



HIFIS 4.0.61.2 Release Notes

September 2026

As the Government of Canada advances the National Housing Strategy and Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, the importance of data collection, management, and sharing has never been more pronounced. These elements are critical for advancing our collective understanding of homelessness and facilitating informed decision-making. Reaching Home underscores the significance of a data-driven, client-centered approach in addressing the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk.

In this context, the Government of Canada remains dedicated to continually enhancing the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS). Our goal is to ensure HIFIS is not only secure but also fully supportive of communities in their efforts to collect crucial data, prevent homelessness, and drive meaningful reduction strategies.

If you have feedback on HIFIS you would like to share with us, please [contact](#) the HIFIS Client Support Centre at 1-866-324-2375 or support@HIFIS.ca.

Release Highlights:

- Streamlined the enumeration workflow in the Encampment module.
- Days spent in encampments now count towards the total days homeless and Chronicity calculation.
- Encampment transactions now appear in the Client Activity Log.
- Encampment records now appear in the Housing History module.

Important Notice

Key Recommendations:

- Create a copy of your production environment and deploy it to your sandbox or testing site.
- Perform the update on the sandbox/testing environment first to evaluate the impact of the recalculation and the overall duration of the process.
- Verify that all key functionalities and client data behave as expected after the update in the sandbox environment before proceeding with the production update.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact the [HIFIS Client Support Center](#).

SQL Server 2016 Minimum Requirement:

Please note that Microsoft has ended its support of SQL Server 2014 effective July 9th, 2024. As a result, the lowest version of SQL Server supported by HIFIS will be SQL Server 2016.

We strongly recommend upgrading to SQL Server 2016. Moving forward versions and releases of HIFIS require SQL Server 2016, and Microsoft will not be able to assist with any server related problems experienced using SQL Server 2014. For more information on SQL Server 2014 support, you can visit the [Microsoft website](#).

Note: If your community has not yet implemented releases 4.0.58.1 or above, note that updating to release 4.0.61.1 may have an impact on your custom reports. This is due to changes to your database's underlying structure that were introduced in release 4.0.58.1 of HIFIS. Check [release notes 4.0.58.1](#) for additional information on the affected tables. Consult your report service provider if you have any issues.

WARNING: Before implementing this release, a backup of your database is necessary. Taking a snapshot of your application tier before implementing this update is also important in the event that a roll back of the changes should be required.

How to get this release

To download the application files, [click here](#).

New features & Major changes

New features or major changes introduced as part of this release:



Enhancements To The Encampment Module

The Encampment module has been enhanced to improve the management and enumeration of encampment information. The Manage Encampment view now includes dedicated Clients, Demographics, Enumeration History, and Location tabs, along with a new enumeration workflow that automatically includes clients actively present in an encampment.

Historical Enumeration Data Conversion

As part of the upgrade, existing Encampment Enumeration records will be converted to include Start Date and End Date. The conversion uses a configurable buffer period to determine when consecutive historical enumerations for the same client and encampment should be combined, while a configurable final enumeration period determines the End Date of the client's final historical record.

Change Description	Module(s)
Updated the Manage Encampment view to include the following tabs: Client Name(s): Allows users to manage the list of clients present at an encampment. Demographics: Provides a breakdown of clients present at an encampment by demographic. Enumeration History: Replaces the old “Enumeration” tab. The functionalities remain the same. Photos: Allows users to add pictures of an encampment location.	Encampment
Introduced a new enumeration workflow. - Users only need to manage clients who are present from the Manage Encampment view. - Clients actively in an encampment are automatically added to the enumeration. - Users only need to input anonymous clients during enumeration. - Added a Demographic tab to the Encampment record.	Encampment
Days spent in encampments now count towards the total days homeless and Chronicity calculation.	Housing Status

Minor changes and Enhancements

Minor changes included in this release:

Change Description	Module(s)
HIFIS now uses encampment activities in the Client State calculation.	Clients
Enumeration activities now appear in the Client Activity Log.	Clients
Users can now add a comment to an encampment enumeration record.	Encampment
Users can now add up to 10 pictures to an encampment record.	Encampment
The province and city fields were added to the Encampment form. Users can enter these fields manually or use the Capture Encampment Location feature to populate them automatically.	Encampment
HIFIS will automatically close active enumeration records when a client is booked into a shelter.	Encampment
The Back and Edit buttons have been moved to the bottom of the Encampment form.	Encampment
Updated the Display Encampment view to include the following tabs: Client Name(s): Allows users to see the list of clients present at an encampment. Demographics: Provides a breakdown of clients present at an encampment by demographic. Enumeration History: Replaces the old “Enumeration” tab. The functionalities remain the same. Photos: Allows users to see pictures of an encampment location.	Encampment
Encampment stays are now displayed in the Housing History module.	Housing History
Added the following new Encampment rights to the rights tree: Display Encampment Enumeration: Allows the user to view an	Rights



encampment enumeration record.

- **List Encampment Clients:** Allows the user to view the list of clients associated with an encampment.

Bug fixes

Bug fixes included in this release:

Issue ID	Issue Description	Module(s)
771507	Resolved an issue where a client’s housing status was incorrectly updated to Unknown after a shelter stay ended.	Clients

Known Issues

For a complete and up-to-date list of known issues, please see the [Known Issues Log](#).

Contact: HIFIS Support Desk

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