

PREA at DOC

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT OF 2003 (PREA)

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

*Together,
we can
Stop rape
in confinement.*

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Overview

The D.C. Department of Corrections (DOC) is one of several agencies under the oversight of the Deputy City Administrator/ Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice. The mission of the DOC is to ensure public safety for citizens of the District by providing an orderly, safe, secure and humane environment for the confinement of pretrial detainees and sentenced inmates, while providing meaningful opportunities for community reintegration.

DOC currently operates one of the largest municipal jail

systems in the country with an average daily population of more than 1,790 inmates in March 2020. By June 2020, the agency saw a significant decline in the inmate popula-



tion due to its efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in a 29.2% decrease. Individuals in the custody of DOC include males 96.2% and females 3.8%. The DOC system is comprised of two pri-

mary correctional facilities—the Central Detention Facility also known as the DC Jail and the Correctional Treatment Facility. As of April 2020, DOC contracts with only one privately operated halfway house for community placement. The halfway house offers a variety of educational opportunities and other programming services for female residents.

Reporting & Zero-Tolerance

DOC takes all reports of sexual abuse, sexual assault, and sexual harassment seriously. Inmates who are currently being sexually abused or sexually harassed are encouraged to report the incident immediately. The agency also accepts third-party reports regarding sexual assault and sexual abuse of an inmate/detainee in custody at any of its facilities. False reporting, however, will

carry serious consequences leading to criminal prosecution. Third parties may use the following reporting methods:

- Call the confidential DC Victim Hotline at **1-844-4HELPDC** or **844-443-5732**.
- Write a letter to the DOC PREA Coordinator at 1901 D. Street, SE, Washington DC 20003.

The DOC has a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of sexual abuse, sexual assault, and sexual harassment involving any person who works, visits or is confined in its facilities and/or contracted entities. Prevention is a top priority for the Department. The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) is a federal law that seeks to eliminate sexual abuse

Reporting & Zero-Tolerance

and sexual harassment and applies to all correctional facilities, including prisons, jails, juvenile facilities, military and Indian country facilities, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facilities.

DOC strictly prohibits any sexual contact between inmates, arrestees, and residents to include that of a consensual nature. Beyond institutional regulations, forced or coerced sexual behavior is a criminal offense, and the department

takes every action possible to hold perpetrators accountable, including prosecution, resulting in additional imprisonment.

It is against the law for staff to engage in any type of sexual activity with an inmate. By law, an incarcerated person is unable to legally consent to sexual activity of any kind with a staff member. This type of activity is referred to as staff sexual misconduct and is punishable up to and including loss of employment, civil penalties, and/

or imprisonment. Any reports of such incidents will be investigated thoroughly, and the employee will be held accountable if found guilty.



Dedication to Safety & Security

The DOC has maintained its compliance with PREA since 2014. The agency is currently on track to complete PREA audits for its third PREA audit cycle. As part of DOC's commitment to improve sexual safety and develop best practices to support those efforts for FY21 and beyond, DOC will focus on building and sustaining partnerships with com-

munity stakeholders to ensure that victims of sexual abuse within its facilities receive services and support comparable to those services provided to victims of sexual abuse in the community. The importance of community stakeholders in providing services to victims of sexual abuse in confinement cannot be overstated. PREA standards set clear expecta-

tions that without the involvement of community partners, compliance would be incomplete.

By strengthening the collaboration between DOC and the essential stakeholders, and leveraging untapped resources, DOC will sustain its capacity to respond to sexual abuse in confinement.



PREA Moving Forward

The DOC successfully completed the PREA audit of the Correctional Treatment Facility in February of 2020 after adhering to a 180-day Corrective Action Plan. In addition, DOC completed the Central Detention Facility's third PREA audit in August. In early March, team members from the Office of the PREA Coordinator con-

ducted a tour of the Arlington County Detention Facility in Arlington, Virginia to review their current PREA operational processes. In late March of 2020, DOC made several changes to its operations, PREA protocols, and auditing process to effectively combat the COVID-19 pandemic in all of its facilities. During the pan-

demic, the Office of the PREA Coordinator managed to continue its plans to develop the Reentry Services and Offender Employee Protections Workgroup with internal and external community partners via Zoom. The workgroup focused on workforce development strategies and education on employee rights and

and options upon release.

Corrective Action

CY2020

Through resident surveys and review of the agency’s PREA data, the Office of the PREA Coordinator discovered gaps in the halfway house resident employment process. Those gaps included the following: 1) victim-centered educational information on resident rights, employee rights, and employer responsibilities in instances of sexual harassment and sexual abuse, 2) established reporting protocols for resident employees, and 3) PREA and sexual

harassment/sexual abuse community educational information distribution upon release.

The Sexual Assault Incident Review Team (SAIRT) has reviewed a total of four (4) sexual assault cases and reports the following findings:

Substantiated - 1

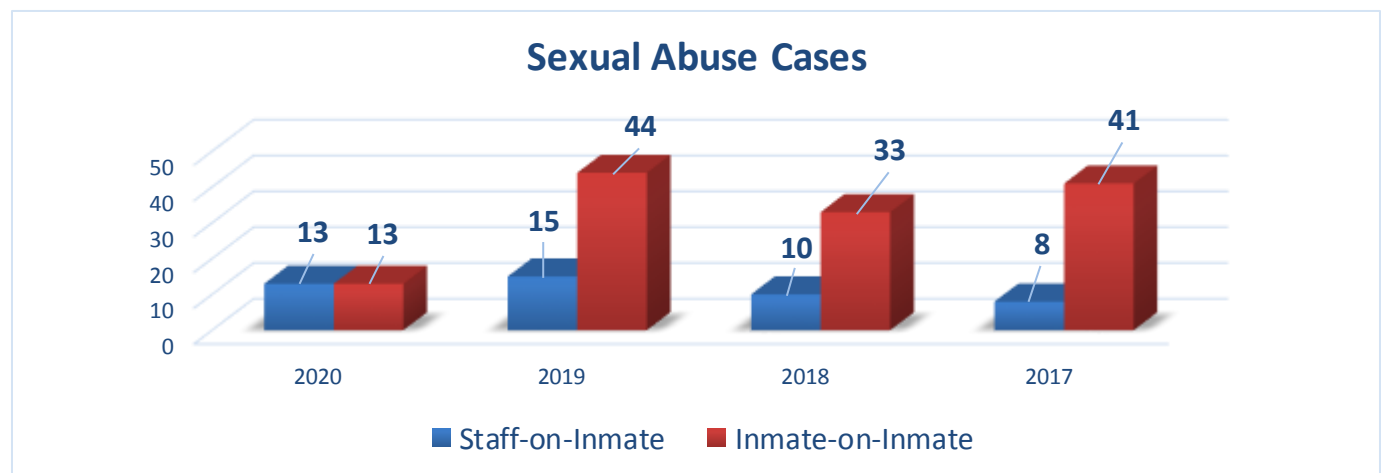
Unsubstantiated - 3

Inmates receive information on how to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment through inmate orientation, posters, handbooks, 30-day reassessments, and ongoing communication.

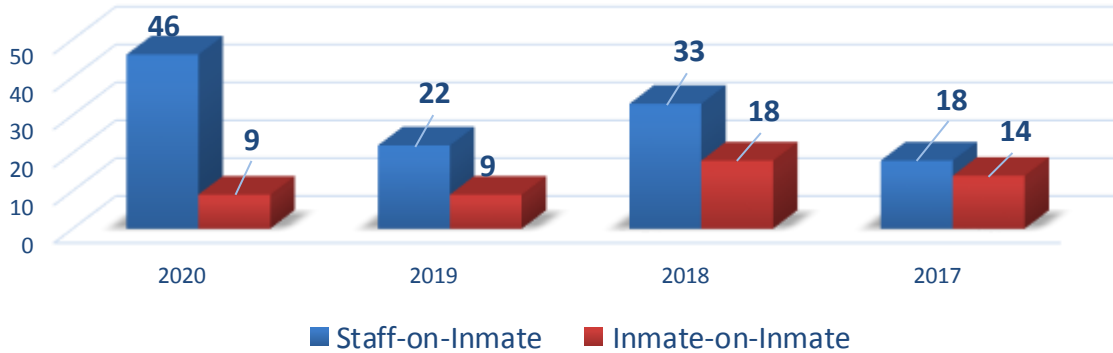
Definitions

- **Unsubstantiated**-- an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.
- **Substantiated**-- an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.
- **Unfounded**-- an allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

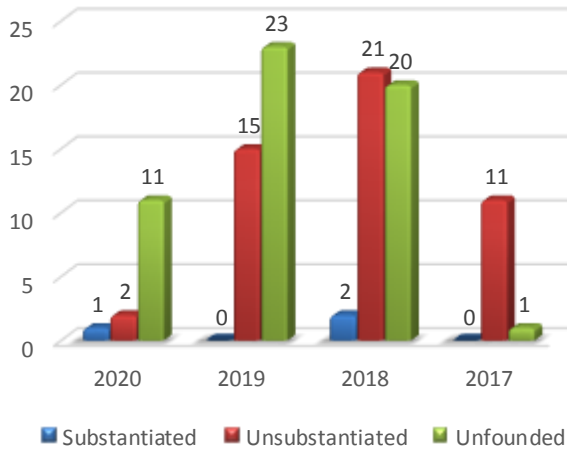
CY 2017 - 2020 PREA Statistics



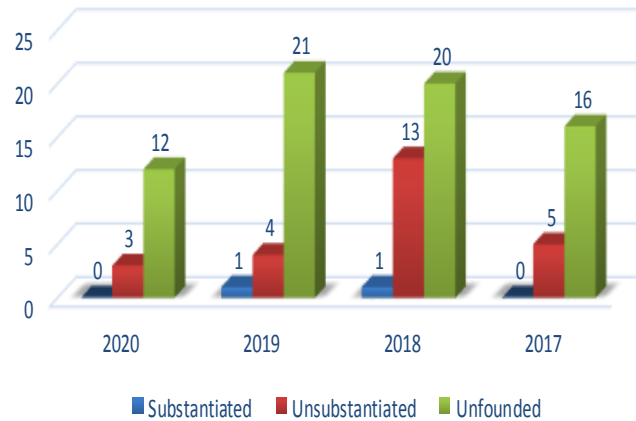
SEXUAL HARASSMENT CASES



STAFF-ON-INMATE SEXUAL ABUSE CASE FINDINGS



INMATE-ON-INMATE SEXUAL ABUSE CASE FINDINGS



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The DOC's vision is to become a benchmark corrections agency. To become a benchmark corrections agency, we will serve with pride, professionalism, and passion in caring for human lives.

