

Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center
Prison Rape Elimination Act
Annual Report
2019-2021

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 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 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 and eliminating 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 safe and secure environment for all residents. Extensive measures are taken to comprehensively investigate all allegations for sexual abuse and sexual harassment. 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 all 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 documents, including reports, investigative files, and sexual abuse incident reviews.

This report presents data for the 2019-2021 calendar years as reported in the Department of Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization. The data is classified into the following categories:

- **Youth on Youth Nonconsensual Sexual Acts**
- **Youth on Youth Abusive Sexual Contact**
- **Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment** (Added by the DOJ in 2013)
- **Staff on Youth Sexual Misconduct**
- **Staff on Youth Sexual Harassment**

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

- **Substantiated**-the event was investigated and determined to have occurred, based on a preponderance of the evidence (28 C.F. R. §115.172).
- **Unsubstantiated**-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.

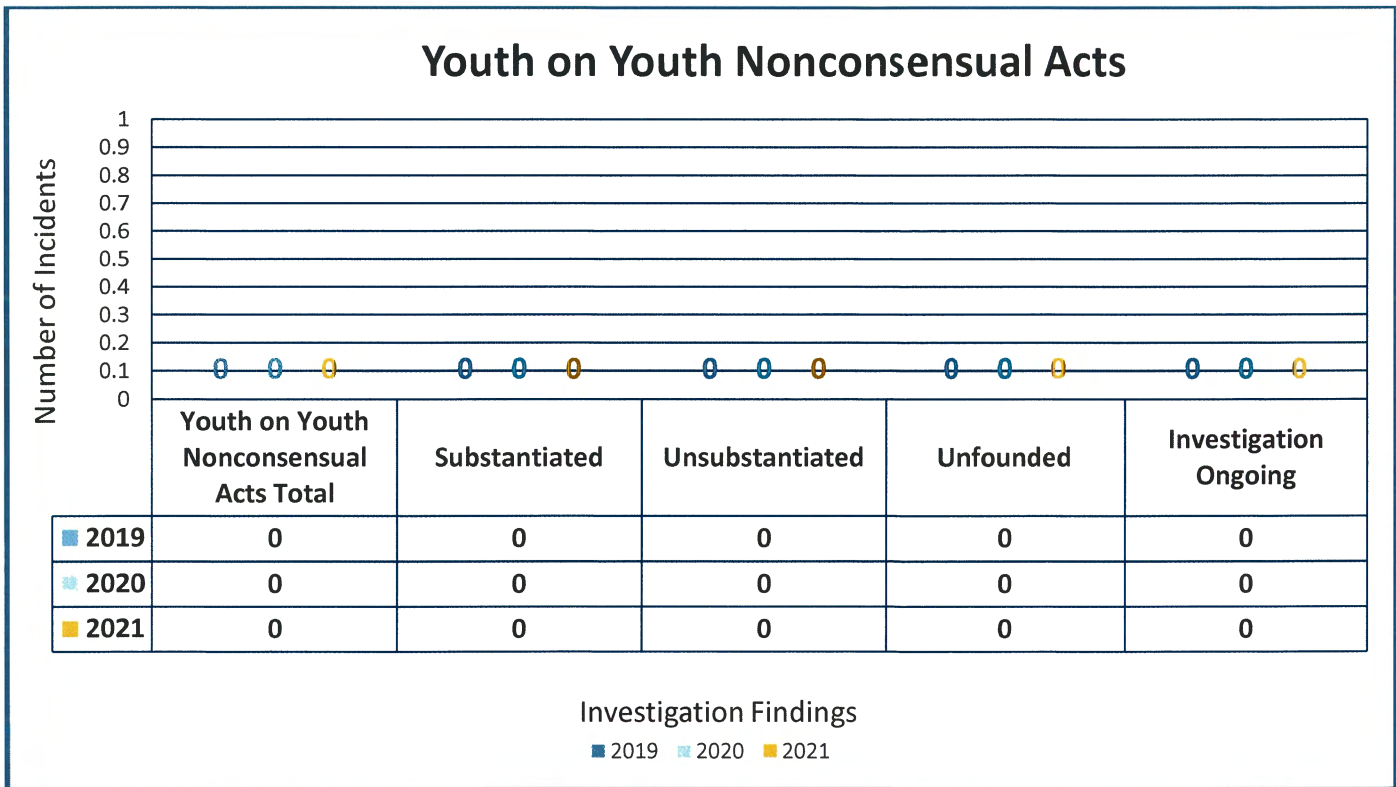
Demographics:

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

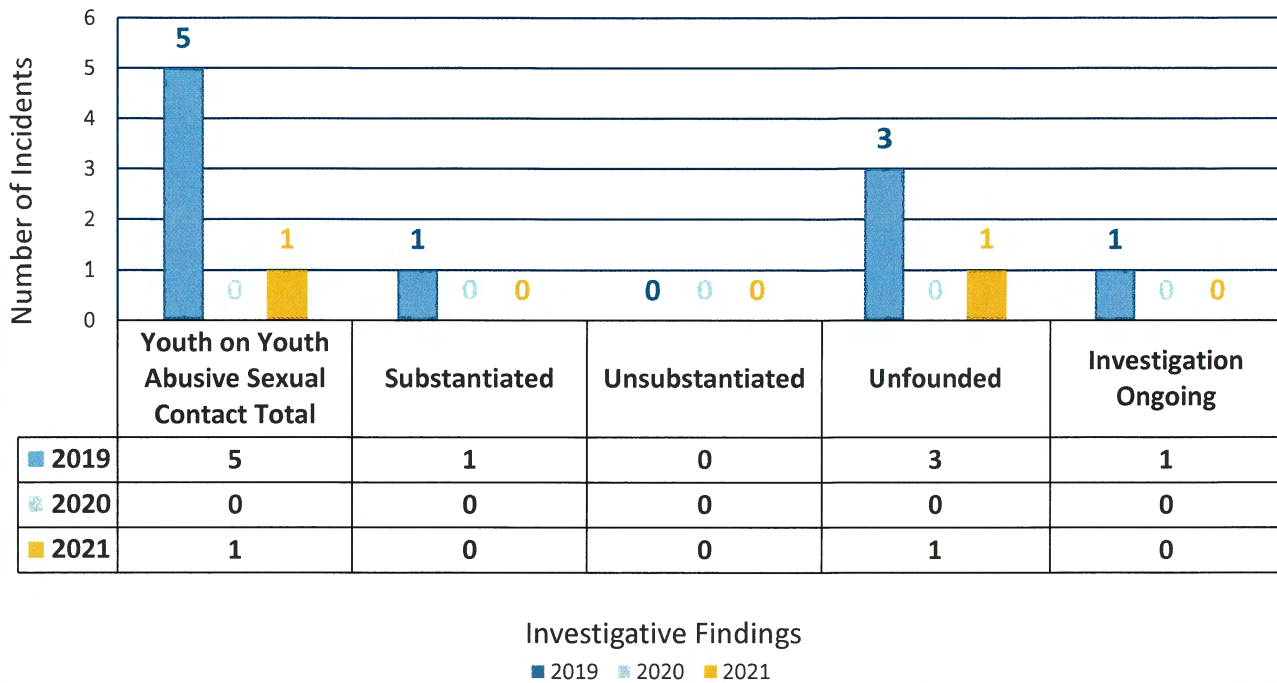
Demographic Information	2019	2020	2021
Male Residents	183	137	145
Female Residents	8	6	7
Total Census for December 31	191	143	152
Age 17 and younger	133	90	144
Age 18 to 20	58	53	8
Age 21 or older	0	0	0
Total Census for December 31	191	143	152
Annual Total of Resident Admissions	2430	1795	1576
Annual Total of Resident Discharges	2415	1845	1569

Investigations Data

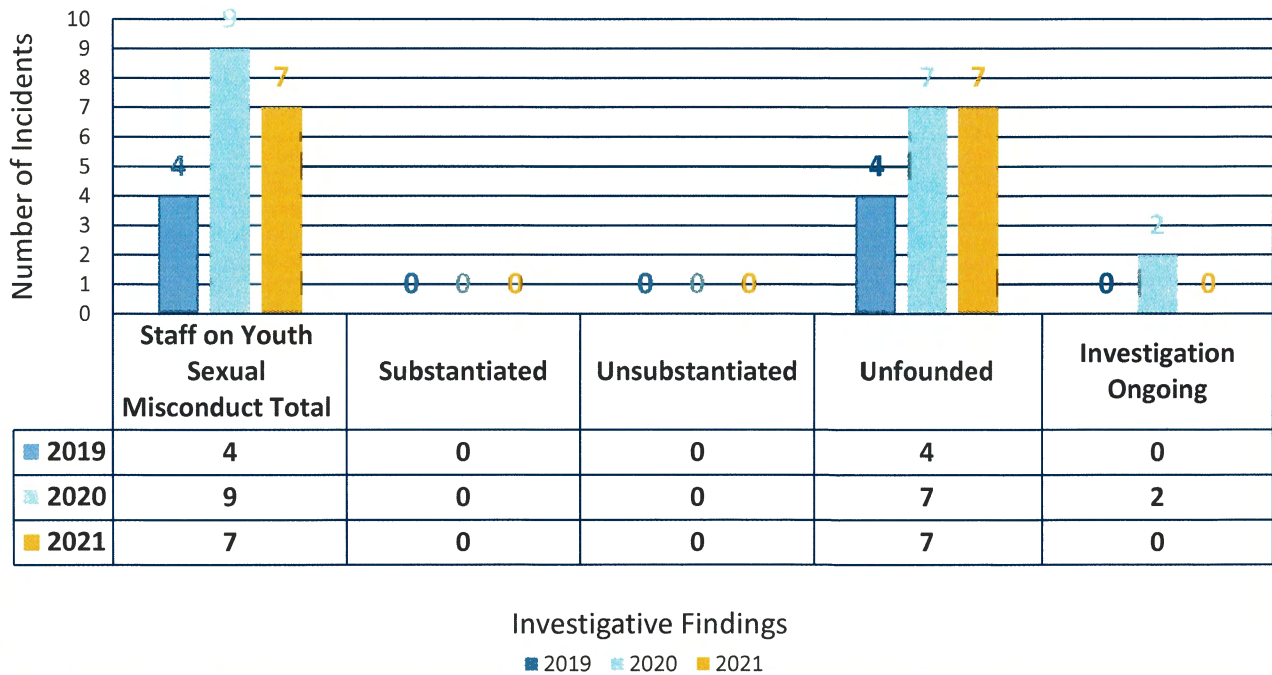
The following charts depict aggregate data representing the number of allegations received and investigated. Each chart includes the findings reported on the Survey of Sexual Victimization for the years of 2019-2021.



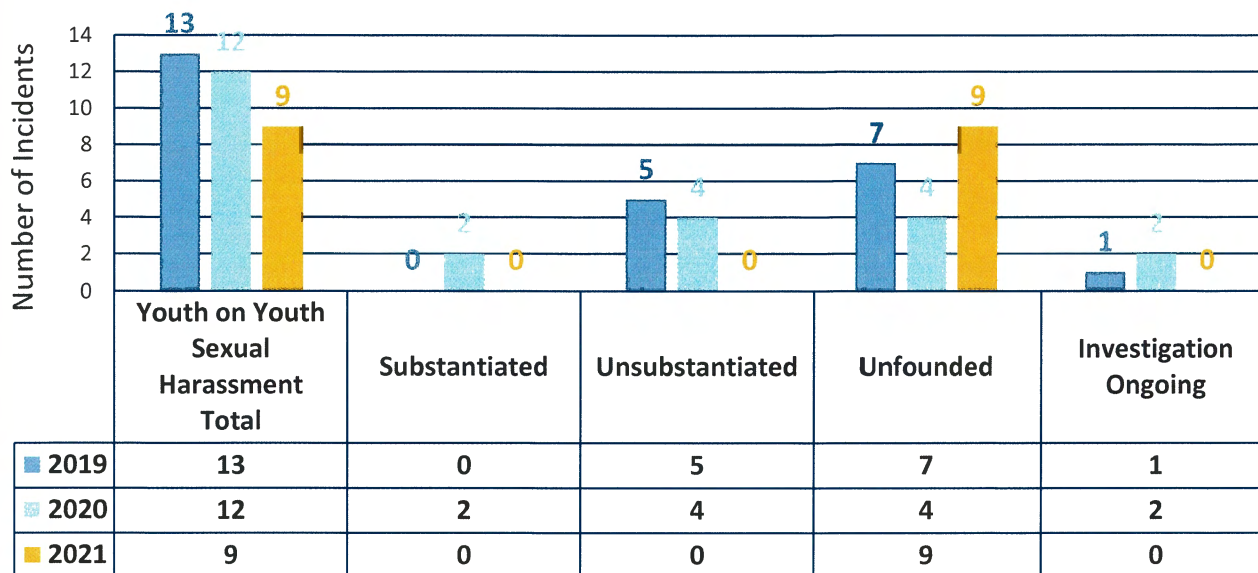
Youth on Youth Abusive Sexual Contact



Youth on Youth Sexual Misconduct



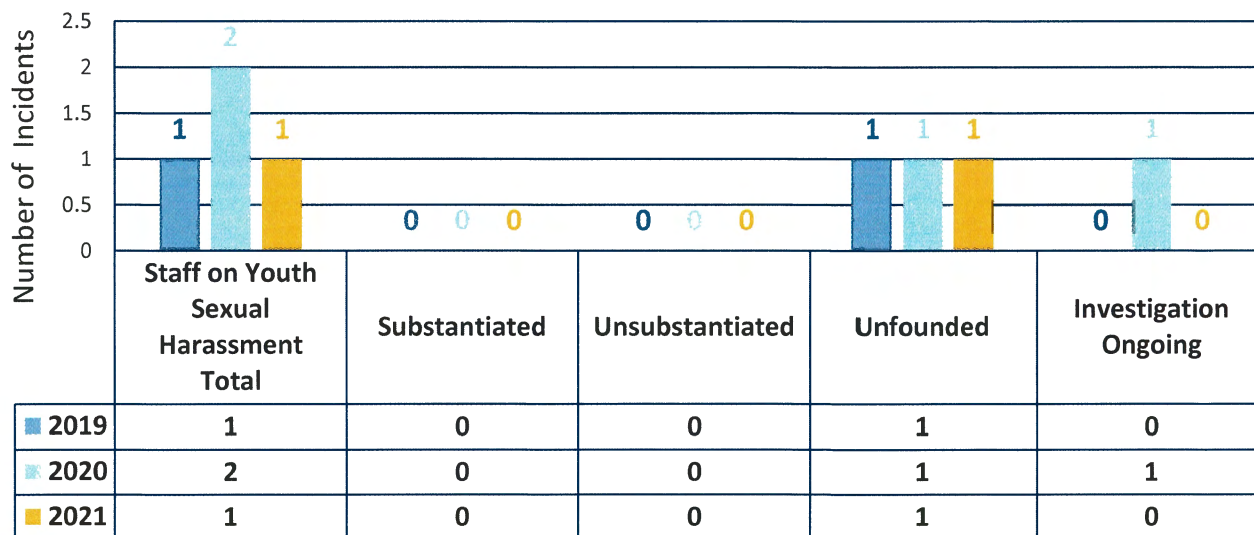
Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment



Investigative Findings

■ 2019 ■ 2020 ■ 2021

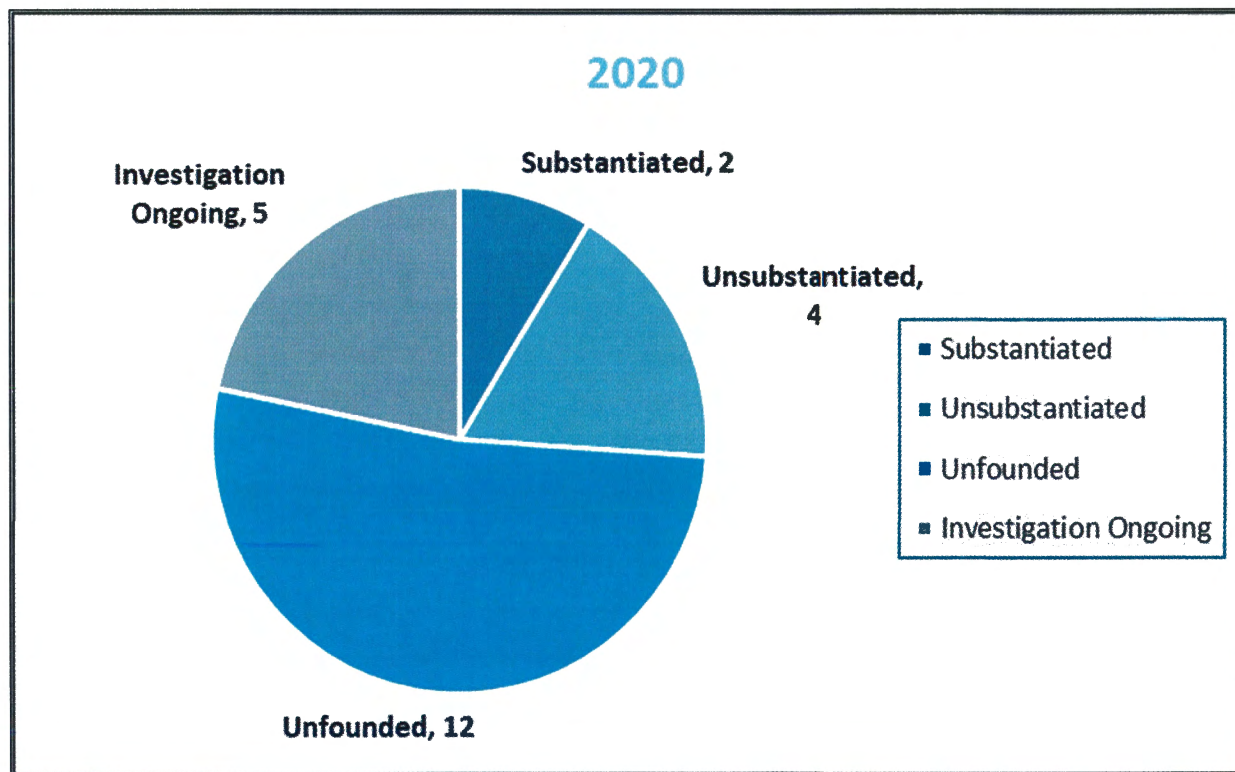
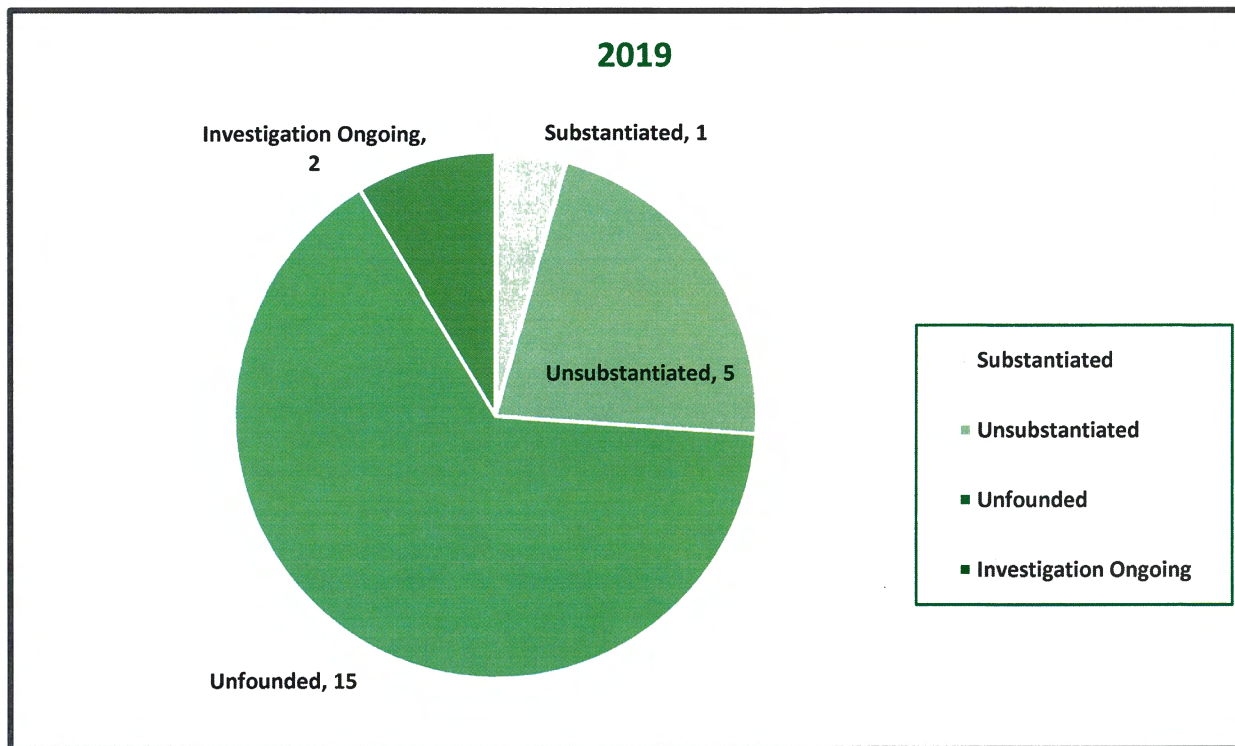
Staff on Youth Sexual Harassment

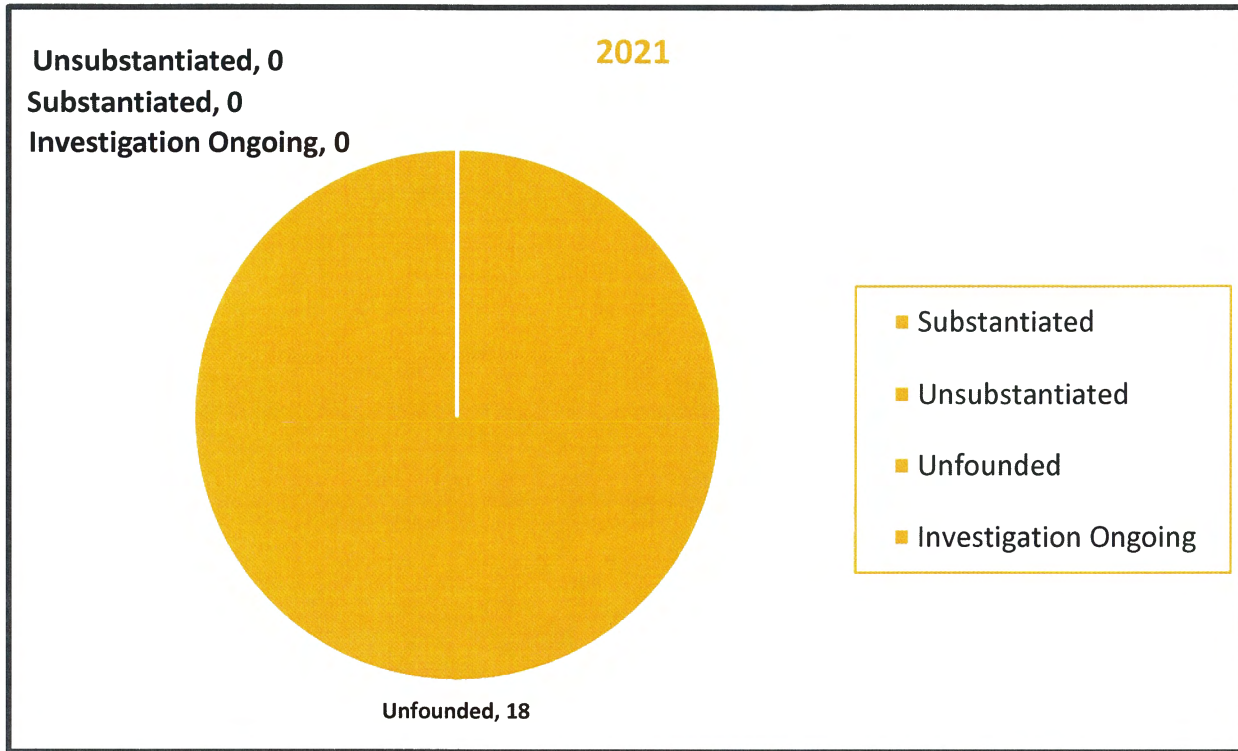


Investigative Findings

■ 2019 ■ 2020 ■ 2021

The following charts depict the aggregated calendar year data of all categories by finding.





JTDC Overview

The JTDC provides temporary and secure housing for male and female residents between the ages of 10 and 21 awaiting adjudication of their cases in the Juvenile Division of the Cook County Courts and Criminal Court.

As depicted in the Demographics Information graph, there was a decrease in the number of admissions from 2019 until 2021. Despite the influx of admissions over this period of time, the number of reported PREA allegations remained constant. The number of reported PREA allegations remained the same from 2019 to 2020. There was a slight decline in reported PREA allegations for 2021. The decrease in total allegations could be attributed to JTDC’s ongoing endeavors to increase awareness about PREA, notably in the resident PREA education efforts. The total number of reported PREA allegations that were determined to be substantiated did not increase. In fact, there were not any substantiated allegations for 2021. This data is yet another example of JTDC’s established and implemented policies and procedures for the safety and security of all of our residents.

For the 2019 calendar year, there were twenty-three (23) PREA allegations that corresponded with the criteria captured and reported in the Department of Juvenile Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization. Of these allegations, there was one (1) substantiated incident of resident-on-resident abusive sexual contact. There was a significant increase in the number of allegations from 2018.

In 2020, there were twenty-three (23) PREA allegations reported to the JTDC that meet the criteria captured and reported in the Department of Juvenile Justice Survey of Sexual

Victimization. Of these allegations, there were two (2) substantiated incidents of resident-on-resident sexual harassment. Slightly more than fifty percent (50%) of the allegations made were determined to not have occurred.

For 2021, there were eighteen (18) PREA allegations reported that met the standards in the Department of Juvenile Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization. All of these allegations were determined to not have occurred.

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

In 2019, middle and upper level management conducted and documented unannounced rounds. A multidisciplinary team meeting for the substantiated incidents was conducted in which various mitigating factors were discussed and reviewed.

In 2020, JTDC continued our efforts towards the sexual safety of our residents. These efforts were demonstrated by unannounced rounds facilities by upper management, training of staff and volunteers, continuous resident education, collaboration with Center Management to address sexualized behaviors as a preventative measure, routine discussions with management including the housing transfer committee when making decisions about housing and additional security precautions.

In 2021, ongoing unannounced rounds were documented and completed by upper management. Furthermore, annually required PREA training persisted despite challenges posed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Monthly resident PREA education groups were facilitated throughout the facility.

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 maintain the safety and security of the facility. The PREA Coordinator is a member of the JTDC Housing Classification/ Assignment Committee.

Accomplishments

- JTDC designated a 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.

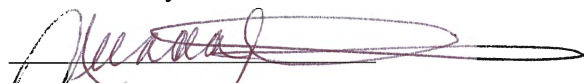
- PREA Subject Matter Experts were identified from JTDC departments.
- The PREA toolkit was completed.
- A “preliminary” Pre-Audit Questionnaire was completed.
- In May 2014, a PREA Pre-Audit were completed.
- In 2016, the JTDC PREA Coordinator began to meet with other Illinois juvenile PREA Coordinators in an effort to network and share information.
- The PREA Coordinator successfully met the requirements and passed the examination to become a Department of Justice Certified Juvenile PREA Auditor.
- 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 education 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 met 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.
- The JTDC applied for a PREA Targeted Implementation Planning and Support (TIPS) grant. This opportunity made possible by Impact Justice, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance, provides federal funding to assist in PREA implementation.

- 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). The VTO will be presented at a national conference to be a model for the juvenile justice field.
- 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 is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all the residents we serve. JTDC will continue to support and enforce the PREA standards and enhance our efforts towards prevention, detection, reporting, and response in an effort to eliminate incidents of resident sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

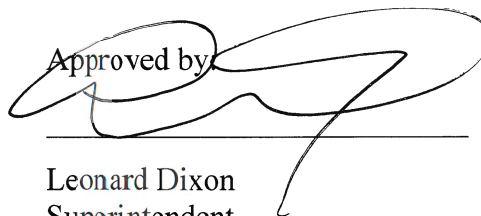
JTDC Vision: The JTDC leads the nation in setting juvenile detention best practices.

Submitted by:



Melinda Maciel
PREA Coordinator

Approved by:



Leonard Dixon
Superintendent