

Health & Safety in Correctional Facilities 2024 Legislative Report



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This report can be provided in another format upon request.

2021 LEGISLATIVE REPORT ON HEALTH AND SAFETY IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

I. Background

Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) runs 11 state prison facilities and licenses all other local correctional facilities run by counties and cities in Minnesota pursuant to [Minn. Stat. § 241.021](#).

In June 2021, the Minnesota Legislature created new reporting requirements pertaining to the health and safety of incarcerated individuals in Minnesota (Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Spec. Sess. Chapter 11, article 9, section 11). [Minn. Stat. § 241.021](#) was amended June 30, 2021, requiring the Department of Corrections (DOC) to file a written report with the legislature by February 15 of each year, reporting on the health and safety of individuals confined or incarcerated in state correctional facilities and facilities licensed by the commissioner.

This report will also include information on the commissioner's authority and responsibility to inspect and license local correctional facilities and set minimum standards for those facilities with respect to their management, operation, physical condition, and the security, safety, health, treatment, and discipline of persons confined or incarcerated therein.

The new reporting requirements established by Minn. Stat. § 241.021, subd. 1f pertain to either state correctional facilities or facilities licensed by the commissioner of corrections, and in some instances, both. As such, this report is broken into three parts: the first presenting data from state correctional facilities; the second presenting data received from licensed facilities; and the third addressing the status of the implementation of the authority provided to the commissioner of corrections by the legislature in Minn. Stat. § 241.021, subd. 1 – 1i.

II. Minnesota State Correctional Facilities

a. In custody deaths

Below is information regarding the number of confined or incarcerated persons who died while committed to the custody of a Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF), regardless of whether the death occurred at the facility or after removal from the facility for medical care stemming from an incident or need for medical care at the correctional facility, including aggregated demographic information, between January 1 and December 31, 2024.

Table 1. In custody deaths - MCF

Facility	deaths	suicides¹	Death demographic info (gender, race and age group)²
Faribault	1	0	Male, Asian or Pacific Islander, 26-35
Lino Lakes	0	0	
Moose Lake	1	0	Male, Black, 36-45
Oak Park Heights	9	0	Male, White, 56-65 (4), Male, Black, 66+ (1), Male, White, 66+ (4)
Red Wing	0	0	
Rush City	0	0	
St. Cloud	1	0	Male, Black, 56-65
Shakopee	0	0	
Stillwater	3	0	Male, Black, 18-25 (1), Male, White, 36-45 (2)
Togo	0	0	
Willow River	0	0	
Total	15	0	

b. Policy, practice, or training changes resulting from death reviews

Below is information regarding the aggregated results of the death reviews by state correctional facilities as required by Minn. Stat. § 241.021 subdivision 8, including any implemented policy changes from January 1 through December 31, 2024. Minnesota DOC [Policy 500.200](#), “Health Services Death Review” describes the process DOC follows when a death occurs of an incarcerated individual. All reviews and any changes to policy, practice, or training as a result of those reviews are reported below.

¹ This column captures how many of the total deaths were by suicide.

² Age groups for reporting purposes: under 18; 18-35, 36-55, 51-65, 65+.

Note: Death Reviews are not conducted on cases where the individual escaped from custody and was on fugitive status at the time of death, on Conditional Medical Release, or community supervision.

Table 2. Reviews and related policy, practice, or training changes – MCF

Facility	Reviews	<i>description of change</i>
Faribault	1	N/A
Lino Lakes	0	N/A
Moose Lake	1	N/A
Oak Park Heights	9	N/A
Rush City	0	N/A
Red Wing	0	N/A
St. Cloud	1	N/A
Shakopee	0	N/A
Stillwater	3	N/A
Togo	0	N/A
Willow River	0	N/A
Total	15	N/A

c. Number of reportable uses of force and whether those uses of force were determined to be justified by the facility

Below is information regarding the number of uses of force by facility staff on persons confined or incarcerated in the correctional facility, including but not limited to whether those uses of force were determined to be justified by the facility from January 1 through December 31, 2024. The commissioner of corrections consulted with the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association and a representative from the Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties who is responsible for the operations of an adult correctional facility to develop criteria for reporting and define reportable uses of force.

Reportable uses of force are defined as: Any application of physical, manual, or mechanical intervention, techniques or tactics, chemical agents, or weapons to a confined or incarcerated person resulting in substantial bodily harm as defined by Minn. Stat. § [609.02](#) as:

“bodily injury which involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement, or which causes a temporary but substantial loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or which causes a fracture of any bodily member.”

Table 3. Reportable uses of force - MCF

Facility	Reportable Uses of Force	Determined to be justified?
Faribault	0	N/A
Lino Lakes	0	N/A
Moose Lake	0	N/A
Oak Park Heights	0	N/A
Rush City	1	No
Red Wing	0	N/A
St. Cloud	0	N/A
Shakopee	2	Yes
Stillwater	0	N/A
Togo	0	N/A
Willow River	0	N/A
Total	3	N/A

d. Number of suicide attempts, people transported to a medical facility, and people placed in segregation

Below is information on the number of suicide attempts, number of people transported to a medical facility, and number of people placed in segregation from January 1 through December 31, 2024.

Table 4. Suicide attempts, medical facility transports, and people placed in segregation - MCF

Suicide attempts		15
Faribault		3
Lino Lakes		1
Moose Lake		0
Oak Park Heights		4
Rush City		0
Red Wing		0
St. Cloud		1
Shakopee		0
Stillwater		6
Togo		0
Willow River		0
Medical transports		7226
Faribault		1588
Lino Lakes		793
Moose Lake		912
Oak Park Heights		947
Rush City		726
Red Wing		121
St. Cloud		303
Shakopee		719
Stillwater		1108

Togo	32
Willow River	76
Other	1
Restrictive housing^{3 4}	3,567
Faribault	607
Lino Lakes	366
Moose Lake	327
Oak Park Heights	176
Rush City	423
St. Cloud	655
Shakopee	220
Stillwater	793

e. Number of people committed to the commissioner of corrections' custody housed in licensed facilities

Below is information regarding the number of persons committed to the commissioner of corrections' custody that the commissioner is housing in facilities licensed under Minn. Stat. § 241.021, subdivision 1, including but not limited to: (i) aggregated demographic data of those individuals; (ii) length of time spent housed in a licensed correctional facility; and (iii) any

³ The statute is silent on what constitutes segregation. DOC submits a restrictive housing report pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 243.521 on January 15 of each year, reporting administrative and disciplinary segregation. A "restrictive housing admission" is an entry into a segregation-unit living assignment during the fiscal year, either as a movement from a non-segregation living assignment, or as the initial living assignment upon new commitment or release violator admission. In the restrictive housing report, an individual may have more than one such admission during the fiscal year. The same methodology is used in both reports, but with different reporting parameters.

⁴ This table does not include MCF-Red Wing, MCF-Togo, or MCF-Willow River. MCF-Red Wing (adults), MCF-Togo, and MCF-Willow River do not have restrictive housing units, so those residents are transferred to other facilities as needed. MCF-Red Wing juvenile data is not captured in this report, as it relates to different statutory and rule-based obligations and a fundamental difference in approach to working with juveniles.

contracts the Department of Corrections has with correctional facilities to provide housing, from January 1 through December 31, 2024.

Table 5. People housed in licensed facilities⁵ - MCF

Total	2
<i>Gender</i>	
Male	2
Female	0
Non-binary	0
<i>Age</i>	
14-17	0
18-25	0
26-35	0
36-45	2
46-55	0
56-65	0
66+	0
<i>Race</i>	
White	1
Black	0
American Indian/Alaska Nat.	1
Asian or Pacific Islander	0
Other	0
<i>Length of Time HOF</i>	
1-30 days	2
31-90 days	0
91-180 days	0
181-365 days	0
1+ year	0

f. On-duty staff misconduct complaints, including investigation results

⁵ The DOC contracts with six facilities – Nobles, Olmsted, Pine, Polk (Tri-County), Washington, and Wright Counties – to house individuals committed to the custody of the commissioner of corrections. Additionally, some non-contract facilities will occasionally house individuals without a contract if the incarcerated person has significant historical ties to the particular county.

Below is summary data from state correctional facilities regarding complaints involving alleged on-duty staff misconduct, including but not limited to the: (i) total number of misconduct complaints and investigations; (ii) total number of complaints by each category of misconduct, as defined by the commissioner of corrections; (iii) number of allegations dismissed as unfounded; (iv) number of allegations dismissed on grounds that the allegation was unsubstantiated; and (v) number of allegations substantiated, any resulting disciplinary action, and the nature of the discipline from January 1 through December 31, 2024.

Table 6. On-duty staff misconduct complaints - MCF

Total	452
<i>Misconduct category</i>	
Appearance/dress/hygiene	4
Code of conduct	152
Contraband	11
Discrimination/harassment	16
Hours of work/pay	157
Licensure/certification	2
Medical errors	5
Misc. policy violations	0
Reporting/records	2
Safety	8
Security	134
Unsatisfactory work perf.	11
Dismissed as unfounded	16
Dismissed as unsubstantiated	17
<i>Substantiated</i>	
Total	319
Resulted in discipline	238
<i>Nature of Discipline</i>	
Oral reprimand	95
Written reprimand	60
Suspension	64
Demotion	2
Discharge	17

III. Correctional Facilities Licensed by the Commissioner of Corrections

a. In custody deaths

Below is information regarding the number of confined or incarcerated persons who died while committed to the custody of a licensed facility, regardless of whether the death occurred at the facility or after removal from the facility for medical care stemming from an incident or need for medical care at the correctional facility, including aggregated demographic information and the correctional facilities' most recent inspection reports and any corrective orders or conditional licenses issued, between January 1 and December 31, 2024.

Table 7. In custody deaths – licensed facilities

Variable	<i>deaths</i>	<i>suicides</i>⁶	Death demographic info (gender, race and age group)⁷	Facility most recent inspection report⁸
Crow Wing County Jail	2	1	Male, White, 56-65 (2)	05/15/2024 Appendix A
Dakota County Jail	1	0	Male, Black, 46-55	07/21/2023 Appendix B
Hennepin County Adult Detention Center	1	0	Male, American Indian or Alaskan Native, 36-45	09/18/2024 Appendix C
Mille Lacs County Jail	1	0	Male, American Indian or Alaskan Native, 56-65	05/21/2024 Appendix D
Northwest Regional Corrections Center	2	0	Male, White, 46-55 Male, White, 56-65	03/26/2024 Appendix E
Otter Tail County Jail	1	0	Male, White, 56-65	10/30/2024 Appendix F
Pine County Detention Center	1	0	Male, White, 56-65	03/20/2024 Appendix G
Roseville VOA	1	0	Male, White, 56-65	10/26/2023 Appendix H
Sherburne County Jail	1	0	Male, Black, 46-55	05/07/2024 Appendix I
TOTAL	11	1		

⁶ This column captures how many of the total deaths were by suicide.

⁷ Age groups for reporting purposes: under 18; 18-35, 36-55, 51-65, 65+.

⁸ These inspection reports are included in Appendix A-I.

b. Policy, practice, or training changes resulting from death reviews

Below is information regarding the aggregated results of the death reviews by licensed facilities as required by Minn. Stat. § 241.021 subdivision 8, including any implemented policy changes from January 1 through December 31, 2024.

Table 8. Policy, practice, or training changes – reported changes from licensed facilities

Facility	Reviews	<i>description of change</i>
Crow Wing County Jail	2	(1) Updated medical policies/procedures regarding medical practices for mental health and chemical intoxication. (2) Changes to medical policies and procedures to align with national standards.
Dakota County Jail	1 in progress	TBD
Hennepin County Adult Detention Center	1	CAP issued; Withdrawal protocol added
Mille Lacs County Jail	1	N/A
Northwest Regional Corrections Center	2	N/A
Otter Tail County Jail	1	Changes made to give better instructions to staff on how to complete the mental health screening form, and retrained staff on how to complete the screening.
Pine County Jail	1	N/A
Roseville VOA (halfway house)	1	N/A
Sherburne County Jail	1 in progress	TBD
Total	11	

c. Number of reportable uses of force and whether those uses of force were determined to be justified by the facility

Below is information regarding the number of uses of force by facility staff on persons confined or incarcerated in the correctional facility, including but not limited to whether those uses of

force were determined to be justified by the facility from January 1 through December 31, 2024. The commissioner of corrections consulted with the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association and a representative from the Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties, who is responsible for the operations of an adult correctional facility to develop criteria for reporting and define reportable uses of force.

Reportable uses of force are defined as: Any application of physical, manual, or mechanical intervention, techniques or tactics, chemical agents, or weapons to a confined or incarcerated person resulting in substantial bodily harm as defined by Minn. Stat. § [609.02](#) as:

“bodily injury which involves a temporary but substantial disfigurement, or which causes a temporary but substantial loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or which causes a fracture of any bodily member.”

Table 9. Reportable uses of force – licensed facilities

Facility	Reportable Uses of Force	Determined to be justified?
Becker County Jail	2	Yes
Douglas County Jail	1	Yes
Nicollet County Jail	1	Yes
Northwest Regional Corrections Center (ACF)	1	Yes

d. Number of suicide attempts, number of people transported to a medical facility, and number of people placed in segregation

Below is information on the number of suicide attempts, the number of people transported to a medical facility, and the number of people placed in segregation from January 1 through December 31, 2024.

Table 10. Suicide attempts, medical facility transports, and people placed in segregation – licensed facilities

Suicide attempts	122
Aitkin	1
Anoka	0
Anoka Workhouse	0
Becker	0
Beltrami	0
Benton	1

Blue Earth	7
Brown	0
Carlton	1
Carver	1
Cass	0
Chippewa	0
Chisago	1
Clay	0
Clearwater	1
Cook	2
Cottonwood	0
Crow Wing	0
Dakota	3
Douglas	0
Faribault	0
Fillmore	0
Freeborn	0
Goodhue	5
Hennepin Men	0
Hennepin North	0
Hennepin ADC	16
Houston	0
Hubbard	2
Isanti	0
Itasca	2
Jackson	0
Kanabec	0
Kandiyohi	1
Kittson	0
Koochiching	8
Lac Qui Parle	0
Lake	0
Lake of the Woods	0
Le Sueur	1
Lincoln	0
Lyon	2
Marshall	0
Martin	1
McLeod	2
Meeker	0
Mille Lacs	3
Morrison	1

Mower	0
Murray	0
Nicollet	2
Nobles	0
Norman	0
Northeast Regional	0
Northwest Regional	1
Olmsted	5
Otter Tail	1
Pennington	0
Pine	3
Pipestone	0
Ramsey ACF	1
Ramsey ADC	7
Redwood	0
Renville	0
Rice	1
Roseau	0
Scott	5
Sherburne	4
Sibley	1
St. Louis	9
St. Louis - Hibbing	1
St. Louis - Virginia	1
Stearns	1
Steele	0
Swift	0
Todd	0
Traverse	0
Wabasha	0
Wadena	2
Waseca	0
Washington	3
Watsonwan	0
Wilkin	0
Winona	3
Wright	7
Yellow Medicine	2
Medical transports	2524
Aitkin	18
Anoka	137

Anoka Workhouse	31
Becker	9
Beltrami	43
Benton	33
Blue Earth	50
Brown	11
Carlton	42
Carver	48
Cass	5
Chippewa	0
Chisago	20
Clay	30
Clearwater	16
Cook	2
Cottonwood	11
Crow Wing	131
Dakota	169
Douglas	3
Faribault	0
Fillmore	0
Freeborn	7
Goodhue	6
Hennepin Men	29
Hennepin North	6
Hennepin ADC	159
Houston	3
Hubbard	7
Isanti	2
Itasca	66
Jackson	5
Kanabec	35
Kandiyohi	39
Kittson	0
Koochiching	7
Lac Qui Parle	1
Lake	4
Lake of the Woods	2
Le Sueur	16
Lincoln	0
Lyon	2
Marshall	0
Martin	22

McLeod	20
Meeker	3
Mille Lacs	10
Morrison	29
Mower	24
Murray	0
Nicollet	8
Nobles	17
Norman	0
Northeast Regional	3
Northwest Regional	26
Olmsted	97
Otter Tail	46
Pennington	1
Pine	16
Pipestone	0
Ramsey ACF	48
Ramsey ADC	258
Redwood	14
Renville	0
Rice	12
Roseau	4
Scott	110
Sherburne	199
Sibley	1
St. Louis	87
St. Louis - Hibbing	21
St. Louis - Virginia	22
Stearns	16
Steele	2
Swift	1
Todd	0
Traverse	8
Wabasha	8
Wadena	8
Waseca	1
Washington	58
Watsonwan	10
Wilkin	3
Winona	45
Wright	61
Yellow Medicine	0

Restrictive housing⁹	5105
Aitkin	8
Anoka	190
Anoka Workhouse	0
Becker	0
Beltrami	39
Benton	13
Blue Earth	54
Brown	101
Carlton	16
Carver	20
Cass	0
Chippewa	0
Chisago	117
Clay	119
Clearwater	0
Cook	3
Cottonwood	6
Crow Wing	139
Dakota	215
Douglas	2
Faribault	0
Fillmore	0
Freeborn	21
Goodhue	11
Hennepin Men	99
Hennepin North	5
Hennepin ADC	243
Houston	2
Hubbard	66
Isanti	24
Itasca	0
Jackson	2

⁹ The statute is silent on what constitutes segregation. DOC submits a restrictive housing report pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 243.521 on January 15 of each year, reporting administrative and disciplinary segregation. Licensed facilities have been asked to report the same information for consistency. Licensed correctional facilities operate independently and may utilize numerous forms of segregation based on the vulnerability, behavioral watch, protective custody, suicide watch, medical and mental health needs, disciplinary, safety, security, and administrative needs of the population served. Most facilities classify housing as “segregation” when a person is housed outside of the general population. It should be noted that COVID quarantines required many individuals to be housed separately from the general population.

Kanabec	7
Kandiyohi	121
Kittson	0
Koochiching	0
Lac Qui Parle	0
Lake	0
Lake of the Woods	0
Le Sueur	0
Lincoln	0
Lyon	1
Marshall	0
Martin	1
McLeod	0
Meeker	27
Mille Lacs	51
Morrison	73
Mower	16
Murray	0
Nicollet	0
Nobles	83
Norman	0
Northeast Regional	47
Northwest Regional	45
Olmsted	226
Otter Tail	21
Pennington	26
Pine	8
Pipestone	0
Ramsey ACF	178
Ramsey ADC	284
Redwood	0
Renville	16
Rice	15
Roseau	0
Scott	145
Sherburne	343
Sibley	10
St. Louis	1311
St. Louis - Hibbing	27
St. Louis - Virginia	29
Stearns	121
Steele	27

Swift	0
Todd	8
Traverse	0
Wabasha	16
Wadena	5
Waseca	7
Washington	78
Watonwan	9
Wilkin	0
Winona	1
Wright	207
Yellow Medicine	0