

Correctional Institution Inspection Committee: Pickaway Correctional Institution Inspection Brief

September 13, 2011

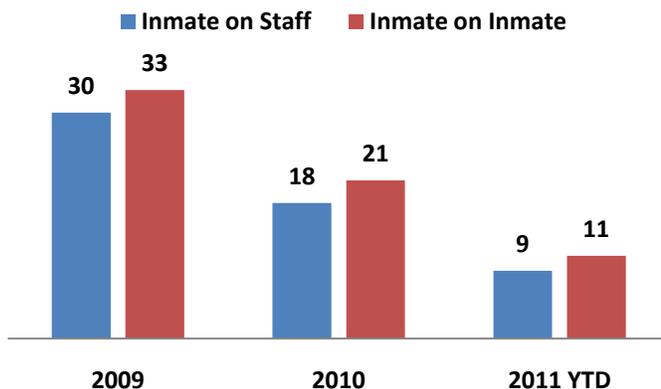
Institution Profile

- Orient, Ohio
- Levels 1 and 2 (medium/minimum) security
- Male
- Population: 2,112 (as of 8/8/11)
 - Capacity: 2,149 (98.3% capacity)
 - 61% White, 38% Black, 1% Other
- Number of Employees: 549 (55 Vacancies)

Key Statistics

- **Use of Force:** From Feb – Jul 2011, the facility reported 35 Use of Force incidents, involving 19 white inmates and 16 black inmates. In comparison to the same time period in 2009, the facility has achieved a 50% reduction in UOFs.
- **Assaults:** From Jan 2009 – Aug 8, 2011, there were 65 reported inmate on inmate assaults and 57 inmate on staff assaults. The facility also achieved a reduction in total number of assaults from 2009 to 2010 (see below chart).
- **Suicide Attempts:** The DRC reported 75 attempted suicides from Jul 2010 through Jun 2011. PCI reported zero suicides and one suicide attempt during this one year.
- **Investigator Data:** By far the largest problem at the institution in terms of drug conveyance is in regard to tobacco, which is considered contraband within the DRC.

Total Number of Assaults at PCI



Key Findings

- The inspection raised concerns, but there were several points of pride, as well.
- Housing units C and D, the oldest on the compounds, are in serious disrepair and in need of cleaning. They also present a security challenge due to structural impediments to supervision.
- Inmates in nearly every housing unit relayed concerns regarding the lack of hot water, which reportedly had been unavailable for two weeks.
- Inmates raised concerns regarding the manner in which several levels of staff addressed them or their concerns.
- Staff relayed that conveyance of contraband is a major issue of concern at the facility, partially due to the centralized location of the facility, the large number of visitors, and the physical structure of the institution itself. Staff stated that tobacco is a particularly large concern. Honor inmates who work outside of the fence reported that they are routinely pressured by other inmates to bring tobacco into the institution.
- Both inmates and staff relayed that the number of recreation hours afforded to inmates is often decreased significantly due to inadequate staffing and longer meal periods.
- On the positive side, most inmates reported minimal safety concerns.
- Both the total number of assaults and uses of force decreased from 2009 to 2010, a true achievement considering that both numbers have been on the rise across the DRC.
- Medical Services and the cleanliness of the newer dorms were also notable.