



Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center
Prison Rape Elimination Act
Annual Report
2023-2025

JTDC Mission: The JTDC community provides a safe and secure environment that offers the highest quality of integrated services where youth are challenged to make positive changes.

To eliminate sexual abuse in confinement settings, the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was created and passed with unanimous U.S. Congressional support in 2003. PREA legislation established national standards and provided federal funding for research, programs, training and technical assistance to end sexual abuse in confinement. The standards were reviewed and published by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) on June 20, 2009. The juvenile facility standards were published on May 17, 2012. On August 20, 2012, the final rules became effective.

PREA mandated the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission to develop standards for federal, state and local organizations. The purpose of the standards is to provide a guideline for preventing, detecting, responding to and reporting incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment of adult and youth in detention, jails, prisons and residential facilities.

The Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (JTDC) is committed to providing a trauma-informed, safe and secure environment for all residents. Extensive measures are taken to comprehensively investigate all allegations of resident sexual abuse and sexual harassment by the JTDC Office of Professional Standards and Responsibility. All allegations of sexual abuse are reported to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (IDCFS). Additionally, internal PREA incident reviews are conducted at the JTDC on substantiated PREA allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to determine if corrective actions are warranted.

Pursuant to the PREA Juvenile Facility Standards §115.387 and §115.388, the JTDC is mandated to collect and aggregate data for every allegation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. To comply, JTDC reports the data required by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. JTDC maintains, reviews and collects data from all incident-based allegations including reports, investigative files and sexual abuse incident reviews.

The JTDC uses the following definitions as provided in the DOJ Survey of Sexual Victimization:

- **Substantiated (Sustained)** the event was investigated and determined to have occurred, based on a preponderance of the evidence (28 C.F. R. §115.172).
- **Unsubstantiated (Not Sustained)**-the investigation concluded that evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred.
- **Unfounded**-the investigation determined that the event did not occur.
- **Investigation ongoing**-evidence is still being gathered, processed or evaluated, and a final determination has not yet been made.

JTDC Overview

The JTDC provides temporary and secure housing for minors between the ages of 10-18. JTDC residents are awaiting a decision regarding their cases in the juvenile or criminal division of the Cook County Courts.

Demographics:

The following data represents the JTDC census totals measured on December 31 for each year, including gender, age, total admissions and releases.

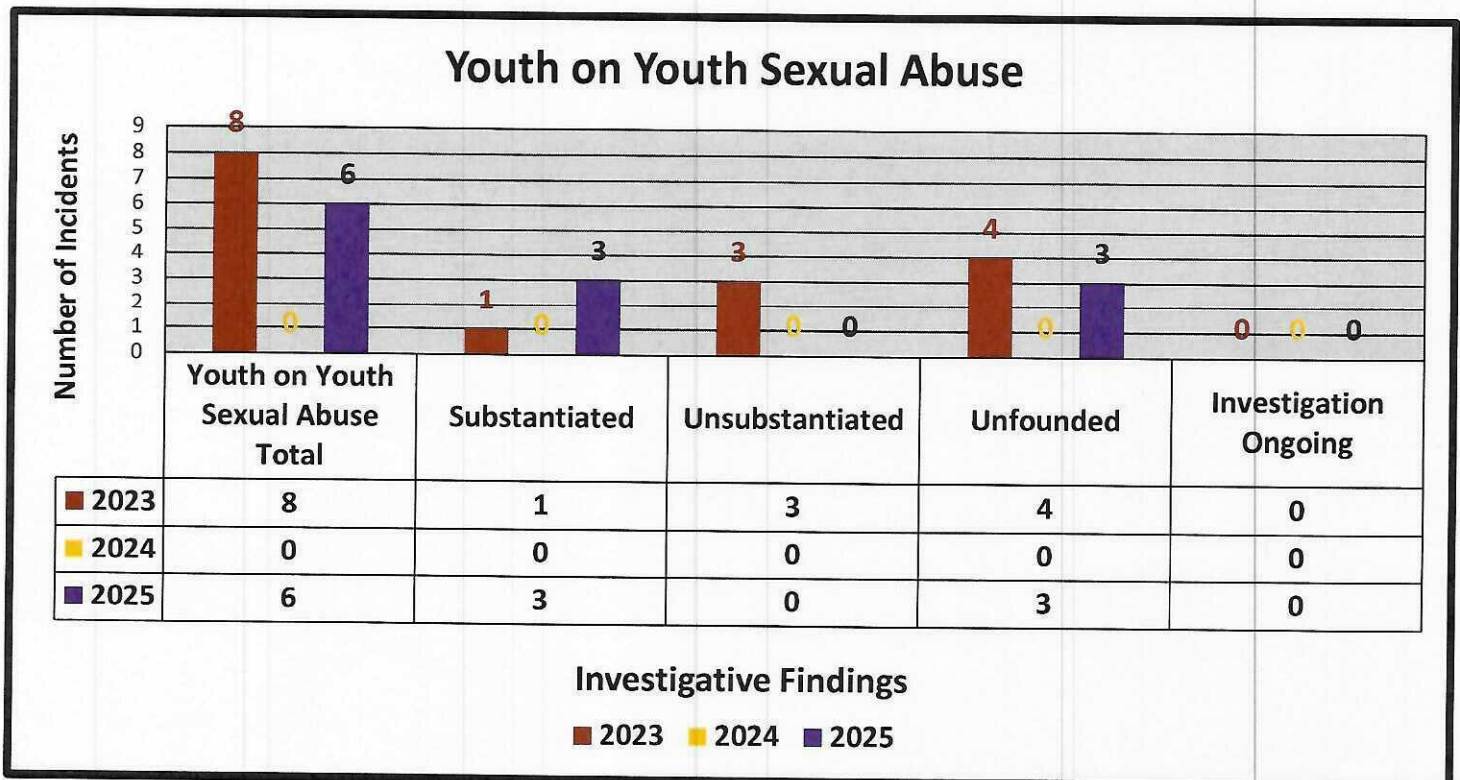
Demographic Information	2023	2024	2025
Male Residents	171	182	147
Female Residents	6	5	8
Total Census for December 31	177	187	155
Age 17 and younger	146	157	128
Age 18 to 20	31	30	27
Age 21 or older	0	0	0
Total Census for December 31	177	187	155
Annual Total of Resident Admissions	2130	2129	1883
Annual Total of Resident Discharges	2101	2119	1921

Investigations Data

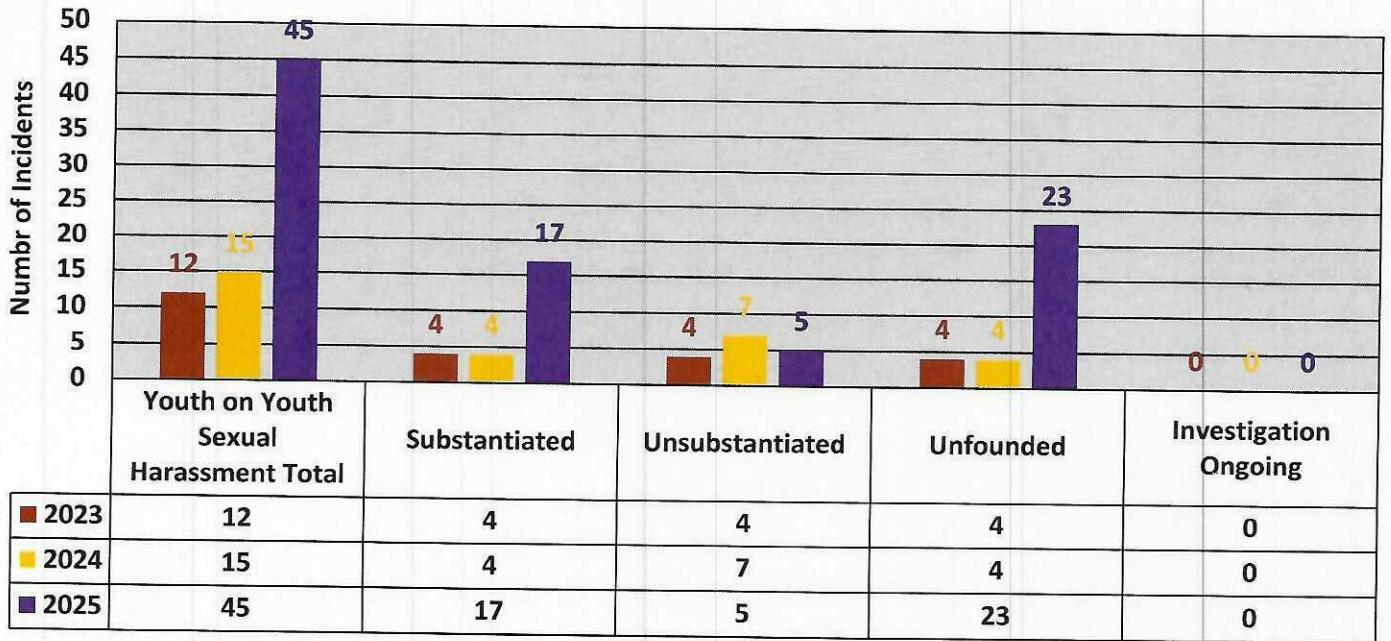
The following charts depict aggregate data representing the number of allegations received and investigated. Each chart includes the findings reported on the Survey of Sexual Victimization for the years of 2023-2025.

This report presents data for the 2023-2025 calendar year as classified and reported in the Department of Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV).

- Youth on Youth Sexual Abuse
- Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment
- Staff on Youth Sexual Abuse
- Staff on Youth Sexual Harassment



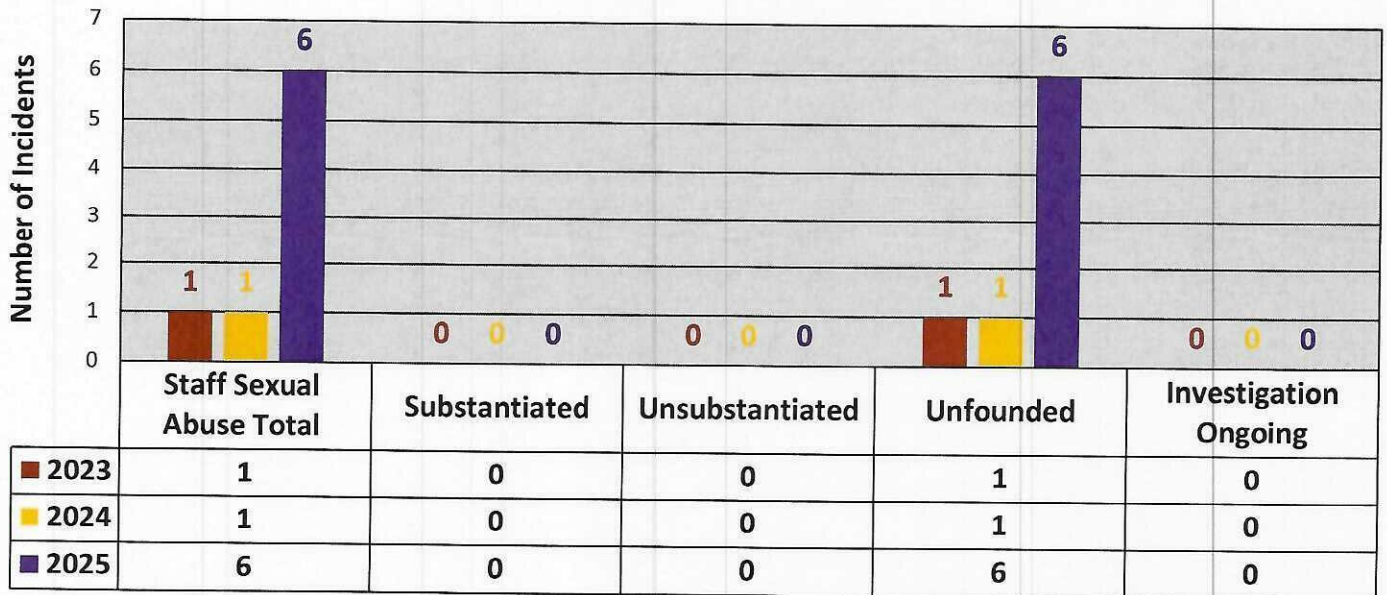
Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment



Investigative Findings

■ 2023 ■ 2024 ■ 2025

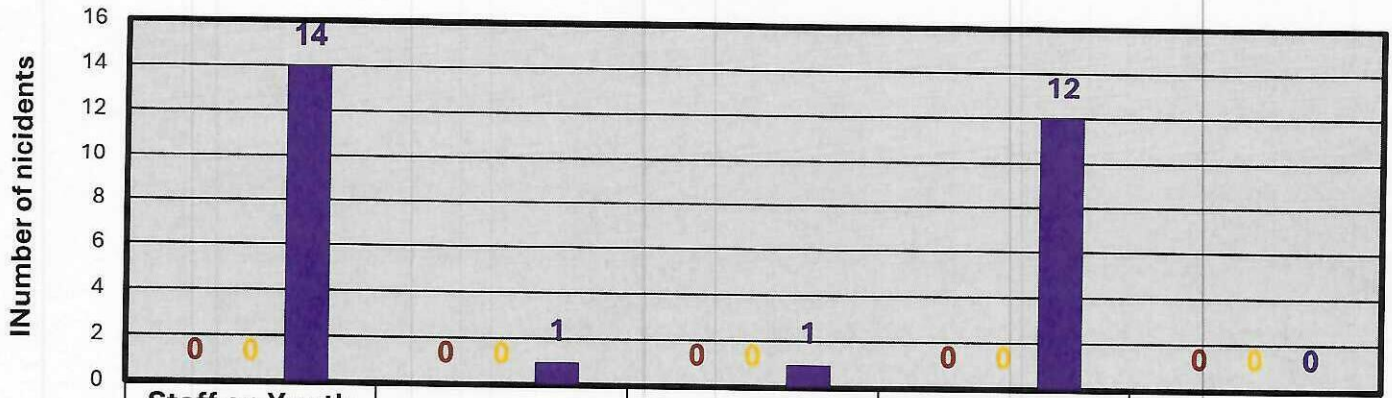
Staff on Youth Sexual Abuse



Investigative Findings

■ 2023 ■ 2024 ■ 2025

Staff on Youth Sexual Harassment

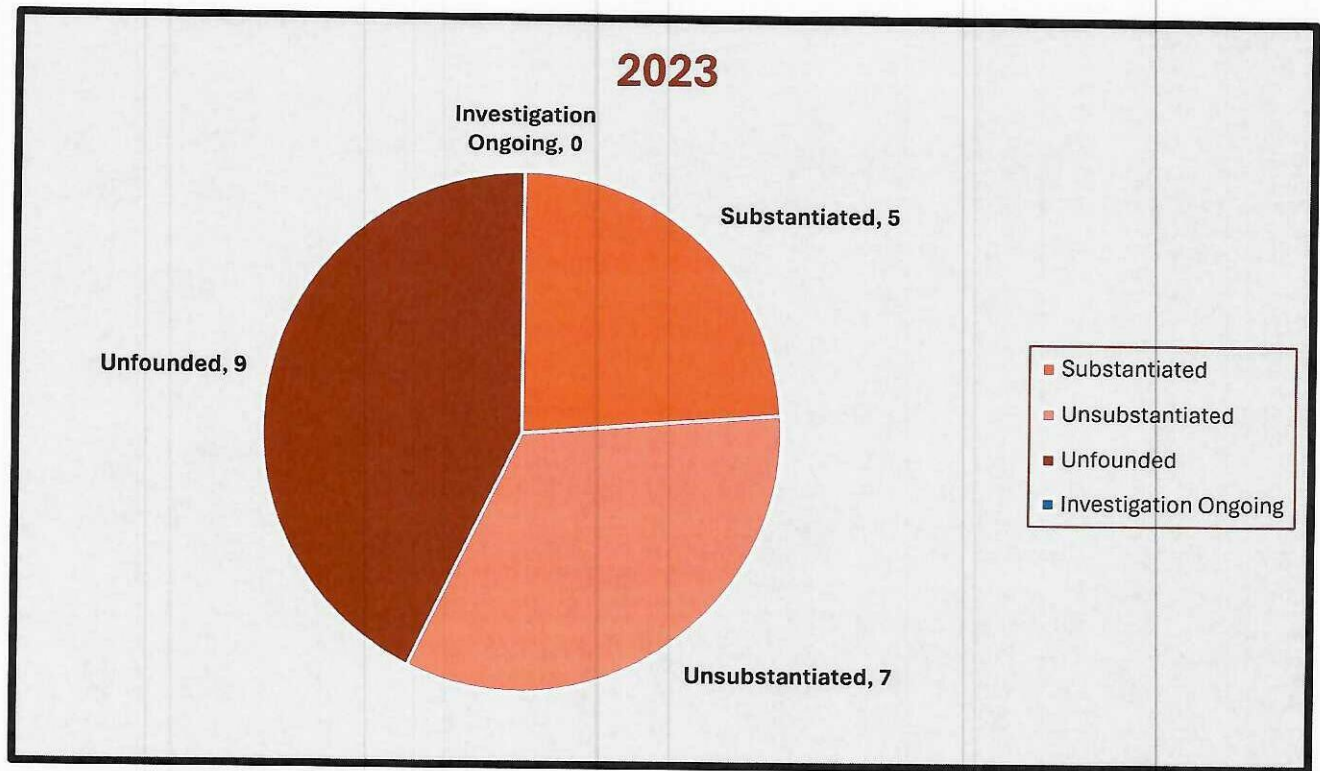


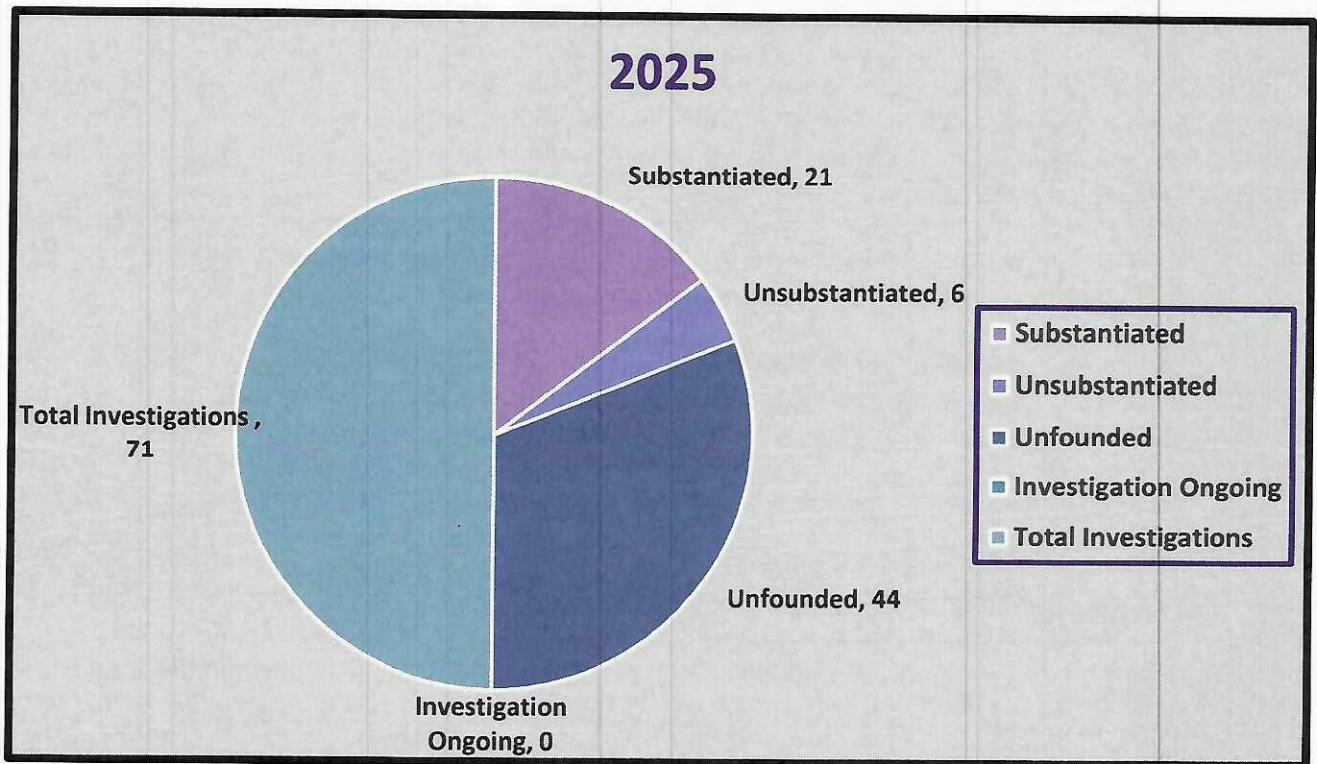
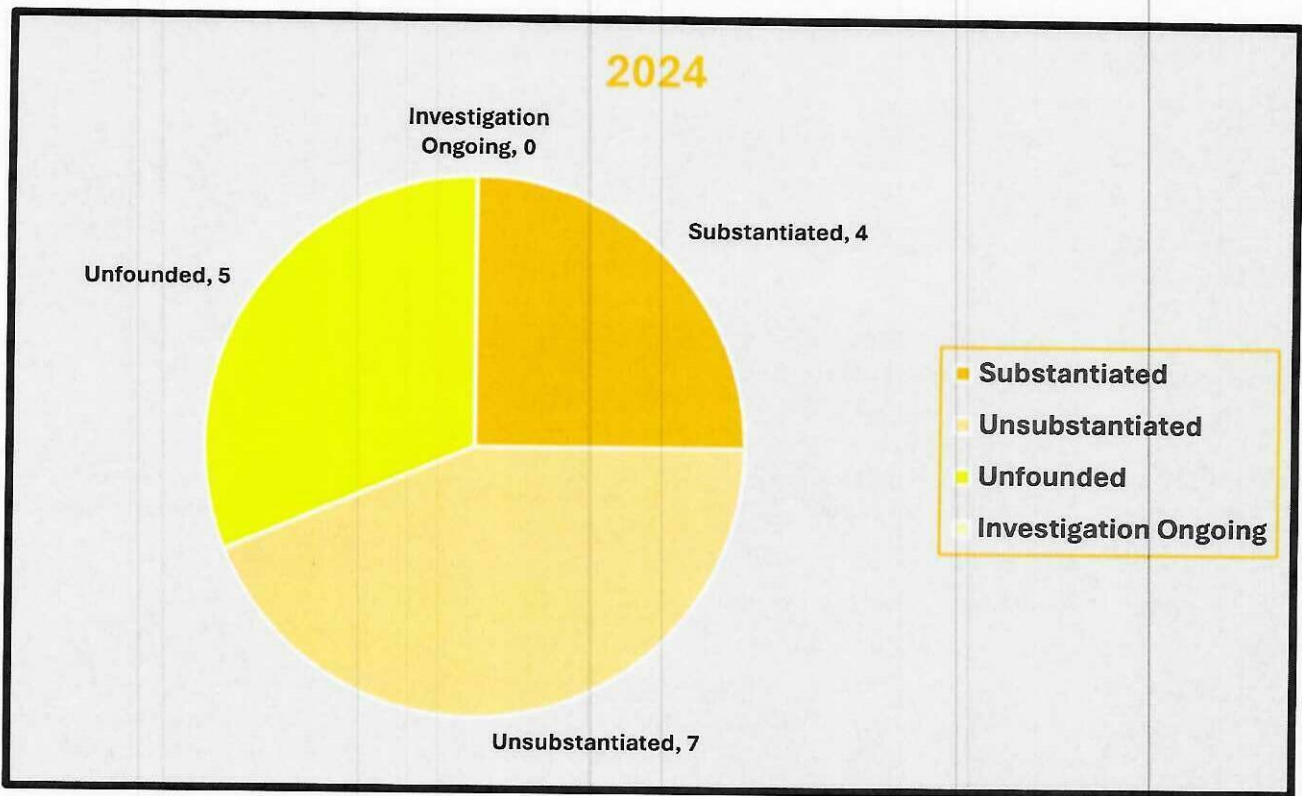
	Staff on Youth Sexual Harassment Total	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Investigation Ongoing
■ 2023	0	0	0	0	0
■ 2024	0	0	0	0	0
■ 2025	14	1	1	12	0

Investigative Findings

■ 2023 ■ 2024 ■ 2025

The following charts depict the aggregated calendar year findings of all reported and investigated incidents.





Allegations Overview

As depicted in the Demographics Information graph (page 3), there was a decrease of 11.55% in the number of admissions from 2024 through 2025. The number of reported PREA allegations increased 343.75% from 2024 to 2025.

In 2023, there were twenty-one (21) PREA allegations reported to the JTDC that meet the criteria captured and reported in the Department of Juvenile Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV). Of these twenty-one (21) allegations, there were five (5) substantiated incidents. There were four (4) sustained incidents of youth-on-youth sexual harassment and one sustained incident of youth-on-youth sexual abuse. Forty-two percent (42%) of the allegations made were determined to not have occurred.

For 2024, there were sixteen (16) PREA allegations that met the criteria captured and reported in the SSV. Of these allegations, four were substantiated as youth-on-youth sexual harassment. Approximately, thirty-one percent (31.25%) of the allegations made were determined to not have occurred. Approximately, forty-three percent (43.75%) of the allegations were deemed unsubstantiated. Ninety nine percent (99%) of the PREA allegations made were resident on resident sexual harassment allegations. There was one allegation (1%) of staff on youth sexual abuse deemed to be unfounded.

In 2025, there were seventy-one (71) PREA allegations reported to JTDC that met the criteria captured and will be reported in the SSV. Of these allegations, thirty percent (30%) were determined to have occurred and approximately eight-point five percent (8.5%) deemed unsubstantiated. There were seventeen (17) sustained incidents of youth-on-youth sexual harassment, one (1) incident on staff on youth sexual harassment, and three (3) incidents of youth-on-youth sexual abuse. Sixty-two (62%) were deemed unfounded. This included twenty-three (23) youth on youth sexual harassment allegations, twelve (12) staff on youth sexual harassment, and three (3) youth on youth sexual abuse. Sixty-four (64%) of the allegations made were resident on resident sexual harassment.

In 2023

1. JTDC continued efforts towards the sexual safety of our residents. These efforts were demonstrated by unannounced rounds of the facilities by supervisors and management
2. Training of staff and volunteers continued
3. Resident education continued
4. Collaboration with Center Management to address sexualized behaviors as a preventative measure
5. Routine discussions with management.

In 2024

1. Internal and external meetings were facilitated with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Court (AOIC), JTDC Administration and Ombudsman Office to review the Ombudsman Statute.
2. PREA Coordinator participated in a collaborative training session spearheaded by AOIC and facilitated by the PREA Resource Center "Increasing Sexual Safety in Detention".
3. Ongoing and continued partnerships and discussions with Resilience. Resilience, a non-profit external agency that provides emotional support, crisis intervention, information and referrals for JTDC residents.
4. Cook County Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) ongoing monthly collaborations with JTDC.

In 2025

1. Participation in “PREA and Access Considerations for Autistic People and People on the Spectrum”, “PREA and Access Considerations for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities” facilitated by the PREA Resource Center. “PREA Specialized Investigations” sponsored by The Moss Group.
PREA Coordinator was a panelist on the “Pay It Forward: Past Lessons, Future Solutions” at the 7th annual National PREA Coordinator Conference.
2. JTDC Administrators visit Kane and Winnebago counties to see and discuss PREA compliance.
3. With a multi-disciplinary approach, an internal PREA audit was initiated.

JTDC provided continuous PREA education for residents. It is essential that residents know how to report, can make reports anonymously and know reports can be made without fear of retaliation. PREA educational information is available upon admission to JTDC and throughout a resident’s stay.

Throughout this time, the JTDC Housing Classification/Assignment Committee reviewed and discussed each resident eligible to transfer to general population, residents who either have requested and been approved to be moved, and/or residents who have been temporarily moved with a trauma-informed approach intended to assist and maintain the safety and security of the residents in the facility. The PREA Coordinator is a member of the JTDC Housing Classification/Assignment Committee.

To ensure unimpeded access to services, JTDC has a memorandum of understanding with Resilience to ensure JTDC residents have timely, confidential and emotional support services.

The PREA Incident Review Committee includes representatives from JTDC Administration, Office of Professional Standards and Responsibility (OPR), Mental Health, Medical, Center Management and caseworkers. The PREA Coordinator convenes a PREA multidisciplinary team meeting for each applicable case to discuss mitigating factors, identify elements that could have contributed to the occurring incident, and make recommendations for addressing current and preventing future PREA incidents.

The following are some of JTDC’s accomplishments in ensuring PREA compliance.

- JTDC employs a full-time PREA Coordinator to develop, implement, and oversee the facility’s efforts to comply with the PREA standards.
- From 2014 to present, revisions were made on current JTDC policies with consideration of the PREA standards.
- PREA Subject Matter Experts were identified from JTDC departments.
- The PREA toolkit was completed.
- A “preliminary” Pre-Audit Questionnaire was completed.
- In May 2014, a PREA Pre-Audit was completed.
- In 2016, the JTDC PREA Coordinator began to meet with other Illinois juvenile PREA Coordinators to network and share information.

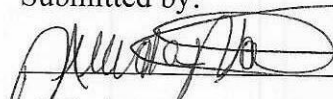
- JTDC contracted with Resilience to provide emotional support, crisis intervention, information and referrals for our residents.
- Video surveillance cameras now operate within the facility to assist the agency's effort to reduce and/or eliminate the incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.
- The facility continues to provide ongoing PREA training for residents, staff, interns, contractors, facility management, volunteers, probation officers, and resident's family members/guardians.
- All JTDC investigators, medical, and mental health staff have completed Specialized PREA training.
- All JTDC staff, contractors, interns, and volunteers received annual PREA training.
- The "End the Silence" campaign was introduced as the JTDC's efforts in increasing awareness to PREA.
- An internal audit was conducted on resident PREA education.
- An internal audit was conducted on background checks.
- An objective screening Victimization and Sexual/Aggression Screening (VSPAs) tool was designated and implemented.
- Ongoing quality assurance monitoring is conducted to ensure that the completed VSPAs meet federal PREA guidelines.
- A PREA resident orientation video was selected and integrated for use in the orientation process.
- Facility-wide monthly resident education groups have been instituted to provide continuous awareness throughout a resident's tenure at the JTDC.
- Background renewal notifications were issued.
- In 2019, JTDC collaborated with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) to be a part of a validation study for the Victimization and Sexual/Aggression Screening (VSPA) screening tool.
- In 2020, with the support of the Circuit Court of Cook County's Juvenile Division and JTDC Administration, the Victimization and Physical/Sexual Aggression Screener (VSPA-S) commenced participation in the validation study facilitated by the ICJIA.
- In 2020, the JTDC was awarded a federal PREA TIPS grant. The TIPS grant will be utilized to create a multi-modal PREA Volunteer/Contractor Training and Orientation (VTO).
- In partnership with the PREA Management Office at the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) within the U.S. Department of Justice, multiple JTDC staff and contractors from various divisions participated in the PREA 101 Academy. PREA 101 is a 15-week online course designed to train and guide participants to understand and implement the PREA Standards. This online training opportunity is designed to help PREA professionals prepare their facilities for a PREA audit and carry out long-term implementation of the PREA Standards.
- In 2021, the incorporation of the VSPA-S into the Resident Management Information System (RMIS) was initiated.
- The JTDC Shower Redesign Project onsite construction began. This was a result of collaborative and ongoing meetings with internal and external stakeholders. This capital project will allow aid JTDC is meeting federal PREA and American Disabilities Act compliance.
- JTDC completed draft audio and visual recordings for the TIPS grant. These recordings include JTDC staff, Administration, contractors, and community partner involvements.
- Ongoing monthly collaborative meetings were instituted with the JTDC's outside victim advocate services (Resilience) provider. This new initiative will allow for increased communication, additional programming for residents, and training opportunities for staff.
- In 2023, an internal PREA Audit commenced.

- In collaboration with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, JTDC participated in focus groups to provide feedback on the Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV).
- JTDC'S PREA Coordinator attended the National PREA Coordinator's Conference in Washington DC and is now a member of the National PREA Coordinators Working Group (NPCWG).
- JTDC was represented in Washington DC during the PREA 20th Anniversary Convening hosted by the Bureau of Justice Assistance PREA Management Office.
- In 2024, the federal TIPS VTO grant was completed and implemented on November 1, 2024.
- Revamped resident education PREA brochures instituted with the assistance of the Resident Advisory Council.
- JTDC Resident PREA poster contest was held.
- Ongoing PREA training for the Department of Facilities Management staff.
- Participant in the Trauma-Informed Juvenile Court Self-Assessment working group.
- In 2025, JTDC's PREA Coordinator participation in "PREA and Access Considerations for Autistic People and People on the Spectrum", "PREA and Access Considerations for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities" facilitated by the PREA Resource Center. "PREA Specialized Investigations" sponsored by The Moss Group.
- Modifications were made to the PREA Training for Volunteers, Contractors, and Interns to enhance the user's experience and aid in JTDC data collection.
- PREA Coordinator's role and title was changed to PREA Supervisor.

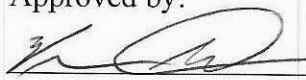
The JTDC is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all the residents we serve with a trauma-responsive approach. JTDC will continue to support and enforce the PREA standards and enhance our efforts towards prevention, detection, reporting, and response to eliminate incidents of resident sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

JTDC Vision: The JTDC leads the nation in setting juvenile detention best practices.

Submitted by:

 May 13, 2026
 Melinda Maciel Date
 PREA Coordinator

Approved by:

 5/13/26
 Dr. William Steward Date
 Assistant Superintendent