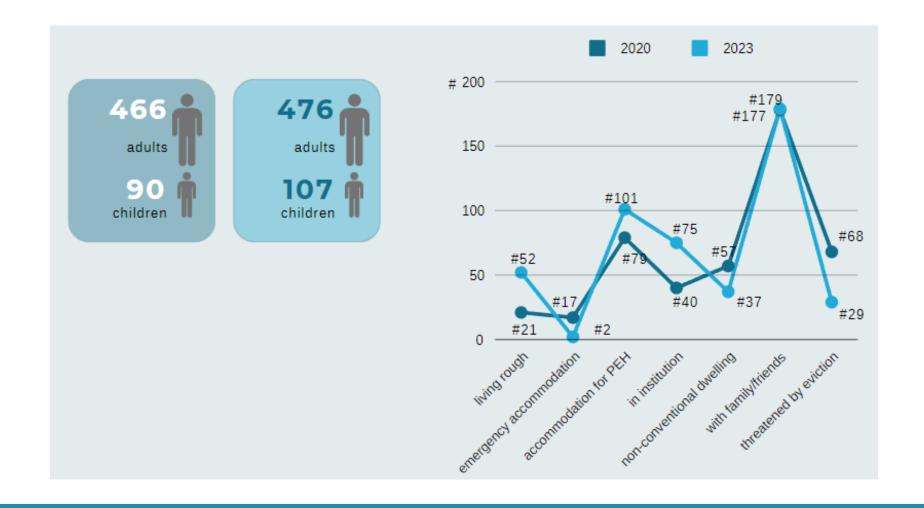




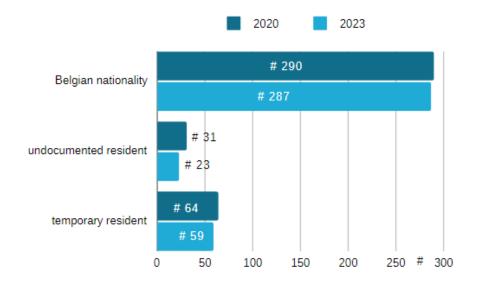


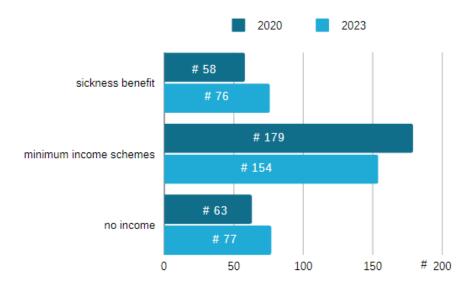


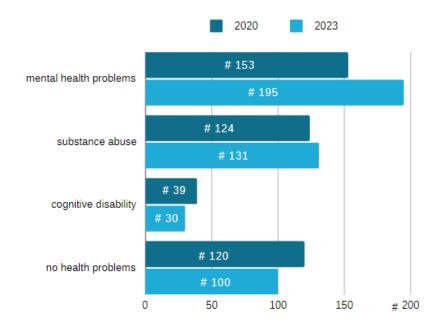


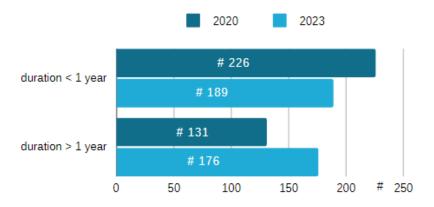


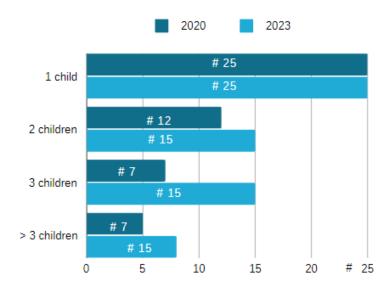












#### Some lessons learned

- Impact of local events
- Point-in-time count → evolutions; identifying 'flow' of PEH
- Diversity of population
- Interaction with policy makers: expectations second count
- Feedback from policy makers and services: results interpretation

#### Questions and feedback

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Service de lutte contre la pauvreté, la précarité et l'exclusion sociale

Steunpunt tot bestrijding van armoede, bestaansonzekerheid en sociale uitsluiting

Dienst zur Bekämpfung von Armut, prekären Lebensumständen und sozialer Ausgrenzung