

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
2024 Annual PREA Report

PREA Audit:

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) completed their 3-year PREA re-accreditation audit on January 17-19, 2023. An audit appeal is still in progress with the National PREA Working Group Office. Ongoing standards compliance continues throughout the year with dedication to the protection of all inmates from sexual abuse and harassment.

Staff Education:

All staff, contractors, medical/mental health, food service, commissary, public defender interviewers, facility maintenance employees, pretrial services employees, and volunteers continue to receive their initial PREA orientation during Security Orientation Training throughout the calendar year of 2024.

Annual PREA Training for contractors and volunteers continues to be done electronically on a yearly basis. All PBSO employees receive annual PREA Training in Power DMS and training bulletins.

Printed educational material remain available at both sites for all employees, contractors, and volunteers.

PBSO COP 934.00 (Sexual Offenders and Victims) and COP 920.01 (Transgender Housing) were reviewed in the Command Staff Annual Review Process with recommended changes incorporated.

Inmate Education:

Initial education for inmates, concerning sexual safety, continues to be provided during intake and printed form (Inmate Handbook). It is also available electronically on the inmate kiosk system.

The Inmate Orientation video continues to be played daily at both sites. The PREA DVD is provided by the PREA Resource Center.

Posters, listing the methods of reporting allegations of sexual assaults or harassment, are posted in all inmate housing areas.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
2024 Annual PREA Report

Continued Progress:

The Sexual Assault Tracker continues to be modified for improved data analysis and reporting. This has enhanced more effective reporting to Bureau of Justice Statistics.

For all PREA allegations, the PREA manager assesses changes in housing, recreation, discipline, and programs. This monthly review is discussed by a multi-disciplinary team inclusive of security, mental health, medical, and programs.

Inmates are given a Victim Services resource brochure following any PREA allegation to ensure advocacy, safety, and available resources for sexual assault. The inmate handbook also reflects these services.

The National PREA Resource Center website is frequently monitored for updates, classes, webinars, and FAQs.

The PREA Coordinator, PREA Compliance Manager, and the Accreditation team attends the biannual American Correctional Association conferences for PREA updates and developments.

The biannual PREA Stakeholder's Meeting is attended by the PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Manager. New updates are implemented as necessary.

After Incident Review Meetings continues to be in person as well as virtual ZOOM Meetings for those who cannot physically attend.

The annual *Survey of Sexual Victimization* has been completed and submitted to the Bureau of Justice Statistics in 2024.

MDC continues the camera project for enhanced surveillance throughout the jail.

PREA Knock and Announce placards are maintained at the entrance of each dorm.

Signage (posters, placards, etc.) are viewed during all monthly inspections. Damaged signage is replaced as soon as possible.

Privacy film remains on cell doors in areas such as intake, infirmaries, and court holding cells to ensure inmate privacy.

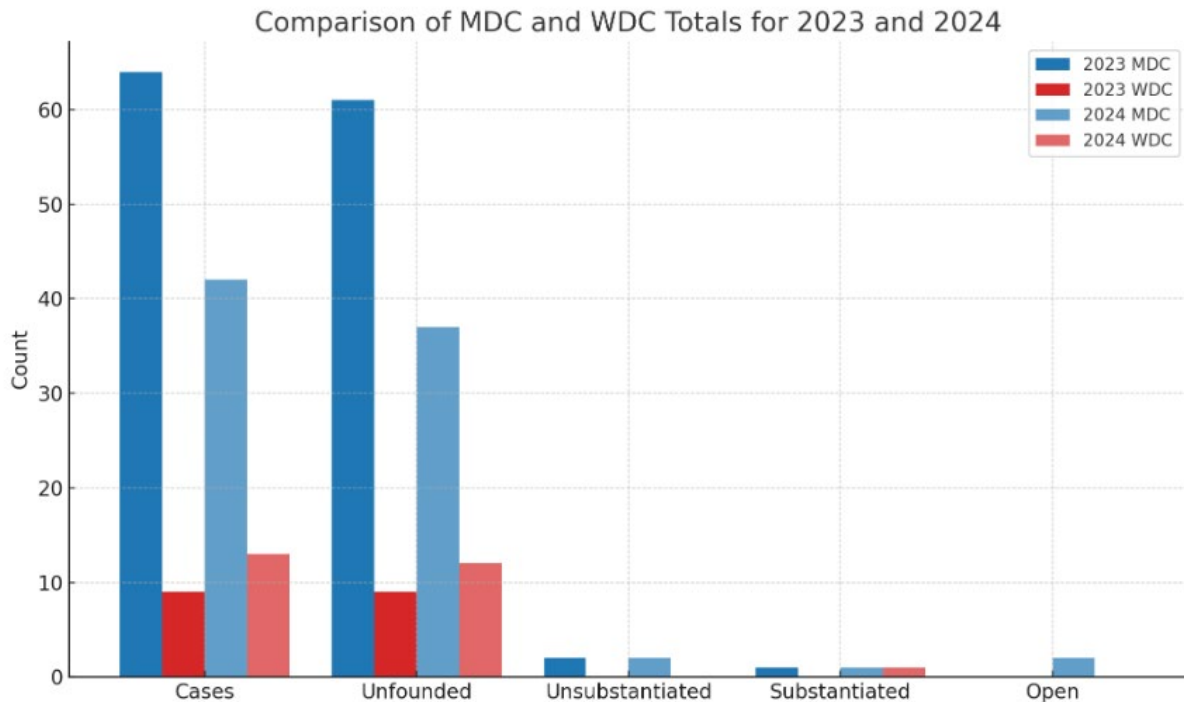
Partitions remain in the bathroom areas at West Detention Center.

Main Detention Center's East Tower remains closed for renovation.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office 2024 Annual PREA Report

All inmate education is maintained in English, Spanish and Creole. The Language Line is available for translation beyond these three languages as needed.

Comparison of Annual Reports (2023 and 2024):



MDC:

Total Cases: There was a decrease from 64 cases in 2023 to 42 in 2024.

Unfounded: The number of unfounded cases decreased from 61 in 2023 to 37 in 2024.

Unsubstantiated: Unsubstantiated cases remained the same, with 2 in 2023 and 2 in 2024.

Substantiated: Both years had a similar number of substantiated cases, with 1 each year.

Open: There were no open cases in 2023, however, 1 open case pending continued investigation in 2024.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
2024 Annual PREA Report

WDC:

Total Cases: There was an increase from 9 cases in 2023 to 13 in 2024.

Unfounded: Unfounded cases increased from 9 in 2023 to 12 in 2024.

Unsubstantiated: There were no unsubstantiated cases in both years.

Substantiated: Substantiated cases increased from 0 in 2023 to 1 in 2024.

Open: No open cases in both years.

Analysis of Annual Reports (2023 and 2024):

Overall, unsubstantiated cases remained constant at two cases per year while substantiated cases increased by 1 in 2024. Breakdown by facility shows that MDC handled significantly more cases than WDC in both years, indicating that MDC continues to process a larger volume of allegations. This disparity is attributed to differences in facility size, population, and other operational factors. There is currently one open case under investigation. This ongoing case is being actively reviewed, and updates will be provided as progress is made. For a more detailed breakdown of the statistics and trends, please refer to the attached tables below.

Corrective Action:

The reduction in overall cases highlights the continuous efforts to implement improvement strategies, prevention measures, education, and generate innovative solutions for further progress. By combining these efforts, we foster an environment that not only actively reduces sexual assault but also enhances support for both our inmate population and staff. PBSO continues to evaluate facility practices and analyze data to identify trends, areas of concern, and opportunities for improvement.

2023 PREA STATISTICS

JANUARY	MDC	WDC
Cases	8	0
Unfounded (8 SA)	8	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

JULY	MDC	WDC
Cases	5	0
Unfounded (1 SA, 3 SH)	4	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated (1 SH)	1	0
Open	0	0

FEBRUARY	MDC	WDC
Cases	4	1
Unfounded (4 SA, 1 SH)	4	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

AUGUST	MDC	WDC
Cases	2	1
Unfounded (1 SA, 1 SH)	1	1
Unsubstantiated (1 SA)	1	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

MARCH	MDC	WDC
Cases	9	0
Unfounded (5 SA, 3 SH)	8	0
Unsubstantiated (1 SA)	1	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

SEPTEMBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	3	0
Unfounded (2 SA, 1 SH)	3	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

APRIL	MDC	WDC
Cases	4	1
Unfounded (5 SA)	4	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

OCTOBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	9	2
Unfounded (8 SA, 3 SH)	9	2
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

MAY	MDC	WDC
Cases	7	1
Unfounded (5 SA, 2 SH)	6	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

NOVEMBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	6	1
Unfounded (6 SA, 1 SH)	6	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

JUNE	MDC	WDC
Cases	4	0
Unfounded (3 SA, 1 SH)	4	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

DECEMBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	3	2
Unfounded (3 SA, 2 SH)	3	2
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

2024 PREA STATISTICS

JANUARY	MDC	WDC
Cases	2	0
Unfounded (2 SA)	2	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

JULY	MDC	WDC
Cases	3	1
Unfounded (3 SA)	2	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open (1 SA)	1	0

FEBRUARY	MDC	WDC
Cases	3	2
Unfounded (2 SA, 3 SH)	3	2
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

AUGUST	MDC	WDC
Cases	2	0
Unfounded (1 SA, 1 SH)	2	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

MARCH	MDC	WDC
Cases	0	1
Unfounded (1 SA)	0	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

SEPTEMBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	4	0
Unfounded (3 SA, 1 SH)	4	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

APRIL	MDC	WDC
Cases	3	2
Unfounded (5 SA)	3	2
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

OCTOBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	3	1
Unfounded (4 SA)	3	1
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

MAY	MDC	WDC
Cases	5	1
Unfounded (4 SA)	4	0
Unsubstantiated (1 SA)	1	0
Substantiated (1 SH)	0	1
Open	0	0

NOVEMBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	6	2
Unfounded (4 SA, 4 SH)	6	2
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open (1 SA)	0	0

JUNE	MDC	WDC
Cases	4	2
Unfounded (5 SA, 1 SH)	4	2
Unsubstantiated	0	0
Substantiated	0	0
Open	0	0

DECEMBER	MDC	WDC
Cases	7	1
Unfounded (5 SA, 1 SH, 1 uk)	6	1
Unsubstantiated (1 SH)	1	0
Substantiated (1 SH)	1	0
Open	0	0