

Rate of Sexual Abuse 2016

The Connecticut Department of Children and Families Juvenile Justice Services (DCFJJS) has adopted the principles associated with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and maintains a zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment of residents in its juvenile facility, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS).

All complaints of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are thoroughly investigated. Allegations that appear to be of a criminal nature are referred to law enforcement for additional investigation and possible prosecution.

DCFJJS had an average daily population of 47 residents at CJTS in 2016 (108 unique youth).

There were zero (0) substantiated allegations of sexual abuse at CJTS in 2016.

Connecticut Juvenile Training School data for 2016

Sexual abuse allegations: 7	Sexual harassment allegations: 11
Youth on youth: 5	Youth on youth: 11
Substantiated: 0	Substantiated: 0
Unsubstantiated: 0	Unsubstantiated: 1
Unfounded: 5	Unfounded: 10
Staff on youth: 2	Staff on youth: 0
Substantiated: 0	Substantiated: 0
Unsubstantiated: 0	Unsubstantiated: 0
Unfounded: 2	Unfounded: 0

In 2016, there were zero (0) substantiated allegations of sexual abuse. This is consistent with the previous year (2015) when there were also zero (0) substantiated allegations of sexual abuse.

In 2016, there were a total of 18 allegations compared to 10 in 2015. While the number of allegations of sexual abuse remained the same as in 2015 (7 each year) there was a marked increase in the sexual harassment (youth on youth) category. In 2016 there were eleven (11) allegations (10 unfounded and 1 unsubstantiated) compared to 3 allegations in 2015 (2 unsubstantiated and 1 unfounded). While the reason or reasons for this increase cannot be pinpointed, there perhaps could be a correlation between the increase and the added emphasis on resident and staff education, as well as the added focus on PREA associated with the PREA audit and related activities in 2016.

The fact that there were no substantiated allegations in 2016, seventeen (17) allegations were unfounded and one (1) unsubstantiated, seems to indicate that the policies and procedures adopted at CJTS are effective in preventing, detecting and responding to incidents of sexual victimization.

Information regarding sexual victimization is provided to the Bureau of Justice Statistics in the yearly Survey of Sexual Violence.

DCFJJS contracted with two private facilities for the confinement of juveniles. In 2016, the two contracted facilities had, in total, one allegation of sexual harassment. The allegation resulted in a determination of “unsubstantiated.” There were zero (0) substantiations of sexual abuse in the private contracted facilities in 2016.

In the previous year, there were in total for both private contracted facilities one allegation of sexual abuse and one of sexual harassment. Both allegations were determined to be “unfounded.”

DCFJJS publishes this report as part of the PREA requirements on the agency’s webpage. The DCFJJS is committed to improving the service delivery to juveniles and to preventing, detecting and responding to incidents of sexual victimization. To accomplish this goal, the DCFJJS emphasizes the zero tolerance sexual abuse policy, conducts incident reviews according to PREA standard 115.386, performs facility assessments, and makes changes as needed to optimize the efficiency of the physical plant, staffing and monitoring technology.