

COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY

Brandon Designated Community

2023-2024

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 2023-24 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 person-specific data; 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

a) Specific to Coordinated Access, the HMIS and the Outcomes-Based Approach, has there been ongoing, meaningful collaboration between the DC CE and local Indigenous organizations, including those that sit on your CAB, over the reporting period?

→ Coordinated Access:	Yes
→ HMIS:	Yes
→ Outcomes-Based Approach:	Yes

Describe this collaboration in more detail.

Brandon, Manitoba has a long serving and dedicated network of community agencies dedicated to collaboration and networking in order to assist vulnerable citizens. Indigenous organizations and partners are being welcomed and recruited as we make efforts towards opportunities to acquiring the funding and supports that are needed in the second largest city in Manitoba. Our agencies are building a network to outlying Reserves and communities to access the supports and resources unique to each individual as Brandon is a hub which attracts individuals for various reasons. The Community Entity (CE) and Community Advisory Board (CAB) embraced HIFIS in the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and began to seek out Indigenous service providers and services to offer clients services. The CE has lobbied for a central services Centre since 2017, advocating for the vacated Service Canada building on Princess Avenue. The City of Brandon partners with the CE to maintain the HIFIS Database, so there is maximum security available for the data. The Mayor and Council created a new Strategic Plan that addresses the needs of the residents as a top priority throughout the document and the City addressed Encampments with a humanitarian approach rather than just unhousing and scattering people. The Indigenous perspective has taught us to verbalize and "acknowledge appreciation and respect".

a) Specific to the completion of this Community Homelessness Report (CHR), did ongoing, meaningful collaboration take place with the local Indigenous organizations, including those that sit on your CAB?

Yes

Describe this collaboration in more detail.

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) has Indigenous organization representatives at the table, so they participated in the discussions for all aspects of the document. In addition to the CAB discussions these partners were given an additional, private opportunity to submit comments, and they declined.

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

Section 2 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 under the 2019-2024 Reaching Home funding cycle.

	Completed	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 and Partnerships	HMIS	Access Points to Service	Triage and Assessment	Resource Inventory	Vacancy Matching and Referral with Prioritization
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Section 2 Summary Comment

Highlight efforts and/or issues related to the work your community has done over the last year related to the Reaching Home minimum requirements for Coordinated Access and an HMIS.

In the past fiscal year, the community has made several efforts to improve the Coordinated Access system. New agencies joined the network. The City of Brandon Community Housing and Wellness Coordinator signed agreements to join Coordinated Access as well as The Women's Resource Centre. Coordinated Access agencies collaborated to house clients outside of the network due to the extreme lack of housing stock in Brandon, limited funding, and high acuity needs. After community consultation, the HIFIS Coordinator completed and submitted 128 applications to Community Living Disability Services with the Manitoba Provincial Government Department of Families. The community advocated to have clients assessed for intellectual disabilities in an effort to provide much needed support. Many clients have never had the opportunity to be psychologically assessed as children due to systemic racism and barriers to service. 64 clients on the Coordinated Access network participated in an intake process, 6 have been psychologically assessed and at least one has already been determined to be eligible in the past year of advocacy. The HIFIS Coordinator also advocated to the Manitoba Families Department Employment and Income Assistance program to allow community nurses to sign off on disability paperwork because Brandon is also suffering from a doctor shortage and many precariously housed clients in the Coordinated Access network had income assistance lapsing from a lack of access. This effort resulted in 17 clients completing their paperwork and gaining financial support during a two-day blitz hosted by the 7th Street Health Access Centre. MMF Brandon Housing First in partnership with Manitoba Housing opened a transitional housing project to provide housing units for our aging chronically unhoused clients in Brandon. Housing First staff prioritized a street family in a housing unit where each client had their own space, but also a communal living area. This has been an ongoing request from our unsheltered community as many individual have reported feeling uncomfortable, lonely, and unsafe being housed alone in a single unit.

Section 3. Outcomes-Based Approach Self-Assessment

Section 3 Summary Table

The tables below provide a summary of the work your community has done so far to transition to an Outcomes-Based Approach under the 2019-2024 Reaching Home funding cycle.

Step 1: Maintain person-specific data	Step 2: Maintain real-time data	Step 3: Maintain comprehensive data
Yes	Yes	Yes

Step 4: Can report monthly outcomes and set targets using data (reporting monthly data in Section 4 is mandatory for 2023-24 CHRs)

Dataset was in place as of January 1, 2024 (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 (reporting annual data in Section 4 is mandatory once annual data can be generated)

Dataset was in place as of April 1, 2023 (or earlier)	Can generate annual 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	

Summary Comment

Highlight efforts and/or issues related to your community's work to implement, maintain or improve the Outcomes-Based Approach under Reaching Home.

The community continues to work collaboratively to reach targets set by Reaching Home to reduce homelessness, however, we are experiencing an influx of unsheltered individuals from rural communities and adjacent urban centres. The HIFIS Coordinator has expanded the HIFIS network into rural communities in an effort to gain a greater understanding of rural and Indigenous needs outside of the Designated Community. Improving person-specific data in the rural communities is imperative for success in our community as well. Without accurate rural homelessness statistics, it is unlikely that the rural communities will be able to secure funding for much needed housing and support services. This creates a service vacuum for unsheltered individuals in need, forcing them to travel to urban centres to find the support and services they require. The HIFIS Partner Agency meetings to discuss prioritization, housing, harm reduction and needs in the community occur weekly. Housing Histories are often discussed during these meetings in an effort to improve person specific data and update the By Name List.

Additional information - Timely data

Once new information is available about a person, on average, how long does it take for changes to be updated in the database for the following:

→ Interaction with the system (e.g., changes from “active” to “inactive”)?	Within a week
→ Housing history (e.g., changes from “homeless” to “housed”)?	Within a week
→ Data that is relevant and necessary for Coordinated Access (e.g., data used to determine who is eligible and can be prioritized for a vacancy)?	Within a week

Additional information - Data collection and entry processes

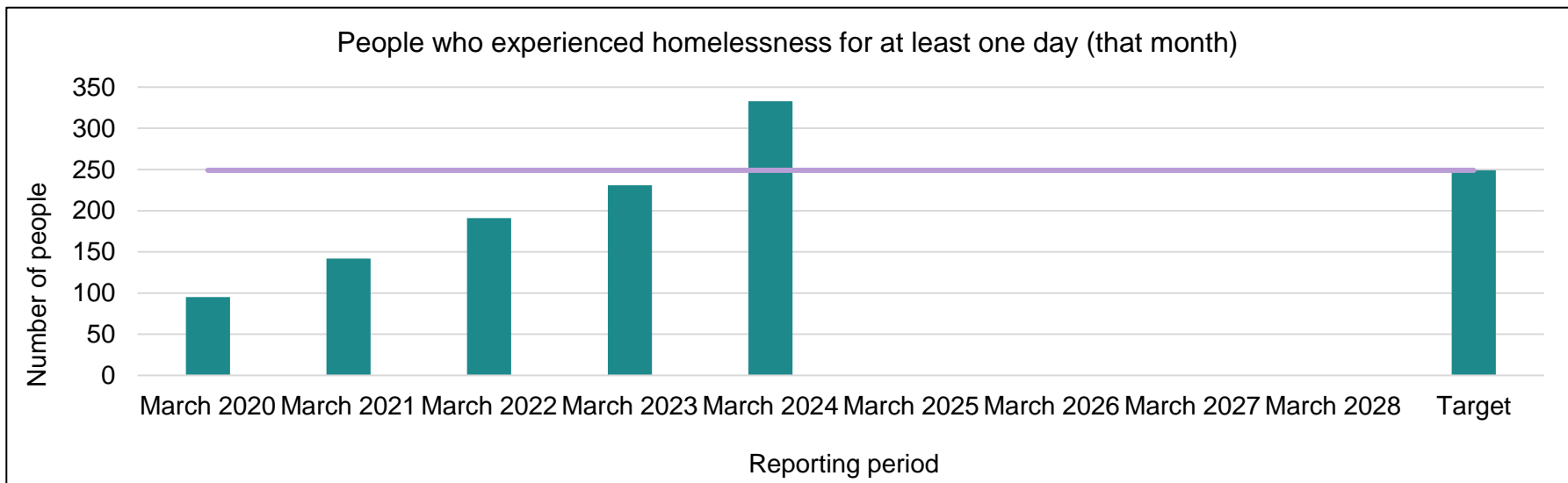
Describe the process(es) used by service providers to collect and enter data about people currently experiencing homelessness into the database.

All Service Providers on the Homelessness Information Partnership Brandon (HIPB) HIFIS network are responsible for ensuring that clients provide informed consent and sign a HIFIS consent form prior to adding their data to the HIFIS network. HIFIS users are required to enter client data to the HIFIS network within 5 days of client interaction. Each Service Provider is responsible for entering only relevant data to the service they provide, for example, shelter and drop-in centre data will be entered in the Admission module for the client.

Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Monthly

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

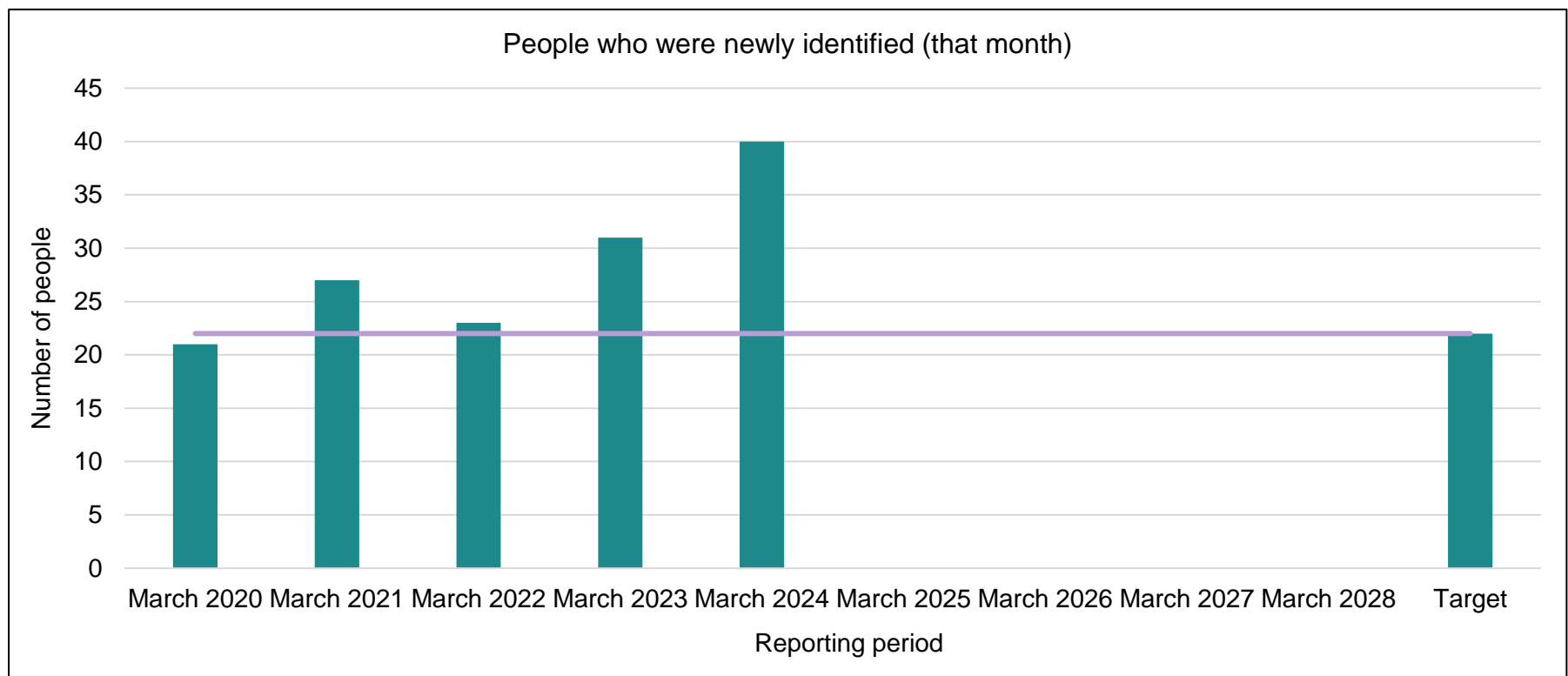
	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)	95	142	191	231	333					249



O#1(M) What is your baseline year?	March 2020
Overall homelessness will increase by 162% between March 2020 and March 2028.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from March 2020 to March 2023 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data from March 2023 entered in the previous CHR report has changed for this year's report. Last year, the outcome for March 2023 was 196, this year it is 231. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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

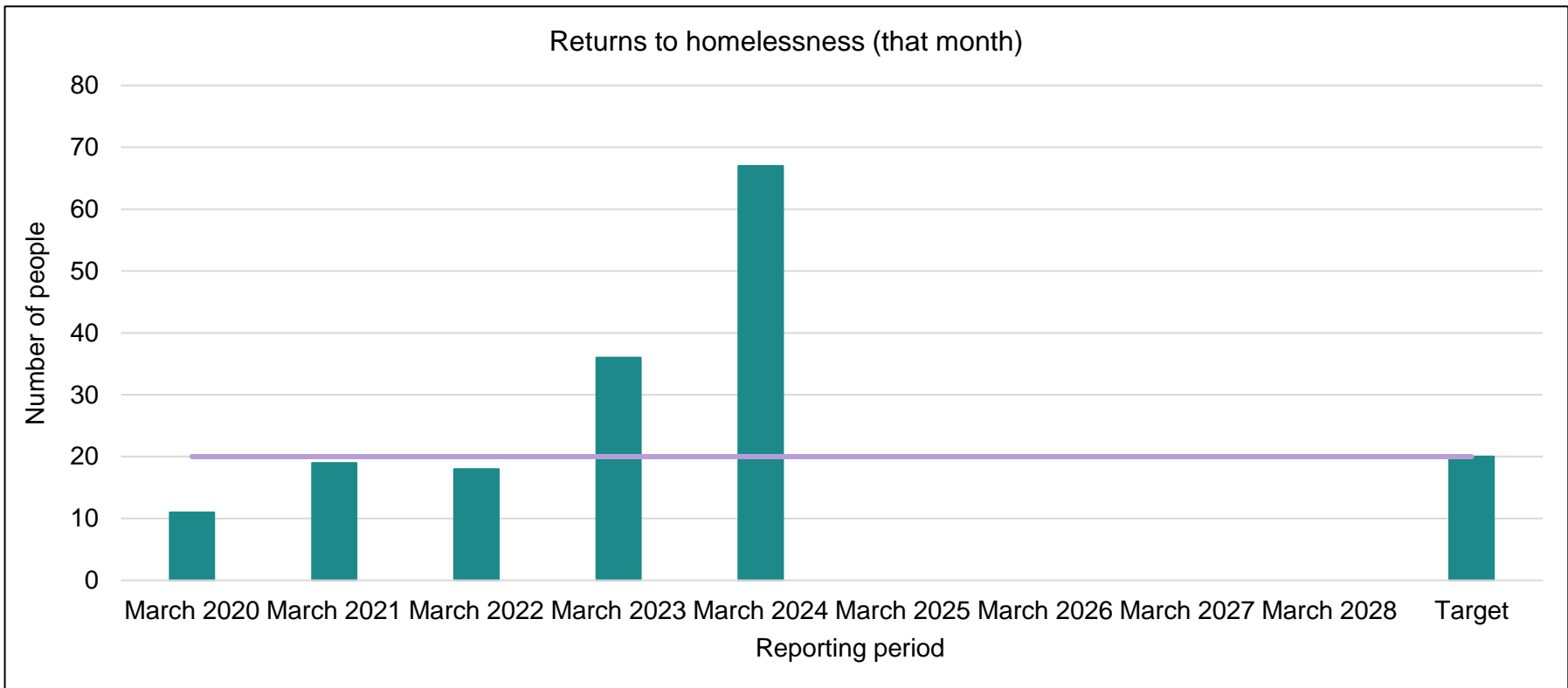
	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who were newly identified (that month)	21	27	23	31	40					22



O#2(M) What is your baseline year?	March 2020
New inflows to homelessness will increase by 5% between March 2020 and March 2028.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from March 2020 to March 2023 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data outcomes from March 2021 and March 2023 changed slightly from 26 to 27 and 26 to 31 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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

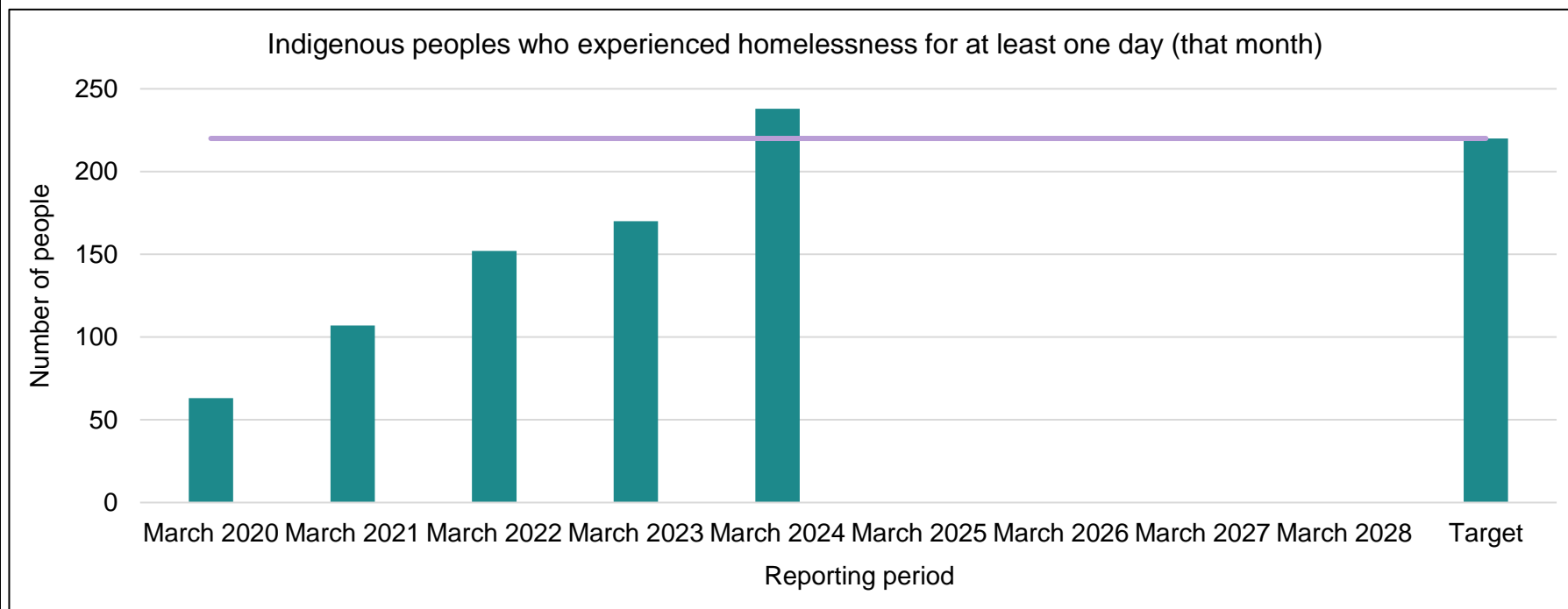
	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Returns to homelessness (that month)	11	19	18	36	67					20



O#3(M) What is your baseline year?	March 2020
Returns to homelessness will increase by 82% between March 2020 and March 2028.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from March 2020 to March 2023 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data outcomes from 2022 and 2023 have changed slightly from 15 to 18 and 23 to 36 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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

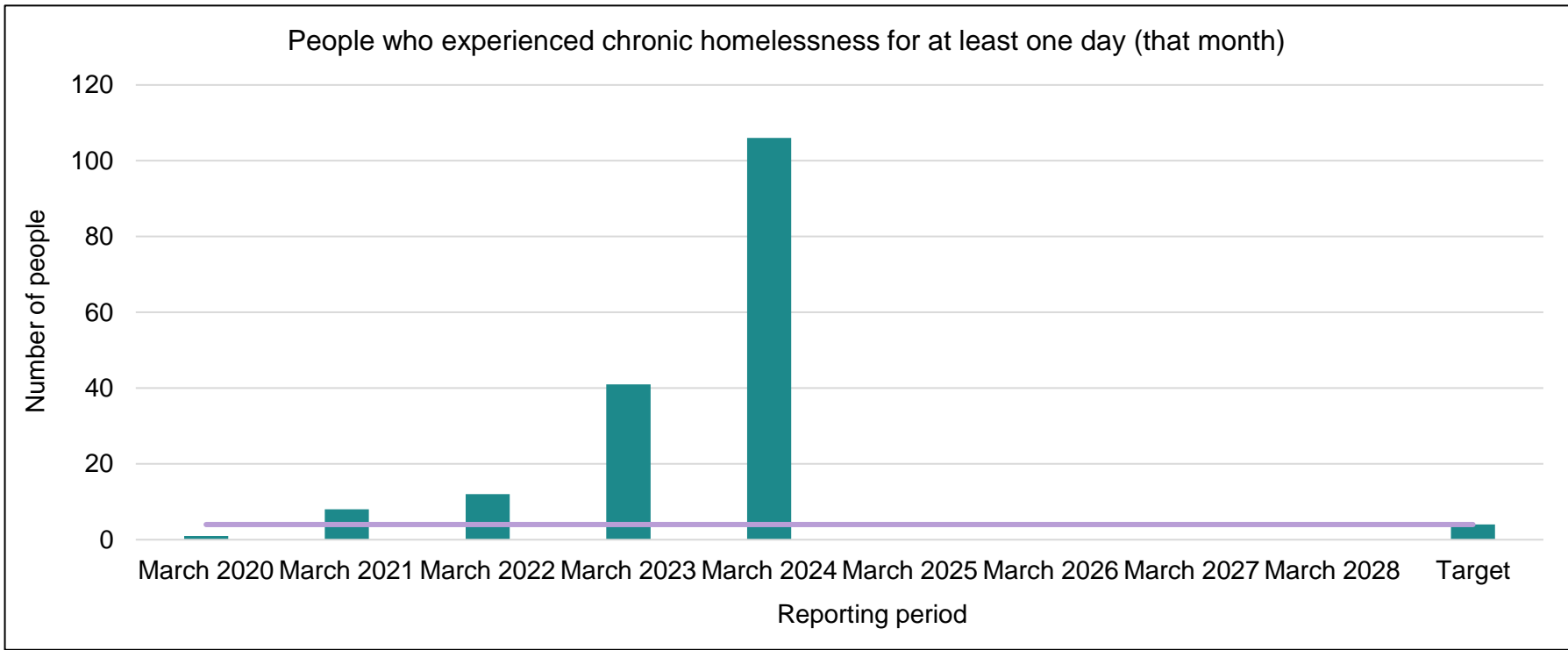
	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)	63	107	152	170	238					220



O#4(M) What is your baseline year?	March 2020
Indigenous homelessness will increase by 249% between March 2020 and March 2028.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from March 2020 to March 2023 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was “N/A” was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Were Indigenous partners engaged in the process of setting the baseline, setting the target, reporting on the outcome and/or interpreting the results?	No
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data outcomes from March 2020, 2021, and 2023 changed slightly from 60 to 63, 105 to 107, and 148 to 170 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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)	1	8	12	41	106					4

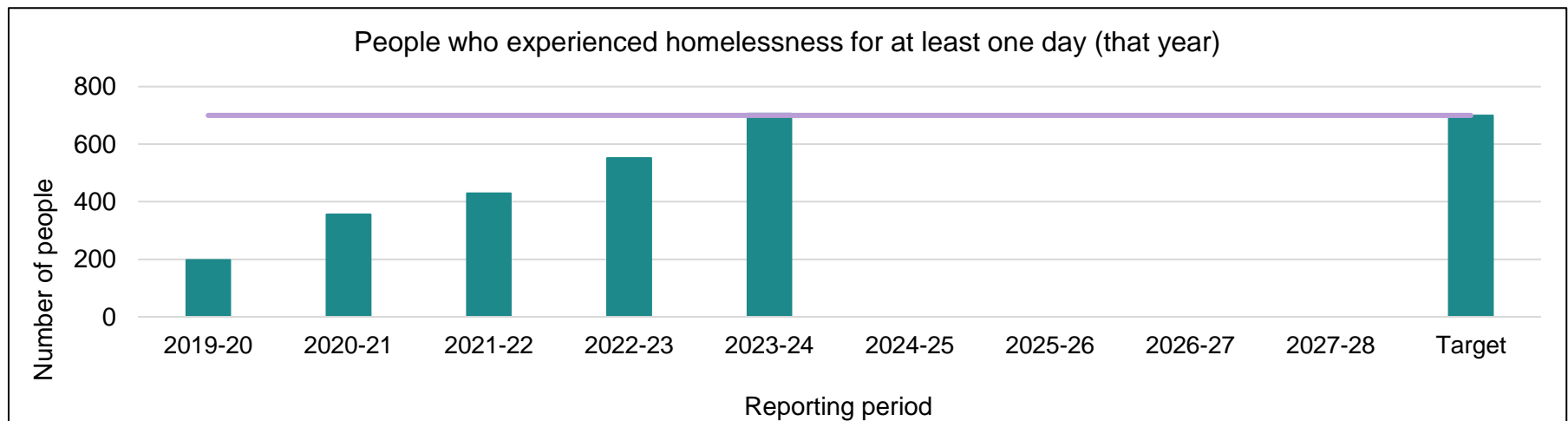


O#5(M) What is your baseline year?	March 2021
Chronic homelessness will decrease by 50% between March 2021 and March 2028.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from March 2020 to March 2023 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, the target has changed
Was “N/A” was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
<p>The data outcomes from 2022 and 2023 have changed from 26 to 12 and 90 to 41 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published. The target outcome was changed for chronic homelessness this year to fall in line with Reaching Home expectations. However, the Community Advisory Board (CAB) believes this number to be an unreasonable goal given the rate our homelessness numbers are growing. In the 2022/23 CHR report the CAB set target for March 2028 at 45 and still believe this to be a more achievable goal than 4.</p>	

Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Annual

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

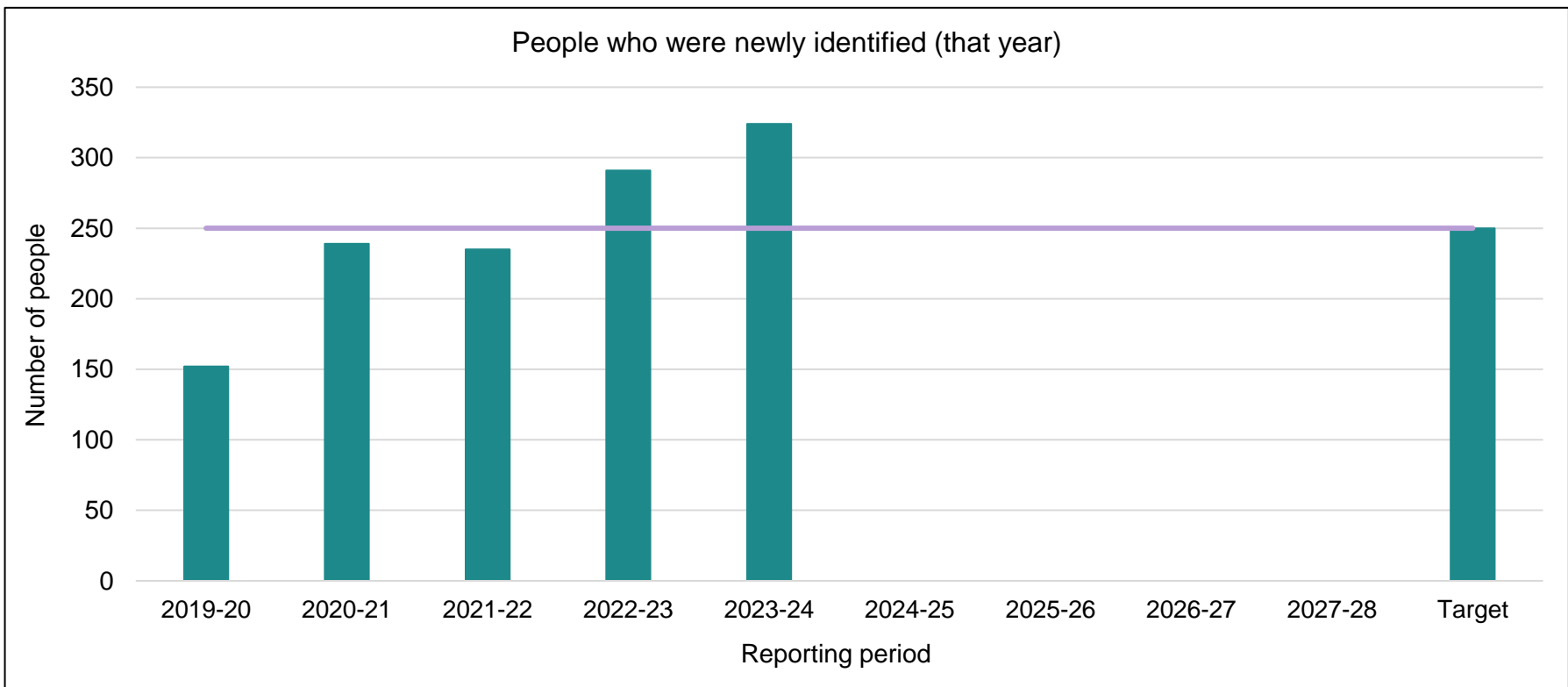
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)	198	356	429	552	706					700



O#1(A) What is your baseline year?	2020-21
Overall homelessness will increase by 97% between 2020-21 and 2027-28.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from 2019-20 to 2022-23 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data from fiscal year 2021/2022 and 2022/23 have changed from 435 to 429 and 550 to 552 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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

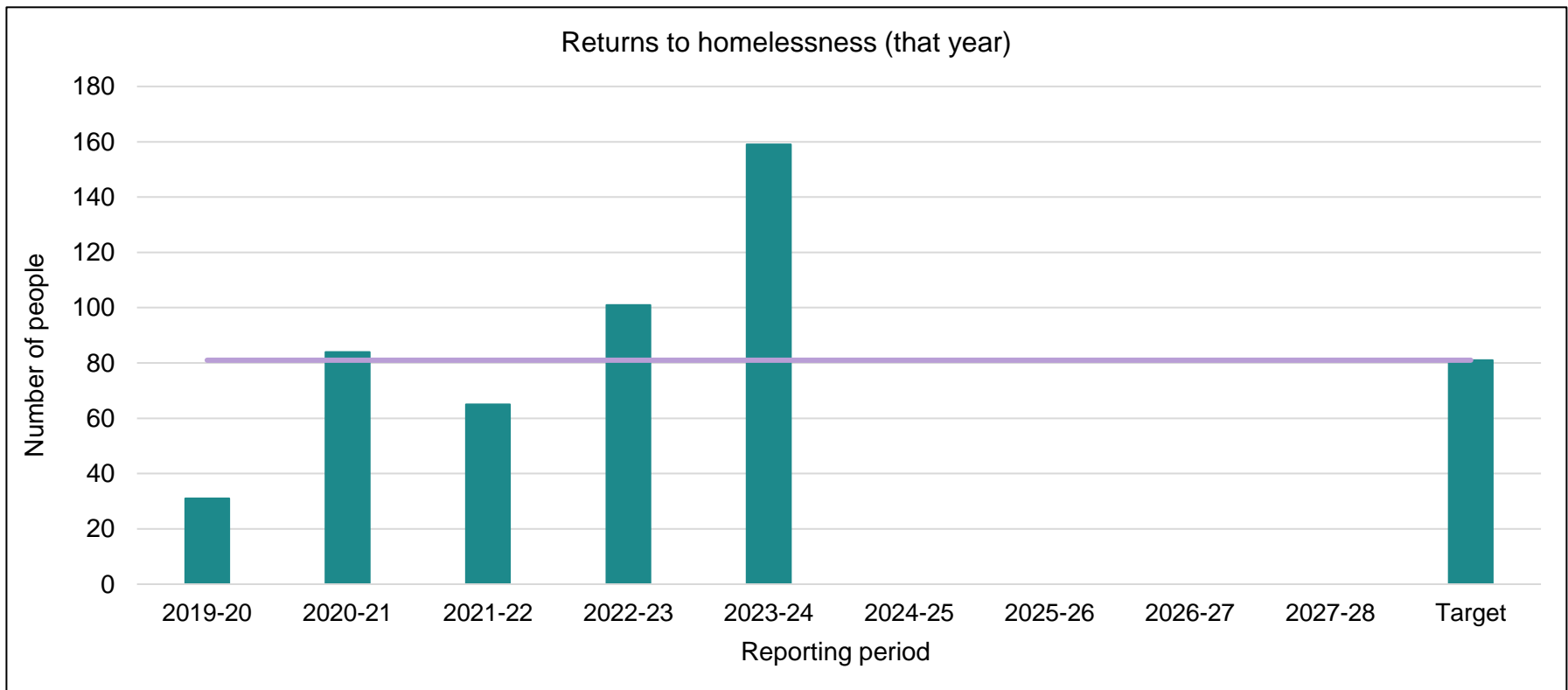
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who were newly identified (that year)	152	239	235	291	324					250



O#2(A) What is your baseline year?	2020-21
New inflows to homelessness will increase by 5% between 2020-21 and 2027-28.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from 2019-20 to 2022-23 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data outcomes from 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23 changes slightly from 242 to 239, 242 to 235, and 294 to 291 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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

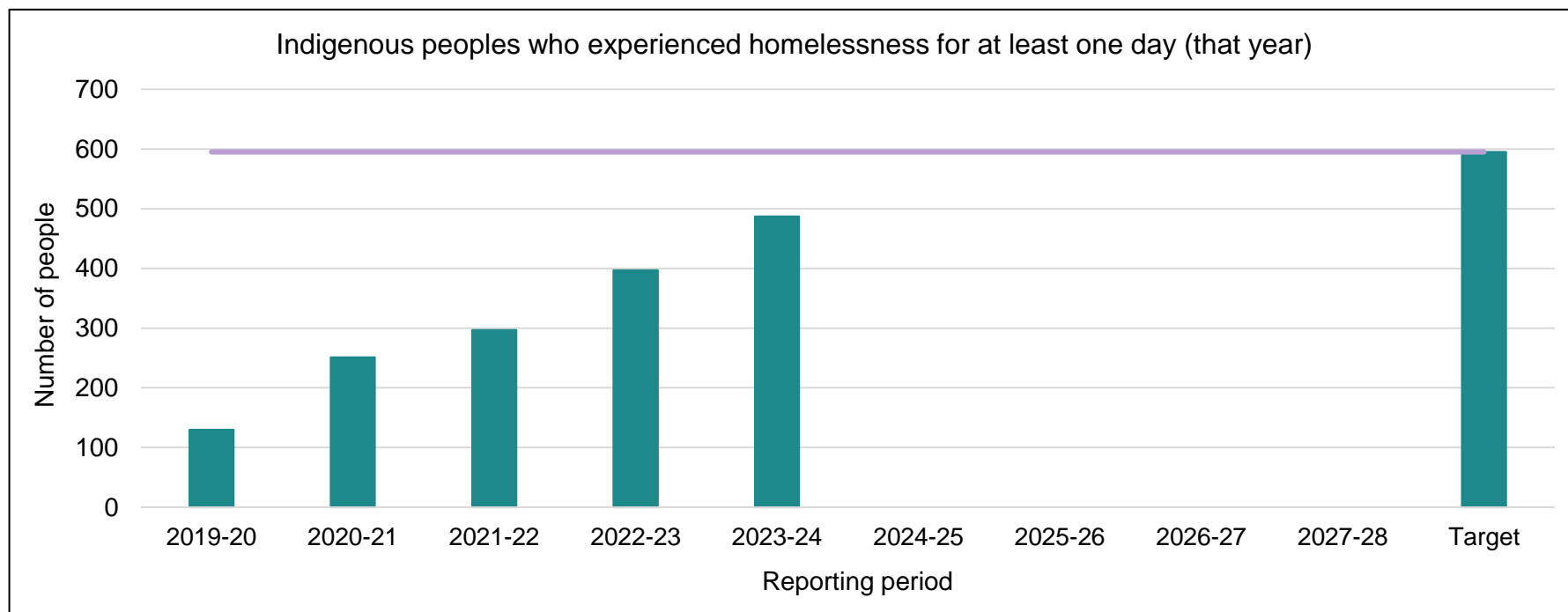
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Returns to homelessness (that year)	31	84	65	101	159					81



O#3(A) What is your baseline year?	2020-21
Returns to homelessness will decrease by 4% between 2020-21 and 2027-28.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from 2019-20 to 2022-23 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data outcomes for 2021/22 and 2022/23 have changed slightly from 69 to 65 and 91 to 101 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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

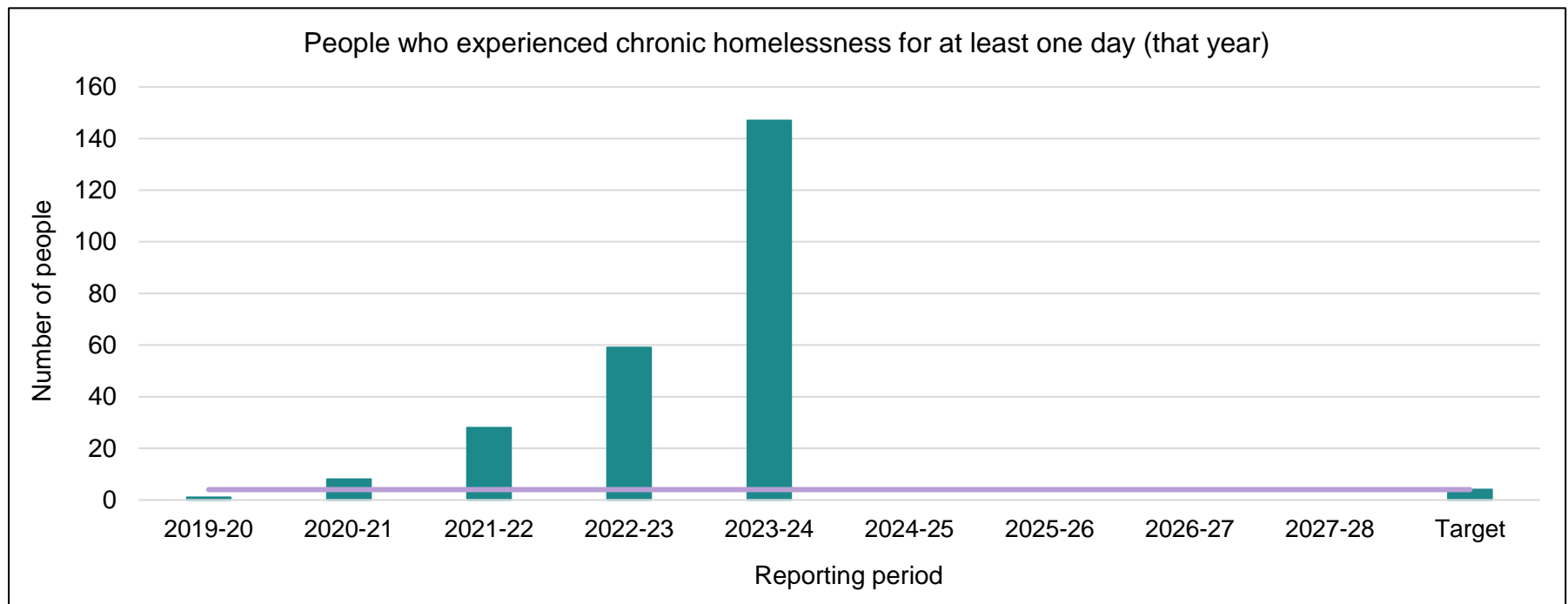
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)	130	251	297	397	487					595



O#4(A) What is your baseline year?	2020-21
Indigenous homelessness will increase by 137% between 2020-21 and 2027-28.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from 2019-20 to 2022-23 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	No, the target has not changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Were Indigenous partners engaged in the process of setting the baseline, setting the target, reporting on the outcome and/or interpreting the results?	No
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
The data outcomes from 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23 changed slightly from 249 to 251, 301 to 297, and 399 to 397 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published.	

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

	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)	1	8	28	59	147					4



O#5(A) What is your baseline year?	2020-21
Chronic homelessness will decrease by 50% between 2020-21 and 2027-28.	
How was this Outcome generated?	HIFIS Reaching Home Community Outcomes report
Has the data you reported for this Outcome from 2019-20 to 2022-23 changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, some of the data has changed
Has the target you set changed from your previous CHR?	Yes, the target has changed
Was "N/A" was used for one or more data points?	No, N/A was not used for one or more data point
Please use the following comment box to provide context on your data.	
<p>The data outcomes from 2021/22 and 2022/23 have changed from 49 to 28 and 129 to 59 respectively. This discrepancy likely occurred due to backdated data entry, merging of duplicate clients, and/or data corrections after the final report for 2022/23 was published. The target outcome was changed for chronic homelessness this year to fall in line with Reaching Home expectations. However, the Community Advisory Board (CAB) believes this number to be an unreasonable goal given the rate our homelessness numbers are growing. In the 2022/23 CHR report the CAB set their chronic homelessness target for 2027/28 at 64 and still believe this to be a more achievable goal than 4.</p>	