

Correctional Institution Inspection Committee: Lorain Correctional Institution Inspection Brief

May 16, 2011

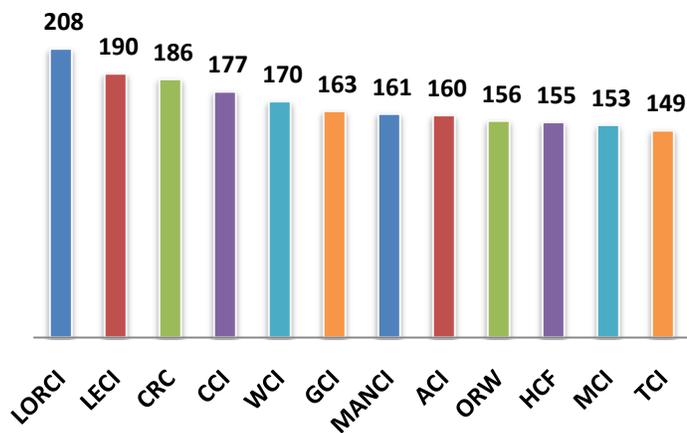
Institution Profile

- Grafton, Ohio
- Reception Center for the DRC North Region
- Population: 1,619 (As of 4/18/11)
 - Capacity: 756
 - 56% Black, 42% White, and 2% Other
- Number of Employees: 434 (33 Vacancies)

Key Statistics

- **Use of Force:** From Sept 2010 – Feb 2011, there were 118 Use of Force incidents, which is comparable to the DRC's southern reception facility for the same timeframe.
- **Assaults:** From Apr 2010 – Apr 2011, there were 20 reported inmate-on-inmate assaults and 24 inmate-on-staff assaults. The inmate-on-staff assaults resulted in five staff needing medical treatment and a loss of over 192 work hours.
- **Suicide Attempts:** From Apr 2010 – Mar 2011, the DRC reported 81 suicide attempts. The facility experienced no successful suicides and three suicide attempts during this period.

DRC Institutions by Percent of Overcrowding



Key Findings

- Although the facility conditions have greatly improved since the previous inspection, the shower ceiling and tiles in most of the units were deteriorating and needed to be repaired.
- Many inmates throughout the institution alleged that some staff address them in a disrespectful manner and that this is a primary cause for inmate-on-staff assaults.
- Food was the most commonly reported concern by inmates – either in regard to the quantity/quality of the food, or the brunch schedule, which is a common concern across the DRC.
- Despite the reduction in overcrowding, there were still four housing pods with bunks in the common area and the facility is currently at 208 percent capacity.
- Most staff stated that morale was low due to recent legislation regarding collective bargaining, as well as the planned privatization of nearby Grafton Correctional Institution.
- As a point of pride, both inmates and staff rated their safety as high.
- Staff receive outstanding support from the Warden and in turn, the staff do a commendable job of handling all of the responsibilities of a parent institution, plus all of the challenges inherent in a reception institution.

CIIC Contacts

From October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011, CIIC received only nine contacts regarding LORCI. The top three reported concerns were Institutional Assignment, Security Classification, and Non-Grievable matters (usually rules infractions and resulting discipline).