

 <b>VERMONT</b> DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES <b>Family Services Policy Manual</b>		<h1>305</h1>
Chapter:	Federal Assurances	
Subject:	Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Data Collection, Review, and Reporting	Page 1 of 1
Approved:	Aryka Radke, Deputy Commissioner	Effective: 4/30/2021
Supersedes:	Family Services Policy 305	Dated: 2/8/2019

## Purpose

The Family Services Division is committed to meeting the requirements of the 2003 [Prison Rape Elimination Act \(PREA\)](#) and ensuring that all youth are safe and free from sexual abuse and harassment. Each state agency is responsible for monitoring facilities under its direct control and private facilities with which it contracts. The PREA standards are applicable to contracted community-based residential treatment programs that serve youth adjudicated of delinquencies as the majority of their clients.

## Related Policies & Regulations

Family Services [Policy 241](#): Residential Treatment Program Licensing and Interventions

## Policy

Residential treatment programs subject to the PREA standards are federally required to collect accurate and uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse using a standardized instrument and set of definitions. Data collected shall include, at a minimum, the data necessary to answer all questions from the most recent version of the [Survey of Sexual Victimization](#) conducted by the Department of Justice. Residential treatment programs are contractually required to aggregate sexual abuse data annually and share this information with the State Licensing Authority and Juvenile Justice Director no later than January 30 each calendar year.

The division shall review all sexual abuse and harassment data from residential treatment programs subject to the PREA standards in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of their sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response through policies, practices, and training. The division shall identify problem areas, take corrective action as needed, and prepare an annual report of the findings, strengths, and areas for improvement for each program.

The annual report shall include a comparison of the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years, and provide an assessment of the division's progress in addressing sexual abuse. The report shall be approved by the Deputy Commissioner and made readily available to the public through the Family Services Division's website.

The division shall maintain the sexual abuse data collected for at least 10 years after the date of its initial collection unless federal, state, or local law requires otherwise.

See the [PREA Juvenile Facility Standards](#) for additional information and definitions.