

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT ANNUAL REPORT - 2025



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

2025 PREA ANNUAL REPORT

The Arkansas Department of Corrections (ARDOC) is committed to providing a safe environment for those in our facilities. Incarcerated individuals have the right to be free from sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and retaliation. The agency maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Pursuant to 28 CFR 115.87, Data Collection, the ARDOC is required to collect and maintain specific information related sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Therefore, all allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment are entered into the electronic offender management information system (eOMIS) and investigated. The following is a summary of the agency's incident-based sexual abuse and sexual harassment data:

In 2025, the ARDOC received 921 total PREA allegations, a 52% ¹ increase from the previous year. Of the allegations, 513 were unfounded, 329 were unsubstantiated and 79 were substantiated (see Table 1). The most common substantiated incidents were Offender-on-Offender Sexual Harassment (n =38). The remaining 41 substantiated incidents were Offender-on-Offender Nonconsensual Sexual Acts (n = 2), Offender-on-Offender Abusive Sexual Contact (n = 11), Staff-on-Offender Sexual Misconduct (n =21), and Staff-on-Offender Sexual Harassment (n = 7). Disciplinary action was initiated on all substantiated allegations regarding active staff.

SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Table 1: Allegation Type and Investigative Outcome

Type	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Total
Offender-on-Offender Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	2	18	38	58
Offender-on-Offender Abusive Sexual Contact	11	10	17	38
Offender-on-Offender Sexual Harassment	38	184	131	353
Staff-on-Offender Sexual Misconduct	21	17	99	137
Staff-on-Offender Sexual Harassment	7	100	228	335
TOTAL	79	329	513	921

¹ All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number

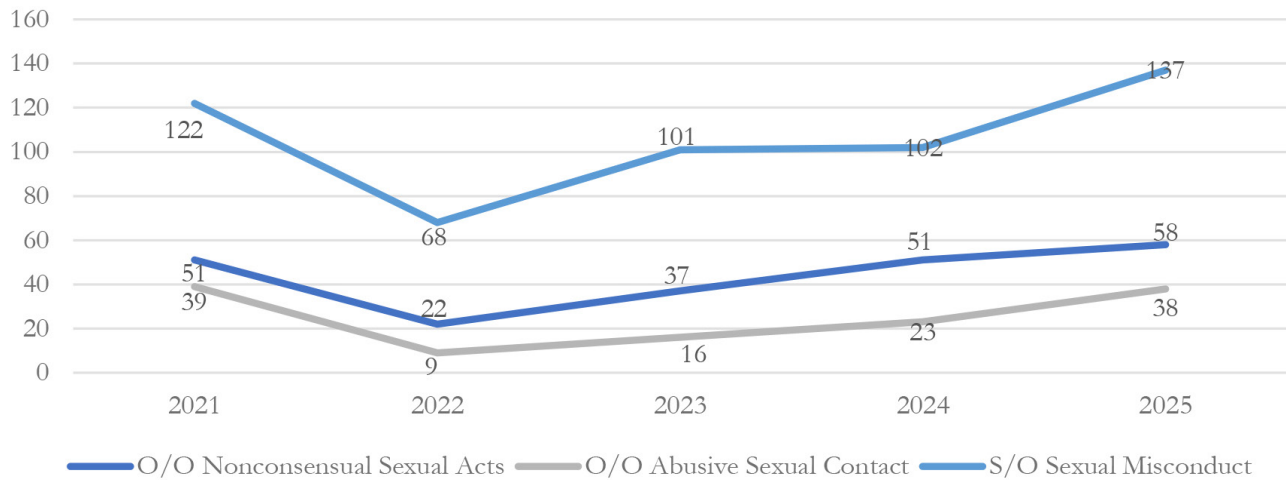
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PREA ALLEGATIONS 2021 TO 2025

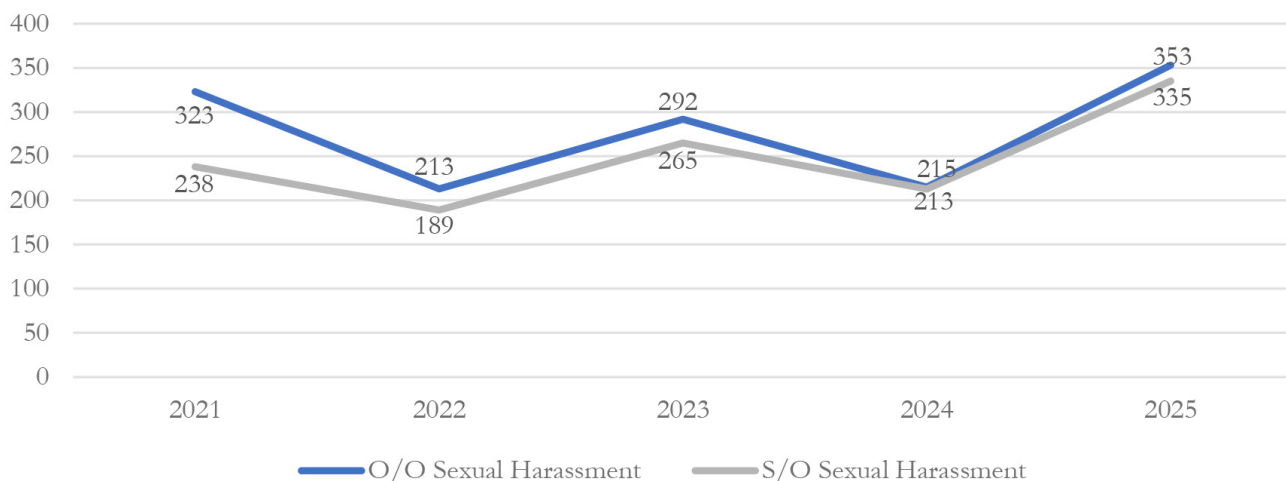
Since 2021, the most alleged sexual abuse ² violation has been Staff-on-Offender Sexual Misconduct, followed by Offender-on-Offender Nonconsensual Sexual Acts. Offender-on-Offender Abusive Sexual Contact was the least reported allegations for this period.

FIGURE 1: SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS FOR 2021 THROUGH 2025



Over the last four years, allegations of sexual harassment remain consistent. That is, more allegations of Offender-on-Offender Sexual Harassment were reported than those on Staff-on-Offender Sexual Harassment.

FIGURE 2: SEXUAL HARASSMENT ALLEGATIONS FOR 2021 THROUGH 2025



² Sexual abuse is classified as Offender-on-Offender Nonconsensual Sexual Acts, Offender-on-Offender Abusive Sexual Contact, and Staff-on-Offender Sexual Misconduct. Sexual harassment is classified as Offender-on-Offender Sexual Harassment, and Staff-on-Offender Sexual Harassment.

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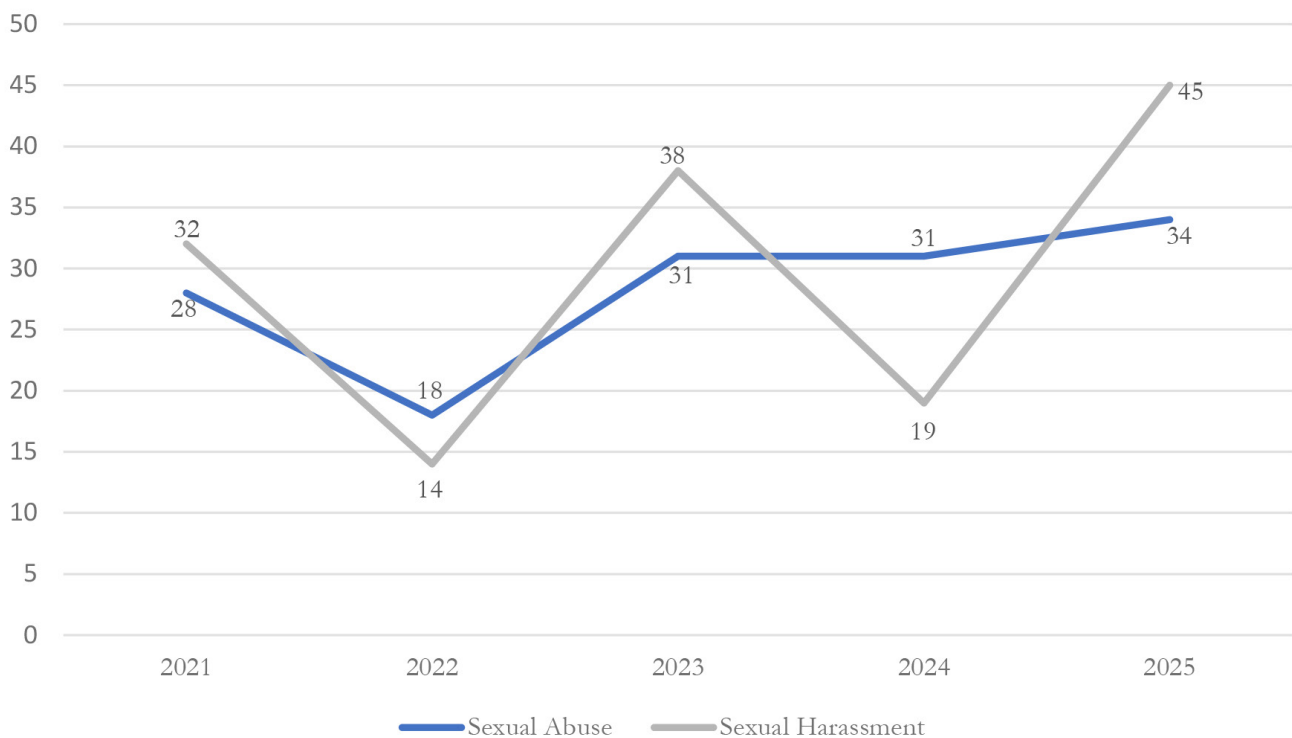
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2025 SUBSTANTIATED INCIDENTS

Of the 79 total substantiated incidents found in 2025 (see Table 1), two were Offender-on-Offender Nonconsensual Sexual Acts, 11 were Offender-on-Offender Abusive Sexual Contact, 38 were Offender-on-Offender Sexual Harassment, 21 were Staff-on-Offender Sexual Misconduct, and seven were Staff-on-Offender Sexual Harassment.

Figure 3 compares the substantiated sexual abuse and sexual harassment incidents from 2021 through 2025. In 2021, 2023, and 2025, allegations of sexual harassment were more substantiated than those of sexual abuse; however, in 2022 and 2024, allegations of sexual abuse were substantiated more than those of sexual harassment.

FIGURE 3: SUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS FROM 2021 THROUGH 2025



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2025 CORRECTIVE ACTION

Pursuant to 28 CFR 115.88, Data Review for Corrective Action and PREA Standards 115.87, 115.88, and 115.89, the ARDOC collects data on allegations of sexual abuse and harassment from prisons and community confinement facilities under the governor's direct control. Below is a summary of the significant enhancements to PREA compliance made in 2025.

In 2025, 17 ARDOC facilities were certified as compliant with the PREA Standards. The agency has continued PREA training to strengthen staff knowledge of reporting procedures and response protocols. Furthermore, ARDOC has also strengthened its screening and assessment procedures by completing risk assessments during intake and within 30 days of the offender's arrival to better identify individuals at risk of victimization or abusiveness, in accordance with PREA Standards.

By the end of 2026, it is expected that the remaining 10 ARDOC facilities audited in Cycle 4 will reach compliance with the PREA Standards. As ARDOC continues to strive for compliance, there are key opportunities to strengthen compliance. First, streamlining internal processes to ensure retaliation monitoring, Sexual Abuse Incident Reviews, and Sexual Abuse Notifications are being completed in a timely manner consistent with the standards. Second, by reducing unfounded allegations through training and improved reporting mechanisms, staff will be able to investigate substantiated and unsubstantiated cases more effectively. Lastly, ARDOC is working to improve monitoring through replacing all analog cameras with digital surveillance to enhance detection and responsive procedures.

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APPENDIX A - DEFINITIONS

Offender-on-Offender Abusive Sexual Contact - Non-penetrative touching by an offender, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of another offender.

Offender-on-Offender Nonconsensual Sexual Acts - Penetration by an offender of another Offender in which the offender is coerced into sexually abusive penetration by threats of violence or is otherwise unable to refuse.

Offender-on-Offender Sexual Harassment - Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one offender directed toward another.

Staff-on-Offender Sexual Harassment - A staff member's verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an offender. This includes demeaning references to gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about an offender's body or clothing and repeated profane or obscene language and/or gestures.

Staff-on-Offender Sexual Misconduct - Sexual abuse that includes but is not limited to penetration, kissing, hugging, massaging, writing, or exchanging letters, pictures, phone calls, etc. of a romantic or sexual nature between staff and offenders.

Substantiated - The event was investigated and determined to have occurred.

Unfounded - The event was determined not to have occurred, or, if the event occurred, the conduct was nonetheless within policy and the alleged perpetrator exonerated.

Unsubstantiated - The evidence was insufficient to make a final determination that the event occurred.

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APPENDIX B – FACILITY DATA

	Reported Allegations					Substantiated					Unsubstantiated					Unfounded				
	Total	O/O Abuse	O/O Sexual Harassment	S/O Abuse	S/O Sexual Harassment	Total	O/O Abuse	O/O Sexual Harassment	S/O Abuse	S/O Sexual Harassment	Total	O/O Abuse	O/O Sexual Harassment	S/O Abuse	S/O Sexual Harassment	Total	O/O Abuse	O/O Sexual Harassment	S/O Abuse	S/O Sexual Harassment
FACILITY:¹																				
Barbara Ester Unit	15	4	6	2	3	3	0	2	0	1	4	1	2	0	1	8	3	2	2	1
Benny Magness Unit	40	3	15	1	21	2	0	1	0	1	10	1	6	0	3	28	2	8	1	17
Benton Unit	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Central Arkansas Community Corrections	16	1	13	2	0	6	1	5	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	6	0	4	2	0
Cummins Unit	31	12	8	6	5	1	0	0	1	0	11	4	5	1	1	19	8	3	4	4
Delta Regional Unit	21	2	6	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	11	2	4	2	3	10	0	2	2	6
East Arkansas Regional Unit	103	4	37	19	45	2	0	4	2	0	31	0	20	1	10	72	4	17	16	35
East Central Arkansas Community Corrections	18	4	6	5	3	9	3	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	8	0	2	4	2
Grimes Unit	87	10	42	4	31	6	2	3	1	0	35	5	23	0	7	46	3	16	3	24
J. Aaron Hawkins Unit	11	4	3	4	0	4	0	1	3	1	2	0	2	0	0	5	4	0	1	0
Larry B. Norris Unit	119	2	48	6	63	3	1	1	0	1	47	0	28	2	17	69	1	19	4	45
McPherson Unit	79	10	30	24	15	6	3	3	0	0	20	0	13	2	5	53	7	14	22	10
Mississippi County Work Release	5	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	0
Northeast Arkansas Community Correction	5	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Omega Supervision Sanction Center	33	2	18	4	9	6	0	6	0	0	6	0	4	1	1	21	2	8	3	8
Quachita River Correctional Unit	82	16	30	9	27	12	2	6	3	1	36	8	20	0	8	34	6	4	6	18
Phillips County Detention Center	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pine Bluff Unit	17	3	9	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	5	0	1	10	3	4	2	1
Randall L. Williams Correctional Facility	27	2	10	6	9	4	1	0	3	0	9	1	5	0	3	14	0	5	3	6
Southwest Arkansas Community Correction Center	24	2	17	5	0	3	0	3	0	0	13	1	9	2	3	8	1	5	0	2
Texarkana Regional Correctional Center	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tucker Unit	42	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	2	1	19	1	8	2	7	20	3	5	6	6
Tucker Work Release	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Varner Unit	105	5	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	44	0	17	3	24	58	5	13	6	34
Wrightsville Unit	33	5	6	10	12	4	0	1	2	1	11	2	3	1	5	18	3	2	7	6

¹ The following facilities reported zero PREA allegations for CY 2025: Covenant Recovery, In His Wings, Northwest Arkansas Work Release, Pine Bluff Work Release, Prosperity Hands, Renu Life at Hidden Creek, Safe Haven, Tucker Work Release, White River Correctional Facility, and Wings to Recover.