

COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY

The City of Grande Prairie

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?

a) The City of Grande Prairie is the Community Entity (CE) for both the Indigenous homelessness stream and Designated homelessness stream in Grande Prairie. The joint Community Advisory Board on Housing and Homelessness (CABH) has a broad-based membership. Indigenous representation includes Indigenous Elders, organizations, and individuals. The City of Grande Prairie, as the CE participates as a resource member for CABH and collaborates with all community agencies to implement Coordinated Access and a HMIS system.

The CE uses a HMIS called Efforts to Outcomes and training is provided to funded agencies on the use of the HMIS. Training is offered on an individual basis with all agencies using the system as required, or requested.

b) In 2021, Coordinated Access was branded as the Community Compass in the City of Grande Prairie. This platform includes community Navigators, an on-line service directory, and a Community of Practice network. The digital online directory became available for all agencies to upload information to create a comprehensive digital resource with local, relevant, and up-to-date agency data on social service supports. User sessions were held for all community agencies to provide education and training on the digital site. The CE continues to offer system supports to agencies.

In 2021-22, in-person training sessions were held to on-board new community navigators. These 6 sessions were also inclusive of Indigenous organizations. As a result of the training sessions, both the Northwestern Polytechnic Indigenous Campus and the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre became system Navigators. Navigators are trained in housing assessments to allow for expedient intakes and assessments for people experiencing homelessness. Quarterly Community of Practice meetings bring together both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Navigators to share information, resources, and training. A training guide was completed in 2021, to assist with on-boarding new Navigators and feedback was gained from all agencies.

Strengthening Community Compass (CA) going forward, includes the development of a robust marketing strategy to promote increased Community Compass participation with new sectors (i.e. Justice). Further training on Housing Assessments is planned in 2022-23.

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?

Not applicable

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?	Yes
Describe when this collaboration occurred and what parts of the CHR were informed by these efforts.	
<p>a) The CABH acts as an advisory board and meets monthly. Over the year, the CE participated on a monthly basis with the Grande Prairie Aboriginal Circle of Services network (GPACOS). Updates were provided and information sharing on the homeless initiatives.</p> <p>b) In the fall of 2021, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous community consultations were held online. In addition, an in-person meeting was held with Horse Lake First Nations administration. The purpose of the engagement sessions were to inform the public of a new supportive housing project slated to open in October of 2021. Supportive Housing is part of the continuum of housing and support needs in our community and these sessions helped inform Coordinated Access in the CHR.</p> <p>In fall of 2021, Indigenous Elders were engaged to provide a ceremonial smudge of the Coordinated Care Campus facility. As well they provided recommendations on Indigenous programming and protocols. Through this effort, an Indigenous Advisory Committee was formed. The advisory committee provided insight on the development of the current cultural space. A Good Neighbor Plan was developed to include guidelines to ensure the neighborhood continues to be respected, safe and enjoyable for all.</p> <p>Community agencies met in the fall of 2021, to discuss gaps and priorities for winter emergency response planning and shelter diversion for winter months. This community collaboration informed the community policy and planning approach to address the safety and well-being of the homelessness population and the increased inflows and need for shelter during inclement weather conditions. Ongoing daily data collection of the shelter use is reviewed to re-evaluate and assess the community needs and how best to support and reduce the inflow into homelessness.</p>	

Does your community have a separate IH CAB?	No

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? 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 Coordinated Access system was introduced, with the creation of a Housing Access Program which centralized housing intakes and assessments. Community Navigators were trained, a memorandum of understanding was finalized, and an online platform was created for the Navigators to stay connected. The Housing Hub Table, comprised of 15 Housing Navigators from 11 local agencies, continues to meet weekly with the goal of efficiently connecting people who are experiencing homelessness to a Housing First Team.

An enhanced By-Name List will be implemented in November of 2022. This tool will enable agencies to expediate the process of housing individuals and to prevent the duplication of services. A combination of community level shelter data, paired with HMIS data will be used to cross reference whether an individual experiencing homelessness on the By-Name List has had previous housing history or interaction with Housing First agencies. For the 2021-2022 period, the above stated methodology will be implemented; however, the upcoming comprehensive By-Name List will also contain housing history or interaction.

Data sharing agreements are in progress with shelters that collect data using a different HMIS system than the Housing First Teams funded by the province. Mapping community resources through an on-line digital platform will ensure community resources are easily accessible.

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

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”.

Community level data comparisons are conducted through cross referencing data from the HMIS system and the daily By-Names List spreadsheet collected by the emergency shelter. The data is subject to review of case management files to determine if an individual is continuing to experience homelessness. Dismissal reasons, date of individuals arriving in the community experiencing homelessness, and program referrals are also monitored. This is to ensure inflow and outflow are monitored and where improvement in service delivery can be identified.

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	Not yet	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?

Moving to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home requires an HMIS approach so data collection is seamless and accurate. The HMIS system for the province of Alberta is Efforts to Outcomes and not all agencies use this system. The local homeless shelter uses a system called HIFIS and the Women's shelter uses still a different system. This has been both a challenge and an opportunity as the CE has been working towards data sharing agreements with the adult homeless shelter, the women's shelter who use different HMIS systems to mitigate this.

A By-Name List will be implemented in November of 2022. This tool will enable agencies to expediate the process of housing individuals and to prevent the duplication of services. The By-Name List is updated weekly and is used at the Housing HUB Table to ensure that individuals on the list are prioritized into safe, appropriate housing options.

Improvements in Data Collection:

1. Tracking inflow and outflow of individuals who are new to the community and experiencing homelessness, and tracking the number of individuals who were dismissed from Housing First case management teams, has bolstered the accuracy of the monthly reports.
2. The CE continues to partner with Sunrise House (a youth housing and support service provider), to track the number of youth aging out of care who may experience homelessness. The data collected on youth (under 19) is congregate data only.

Community-Level Core Outcomes – Annual Data Reporting

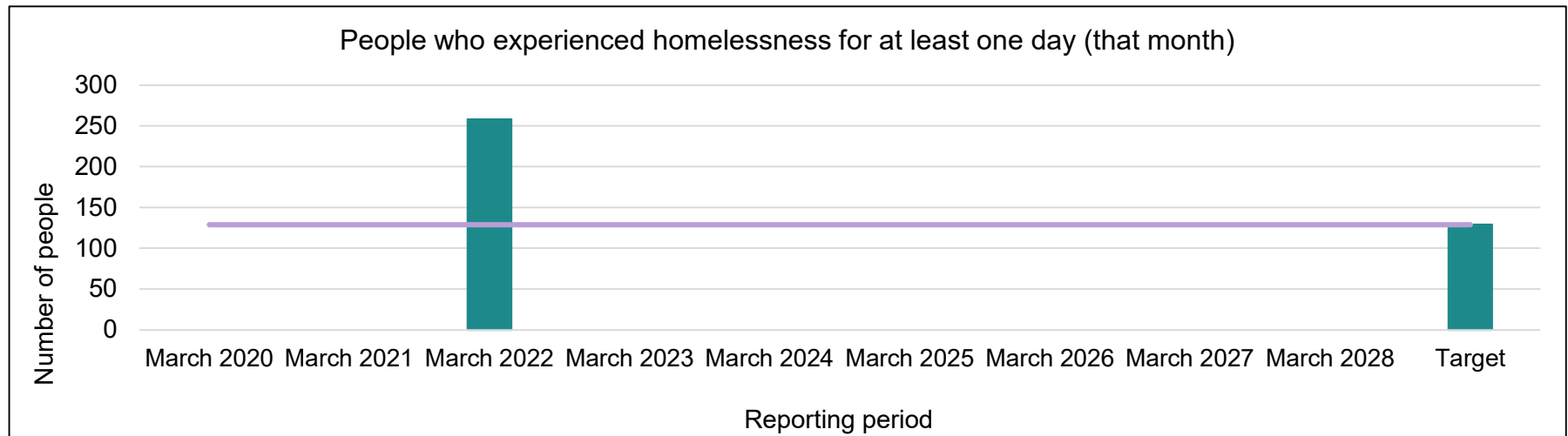
Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report annual community-level outcomes for the reporting period.



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)										

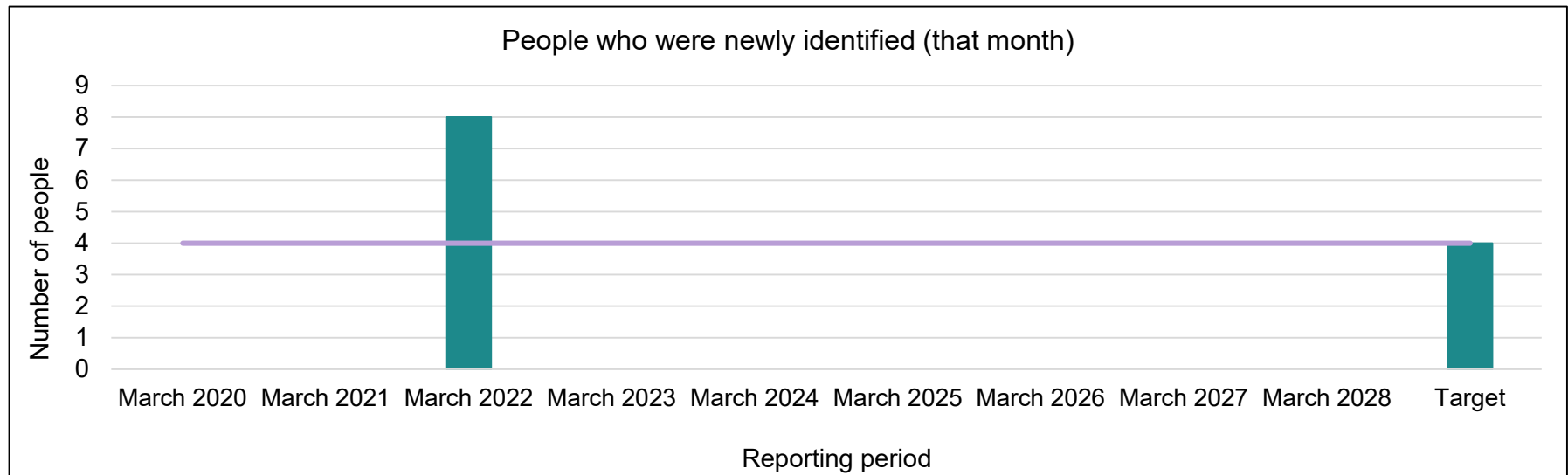


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #1? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

N/A

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)										

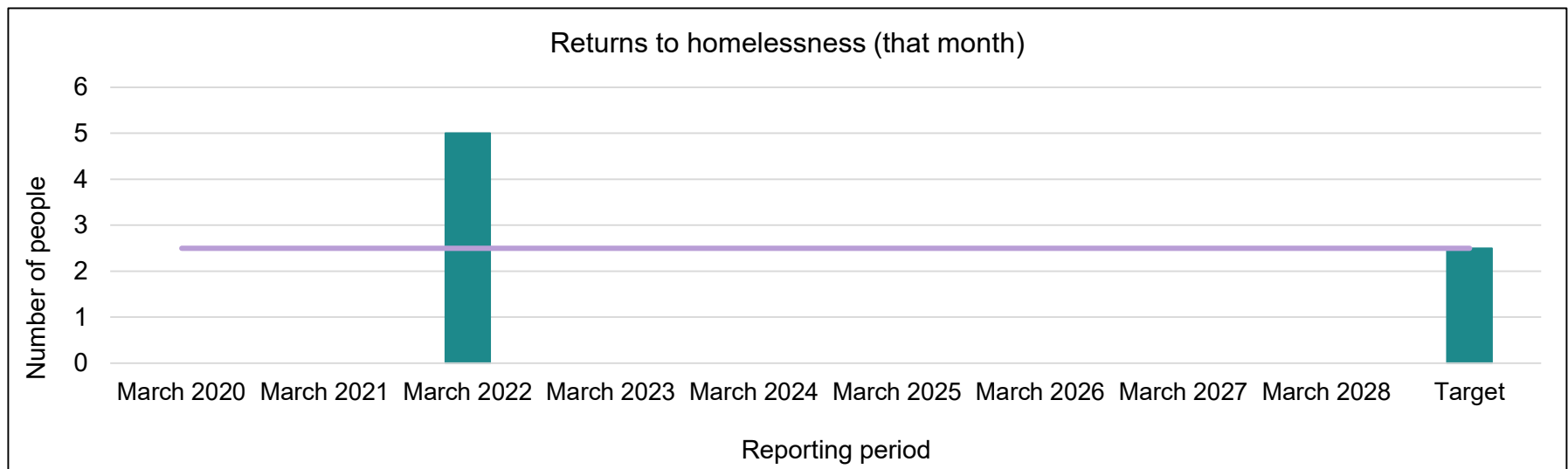


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #2? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

N/A

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)										

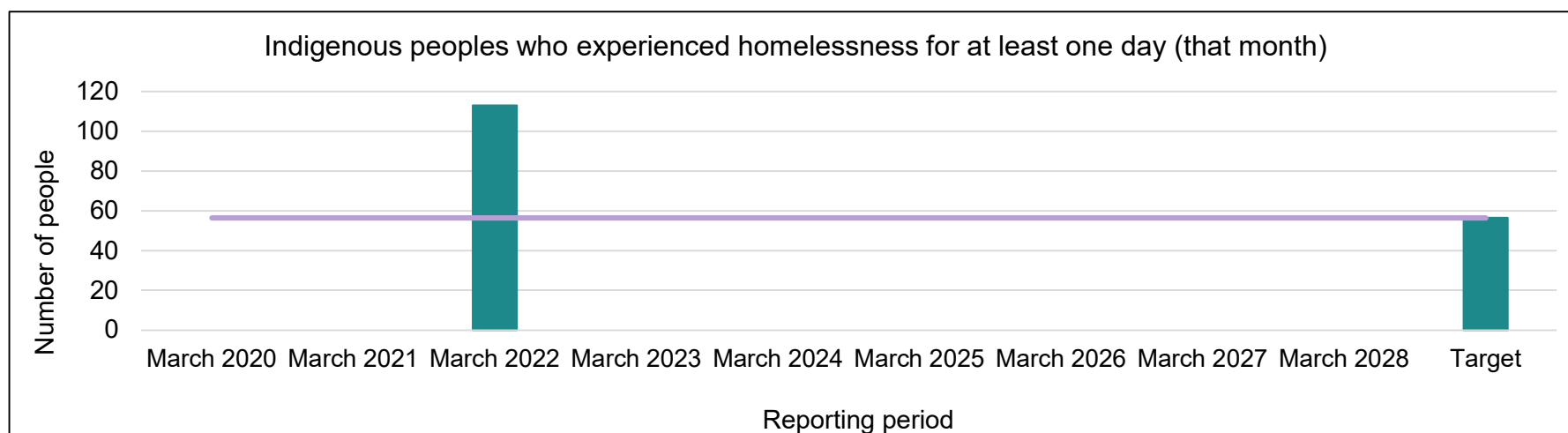


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #3? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

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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)										

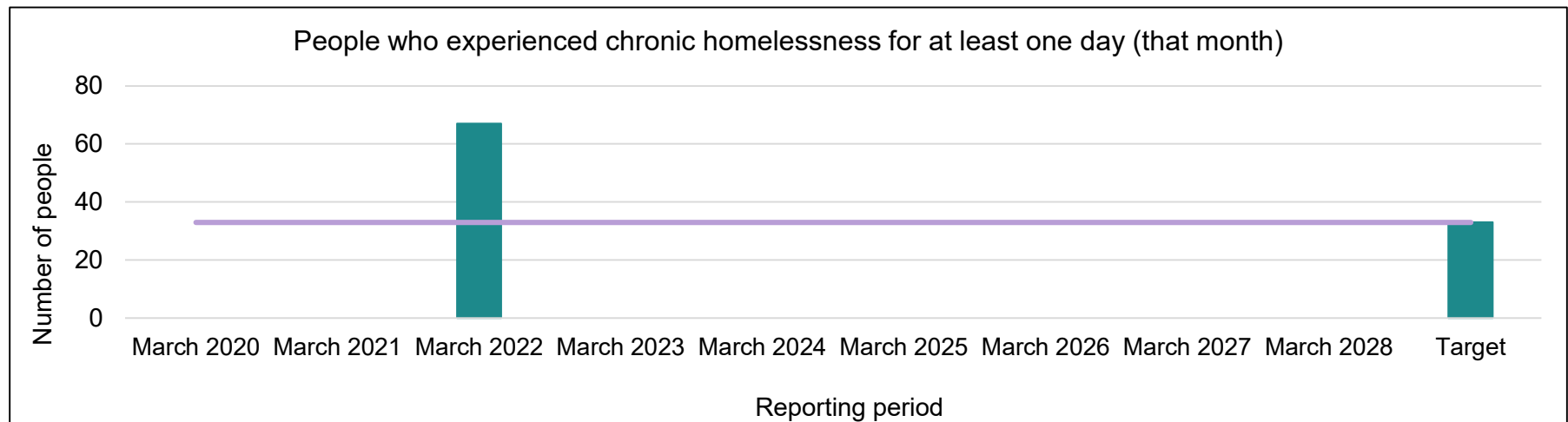


Have you changed any data as submitted in a previous CHR for Outcome #4? If yes, in the comment below please describe what was changed and why?

N/A

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)										



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?

N/A