

Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy
Community Homelessness Report for communities in BC

COWICHAN DESIGNATED

2022-2023

TEMPLATE FOR COMMUNITIES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

SECTION 1: COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Overview

1.1

a) Highlight any efforts and/or issues related to the work that your community has done to **prevent and/or reduce homelessness** and **increase access to safe, adequate housing** over the last year.

Over the past year in Cowichan, Reaching Home funds have supported many people in the Cowichan area to remain housed as well as to increase their ability to remain housed. We have seen some good success with community-driven models and local solutions emerging. Agencies are increasingly connected and working together. Community services have expanded to meet the needs/demands of the community. Having flexibility in programming and being able to be creative with funding has helped communities to pivot quickly and respond where needed. Our community has increased outreach efforts and has been able to meet people where they are at.

2022-2023 has continued to be full of challenges. The lack of availability of affordable housing combined with continuing pandemic barriers and outcomes has had an impact on the level of need in the community and has continued to shift Reaching Home investments towards housing loss prevention and basic needs services, rather than housing placement.

With the cost of living continuing to increase, and the availability of housing continuing to be very low, it is impacting a wider diversity of those seeking services. This year has seen an increase in demand for services, as well as an increase in the complexities of the types of support people are needing. Food bank use is estimated at a 40% increase, and we are seeing more families, seniors, and non-traditional clients seeking services. Mental Health needs have also increased. People have higher needs and more acute levels of crisis, beyond housing.

b) What **impact** did these efforts and/or issues have on your community's outcomes over the last year (as reported in Section 4, if applicable)? Please enter N/A if the impact is not known at this time.

The impact our efforts have had in our community are keeping people in their homes, and coming together to support people through crisis. We have been able to meet the rise in demand for services and connect people to housing, services and supports. Through this work we are strengthening the social sector to be able to work together in times of crisis.

1.2 How has the community’s approach to addressing homelessness changed over the last few years? The worksheet called **“Reflecting on the Changing Response to Homelessness”** can help with reflecting on how the approach has changed and the impact of these changes at the local level.

The lack of availability of affordable housing combined with continuing pandemic barriers and outcomes has had an impact on the level of need in the community and has continued to shift the community's response towards housing loss prevention and basic needs services, rather than housing placement.

During the pandemic there was a lot of immediate funding available to meet emergency needs. Now agencies are looking for more permanent solutions following those temporary project funds that were available.

Some strategies that have shifted over the past few years as the housing crisis has continued include more willingness to meeting people where they are at and increasing outreach services. Also, there is more awareness of the complexity of homelessness and the necessity of service providers to work together to create solutions for the community

Collaboration between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Partners

<p>1.3 a) Does your community, as a Designated Community (DC), also receive Reaching Home Indigenous Homelessness (IH) funding? If yes, your community has an IH Community Entity (CE) and/or Community Advisory Board (CAB).</p>	<p>Yes – DC and IH funding streams co-exist</p>
---	---

<p>b) 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?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
--	------------

c) Describe this collaboration in more detail. When did the collaboration occur and was it with the IH CE and/or the IH CAB? What aspects of Coordinated Access and/or the HMIS were discussed? How did Indigenous perspectives influence the outcome?



The ICA contract was awarded in April 2022. There is one CE and CAB in Cowichan that manages both DC and IH funding streams.

Over this first year, collaboration has occurred between the Coordinated Access Lead Agency (Cowichan Housing Association), Cowichan Tribes, and Indigenous community partners. A co-led Indigenous/non-Indigenous working group has been established to guide this work.

Indigenous engagement has been prioritized to ensure this project supports meaningful reconciliation in action, creates a guiding framework that ensures cultural safety for the people it will serve, and reflects the teachings and practices of our local First Nations. We are moving at the pace of our community to ensure the process is respectful and inclusive.

1.4

a) 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? Where it exists in your province, this could include the IH non-DC CE and/or organizations funded by the IH non-DC stream in the broader area. Note that collaboration with the IH CE and/or CAB, where applicable, should only be included in Question 1.3 above.

Yes

b) Describe this collaboration in more detail. How were Indigenous peoples engaged in these discussions? When did collaboration occur and which organizations were involved? What aspects of Coordinated Access and/or the HMIS were discussed? How did Indigenous perspectives influence the outcome?

Indigenous partners are embedded in all Reaching Home processes. The CE and CAB work together regularly including Coordinated Access (CA) updates, feedback and collaboration. An Indigenous coordinator has been hired by the CA lead agency to ensure Indigenous communities are engaged in the process.

Indigenous engagement pertaining to HIFIS roll-out needs to be addressed provincially and federally to ensure Indigenous data sovereignty and an inclusive process are met. We have suggested through the BC Planners group that this be considered a critical component of Phase 1 roll-out, rather than Phase 2 as is currently being suggested by BC Housing.

1.5 a) 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

b) Describe this collaboration in more detail. How were Indigenous peoples engaged in these discussions? When did the collaboration occur and which organizations were involved, such as the IH CE and/or IH CAB? What sections of the CHR were informed by Indigenous input and/or perspectives?

Indigenous partners are embedded in all Reaching Home processes. The CE and CAB work together regularly including Coordinated Access (CA) updates, feedback and collaboration. Specifically regarding the completion of the CHR, Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners on the CAB were provided with the CHR content, invited to provide feedback, provided with the draft report and finally the CAB voted to accept the report as presented.

Public Access to Results

1.7 As outlined in the Reaching Home Directives, communities are required to make a summary of the CHR publicly available. How will the public have access to this information? For example, which website will be used to publish the results?

The United Way BC website on the Reaching Home page displays the Community Homelessness Report.
<https://uwbc.ca/program/reaching-home/#cowichan-cab>

End of Section 1

SECTION 2: COORDINATED ACCESS AND HOMELESSNESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) SELF-ASSESSMENT

Governance

2.1	<p>Is there a governance model for the broader Coordinated Access system under Reaching Home and has a Coordinated Access lead organization(s) been identified?</p>	Under development
<p>Provide additional context (optional):</p>		
<p>Cowichan Housing Association (CHA) has been identified as the CA lead. The governance model for CA is under development. Collaboration between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Partners is on-going. The CA lead has engaged with stakeholders by creating an information resource to share with community partners; canvassing Indigenous partners, in particular, to inform of the project and to ask to join the Circle of Elders. The Circle of Elders has met once and will meet again later in the Spring of 2023. A community engagement session has taken place to form a CA planning committee. The CA lead has engaged with Indigenous leaders to co-create a governance model with the CA Planning Committee. Indigenous engagement is a priority and viewed as an act of reconciliation - as such are moving at the pace of our community to ensure the process is respectful and inclusive.</p>		
2.2	<p>Is there an approach in place to support shared decision-making (i.e., between the DC and BC Housing) about the use of HIFIS and has a DC-level HIFIS lead organization(s) been identified? Decision-making may relate to the implementation and maintenance of HIFIS, data collection, etc.</p>	Under development
<p>Provide additional context (optional):</p>		
<p>The CA lead continues to be part of the BC CE Planners' meetings with BC Housing about shared decision-making regarding the use of HIFIS. In April 2023 the CA lead hired a HIFIS coordinator to lead the development and implementation of HMIS roll-out. Identifying HIFIS needs and starting to create a plan for HIFIS implementation will continue in 2023.</p>		
2.3	<p>a) Do all service providers receiving funding through the Designated Communities (DC) stream participate in the broader Coordinated Access system under Reaching Home?</p>	Not yet started

Provide additional context (optional):

The CA lead has not started this yet, but they are aware of the requirement. The CA lead presented to the CAB in January 2023. They plan to engage all service providers who receive RH funding and include them in CA Planning Committee, community mapping, resource inventory, and implementation strategy (co-created) in 2023.

b) Based on your system map, how many service providers (those receiving DC funding and/or other funding) **already participate** in BC Housing’s provincial CAA?

TBD

c) Based on your system map, how many **additional** service providers and/or programs **will participate** in the broader Coordinated Access system under Reaching Home?

TBD

Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS)

For questions 2.4 to 2.7 below, given trilateral work underway, your community's implementation status is considered "Under development" as of March 31, 2023.

2.4 a) How will your community use HIFIS to manage individual-level data and service provider information for Coordinated Access?

Undecided

Provide additional context (optional):

The BC CE Planners Group, is in conversation with BC Housing to determine the use of HIFIS for CA roll-out. It is hoped that HIFIS will be used, using a regional approach across Vancouver Island.

b) Based on your system map, how many service providers already use BC Housing’s HIFIS?

TBD

c) Based on your system map, how many additional service providers and/or programs are you planning to onboard to HIFIS (either BC Housing's or your own)?

TBD

2.5

Has your community signed a Data Provision Agreement with Infrastructure Canada? This Agreement may be signed by a community **directly** (for those with a DC HIFIS license) or **on behalf** of the community by BC Housing.

Not yet

Provide additional context (optional):

Waiting to finalize HIFIS roll-out with BC Housing. The BC CE Planners Group is in conversation with BC Housing to determine the use of HIFIS for CA roll-out. It is hoped that HIFIS will be used, using a regional approach across Vancouver Island.

2.6

Do you have a set of local agreements to manage privacy, data sharing and client consent related to your HMIS that comply with municipal, provincial and federal laws?

Not yet

Provide additional context (optional):

Once the HMIS/HIFIS committee is formed, this will be something that gets established. Waiting to finalize HIFIS roll-out with BC Housing. The BC CE Planners Group is in conversation with BC Housing to determine the use of HIFIS for CA roll-out. It is hoped that HIFIS will be used, using a regional approach across Vancouver Island.

2.7

Have you established safeguards to ensure the data collected is secured from unauthorized access?

Not yet

Provide additional context (optional):

No, not yet but the CA lead agency and the CE will ensure this happens once we get there. Once the HMIS/HIFIS committee is formed, this will be something that will be established.

Access Points to Service

2.8	Are access sites available in some form throughout the Designated Communities (DC) geographic area so that the Coordinated Access system serves the entire DC geographic area?	Not yet started
-----	--	-----------------

Provide additional context (optional):

CA access sites are yet to be formalized. Next steps: the CA lead will form the CA Planning Committee. Through community consultation, the Committee will determine our community's access points to service.

2.9	Are there processes in place to monitor if there is easy and equitable access to the Coordinated Access system and respond to any emerging issues, as appropriate?	Not yet started
-----	--	-----------------

Provide additional context (optional):

Not yet. The next steps are for the CA lead to form the CA Planning Committee. The Committee will determine our community's access point to service and integrate an evaluation process in order to monitor equitable access.

2.10	Are there processes in place that ensure no one is denied access to service due to perceived housing or service barriers?	Not yet started
------	---	-----------------

Provide additional context (optional):

Not yet. The next steps are to form the CA Planning Committee. The Committee will determine our community's access point to service and Integrate an evaluation process in order to ensure no one is denied service.

Triage and Assessment

2.11	Is the triage and assessment process documented in one or more policies/protocols, including an intake protocol for entering people into the Coordinated Access system and/or HMIS when they (re)connect with an access point?	Not yet started
------	--	-----------------

Provide additional context (optional):

	No, we are not at this point in the process yet but will ensure this happens once we get there. Next step: form the CA Planning Committee. The Committee will determine our community's access point to service, integrate an evaluation process and create an operations manual that documents policies and protocols for intake and data collection.	
2.12	Is the same common assessment tool used for all population groups experiencing homelessness (e.g., youth, women fleeing violence, and Indigenous peoples)?	Not yet started
	Provide additional context (optional):	
	Once the HMIS/HIFIS committee is formed, this will be something that gets established.	
Coordinated Access Resource Inventory		
2.13	Are all housing resources funded through the Designated Communities (DC) stream identified as part of the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory?	Under development
	Provide additional context (optional):	
	This is under development. The CA lead is developing a comprehensive Resource Directory which should be finalized by late spring 2023. The CA lead agency will then validate information with stakeholders and service providers later in the summer of 2023.	
2.14	For each housing resource in the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory, have eligibility requirements been documented?	Under development
	Provide additional context (optional):	
	The CA lead is developing a comprehensive Resource Directory. Then they will validate information with stakeholders and service providers to ensure all eligibility requirements have been documented for each housing resource.	
2.15	For each type of housing resource in the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory, have prioritization criteria, and the order in which they will be applied, been documented?	Under development
	Provide additional context (optional):	
	The CA lead is developing a comprehensive Resource Directory which will ensure prioritization criteria has been documented for each type of housing resource.	

Vacancy Matching and Referral

2.16	Is the vacancy matching and referral process documented in one or more policies/protocols, including how vacancies are filled from the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory according to agreed-upon prioritization and referral protocols?	Not yet started
------	--	-----------------

Provide additional context (optional):

The CA lead will form the CA Planning Committee. The Committee will determine our community's vacancy matching & referral process and create an operations manual that documents policies and protocols for vacancy matching & referrals.

2.17	Do the vacancy matching and referral policies/protocols specify how individual choice in housing options will be respected (allowing individuals and families to reject a referral without repercussions) and do they include processes specific to dealing with vacancy referral challenges, concerns and/or disagreements (including refusals of referrals)?	Not yet started
------	---	-----------------

Provide additional context (optional):

The CA lead will form the CA Planning Committee. The Committee will determine our community's vacancy matching & referral process and create an operations manual that documents policies and protocols for vacancy matching & referrals.

2.18	Are vacancies from the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory filled using the list of people waiting for housing resources who are offer-ready (i.e., the List filtered to a Priority List)?	Not yet started
------	--	-----------------

Provide additional context (optional):

The CA lead agency will form the CA Planning Committee. The Committee will determine our community's vacancy matching & referral process and create an operations manual that documents policies and protocols for vacancy matching & referrals. The CA lead will ensure vacancies from CA Resource Inventory are filled using a priority list.

Section 2 Summary Comment

2.19

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:

- efforts to implement a broader Coordinated Access system under Reaching Home, including building on the existing provincial CAA process that coordinates access to supportive housing funded by BC Housing;
- efforts to plan for HIFIS implementation by leveraging BC Housing's license or requesting a DC-led license;
- participation in any meetings about Coordinated Access or HIFIS with other communities across BC, as well as provincial and/or federal partners; and,
- information about how people with lived experience of homelessness (current or former clients) are being engaged or will be engaged in one or more aspects of Coordinated Access (e.g., are they included in the governance model).

Your Summary Comment is an opportunity to provide additional context about your Section 2 Summary Tables results above.

The CA lead continues to participate in meetings about Coordinated Access with Infrastructure Canada/Homelessness Policy Directorate, BC Housing, and the BC CE Planners group. Efforts are underway to implement HIFIS through BC Housing.

End of Section 2

SECTION 3: OUTCOMES-BASED APPROACH SELF-ASSESSMENT

Step 1. Have a List

Part A) Does the community have a List?

There are four minimum characteristics of a List.

3.1	Is the List created by a centralized database (such as an HMIS) or does it exist as a single document (outside of an HMIS)?	Not yet
3.2	Does the List include people who are currently experiencing homelessness?	Not yet
3.3	Do people give their consent to be included on the List?	Not yet
3.4	Do individuals and families appear only once on the List?	Not yet

Part B) Please provide additional information about the List

3.5 Where does data for the List come from?

a) Select all that apply:

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

<p>3.6 Communities need information about people’s interaction with the homeless-serving system to be able to calculate inflows into homelessness (re-engagement with the system) and outflows from homelessness (disengagement from the system).</p>	<p>Not yet</p>
<p>a) Is there a written policy/protocol for the List that describes how interaction with the homeless-serving system is documented, including the number of days of inactivity after which people are identified as “inactive”? The policy/protocol should define what it means to be “active” or “inactive” on the List and explain how to document when someone is included on the List for the first time, as well as any changes in “activity” or “inactivity” over time.</p>	<p>Not yet</p>
<p>b) Can the community get data about when people first interacted with the homeless-serving system and were included on the List? For example, can the community get data for the number of people that were newly identified on the List?</p>	<p>Not yet</p>
<p>c) Can the community get data about people experiencing homelessness that became “active” again on the List (re-engaged with the homeless-serving system) and those that became “inactive” (disengaged with the homeless-serving system)? For example, can the community get data for the number of people that were “reactivated” on the List after a period of inactivity?</p>	<p>Not yet</p>
<p>3.7 Communities need information about where people are staying or living to be able to calculate inflows into homelessness (where people came from) and outflows from homelessness (where people went). This data is called “housing history”.</p>	<p>Not yet</p>
<p>a) Is there a written policy/protocol for the List that describes how housing history is documented? The policy/protocol should define what it means to be “homeless”, “housed” or “transitional” on the List and explain how to document when someone transitions “into homelessness” and “from homelessness” over time.</p>	<p>Not yet</p>
<p>b) Can the community get data from the List about people that transitioned “into homelessness” and “from homelessness”? Examples of transitions include a discharge from shelter and move to permanent housing (a transition “from homelessness”) or an eviction from supportive housing to no fixed address (a transition “to homelessness”).</p>	<p>Not yet</p>

3.8

a) Can the community **get demographic data** from the List? Check all that apply.

- Indigenous identity (mandatory for Reaching Home)
- Age
- Household type (e.g., single or family)
- Gender identity
- Veteran status
- Other (please define)
- Not applicable – Do not have a List yet

b) When **chronic homelessness** is calculated using data from the List, is the Reaching Home definition used? The federal definition of chronic homelessness is 180 days of homelessness over the past year and/or 546 days of homelessness in the past three years.

Not applicable – Do not have a List yet

Section 3 Summary Tables

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
Not yet	Not yet	Not yet

Step 4: Can report <u>monthly</u> 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
No	Outcome 1: No	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: No	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: No	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: No	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: No	Outcome 5: No	

Step 4: Can report <u>annual</u> 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: No	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: No	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: No	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: No	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: No	Outcome 5: No	

Section 3 Summary Comment	
3.30	<p>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? In particular, please include updates about the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updates about efforts to develop a List within the context of BC; • examples of how data from the List was used over the last year (e.g., for service planning at the individual level or for strategic planning at the community level); and, • if the community has a plan in place to support them to improve the quality of data being generated from their List. <p>Your Summary Comment is an opportunity to provide additional context about your Summary Table results.</p> <p>Integrated, coordinated access is very important for Cowichan. Cowichan is a regional area and homeless persons move from place to place within this region. To have a by-name list and coordinated access established will be a huge benefit.</p> <p>This year, the newly contracted organization is developing a by-name list, and establishing advisory and working groups that are inclusive of all stakeholders.</p>
End of Section 3	

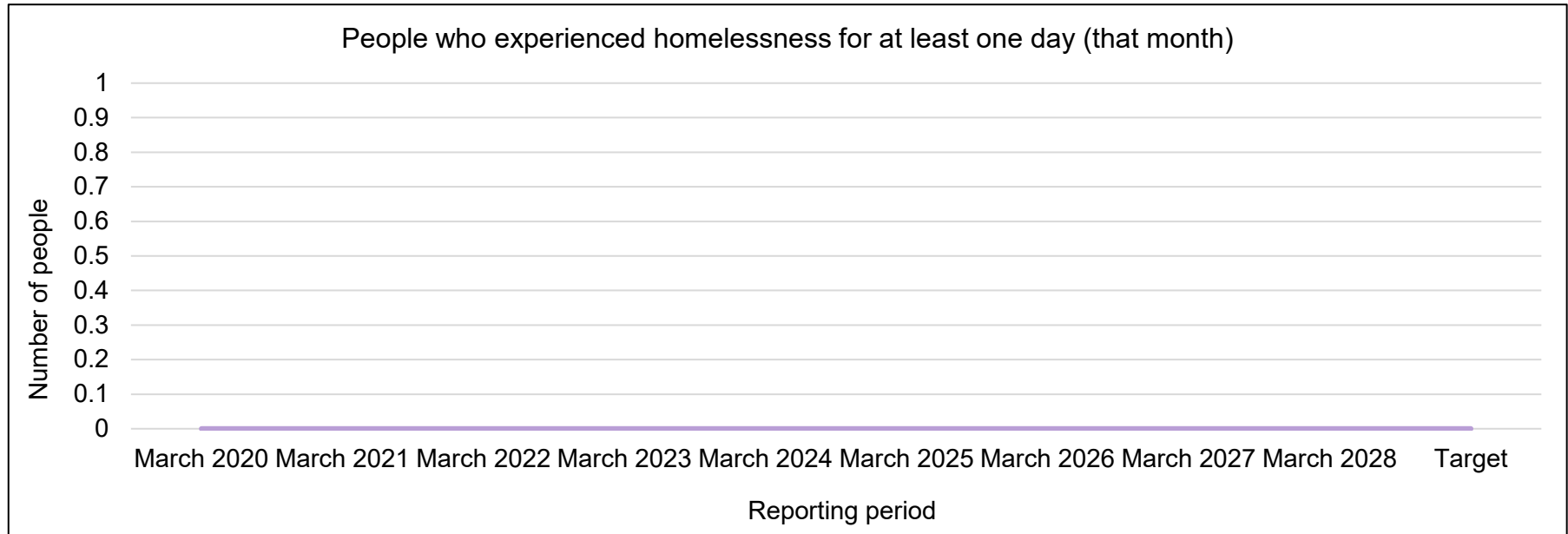
SECTION 4: COMMUNITY-LEVEL OUTCOMES AND TARGETS (MONTHLY)

Your answers in Section 3 indicate that your community currently **does not** have a real-time, comprehensive List with enough data and the capacity to generate **monthly** baselines and set targets.

Community-Level Core Outcomes – Monthly Data Reporting

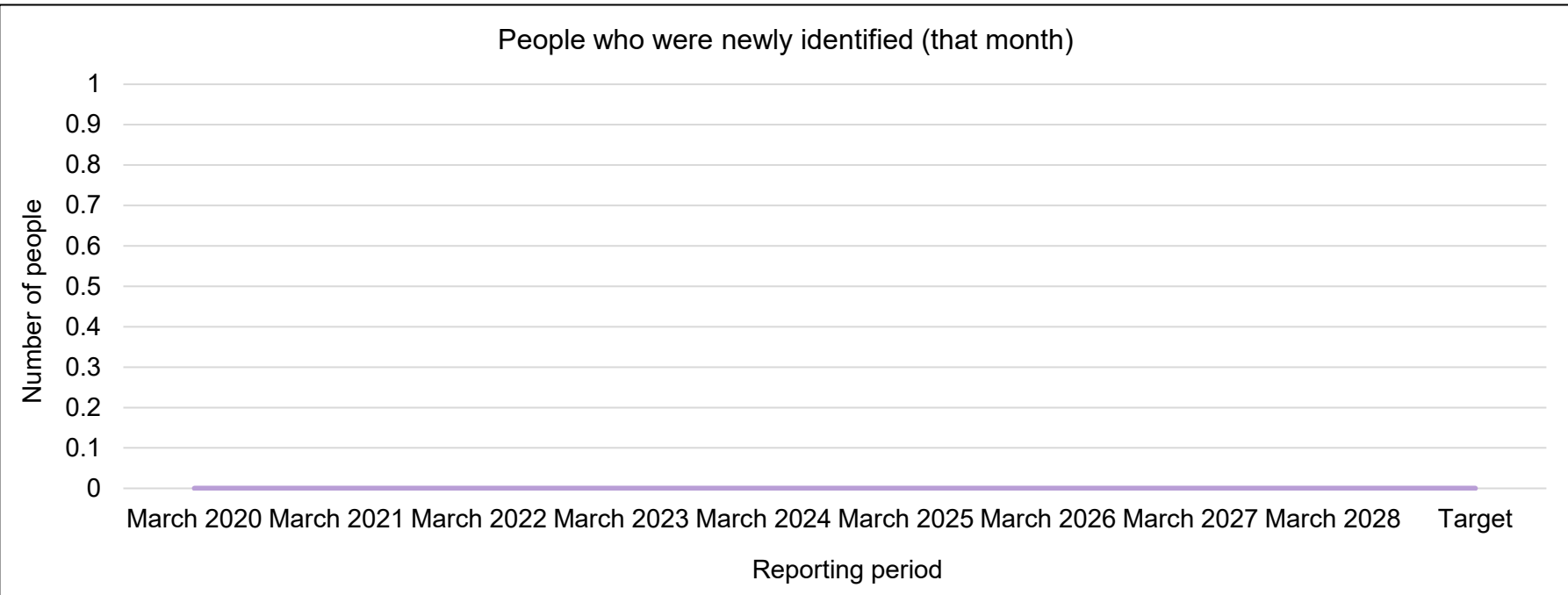
Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

	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)										



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)										



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)										



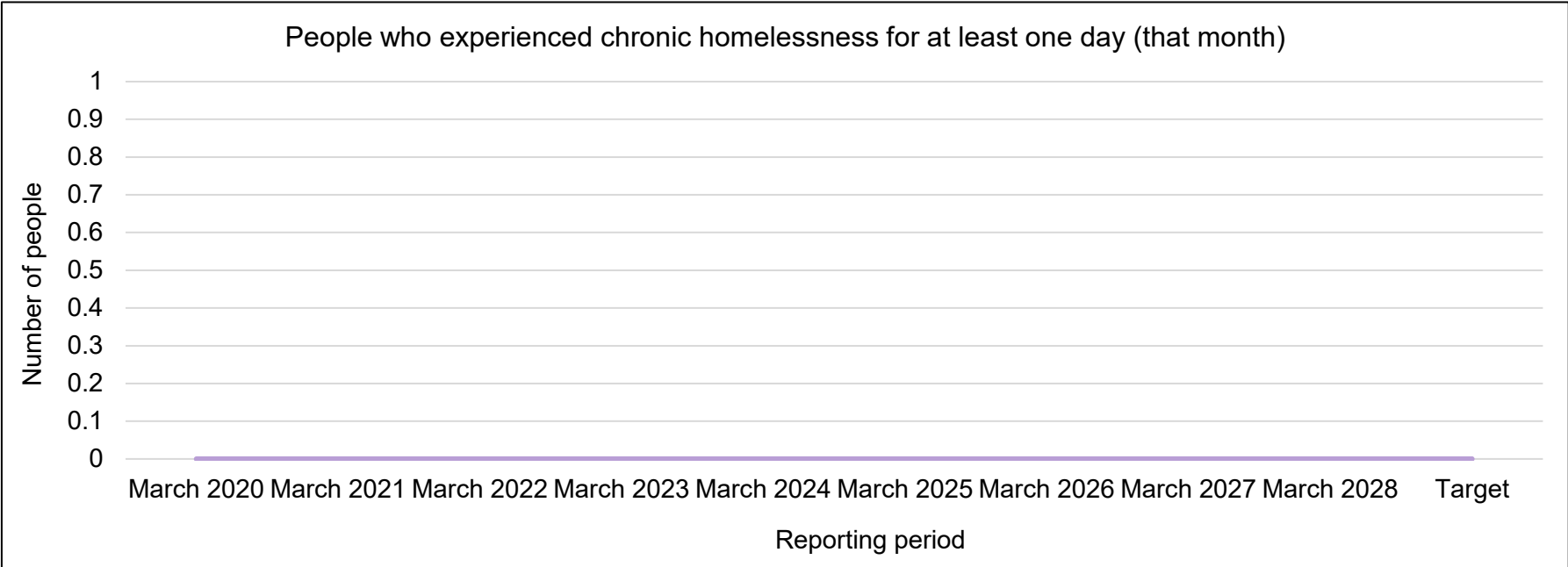
Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

	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)										



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)										



End of Section 4

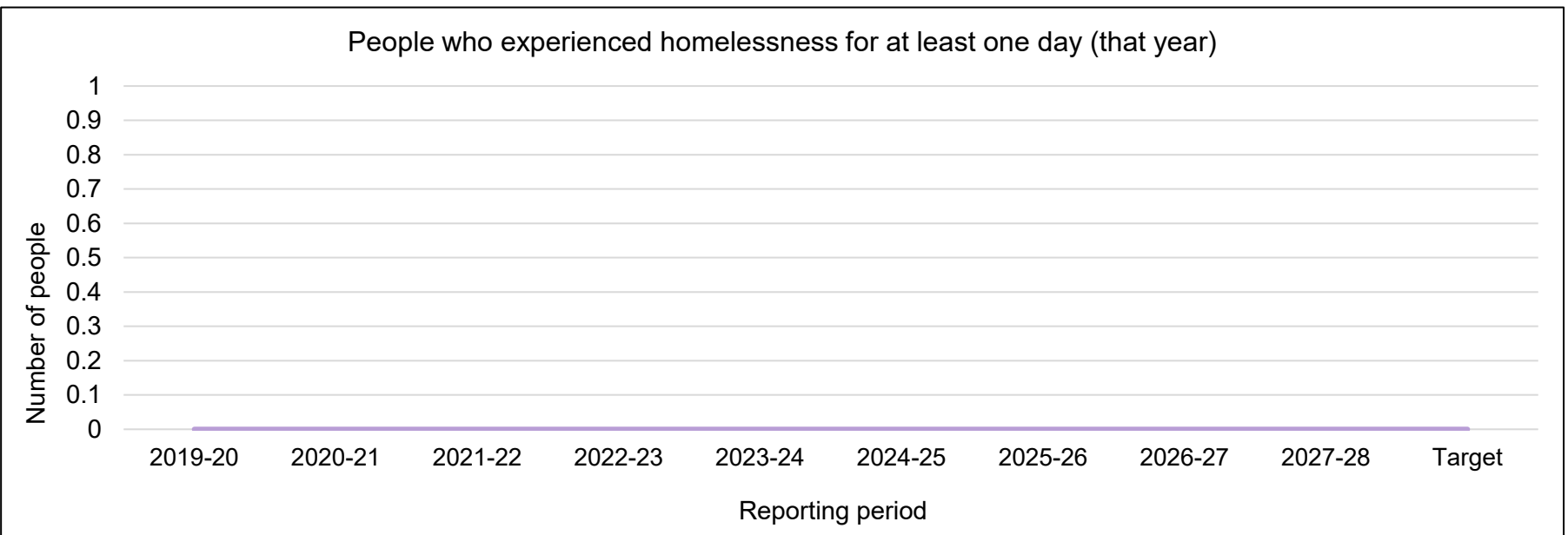
SECTION 4: COMMUNITY-LEVEL OUTCOMES AND TARGETS (ANNUAL)

Your answers in Section 3 indicate that your community currently **does not** have a real-time, comprehensive List with enough data and the capacity to generate **annual** baselines and set targets.

Community-Level Core Outcomes – Annual Data Reporting

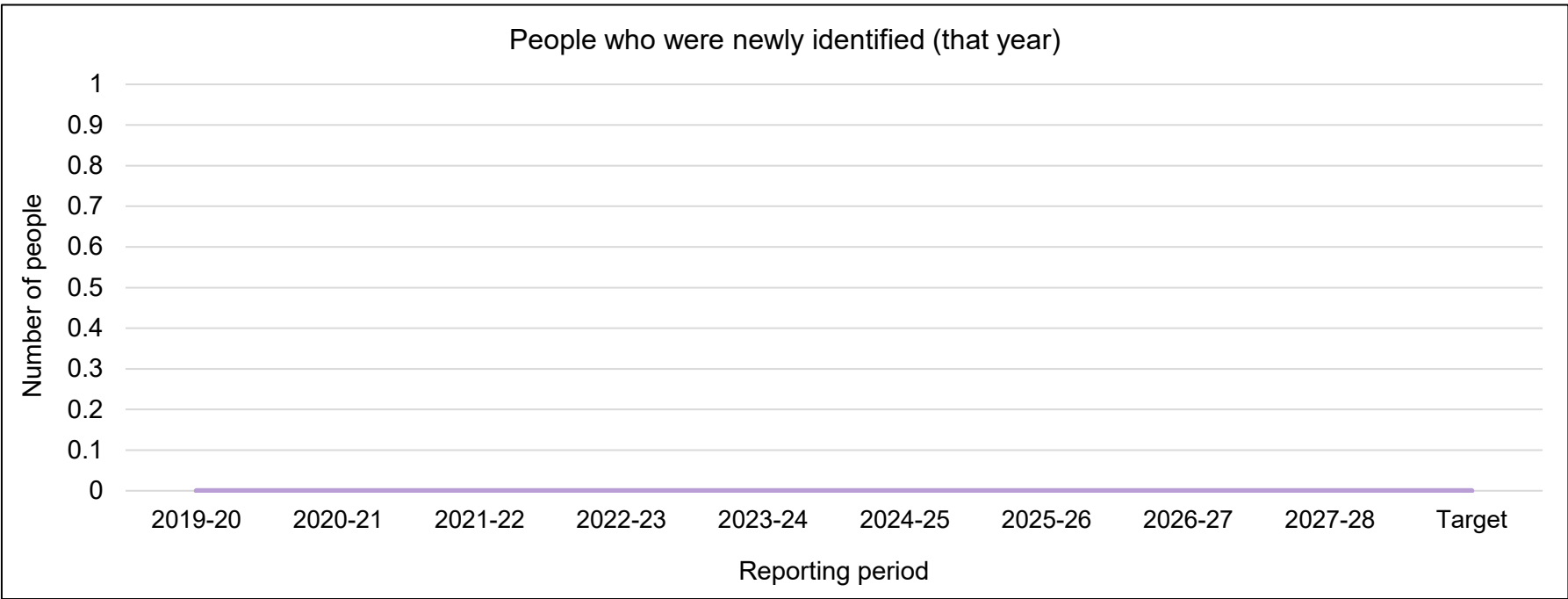
Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

	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)										



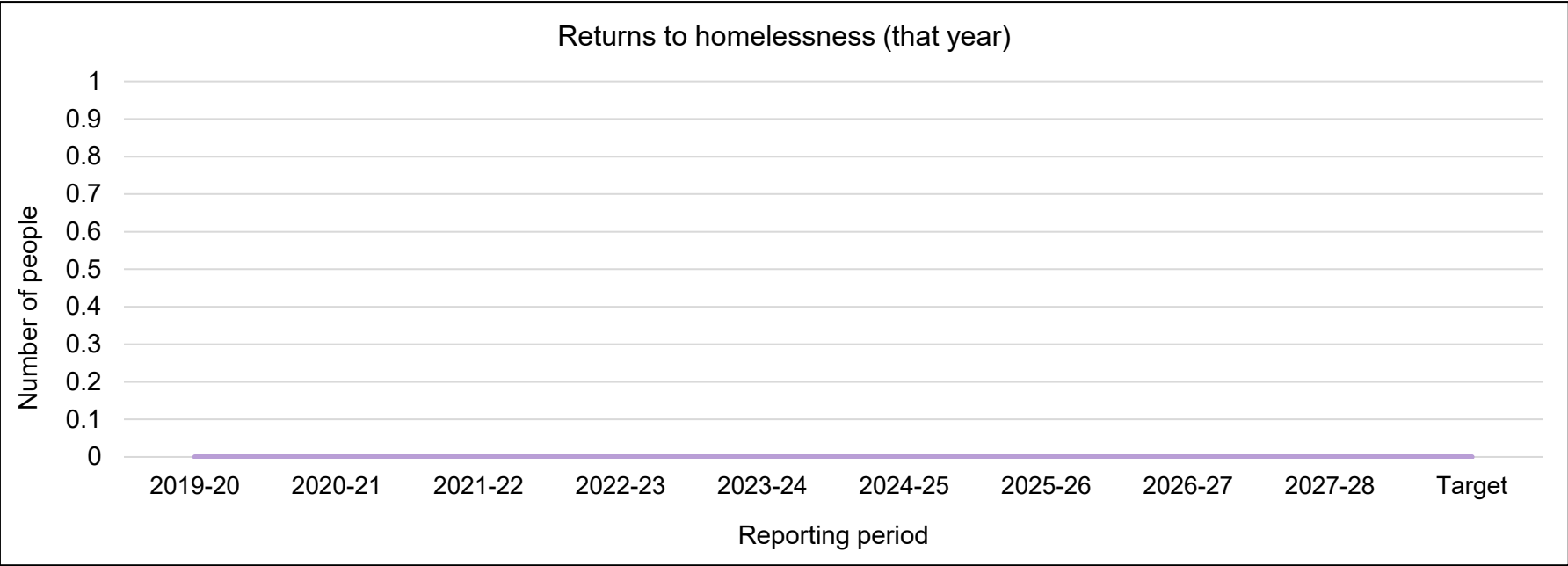
Outcome #2: Fewer people were newly identified (new inflows to homelessness are reduced)

	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)										



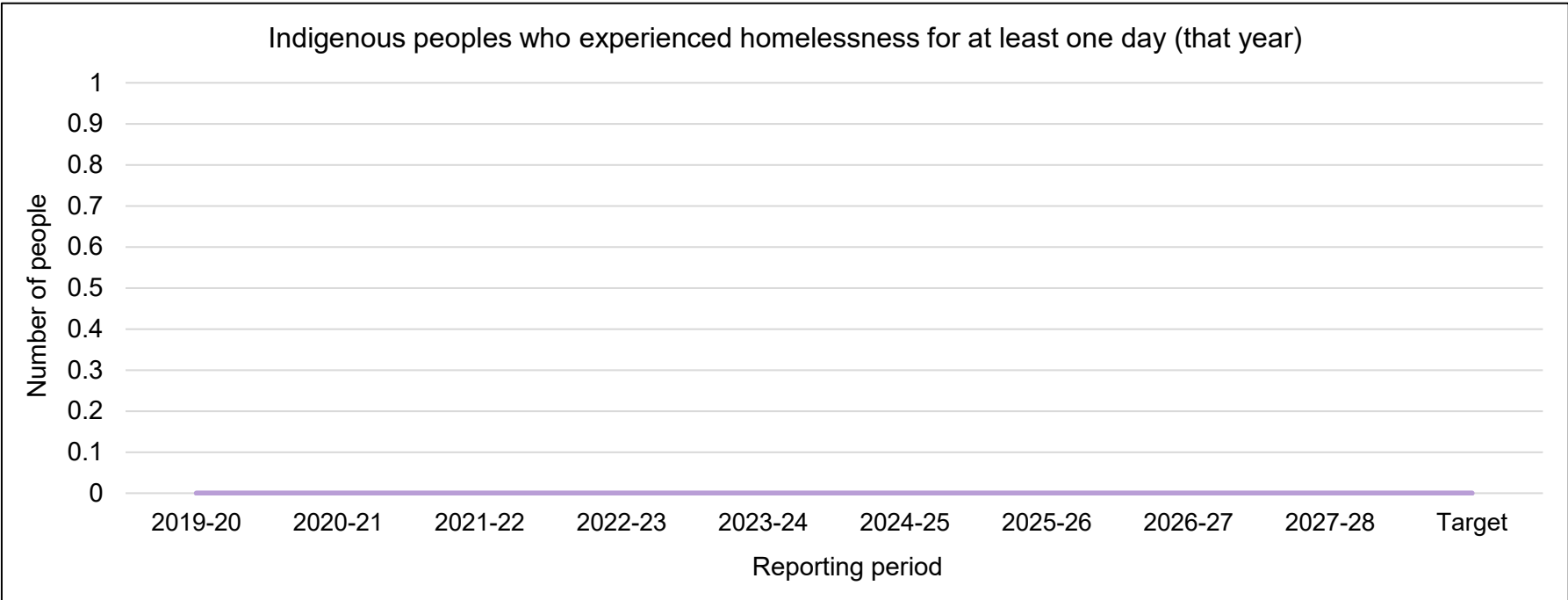
Outcome #3: Fewer people return to homelessness (returns to homelessness are reduced)

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



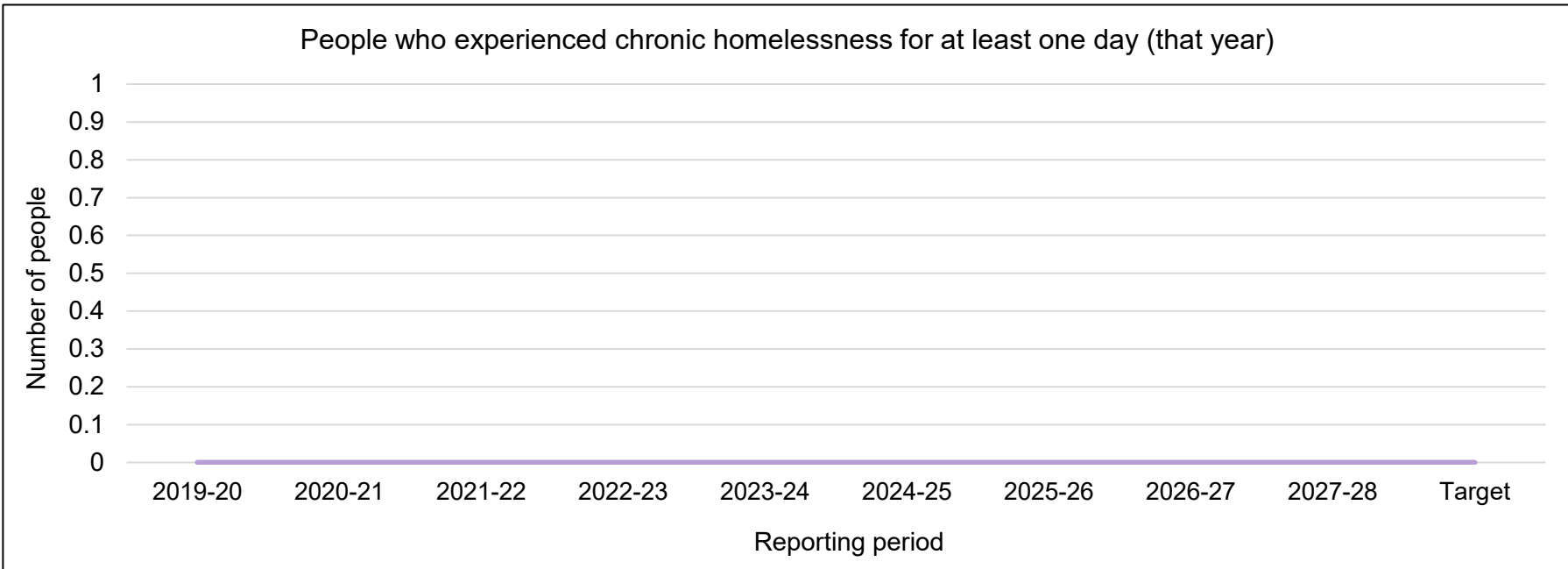
Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

	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)										



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)										



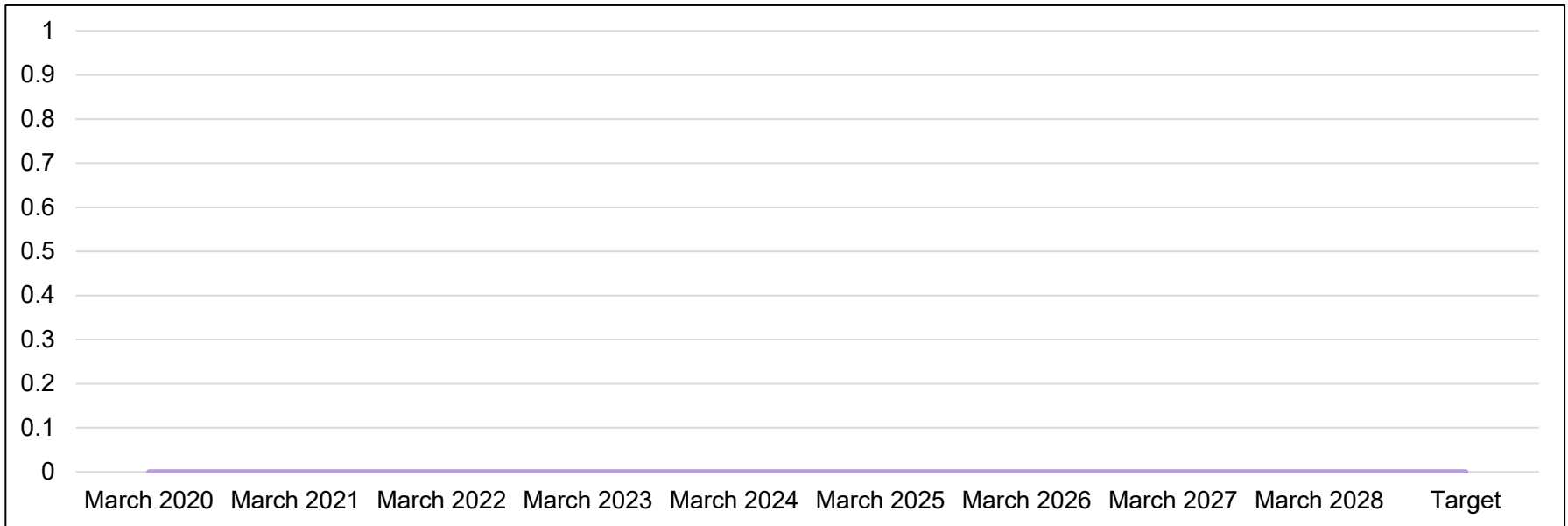
End of Section 4

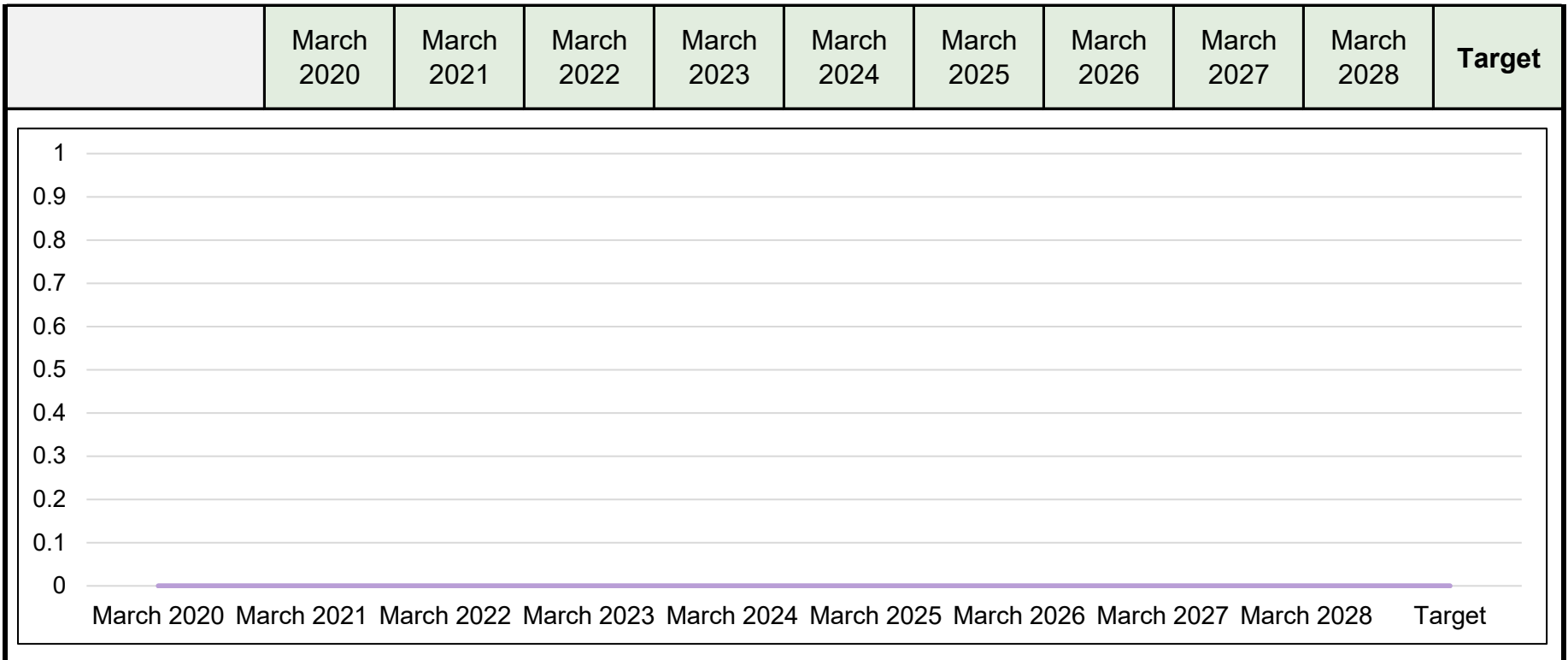
OPTIONAL COMMUNITY-LEVEL OUTCOMES (MONTHLY)

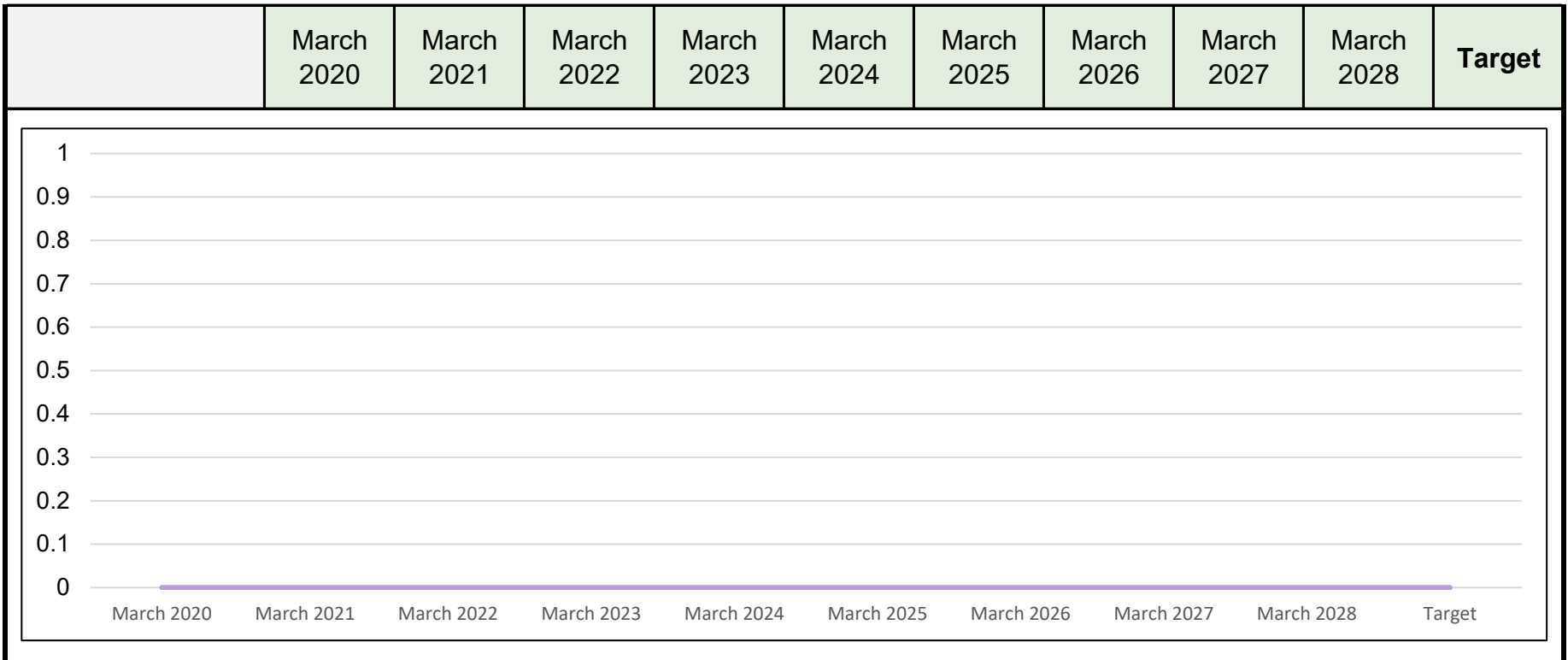
Your answers in Section 3 indicate that your community currently **does not** have a real-time, comprehensive List with enough data and the capacity to generate **monthly** baselines and set targets.

Optional Community-Level Outcomes – Monthly Data Reporting

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
--	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	---------------



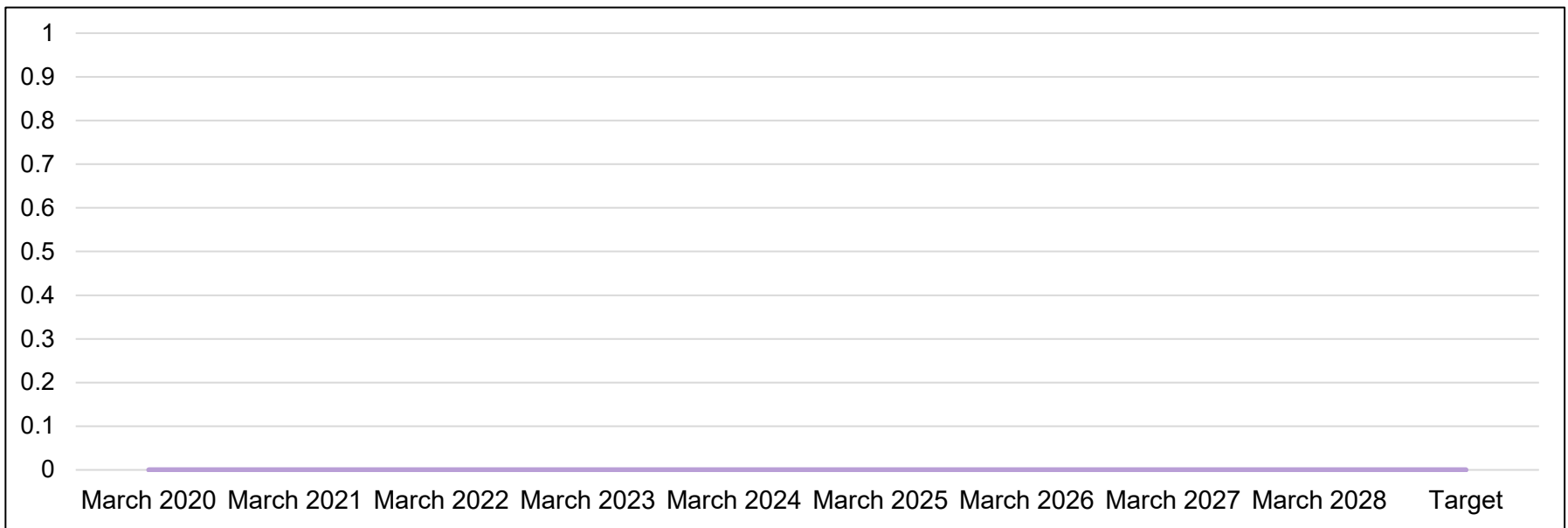


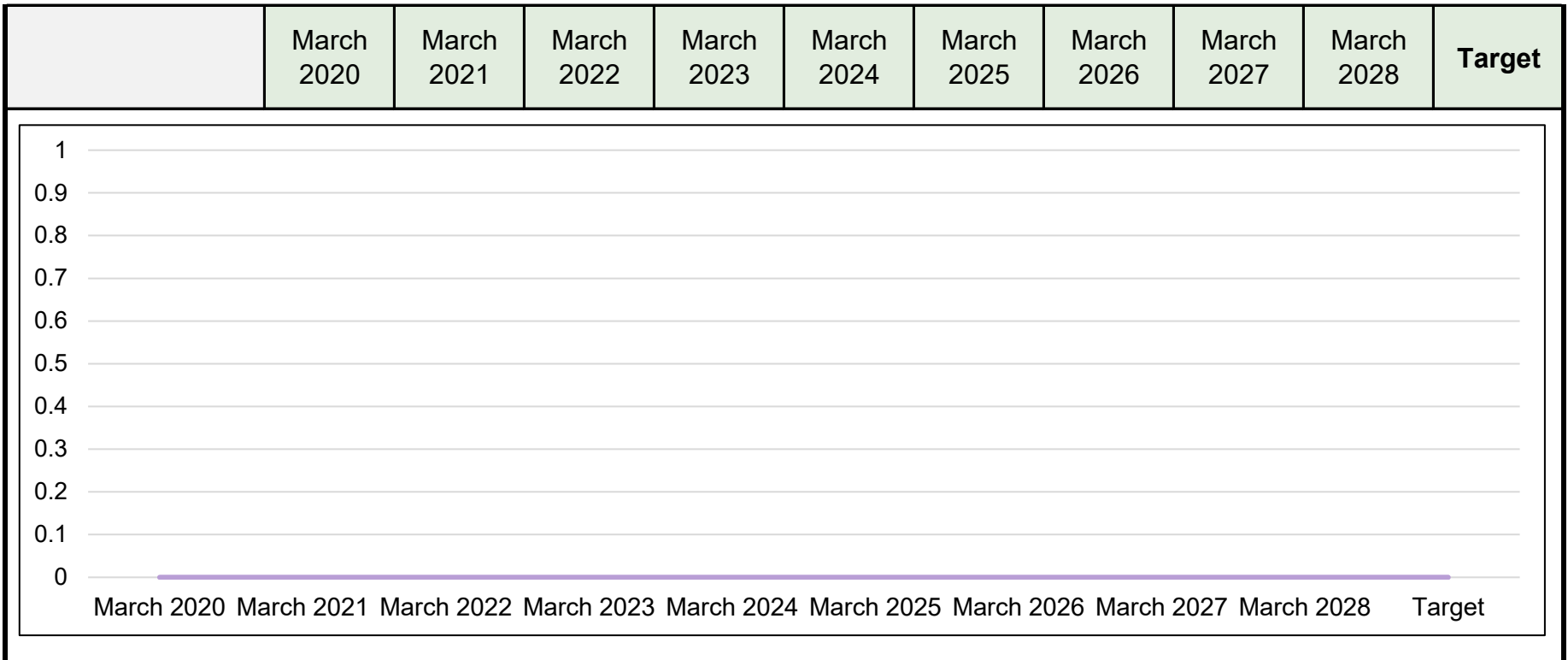


	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
--	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	--------



	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target



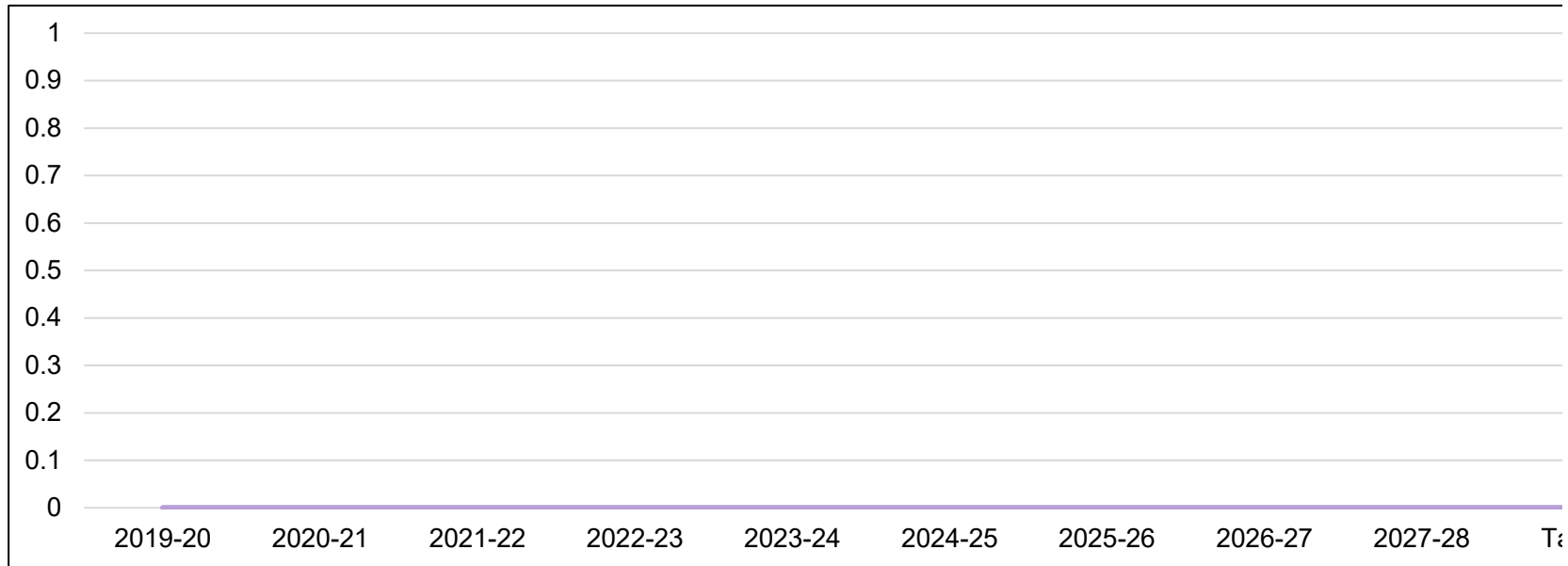


OPTIONAL COMMUNITY-LEVEL OUTCOMES (ANNUAL)

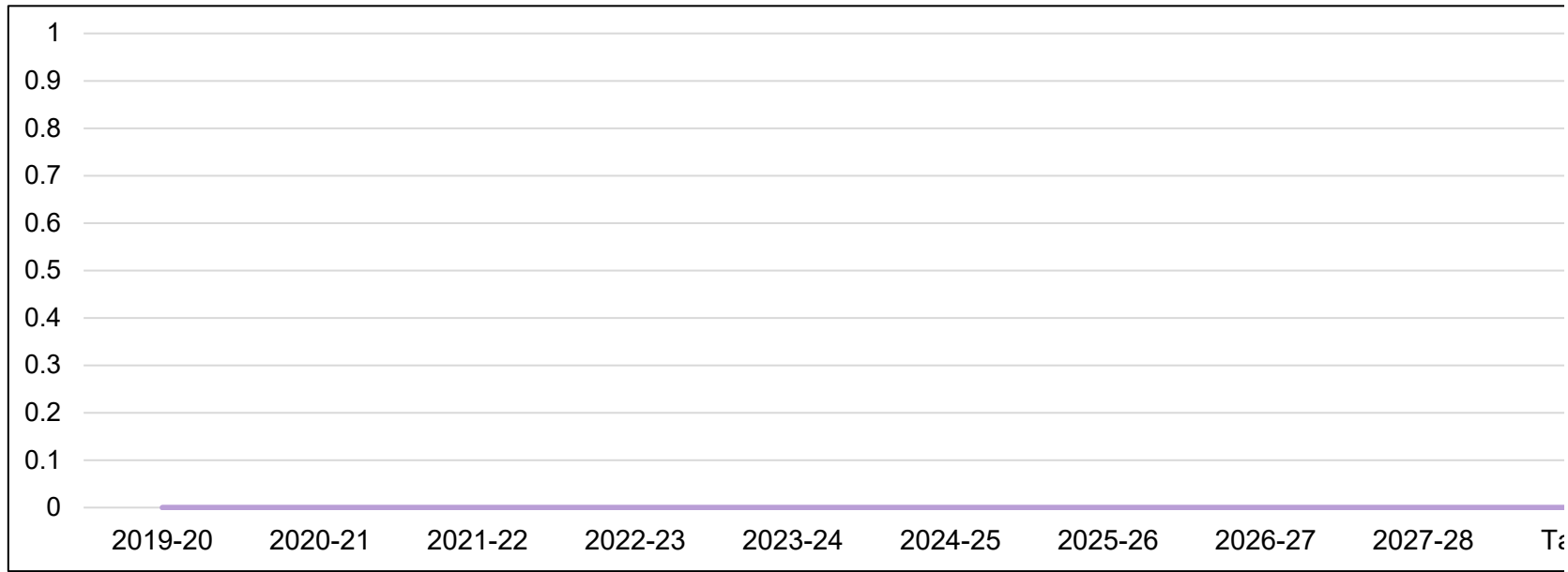
Your answers in Section 3 indicate that your community currently **does not** have a real-time, comprehensive List with data and the capacity to generate **annual** baselines and set targets.

Optional Community-Level Outcomes – Annual Data Reporting

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
--	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

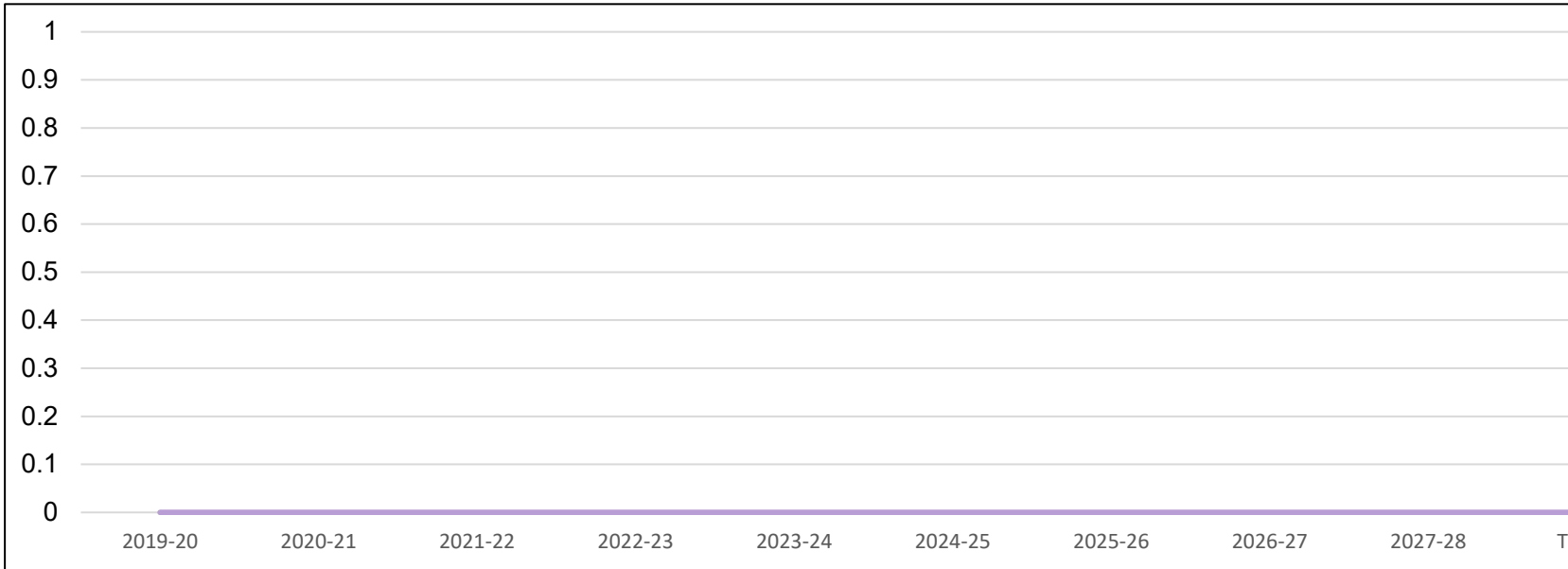


	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
--	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

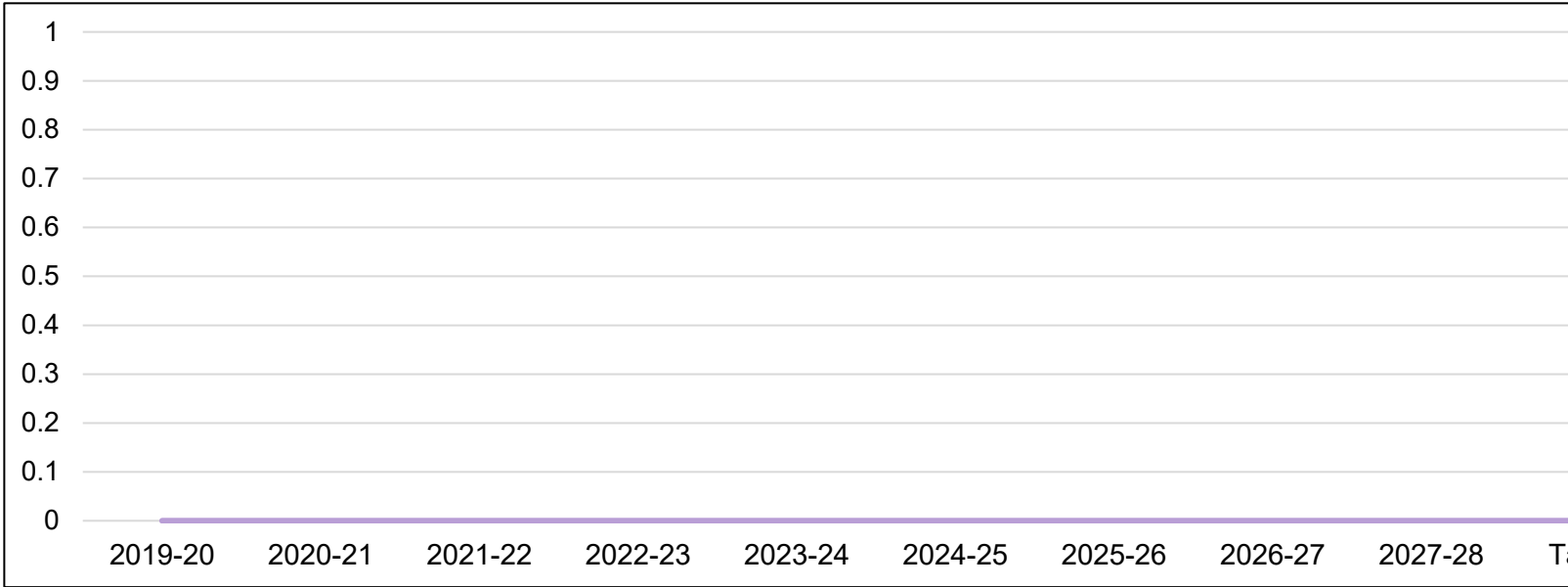


|

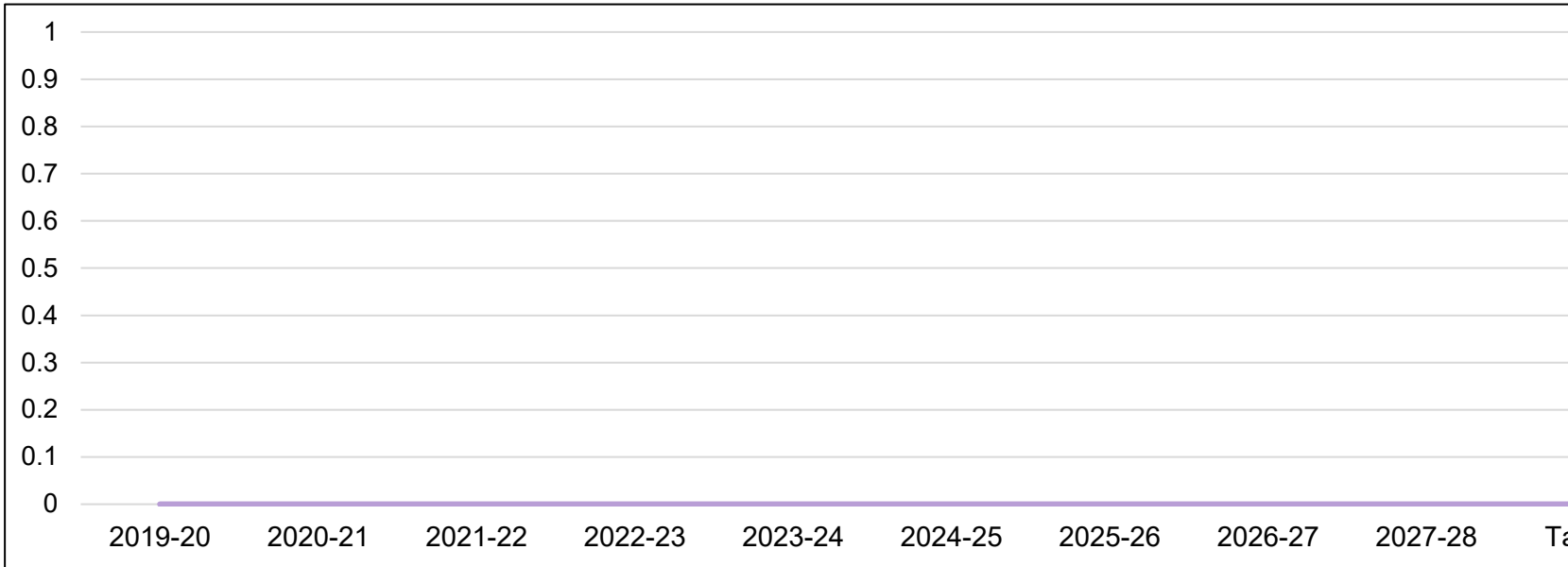
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
--	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------



	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
--	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

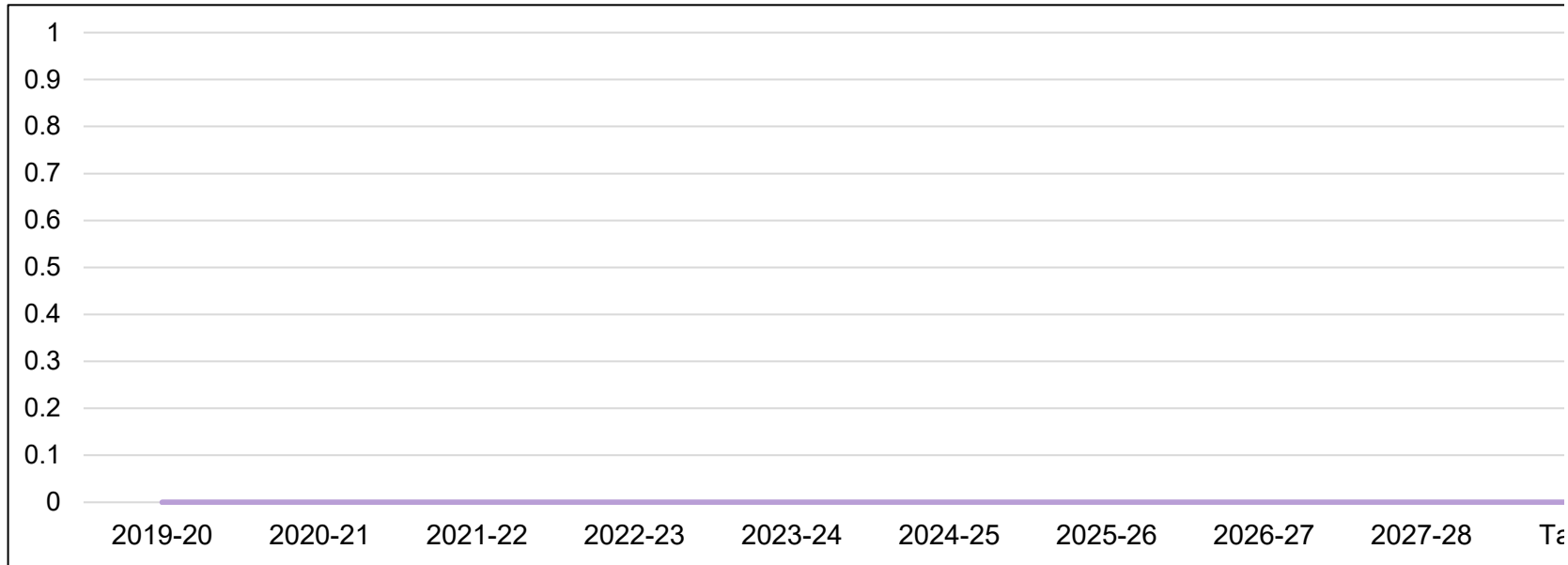


	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28



|

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
--	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------



COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY

COWICHAN DESIGNATED

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?

Yes

Describe this collaboration in more detail.

The ICA contract was awarded in April 2022. There is one CE and CAB in Cowichan that manages both DC and IH funding streams.

Over this first year, collaboration has occurred between the Coordinated Access Lead Agency (Cowichan Housing Association), Cowichan Tribes, and Indigenous community partners. A co-led Indigenous/non-Indigenous working group has been established to guide this work.

Indigenous engagement has been prioritized to ensure this project supports meaningful reconciliation in action, creates a guiding framework that ensures cultural safety for the people it will serve, and reflects the teachings and practices of our local First Nations. We are moving at the pace of our community to ensure the process is respectful and inclusive.

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.

Indigenous partners are embedded in all Reaching Home processes. The CE and CAB work together regularly including Coordinated Access (CA) updates, feedback and collaboration. An Indigenous coordinator has been hired by the CA lead agency to ensure Indigenous communities are engaged in the process.

Indigenous engagement pertaining to HIFIS roll-out needs to be addressed provincially and federally to ensure Indigenous data sovereignty and an inclusive process are met. We have suggested through the BC Planners group that this be considered a critical component of Phase 1 roll-out, rather than Phase 2 as is currently being suggested by BC Housing.

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.

Indigenous partners are embedded in all Reaching Home processes. The CE and CAB work together regularly including Coordinated Access (CA) updates, feedback and collaboration. Specifically regarding the completion of the CHR, Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners on the CAB were provided with the CHR content, invited to provide feedback, provided with the draft report and finally the CAB voted to accept the report as presented.

Does your community have a separate IH CAB?	No
---	----



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	0	9	9

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
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

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 CA lead continues to participate in meetings about Coordinated Access with Infrastructure Canada/Homelessness Policy Directorate, BC Housing, and the BC CE Planners group. Efforts are underway to implement HIFIS through BC Housing.

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
Not yet	Not yet	Not yet

**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
No	Outcome 1: No	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: No	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: No	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: No	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: No	Outcome 5: No	

**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: No	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: No	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: No	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: No	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: No	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?

Integrated, coordinated access is very important for Cowichan. Cowichan is a regional area and homeless persons move from place to place within this region. To have a by-name list and coordinated access established will be a huge benefit.

This year, the newly contracted organization is developing a by-name list, and establishing advisory and working groups that are inclusive of all stakeholders.

More information about the Unique Identifier List

Step 1. Have a List

Where does data for the List come from?	<p>HIFIS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Excel</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other HMIS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other data source(s)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable – Do not have a List yet</p>
---	---

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	Not yet

Chronic homelessness	
	Federal definition

A written policy/protocol that describes how housing history is documented	Not yet
--	---------

	Local definition
--	------------------

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

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

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

Age	No	Indigenous identity	No
Household type	No	Veteran status	No
Gender identity	No		

Step 2. Have a real-time List	

Step 3. Have a comprehensive List	

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

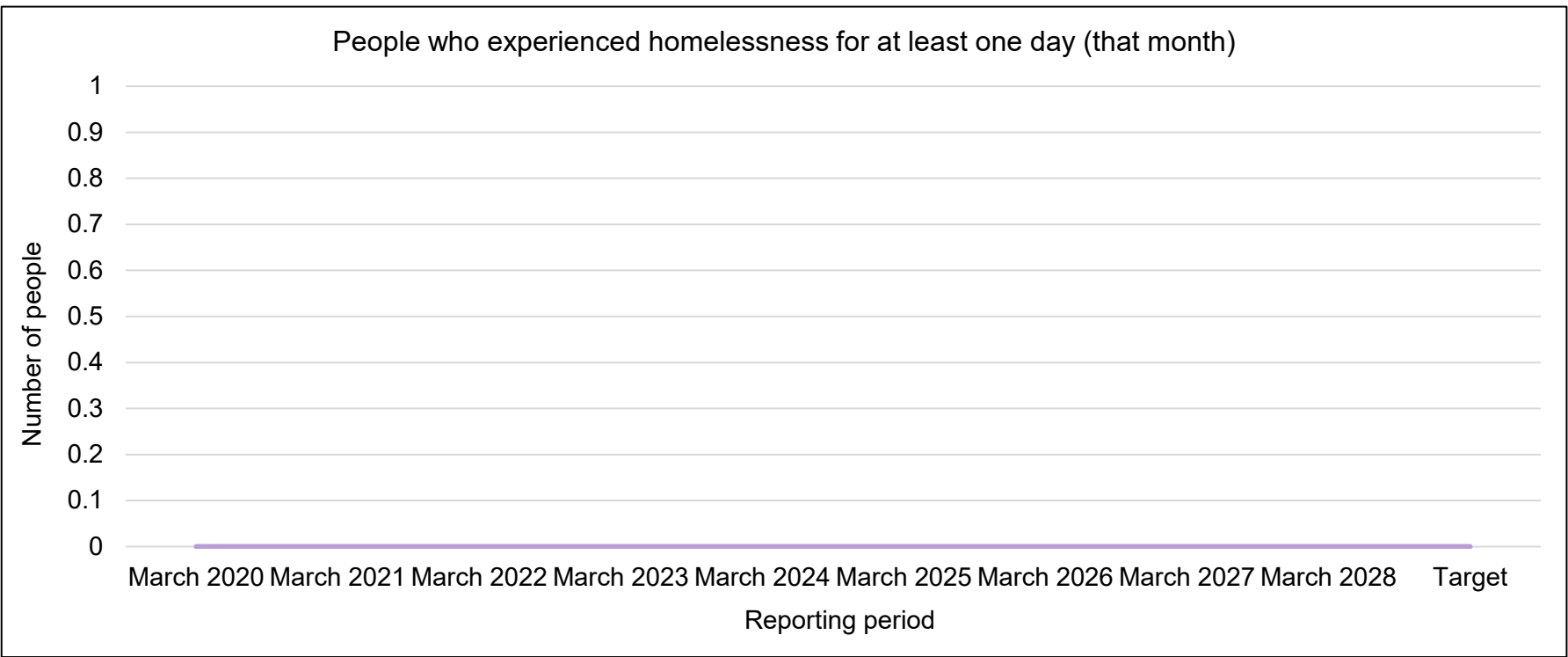
Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Monthly
--

Based on the information provided in the Community Homelessness Report, the community does not have to report monthly 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.

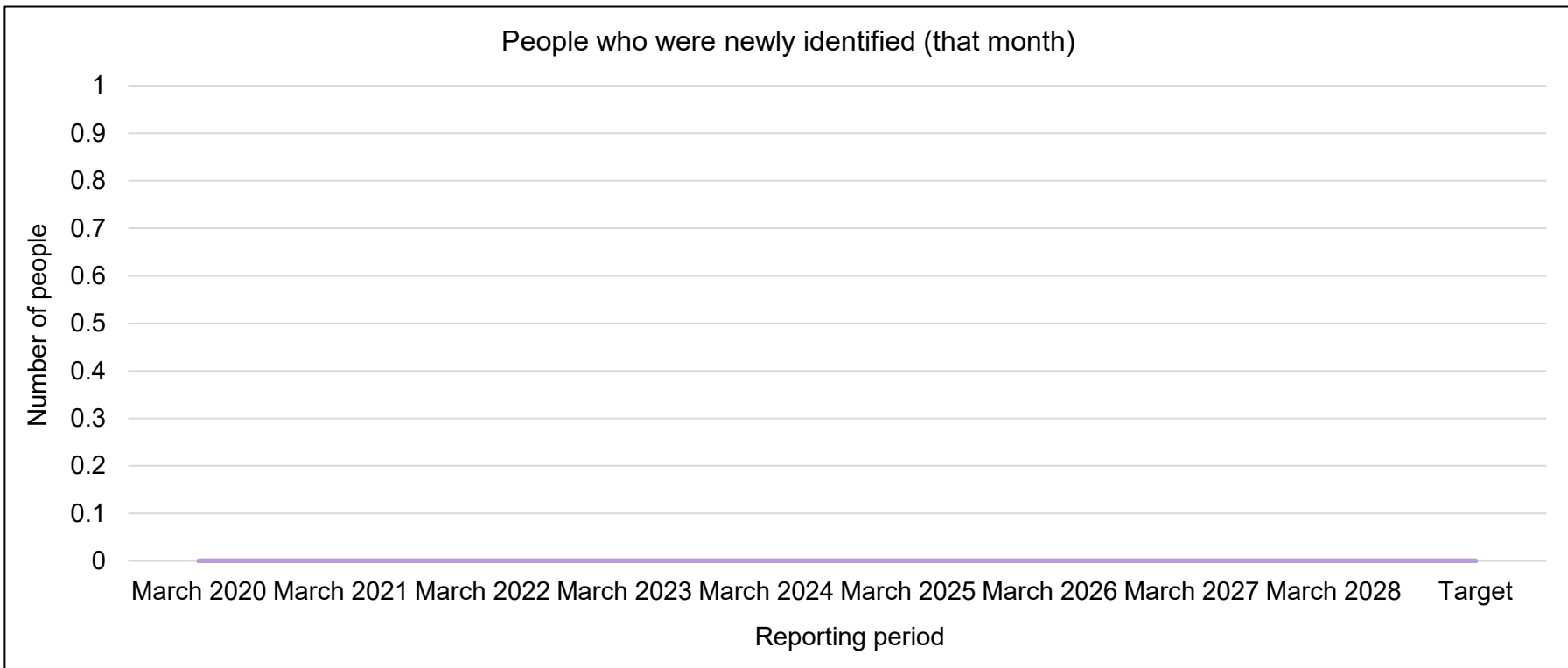
	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)										



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.

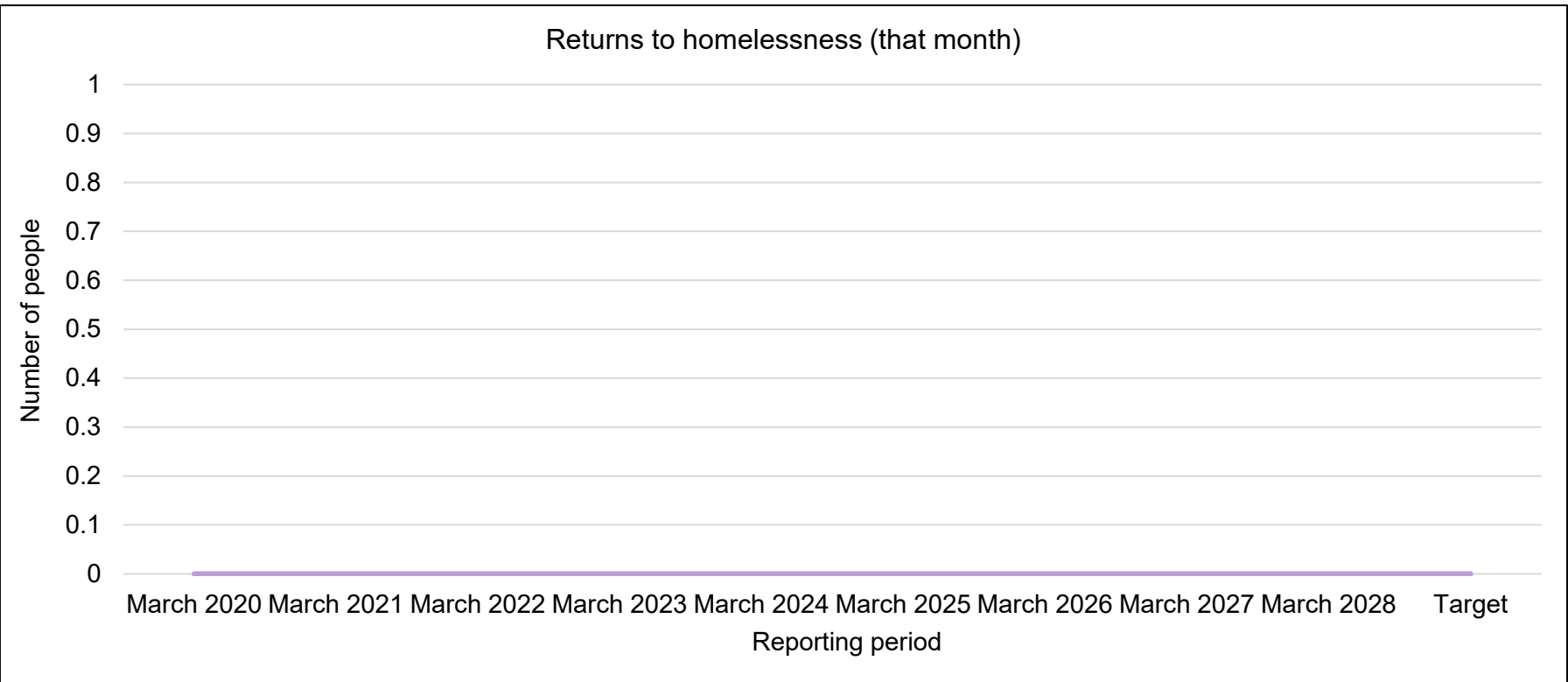
	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who were newly identified (that month)										



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 #3 for the reporting period.

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



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.

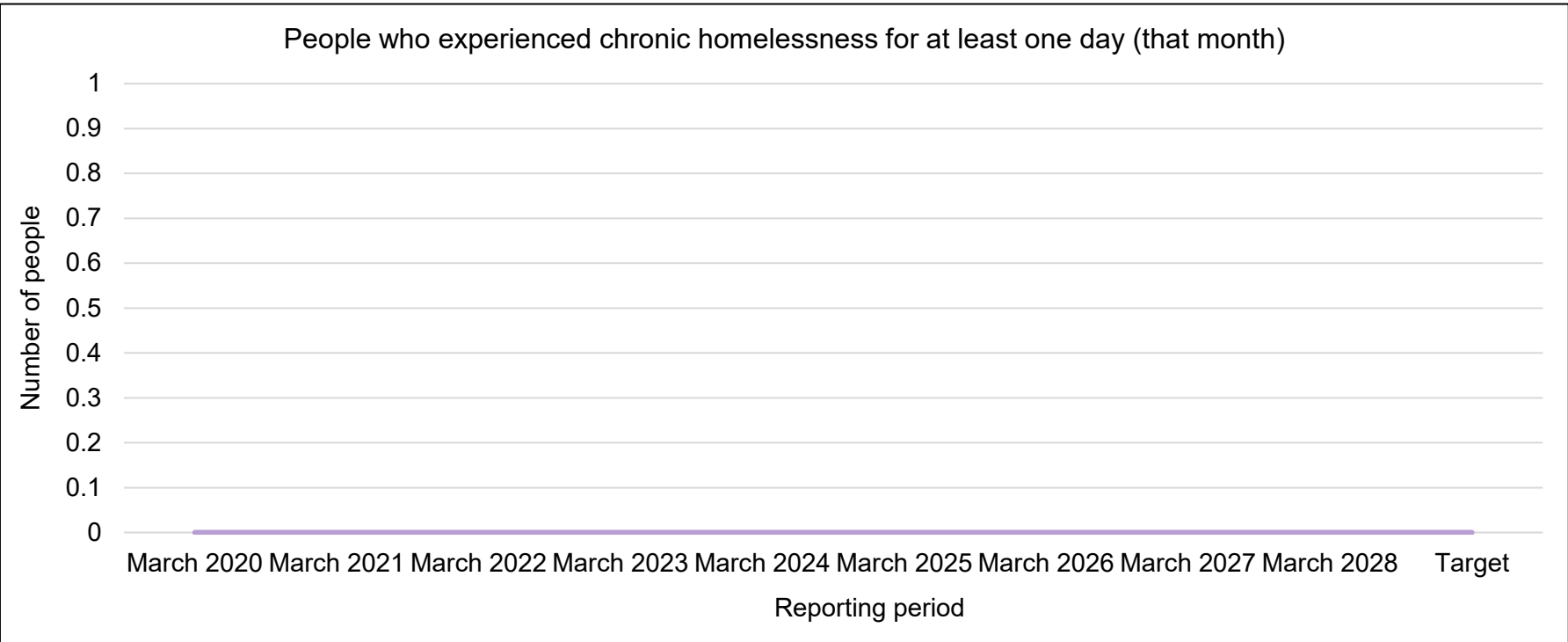
	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)										



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.

	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)										



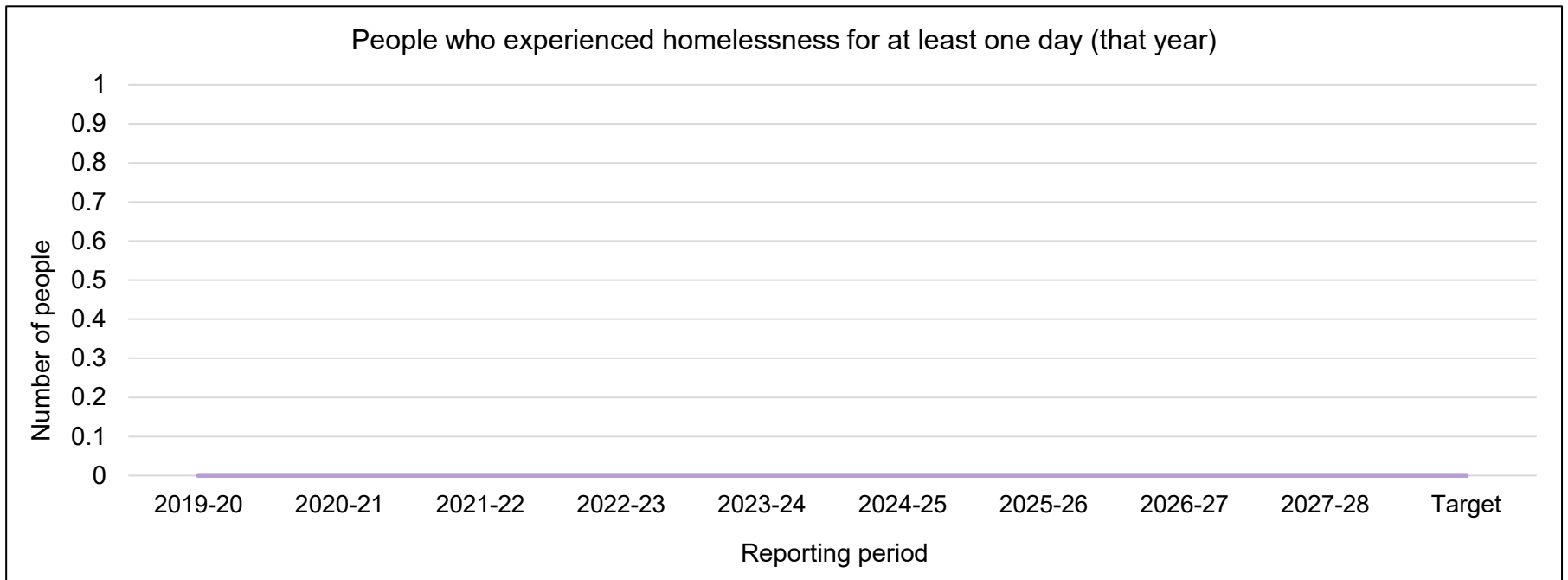
Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Annual

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.

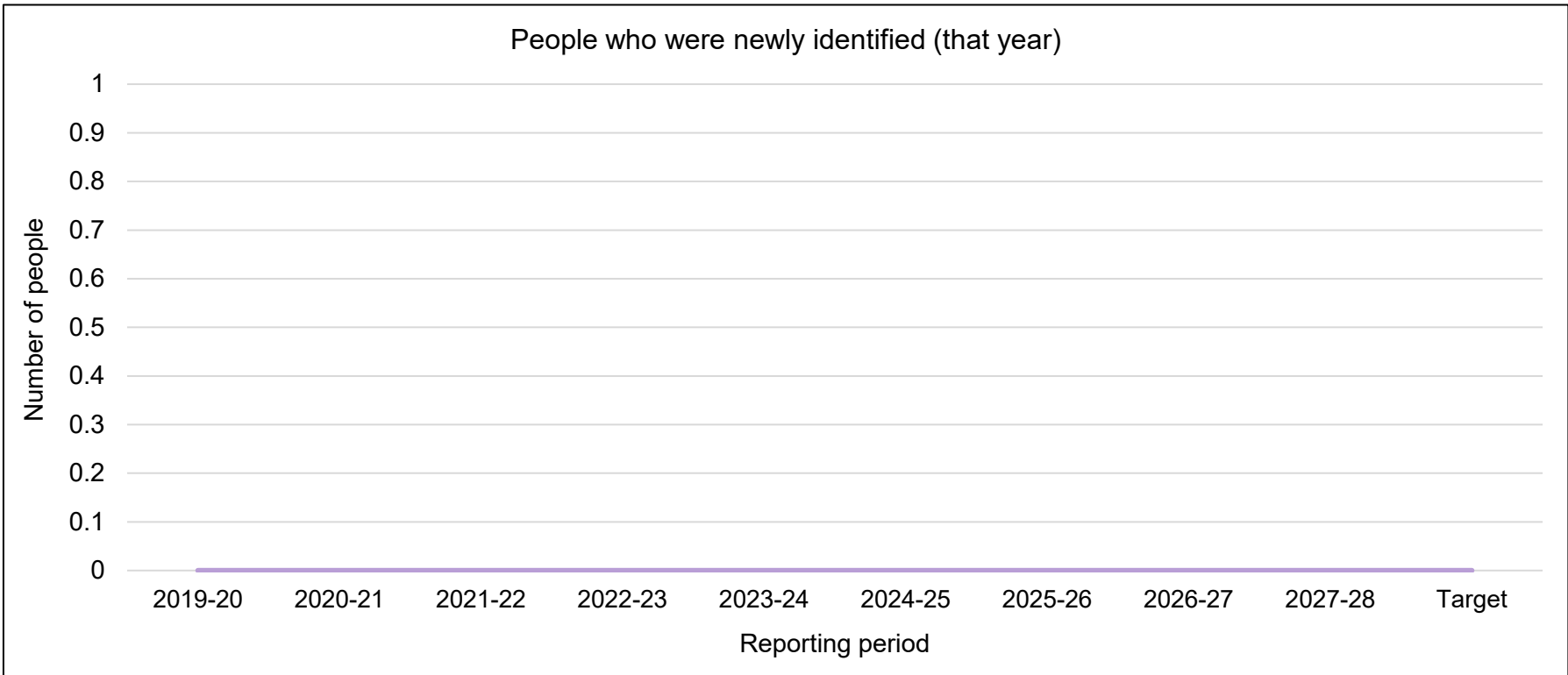
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)										



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.

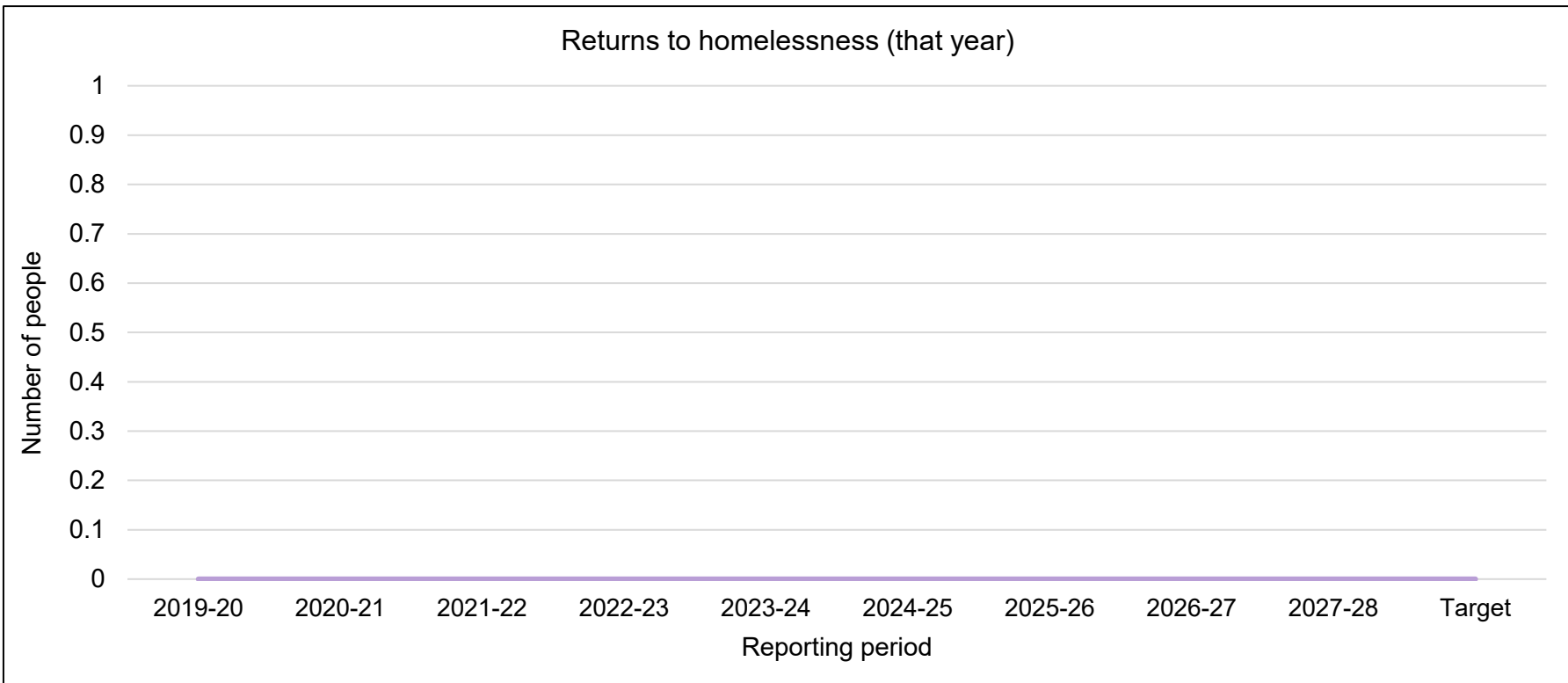
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who were newly identified (that year)										



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.

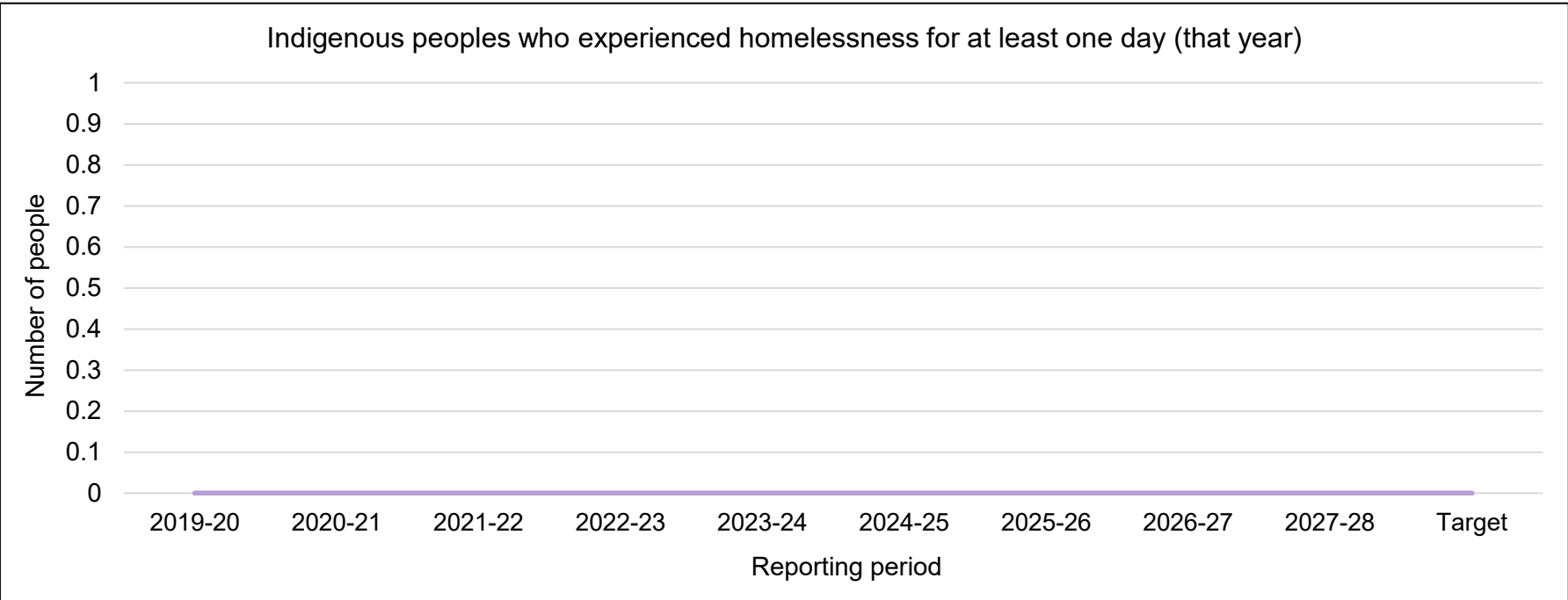
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Returns to homelessness (that year)										



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.

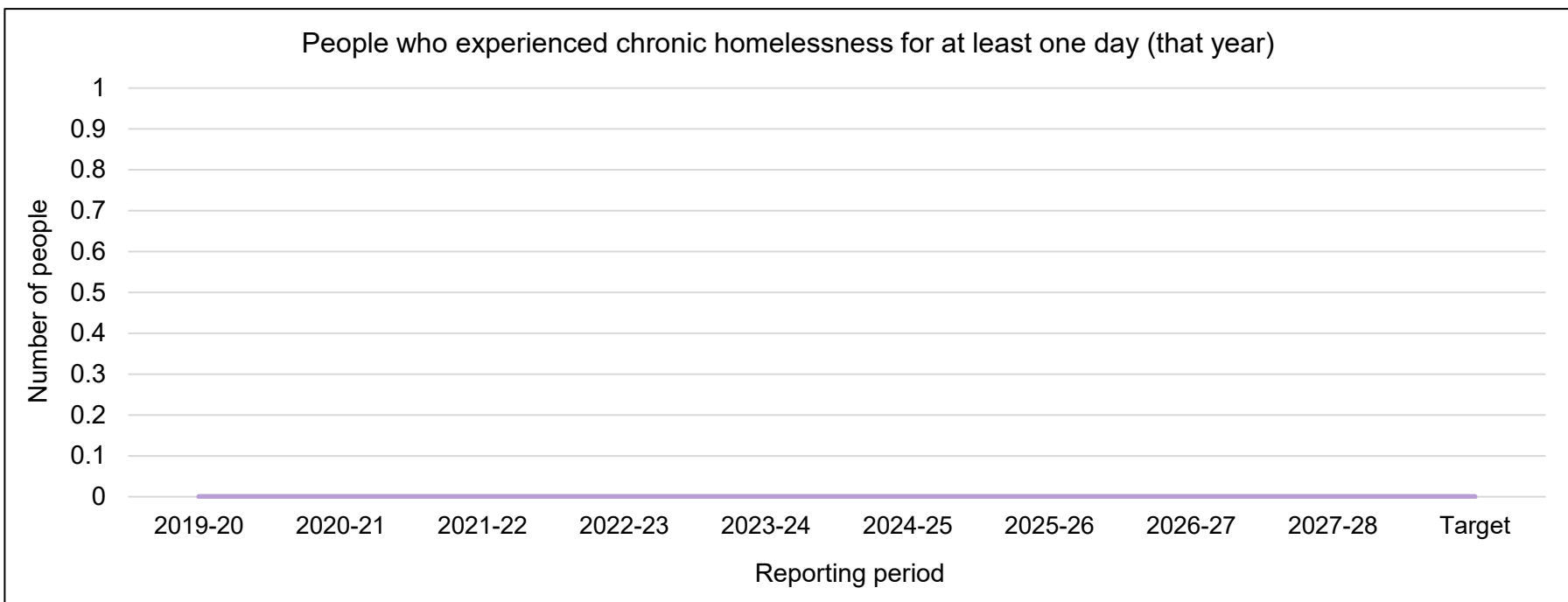
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)										



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)										



Designated & Indigenous – Community Advisory Board

Note: You may list more than one name or organization for each sector. ESDC will not sell, distribute, trade or transfer your information to other government departments, businesses, institutions, organizations or individuals outside ESDC for any other purposes, unless required by law.

Sector	Community Advisory Board Member(s)
Infrastructure Canada (Ex-Officio Member)	Grace Kerr
Provincial/Territorial government	
Local/Municipal government	
Indigenous peoples and organizations	Debbie Williams, Alt. Lucy Thomas & Joe Sam (Hiiye Lelum), Gina Warburton (Cowichan Tribes),
Veterans Affairs Canada or veterans serving organizations	
Organizations serving women/families fleeing violence	Adria Borghesan (Cowichan Woment Against Violence),
Youth and/or youth serving organizations (including Child Welfare Agencies)	Ryan De Buyscher-Nailor (Cowichan Youth),
Organizations serving seniors	Shelley Cook (Cowichan Housing Assoc.)
Newcomer serving organizations	
Health organizations, including hospitals and other public institutions, and organizations focused on mental health and addictions	Kim Granthan, Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction),
Individuals with lived experience of homelessness	
Organizations serving individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness	David Perry, Dave Maandag - on leave (Salvation Army Cowichan Valley), Karen Laing (Ladysmith Resource Centre Assoc.),
Private sector	
Landlord associations and/or the housing sector	Shelley Cook, Alt. Melaina (Cowichan Housing Assoc.),
Other	

Community Advisory Board Chairs or Co-Chairs (if applicable):

I affirm that the above members of the Community Advisory Board have reviewed the attached Community Homelessness Report and that the majority of Community Advisory Board members approve of its content.

Julie Rushton

Signature

Date

Debbie Williams

Signature

Date

Karen Laing

Signature

Date