

Project Overview

The Project



The *RentSmart: Preventing Homelessness* Project expanded the RentSmart model for successful tenancies from BC to Alberta and Manitoba through curriculum adaptations and RentSmart Educator Train the Trainer (TTT) sessions, the project engaged new and existing community partners and program participants.



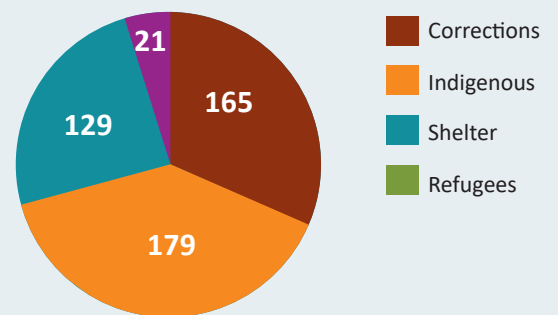
The project included curriculum adaptations to meet the needs of Indigenous communities, people exiting Corrections, and people transitioning from shelters to housing.



What We Achieved

- 6 TTTs in Alberta trained 73 Educators from 40 organizations
- 2 TTT in Manitoba trained 36 Educators from 30 organizations
- 665 people in BC, Alberta and Manitoba received RentSmart Education and Support

RentSmart Adaptations and Participants



What We Learned

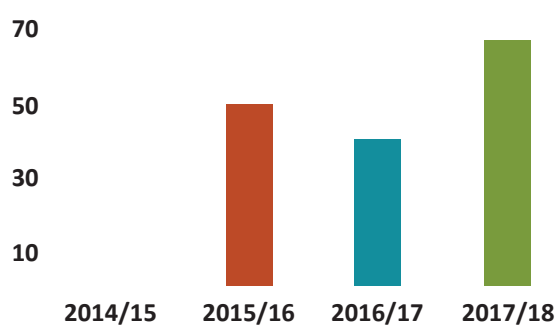
- There is an interest in proactive and capacity building solutions for vulnerable populations
- Education needs to be delivered in a variety of different contexts in a variety of different learner formats.

- Online education is an important part of the puzzle yet it can be expensive to develop in a way that mirrors the high interaction of in-person education.
- The adaptation process needs to include time for initial adaptation, testing and integration of learning.

Too often, people are in crisis and at risk of losing housing or are homeless before accessing help. There are well documented reasons for why people lose their housing, and evictions have been proven to be a contributing factor to homelessness. RentSmart is a program that is designed to get in front of crisis' and build the skills, knowledge and confidence for people to find and keep their housing. It has been proven to work and can be implemented by community organizations and housing providers. To date, over 55 communities across Canada have invited RentSmart to be a part of their housing solution.

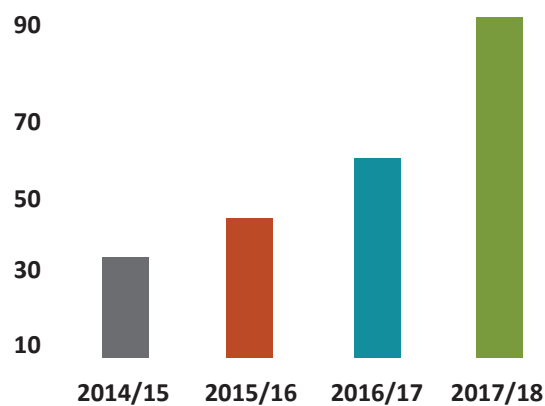
RENTSMART BASICS

RentSmart Basics Courses Over Time



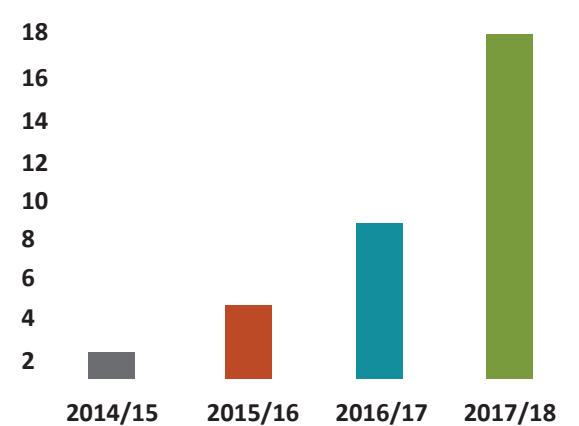
RENTSMART CERTIFICATE

RentSmart Certificate Courses Over Time

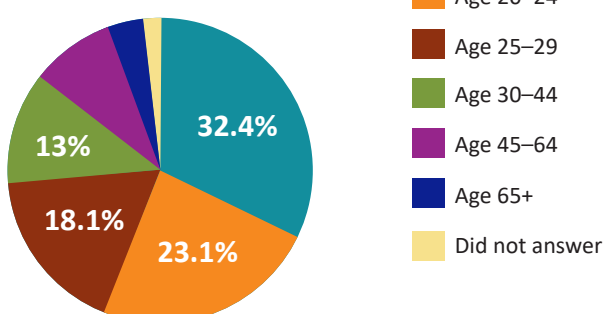


RENTSMART EDUCATOR (TTT)

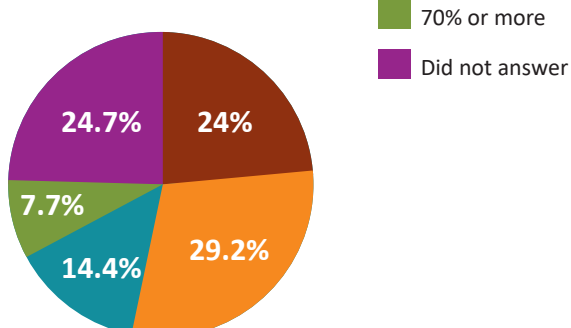
RentSmart Educator Courses Over Time



Age of Participants 2017 – 2018



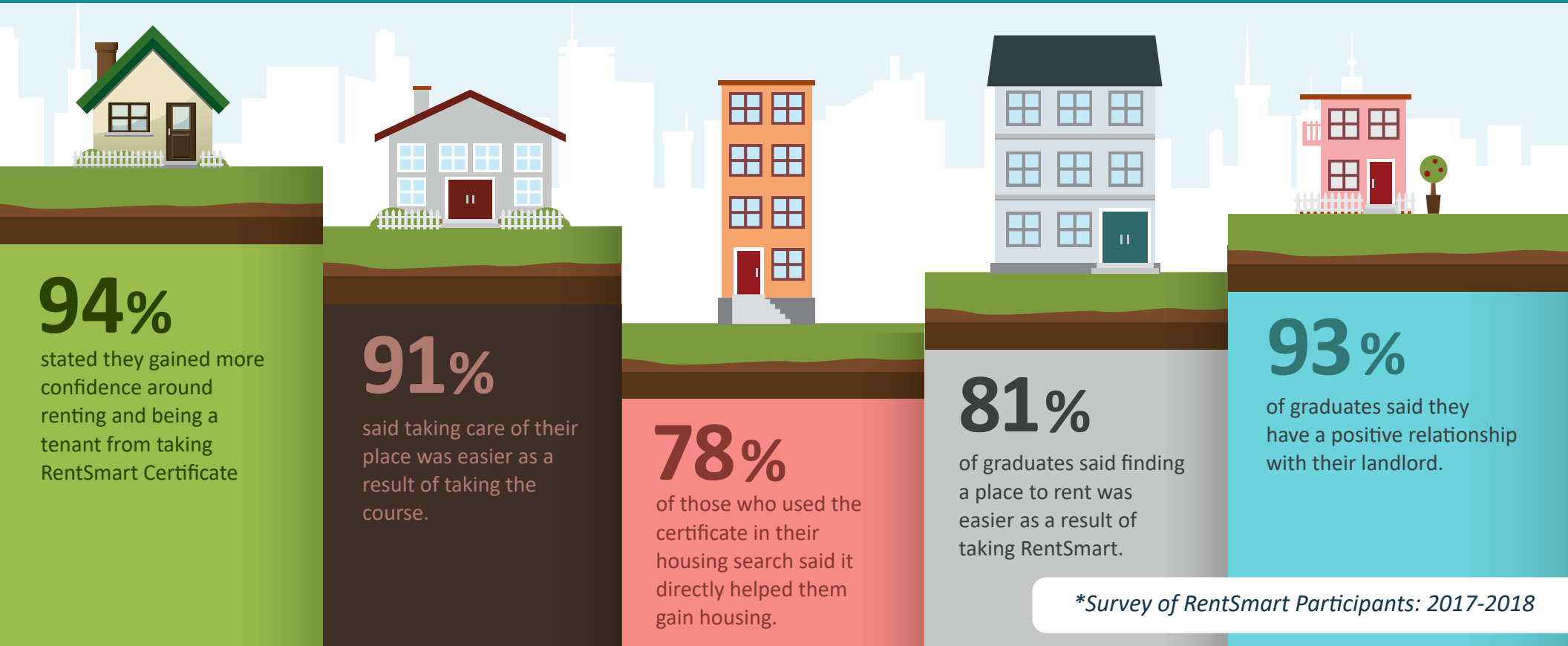
Percentage of Monthly Income Spent on Housing 2017 – 2018



RentSmart Educators Trained by Year/Province



Measuring Impact



RentSmart Basics graduates told us...

“I will be more confident with figuring out what kind of roommates I would like to live with.”

“Make it longer!!! I loved this course!! I would love to be able to discuss more, and hear your lovely jokes!”

“Everything was great and easy to understand. The course was very useful.”

“I will tell everyone to try this course!”

“This course covers all of the basics. This course is a lot less painful than learning the hard way!”

“This course is very well done, I would definitely do this again if I had the chance!”



RentSmart Certificate graduates told us...

“RentSmart taught me everything I know about housing.”

“I am more confident and knowledgeable and more of a proud renter. The course helped me understand things from the landlords perspective and in turn I became a better tenant. Thank you so much this course taught me a lot and definitely changed my life.”



RentSmart Educators told us...

“I have been working with a client of mine for a while and he and his partner have been struggling to secure stable housing. He was thrilled to attend this course, and stated that it was something that he was going to complete and learn from because it was going to be the first thing he’s completed ever in his life. He worked hard and was committed each week and had a huge sense of accomplishment the last day when he received his certificate and letter knowing that he was successful and accomplished his goal.”

– RentSmart Educator, Alberta

Housing Stability



of graduates have lived in their current home for six months or more.



of graduates who have moved in the past year, moved for positive reasons

Project Funding and Partners

Thanks To Our Partners

RentSmart is shared through a training and partnership model. We’d like to extend recognition to our Alberta and Manitoba partners for all their hard work and support.

Funded by the Government of Canada



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READY to RENT

RentSmart: Preventing Homelessness *Final Report*