



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Annual Report 2024 / 2025

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Summary

This report represents an overview of PREA data extracted from incident reports received from Multnomah County's Juvenile Detention Center during the reporting period of September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025. A review of outcome comparisons between the last 12 months and the previous 2023-2024 annual report helps our agency evaluate trends related to existing prevention, detection and response protocols associated with sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations.

Background

PREA was established in 2003. This federal initiative has sought to address significant national statistics associated with the prevalence of sexual assaults within correctional facilities across the United States. Four sets of standards were established and finalized in August 2012 and are the foundation of governance for ensuring youth and adults held in secure custody facilities or community confinement placements are protected from sexual abuse and sexual harassment. In cooperation with this endeavor, the Department of Community Justice (DCJ) adheres to the requirements of creating an annual PREA report and participating in an independent audit every three years.

The timeframe specific to this annual report spans September 1 through August 31, in alignment with the effective launch date of the 2012 PREA Standards.

Additionally, DCJ is in the midst of completing a third PREA audit. The first two took place in June 2018 and August 2022. Out of 358 evaluation elements folded into the 43 PREA classification standards, there are currently two non-compliance aspects flagged for corrective action with our remedial response projected to take place within the next 60 days. The 2018 and 2022 reports cited a combined six non-compliance markers that prompted programming modifications, which then landed our agency to score 100% compliance.

To better understand the type of remedial actions involved, the following are examples from 2022's audit response:

1. Added policy statement stipulating delegation of unannounced manager walk-throughs of detention units;
2. Added policy statement supporting adherence to retaliation prevention monitoring protocols; and
3. Added PREA incident report notation and checkpoint that verifies investigative disposition outcomes are reported back to victims.

Awareness and Incident Reporting

All DCJ Juvenile and Adult Services staff who work directly with youth / justice involved individuals are required to complete a job-specific PREA training module. Additionally, youth admitted to the secure detention center receive an overview of PREA and a copy of the zero-



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abuse tolerance statement that is also posted throughout the facility. During the intake process, youth are taught what to do if they witness or experience sexual harassment or abuse.

Once a staff member becomes aware of any possible sexual contact or harassment incident, they immediately ensure the safety of any pending victim, initiate points-of-contact protocols and submit a PREA incident report. All reports are routed to the Department's PREA Compliance Manager and PREA Coordinator to determine subsequent notification requirements and preliminary investigatory steps. Upon dissecting all gathered information, an outcome summary captures a disposition rationale as either *substantiated*, *unsubstantiated*, or *unfounded*.

Disposition Definitions

Substantiated: An allegation was investigated and determined to have occurred.

Unsubstantiated: An allegation produced insufficient evidence to determine whether or not the incident occurred. (*Involved individuals had overlapping time and space connectivity relative to the allegation.*)

Unfounded: An allegation was investigated and determined **not** to have occurred. (*Involved individuals did not have overlapping time and space connectivity relative to the allegation.*)

***Table 1:** Number and type of alleged incidents spanning **September 01, 2024 - August 31, 2025**

Type of Allegation	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	NOT PREA	Total
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (physical contact)	--	1	--	--	1
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Harassment (twice repeated verbal / gestures)	--	--	--	--	0
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (physical contact)	--	1	--	--	1
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Harassment or voyeurism	--	--	--	--	0
Non-DCJ facility reports (juveniles)	--	--	--	--	0
	TOTAL Reports for the year				2

***Note:** DCJ previously reported an additional disposition type of "Not PREA", however, that section has been removed going forward to better align with the scope of this report. DCJ has a Grievance and Complaint Policy and process where non-PREA complaints are routed and processed. Under circumstances an adult on supervision discloses abuse that transpired in a secure facility, the DCJ staff who is the recipient of that information completes a DCJ PREA Incident Report. The DCJ PREA Coordinator facilitates external agency contact and follow-up steps accordingly.



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Table 2: Age, gender and location for reports spanning **September 01, 2024 - August 31, 2025**

Perpetrator	Female 0%	Male 100%	Nonbinary NA	Unknown Identity 0	Average age Undetermined
Victim	Female 50%	Male 50%	Nonbinary NA	Unknown Identity 0	Average youth age 15.5 yrs
Location of incident	Unit commons space (1); Off unit hallway (1)				

Table 3: PREVIOUS YEAR'S DATA -- September 01, 2023 - August 31, 2024

Type of Allegation	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	NOT PREA	Total
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (<i>physical contact</i>)	--	--	--	--	0
Youth-to-Youth Sexual Harassment (<i>twice repeated verbal / gestures</i>)	--	--	--	--	0
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Abuse (<i>physical contact</i>)	--	--	--	--	0
Staff-to-Youth Sexual Harassment or voyeurism	--	1	1	--	2
Non-DCJ facility reports	--	--	--	--	--
	TOTAL Reports for the year				2

Comparison between Last Two Years

Table 1 provides reflective data of two reports over the last 12 months. The previous year's tally also totals two reports (Table 3). As such, there is not a discernible difference between the two timeframes.

However, it is noteworthy that over the course of the last year there have been two personnel and facility related highlights:

- 1) Juvenile Custody Services Specialists received updated PREA training; and
- 2) Youth transferred into newly remodeled units.

Updated training content re-emphasized line staff's requirement to push anything questionable to the on-duty manager, PREA Compliance Manager and the PREA Coordinator. It is better to receive a surplus of circumstantial questions than to later find out something should have been filed but was not.

A surge of youth movements from older unit modules to completely renovated units can create vulnerability opportunities if not facilitated in a strategic and conscientious manner.



Environmental changes can stir angst and apprehension. Setting clear parameters and being intentional about transferring familiar artifacts and signage was helpful in making the transition smooth and uneventful.

Conclusion

Ultimately, when youth see that adults are responsive to their expressed fears and/or are seen as being reliable in handling sensitive information, they build trust in their surroundings and the people assigned to keep them safe.

Department staff have proven to be continuously mindful and attentive to the youth and justice involved individuals in their care. The Department's PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Manager extend gratitude to workforce members for their ongoing professionalism and diligence involved with consistently applying safety and security measures.

This report is approved by the Department of Community Justice's Director, Denise Pena, and is accessible for review on the Multnomah County Juvenile Services Division's public website.

Next scheduled PREA incident report review: October 2026