## **Hunger Count**

The Food Bank's Hunger Count provides insight into food insecurity in Waterloo region. The data is from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

28% 8+ VISITS PROGRAM VISITS **32%** 1 VISIT **14%** 2 VISITS **8%** 3 VISITS **18%** 4-7 VISITS 28% 8+ VISITS **67%** SINGLE PEOPLE **FAMILY COMPOSITION** 67% SINGLE PEOPLE 15% TWO PARENT/GUARDIAN 13% SINGLE PARENT/GUARDIAN 5% COUPLE WITH NO CHILDREN 35% 0-17 YEARS **FOOD RECIPIENT (AGES) 2%** 0-2 YEARS **3%** 3-5 YEARS **6%** 6-11 YEARS **6%** 12-17 YEARS **15%** 18-30 YEARS **12%** 31-44 YEARS 9% 45-64 YEARS 3% 65+ YEARS 18% UNKNOWN CHILDREN (0-17 YEARS) 28% UNKNOWN ADULTS (18+ YEARS) **60%** PRIVATE RENTAL **HOUSING TYPE** 60% PRIVATE RENTAL 7% SOCIAL RENTAL HOUSING 4% HOMEOWNERS 2% RESIDES WITH FAMILY/FRIENDS 1% EMERGENCY SHELTER 26% OTHER **11%** EMPLOYMENT INCOME SOURCE OF INCOME **10%** ONTARIO DISABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAM (ODSP) **11%** EMPLOYMENT INCOME 11% ONTARIO WORKS 10% NO INCOME 3% OLD AGE PENSION 2% EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE 5% OTHER 42% UNKNOWN **6%** STUDENT LOAN

We endorse Feed Ontario's policy recommendations for change and call on the Ontario government to increase Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), change the earned income clawback formula for OW to match that of ODSP, treat income from other benefits, like the Canada Disability Benefit, the same as earned income, and combine the basic needs and shelter allowance into a single flat rate. We also endorse Food Banks Canada's policy recommendation pillar and call on the Canadian government to create a minimum income floor and support low-income workers.