

COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY

(Sault Ste. Marie)

2021-2022

Collaboration between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Partners

Specific to the implementation of Coordinated Access and an HMIS, has there been collaboration between the Designated Community (DC) Community Entity (CE) and local Indigenous organizations?

Yes

Describe how this collaboration was done and how it affected the implementation of Coordinated Access and/or the HMIS. How will it be strengthened in the future?

In the fall of 2021 Coordinated Access subcommittee meetings were held that included the DC/CE, funded service providers, and staff from local Indigenous agencies. At that time, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services and the local Indigenous Friendship Center, agreed to work in tandem to become an Indigenous access point within Sault Ste. Marie. Ongoing dialogue continues with Indigenous partnering agencies as it relates to Coordinated Access and the use of Hifis.

b) Describe how this collaboration was done and how it affected the implementation of Coordinated Access and/or the HMIS. How will it be strengthened in the future?

Initially, this collaboration was completed with the development of a subcommittee including Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services and the Indigenous Friendship Center. Unfortunately, the Coordinated Access Subcommittee meetings were later put on hold due to other competing priorities (Covid, Encampments).

Due to this collaboration the use of an Indigenous common assessment tool created by Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services was agreed upon for the purposes of the Urgent Homeless Program. Within the Urgent Homeless Program when social housing units are vacant they are offered to Urgent Homeless Program participants (both mainstream and Indigenous) at a one to one ratio: One Indigenous program applicant to one mainstream program applicant.

This subcommittee also facilitated conversations around an Indigenous access point. This is still in development with Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services and the local Indigenous Friendship Center.

c) Describe how this collaboration will happen over the coming year.

Over the coming year, we will continue to strengthen and develop the Coordinated Access system and HIFIS in collaboration

Specific to the implementation of Coordinated Access and an HMIS, has there been collaboration between the DC CE and the Indigenous Homelessness (IH) CE and/or Community Advisory Board (CAB), where applicable?	No
Describe how this collaboration will happen over the coming year.	
<p>Initially, the implementation of Coordinated Access and HMIS conversations took place at the Coordinated Access subcommittee meetings. While the Indigenous CAB was not directly involved, two local Indigenous agencies participating in the subcommittee meetings both sit as members of the Indigenous CAB.</p> <p>The DSSMSSAB is hopeful that the reconvening of the CA subcommittee will assist in the sharing of this information with the Indigenous CAB by the members who sit on CA subcommittee. This request will be included as an agenda item in the first meeting for their consideration.</p>	

<p>With respect to the completion of the Community Homelessness Report (CHR), was there collaboration between local Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations and, where applicable, the IH CE and/or CAB?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Describe when this collaboration occurred and what parts of the CHR were informed by these efforts.</p>	
<p>October 4 2022 DSSMSSAB staff sent a doodle poll to all CAB members outlining two potential dates for an in person CAB meeting on October 14, 2022 or October 17, 2022.</p> <p>Vote results indicated October 17, 2022 was the preferred date for most CAB members, including two members of the ICAB; therefore, October 17 was the date chosen to ensure collaboration.</p> <p>October 13, 2022 DSSMSSAB staff sent an email to all CAB members advising that October 17, 2022 would be the preferred date for the in person CAB meeting. Attached to the email was an agenda, a copy of the draft CHR, and the updated Coordinated Access guide.</p> <p>October 17, 2022 In person CAB meeting held. Unfortunately, only three members were in attendance, John Howard Society, Pauline’s Place and the Downtown Association. Despite having no quorum the CHR was reviewed for those in attendance, along with the updated Coordinate Access Guide.</p> <p>October 17, 2022 DSSMSSAB staff sent an email to the Indigenous Friendship Centre asking for their review and edits to the CHR. A response was requested by October 21, 2022. The Indigenous Friendship Center indicated a response by the outlined date via email, but this was not provided.</p> <p>October 18, 2022 DSSMSSAB staff sent an email, with the CHR attached, to all CAB members regarding the lack of attendance for final approval. A request was made for CAB members to review and provide any edits, additions, or deletions by a deadline of Friday October 21st, 2022 at 430 pm. The email outlined e-voting on the CHR and the date of the e-vote scheduled for Tuesday October 25th,</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.	
<p>DSSMSSAB staff will request the Indigenous Coordinated Access subcommittee members, who are also members of the Indigenous CAB, present the updates related to Coordinated Access at the ICAB meetings. This will allow the ICAB to provide feedback into the system which will ultimately be reflected in the Community Homelessness Report. Further, this process could allow for more opportunity for collaboration and engagement from other Indigenous agencies in Sault Ste. Marie, who sit as part of the ICAB.</p>	

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? In particular, please include an update about your community's efforts to set-up, sustain and/or improve the Coordinated Access system and use of an HMIS.

The DSSMSSAB has been moving towards a Coordinated Access system since 2015. Governance of the Housing and Homelessness system has naturally been the Homelessness Prevention Team, with the DSSMSSAB monitoring as needed. HIFIS has been a part of the Housing and Homelessness system since 2015 as well. This past fiscal, data collection was focused on and this is apparent in the data the DSSMSSAB was able to provide in this report. Access points have been identified within the community, and through discussions and past meetings an Indigenous Access Point is also in development. Common Assessment tools used within Sault Ste. Marie include the SPDAT alongside the Indigenous Assessment tool, Wiidookadaadiwin Ozhi, created by Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services. Both of these tools are used to triage supports and services within the Coordinated Access system. For those who are triaged to the Urgent Homeless Program, vacancy matching and referral discussions occur at the Homelessness Prevention Team meetings.

Outcomes-Based Approach Self-Assessment

Where does data for the List come from?

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

Please describe the other data source(s):

Information placed on the list comes from a By Name List application form where all demographic data is provided with consent.

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

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

When completing the CHR, Sault Ste. Marie used Hifis and the BNL to provide the data reported in this CHR. Generally speaking, the data has been similar between both data sources, pointing to true numbers as time goes on.

Summary Table

The table below provides 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	Step 4:	
			Can report annual outcome data (mandatory)	Can report monthly outcome data (optional)
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Summary Comment

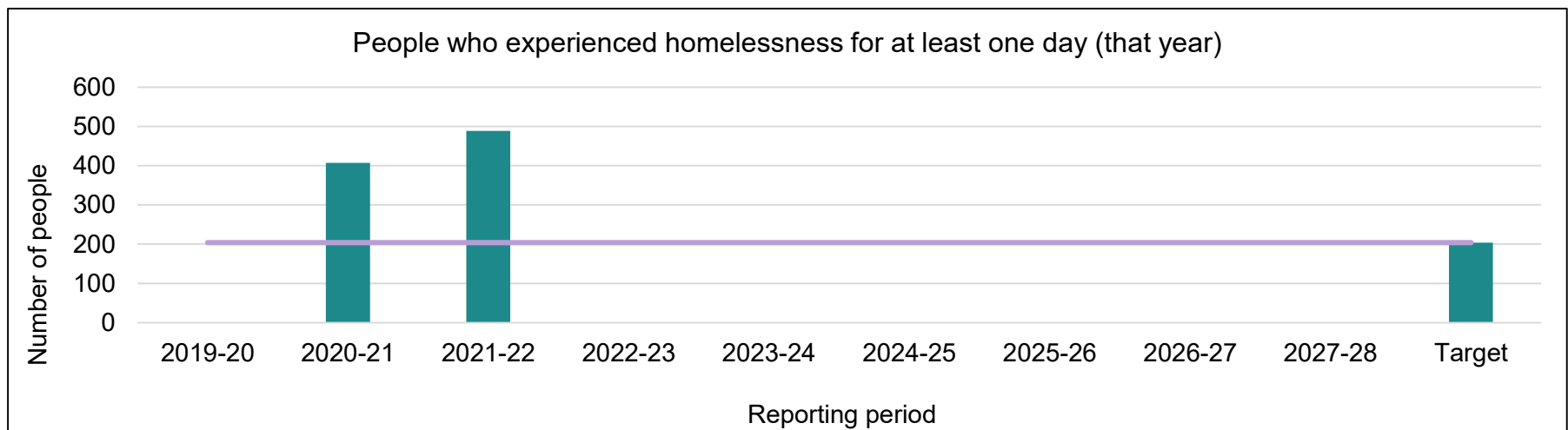
Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home?

Sault Ste Marie is currently working with the local Innovation Center to build in Coordinated Access priorities (both federal and provincial) into the By Name List to designate who would be next for service. Data from the list has been imperative in community planning, shelter planning, forecasting need, and prioritization.

Community-Level Core Outcomes – Annual Data Reporting

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)		407	489	-	-	-	-	-	-	204

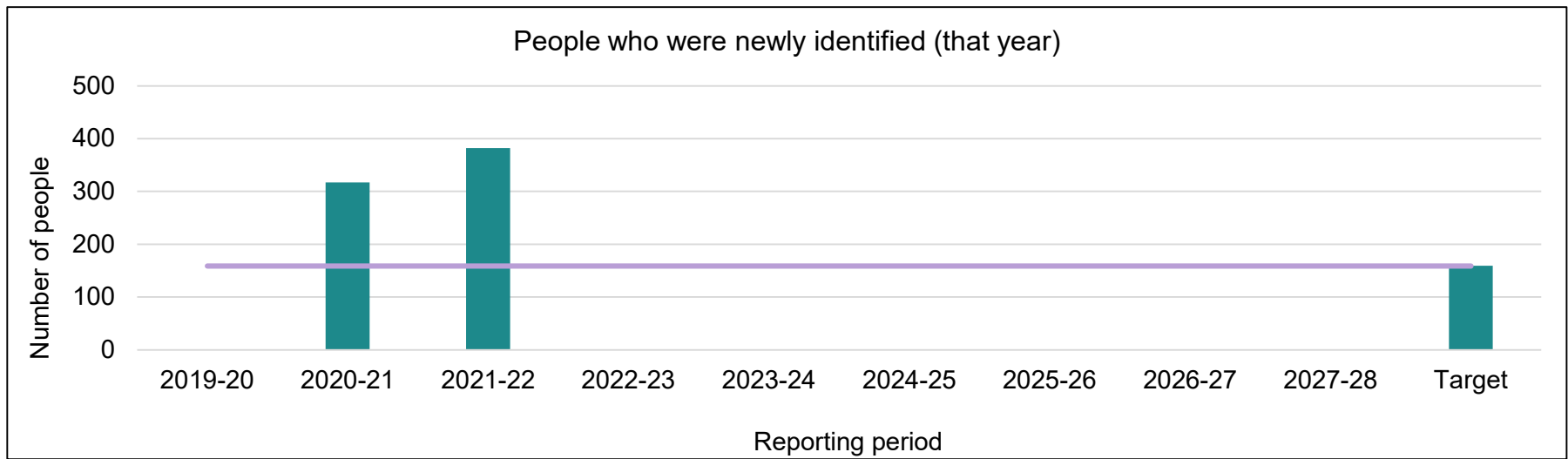


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #1? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.

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)		317	382	-	-	-	-	-	-	159

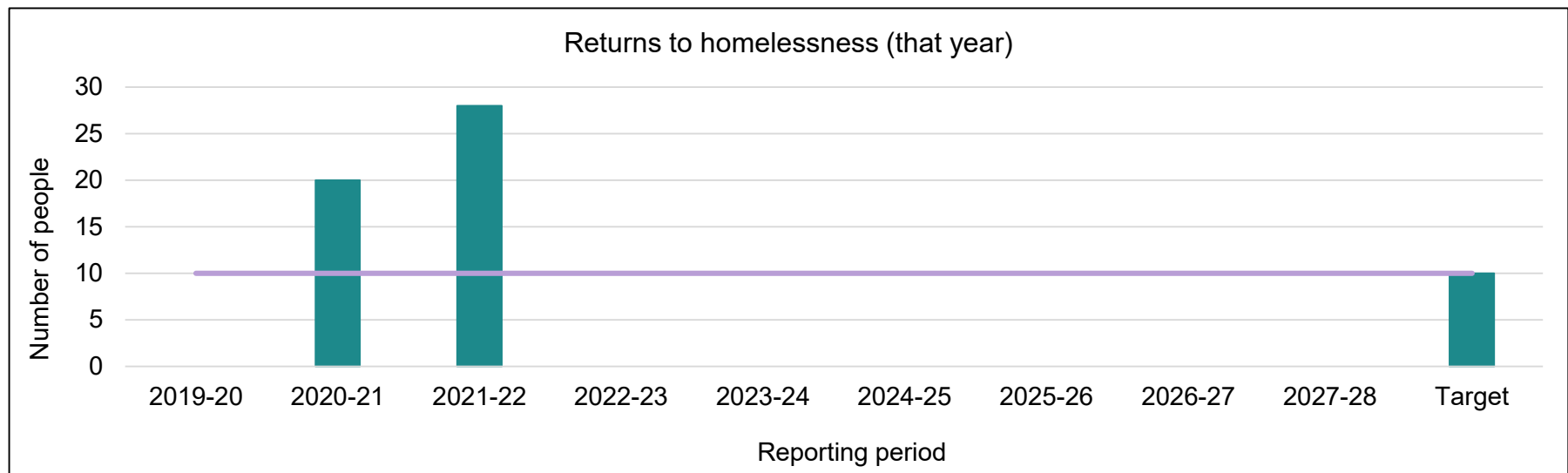


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #1? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.

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)		20	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	10

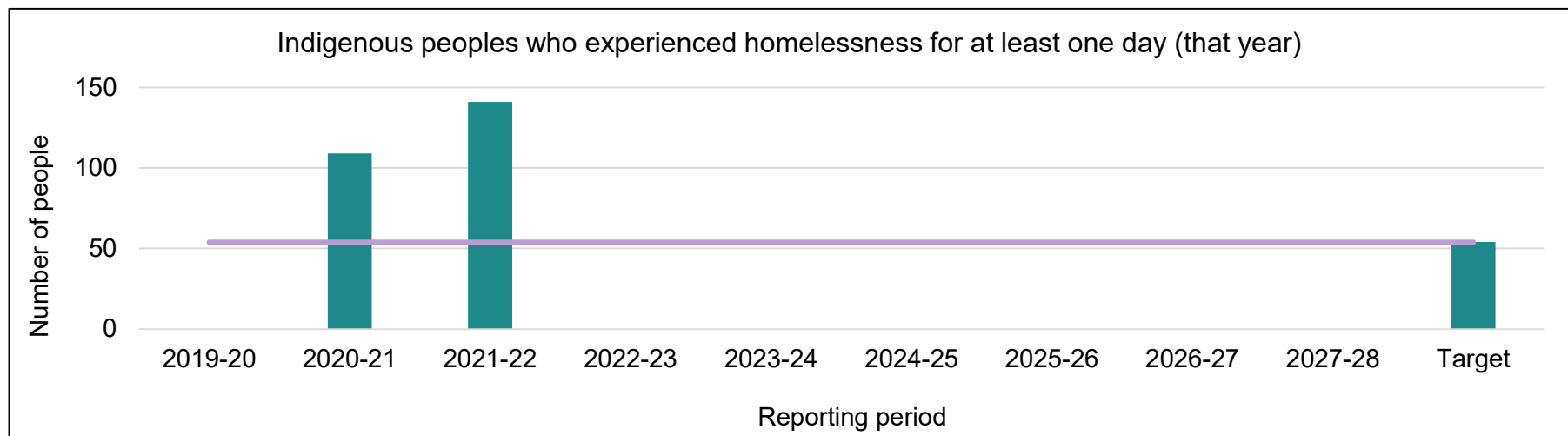


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #3? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.

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)		109	141	-	-	-	-	-	-	54

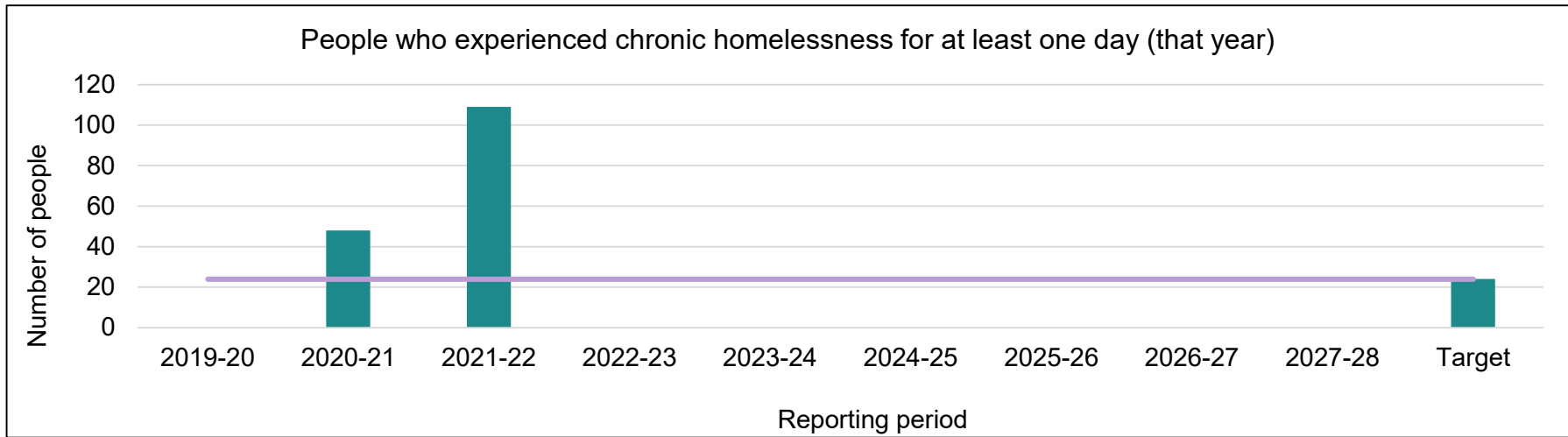


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #4? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

Data collection from Indigenous partnering agencies has been limited. There is an acknowledgment that the data shown above may not be reflective of the total number of Indigenous people experiencing homelessness. Of particular concern, the data above does not seem to correlate with the results of the Point in Time Count that highlighted 65% of those experiencing homelessness identified as Indigenous. Further collaboration is required to ensure the data collected for the purposes of the CHR is a true representation of those experiencing homelessness in Sault Ste. Marie.

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)		48	109	-	-	-	-	-	-	24



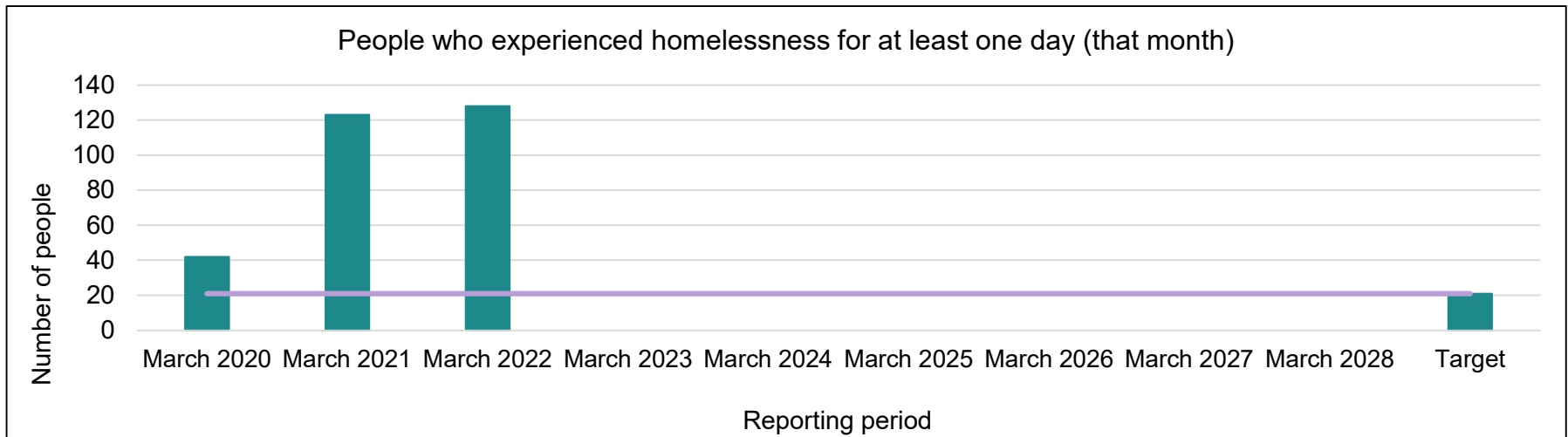
Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #5? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.

Community-Level Core Outcomes – Monthly Data Reporting

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)	42	123	128	-	-	-	-	-	-	21

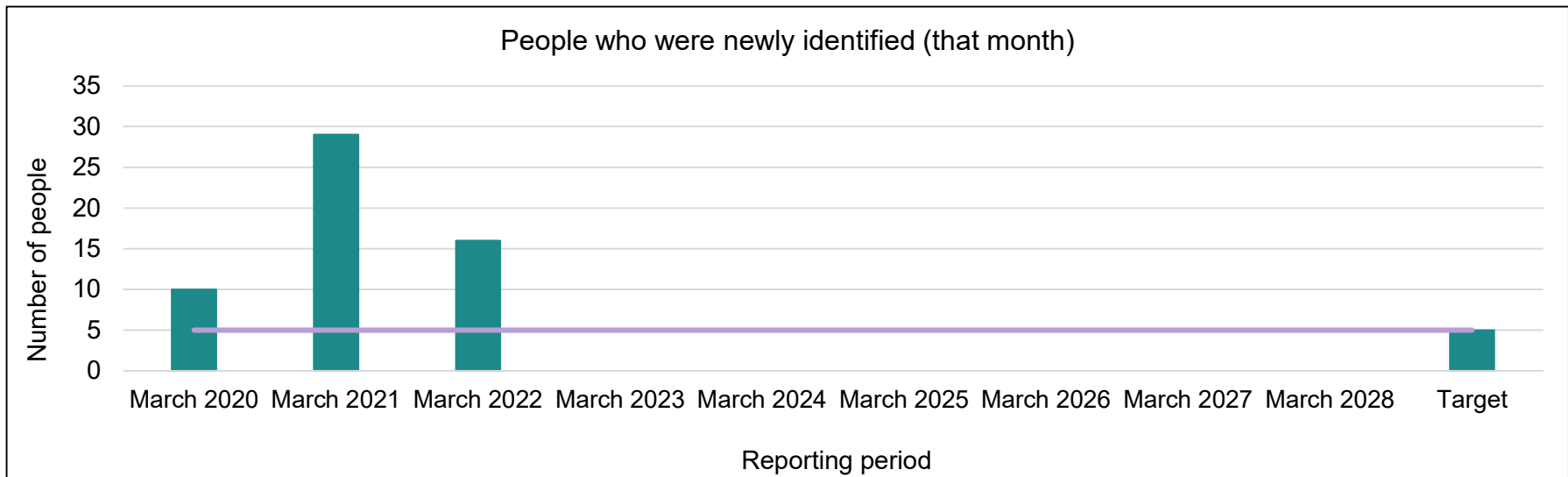


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #1? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.

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)	10	29	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	5

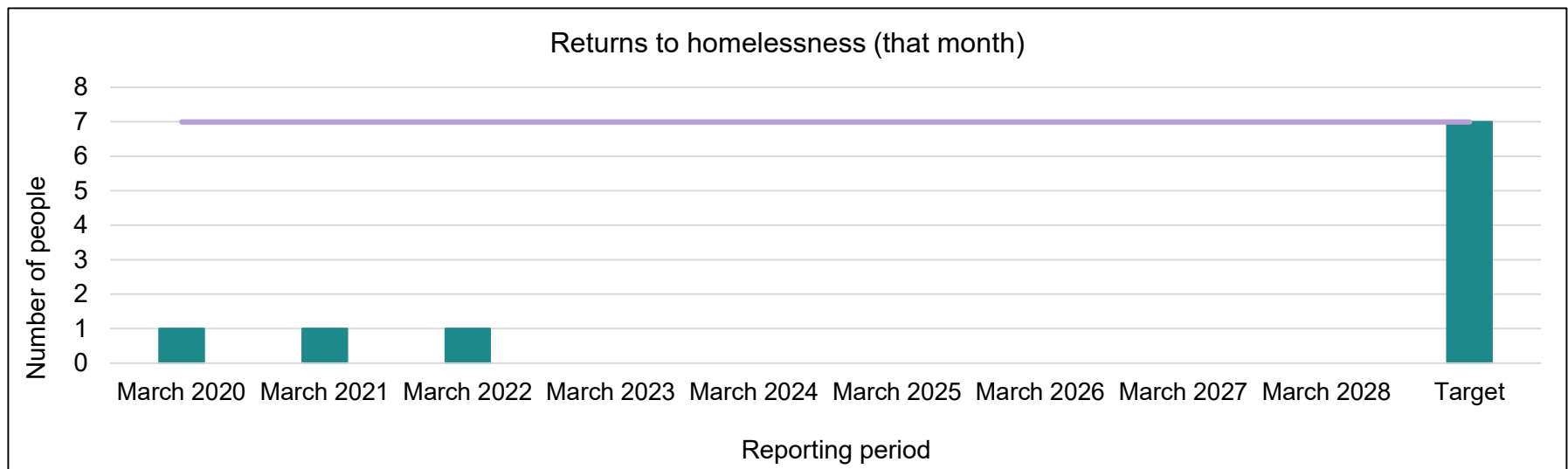


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #2? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.

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)	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7

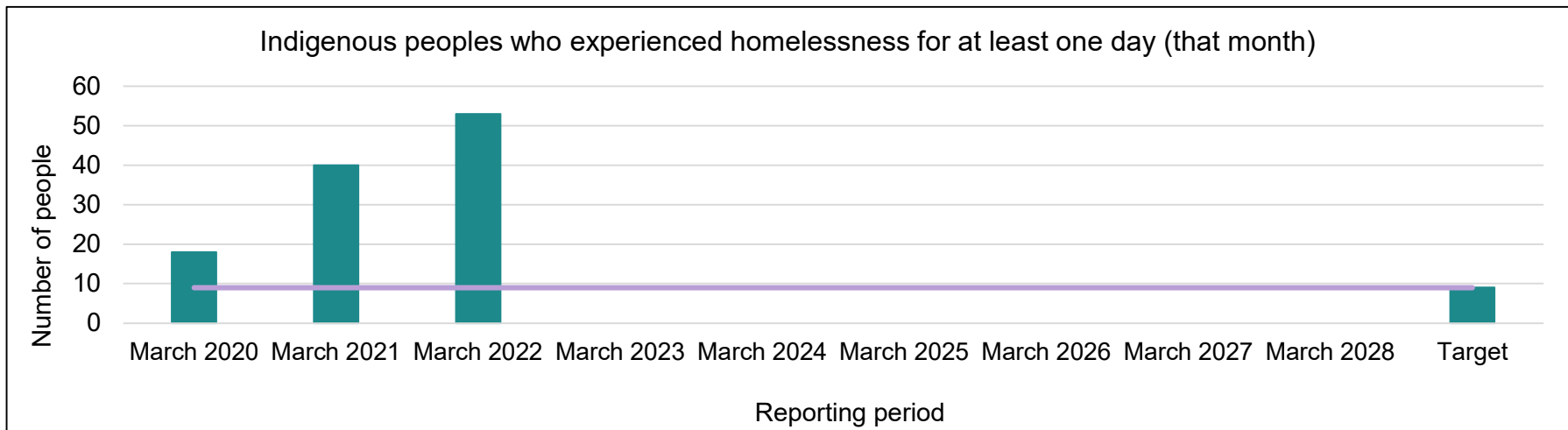


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #3? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.

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)	18	40	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	9

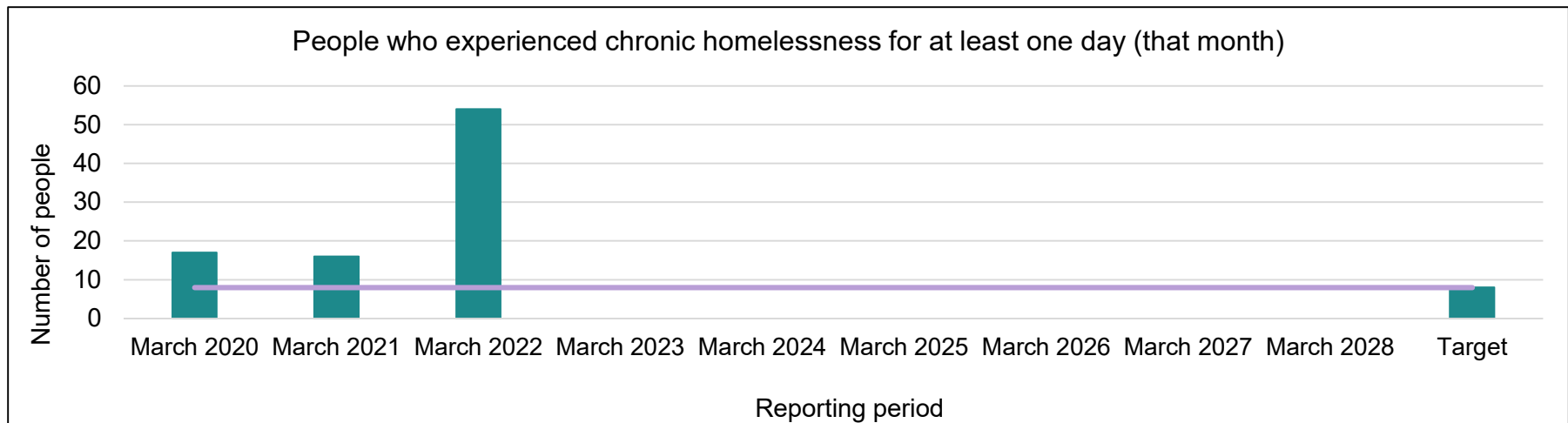


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #4? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

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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)	17	16	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	8



Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #5? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

This fiscal the DSSMSSAB was able to overview data within the BNL, compare this data to HIFIS reports for fidelity, amalgamate when needed, and submit truer numbers of documented homelessness. By focusing on the data collection pieces in fiscal 2021-2022 the DSSMSSAB has been able to provide a more accurate lens on homelessness.