

## February 2025 Month End

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<b>Total Operating Budget</b>	<b>\$1,809,678.07</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
YTD Expenses Including Sub Programs	\$953,149.12	52.67%
Unused Budget Funds	\$856,528.95	47.33%
Time Elapsed	66.58%	
Under Monthly Budget	13.91%	\$251,726.22

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<b>Salary Budget</b>	<b>\$824,933.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
YTD Salaries Including Sub Programs	\$381,445.40	46.24%
Unused Budget Funds	\$443,487.60	53.76%
Time Elapsed	66.58%	
Under Budget	20.34%	\$167,791.37

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Kathy's Last Day 2/28

ACCOUNT CODE DESCRIPTION		BUDGETED AMOUNT	CURRENT MONTH ACTIVITY	YEAR-TO-DATE ACTUALS	PERCENT OF BUDGET	ENCUMBRANCES	VARIANCE
BUDGETED FUND TYPES - EXPENDITURES							
510000 PERSONAL SERVICES							
511100	PERMANENT SALARIES-WAGES	824,933.00	34,952.16	304,948.93	36.97		519,984.07
511300	OVERTIME PAYMENTS			381.68			381.68-
511700	EMPLOYEE BONUSES			500.00			500.00-
511800	COMPENSATORY TIME PAID			229.17			229.17-
512100	VACATION LEAVE EXPENSE		841.18	31,214.04			31,214.04-
512200	SICK LEAVE EXPENSE		3,265.88	17,916.96			17,916.96-
512300	HOLIDAY LEAVE EXPENSE		2,055.74	25,648.09			25,648.09-
512500	FUNERAL LEAVE EXPENSE			606.55			606.55-
Personal Services Subtotal		824,933.00	41,114.96	381,445.42	46.24	0.00	443,487.58
515100	RETIREMENT PLANS EXPENSE	46,332.72	3,078.70	28,525.32	61.57		17,807.40
515300	FICA EXPENSE	43,823.12	2,827.71	26,652.66	60.82		17,170.46
515500	HEALTH INSURANCE EXPENSE	116,551.98	10,670.78	82,624.60	70.89		33,927.38
516300	EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PRO	174.83		176.40	100.90		1.57-
516500	WORKERS COMP PREMIUMS	6,060.00		6,060.00	100.00		
Major Account 510000 Total		1,037,875.65	57,692.15	525,484.40	50.63	0.00	512,391.25

520000 OPERATING EXPENSES						
521100 POSTAGE EXPENSE	1,100.00	79.71	626.72	56.97		473.28
521400 CIO CHARGES	25,000.00	5,013.81	65,224.25	260.90		40,224.25-
521500 PUBLICATION & PRINT EXP	4,650.00	585.23	4,616.72	99.28		33.28
522100 DUES & SUBSCRIPTION EXP	6,900.00		1,037.00	15.03		5,863.00
522200 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	9,800.00	75.00	2,579.50	26.32		7,220.50
522600 JOB APPLICANT EXPENSE	325.00		157.42	48.44		167.58
522900 EMPLOYEE PARKING EXP	199.50		17.50	8.77		182.00
524600 RENT EXPENSE-BUILDINGS	61,500.00	5,813.37	46,506.96	75.62		14,993.04
524700 RENT EXP-OTHER REAL PROP	2,020.00		412.50	20.42		1,607.50
524701 RENT EXP - BOOTHS	250.00					250.00
524900 RENT EXP-DEPR SURCHARGE	4,346.04	314.67	2,517.36	57.92		1,828.68
531100 OFFICE SUPPLIES EXPENSE	5,250.00	718.00	4,768.57	90.83		481.43
531200 IT SUPPLIES		47.98	326.49			326.49-
532100 NON-CAPITALIZED EQUIP PU	500.00		17,400.97	3,480.19	617.40	16,900.97-
532200 PERSONAL COMPUTING EQUIPMENT						617.40-

ACCOUNT CODE DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT	CURRENT MONTH ACTIVITY	YEAR-TO-DATE ACTUALS	PERCENT OF BUDGET	ENCUMBRANCES	VARIANCE
533900 FOOD EXPENSE-INSTITUTIONS			162.32			162.32-
534600 ED & RECREATIONAL SUP EX			185.00			185.00-
534900 MISCELLANEOUS SUP EXP	400.00		801.17	200.29		401.17-
541100 ACCTG & AUDITING SERVICES	2,750.00		3,005.00	109.27		255.00-
541200 PURCHASING ASSESSMENT	100.00					100.00
541500 LEGAL SERVICES EXPENSE	2,450.00					2,450.00
547100 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	2,550.00	36.66	223.66	8.77		2,326.34
547300 INTERPRETER SERVICES	25,000.00	1,940.00	167,679.72	670.72	242.50	142,922.22-
547301 Carl Services	6,050.00	62.50	5,125.00	84.71		925.00
548700 REFUSE/RECYCLING	51.52		48.00	93.17		3.52
554130 VIDEO SERVICES	4,500.00		120.00	2.67		4,380.00
554160 DATA CENTER HOSTING SERVICES	2,175.00		1,928.00	88.64		247.00
554900 OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	13,750.00	1,020.00	24,411.45	177.54	1,550.00	12,211.45-
554901 PORTAL TO PORTAL	2,420.29	432.50	6,015.00	248.52		3,594.71-
554902 SHARED SERVICES	2,000.00					2,000.00
555200 SOFTWARE - NEW PURCHASES			1,207.65		1,338.89	2,546.54-
556100 INSURANCE EXPENSE	260.00		71.99	27.69		188.01
559100 OTHER OPERATING EXP	122,680.71		46,355.80	37.79		76,324.91
Major Account 520000 Total	308,978.06	16,139.43	403,531.72	130.60	3,748.79	98,302.45-
570000 TRAVEL EXPENSES						
571100 LODGING	96,528.66	485.64	7,122.65	7.38		89,406.01
571600 MEALS - TAXABLE	44,014.33		1,704.94	3.87		42,309.39
571800 MEALS - TRAVEL STATUS	88,028.66	149.10	181.66	.21		87,847.00
571900 MEALS-ONE DAY TRAVEL	44,014.33					44,014.33
572100 COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATIO	1,681.00		410.95	24.45		1,270.05
573100 STATE-OWNED TRANSPORT		353.65	8,216.77			8,216.77-
574500 PERSONAL VEHICLE MILEAGE	100,028.66	310.75	5,813.51	5.81	58.48	94,156.67
575100 MISC TRAVEL EXPENSE	88,528.72		682.52	.77		87,846.20
Major Account 570000 Total	462,824.36	1,299.14	24,133.00	5.21	58.48	438,632.88
BUDGETED EXPENDITURES TOTAL	1,809,678.07	75,130.72	953,149.12	52.67	3,807.27	852,721.68

SUMMARY BY FUND TYPE - EXPENDITURES

1	GENERAL FUND	1,308,669.11	74,110.72	809,175.91	61.83	3,517.27	495,975.93
2	CASH FUNDS	60,865.60	1,020.00	9,178.33	15.08	290.00	51,397.27
		440,143.36		134,794.88	30.63		305,348.48

ACCOUNT CODE DESCRIPTION	BUDGETED AMOUNT	CURRENT MONTH ACTIVITY	YEAR-TO-DATE ACTUALS	PERCENT OF BUDGET	ENCUMBRANCES	VARIANCE
4FEDERAL FUNDS						
BUDGETED EXPENDITURES TOTAL	1,809,678.07	75,130.72	953,149.12	52.67	3,807.27	852,721.68
BUDGETED FUND TYPES - REVENUES						
470000 REVENUE - SALES AND CHARGES						
471100SALE OF SERVICES		201.25-	721.25-			721.25
475100REGISTRATION / LICENSE F			1,600.00-			1,600.00
Major Account 470000 Total	0.00	201.25-	2,321.25-	0.00	0.00	2,321.25
480000 REVENUE - MISCELLANEOUS						
481100INVESTMENT INCOME		159.21-	1,396.51-			1,396.51
484100OPERATING DONATIONS & CO			100.00-			100.00
484500REIMB NON-GOVT SOURCES		62.59-	403.28-			403.28
486500MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENT			5,000.00-			5,000.00
486600CREDIT CARD CLEARING		175.00-	1,825.00-			1,825.00
Major Account 480000 Total	0.00	396.80-	8,724.79-	0.00	0.00	8,724.79
490000 REVENUE - OTHER FINANCIAL SOURCES/INVESTMENTS						
491300SALE - SURP PROP/FIXED ASSET		46.00-	2,196.20-			2,196.20
Major Account 490000 Total	0.00	46.00-	2,196.20-	0.00	0.00	2,196.20
BUDGETED REVENUE TOTAL	0.00	644.05-	13,242.24-	0.00	0.00	13,242.24
SUMMARY BY FUND TYPE - REVENUE						
1GENERAL FUND		46.00-	2,296.20-			2,296.20
2CASH FUNDS		598.05-	10,946.04-			10,946.04
BUDGETED REVENUE TOTAL	0.00	644.05-	13,242.24-	0.00	0.00	13,242.24

## Department Reports



- Advocacy Specialist – page 2
- Behavioral Health Coordinator – page 3
- Youth & Family Advocacy Specialist – page 4
- Monthly Reports for Calendar Year 2024 – pages 5 – 25
- Monthly Reports for  
January - February 2025 – pages 26 - 43
- Communications & Outreach – N/A

**Top Three Significant Activities or Events  
Respectfully Submitted by the Advocacy Specialists Team  
(Between December 14, 2024 – March 14, 2025)**

1. Several of our team members are actively collaborating with local health departments, CERT, and emergency management agencies to enhance emergency preparedness for the Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing community. This initiative includes training sessions for both first responders and community members, focusing on communication strategies and available technology accommodations. By increasing awareness and preparedness on both sides, the goal is to ensure more effective and accessible emergency response efforts. Through these partnerships, we are working to bridge communication gaps and improve safety outcomes for all.
2. Our team invite speakers from various organizations, including Nebraska VR, Civic Nebraska, Adult Protective Services, and the League of Human Dignity during our Advocacy Specialist Collaboration Meeting twice a month. These presentations provide valuable insights into the programs, services, and resources available within the community. By learning directly from these organizations, the team enhances its ability to advocate effectively and provide informed outreach to individuals who may benefit from these services. This collaboration also fosters stronger relationships between the team and service providers, ensuring that the needs of the Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing community are better understood and addressed. Through these ongoing discussions, the team stays up to date on available support systems and identifies potential opportunities for partnerships and joint initiatives that further their mission of accessibility and inclusion.
3. Our team actively conducts outreach by meeting with various service providers at their place of business to promote awareness and education on accessibility for the Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing community. We tailor our approach based on each provider's specific services and existing knowledge of accessibility to ensure the information is relevant and impactful. Many providers express interest in additional training or resources after our initial outreach, and we work to provide appropriate follow-up support based on their needs. This ongoing engagement helps foster stronger partnerships and improve accessibility across different sectors.

## Behavioral Health Coordinator

### Achievements in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2025

1. Joined Advocate Specialist, Jeremy Daffern, in attending meetings with NEMA, Douglas County Health Department, Douglas County Emergency Management, National Weather Service and the media to coordinate trainings for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing/DeafBlind/DeafPlus for Emergency Preparedness.

I joined the sessions so that each training session will also include a mental health piece, specific to trauma before, during and after a severe weather event or local emergency.

The purpose of the meetings is to work with local forecasters and media to ensure accessibility to the information and providing information about the importance of ASL Interpreters as well as other resources. And to have trained members of the D/HH/DB/DP community as emergency responders, peer support and as liaison's with the other agencies.

2. Joined Lead Advocate Specialist, Kim Davis and Youth and Family Services Advocate, Ashley Altman, to provide training to 15 new recruits for the Lincoln Police Department.
3. Attended a webinar titled Disability Community Briefing: What You Can Do to Stop the Attack on Section 504.

This was a national webinar to discuss what was happening with the lawsuit in Texas and the potential impact that it would have on the disability community.

**MHAC recap:** We finally had a quorum at our February 2025 meeting and were able to approve the minutes from the 4 meetings in 2024. Cody McEvoy was elected as the Chair for the Committee for 2025. We are excited to have several people recently express interest in joining the committee. We also discussed the MHAC being more active and visible in the community and are already looking forward to creating some townhalls and promoting mental health and wellness partners and awareness events. Most exciting is the news in late December that we were awarded the Enrichment Grant from the Omaha Community Foundation. We received \$5,000 to provide a workshop with Omaha Police Department and the Deaf Community in attendance in hopes of improving interactions and quicker access to licensed interpreters.

**Top Three Significant Activities or Events  
Respectfully Submitted by the  
Youth & Family Advocacy Specialist  
(Between December 14, 2024 – March 14, 2025)**

1. I have collaborated with the administrative team of a local police department to develop video-based training materials. The focus of this course will be an introduction to cultural sensitivity, including basic American Sign Language (ASL), facial expressions, and best practices for capturing the attention of a Deaf person. Using ASL signs and phrases like "Are you okay?" and "Do you need help?" when approaching a Deaf person will enhance officers' communication skills and foster meaningful engagement with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. The goal of this training is to equip police officers with practical communication skills so they can deal with Deaf people during times an interpreter is not immediately available.
2. I have provided empowerment and self-advocacy presentations to Deaf and Hard of Hearing youths across three schools, focusing on essential skills to navigate educational, social, and professional settings. These presentations emphasize communication strategies, self-confidence, and understanding individual rights to help students effectively advocate for themselves. By incorporating real-life scenarios and interactive discussions, I aim to equip youths with the tools they need to navigate challenges, build independence, and foster self-empowerment.
3. I participated as a planning committee member for the Conference on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education, scheduled for March 27-28, 2025, in Kearney. This conference is designed for parents and guardians of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children, educational interpreters, Teachers of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and administrators involved in Deaf education programs. As a part of the planning committee team member, we have contributed to organizing this important event that will feature keynote speakers Tina Childress and Crom Saunders. The conference aims to provide valuable insights, resources, and professional development opportunities, fostering collaboration among educators, interpreters, and families to enhance the educational experiences of Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in Nebraska.





January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

# **The NCDHH Team Reached out to 2,546 People to Assist with Better Communication**

**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**



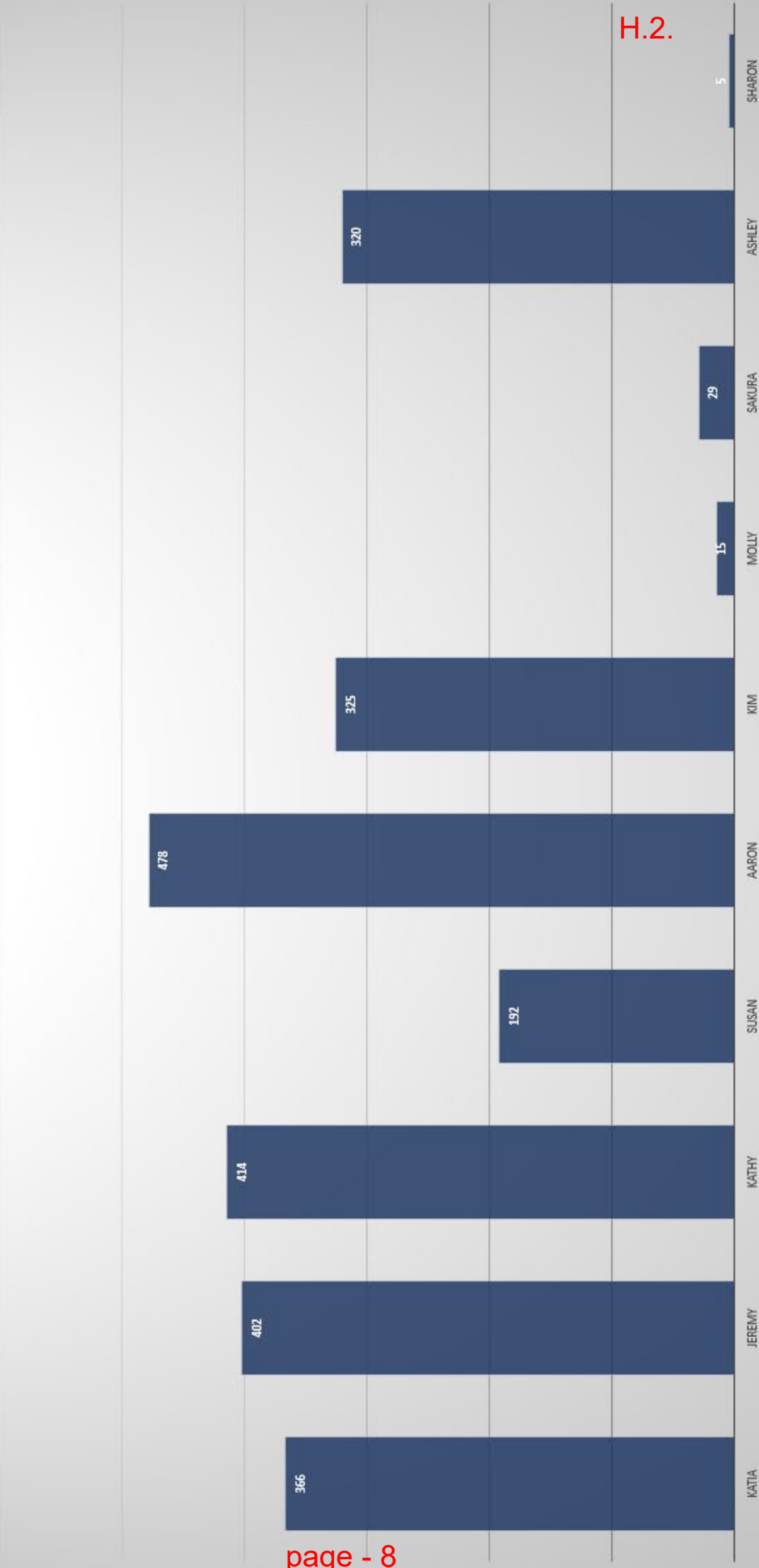
*Where It All Begins*

Overall Clients Assisted  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

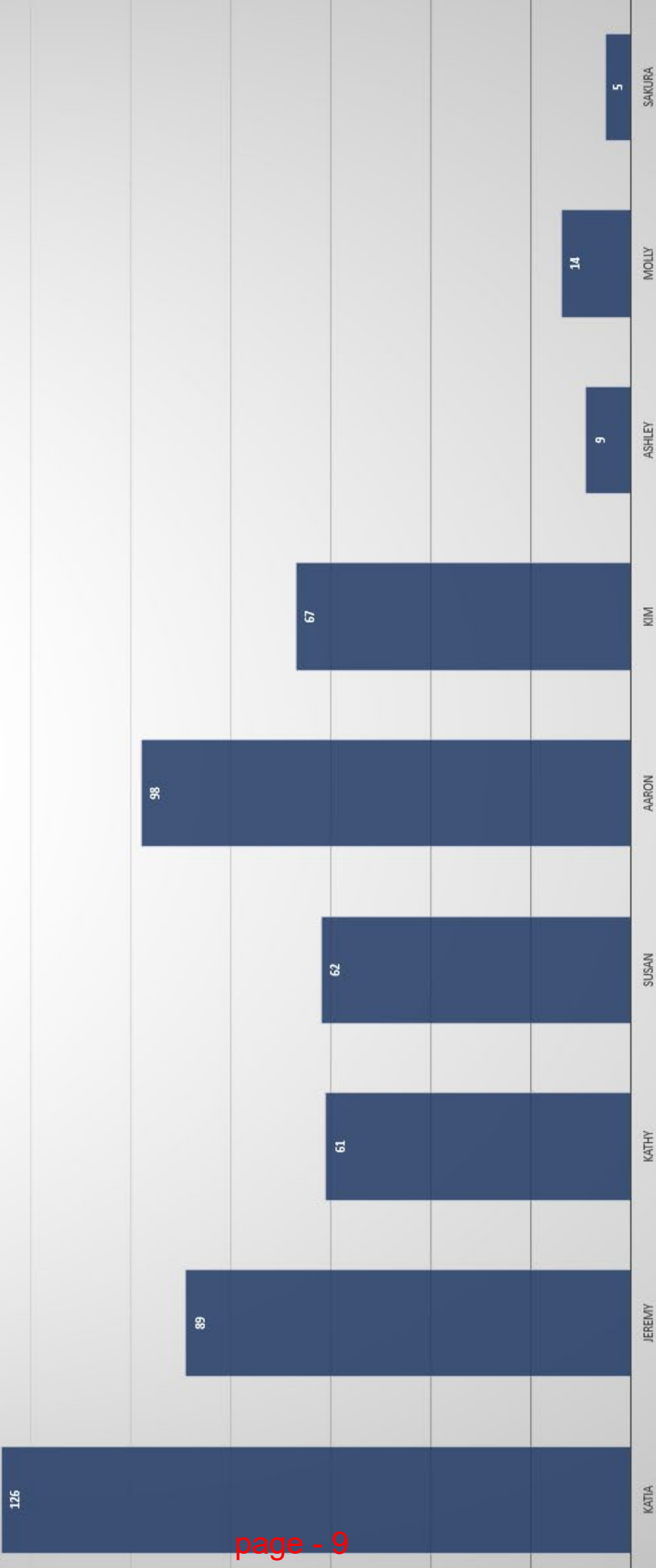


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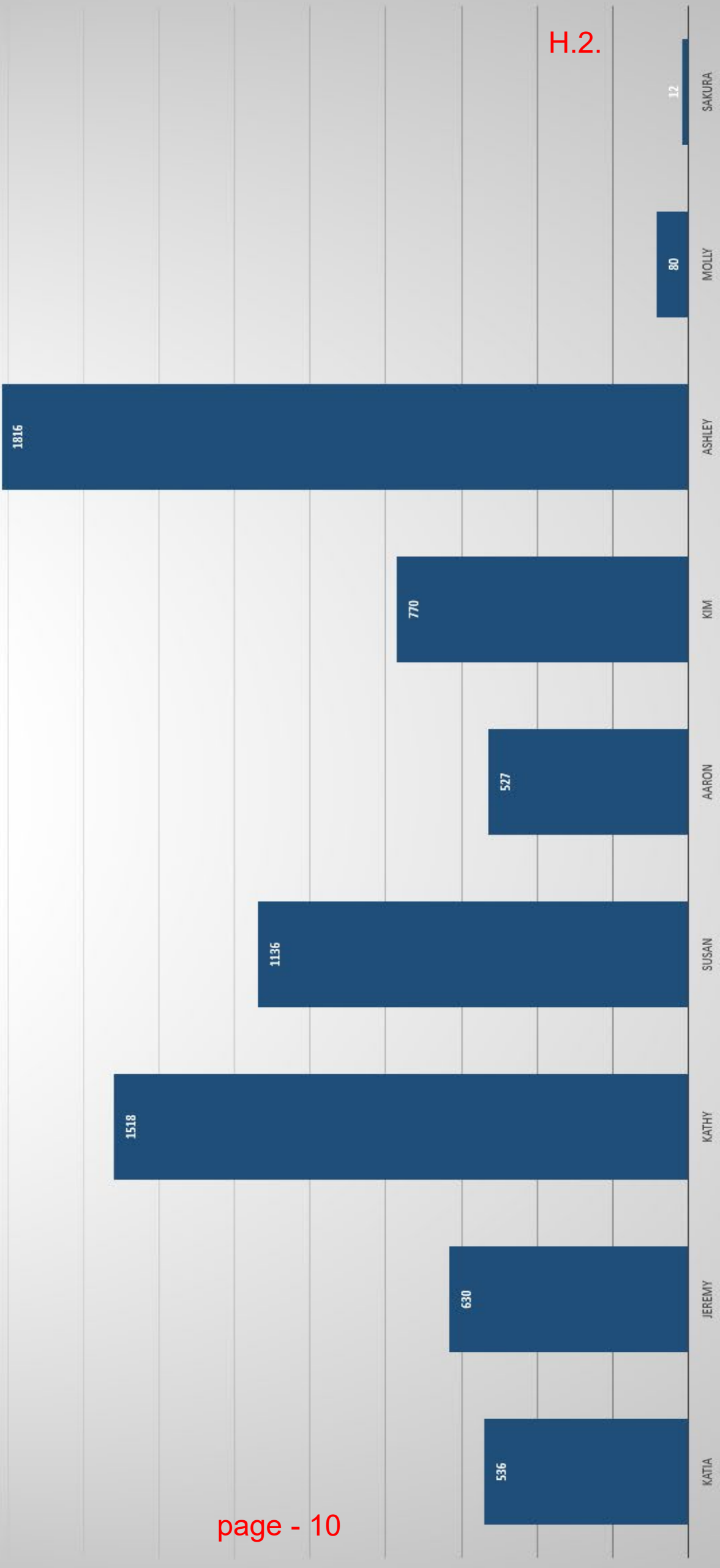
Clients Assisted Per Staff  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



H.2.

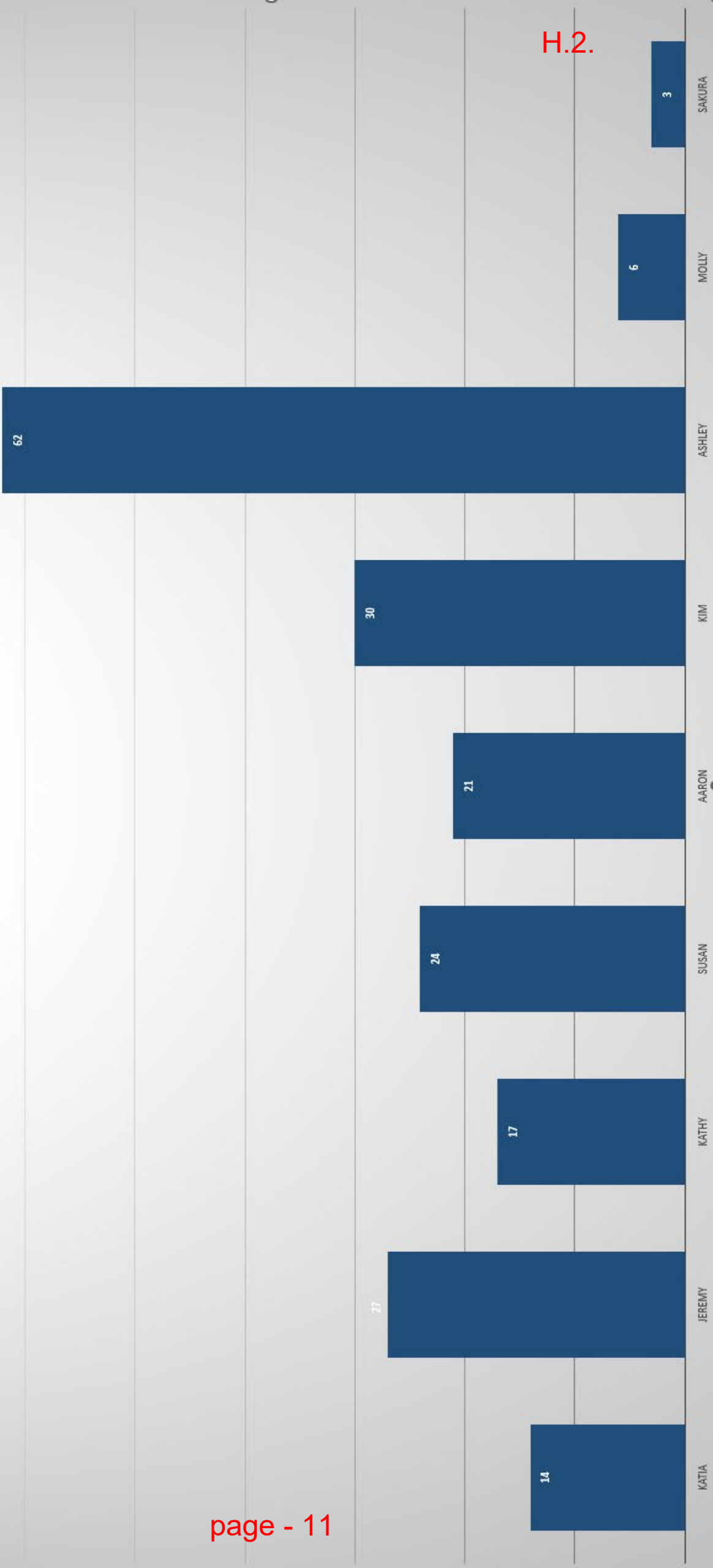


Presentation Attendees  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



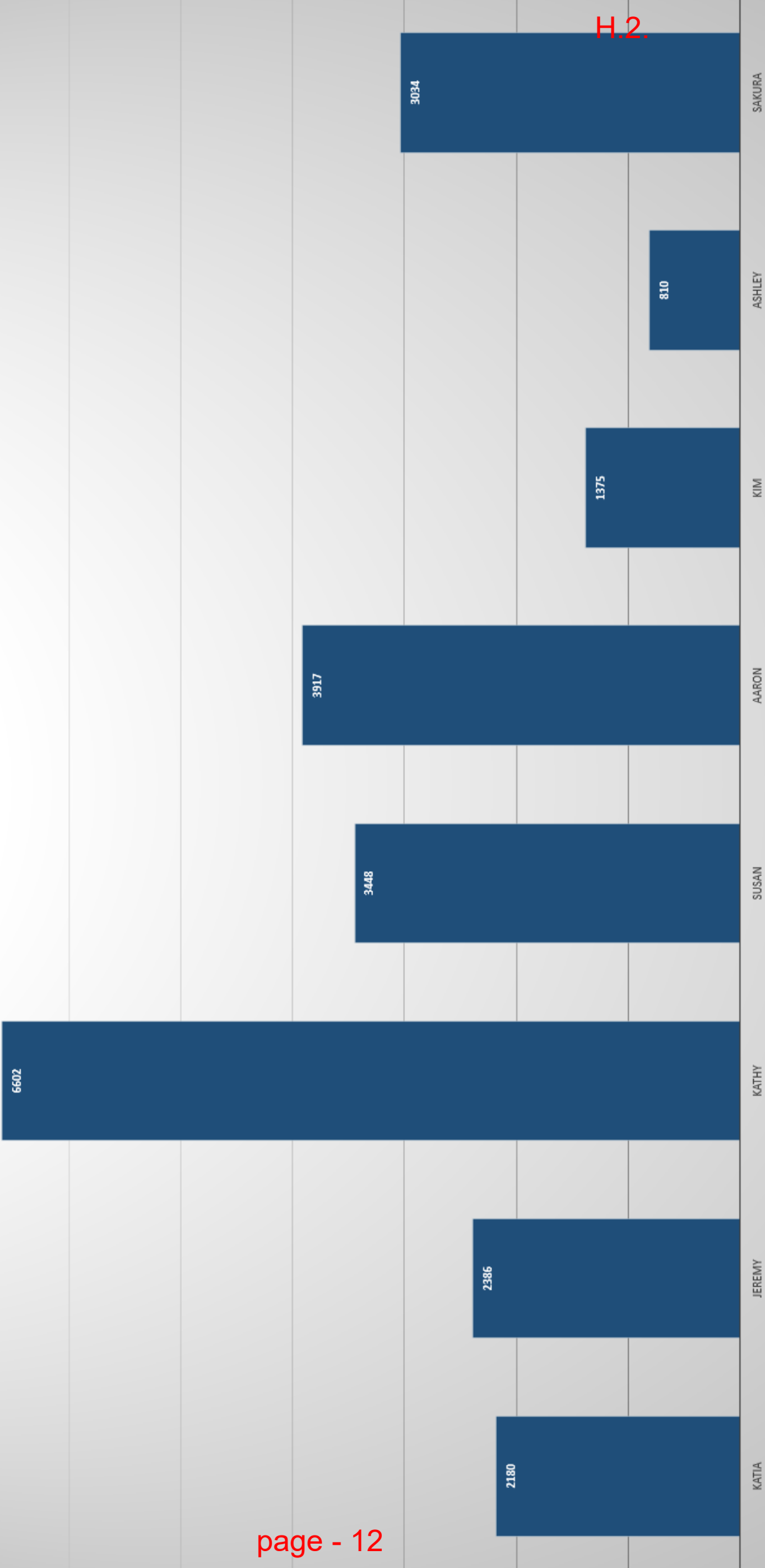
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Number of Presentations  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



H.2.

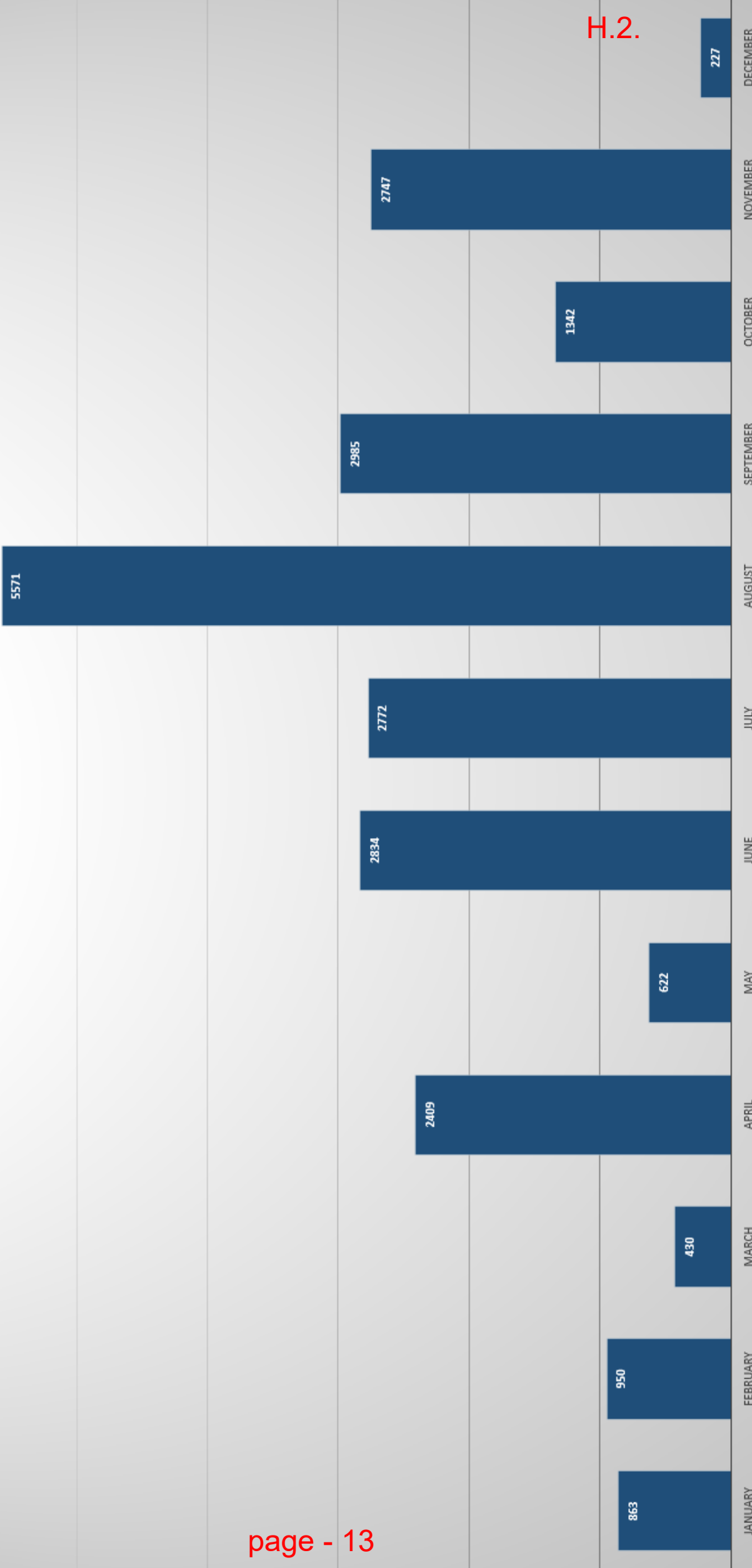
Outreach Contacts Per Staff  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024





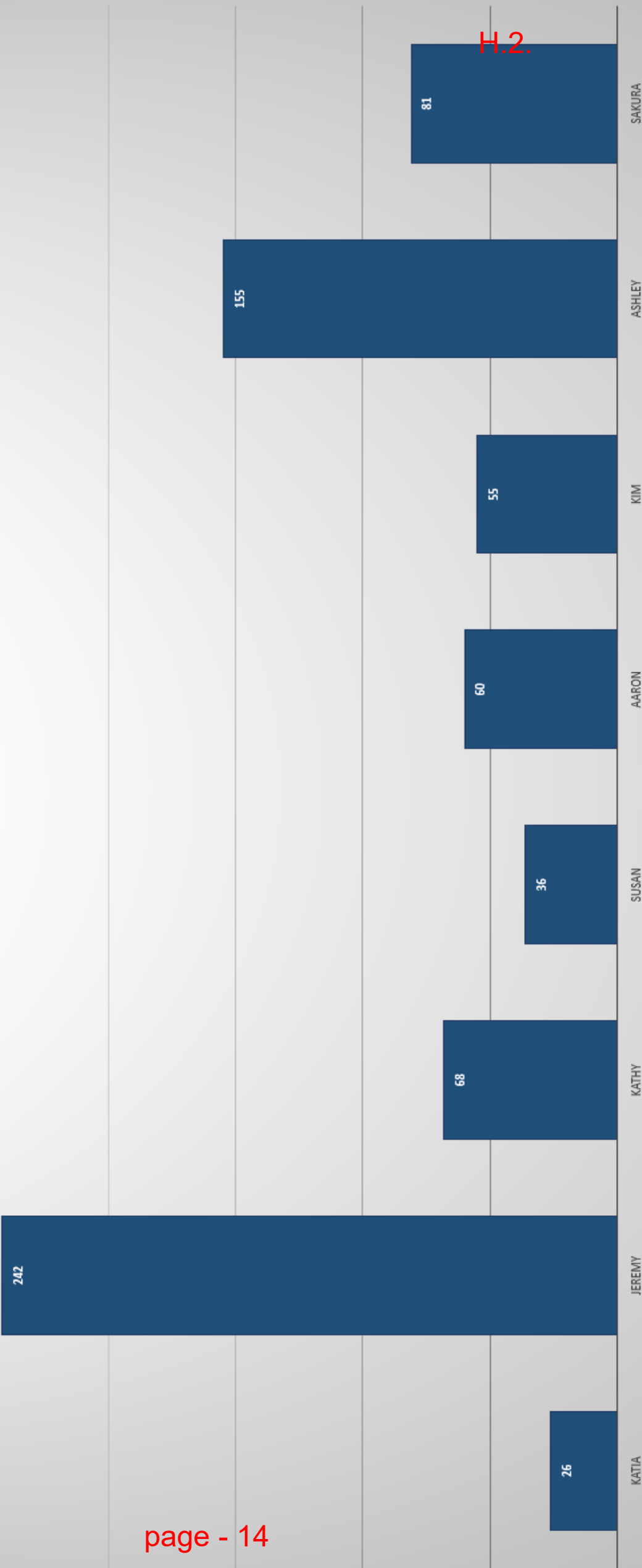
Overall Outreach Contacts

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

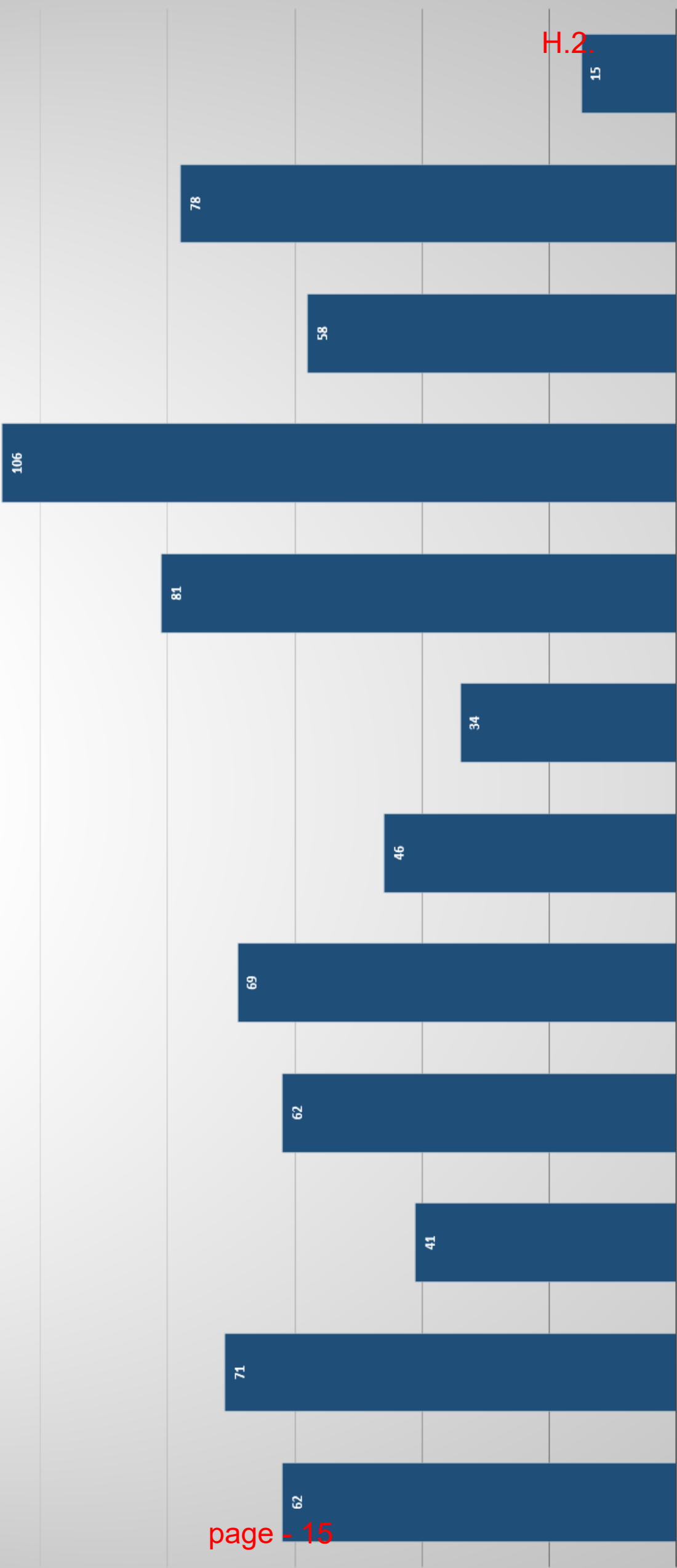


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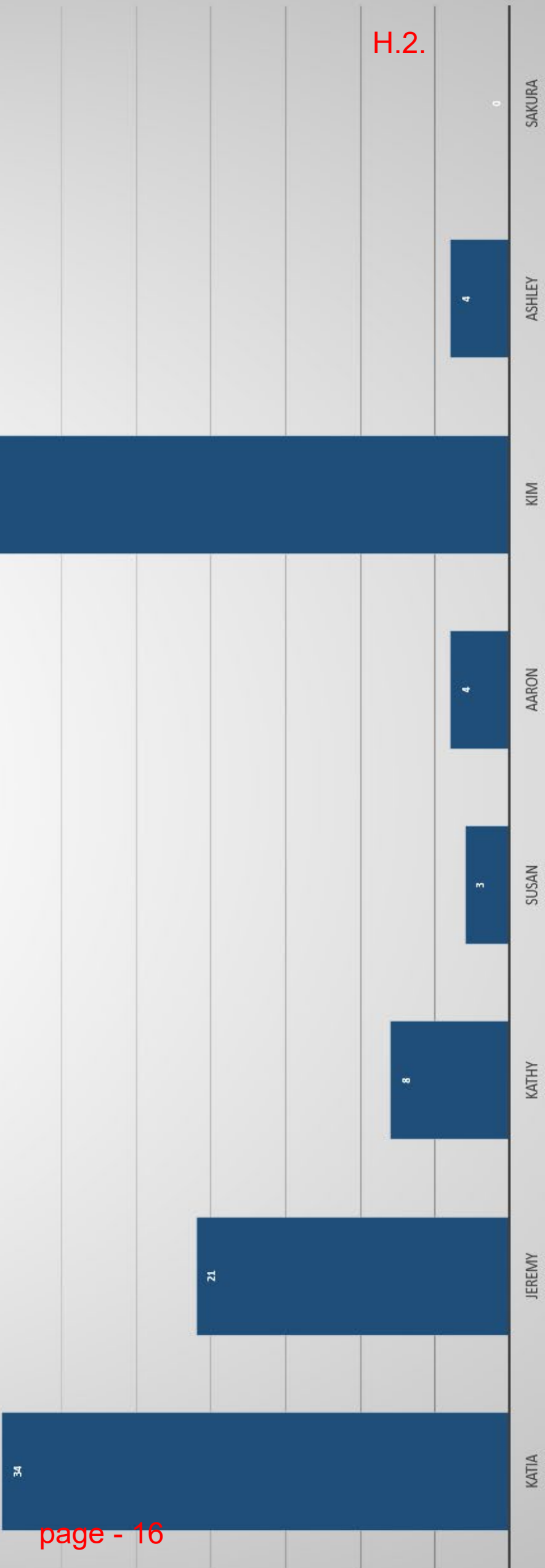
Total Outreach Activities Per Staff  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



Overall Outreach Activities  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

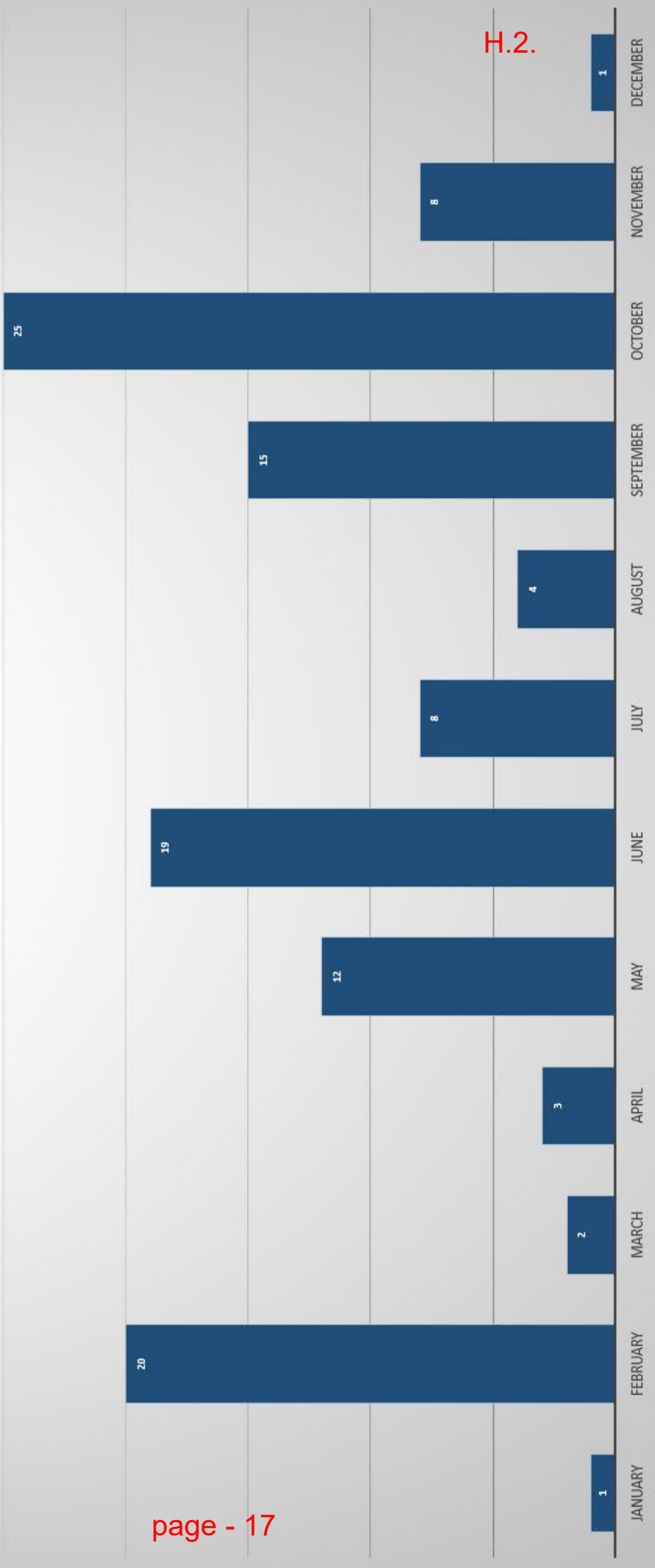


Individual ARPA Contacts  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

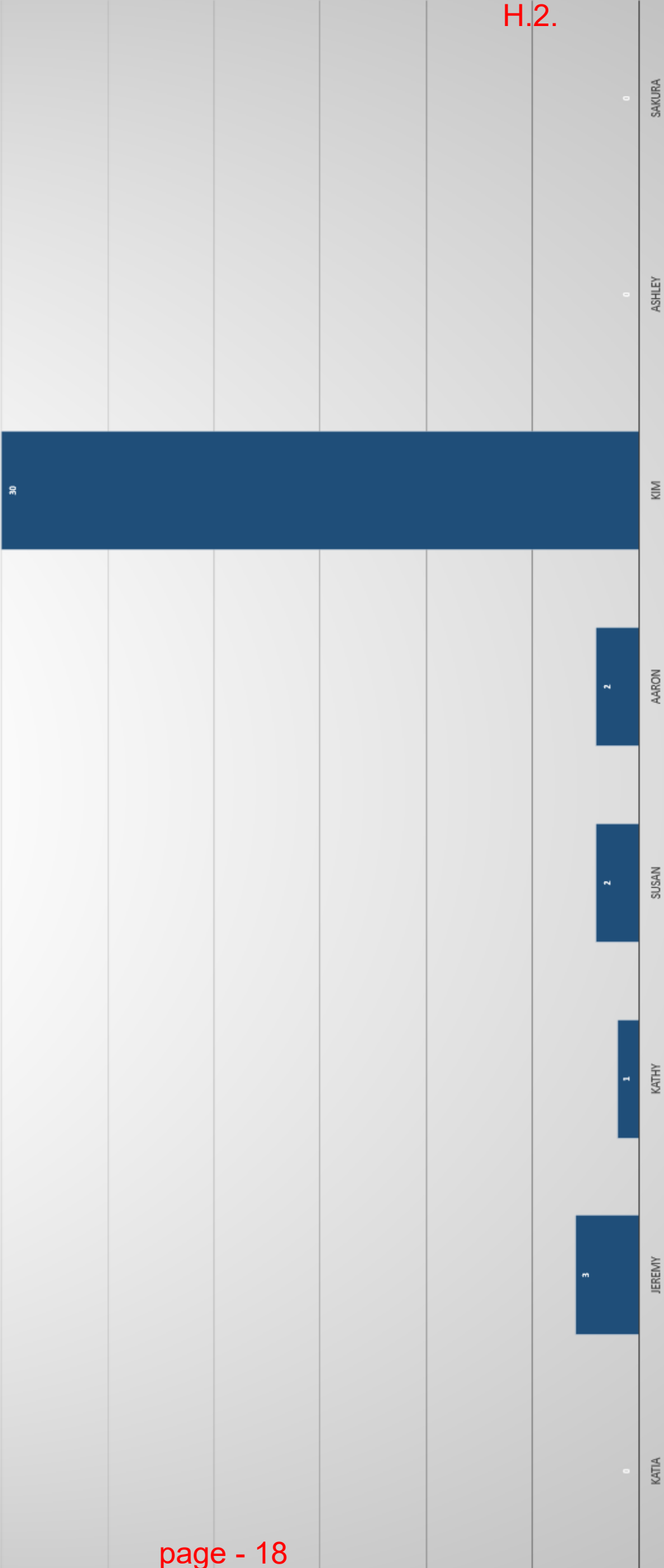


H.2.

Total Staff ARPA Contacts  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

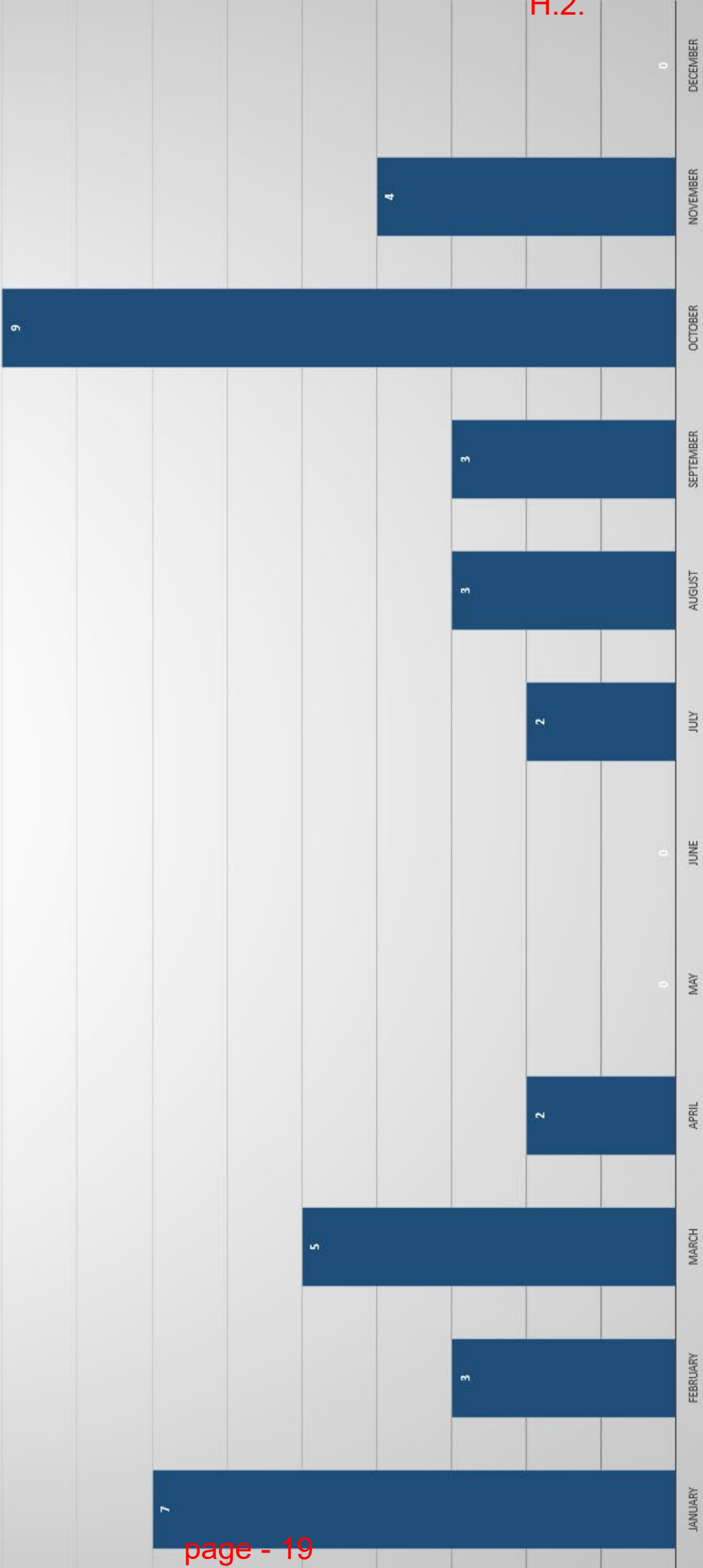


Individual Olmstead Contacts  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



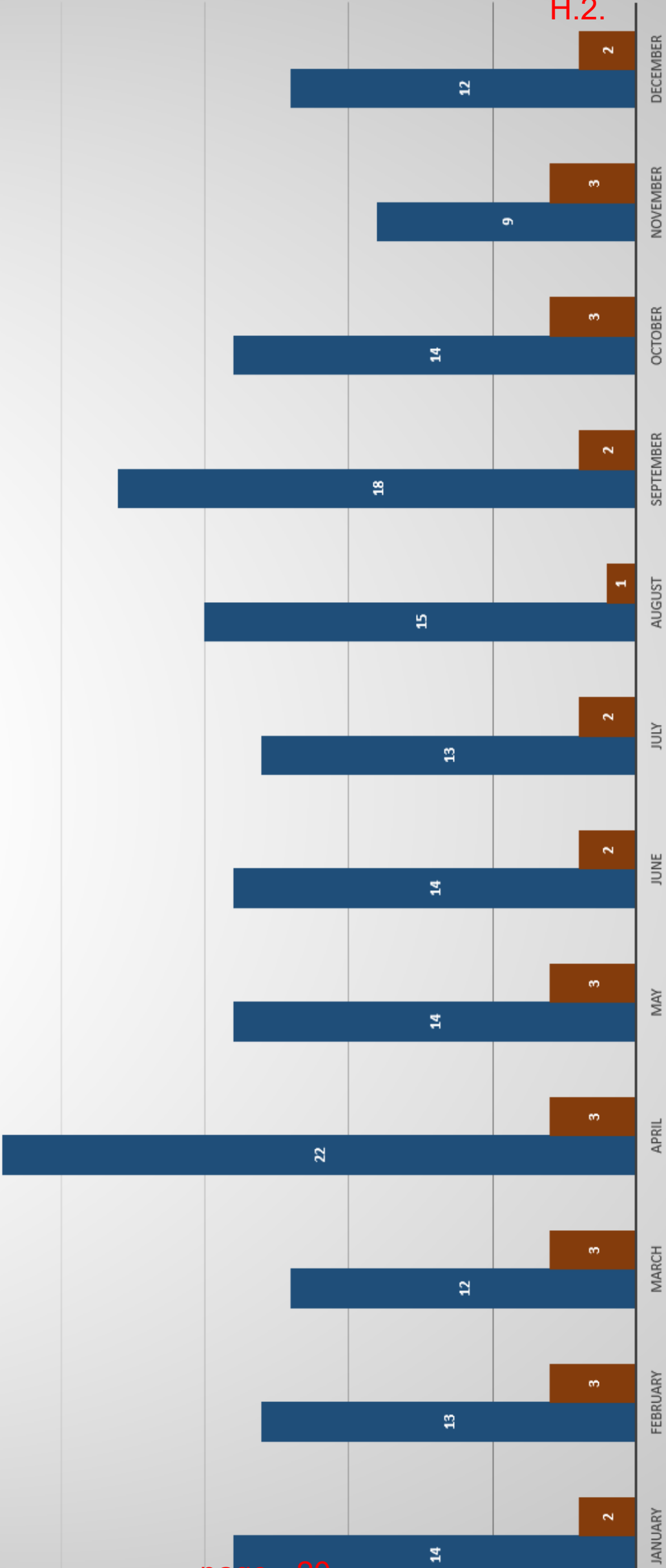
H.2.

Total Staff Olmstead Contacts  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



H.2.

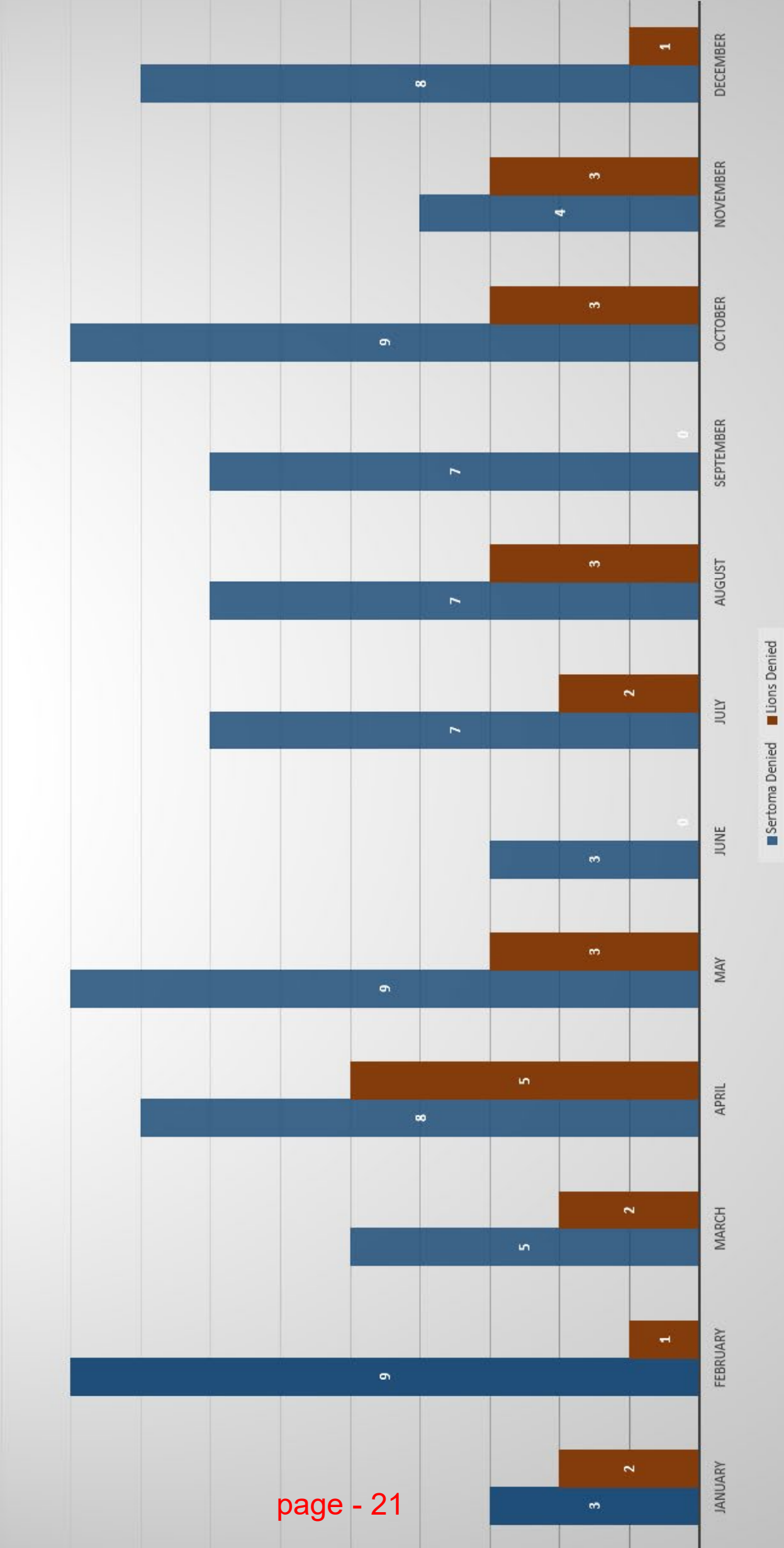
HAB Approved  
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024





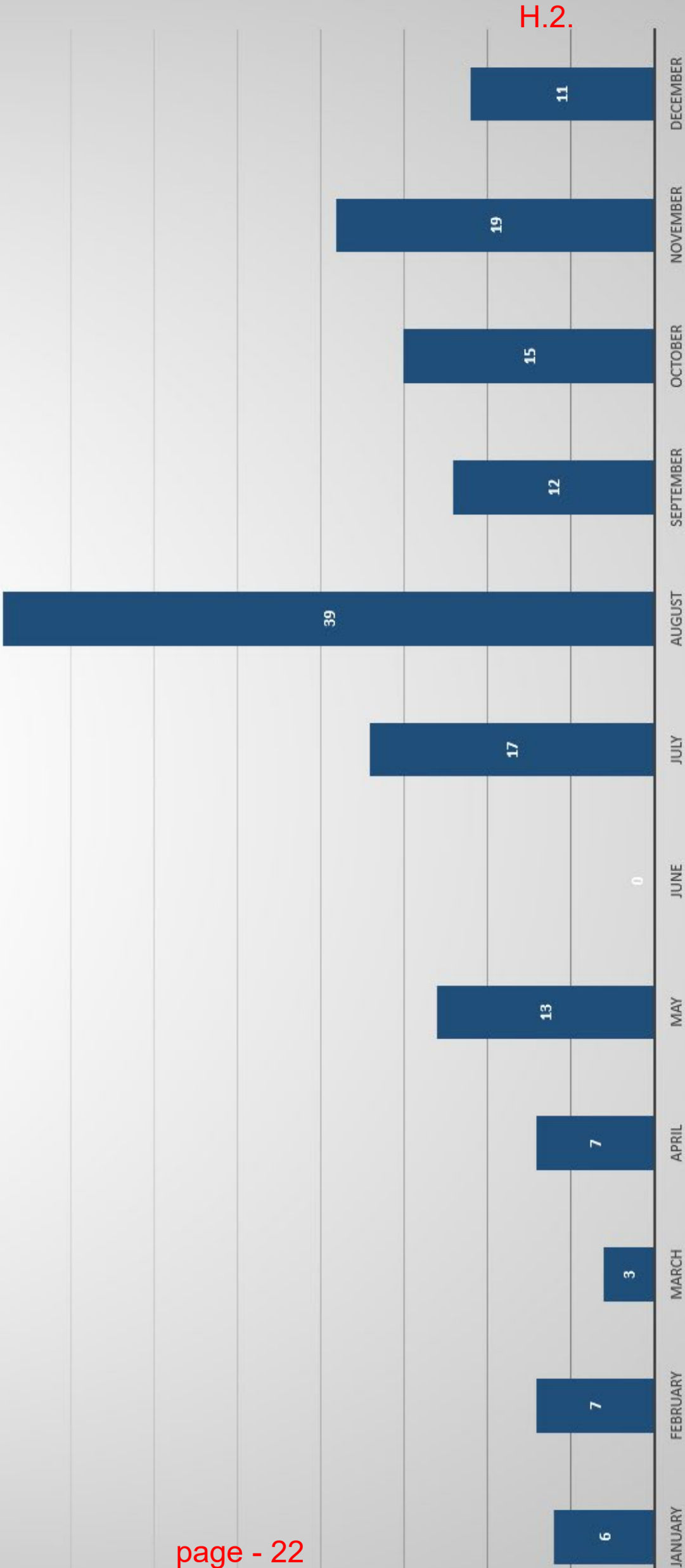
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January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024



H.2.

**NSTEP Processed**  
**January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024**



Interpreting Internal Minutes

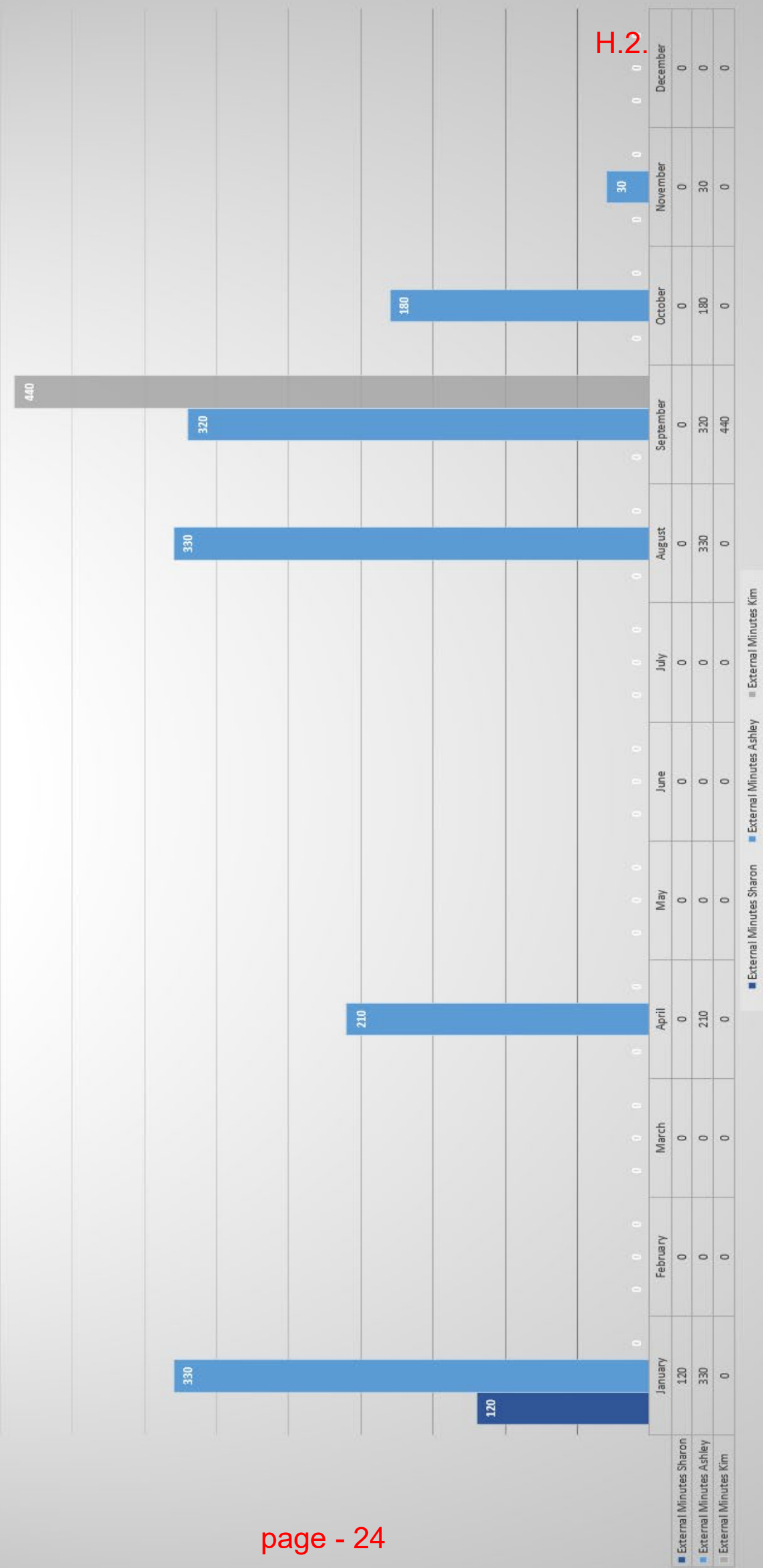
210

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Internal Minutes Sharon	210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internal Minutes Ashley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internal Minutes Kim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Internal Minutes Sharon Internal Minutes Ashley Internal Minutes Kim

H.2.

Interpreting External Minutes



Monthly Deaf and Hard of Hearing Walk-ins per Office													
January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024													
	Scottsbluff			North Platte		Kearney	Lincoln			Omaha			
	HOH	Deaf	D/B	HOH	Deaf	D/B	N/A	HOH	Deaf	D/B	HOH	Deaf	D/B
January	3	0	1	2	0	0		1	0	0	0	4	2
February	0	0	0	2	0	0		9	2	0	0	5	0
March	1	0	0	1	0	0		5	1	0	0	2	0
April	1	1	0	6	0	0		6	1	0	3	1	0
May	1	2	0	4	0	0		6	0	0	0	0	0
June	2	0	0	0	0	0		3	4	0	1	2	0
July	2	0	0	1	0	1		4	1	0	1	5	0
August	1	0	0	2	0	1		6	2	0	3	5	0
September	1	0	0	0	0	0		8	2	0	1	0	1
October	0	0	0	2	0	0		4	5	0	0	9	1
November	0	0	0	2	0	0		0	5	0	0	2	0
December	0	0	0	4	0	0		3	6	0	5	1	0
Total	12	3	1	26	0	2		55	29	0	14	36	4



January 1, 2025 – February 28, 2025

# **The NCDHH Team Reached out to 343 People to Assist with Better Communication**

**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 – February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**



*Where It All Begins*

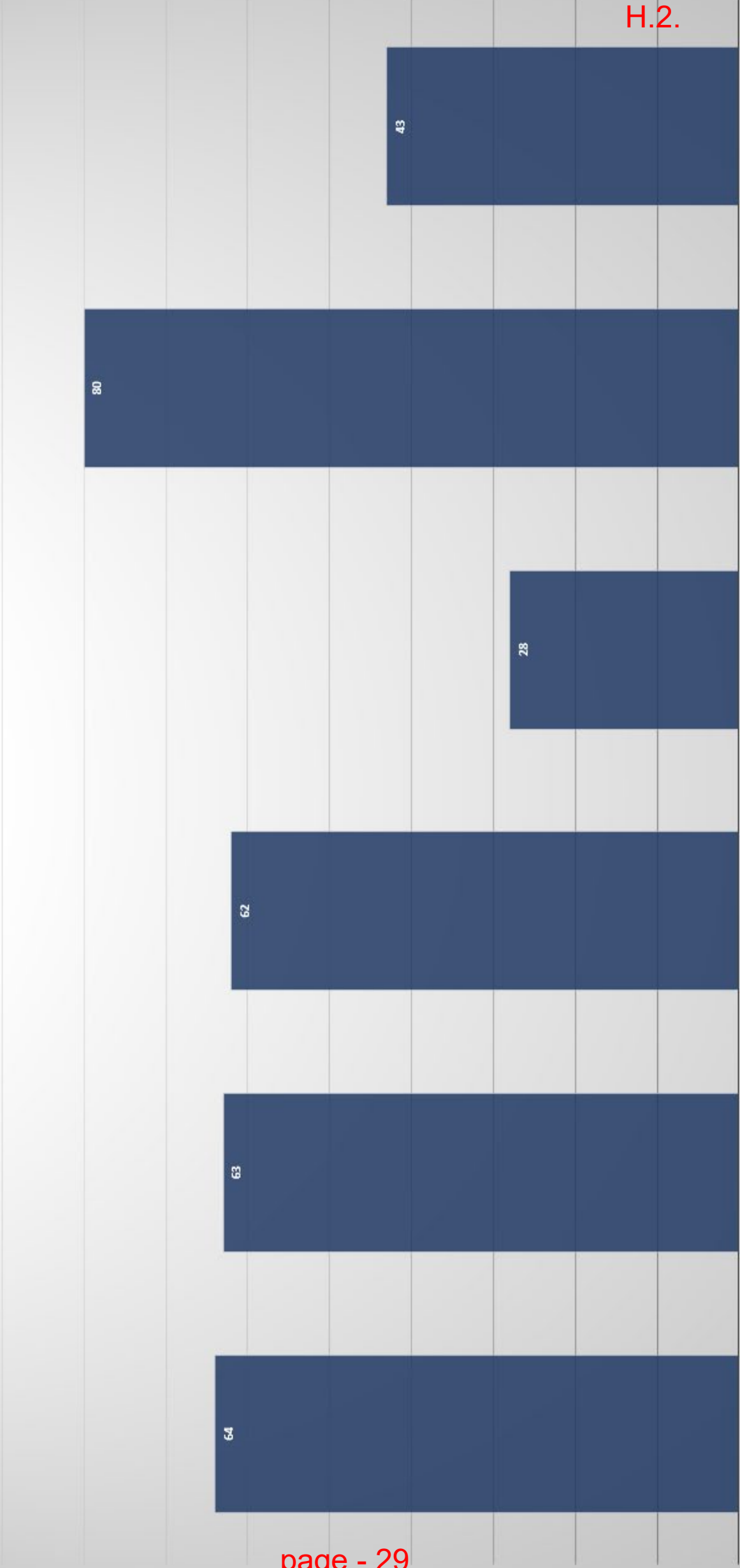
Overall Clients Assisted  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



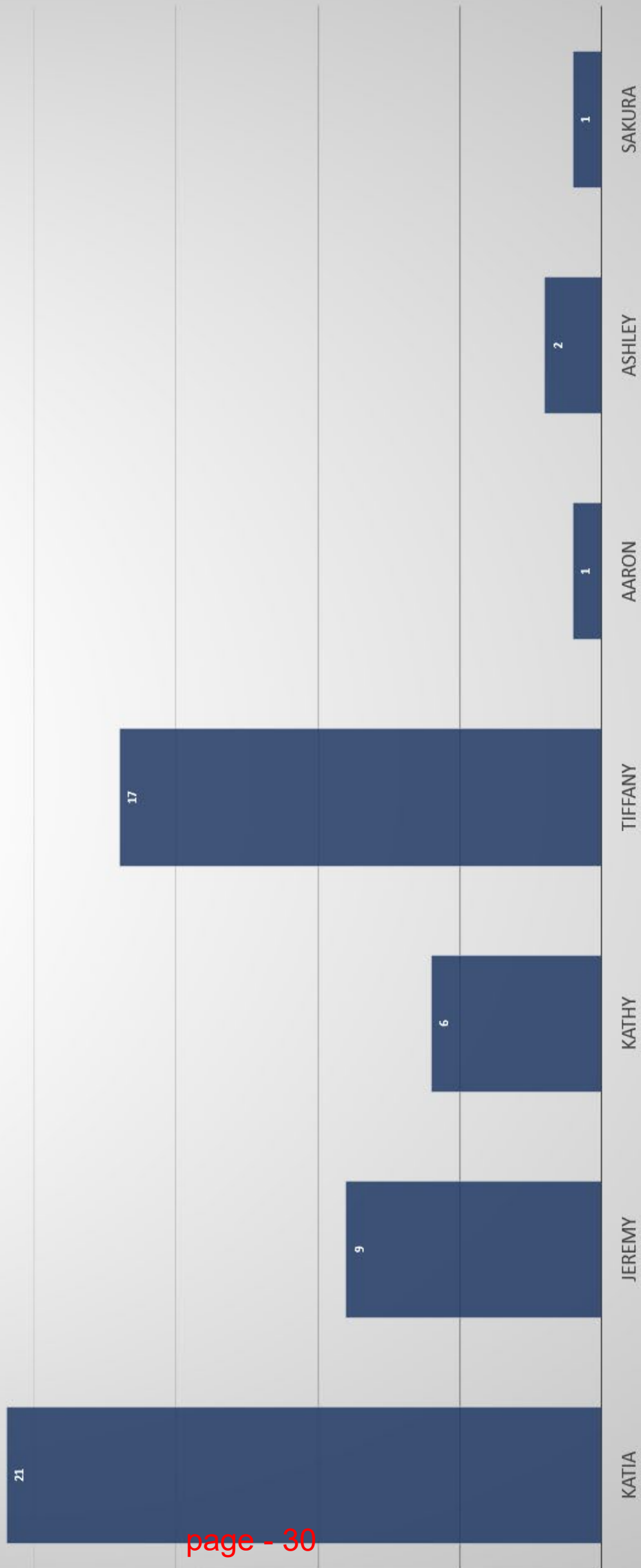
H.2.



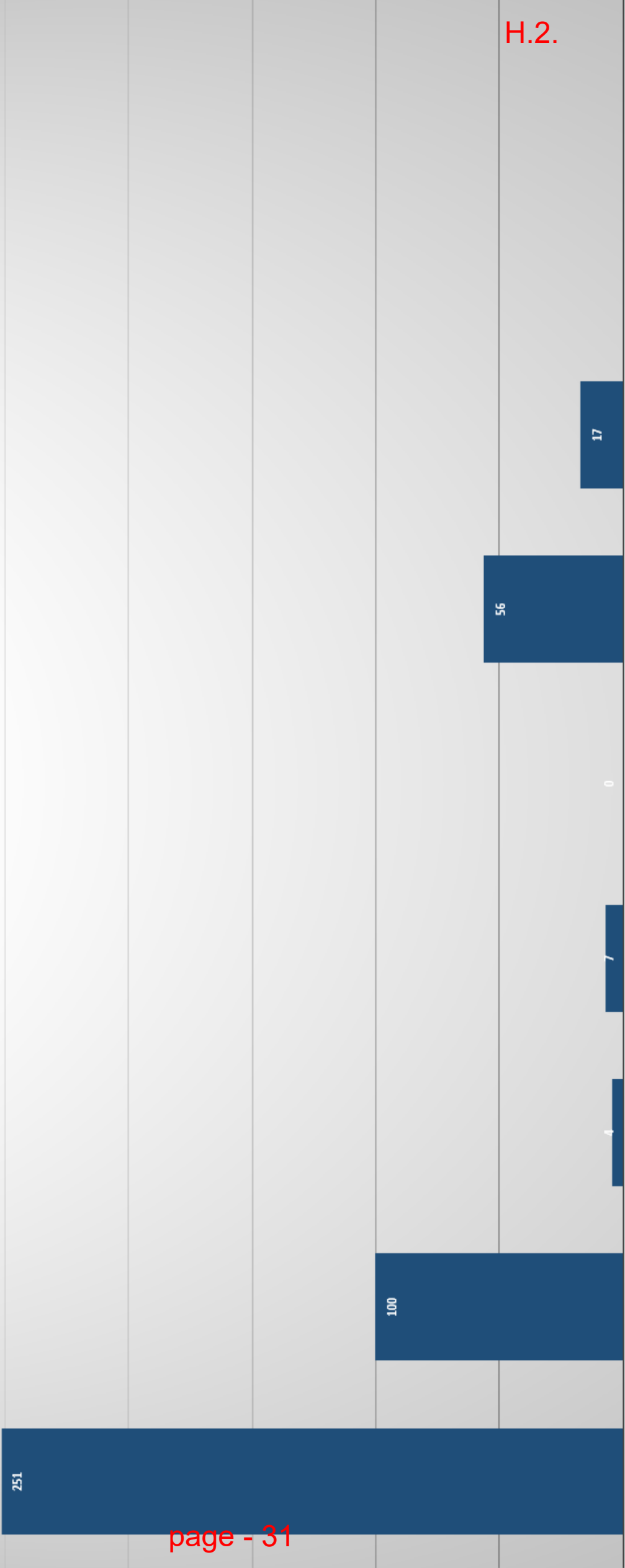
Clients Assisted Per Staff  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



H.2.

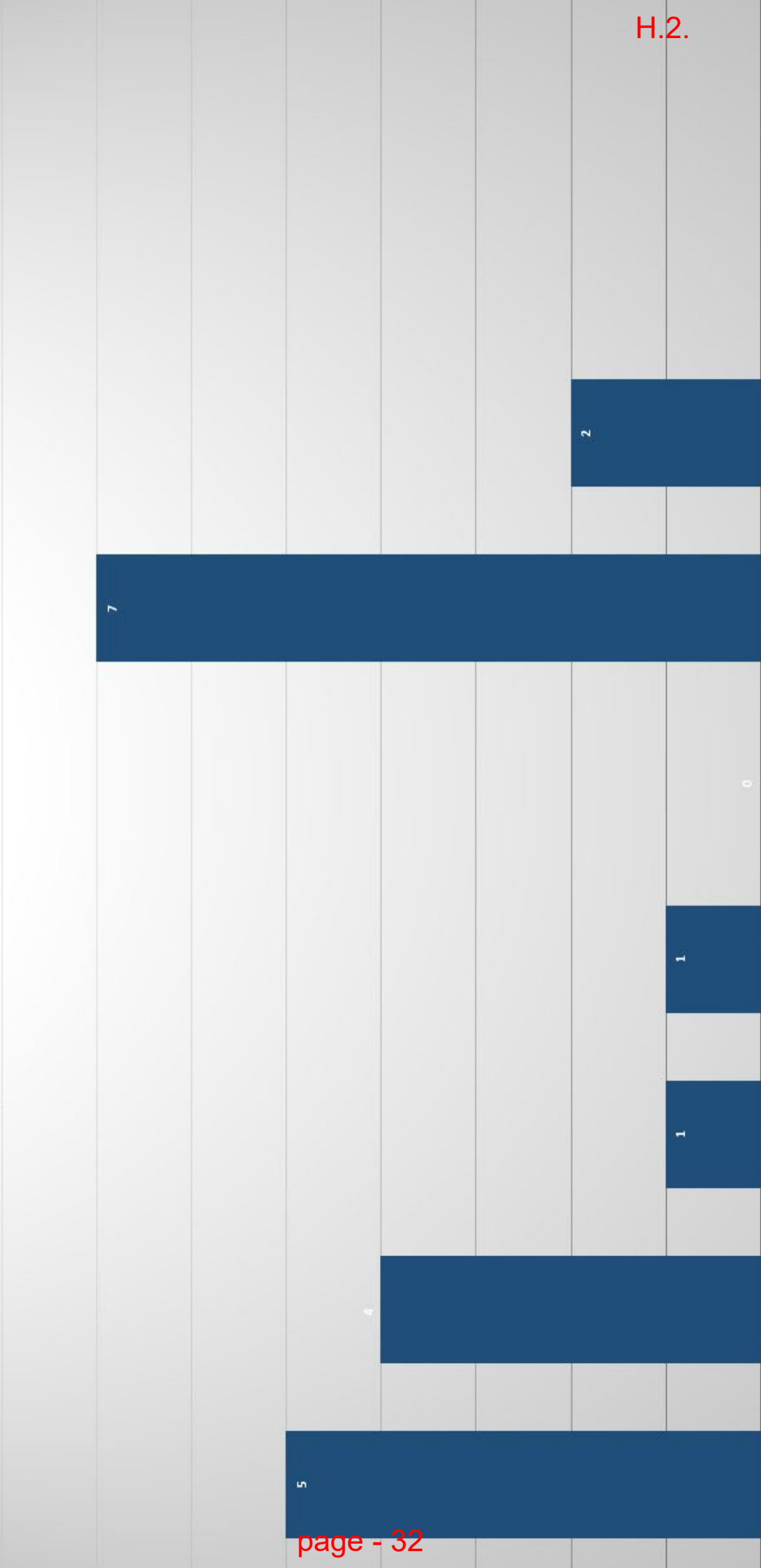


Presentation Attendees  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



H.2.

Number of Presentations  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



H.2.

Outreach Contacts Per Staff  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025

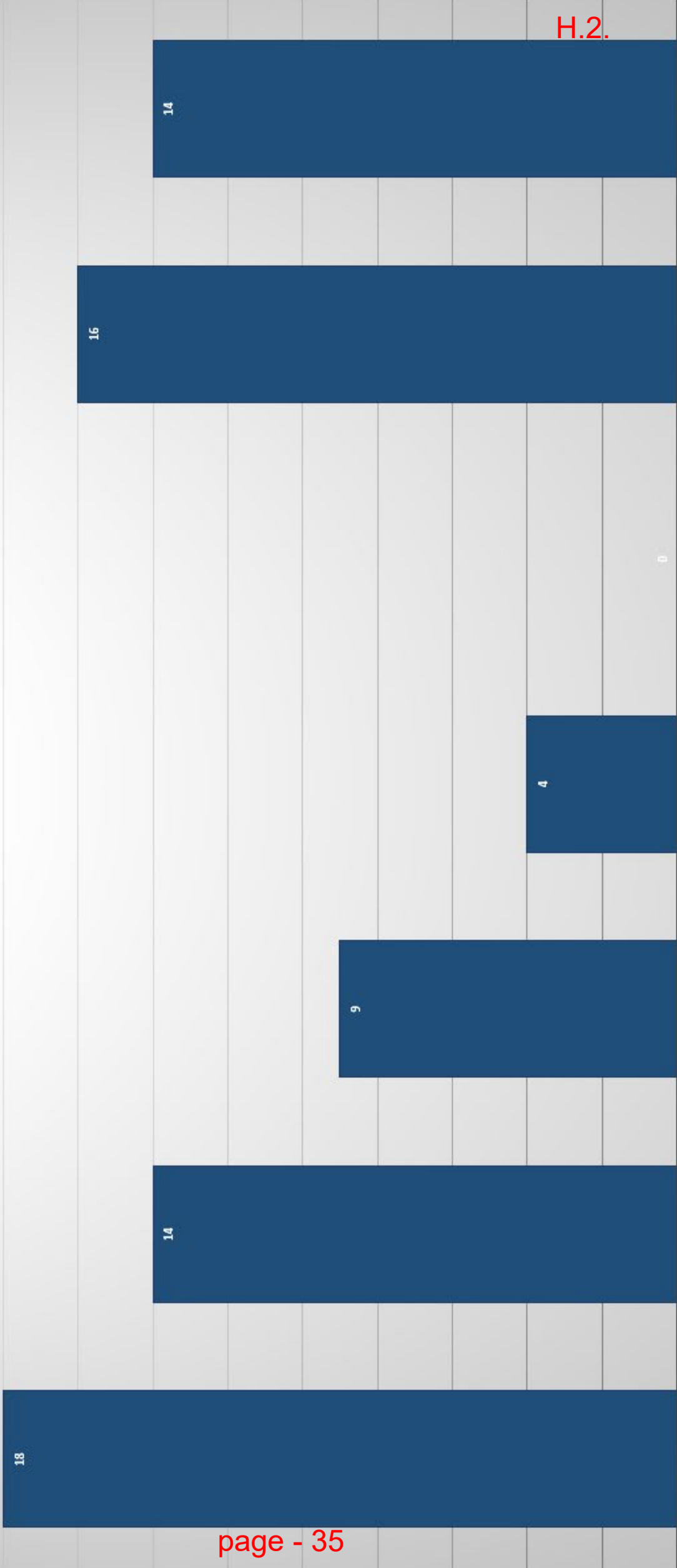


Overall Outreach Contacts  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



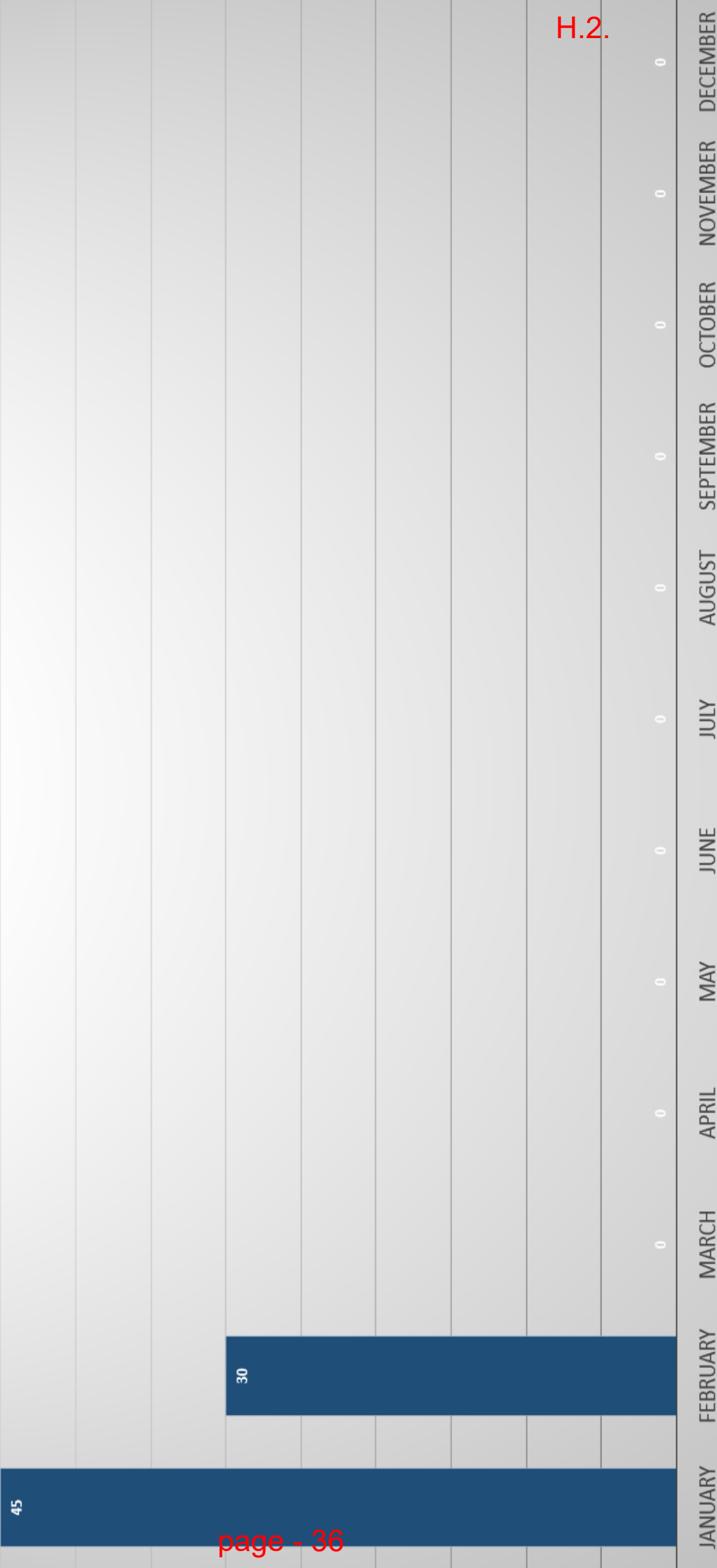
H.2.

Total Outreach Activities Per Staff  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



H.2.

Overall Outreach Activities  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



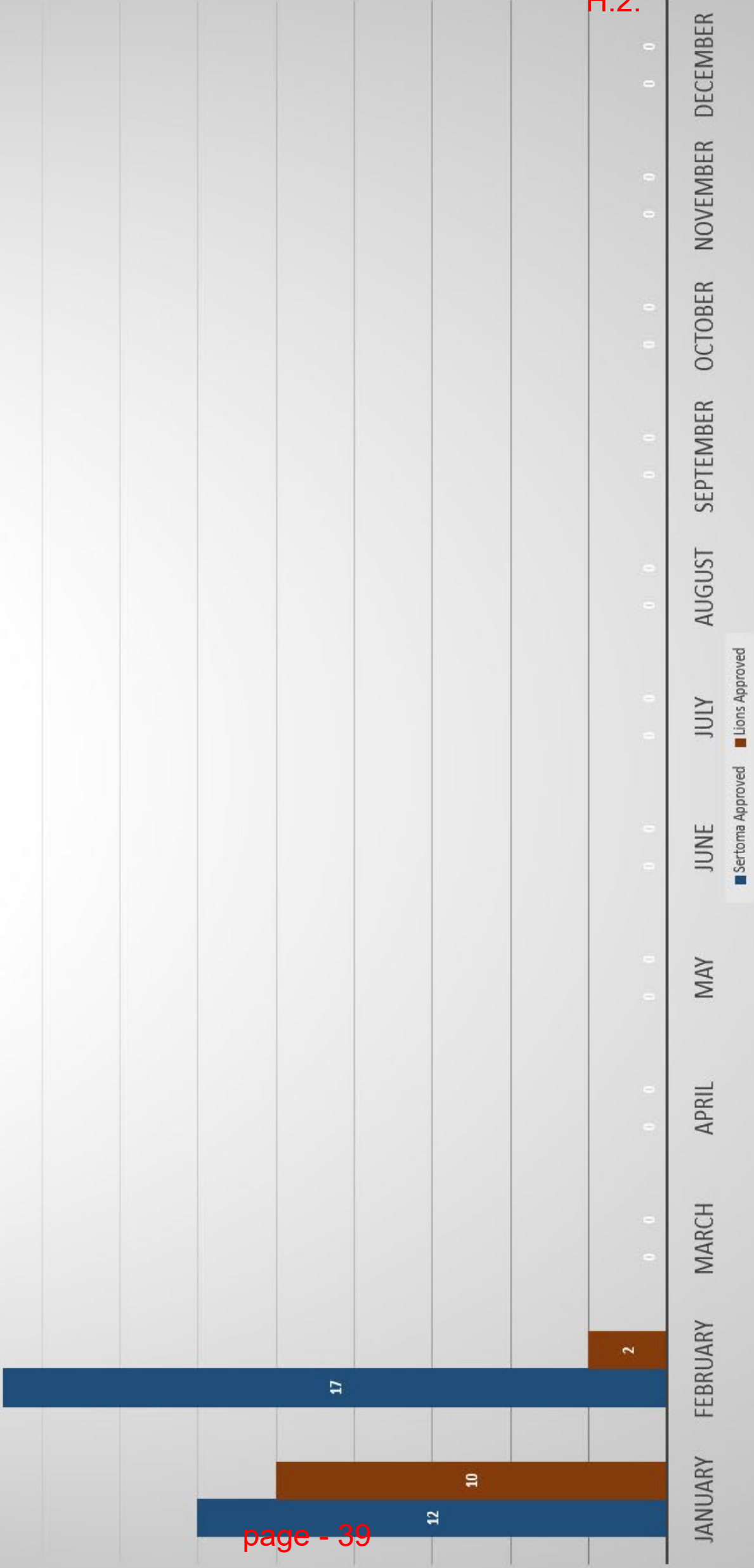




Total Staff Olmstead Contacts  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025

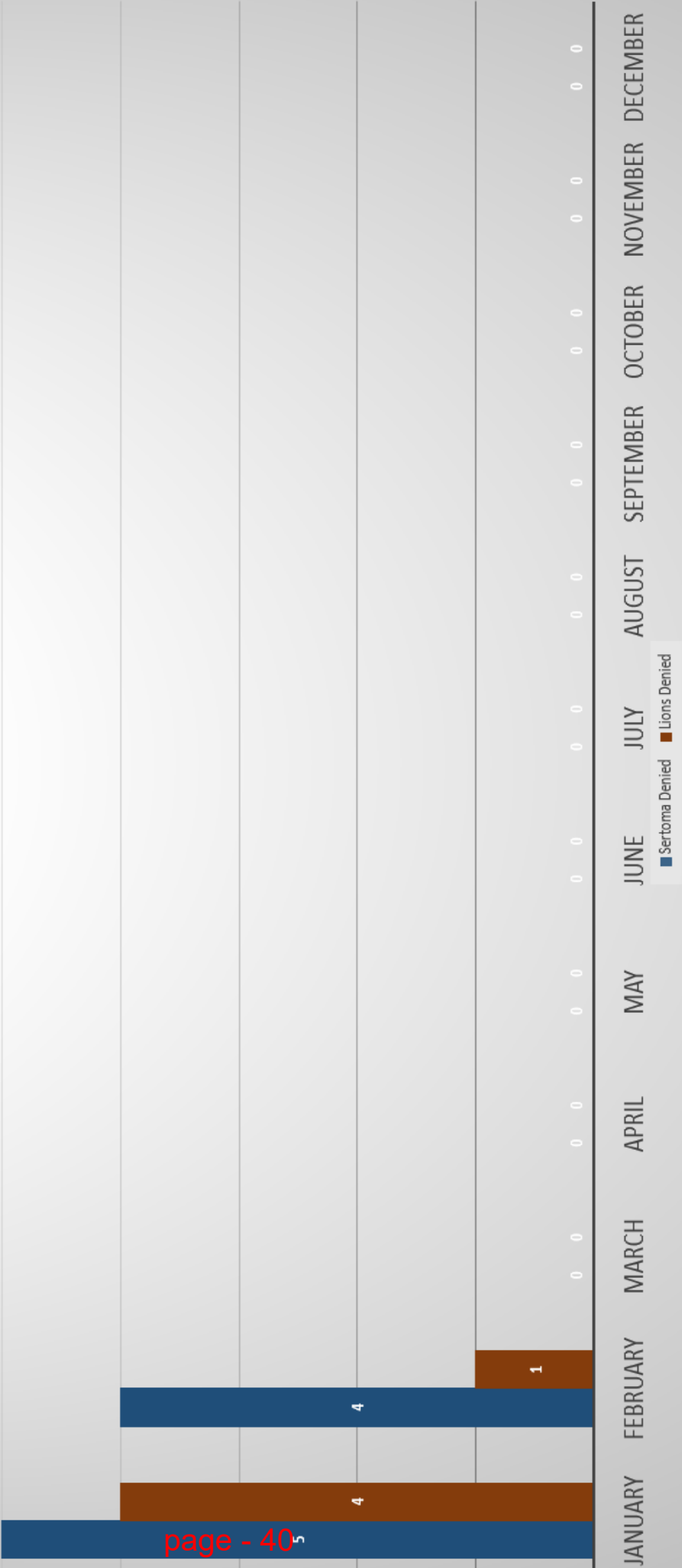


HAB Approved  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



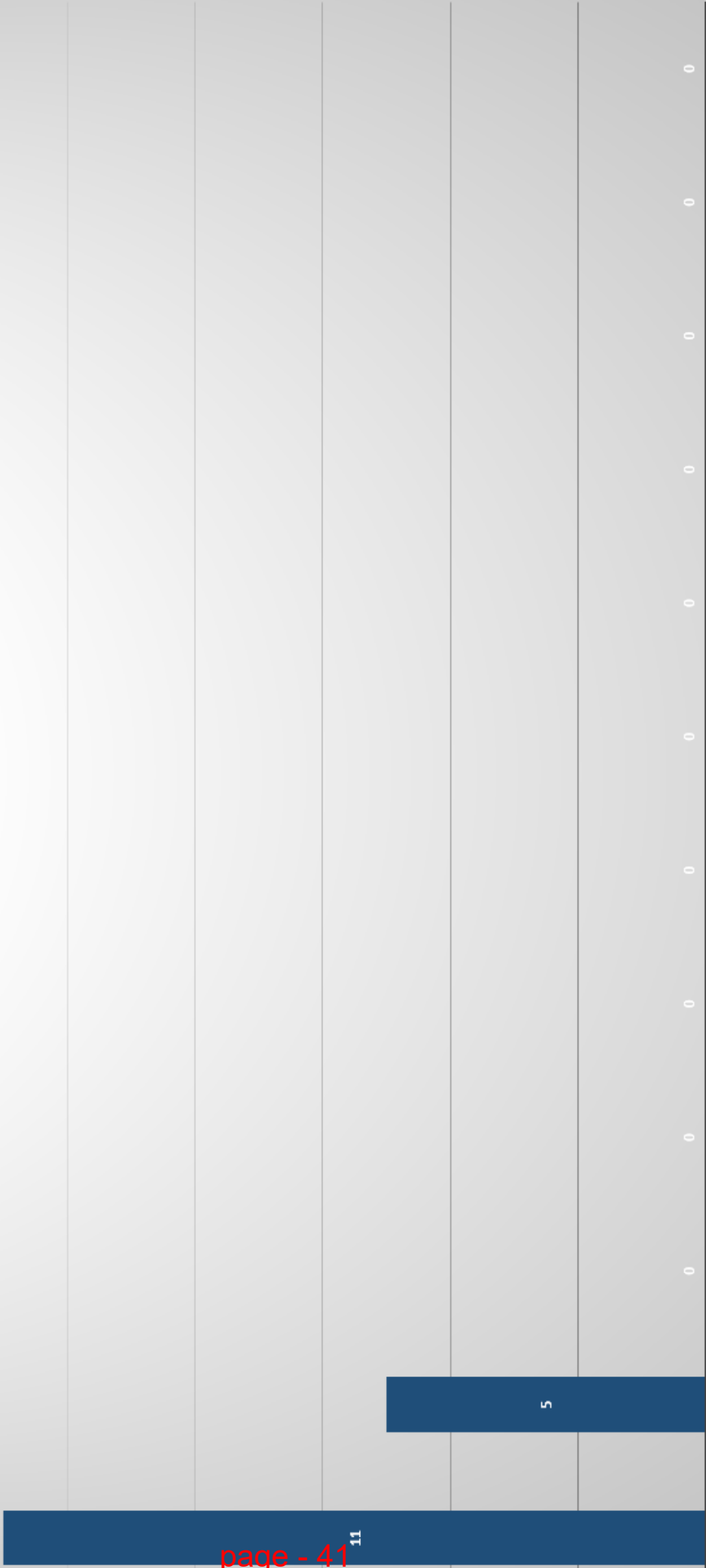
H.2.

HAB Denied  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



H.2.

NSTEP Processed  
January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025



Interpreting External Minutes



H.2.

External Minutes Ashley	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
■ External Minutes Ashley	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Monthly Deaf and Hard of Hearing Walk-ins per Office

January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025

	Scottsbluff			North Platte			Kearney	Lincoln			Omaha		
	HOH	Deaf	D/B	HOH	Deaf	D/B	N/A	HOH	Deaf	D/B	HOH	Deaf	D/B
January	2	1	0	2	0	0		4	3	0	1	4	0
February	1	0	0	2	0	0		3	0	0	1	1	0
March													
April													
May													
June													
July													
August													
September													
October													
November													
December													
Total	3	1	0	4	0	0		7	3	0	2	5	0



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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Nebraska Commission for the  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing



# WELCOME MESSAGE



## NCDHH CHAIRPERSON, *FRANCES BEAURIVAGE*

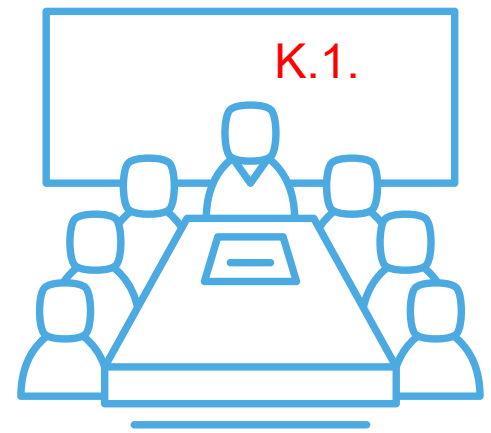
NCDHH was established to provide services, resources, information, and referrals. Each Governor-appointed board member has a purpose, passion, and interest in improving services and programs to benefit Nebraskans who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Collaboration with the deaf and hard of hearing community, stakeholders, and organizations is essential to advancing NCDHH's mission. Strong partnerships and continued engagement form the foundation of its work, ensuring greater impact and accessibility for those it serves.

In 2024, NCDHH made significant strides in advocacy and inclusivity. **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Outreach** events at zoos and baseball games created accessible experiences while educating the public. **Youth and Family Advocacy Services** provided training, resources, and mentorship opportunities to empower deaf and hard of hearing youth and their families. **Public Safety Days** connected first responders with the community, promoting awareness and emergency preparedness. **Sensitivity Training** educated professionals in emergency and legal sectors on effective communication and accessibility. These efforts strengthened inclusion, independence, and safety for Nebraskans who are deaf or hard of hearing.

We are proud of the Commission's accomplishments and are eager to see what 2025 has in store for residents of Nebraska!

# BOARDS & COMMITTEES



## FULL COMMISSION BOARD

Consists of nine members who are appointed by the Governor subject to approval by the Legislature. Statute 71-4720 requires that a majority of the Commission members who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing shall be able to express themselves through sign language. The Commission members shall include three Deaf persons, three Hard of Hearing persons and three persons who have an interest in and knowledge of deafness and hearing loss issues. The Commission was created to improve the quality and coordination of existing services for deaf and hard of hearing people and development of new services when necessary.

## INTERPRETER REVIEW BOARD

Created to develop guidelines and regulations for assuring competencies for sign language interpreters. Regulations were crafted and approved to include assurances that sign language interpreters have and maintain minimum levels of competency to interpret for state entities, courts, police and probation officials.

## MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A special advisory committee is appointed by the Commission. Created to ensure full access of comprehensive mental health, alcoholism, and drug abuse services are available for Nebraskans who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mandated in 1990 to appoint members to serve on the Relay Advisory Committee administered by the Nebraska Public Service Commission. The Committee advises the Public Service Commission on matters related to the telecommunications relay system, the Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program and its operations.

# BY THE NUMBERS

**2,546<sup>K.1.</sup>**  
**CLIENTS ASSISTED**

**204**  
**PRESENTATIONS & TRAININGS**

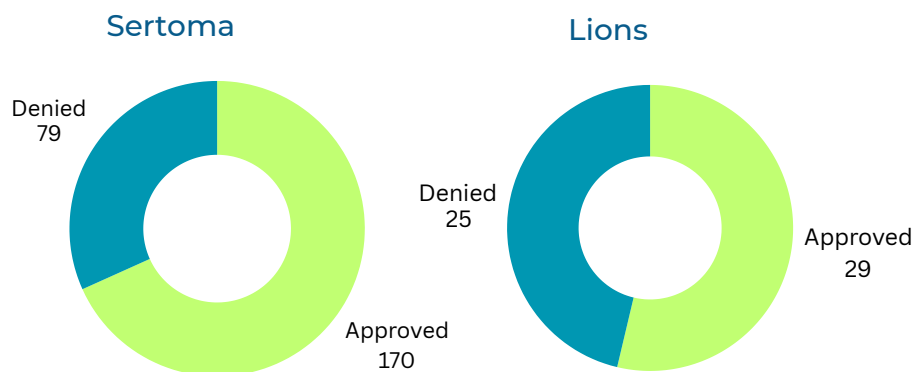
**723**  
**OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

**23,752**  
**OUTREACH CONTACTS**

**7,025**  
**PRESENTATION ATTENDEES**

## Hearing Aid Banks

NCDHH works with the Barkley Memorial Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, HearUNebraska, Sertoma, and the Nebraska Lions Foundation to provide hearing aids to individuals who qualify. HearU Nebraska provides hearing aids to children ages birth-18. Sertoma is an international organization providing refurbished hearing aids to individuals 65+. The Nebraska Lions Foundation promotes the collection, refurbishing and distribution of donated hearing aids to Nebraska residents ages 19-64. Applications to these programs are available through the Commission.



## Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program

Nebraska Specialized Telecommunications Equipment Program (NSTEP), an equipment program that provides monetary assistance to persons with disabilities. These persons will then use the financial assistance to aid in the purchasing of specialized telephone equipment such as amplifiers, signaling devices, cell phones and more. The Public Service Commission (PSC) was mandated to develop specific procedures necessary for implementation of the program and is responsible for management of the program.

A voucher will be issued to approved applicants for the purchase of telecommunication equipment. The specialized equipment can be purchased from any NSTEP participating vendors and wireless providers.

NCDHH teammates work around the state to educate and inform Nebraskans who could benefit from this equipment to help ease their communication access needs. NCDHH processed 149 applications in 2024.

# HIGHLIGHTS

K.1.

## TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE WONDERFUL ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH MOMENTS OUR TEAM WORKED ON ACROSS NEBRASKA!

**Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Outreach:** NCDHH held awareness events at zoos and baseball games created inclusive experiences while educating the public. At zoos, interactive activities such as learning animal names in sign language, ASL-interpreted animal presentations, and connection to wildlife and conservation with interpreters ensure accessibility. Baseball games can feature ASL-interpreted national anthems, silent inning, and highlights of Deaf athletes. Interactive booths, sign language activities, and sensory-friendly accommodations further promote awareness and engagement. These initiatives foster inclusivity, ensuring that Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals can fully enjoy and participate in these community events.



**Youth and Family Advocacy Services:** NCDHH empowered deaf and hard of hearing youth and their families through advocacy, education, and accessibility initiatives. The commission also advocated for ADA compliance, offered deaf awareness training, and connected families with community programs, mentorship opportunities, and leadership development. These efforts fostered inclusion, independence, and equal opportunities for Nebraska's deaf and hard of hearing community.

**World Hearing Day:** To commemorate World Hearing Day, NCDHH launched a statewide outreach project to raise awareness about hearing loss and available services. By distributing promotional materials, NCDHH engaged medical service providers, encouraging them to share information about programs and resources with clients who are deaf or hard of hearing. This initiative aimed to expand awareness, improve accessibility, and connect more individuals to vital support services.



**Public Safety Days:** NCDHH partnered with a couple local law enforcement, emergency medical providers, and firefighters to strengthen communication between first responders and the deaf and hard of hearing community. This event helped first responders understand the importance of effective communication while also educating the deaf community on emergency services. By fostering mutual awareness, Public Safety Days promoted inclusivity, safety, and collaboration.

**Sensitivity Training:** NCDHH provided sensitivity training for professionals in emergency preparedness, medical, and criminal justice sectors. The training covered effective communication, accessible technology, diverse communication needs, and federal and civil rights regulations. This initiative helped professionals better understand and serve the deaf and hard of hearing community, promoting inclusivity and compliance in their fields.

**Deaf Centric Hospital Event:** Held at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), this event united medical providers, students, and hospital staff with the deaf and hard of hearing community to enhance healthcare settings. It involved various stakeholders and community representatives in interactive role-playing exercises, where UNMC students acted as "patients" receiving care from local deaf community members acting as "doctors." The primary goal was to address and reduce healthcare disparities affecting the deaf and hard of hearing.



# LET'S CONNECT



[www.ncdhh.nebraska.gov](http://www.ncdhh.nebraska.gov)



*Nebraska Commission for the  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing*



[@Neb\\_CDHH](https://twitter.com/Neb_CDHH)

## OFFICE LOCATIONS

### Lincoln

4600 Valley Rd. Suite 420  
Lincoln, NE 68510

### Omaha

1313 Farnam Suite 304  
Omaha, NE 68102

### North Platte

200 S. Silber Room 035  
North Platte, NE 69101

### Scottsbluff

505A Broadway Suite 700  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361