

COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY

Cochrane District

2022-2023

The Community Homelessness Report (CHR) is an annual Reaching Home reporting deliverable that supports communities to prevent and reduce homelessness using a more coordinated, systems-based and data-driven response. The CHR was designed to support local discussions and decision making, using all of the information about homelessness currently available at the community level. Communities are encouraged to use their CHR data to develop clear plans of action that help them to reach their homelessness reduction targets and to leverage the collective efforts of service providers working across the community, regardless of how they are funded.

This is a summary of the CHR for the 2022-23 reporting cycle. It shows the community's self-assessment of Reaching Home implementation, which includes the following key components:

- meaningful collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners (see Section 1);
- community-level governance, coordinated service delivery (Coordinated Access) and use of a Homelessness Management Information System or HMIS (see Section 2); and,
- an outcomes-based approach (tracking community-level outcomes and progress against targets using a Unique

identifier or By-Name List, referred to as a List; see Section 3).

If the community was able to report on outcomes and targets, this CHR Summary also includes results for each of the five core outcomes of Reaching Home (see Section 4).

Section 1. Community Context – Collaboration between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Partners

Does your community, as a Designated Community (DC), also receive Reaching Home Indigenous Homelessness (IH) funding?

Yes – DC and IH funding streams co-exist

Specific to Coordinated Access and the HMIS, has there been ongoing, meaningful collaboration between the DC CE and the IH CE and/or IH CAB over the reporting period?

No

Describe how this collaboration will happen over the coming year in more detail.

CE has established a connection with the Indigenous Homelessness (IH) CAB in Cochrane through the Ininev Friendship Centre (IH CE). The CE Program Manager has been accepted into the IH CAB to facilitate the sharing of information between the two committees, leading to future collaboration and coordination at a system level. As of February-March 2023, the meaningful collaboration between the two committees has just begun, and the CE Program Manager will attend, participate, encourage collaboration, and share information on all pertinent aspects of CAS and HIFIS to support the IH CAB. It should be noted that the CE CAB already has representation from the IH CE, and meaningful collaboration and information sharing already occurs through this partnership.

As far as CE knows, there is no IH CAB activity for the Timmins Native Friendship Centre (TNFC) in Moosonee (IH CE). However, should CE become aware of IH CAB activity in Moosonee, they will initiate engagement with the IH CAB. CE recognizes the need for Indigenous collaboration in Moosonee to coordinate services for those experiencing homelessness in the region. CE will continue to engage TNFC as a community partner for both Timmins and Moosonee regions to encourage collaboration. Future discussions may include the scalability of coordination of services and systems for rural Indigenous regions.

Specific to Coordinated Access and the HMIS, has there been ongoing, meaningful collaboration between the DC or Territorial Homelessness (TH) CE and local Indigenous organizations over the reporting period?	Yes
Describe this collaboration in more detail.	
<p>During the reporting period, Designated Community (DC) CE engaged in continuous and meaningful collaboration with local Indigenous organizations. One example of this collaboration is the partnership with the local division of Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services (OAHS) to update and adjust the BNL Intake Form to include safe and culturally appropriate assessment questions for Indigenous people. This collaboration involved several in-person meetings and discussions where OAHS provided their perspective and insight into language, structure, and content of the intake tool. As a result of this collaboration, the VI-SPDAT was removed from the CAS due to concerns that it was not culturally safe or sensitive for Indigenous people, and the final intake tool included Indigenous perspectives and insight. This collaboration was a significant step towards building a reconciliation relationship between CE and OAHS.</p> <p>Another example of meaningful collaboration is the partnership with Ininev Friendship Centre in regards to CAS. CE engaged Ininev by asking how, when, and where they would like to be involved in discussions for partnership. This practice continues with the onboarding and training process with the System of Care, where Indigenous perspectives influence all discussions and meetings with the Indigenous service provider, and CE continues to build a trusting relationship with Ininev.</p> <p>CE also engaged in meaningful collaboration with Timmins Native Friendship Centre (TNFC) to participate in BNL referrals. CE approached TNFC for discussion and meetings, which resulted in CE being invited to deliver the BNL training in person at a TNFC team meeting. During this meeting, CE staff participated in Indigenous practices, demonstrating respect for the TNFC's time and space, and acknowledging the importance of the partnership. These collaborations with Indigenous organizations are crucial for creating culturally safe and sensitive services for Indigenous people and building a trusting relationship with Indigenous communities.</p>	

With respect to the completion of the Community Homelessness Report (CHR), was there ongoing, meaningful collaboration between local Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations and, where applicable, the IH CE and/or IH CAB?	Yes
Describe this collaboration in more detail.	
<p>With respect to the completion of the CHR, there has been collaboration between local Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations as an invitation was sent to the CAB members for volunteers to participate in the completion of the report. Volunteers from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous service providers did come forward. Collaboration to complete the CHR occurred via emails, virtual meetings and discussions. The free text answers in the CHR were provided for reviewed with the Indigenous service providers who volunteered to be part of the group to draft the document.</p> <p>The CAB also includes Indigenous service providers among its members, and further collaboration with them takes place during the review, commentary and approval of the report. All CAB members are invited to participate in discussions to provide feedback, and they have the opportunity to offer additional commentary and approval before the CHR is finalized and submitted.</p>	

Does your community have a separate IH CAB?	Yes
Was the CHR also approved by the IH CAB?	No
Please explain how engagement will happen with the IH CAB during next year's CHR process in more detail.	
<p>The Ininew Friendship Centre IH CAB has welcomed CE as a member to act as a liaison between the IH CAB and CE CAB. For next year's CHR, CE plans to present the report to the IH CAB and inquire about collaboration in its completion through meetings and discussions according to the IH CAB's preferences.</p> <p>As far as CE knows, there is currently no IH CAB activity for the Timmins Native Friendship Centre in Moosonee. However, if CE becomes aware of any such activity, CE will contact the representative to explore potential collaboration in completing the report in a way that aligns with the IH CAB's preferences. This engagement could involve email correspondence, meetings, in-person discussions, or other suitable means.</p> <p>CE also intends to involve the OFIFC in the collaborative process of completing the CHR.</p>	

Section 2. Coordinated Access and Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) Self-Assessment

Summary Tables

The table below provides a summary of the work your community has done so far to meet the Reaching Home minimum requirements for Coordinated Access and an HMIS.

	Met	Started	Not Yet Started
Number of minimum requirements	18	0	0

The table below shows the percentage of minimum requirements completed for each core Coordinated Access component.

Governance	HMIS	Access Points to Service	Triage and Assessment	Coordinated Access Resource Inventory	Vacancy Matching and Referral
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Summary Comment

Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to achieve the Reaching Home minimum requirements?

The transfer of HIFIS from Living Space to CDSSAB was a lengthy process, primarily due to delays in receiving support from Infrastructure Canada. Despite the availability of several guides, it was not efficient to review three separate documents when troubleshooting issues. Moreover, HIFIS support was reactive rather than proactive in providing the necessary information to resolve known issues, which caused additional delays. Ultimately, the transfer of the HIFIS license and the manual data entry were completed collaboratively by Living Space and CDSSAB, strengthening their partnership and increasing trust.

Efforts to engage People with Lived/Living Experience (PWLLE) in the CAB were ongoing. Despite multiple attempts by various CAB members to engage with a PWLLE in person, it was not until January 2023 that a PWLLE joined the CAB. The CAB Chair engaged with the individual through multiple meetings and discussions, and the individual accepted membership, providing valuable feedback, insights, and expertise. Over the past year, the CAB membership was refreshed to ensure comprehensive representation from Indigenous and non-Indigenous service providers from various sectors, as well as a representation from PWLLE throughout the Cochrane District.

In February 2023, CE achieved the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness Reaching Home Coordinated Access milestone, and has since been working towards advancing Coordinated Access.

Section 3. Outcomes-Based Approach Self-Assessment

Summary Tables - Minimum Requirement

The tables below provide a summary of the work your community has done so far to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home.

Step 1: Has a List	Step 2: Has a real-time List	Step 3: Has a comprehensive List
Yes	Yes	Yes

Step 4: Can report monthly outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory for 2023-24 CHR's, if not earlier)

List was in place as of January 1, 2023 (or earlier)	Can generate monthly data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes-based approach in place
Yes	Outcome 1: Yes	Outcome 1: Yes	Yes
	Outcome 2: Yes	Outcome 2: Yes	
	Outcome 3: Yes	Outcome 3: Yes	
	Outcome 4: Yes	Outcome 4: Yes	
	Outcome 5: Yes	Outcome 5: Yes	

Step 4: Can report annual outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory once annual data can be generated)

List was in place as of April 1, 2022 (or earlier)	Can generate annual data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes-based approach in place
No	Outcome 1: Yes	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: Yes	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: Yes	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: Yes	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: Yes	Outcome 5: No	

Summary Comment

Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home?

CE initiated a BNL data cleanse in September 2022 to ensure reliable and high-quality data collection. To support this, all staff at Living Space and CDSSAB received full training for data implementation into the new HIFIS license. Additionally, CE collaborated with CDSSAB and Living Space to manually transfer data from the old HIFIS license into the new HIFIS license. In the past year, CE addressed all outstanding items on the CAEH BNL scorecard, creating and implementing supporting documents and processes to ensure quality BNL. The BNL was used to establish a baseline for data reporting for three consecutive months starting in October 2022 and to establish a baseline for chronic homelessness. CE achieved the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness quality BNL milestone in March 2023 and is currently working towards achieving the Veteran BNL and Advanced BNL.

More information about the Unique Identifier List

Step 1. Have a List

Where does data for the List come from?

- HIFIS
- Excel
- Other HMIS
- Other data source(s)
- Not applicable – Do not have a List yet

Please describe how the List is created using HIFIS:

The official BNL exists on Excel, and we utilize the data in HIFIS to cross reference the information. When the BNL transferred from previous CE Living Space to CE CDSSAB in July 2022, CE had to learn about the Excel spreadsheet. CE identified the BNL spreadsheet was not accurate as there were broken formulas and fields missing. This started the BNL data cleanse process for September 2022. CE worked diligently in strengthening the data and the BNL Excel Spreadsheet. CE was able to achieve Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH) Quality BNL milestone for March 2023.

CE will continue to maintain the BNL Excel spreadsheet and HIFIS until CE is confident the data going into HIFIS is accurate and high quality.

~~Moving forward, CE has engaged Acre Consulting to create custom reports and ensure the data going into HIFIS~~

In the future, will data from the community's HMIS (either HIFIS or an existing, equivalent system) be used to get data for the List?

Yes

Step 1. Have a List (cont.)

For the List, does the community have...

A written policy/protocol that describes how interaction with the homeless-serving system is documented	Yes
A written policy/protocol that describes how housing history is documented	Not yet

Chronic homelessness

x	Federal definition
	Local definition

From the List, can the community get data for...

Newly identified on the List	Yes
Activity and inactivity	Yes
Housing history	Not yet

From the List, can the community get demographic data for...

Age	Yes	Indigenous identity	Yes
Household type	Yes	Veteran status	Yes
Gender identity	Yes		

Step 2. Have a real-time List

How often is information about people experiencing homelessness updated on the List?	Weekly
Is people's interaction with the homeless-serving system (activity and inactivity) updated regularly on the List?	Yes
Is housing history updated regularly on the List?	Yes
Is there a process in place for keeping chronic homelessness status on the List up-to-date?	Not yet

Step 3. Have a comprehensive List

Does the community have a document that identifies and describes all of the service providers that help people experiencing homelessness with their housing challenges?

Yes

Optional question: How does data from the List compare to other community-level data sources that are considered accurate or valid? This is an optional follow-up question for communities that have completed the “*Understanding Community-Level Data*” worksheet.

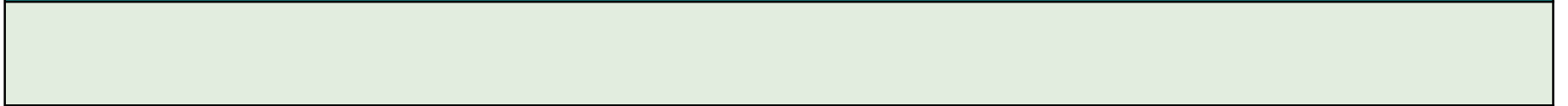
The BNL is just one data source among many that could potentially provide information about homelessness in a community. We endeavor to have the BNL as the "one main point of contact" for all information related to homelessness. We recognize that we are in our early stages of BNL and that goal has not been realized yet. Other community-level data sources that could be considered include administration data from service providers, data from emergency shelters, data from outreach programs, and data from other government agencies. Each data source has its own strength and limitations, and may provide different perspectives on homelessness in the community. In the past, it has been important to use multiple sources of data to get a comprehensive understanding of homelessness in the community, and to ensure that data is triangulated and validated to improve accuracy and reliability. As our community partners had not been collecting data in meaningful or standardized ways pre-BNL, we are left with data from our enumeration. Over the past decade, three separate enumeration studies were conducted in the region. However, each enumeration had its own set of challenges and was performed using different methods (such as period prevalence count vs. point in time count), making it a challenge to directly compare the BNL list to enumeration data.

Step 4. Track outcomes and progress against targets using data from the List

Does the List meet the benchmark of a “Quality By-Name List” confirmed by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness?

Yes

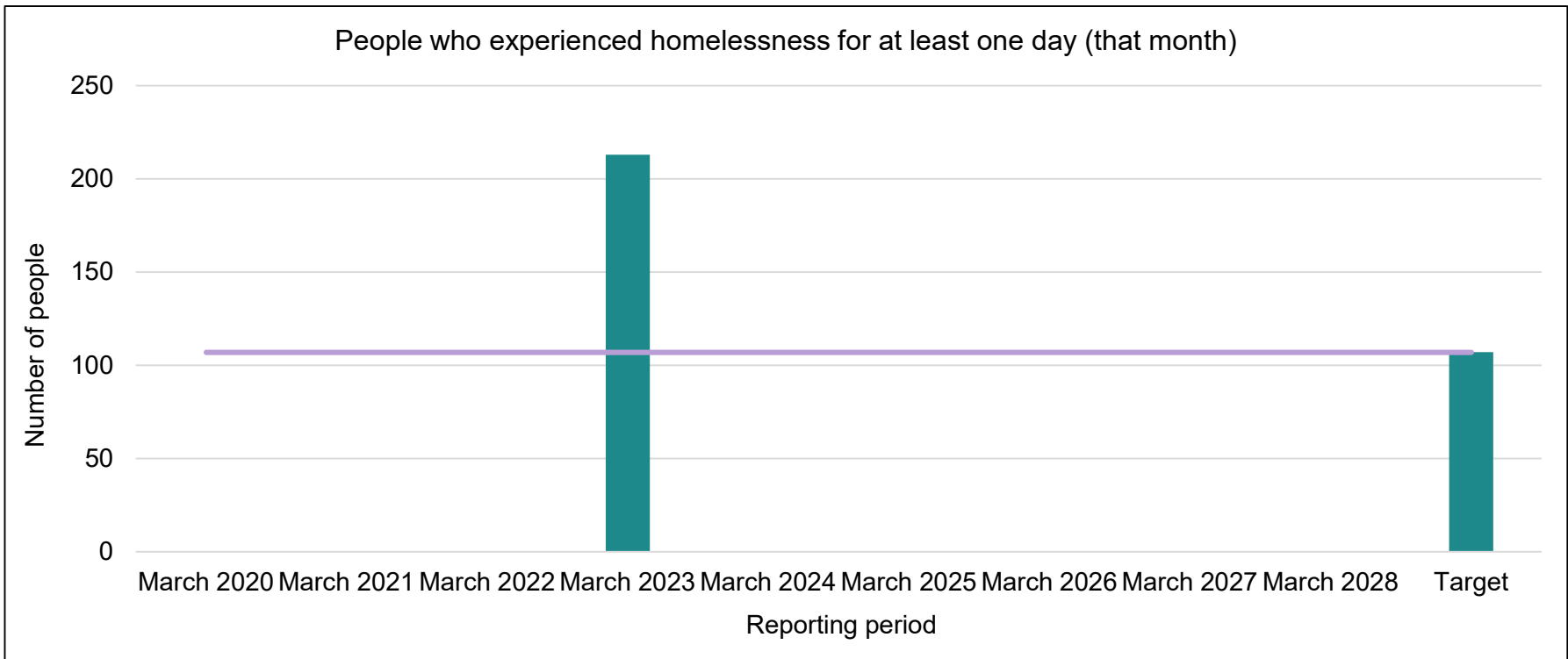
Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Monthly



Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly community-level data for Outcome #1 for the reporting period.

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)				213						107



Context for Outcome #1 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

No data was provided in 2021-2022 CHR as CE didn't have a real-time comprehensive list. 50% reduction was used for target.

Was the HIFIS ***“Community Homelessness Report”*** used to generate data for this outcome?

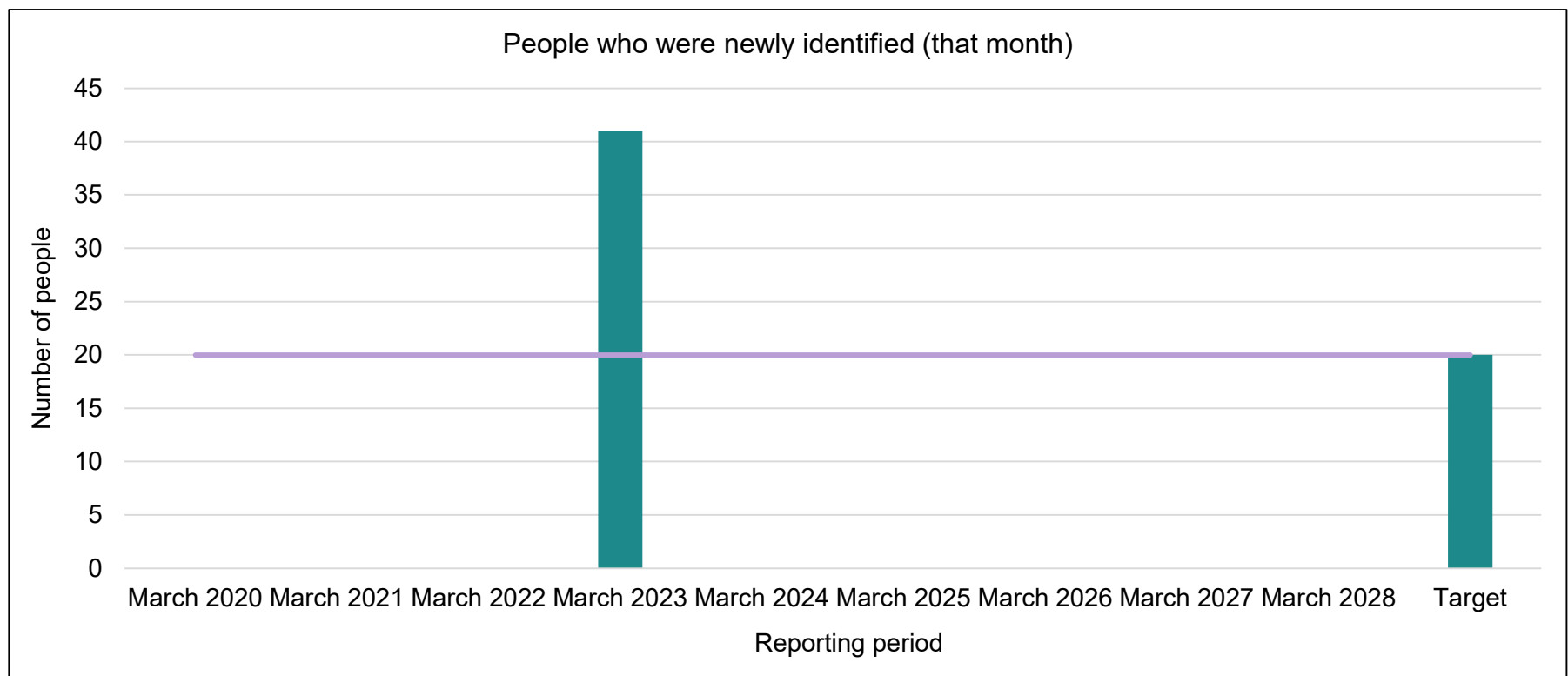
No

Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

Outcome #2: Fewer people were newly identified (new inflows to homelessness are reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who were newly identified (that month)				41						20



Context for Outcome #2 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

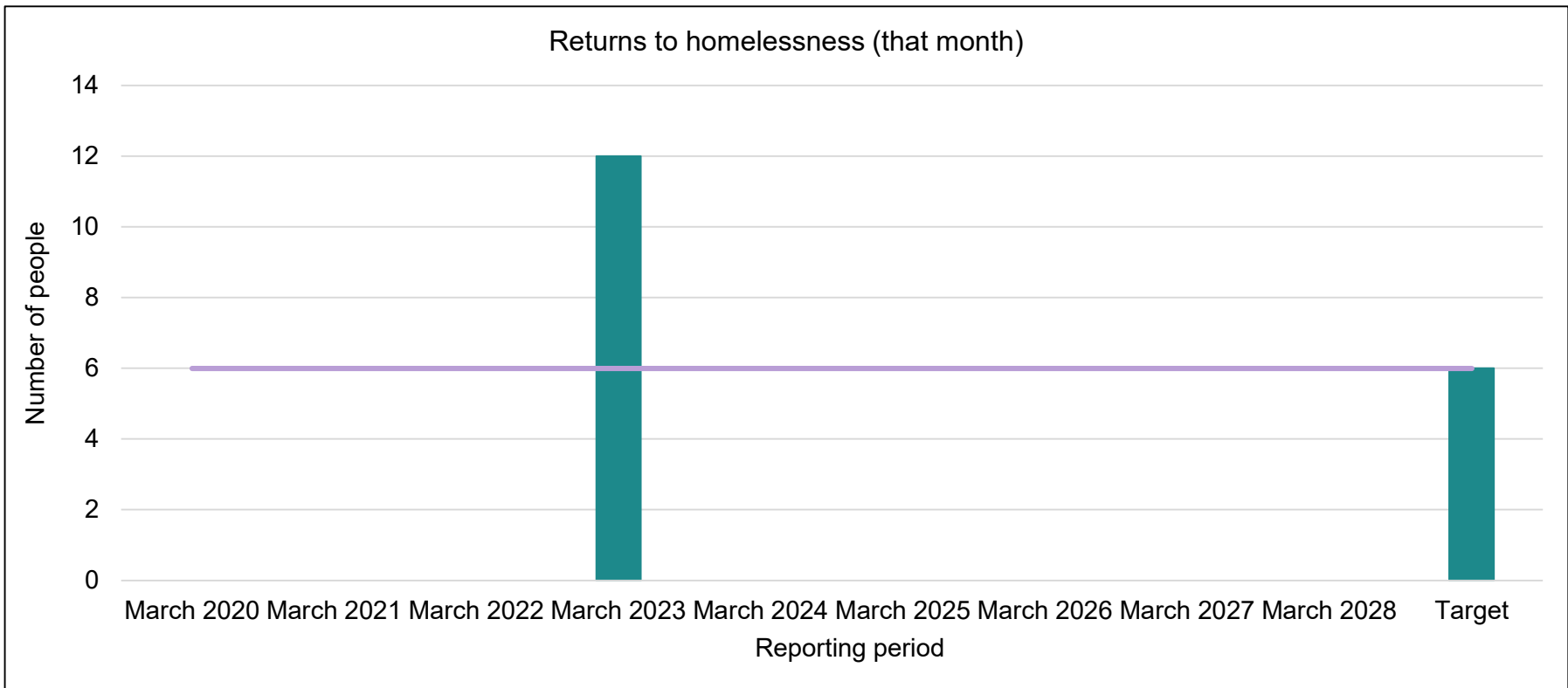
No data was provided in 2021-2022 CHR as CE didn't have a real-time and comprehensive list. 50% reduction was used for target.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

No

Outcome #3: Fewer people return to homelessness (returns to homelessness are reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Returns to homelessness (that month)				12						6



Context for Outcome #3 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

No data was provided in 2021-2022 CHR as CE didn't have a real-time comprehensive list. 50% reduction was set for target.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

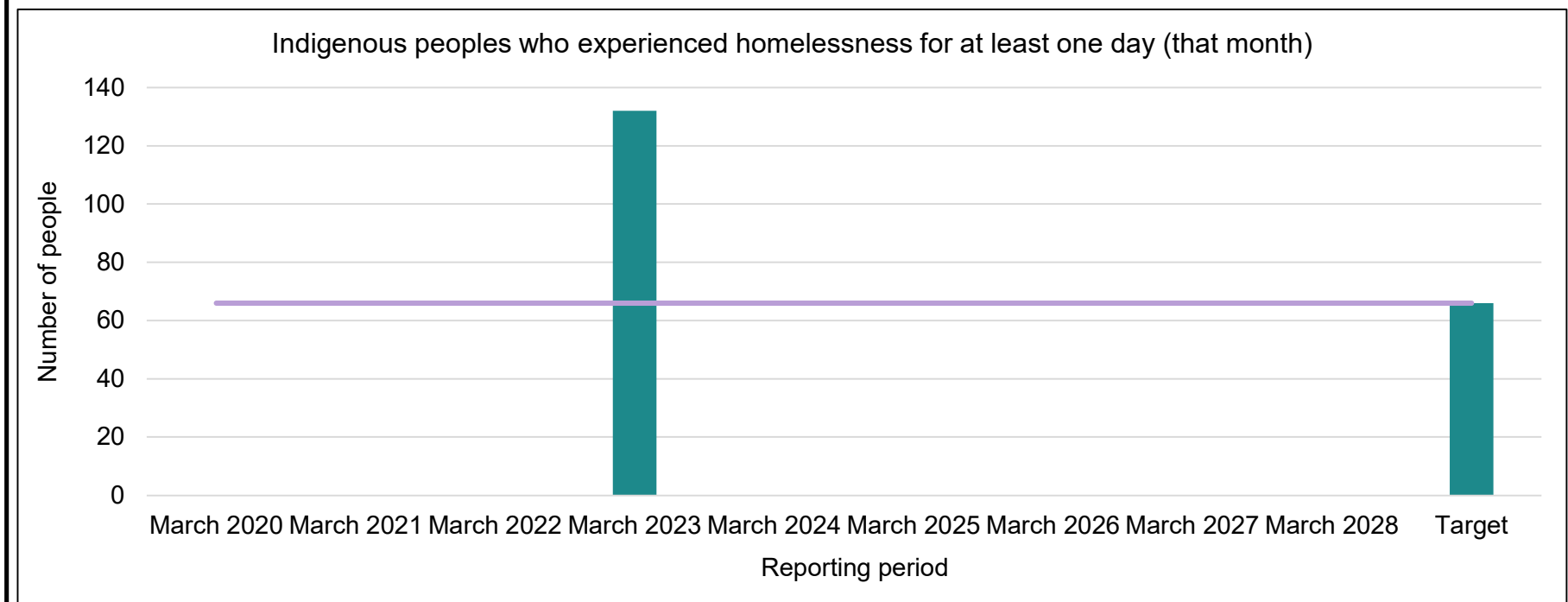
No

Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)				132						66



Context for Outcome #4 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

No results were provided for 2021-2022 CHR as CE didn't have a real-time and comprehensive list. 50% reduction is set for target.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

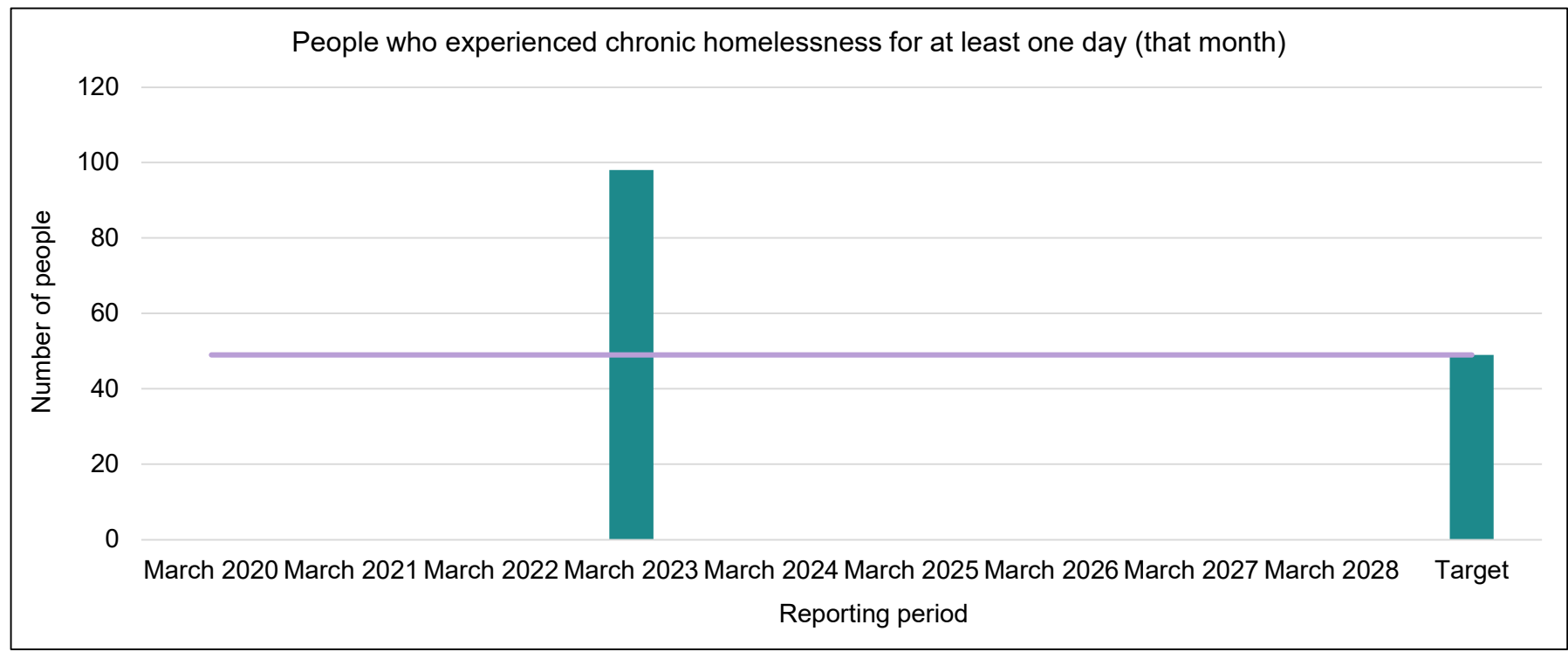
No

Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

Outcome #5: Fewer people experience chronic homelessness (chronic homelessness is reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that month)				98						49



Context for Outcome #5 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

No data was reported for 2021-2022 CHR as CE didn't have a real-time and comprehensive BNL. 50% reduction is set for target.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

No

Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

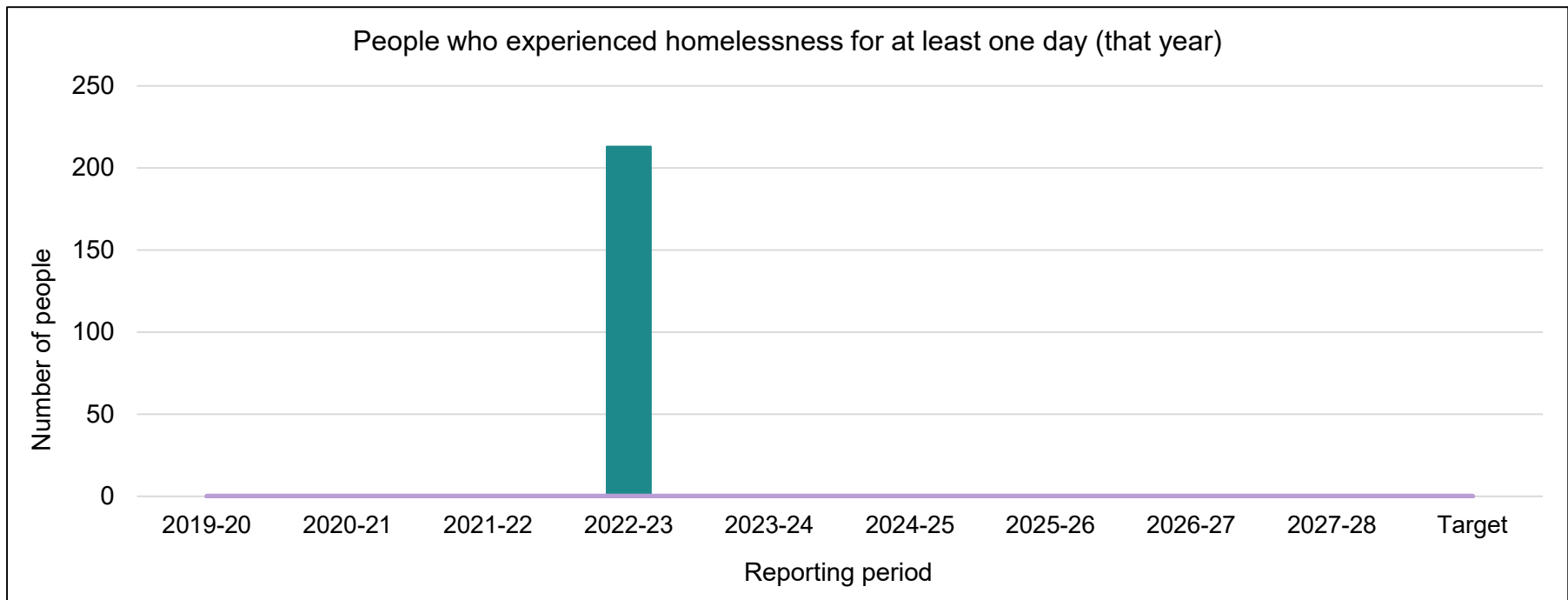
Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Annual

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report annual community-level outcomes for the reporting period.

Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly community-level data for Outcome #1 for the reporting period.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)										

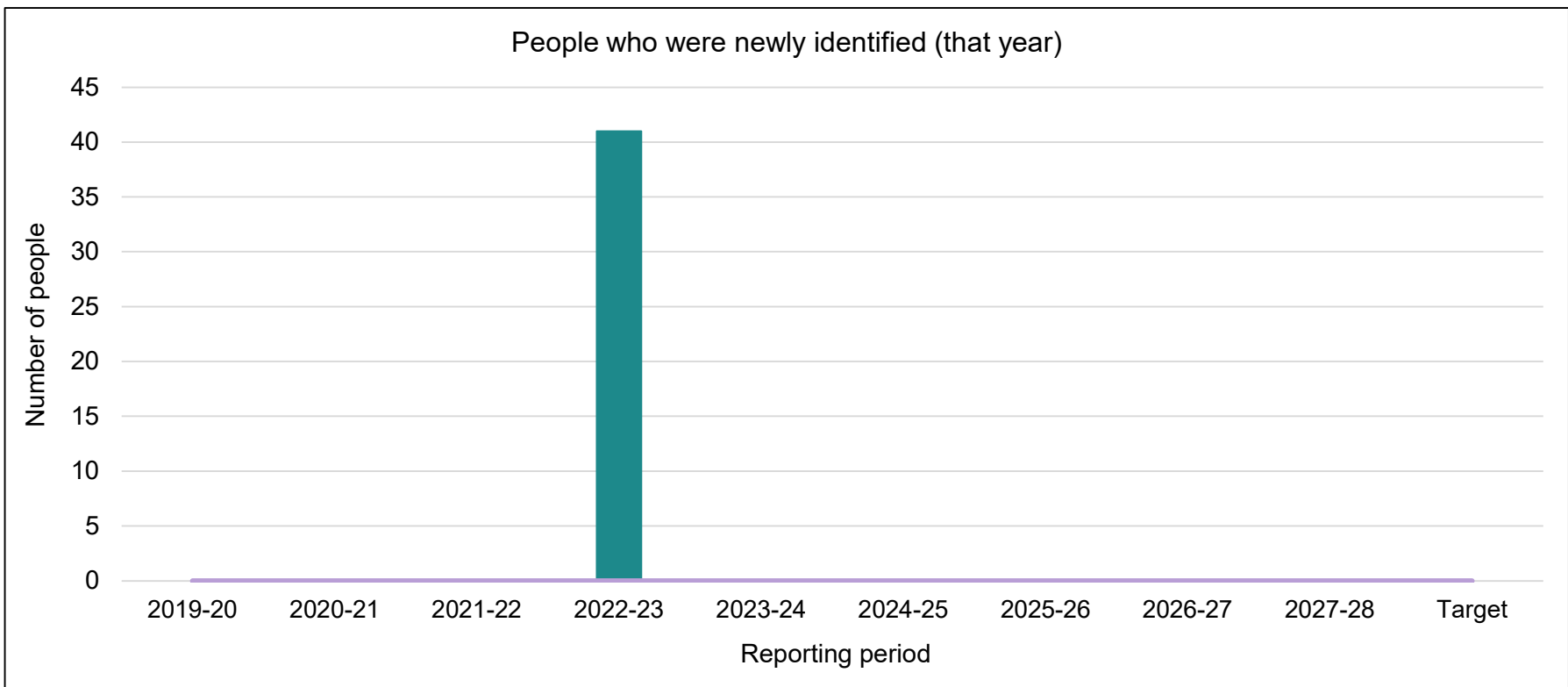




Outcome #2: Fewer people were newly identified (new inflows to homelessness are reduced)

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly community-level data for Outcome #2 for the reporting period.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who were newly identified (that year)										

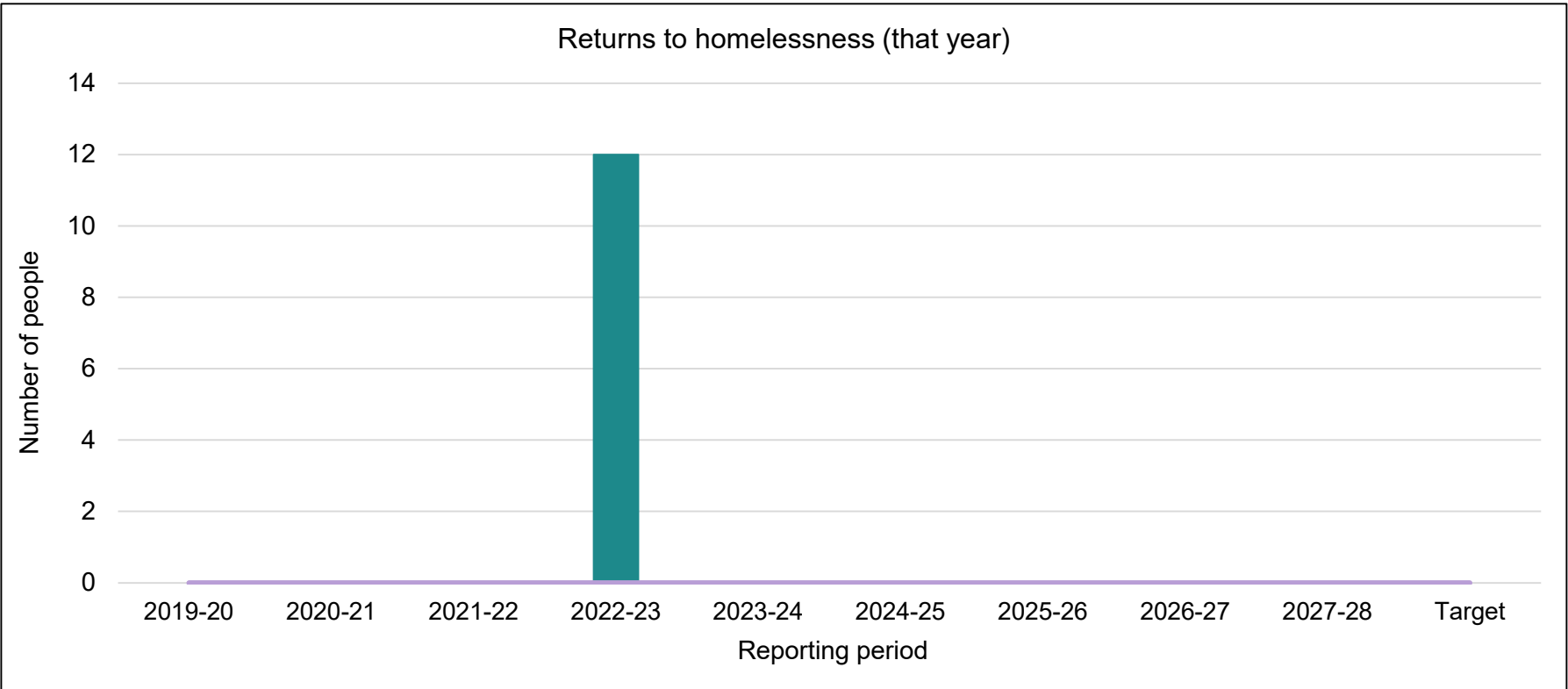




Outcome #3: Fewer people return to homelessness (returns to homelessness are reduced)

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly community-level data for Outcome #2 for the reporting period.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Returns to homelessness (that year)										

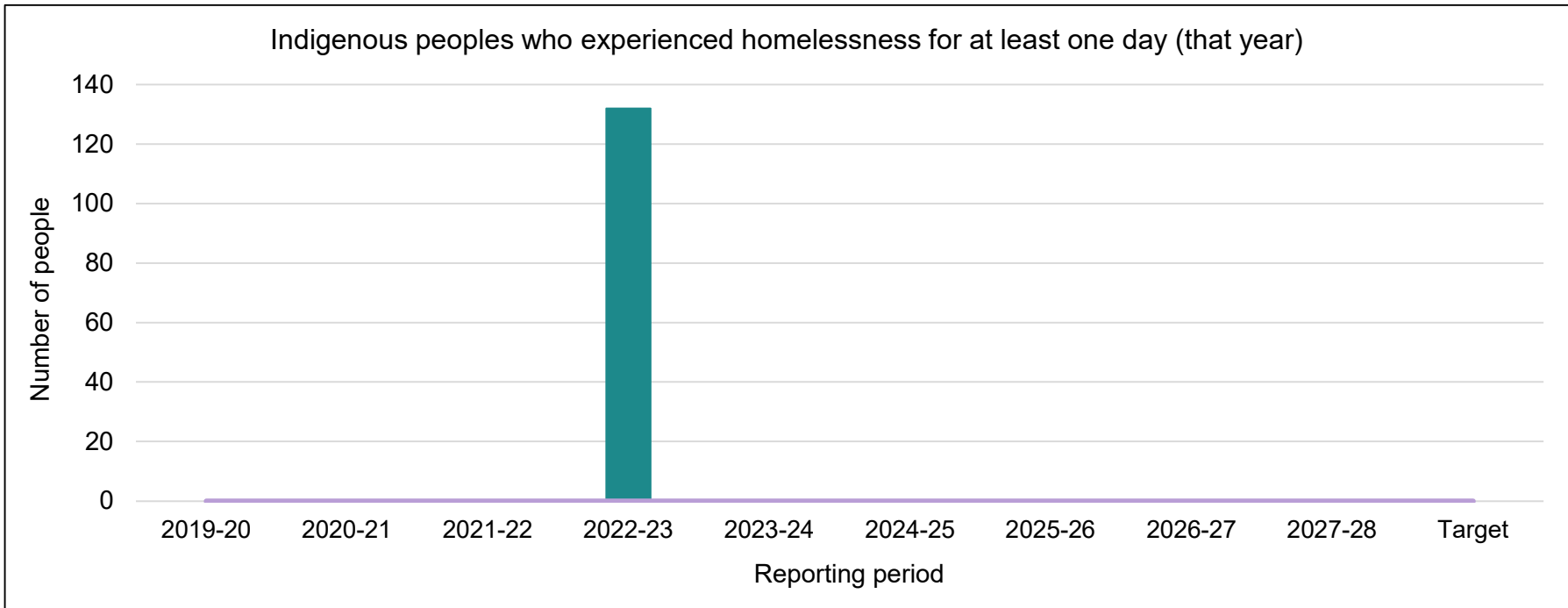




Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly community-level data for Outcome #4 for the reporting period.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)										





Outcome #5: Fewer people experience chronic homelessness (chronic homelessness is reduced)

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly community-level data for Outcome #5 for the reporting period.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that year)										

