



2025 Annual PREA Report



Minnesota Department of Corrections Vision, Mission Values and Goals:

Vision

Achieving justice through promotion of racial equity, restoration from harm, and community connectedness.

Mission

Transforming lives for a safer Minnesota.

Values

Safety • Dignity • Honesty • Service • Equity • Fairness • Respect

Leadership Philosophy

Create successful experiences for others.

Strategic Priorities

- Agency Reorganization
- Transformative Programming
- Safety and Wellbeing

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Commissioner of Corrections

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This material will be provided in a different format upon request.

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Introduction

Background

The Federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) establishes national standards to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities. These standards apply to all public and private institutions that house adult, youth, or juvenile incarcerated persons (IPs). PREA requires facilities to collect, analyze, and report data on incidents of custodial rape, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment across federal, state, and local systems.

Standard §115.88 Data Review for Corrective Action requires an annual report summarizing allegation statistics, audit findings, agency challenges, and progress toward PREA compliance. This report enhances transparency, informs the public, and helps leaders identify and correct problem areas. To meet these requirements, the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) collects data according to §115.87 Data Collection.

Zero-Tolerance

The DOC maintains a strict zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse, assault, misconduct, or harassment among incarcerated individuals. Sexual activity between staff, volunteers, or contractors and incarcerated persons is strictly prohibited and may result in administrative and/or criminal sanctions. All staff, contractors, and volunteers are responsible for understanding and upholding this prohibition, as outlined in the DOC Code of Conduct. Mandatory training for staff and education for the incarcerated population reinforce these expectations.

In accordance with §115.11 Zero-Tolerance of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment; PREA Coordinator, the DOC employs a Statewide PREA Coordinator to oversee PREA implementation. Each facility also designates a PREA Compliance Manager to provide additional oversight.

All allegations and incidents, including those that may be consensual, are investigated to ensure safety and determine whether the incident is voluntary and non-coercive.

More information on specific PREA standards is available at the PREA Resource Center:

- <https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/standard/115-11>
- <https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/standard/115-88>
- <https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/standard/115-87>

Scope of Report

The 2025 Annual PREA Report summarizes all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving incarcerated persons during calendar year 2024. This includes incidents occurring in DOC facilities and for individuals under DOC control who are in custodial settings in the community. Custodial settings include halfway houses, jails, and treatment centers. The DOC operates nine adult male facilities, one juvenile facility (MCF-Red Wing), and one female facility (MCF-Shakopee). For reporting purposes, MCF-Red Wing is broken into two units: a juvenile facility and a 45-bed adult living unit. For reports made concerning individuals in custodial settings in the community, the DOC's Statewide PREA Coordinator does follow-up with each allegation received, referring the investigation to the PREA compliance manager at the specific facility.

The report also presents audit results, agency accomplishments, and goals aimed at strengthening safety and PREA compliance across the department.

Classifications of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment

Incarcerated Person (IP)/IP Non-Consensual Sexual Acts:

Penetration or oral sexual contact between incarcerated persons without consent or involving someone unable to consent.

IP/IP Abusive Sexual Contact:

Non-penetrative sexual touching between incarcerated persons without consent or involving someone unable to consent.

IP/IP Consensual Sexual Acts:

Sexual contact between incarcerated persons that is mutually agreed upon but still prohibited under DOC policy.

Staff Sexual Misconduct:

Any sexual act, contact, request, or sexually motivated behavior by staff, volunteers, or contractors toward an incarcerated person.

IP/IP Sexual Harassment:

Repeated unwelcome sexual comments, gestures, requests, or advances by one incarcerated person toward another.

Staff/IP Sexual Harassment:

Repeated sexual comments, gestures, or demeaning sexual remarks made by staff, volunteers, or contractors toward an incarcerated person.

Disposition Definitions

Each allegation is investigated and receives one of the following findings:

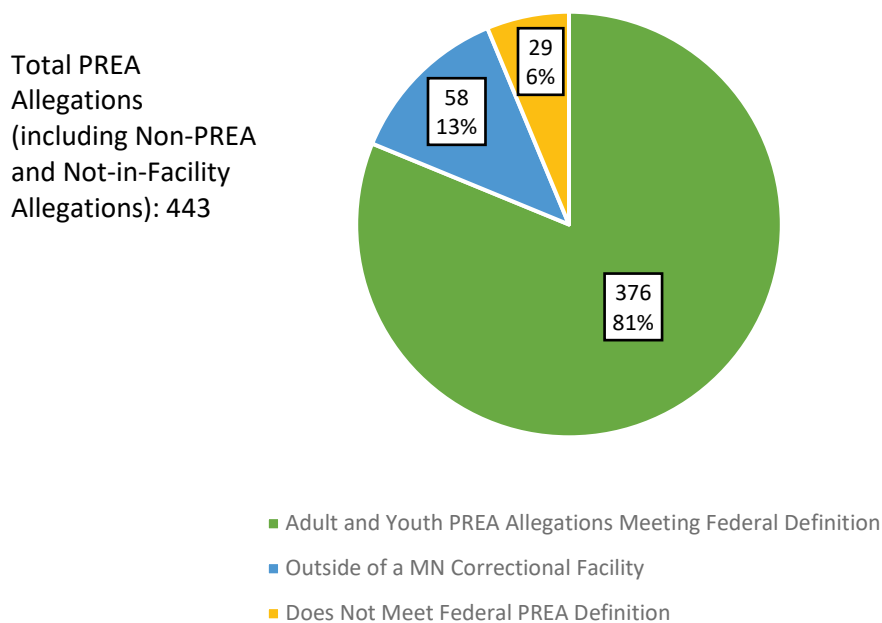
- **Substantiated:** Evidence confirms the incident occurred.
- **Unsubstantiated:** Evidence is insufficient to determine whether the incident occurred.
- **Unfounded:** Evidence shows the incident did not occur.
- **Unclassified:** Evidence confirms the incident does not meet the PREA definitions.
- **Investigation Ongoing:** A final determination has not yet been reached.

Note: Allegations of single instances of either staff or incarcerated person sexual harassment are also investigated and tracked. A single occurrence of sexual harassment can be significant and is incompatible with the agency's commitment to a culture of zero tolerance. Tracking single instances allows patterns to become evident and is consistent with PREA Resource Center guidance.

Minnesota Department of Corrections Total Allegations in 2024

All allegations reported to a DOC staff member are documented and investigated but not all are found to meet the federal definition of PREA. In 2024, there were a total of 443 PREA allegations. Of those 443 total allegations, 376 allegations met the federal definition of PREA, fifty-eight allegations did not occur within a Minnesota Correctional Facility, and 29 allegations did not meet the federal PREA definition (they were either consensual sex between two incarcerated persons or unrelated grievances submitted as a PREA complaint).

2024 Total PREA Allegations MN DOC

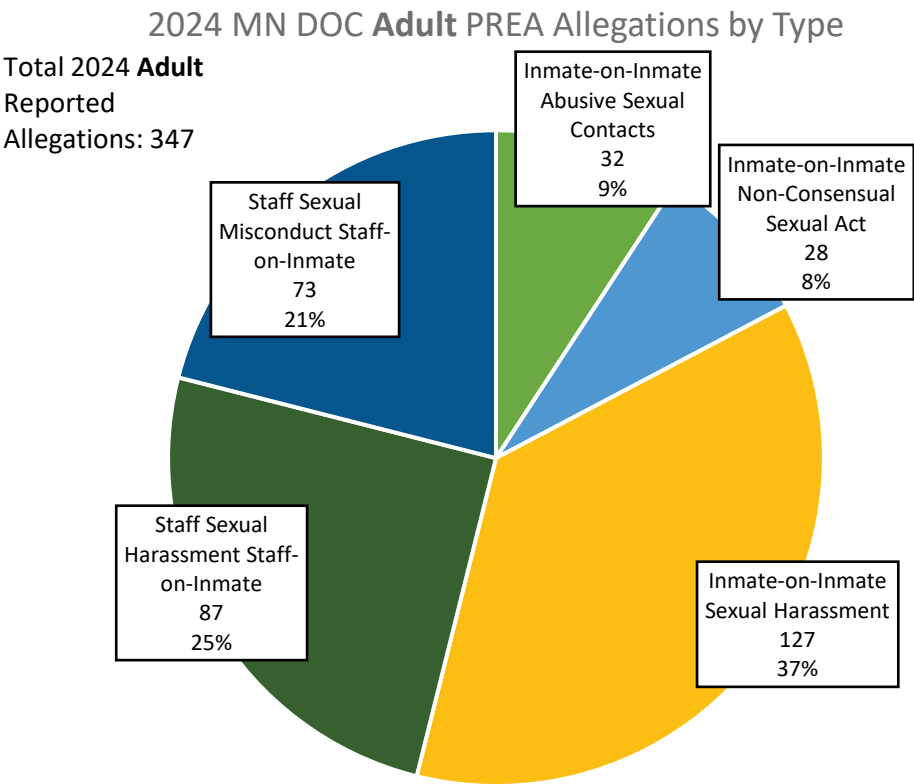


*For reporting purposes, the allegations that are classified as non-PREA (29 reported allegations) and not-in-facility allegations (58 reported allegations) will not be included in the remainder of this report.

2024 Adult and Youthful Incarcerated Persons PREA Allegations by Type

2024 MN DOC Adult Incarcerated Person Reported PREA allegations

In 2024, the DOC had a total of 376 reported allegations. Of these reported PREA allegations, a total of 347 allegations were reported from facilities with adult populations. The breakdown of reported PREA allegations according to allegation type is in the graphic below.

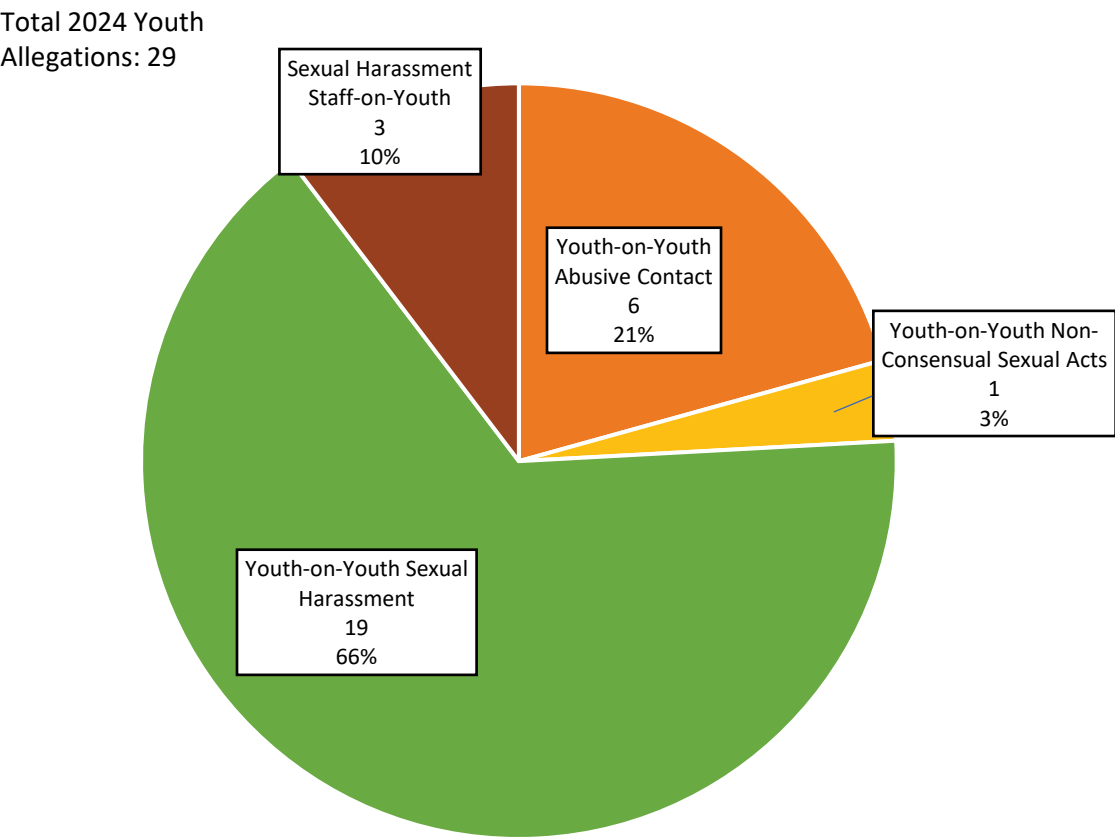


Allegation Type	Count	Percentage
Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Harassment	127	37%
Staff Sexual Harassment (Staff-on-Inmate)	87	25%
Staff Sexual Misconduct (Staff-on-Inmate)	73	21%
Inmate-on-Inmate Abusive Sexual Contacts	32	9%
Inmate-on-Inmate Non-Consensual Sexual Acts	28	8%
Total Allegations	347	100%

2024 MN DOC Youth Incarcerated Person Reported PREA Allegations

In 2024, DOC had a total of 376 reported PREA allegations. Of these allegations, twenty-nine reported PREA allegations were from MN DOC’s Juvenile/ Youth Facility.

2024 MN DOC Youth PREA Allegations by Type



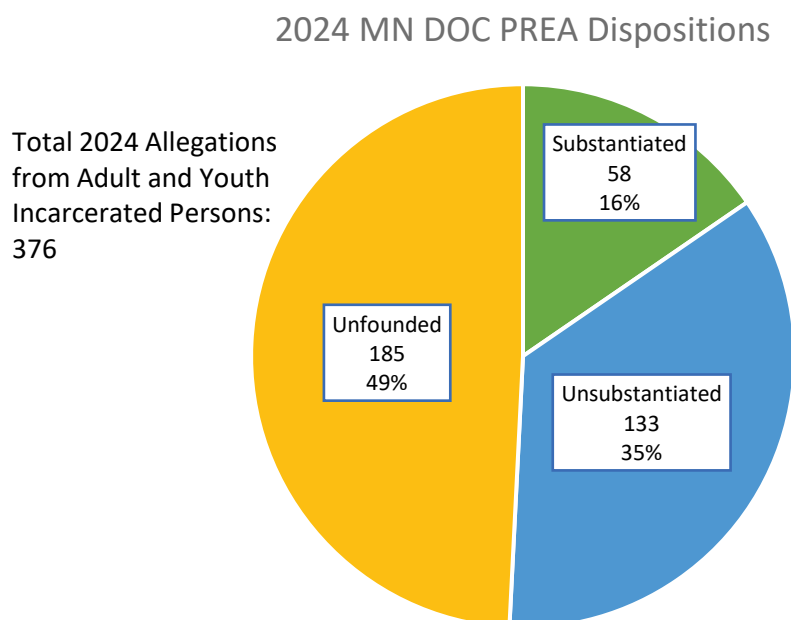
Allegation Type	Count	Percentage
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	19	66%
Youth-on-Youth Abusive Contact	6	21%
Sexual Harassment Staff-on-Youth	3	10%
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	1	3%
Total	29	100%

2024 MN DOC PREA Dispositions

For both adult and youth incarcerated persons, there were a total of 376 reported PREA allegations in 2024. After full investigation of these PREA allegations, fifty-eight were substantiated, and 133 were unsubstantiated, and 185 were unfounded.

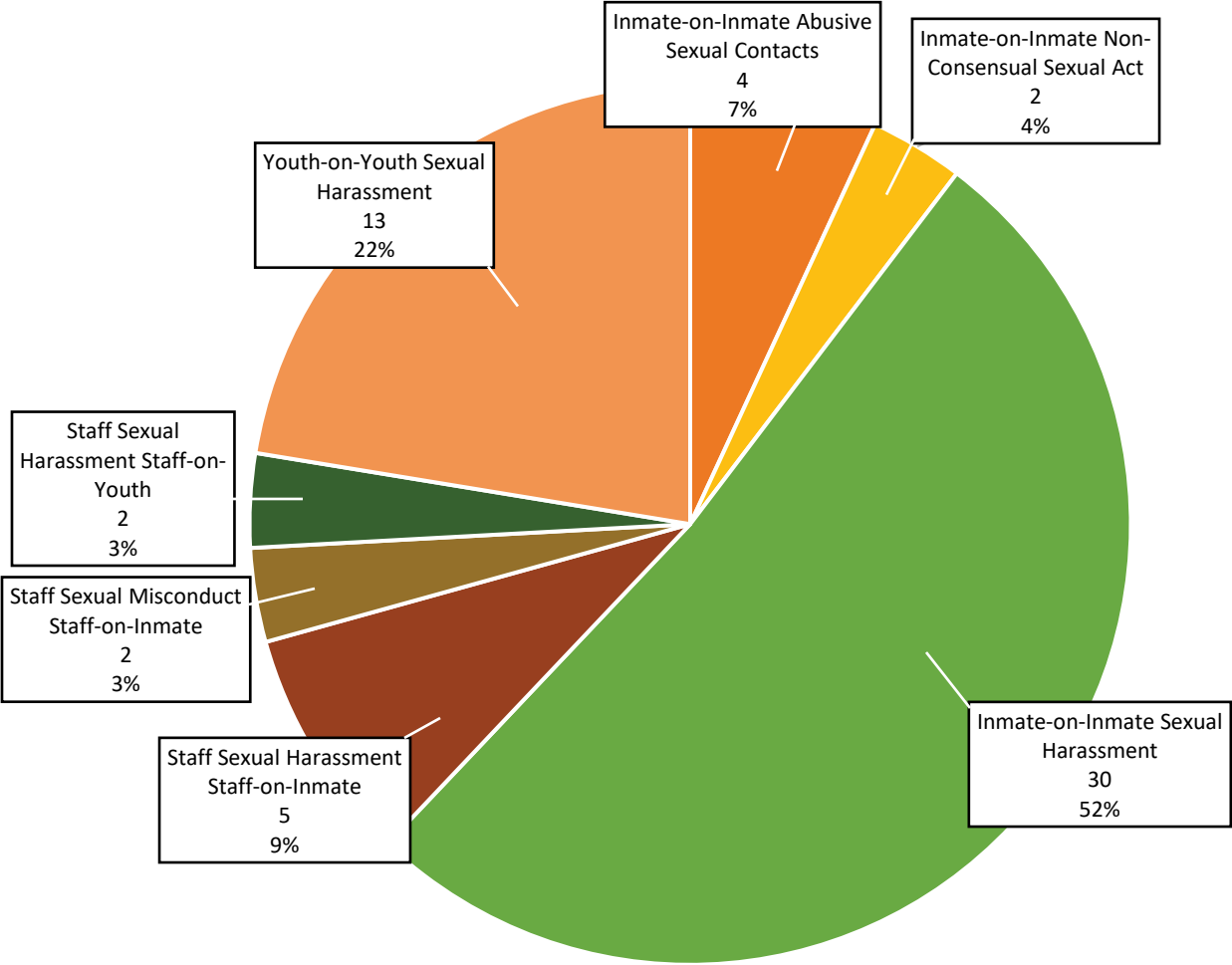
These are the definitions of allegation outcomes:

- **Substantiated:** Evidence confirms the incident occurred.
- **Unsubstantiated:** Evidence is insufficient to determine whether the incident occurred.
- **Unfounded:** Evidence shows the incident did not occur or does not meet the PREA definitions.



2024 Substantiated PREA Allegations by Classification

2024 MN DOC Total Substantiated Cases by Classification

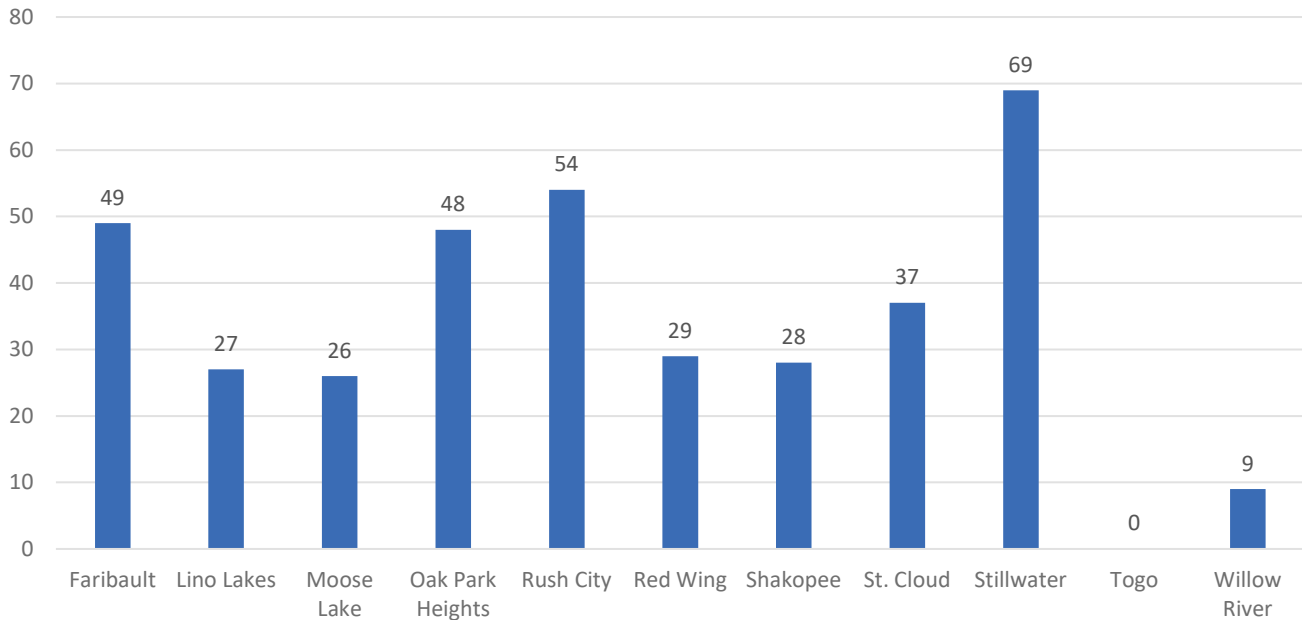


Classification	Count	Percentage
Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Harassment	30	52%
Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment	13	22%
Staff Sexual Harassment — Staff-on-Inmate	5	9%
Inmate-on-Inmate Abusive Sexual Contacts	4	7%
Inmate-on-Inmate Non-Consensual Sexual Act	2	4%
Staff Sexual Misconduct — Staff-on-Inmate	2	3%
Staff Sexual Harassment — Staff-on-Youth	2	3%
Total	58	100%

2024 MN DOC Total PREA Allegations by Facility

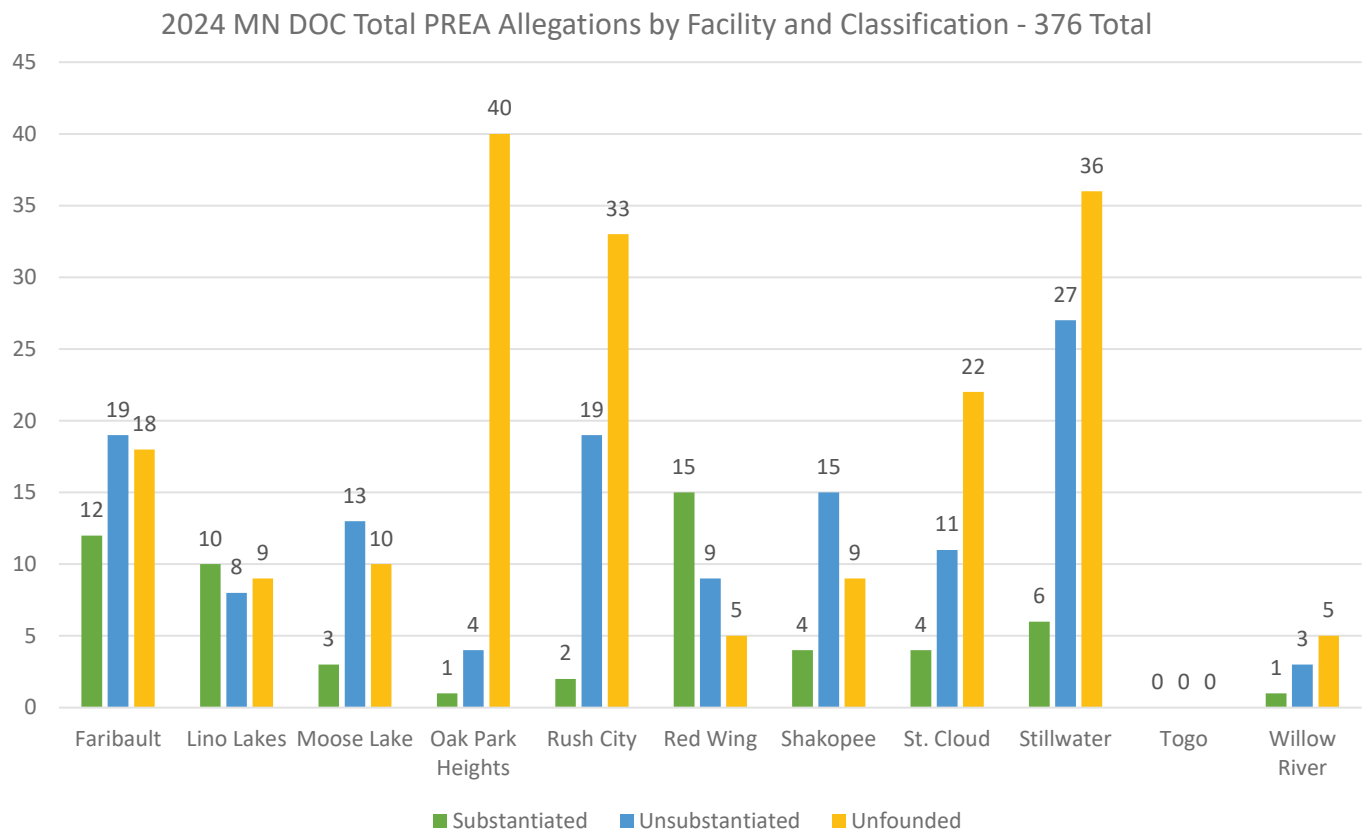
Allegations are not evenly distributed across the agency, which is expected given the differences among the 11 Minnesota correctional facilities. Each facility varies in population size, physical layout, and available programming.

2024 MN DOC Total PREA Allegations by Facility (376 Total)



Facility	Count	Percentage
Faribault	49	13%
Lino Lakes	27	7%
Moose Lake	26	7%
Oak Park Heights	48	13%
Rush City	54	14%
Red Wing - Juvenile	29	8%
Shakopee	28	7%
St. Cloud	37	10%
Stillwater	69	18%
Togo	0	0%
Willow River	9	2%
Total	376	100%

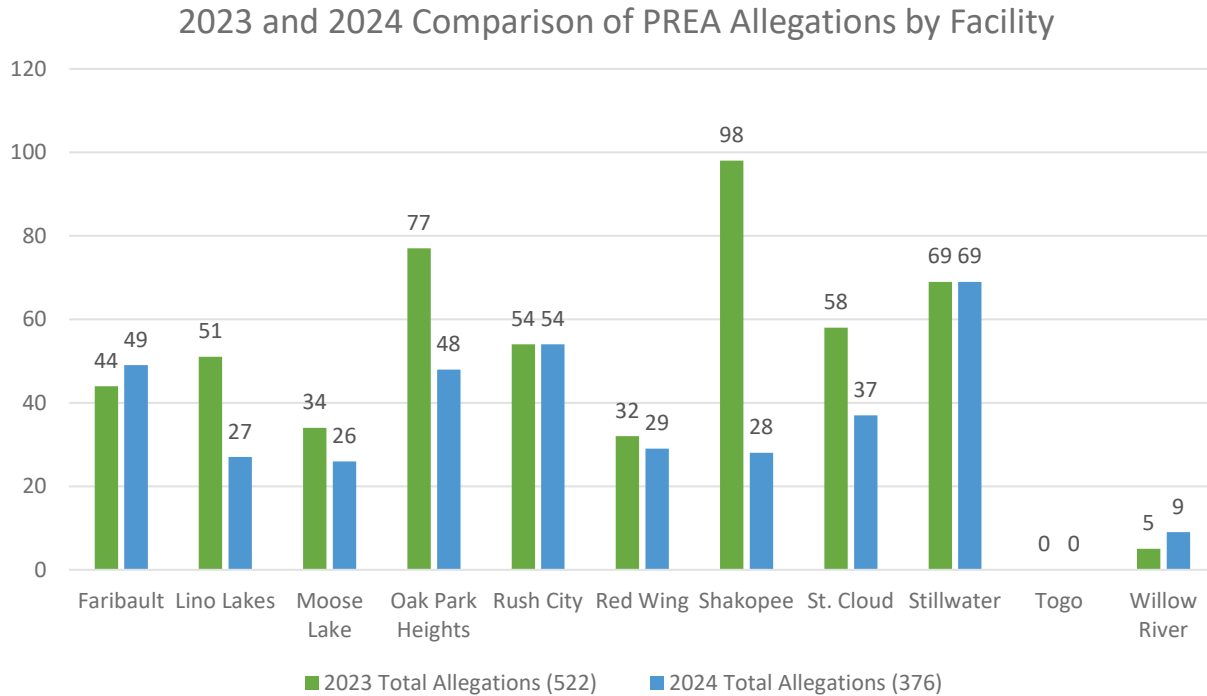
2024 MN DOC Total PREA Allegations by Facility and Classification



Facility	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Total
Faribault	12	19	18	49
Lino Lakes	10	8	9	27
Moose Lake	3	13	10	26
Oak Park Heights	1	4	40	45
Rush City	2	19	33	54
Red Wing- Juvenile	15	9	5	29
Shakopee	4	15	9	28
St. Cloud	4	11	22	37
Stillwater	6	27	36	69
Togo	0	0	0	0
Willow River	1	3	5	9
Total	58	128	187	376

Multi-Year Comparison 2023 and 2024 MN DOC Total PREA Allegations by Facility

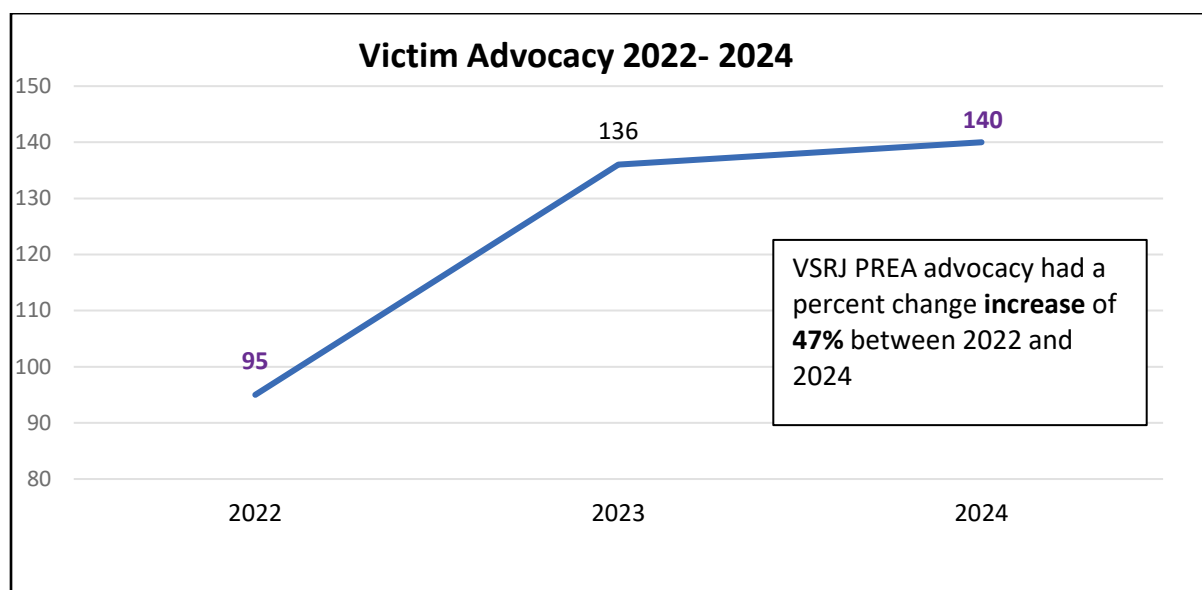
In comparing the total PREA allegations by facility from 2023 to 2024, there was a drop in reported PREA allegations from 522 in 2023 to 376 in 2024.



Facility	2023 Count	2024 Count
Faribault	44	49
Lino Lakes	51	27
Moose Lake	34	26
Oak Park Heights	77	48
Rush City	54	54
Red Wing - Juvenile	32	29
Shakopee	98	28
St. Cloud	58	37
Stillwater	69	69
Togo	0	0
Willow River	5	9
Total	522	376

PREA Advocacy Services Multi-Year Comparison

The DOC's Victim Services and Restorative Justice (VSRJ) Unit collects data on its advocacy work throughout the state and is responsible for connecting incarcerated individuals who request advocacy services with community-based advocacy services. VSRJ tracks the number of referrals for advocacy that are received. The requests for referrals involves some cases where there is a current allegation and investigation but also includes reports made by incarcerated individuals of sexual violence experienced prior to incarceration. This includes sexual violence experienced in the community and may have happened days or years earlier. From 2022 to 2024, PREA services rose 47 percent. An increase in requests for sexual violence advocacy services is seen as a positive as we know from studies and national statistics that a significant number of incarcerated individuals have experienced prior to their incarceration. All of those requesting advocacy services were referred to a community-based advocacy service.



Audit Findings

In 2024, four facilities (MCF-Moose Lake, MCF-Red Wing (Adult), MCF-Red Wing (Youth) MCF-Shakopee) were audited. All areas of correction noted in the audits were fully addressed leading to full compliance. Many improvements are noted in the facility achievements below. Audit reports can be found at: <https://mn.gov/doc/about/prea-policy/>.

Agency and Facility Achievements

In 2024, the DOC made significant progress in implementing PREA standards. Many of these improvements reflect years of planning and demonstrate the department's commitment to strengthening leadership, enhancing safety, and supporting facilities in PREA compliance. The sections below summarize key achievements identified through this year's review and analysis.

PREA Resource Unit

In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature approved funding to expand the DOC's PREA resources. These funds became available in FY 2024-25, allowing the department to enhance the role of the Statewide PREA Coordinator and establish five additional positions. The PREA Resource Unit now includes:

- **Statewide PREA Coordinator** – Leads PREA implementation and oversight across DOC facilities and contracted jail and community confinement sites.
- **Two Regional PREA Coordinators** – Provide investigative expertise, consultation, training, monitoring, and support for PREA compliance across facilities and licensees.
- **PREA Compliance Associate** – Coordinates PREA audits, supports facility compliance efforts, and oversees audit documentation and reporting.
- **PREA Analyst** – Conducts project management, data analysis, research, and process improvement for the unit.
- **Victim Services PREA Advocate** – Provides dedicated support for PREA-related victim services.

The PREA Unit's mission has expanded beyond regulatory enforcement to emphasize collaboration, education, and culture-building. This approach aims to strengthen facility

understanding of PREA requirements and encourage staff and incarcerated persons to participate in creating safer environments.

PREA Compliance Manager Assistants (PCMA)

To support facility PREA Compliance Managers (PCMs), the DOC created temporary PREA Compliance Manager Assistant positions in all facilities. These positions, filled by specially trained Lieutenants, assist with administrative investigations and streamline compliance processes. Their work has increased the timeliness and quality of administrative investigations, improved responsiveness to allegations and facility concerns, and reduced backlogs by completing or updating previously incomplete investigations.

PCM for Community Confinement Facilities

Between 2023 and 2024, the DOC designated a dedicated PREA Compliance Manager for community confinement settings, including contracted halfway houses and transitional housing facilities. This role is essential for addressing PREA-related allegations and concerns outside the traditional prison environment.

Technology Upgrades

In alignment with §115.18 Upgrades to Facilities and Technologies, the DOC implemented several technological improvements to support PREA compliance.

PREATrac System

2024 marked the first full year of the PREATrac database. This system enhances compliance with:

- §115.87 Data Collection
- §115.88 Data Review for Corrective Action
- §115.71 Criminal and Administrative Investigations

PREATrac improves documentation, tracking, reporting, and monitoring of allegations, investigations, and required actions, allowing for more accurate analysis and oversight.

Genetec Kiwi Vision Privacy Protector

Kiwi Vision supports compliance with:

- §115.13 Supervision and Monitoring
- §115.15 Limits to Cross-Gender Viewing and Searches

The system pixelates and encrypts live video from designated cameras when individuals are in stages of undress, protecting privacy while maintaining security. Only authorized personnel may view the unblurred footage.

Training Improvements

The DOC launched projects to enhance the accessibility, consistency, and tracking of mandatory PREA training. Stakeholders across the agency are contributing to this multi-phase effort. While work continues, significant progress has been made to improve internal processes and compliance systems.

Many of the achievements described above reflect long-term planning and sustained effort. These improvements will continue to strengthen the DOC's integration of and compliance with federal PREA standards in both the short and long term.

Future Recommendations and Goals

- Expand video monitoring capabilities in both facilities and Field Services offices to help prevent PREA-related incidents and improve response effectiveness.
- Develop consistent data analysis procedures and strengthen database documentation to ensure accuracy and transparency for the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the public.
- Create clear, accessible training materials for staff, contractors, and volunteers, along with a standardized process for tracking training completion.
- Increase collaboration with the DOC Licensing and Inspection Unit to enhance PREA education and resources for county jails.
- Refine the Intake Screening tool to more effectively identify individuals at risk of victimization or those who may pose a risk to others.
- Expand PREA-related partnerships with other states to share best practices and identify opportunities to further meet and exceed PREA standards.

Conclusion

We remain committed to a zero-tolerance approach to sexual abuse and sexual harassment and continue working to ensure consistent application of PREA standards across the agency. We are improving how allegations are interpreted, reported, and tracked to strengthen safety for the incarcerated population.

Now in our 13th year of PREA implementation, the DOC continues to build safer, healthier environments, and we are encouraged by the overall decrease in allegations and incidents. We expect the progress made this year to further reduce PREA-related events.

Ongoing investigations, combined with preventive training, play a critical role in sustaining compliance and promoting safety throughout our facilities.

Further Information

For clarification of any information, or to report a sexual safety allegation, the PREA Statewide Coordinator can be contacted from the DOC's public website: <https://mn.gov/doc/about/prea-policy> or mail to PREA Unit, 1450 Energy Park Drive, Ste 200, St. Paul, MN 55108