



# **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CORRECTIONS SERVICE**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023** 

JULY | 2023

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Kîspin ki nitawihtîn ê nîhîyawihk ôma ācimôwin, tipwāsinān.  Cree
Tłįcho yatı k'èè. Dı wegodı newo dè, gots'o gonede.  Tłįcho
?erıhti'is Dëne Sylıné yatı t'a huts'elkër xa beyáyatı thezą zat'e, nuwe ts'ën yóltı Chipewyan
Edı gondı dehgáh got'je zhatıé k'éé edatł'éh enahddhe nıde naxets'é edahli.  South Slavey
K'áhshó got'ine xədə k'é hederi pedihtl'é yeriniwę nídé dúle.  North Slavey
Jii gwandak izhii ginjîk vat'atr'ijąhch'uu zhit yinohthan jî', diits'àt ginohkhìi.  Gwich'in
Uvanittuaq ilitchurisukupku Inuvialuktun, ququaqluta. Inuvialuktun
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## **Message from the Director**

I am pleased to present to you the 2022-2023 Corrections Service Annual Report. This past year has been both challenging and productive as we continue to manage the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these unprecedented circumstances, I am proud to say that the Corrections Service has remained steadfast in its commitment in the delivery of programs and services to support the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders in our care and custody.

As we look back on 2022-2023, we reflect on the numerous accomplishments and milestones achieved by the Division. Several key projects and initiatives have been successfully implemented, which align with the Corrections Service Divisional Priorities and broader GNWT initiatives. The Department's commitment to improving services for offenders and expanding the delivery of rehabilitative programming is at the forefront of our work. I am pleased to report on a number of significant achievements in this area which includes:

- Further development of the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre's (SMCC) Therapeutic Community program;
- Further enhancements to the Pre-Treatment Healing Program at the SMCC;
- Expansion of the Northern Sessions to the Fort Smith Correctional Complex (FSCC) and North Slave Correctional Complex (NSCC); and
- Establishment of Community Advisory Boards at each of the NWT correctional facilities.

The invaluable dedication of our staff and correctional professionals remains the cornerstone of our efforts to achieve our goals. They show an unwavering commitment towards the engagement of inmates and those under supervision in carrying out their duties, while incorporating correctional best practices and a trauma informed approach.

We firmly believe that offenders should have a direct role in their rehabilitation, and we are constantly working to enhance our services through ongoing research and a correctional best practices approach. It is the dedication and commitment of our staff that makes a significant difference in our operations and services provided to offenders.

As we move forward, we will continue to seek out new opportunities to further enhance our programs and services provided to inmates and those under the supervision of the Corrections Service while ensuring the safety of our staff and the community.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to our Corrections Service employees and partners as their support has been instrumental in the successful achievement of Divisional goals. We are grateful for their dedication and commitment to promoting safe and healthy communities in the NWT. This annual report represents our progress during the last fiscal year and assists in the Corrections Services' future planning.

We respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Department of Justice, Corrections Service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023.

Blair Van Metre

**Director of Corrections** 

### Introduction

The Corrections Service is a division within the Department of Justice that is guided by legislation and policy, including the *Criminal Code* (Canada), *Corrections Act* and *Regulations* (NWT), *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (Canada), *Youth Justice Act* (NWT), Corrections Directives, and local standing orders for individual offices and facilities.<sup>1</sup>

As outlined in the *Corrections Act* (NWT), the purpose of the Corrections Service is to contribute to the maintenance of a just, peaceful, and safe society by:

- a) Carrying out sentences imposed by courts;
- b) Providing for the safe, secure, and humane custody and supervision of inmates and offenders; and
- c) Assisting the rehabilitation of inmates and offenders and their reintegration into the community with a view to enabling them to satisfactorily adjust to community living.

The Corrections Service is responsible for the administration and operation of community and custody-based programs and services for adults and young persons. Within the Corrections Service core business area there are two programs: Correctional Facilities and Community Corrections. These areas are guided and supported by Corrections Headquarters.

#### **Correctional Facilities**

The Corrections Service operates two correctional complexes and one correctional centre, with a total combined institutional capacity of 228 beds for adult inmates and 25 beds for youth. Correctional Facilities provide for safe and secure custody, care, and control of persons incarcerated in territorial correctional facilities, interventions using programs/services, supervision to support rehabilitation, and culturally relevant programs to promote the successful reintegration of persons from custody to community.

### **Community Corrections**

The Corrections Service operates 13 community corrections (probation) offices that are spread out across the Northwest Territories. The supervision of both adult and young persons on conditions from the Court is provided by probation officers. This includes bail supervision and sentenced orders (e.g. probation, conditional sentence, custody and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Corrections Service Directives provide direction for the Division under the authorization of the Director of Corrections, while Standing Orders are authorized by wardens and managers to operationalize provisions within the overarching directive for each correctional facility and community corrections office.

supervision, conditional supervision). Probation officers may also supervise persons released from custody on conditional releases (also known as temporary absences and reintegration leaves), deliver core criminogenic programs, and prepare pre-sentence reports to assist the courts in the sentencing process.

### **Annual Reporting**

The 2022-2023 Annual Report for the Corrections Service contains information relating to the division's services and programming for the fiscal year<sup>2</sup>, including the following items outlined in section 62 of the *Corrections Act* (NWT):

- a) the number of inmates admitted to and released from each correctional centre;
- b) the number of offenders participating in rehabilitation programs as defined in section 22 (*Corrections Act*);
- c) the number of instances of use of force under section 30 (*Corrections Act*);
- d) the number of inmates held in separate confinement under section 36 (*Corrections Act*), including details about how long they were so held;
- e) the number of inmates held in disciplinary segregation under section 42 (*Corrections Act*), including details about how long they were so held;
- f) the number of hearings presided over by adjudicators;
- g) the number of complaints made under section 59 (Corrections Act); and
- h) details about any judicial review where the decision of a staff member or an adjudicator was quashed, confirmed or varied or returned for reconsideration.

### Values, Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles

The Corrections Services' values, mission, vision, and guiding principles are used to guide the Corrections Service in achieving its purpose.

#### **Values**

The Corrections Service is committed to a transparent holistic delivery of services that promotes respect and encourages integrity, accountability, acceptance, and growth.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Each fiscal year runs from April 1 to March 31st of the following calendar year. For example, fiscal year 2022-2023 runs from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

#### Mission

The Corrections Service manages offenders in the least restrictive manner possible, and provides opportunities for their rehabilitation and reintegration through holistic and culturally relevant approaches for the common good of society.

#### Vision

The Corrections Service shall be the leader in facilitation of holistic healing in a progressive manner that meets the unique needs of offenders and contributes to a safer community.

### **Guiding Principles**

As detailed in section three of the *Corrections Act*, the following principles guide the Corrections Service in achieving its purpose:

- a) protect the public, hold inmates and offenders responsible and accountable, and promote the healing and rehabilitation of inmates and offenders and their reintegration into the community;
- b) ensure inmates are provided with a healthy, safe, secure, and humane living environment;
- c) ensure that the policies, programs and practices developed or used under the Act are respectful of the dignity of individuals and take into account age, gender, cultures, and abilities of inmates and offenders, wherever appropriate, including being responsive to the particular needs of women and other individuals with special requirements;
- d) ensure that members of the Corrections Service conduct themselves lawfully, ethically, and professionally;
- e) ensure that staff members are given
  - training opportunities wherever possible, including training which respects
    the cultural heritage and history of the Indigenous peoples of the Northwest
    Territories,
  - ii. working conditions that encourage integrity and personal accountability,
  - iii. opportunities to effectively work with inmates and offenders, and
  - iv. opportunities to participate in the development of corrections policies and programs;
- f) ensure that any restrictive measures imposed on a person under this Act are the minimum necessary for the protection of the public and other persons;

- g) ensure that disciplinary and corrective measures or other restrictive measures imposed on inmates under this Act are applied in accordance with the law and respect procedural fairness;
- h) encourage opportunities by departments and public agencies of the Government of the Northwest Territories, and other governments including governments of Indigenous peoples, organizations, and members of the public, to assist with the healing, rehabilitation of inmates and offenders, and their reintegration into the community.

### Admissions, Transfers and Releases<sup>3</sup>

In 2022-2023, there were a total of 441 admissions to NWT correctional facilities.

The admission process for NWT correctional facilities includes the completion of several key items to ensure the safety and security of those at the correctional facility and to better assist inmates in their transition into custody. The admission process can also be described as the "intake" process into a correctional facility as it often sets the foundation for the first step towards release planning and discharge from the facility.

Upon admission to a correctional facility all inmates are searched to identify any contraband in or on their bodies. Details pertaining to the inmate's appearance, ethnicity, gender identity, education level, emergency contacts, immediate medication and health needs, along with the inmate's last known address and support system in the community are gathered and recorded. All personal items belonging to the inmate are logged and placed into storage for return to the inmate upon their release. Inmates are provided with the required necessities; including facility issued clothing, bedding and health/hygiene supplies upon admission to the correctional facility.

Each inmate goes through a series of interviews, assessments and screening protocols by corrections staff and Correctional Health Services staff to assist in identifying and addressing any immediate needs and to ensure appropriate placement within the correctional facility. Upon admission to a correctional facility, the inmate's orientation to the correctional facility begins. Orientation includes guidance about the correctional

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The number of admissions, transfers and releases is not based on the number of unique individuals. These numbers do not exclude individuals who may have been admitted, transferred or released more than once during 2022-2023.

facility; including, health and safety, emergency protocols, rules and unit expectations, rights and privileges, visiting schedules, use of inmate phones, appeals and grievances, etc. The orientation process also includes the collection of data by the case management team to help inmates' access programs and services available at the correctional facility. The table below further illustrates the number of admissions to each NWT correctional facility in 2022-2023.

Location	# of Admissions			Total
	Males	Females	Not Stated	
North Slave Correctional Complex – Adult Unit	369	36	0	405
North Slave Correctional Complex – Youth Unit	17	0	0	17
Fort Smith Correctional Complex – Men's Unit	10	0	0	10
Fort Smith Correctional Complex – Women's Unit	0	3	0	3
South Mackenzie Correctional Centre	6	0	0	6
			TOTAL	441

As detailed in the table above, the North Slave Correctional Complex handles a majority of the initial inmate admissions for the NWT. Once assessed and assigned to an appropriate security classification, inmates are considered for transfer to other correctional facilities to better meet their individual needs.

Throughout an inmate's incarceration it may be necessary for the inmate to be transferred from one correctional facility to another. Transfers assist in the management of inmates and placements in correctional facilities based on many factors, including but not limited to, the inmates security classification, the inmates needs identified through risk assessment, and the overall programming available at the correctional facility in which the inmate is located.

In 2022-2023, there were a total of 572 transfers in and out of correctional facilities. Examples of transfers out of correctional facilities may include court, federal transfers and transfers for medical reasons. The table below further illustrates the number of transfers in/out that were processed by each facility.

Location	# Transfers IN	# Transfers OUT	Total
North Slave Correctional Complex – Adult Unit	146	213	359
North Slave Correctional Complex – Youth Unit	9	8	17
Fort Smith Correctional Complex – Men's Unit	37	61	98
Fort Smith Correctional Complex – Women's Unit	19	21	40
South Mackenzie Correctional Centre	22	36	58
		TOTAL	572

The transfer process for correctional facilities includes the review of information collected upon admission; including any medical considerations for transfer and the completion of reassessments when required. The transfer itself involves communication between correctional staff at both the sending and receiving custody facility, along with the community probation officer for those cases that are applicable. Inmate transfer also includes the completion of the orientation process for the inmate at the correctional facility that the inmate has been transferred to.

Planning for the reintegration of offenders back into their community begins at the beginning of the sentence, no matter the length, through an individual case management plan. Release planning processes include the review of immediate release planning needs for housing, finances, clothing, travel, community supports, employment, and, where applicable, connecting the inmate with their probation officer.

As part of the release planning process, case managers look at options in the community, where available, for inmates to be able to continue attending programming similar to what they started while in custody. If an offender has probation to follow, applicable rehabilitative programming may continue with Community Corrections, where appropriate.

In 2022-2023, there were a total of 444 releases from NWT correctional facilities. The table below further illustrates and provides a breakdown of the number of releases that were processed by each facility and unit.

Location		# Releases
North Slave Correctional Complex – Adult Unit		371
North Slave Correctional Complex – Youth Unit		14
Fort Smith Correctional Complex – Men's Unit		19
Fort Smith Correctional Complex – Women's Unit		22
South Mackenzie Correctional Centre		18
	TOTAL	444

In 2022-2023, there was a total of 315 admissions into Community Corrections. These individuals are supervised by probation officers in communities across the NWT.

# **Rehabilitative Programming**

In 2022-23, the average percentage of incarcerated males who were Indigenous was 85% and females who were Indigenous was 97% (excluding Nunavut and Federal offenders).<sup>4</sup>

Corrections programs integrate Indigenous culture and traditions in the way they are delivered. Traditional knowledge sharing, counseling, and support services are provided in all NWT correctional facilities through the support of Traditional Counselor and Liaison Officers and community Elders.

A correctional program is a type of program to which offenders are referred to as a result of the assessed risks and needs of the individual. Programs delivered by NWT correctional staff are designed to take into consideration the needs of Indigenous offenders and include evidence based criminogenic programs with psychoeducational components (e.g. substance use, violence and sexual offending), educational/vocational programs, and life skills programs.

The Corrections Service offers general programs and rehabilitative programs, as defined in section 22 of the *Corrections Act* (NWT).

### **General Programs**

As defined in the *Act* a general program includes any program for educational, preventative, developmental, or similar activities that would assist or support an inmate's development or reintegration into their community, but does not include a rehabilitation program.

**Social Living Skills/Vocational Training** – programs and training opportunities that give inmates the skills, knowledge and experiences they need for personal and social growth and help to prepare inmates for employment in the community upon release. Life skills and vocational type training opportunities are available at all facilities. Some are facilitated in an informal way (e.g. assistance for an offender in creating a resume, learning how to fill out an application, participation in a unit cooking/healthy eating program) while others are organized as a formal training workshop. These workshops are organized by the facilities based on the needs of the population and may be delivered in partnership with various community resources. Examples of training

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Corrections Service has exchange of service agreements with both Corrections Service Canada (CSC) and the Government of Nunavut to house Federal and Nunavut inmates in NWT correctional facilities.

workshops include; Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System, Food Safe Level 1 Certification, First Aid/CPR, and Safe Equipment Operation Certification.

**Educational** – programs that provide inmates with basic literacy, academic and personal development skills. NWT correctional facilities work closely with local high schools and colleges to provide for the educational needs of inmates. Programs include adult literacy, basic education, general education development, exam preparation, trades exam preparation, life skills, and assistance with pursuing or registration into post-secondary courses. A non-monetary contract with the Yellowknife District Education No. 1 is in place for the delivery of education to youth in custody.

### **Rehabilitation Programs**

As defined in the Act, rehabilitation program means an evidence-based program designed to address underlying criminogenic factors. These are further defined as the division's core correctional programs that are offered within correctional facilities and community probation offices. These are the programs that address factors which have been linked to criminal behaviour. Offenders who participate in these programs learn and apply the skills and strategies they need to keep them from committing future crimes. These skills and strategies help them to successfully reintegrate into the community when they are released.

There are four **core correctional programs** offered by the Corrections Service. These programs are:

- a) Substance Abuse Management (SAM);
- b) Living Without Violence (LWV);
- c) Respectful Relationships (RR); and
- d) Thinking Leads to Change (TLC).

The delivery and participant attendance of core correctional rehabilitative programs is data entered into the Corrections Offender Management System (COMS) with statistical analysis completed by the division on a quarterly basis.

In 2022-2023, the Corrections Service delivered 48 core correctional programs with 107 participants completing the programs identified (further outlined in the table below).

Core Correctional Program Title	# Programs Delivered	# Participants Completed
Substance Abuse Management (SAM)	34	71
Respectful Relationships (RR)	6	14
Living Without Violence (LWV)	6	19
Thinking Leads to Change (TLC)	2	3
TOTAL	48	107

The Corrections Service currently offers individualized programming to offenders with sexually related offences. This program is delivered by a correctional psychologist with the support of program staff when required. In 2022-2023, four offenders completed the individualized program.

### **Use of Force**

In 2022-2023, there were eighteen incidents in which force was used by corrections officers.

The authority for peace officers to use reasonable force in the performance of their duties is authorized by section 25 of the *Criminal Code* (Canada), while section 30 of the *Corrections Act* (NWT) further outlines the situations in which force may be used.

Corrections staff shall only use the degree of force that is reasonable and that is not excessive, having regard to the nature of the threat posed and all other circumstances of the incident. When there is a decision to use force, it must be used in compliance with the law, good judgment, and Corrections Service policy, procedures and training.

Following incidents where force has been used, safety protocols are engaged which include but are not limited to; stabilizing the area, ensuring that all affected persons are examined and provided with necessary treatment, completion of detailed reports, and incident debriefing.

In addition, all incidents involving the use of force are subject to a review protocol as outlined in policy.

# **Separate Confinement**

Separate confinement is used within NWT correctional facilities to ensure the safety of inmates, staff, and the public. The purpose of separate confinement is to temporarily keep an inmate separate from the general population in a particular facility, for the safety of the inmate and others at the correctional facility. Separate confinement is not a form of discipline of any kind. The ultimate goal is to work with the inmate and assist them in their transition back into general population, either at the same facility or another facility, at the earliest possible opportunity.

Not only does the Corrections Service employ strict criteria around when separate confinement may be considered as an option for an inmate, there are also provisions in place to ensure that it is only used as a last resort for as short a time as possible. The Corrections Service has implemented, in accordance with the *Corrections Act* measures that require meaningful contact for inmates in separate confinement, limitations on confinement to no more than 20 hours in a 24 hour period, multiple levels of review, and transparent timeframes along with requirements for the timely notification to the inmate of their rights surrounding the separate confinement process, confinement status, results of reviews and any changes.

In the NWT, adjudicators that are independent from the correctional facility provide the review and decision making surrounding the placement of inmates in separate confinement in excess of 96 hours. Inmates may be placed in separate confinement for their own protection, for the safety and security of the institution or other inmates, for medical reasons, when there is a request for an examination under the *Mental Health Act*, when there is reason to believe an inmate has contraband concealed on their person, or upon the inmate's own request (known as voluntary separate confinement).

During the pandemic, the Corrections Service implemented COVID-19 precautionary measures under s.36(1)(a)(ii) of the *Corrections Act* for new admissions into NWT correctional facilities. These measures involve a period of separate confinement which has been based on the recommendation and advice of health staff.

In 2022-2023 there were 365 inmates incarcerated in NWT Correctional facilities.

There were 29,724 bed days<sup>5</sup> used in 2022-2023. Of the 29,724 bed days, 2,977 (10.02%) were served in Separate Confinement by 335 individuals. <sup>6</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Bed days are the number of inmates multiplied by the number of days they each spent incarcerated.

Out of the 2,977 bed days served in Separate Confinement, 2,560 were served in Separate Confinement due to COVID-19 precautionary measures.

The types of separate confinement used to make up the 10.02% are more commonly referred to as Separate Confinement as detailed in the *Corrections Act* (NWT) and Voluntary Separate Confinement detailed in the *Corrections Regulations* (NWT).

**Separate Confinement** as outlined in section 36(1) of the *Corrections Act* (NWT), "A Person in Charge may, subject to the regulations, require that an inmate be held in separate confinement, if the Person in Charge

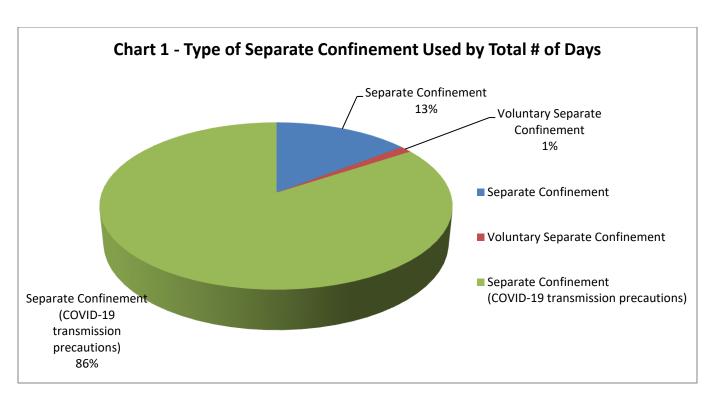
- a) believes on reasonable grounds that the inmate
  - i. is endangering or is likely to endanger himself or herself or another person,
  - ii. is jeopardizing or is likely to jeopardize the management, operation or security of the correctional centre, or
  - iii. must be held in separate confinement for a medical reason;
- b) has requested an examination of the inmate under the Mental Health Act; or
- c) believes on reasonable grounds that the inmate has contraband concealed on his or her person."

**Voluntary Separate Confinement** as outlined in section 20 of the *Corrections Regulations* (NWT) is, "when an inmate requests to be confined separately from other inmates if the inmate believes they are at risk of serious harm or are likely to be at risk of serious harm if not confined separately."

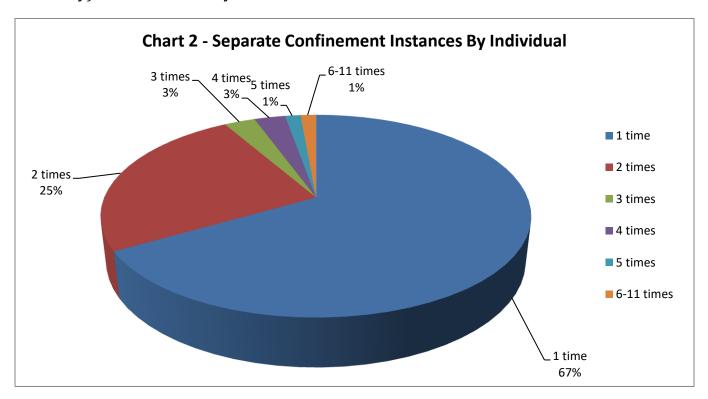
As **chart 1** indicates, of the 2,977 bed days used, Separate Confinement and Separate Confinement due to COVID-19 precautionary measures made up 99% while Voluntary Separate Confinement made up 1%. Of the 99% associated with Separate Confinement 86% of these bed days were used for COVID-19 transmission precautions.

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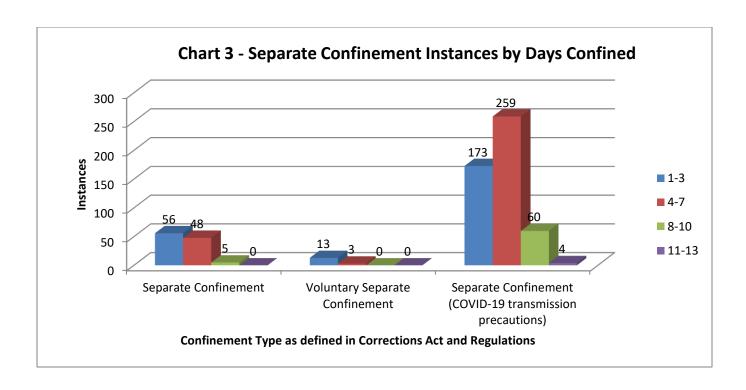
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Separate Confinement means holding an inmate apart from other inmates, but does not include disciplinary segregation as defined in subsection 42(1) of the *Corrections Act* (NWT).



The majority of inmates that were held in any form of separate confinement (including voluntary) were held for only one time as seen in **chart 2**.



**Chart 3** illustrates the number of days individuals were held in separate confinement per instance.



# **Disciplinary Hearings**

Inmates are provided with the Rules of Conduct when they arrive at the correctional facility. These rules are reviewed with them throughout the orientation process. When an inmate has breached the rules of conduct, staff will attempt, where possible to utilize informal resolution measures.<sup>7</sup>

If it has been alleged that an inmate has breached a rule of conduct, the Warden may convene a disciplinary hearing. Should this occur, a hearing adjudicator who is independent from the correctional facility will be assigned to preside over a disciplinary hearing to hear the circumstances of the case. The inmate is notified of the alleged breach and provided with information pertaining to the allegation against them. The inmate is also notified of the date and time of the scheduled hearing and their right to contact legal counsel.

During the course of the hearing the inmate will have the opportunity to explain their actions and their version of events. The inmate can respond orally or in writing and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Informal resolution is an alternate method of addressing a violation of the correctional facility rules and regulations without going through a formal disciplinary process. In such a case, all participants involved must agree to the resolution.

present all relevant information for their defence. The inmate and any legal counsel obtained by the inmate will be given the opportunity to question witnesses, introduce evidence, and examine exhibits and documents. Disciplinary hearings are generally held by video conference.

If the inmate does not agree with the finding of guilt or the discipline or corrective measures imposed by the adjudicator at a disciplinary hearing, they may file an appeal with the Investigations and Standards Office.

On appeal, the Director of the Investigations and Standards Office may:

- a) confirm the finding of guilt and any disciplinary or corrective measures imposed;
- b) confirm the finding of guilt and reduce any disciplinary or corrective measures imposed; or
- c) quash the finding of guilt and any disciplinary or corrective measures imposed and either adjust the inmate's record accordingly or order a new disciplinary hearing.

In 2022-2023, there were 204 disciplinary hearings presided over by adjudicators.

# **Disciplinary Segregation**

Disciplinary segregation is distinct from separate confinement, as it is only available as a sanction from an adjudicator at a disciplinary hearing as result of the inmate having committed a serious misconduct. Similar monitoring provisions are in place consistent with the *Corrections Act* as those required for separate confinement, namely the requirement of meaningful contact, limitations on confinement for no more than 20 hours in a 24 hour period, multiple levels of review, transparent timeframes, and safeguards for any period of disciplinary segregation sanctioned from an adjudicator that would be in excess of 13 days.

There were 29,724 bed days used in 2022-2023. Of the 29,724 bed days, 559 (1.88%) were served in Disciplinary Segregation by 49 individuals as a result of 147 incidents.<sup>8</sup>

As outlined in subsection 42(2) of the Corrections Act, the objectives of inmate disciplinary

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Disciplinary segregation, as defined in subsection 42(1) of the *Corrections Act* means the separation of an inmate from the general population of the correctional centre as a disciplinary or corrective measure imposed on the inmate, and does not mean separate confinement.

#### or corrective measures include:

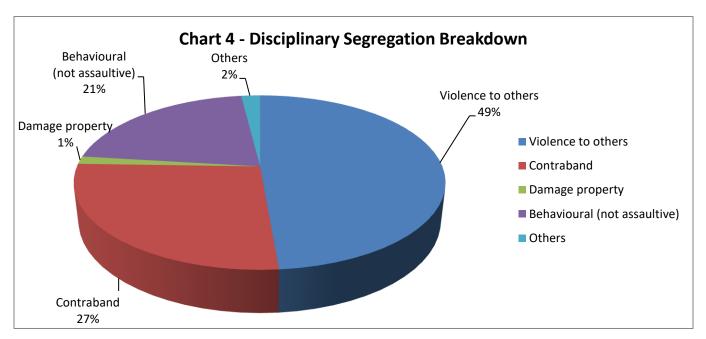
- a) the maintenance of law
- b) the protection, personal safety and security of inmates, staff members and other persons at correctional centres;
- c) the maintenance of security at correctional centres;
- d) the promotion of the orderly operation and effective delivery of programs and services at correctional centres; and
- e) the protection of personal property and the property of correctional centres

Disciplinary hearings where the inmates were found guilty included the following incident types:

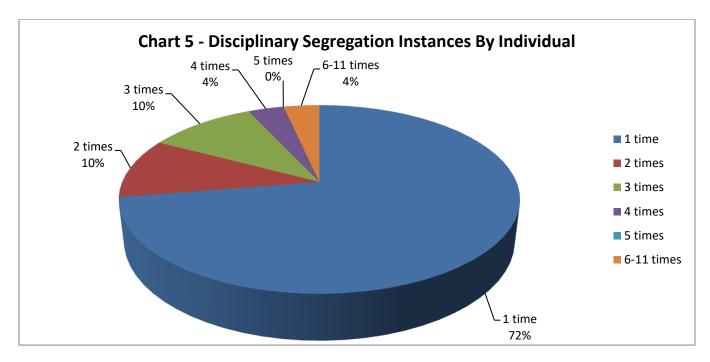
**Violence to others:** Any assault or attempted assault on inmates or staff as well as fighting **Contraband:** Possession of illegal or dangerous contraband such as drugs or weapons **Damage to Property:** Damage to government property

**Behavioural (not assaultive):** Behaviour that is abusive, disrespectful and/or indecent **Others:** Gambling, Stealing, Unauthorized areas, Refuse search, Gang activity

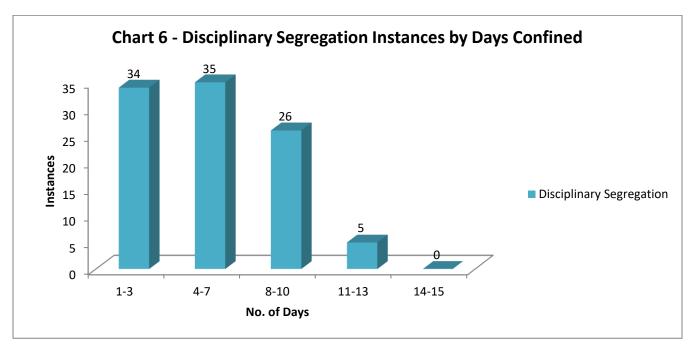
As **chart 4** indicates below, violence to others makes up the majority of the disciplinary segregation cases (49%).



As noted in **chart 5**, the majority of inmates (72%) held in disciplinary segregation only did so as a result of one instance.



**Chart 6** illustrates the number of days individuals were held in disciplinary segregation per instance. The average disciplinary segregation length in 2022-2023 was approximately 5 days. The average length of time for inmates which were found guilty of violence to others was approximately 6 days.



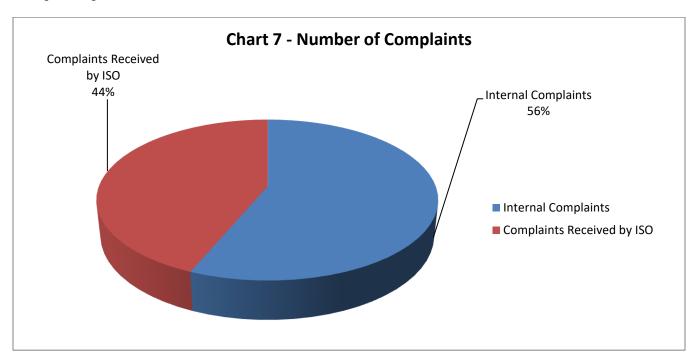
# **Complaints**

The Corrections Service provides inmates and offenders access to a complaints and grievance process which is designed to provide resolution to their concerns surrounding any aspect of conditions of confinement, facility based living, Community Corrections interactions, and/or involvement with the Corrections Service.

Complainants are encouraged to seek resolution with staff at the correctional facilities and probation offices where possible; however, they may elevate the level of their complaint to the Director of Corrections at any time. The complainant may also provide their complaint directly to the Investigations and Standards Office or request that this Office review Correction's response to their complaint. Those who wish may also submit complaints directly to other independent review organizations (e.g. Office of the Northwest Territories Ombud, NWT Human Rights Commission).

In 2022-2023, the division received 76 complaints addressed through the internal complaint process<sup>9</sup>. During this period of time, the Investigation and Standards Office received 59 complaints.

As detailed in **chart 7**, a majority of the complaints 56% were addressed to the internal complaint process.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Internal complaints are addressed to wardens, managers and the Director of Corrections.

Out of the 76 internal complaints; 42 were addressed to the Warden of the North Slave Correctional Complex, 11 were addressed to the Warden of the Fort Smith Correctional Complex, one was addressed to the Warden of the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre and 22 were addressed to the Director of Corrections.

Out of the 59 complaints received by the Investigations and Standards Office; 52 were from inmates at the North Slave Correctional Complex, five originated from the Fort Smith Correctional Complex and two originated from the South Mackenzie Correctional Centre.

## **Judicial Review**

The Corrections Service has not had any judicial reviews during this reporting period.