

COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY

(Halton Region)

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?

No – only DC funding is available

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.

Halton Region has consulted with local Indigenous organizations in regards to Halton's work around homelessness and Coordinated Access. Halton Region relies on these partnerships to support the overall implementation and structure of Halton's Coordinated Access system. Both non-Indigenous groups and Indigenous groups have the opportunity to contribute to the CHR through the Community Advisory Board. In 2023 Halton Region will continue to work alongside the Regional Indigenous Advisor to further relationship building and engagement in the community with Indigenous groups. As noted elsewhere, there are currently no Indigenous social services agencies providing services in Halton Region and we would like to request Federal assistance for funding to take this next step in Indigenous reconciliation.

<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?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>What is the plan to ensure meaningful collaboration occurs during next year's CHR process?</p>	
<p>Local organizations, including Halton's CAB indirectly influence this report in a variety of ways. By-Name List data is made publicly available to these platforms where the opportunity for feedback and discussion is encouraged. Halton's CAB is informed on service gaps and aware of the overall goal to achieve reductions in both chronic and overall homelessness. Halton's CAB works tirelessly toward new solutions in Halton Region, including advocacy efforts for increased funding. Halton's CAB is aware of the federal reporting requirements and do have the opportunity to provide input through the table. Halton Region currently does not have an Indigenous nonprofit organization in Halton. We welcome investment in this area so that we have an organization to collaborate with on Indigenous issues. When the investment comes, we will be ready to collaborate given our exhaustive work to date studying the issue of Indigenous homelessness.</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?

Halton Region has entered into a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) with INFC. Halton Region met with the HIFIS Support Desk to set up data extractions tools, and initial data was submitted in March 2023.

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
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

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?

Over the past year Halton Region has been scaling it's HMIS to generate a By-Name List without extracting data that requires manual manipulation in Excel. Work is well underway to track all critical elements of a By-Name List, including the ability to generate monthly and annual data reporting. Halton expects to have this new approach implemented by the next CHR reporting cycle.

Halton's By-Name List is highly utilized for both service planning at the person level, and strategic planning at the system level. Halton Region is using the By-Name List daily to support service plans for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The By-Name List is heavily relied upon to effectively support clients to appropriate housing and to provide the right level of support to clients while they are homeless. On a system level, Halton Region has been able to extract data from the By-Name List to share with the Community Advisory Board, as a means of reporting back on how Halton is doing by capturing system level data on homelessness in Halton Region. Sharing of this data has been able to support local agencies, to identify gaps in services and direct funding appropriately. Early By-Name List data has been provided the context to Halton around service gaps and where additional efforts and funding resources may be required.

During this CHR reporting cycle By-Name List data was utilized by Org Code Consulting for their report on Shelter, Supports and Supportive Housing, where a review of the current supportive housing options in Halton Region has taken place. The By-Name List has helped to inform this report, including where gaps in service are apparent. With this data, Org Code has provided a report which addresses where the gaps in service are and recommendations for improvement and capacity building moving forward.

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

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	Yes

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	Yes

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?	Daily
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?	Yes

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.

Community did not complete this optional question.

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

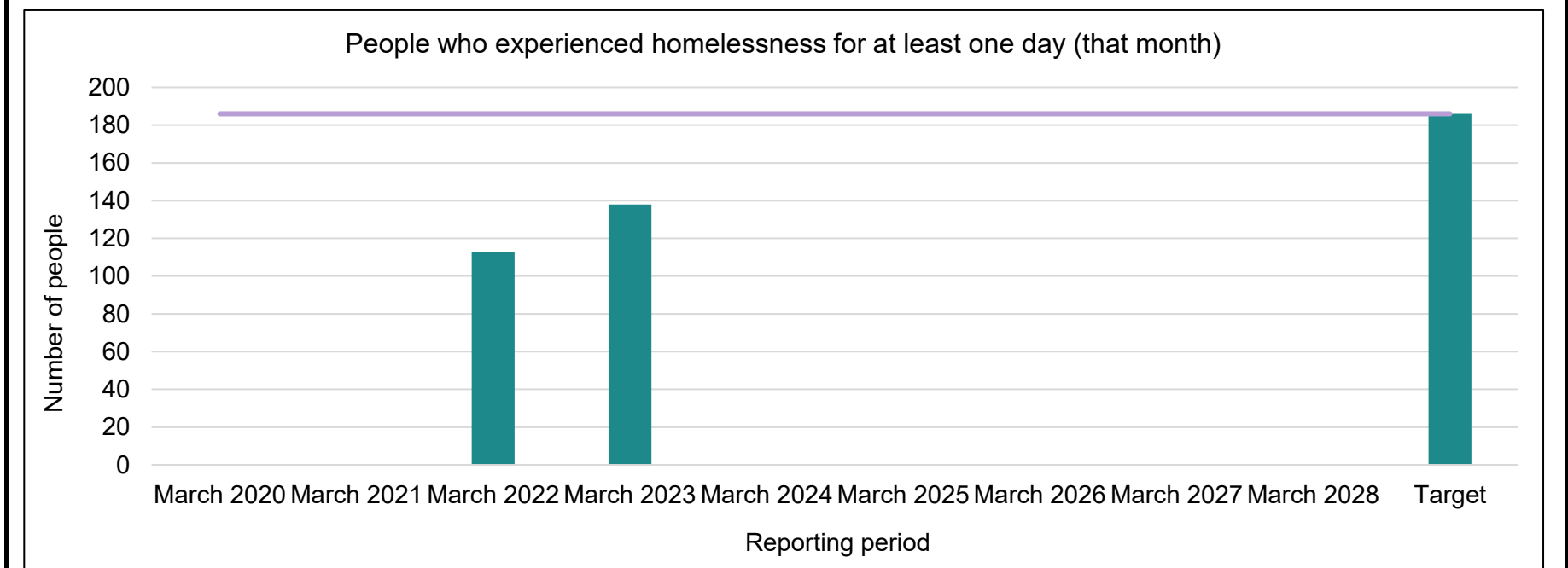
Does the List meet the benchmark of a “Quality By-Name List” confirmed by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness?

Yes

Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Monthly

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

	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)			113	138						186



Context for Outcome #1 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

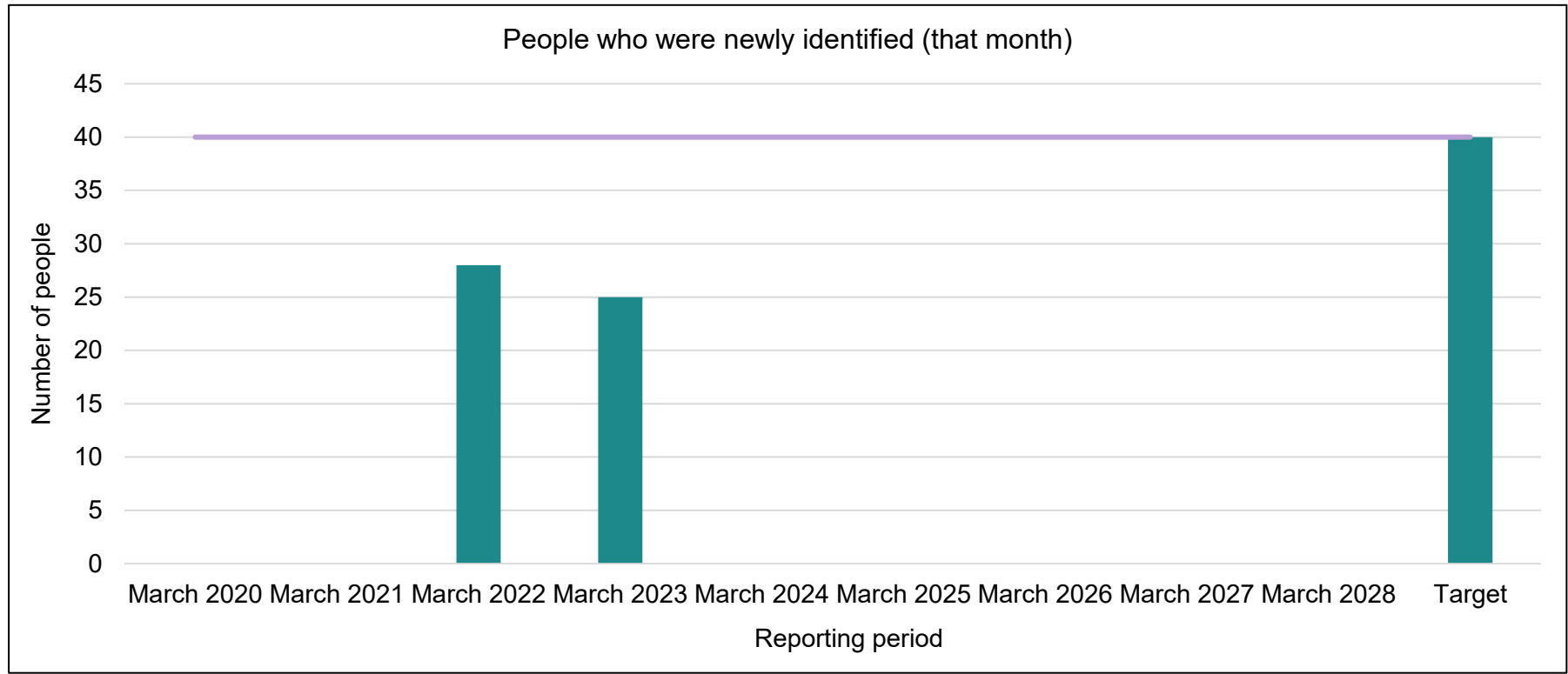
Slight increase shown, however not a significant difference. Between March 2022 and March 2023, Halton Region saw an increase to the number of people experiencing homelessness for at least one day that month by approximately 2 additional people each month. As is evident across the Country, population growth from newcomers and temporary residents have vastly exceed supply of rental housing which has created a less than 1% vacancy rate in Halton. Funding for new assisted and supportive housing in our Region has not kept pace with demand and unless this changes, homelessness will continue to grow. Coordinated Access relies on rental housing to be succesful and Halton Region cannot do it alone.

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)			28	25						40



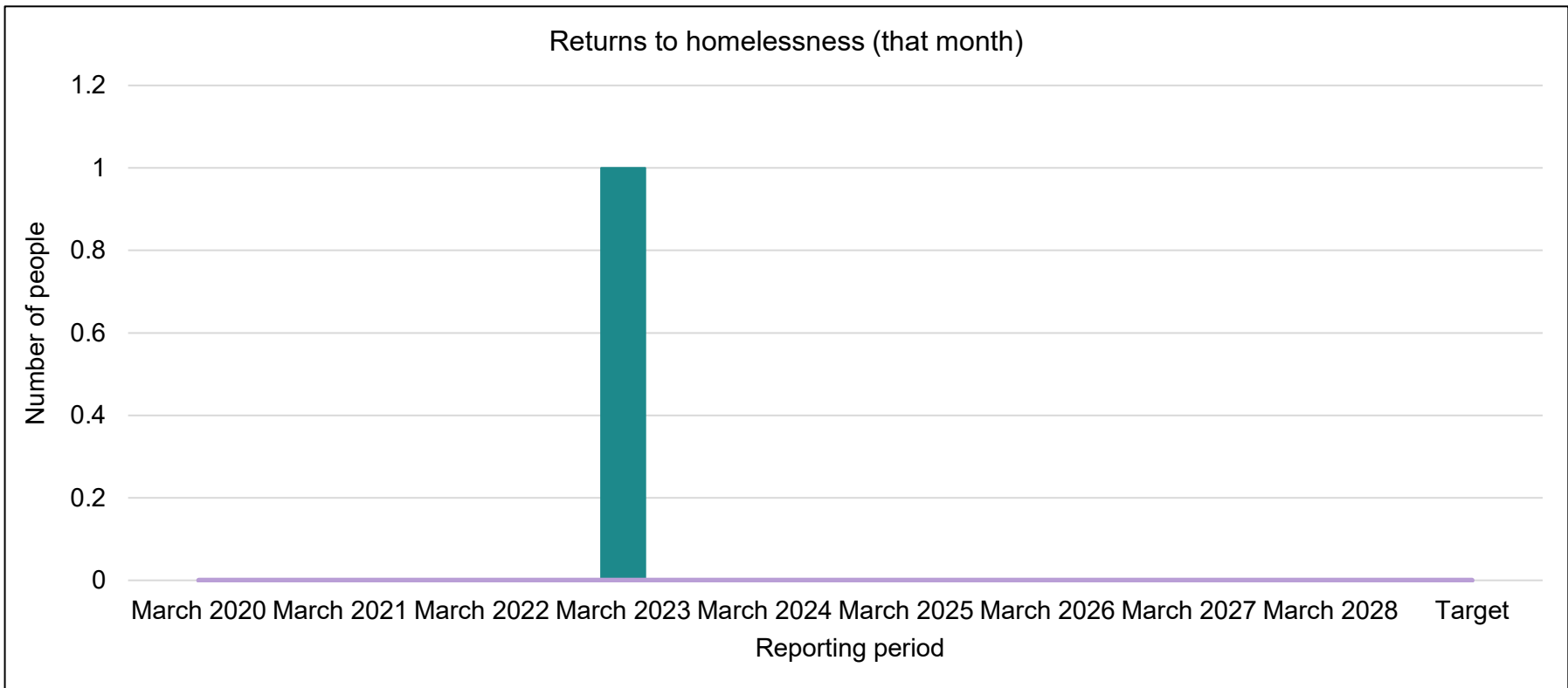
Context for Outcome #2 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

Slight decrease shown this year, however not a significant difference. The updated target provided takes into account market forces as per CMHC.

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)			0	1						0



Context for Outcome #3 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

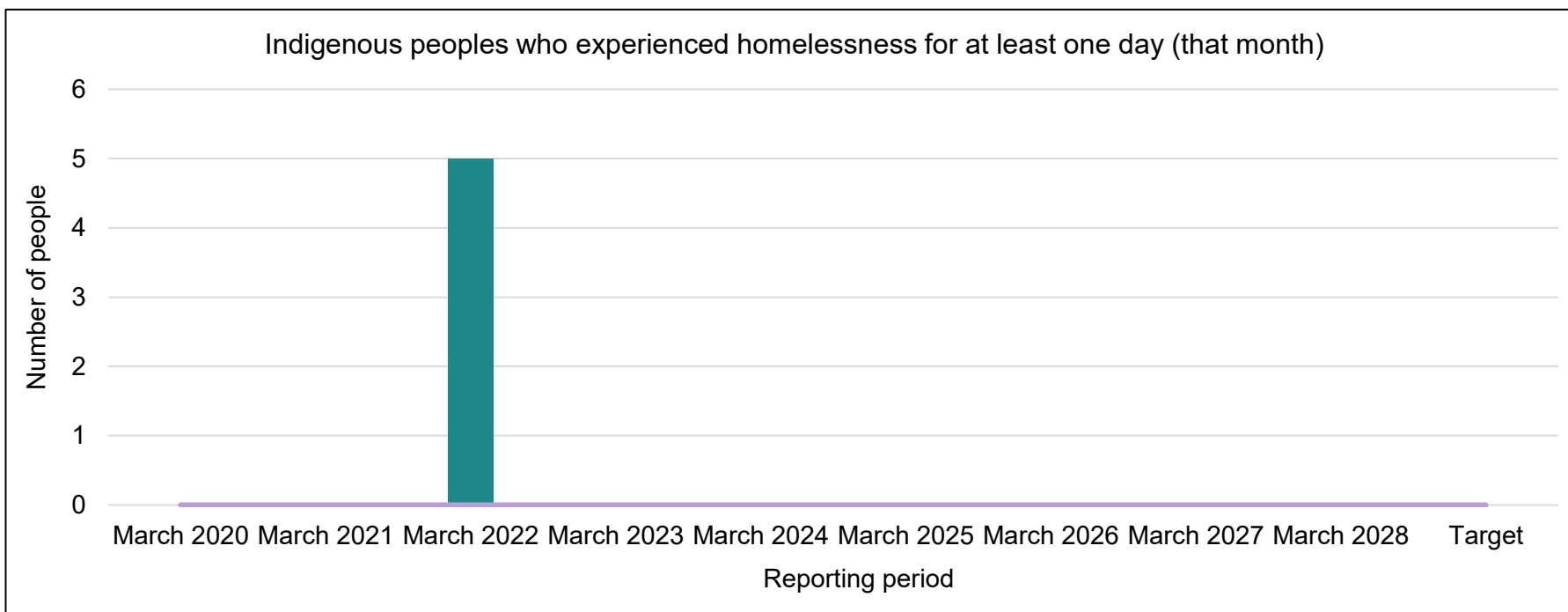
Slight increase shown, however not a significant difference. Halton Region hopes to ensure housing placements are suitable for all individuals in order to reduce the number of people returning to homelessness on a monthly basis. Case management and other supports are provided by Halton Region's Reaching Home funded agencies in order to reduce re-entry. Recidivism is largely in Halton's control and should be responsible as such for reductions in this area.

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)			5	0						0



Context for Outcome #4 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

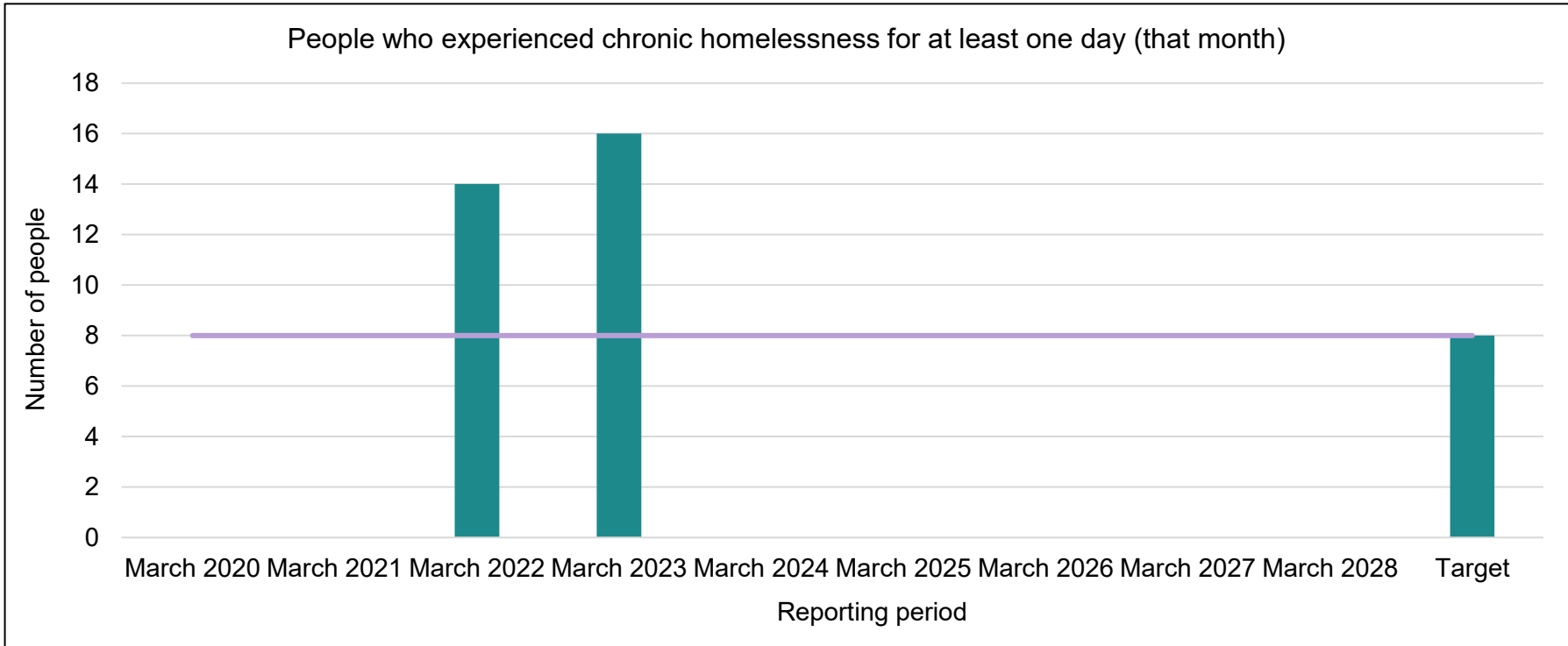
Slight decrease shown, however not a significant difference. Work to determine an accurate baseline of indigenous peoples experiencing homelessness is still underway and subject to change. One month of data is not a statistically relevant indicator of a sociodemographic group.

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)			14	16						8



Context for Outcome #5 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

Halton Region hopes to drive reductions in chronic homelessness. While our Coordinated Access system is accountable for this work, market forces means households across the country are staying longer in shelter with fewer exit options. This is outside our control as per CMHC. Work to determine an accurate baseline of those experiencing chronic homelessness is still underway and subject to change.

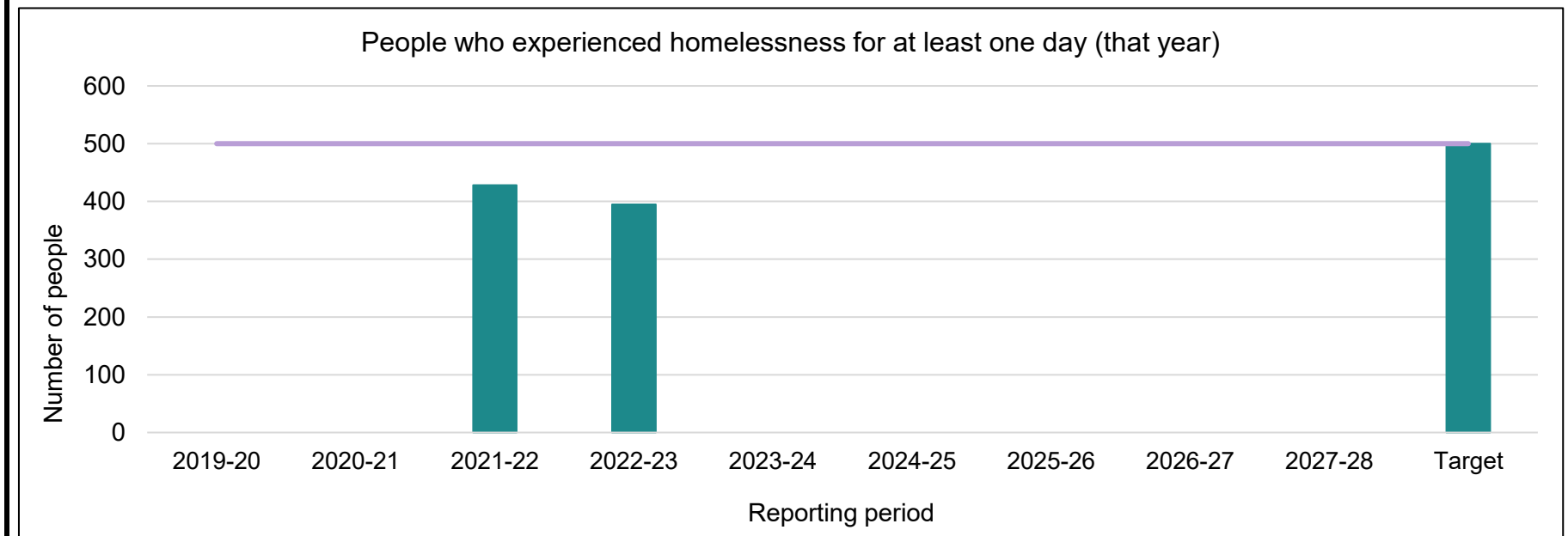
Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

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)			428	395						500



Context for Outcome #1 (annual):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

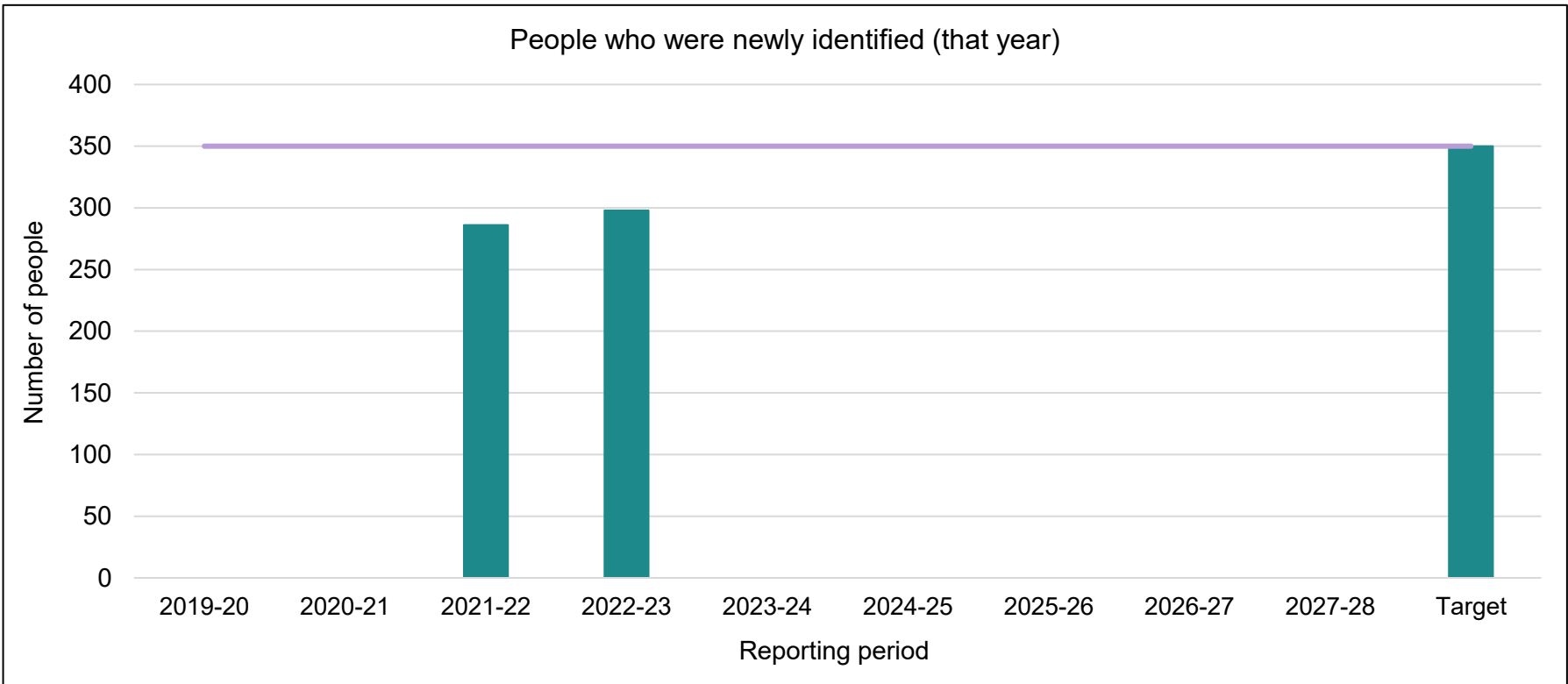
Halton's Coordinated Access system continues to be a leader in the country and housing low and medium acuity individuals experiencing homelessness. The vast increase in mental health and addictions issues without requisite funding for supports or housing, as well as the market conditions explained CLEARLY by CMHC make reductions in homelessness unlikely without significant net new investment in Halton.

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)

	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)			286	298						350



Context for Outcome #2 (annual):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

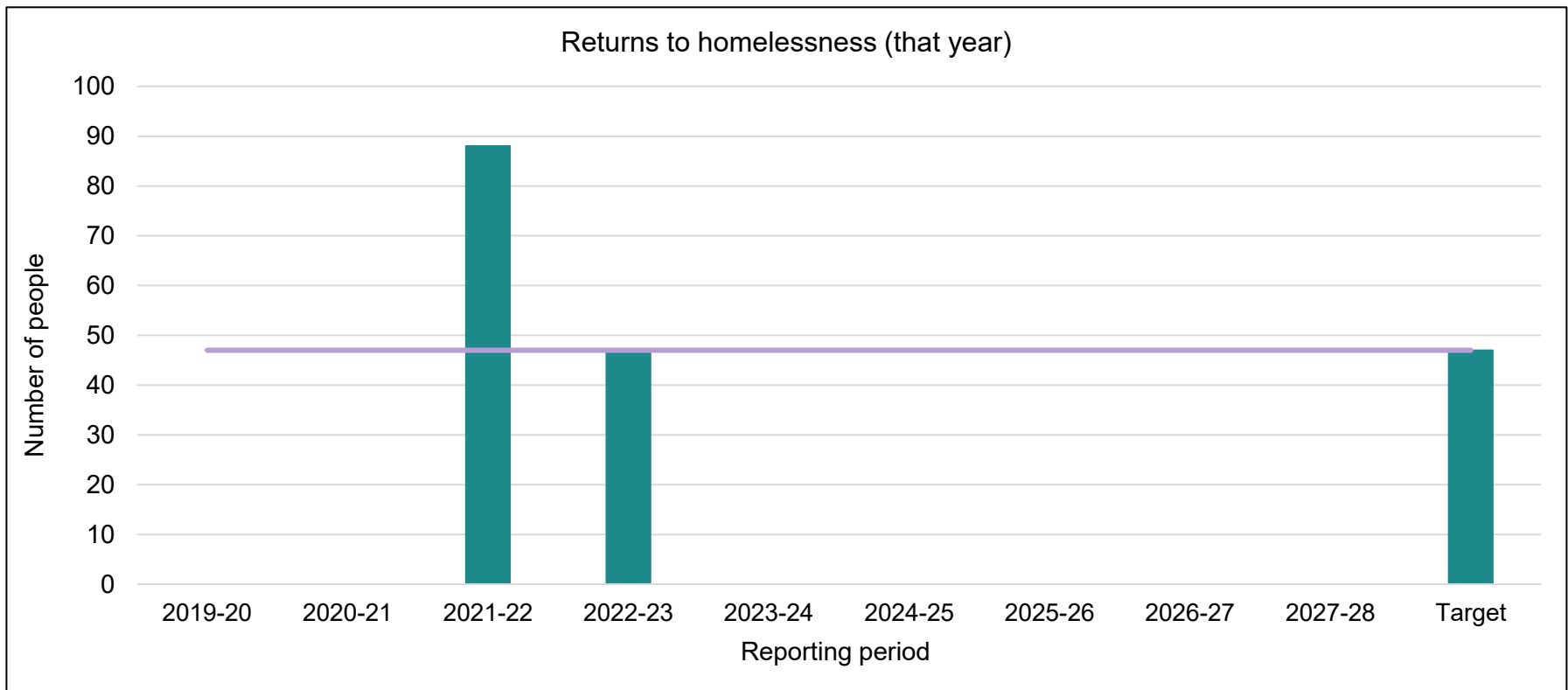
Slight increase shown this year, however not a significant difference. The updated target provided takes into account market forces as per CMHC.

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

Yes

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)			88	47						47



Context for Outcome #3 (annual):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

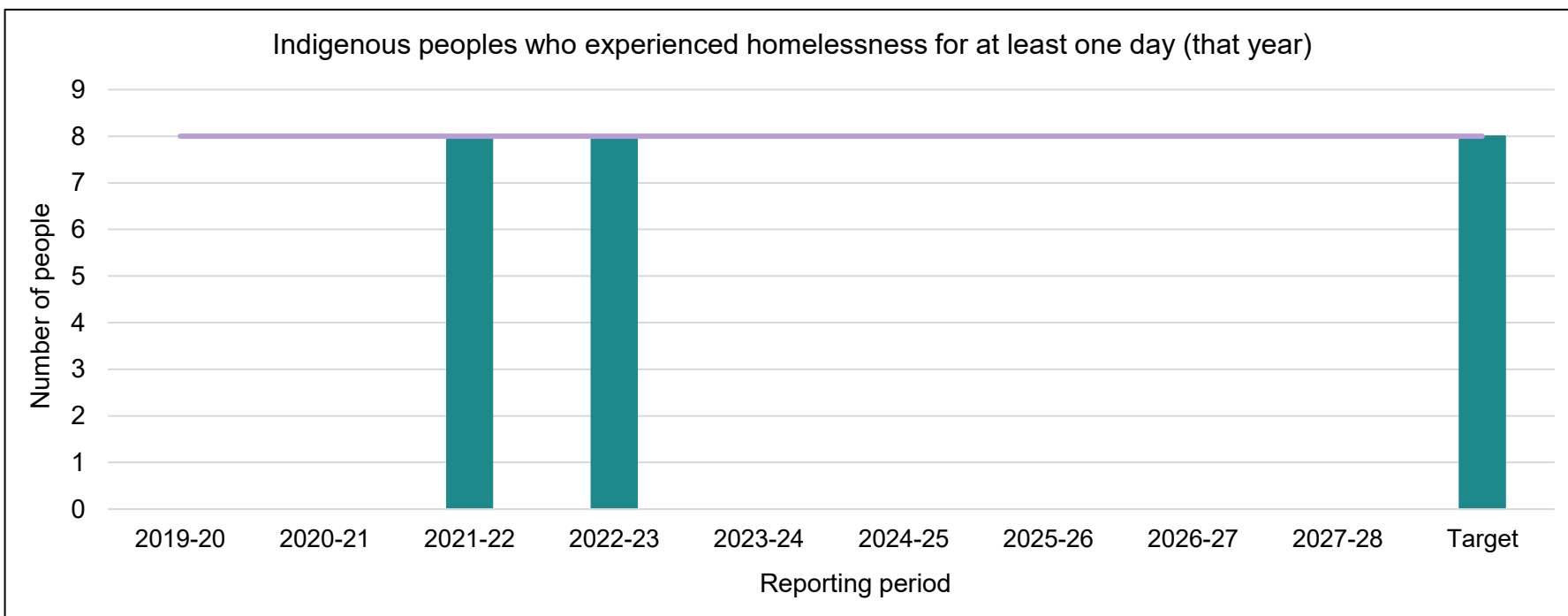
Moderate decrease shown in this data set, however more monitoring is required to determine an appropriate baseline.

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

Yes

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)			8	8						8



Context for Outcome #4 (annual):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

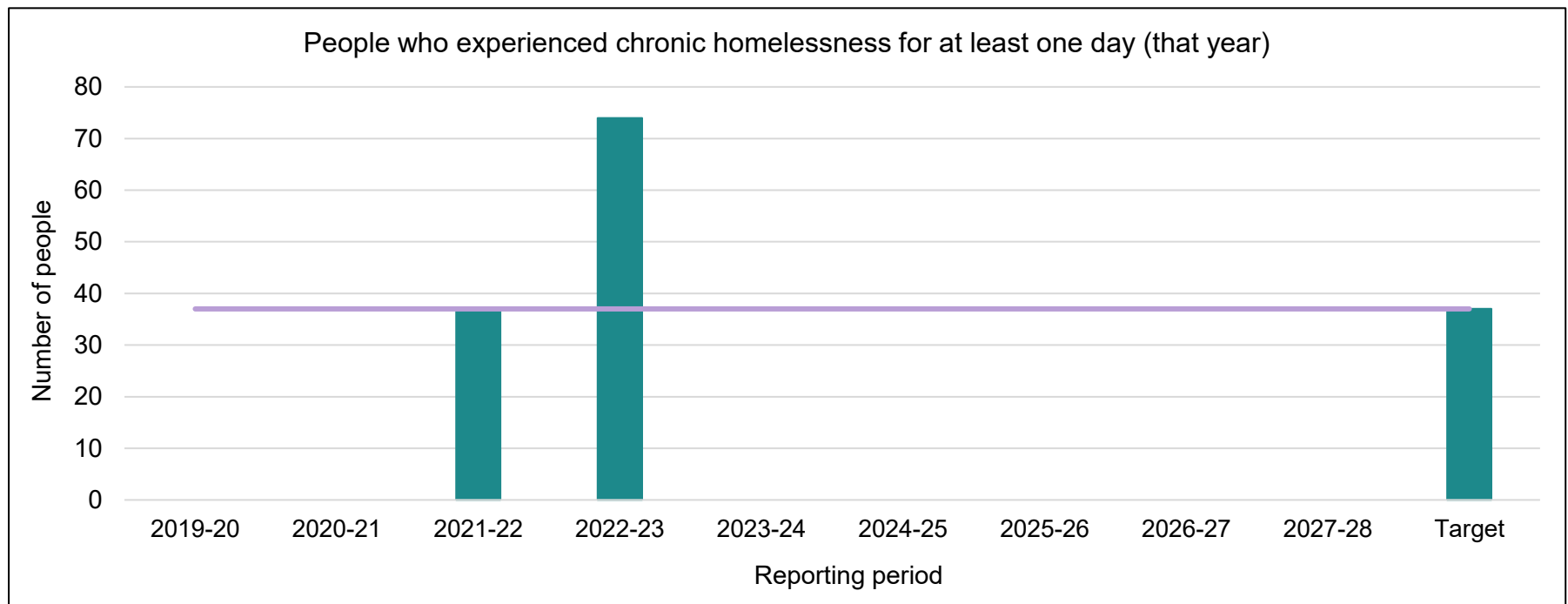
No difference. More monitoring is required to determine an appropriate baseline.

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

Yes

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)			37	74						37



Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

Halton Region hopes to drive reductions in chronic homelessness. Work to determine an accurate baseline of those experiencing chronic homelessness is still underway and subject to change.

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