Hennepin County

Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation

2025 Prison Rape Elimination Act report

Purpose

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 was enacted to address sexual abuse, sexual assault, and sexual harassment in confinement facilities, with the goal of detecting and responding to this behavior to prevent it. The Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCCR) supports these efforts and offers victim support services to individuals as necessary. DOCCR began implementing the PREA Standards in 2012, when the standards were finalized. This document serves as an annual review to monitor, assess, and improve the effectiveness of the sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response of DOCCR to meet national PREA standards 115.88 and 115.89.

Data

DOCCR collects data from referrals for investigation of sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment—resident-on-resident and staff-on-resident acts— at the Adult Corrections Facility (ACF) and Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). All allegations are entered and tracked through a secure electronic database by the DOCCR Office of Administrative Services-Professional Standards and Conduct (Investigations) Unit. The charts in this section contain the 2025 aggregated data (Figure 1) and a comparison of the number of incidents reported between 2020-2025 (Figure 2).

In 2025, there were 22 reports filed at the two facilities; six reports were substantiated, one report was determined to be unsubstantiated, and 15 reports were unfounded. Figure 1 shows a breakdown of those reports by category type.

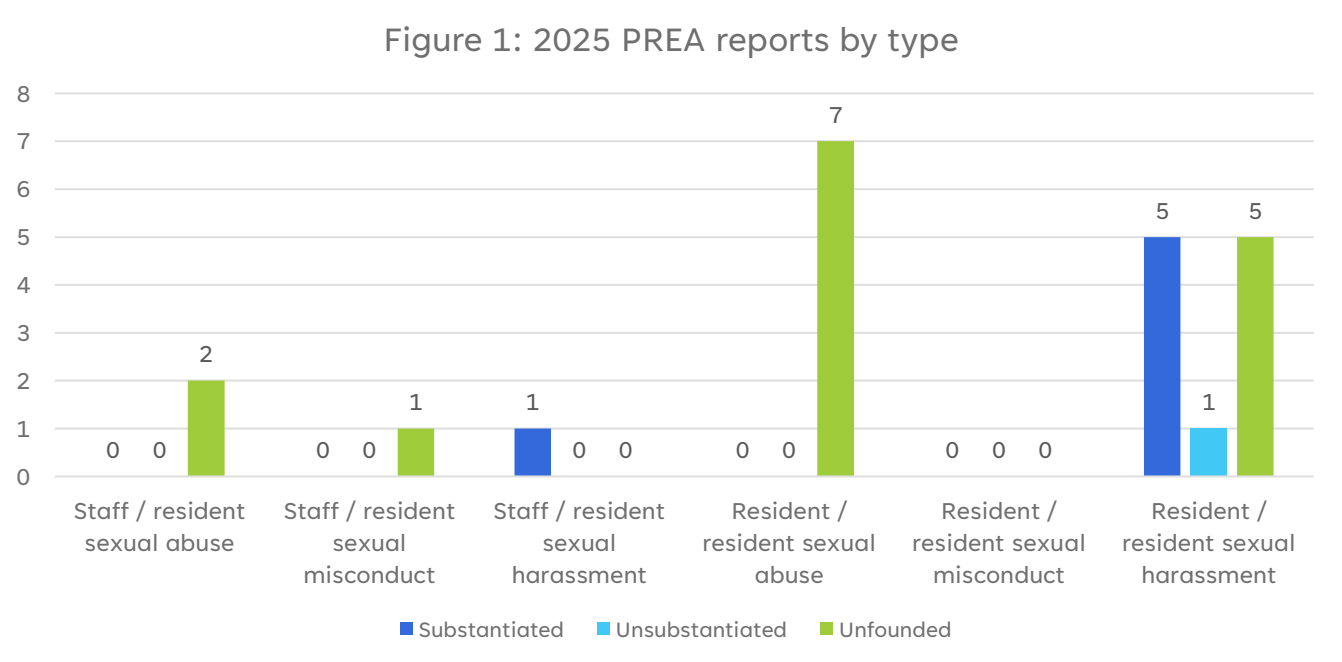
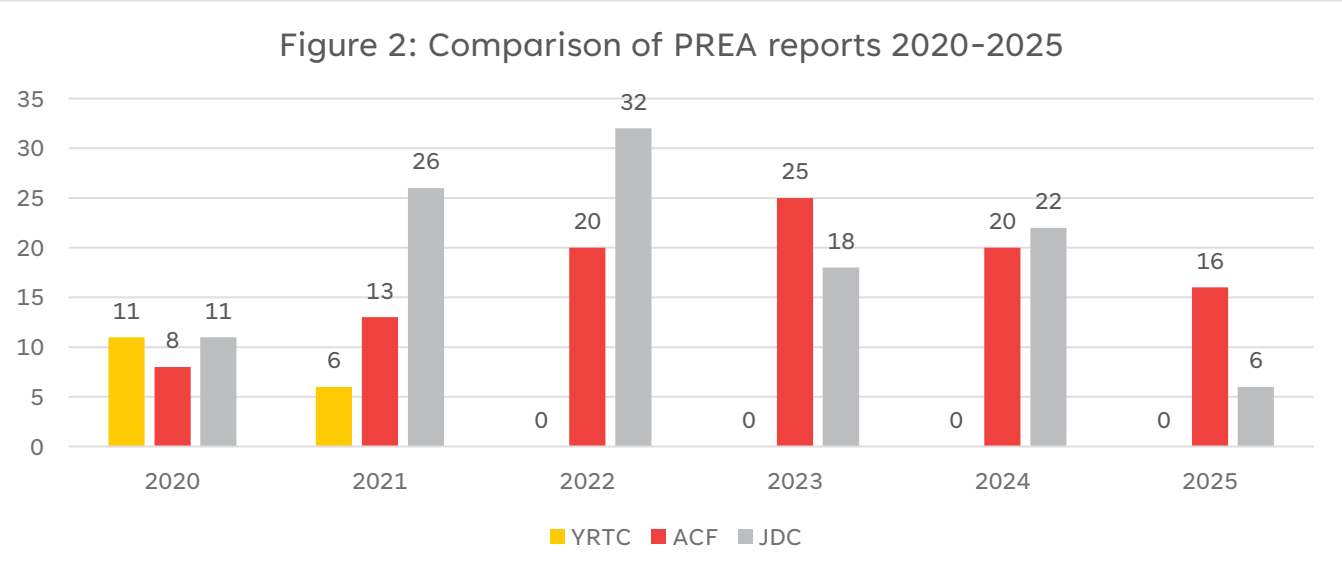


Figure 2 shows the total number of reports received from 2020 through 2025, regardless of case dispositions, at DOCCR-operated facilities. In 2025, there were 22 total reports; 16 at the ACF and six at the JDC. The total number of reports has declined since a high of 52 in 2022. There were about 48% fewer reports filed in 2025 than the previous year (42 reports in 2024).



Note: The Youth Residential Treatment Center (YRTC) was closed in 2021.

Corrective actions during last audit cycle

DOCCR's detention facilities are audited every three years. No corrective actions were identified at the ACF or the JDC in the last audit cycle.

DOCCR leadership is committed to ongoing monitoring and corrective actions to ensure full PREA compliance. DOCCR has achieved full PREA compliance for four cycles in our institutions: the Juvenile Detention Center in 2014, 2017, 2020, and 2023; the Adult Corrections Facility in 2015, 2018, 2021, and 2023. As an agency, DOCCR has fully adopted PREA standards in our practices, evidenced by our successful compliance record.

In 2023, DOCCR embarked on a special project to audit and refresh the PREA processes at both the ACF and the JDC. The goal is to improve reporting processes, update training and education materials and streamline policies and procedures. Through these changes, we are advancing our mission of prevention, identification and response to sexual abuse and/or sexual harassment in DOCCR facilities.

Mary Ellen Heng, Department Director

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