

Rate of Sexual Abuse/Harassment - 2016

For the NJ Department of Corrections (NJDOC), the rate of allegations of sexual abuse for the entire population of over 19,500 inmates is less than one percent.

- In 2016, ninety-seven (97) instances of alleged sexual abuse/harassment were documented with eight (8)* substantiated cases.

The above numbers are also reflected in NJDOC's Survey of Sexual Violence which the Department completes each year for the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The NJDOC publishes this annual report regarding PREA-related incidents and, where necessary, continues to improve the Department's prevention, detection and response efforts. Enhanced emphasis on the Department's zero tolerance of inmate sexual abuse has reinforced prompt reporting.

All complaints of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are considered to be serious incidents and are thoroughly investigated. Cases may be referred to the County Prosecutor for additional investigation and possible prosecution. All confirmed incidents can result in administrative sanctions and/or criminal prosecution.

Additionally, the Department regularly conducts incident reviews to determine if changes to or improvements in environmental, procedural, staffing and monitoring technology factors are required.

*Due to the investigative process, some cases are not concluded in a single calendar year. NJ DOC rates are updated as information becomes available.